

Our Lady of Fatima Villa

The Gazette — Celebrating a Season for Thanks

November 2012

*Assisted Living, Short-Term Rehabilitation and Skilled Nursing
Based on the Dominican Tradition of Compassionate Care*



A Message of Thanks to You All!

Every year at this time, I remind my family how much I love Thanksgiving. They may get tired of hearing it, but it's true – I love Thanksgiving. Thanksgiving to me means family, something near and dear to most everyone. Families reunite, thankful for each other's love and support. Working at a church event or soup kitchen at Thanksgiving is humbling and a clear example of how lucky we are to have a warm home, quality food to eat and a family to cherish. This kind of reflection feels good to me.

Thanksgiving always causes me to hit the pause button and remind myself (and anyone who will listen!) that - to be thankful for what we have is more fulfilling than recounting what we may want. At Our Lady of Fatima Villa we have a wonderful group of residents and their families, staff and vendors to whom we owe a huge gratitude of thanks and/or appreciation.

I give thanks to our staff, for the care and compassion they show our residents. Our staff is extraordinary within the senior care community. They think and treat our residents as family and friends. Our Five-Star rating with zero deficiencies signifies their dedication and commitment.

American poet Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote, "I awoke this morning with devout thanksgiving for my friends, the old and new."

At Our Lady of Fatima Villa, we value our old friends, who keep us on track through our daily challenges. But, each year, we also look forward to the new faces and new friends who bring additional ideas and perspectives to our lives.

I wish each of you a joyous and peaceful Thanksgiving. Please enjoy the company of your loved ones, think about the importance of old and new friends, and take time to reflect on our many blessings.



Me - staff shot this and thought it should be shown that I was "leading our team" at our City-wide Disaster Preparedness Practice, held at Fatima Villa October 20. I was proud to do so!

Bella Mahoney

President and CEO, Our Lady of Fatima Villa

An Attitude of Gratitude

*Fr. Adel Ghali in our
Pastoral Care
Department can be reached at
408.741.2967.*

*I invite residents, family members
or loved ones to call.
All reasons are welcome.*

— Father Adel



**There's an attitude of gratitude
In everything I do,
For all that God has given me
And dreams that have come true.**

**I am thankful for the gifts He gives,
Each blessing I have known,
For friends I've met along the way
And strength to carry on.**

**There's an attitude of gratitude
With every prayer I say,
For something good has come my way
Each and every day.**

**Through trials and tribulations.
I've felt His presence there,
And I have found relief
beneath the wings of prayer.**

**However bad my circumstances,
I know things could be worse,
But Christ has been my anchor
When things have been adverse.**

**I know how truly blessed I am,
And God will bless you, too!
There's an attitude of gratitude
In everything I do.**

Clay Harrison

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

*— Father Adel,
and remember —*

*"Give thanks to the Lord,
for His love endures forever"*

A Grateful Rehabilitation Patient Sends Thanks to Our Staff for Excellent Care Received

There is no better compliment than an endorsement from a appreciative resident or their family— short term rehab, long term respite, assisted living or skilled nursing. Here is a letter from a rehabilitation short term “guest”.

To the Staff of Our Lady of Fatima Villa,

I just wanted to say a huge thank you for taking such good care of me during my two-week stay at your rehabilitation facility. A special thank you to the following people:

Pam Steele (Social Service Director)
Jenny Le (LVN)
Kathy Roschowsky (OT)
Maira Galam (CNA)
Niharika Bhargava (Director of Rehab)
Davide Zairate CNA)
Mary Burns (CNA)

Dat Truong (CNA)
Hong Tao (RN)
Viktor Lipunov (LVN)
Lasierra (LJ) White (LVN)
Tatum Carillo (RN)
Yun Ching Hsueh (LVN)

You were all knowledgeable and attentive. Through your efforts, two weeks after a major surgery on my spine, I was able to sit up, stand up and walk by myself. Thank you very much for helping me get to this point. I don't think I would have recovered quite as quickly without your care.

I will certainly be recommending Our Lady Of Fatima Villa to any of my acquaintances that require your services in the future.

Best Regards,
Vefim Veytser

Thank you Vefim for your kind words.

