

# November 1 NEWSLETTER



## A Message from the Owner

Dear families,

As we approach Thanksgiving, I find myself thinking often about the meaning of gratitude and the many ways it shows up in our homes each day. This season reminds us to slow down, look around, and appreciate the people who make our community feel like family. To our caregivers and to the families who trust us with their loved ones, thank you for the care, the communication, and the partnership you bring to St. Jude's.

November is also National Family Caregivers Month, a time to honor the family members who walk alongside us in this work. Your dedication, strength, and love create the foundation that allows your loved ones to feel safe and supported. We are grateful to be part of your circle of care and to share this responsibility with you.

In our homes, the past few weeks have been filled with small but meaningful moments that reflect the heart of this season. We've seen warm conversations over morning coffee, laughter during fall crafts, and the comfort that comes from familiar music and shared memories. These are the moments that remind us why we do this work and why community matters so deeply.

On Thanksgiving Day, we will be serving a special holiday meal across all our homes at lunchtime to honor the traditions and comfort of the season.

Wishing you and your family a warm and peaceful Thanksgiving.

With sincere appreciation,  
Judy Ragano

## 22 Years of Heart and Home - Looking Back at St. Jude's 20 Years of Service Celebration

"In 2023, St. Jude's Elder Care celebrated its 20-year anniversary with a heartfelt ribbon-cutting at its first facility. Family, friends, caregivers, and community leaders joined Owner Judy Ragano to honor the mission that began with her grandmother's Alzheimer's journey and grew into four warm, family-centered care homes in San Dimas."

We cannot believe it has already been two more years. I am so thankful for 22 years of serving families across the San Gabriel Valley and for the continued trust and support that make this work meaningful every single day.



## Home Improvements at Donna Beth

This year, we completed several important home refreshes across our St. Jude's residences, and we are closing out the year with additional improvements to our Donna Beth home in West Covina. Beginning November 20, construction will start on the garage as we convert the space into an enhanced area to better support our caregivers and the essential work they provide each day. This upgrade will strengthen our ability to deliver consistent, attentive care and ensure our team has the resources they need.

Resident safety and comfort remain our top priorities. Construction will be managed carefully to avoid disruptions, maintain a calm environment, and keep daily routines and care running smoothly. We will continue to share updates as the project progresses.





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### A Warm Welcome to Our New Residents

Welcoming new residents is one of the most meaningful parts of our work, and I am pleased to introduce the individuals who have recently joined our St. Jude's community. Each person brings their own story, background, and spirit, and we are honored to support them as they settle into their new homes.

I am pleased to welcome James and Gloria to our Darwood home in San Dimas, Sandy and Kay to our Shire Court home in San Dimas, and Raymond, Jackie, and Michiko to our Donna Beth home in West Covina. We are grateful you have chosen St. Jude's as your home, and it is our privilege to care for you. Each resident enriches our community in a unique way, and we look forward to the meaningful connections ahead.

Whenever we welcome a new resident, our caregivers and I work closely to ensure a smooth and thoughtful transition. This includes learning each person's routines, mobility needs, communication preferences, and any emotional or cognitive support they may require. We take time to understand what brings comfort, what reduces anxiety, and what helps someone feel at ease as they meet their caregivers and fellow residents. From personal care plans to familiar daily rhythms, we focus on creating an environment where every resident feels respected, supported, and truly at home from the very beginning.

We are honored to walk alongside each of our new residents and their families as they begin this next chapter with us!

### November Birthdays at St. Jude's



Celebrating birthdays is always a favorite tradition in our homes, and November gave us three special reasons to gather and enjoy the day. We were thrilled to celebrate Rudy, who turned 82 on November 12, and Guadalupe, who celebrated her birthday on November 10 and is now 81. And just like each month, you guessed it, we celebrated by surprising them with cake, fun party favors, and a special happy birthday song from all the caregivers.

We also celebrated the lovely Joyce, who turned 88 on November 7. While she cannot enjoy cake, we improvised with an In-N-Out shake instead. Some might say that's even better than cake — and she certainly enjoyed every sip. Happy birthday to all our wonderful residents!

### Podiatry Visit on November 8

Our podiatrist visited all homes on November 8 to provide routine foot care for our residents. Regular podiatry care plays an important role in maintaining comfort, mobility, and overall health for older adults. During the visit, the podiatrist evaluated foot and nail health, monitored circulation and skin integrity, and addressed any concerns that could affect balance or movement. Our residents shared positive feedback, and we look forward to seeing them again soon.