Wise Words to Live By:

I thank you God for this most amazing day, for the leaping greenly spirits of trees, and for the blue dream of sky and for everything which is natural, which is infinite, which is yes.
~ E. E. Cummings

Make it a habit to tell people thank you. To express your appreciation, sincerely and without the expectation of anything in return. Truly appreciate those around you, and you'll soon find many others around you. Truly appreciate life, and you'll find that you have more of it.
~ Ralph Marston

The six most important words: I admit I made a mistake; The five most important words: You did a good job; The four most important words: What is your opinion?; The three most important words: If you please; The two most important words: Thank You; The one most important word: We; The least important word: I.
~ Anonymous

Bishop McGrath Praises Our Lady of Fatima Villa for Receiving Five-Star Rating in Diocese Newsletter!

This is a reprint of an article that appeared in the latest (October 23) issue of the Valley Catholic. We are honored and pleased that Bishop McGrath commended us on the excellent care given at OLFV.

THE VALLEY CATHOLIC

THE GOOD NEWS OF THE DIOCESE OF SAN JOSE | BUENAS NOTICIAS EN LA DIOCESIS DE SAN JOSE

Our Lady of Fatima Villa receives 5-Star rating

Our Lady of Fatima Villa in Saratoga has received a five-star rating from Nursing Home Compare run by the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). Health inspections, nursing staffing, and quality of medical care determined the Villa's rating.

The facility was founded by the Dominican Sisters of St. Catherine of Siena, Kenosha, Wisconsin, and provides assisted living, rehabilitation, respite care and skilled nursing on a short or long-term basis.

San Jose Bishop Patrick J. McGrath said, "We are blessed to have in our faith community a facility that offers such a high level of care. I have visited Our Lady of Fatima Villa and have been impressed with the spirit of the residents and the compassionate care they receive. I congratulate the entire staff and the Dominican Sisters for this accomplishment."

In addition, the facility is one of a small number in the nation to receive zero deficiencies from state surveyors.

"We are extremely proud of this rating. We give excellent care in a team effort," said Bella Mahoney, President and CEO of Our Lady of Fatima Villa. "We make sure residents receive whatever they need -- physically, emotionally and spiritually."

The staff includes registered nurses,



Our Lady of Fatima Villa, Saratoga.

licensed practical nurses, professional social worker, physical therapists, physical therapy assistants, occupational therapists and assistants, speech therapists, activities coordinators, dietitian, certified nursing assistants, housekeeping, laundry, food service, administrative support staff and pastoral care.

Mahoney said areas surveyors look at include health inspection, resident rights, providing a high level of care and the provision of sufficient nursing staffing.

Ron Modeste, retired former Catholic high school principal, has a cousin who is a resident. "I can personally attest to the wonderful care given my cousin," Modeste said. "We are fortunate to have such compassionate and competent care available in our spiritual community."

Our Lady of Fatima Villa is located at 20400 Saratoga Los Gatos Rd., Saratoga. Tours are available by calling 408-741-2950; www.fatimavilla.org.

Our staff spreads the good word about Our Lady of Fatima Villa at Saratoga Senior Center Health Fair



Our staff members do all they can to let our community know about the excellent care given to residents at Our Lady of Fatima Villa. The photos above were taken at the recent Health Fair that took place at the Saratoga Senior Center. Pictured are Roslan Abdullah (Business Office Manager), Trung Nguyen (IT/System Administrator), Pam Steele (Social Service Director). These folks gave up Saturday, October 13th to let people know that they or their loved ones will be treated like family at Fatima Villa.

News Bits and Pieces:

We'd like to include news about you, so please tell Roslan!

Residents enjoyed the costumes that the Trick or Treaters wore to our First Halloween Open House on October 31.

Many of our residents' children and grandchildren dressed up in costumes and came to our Trick or Treat Open House. It was a great opportunity for us to meet their families!

Did you see Micaela as the wicked vampire or Father Adel as Batman? We all know Father Adel has amazing powers and is extraordinary!

Banners Outside Our Lady of Fatima Villa Invite Children and Their Parents to Our Halloween Open House



This was one of two banners posted at the entrance to Our Lady of Fatima Villa inviting our local community to our Halloween Open House.



Our Staff got into the Halloween spirit with decorations outside and inside Our Lady of Fatima Villa!

Did you know that we are on the web? One local internet news source, The Patch featured a story telling our local community about Our Lady of Fatima's recent five star rating from state and federal surveyors. People are talking about our compassionate care!



Happy Birthday to our Residents!



We try to make everyone feel special at Our Lady of Fatima Villa,
especially on their birthday.

Birthday celebrants this season include the following
Assisted Living and Skilled Nursing residents.

We wish you the very best during the next year.
We hope you have a great year!

Residents with birthdays in
November, December and January are:

November

Angel L.
Chuck W.
Genevive G.
Doris G.
Arnold F.
Hazel G.
Robert P.
Erika D.
Daniel G.

December

Esther L.
Barbara D.
Flora P.
Rose C.
Patricia H.
Consuelo R.
Caroline F.

January

Patricia O.
Marian F.
Pauline N.
Geraldine "Gerri" L.
Julia P.
Ann S.
Kay L.



***A Reflection of a Remarkable Woman,
Jean McGraw
By Her Daughter, Catherine Cieri***

Jean McGraw celebrated her 101st birthday last January, 2012. We will miss her.

Throughout Jean's remarkable and long life ran these common threads:

She embraced her religion as a Catholic and, I feel, always prayed for others before herself.

She had a very strong moral fiber and taught by example of living the right life (I cannot recall my mother ever lying to anyone or 'short changing' anyone for anything).

She always watched out for those less fortunate and tried to help whenever she could.

A person of modest means, she gave generously and quietly. (I was not aware of her many donations to family and charities until I went through her paperwork after she moved into Fatima Villa).

She volunteered with groups and organizations that raised funds for scholarships and the less fortunate.

She was the best 'read' person I have ever known and could offer an intelligent opinion of most subjects.....moving her belongings out of her apartment, her grandsons and I, jokingly agreed she had probably read every book ever written.

She had a very quick wit and even a few days before she passed made us laugh.

She loved little children more than anything. Always the first to try to make them feel better whether ill or, crying, just because.

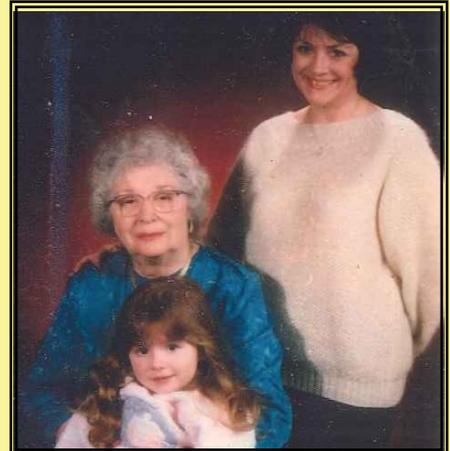
And, she was fiercely devoted to her family and friends.

Again, a remarkable woman who graced and contributed this earth instead of taking from it.

Thank you Father and the staff of Our Lady of Fatima Villa for all you have done for my Mother and my family.

Sincerely,

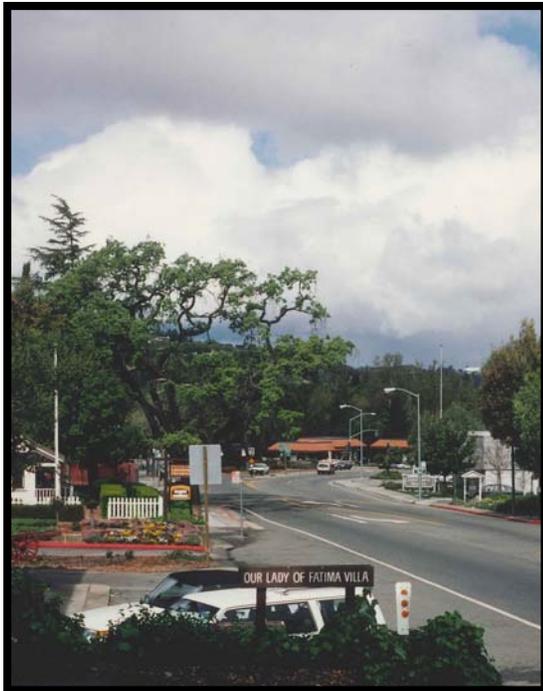
Catherine Cieri, Jean McGraw's Daughter



Jean with her beloved daughter and granddaughter

An Historic Look Back at Our Lady of Fatima Villa

We have come across some old photos of Our Lady of Fatima Villa that we thought you would enjoy. Fatima Villa certainly has changed over the years, but what hasn't changed is the excellent care given in the Dominican tradition!



Left :
***Take a look
at the old
sign leading
people into
Our Lady of
Fatima Villa!***



Right:
***Before our
latest
renovation,
this was a
look at our
inner yard!***

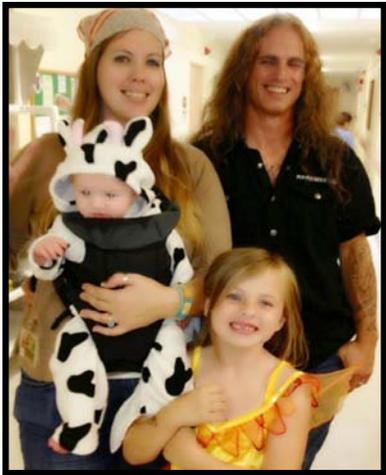


Left:
***Our Dining
Room sure
has
changed!***

Our First Halloween Open House Trick or Treaters!



***Our Staff had fun on Halloween!
Father Adel made a terrific Batman!***



Our Lady of Fatima Villa Opens Its Doors to Host First Friendly Halloween Open House for Our Residents and Children and Parents of the Saratoga Community!

Our residents told us they thought it would be fun to have children come trick or treat. So, we took them up on their suggestion and hosted our first Halloween Trick Or Treat Open House.

Those of us who were there still can't be certain who had the most fun — the children or our "good-spirited" residents!

The ad below appeared in the Saratoga News along with PR announcing the event - photos of the event are on the next pages.

Children and parents are invited
to our Halloween Open House

for Safe and Friendly Trick or Treating

Wednesday, Oct. 31 4-6 pm

Our Lady of Fatima Villa

Prizes given for best costumes



We Care for Saratoga

Rehabilitation • Assisted Living • Respite Care • Skilled Nursing
Short Term or Long Term

We are here when you need us.



OUR LADY OF
*Fatima
Villa*



20400 Saratoga-Los Gatos Rd., Saratoga, CA 95070 408.741.2950 www.fatimavilla.org

Our First Halloween Open House Trick or Treaters!



It was a happy group of young Trick or Treaters in costume with their parents who attended our first Halloween Open House. Chef Jose put on a wicked spread of goodies! Judging from the smiles, it seemed that everyone had fun!



Please Join Us for "Tea with Bella"
You are all invited to the teas held on the last Tuesday
of every month at 3pm held in AL Level One



Margret wears this hat well!

Our monthly "Teas with Bella" have proven to be very popular. It is a wonderful time to get to know each other better.

The September Tea with Bella Celebrated the Opening of the School Year. We asked our residents some questions and learned some interesting things about our terrific residents and their school days!

The questions and their answers are on the next page!

We Asked — we wanted to know a little more about our Fatima Villa family!

What kind of student were you?

Caroline Wong: “I was the top student at my Catholic school in Vietnam.” Tres bien Caroline! (in French, as she learned in school).

What was your least favorite subject?

Barbara Yore: “English, I couldn’t spell when I was in school in Lake Forest, Illinois. How ironic that I ended up teaching English!”

What is your worst memory of high school?

Katherine Dietrich.” I was tall (5’8”) and had big feet! But I sure had a good time at Redondo Beach High School! I studied hard and got all A’s. I had wonderful teachers and a good four years.”

What was your worst memories of college?

Sister Patricia. “I went to school on Saturday, that’s when religion was taught - we had to go. I spent 25 years in Albuquerque. 12 years as principal and 13 years teaching 2-8 grade. I enjoyed 7th and 8th graders the most.”

How was your first day of school?

Janice Deffenbaugh. “My first day of college at Washington State University was overwhelming. Everything was a big question mark – I thought I was late to everything. It took me a while to get adjusted, then I loved it.”

What was your favorite subject?

Verna Johnson: I loved math and took it for four years. I ended up getting a job counting cars at the main intersection in Summerville, Tuolumne in the Sierra Foothills.”

What is a favorite memory of grade school?

Angel Lind: “I loved playground programs. I played baseball and was a pretty good first baseman in Detroit.”

Was there a teacher who had a strong influence on your life?

Flora Pinschmidt; “Yes, that was my Mom. She taught us at home when we lived in China. We lived there until the 7th grade, when I entered 7th grade in Palo Alto. I was so scared since I had never been to a school until then. I had a very good friend (Zelda) who helped me overcome my shyness.”

What did you like to do in school?

Trudy Vanderpyl: “I liked to read.”

What are your school memories?

Marion Figari: I have a lot of great memories of school in Fairfield and Suisun Valley I was always on the heavy side, so I was shy, but I had a great time.”

What would classmates say about you?

Margret Scholla: “They would say that I was a cry baby. In fact, that was my nickname! Even when my sister did something wrong, I would cry. That all finally stopped when I went to high school in San Pedro!.”

Who was your least favorite teacher?

Bob Pinschmidt: “My 5th grade teacher! She hit our hands with a ruler when we were naughty!”

Same Question to Father Adel: “My Italian professor at the Christian Brothers School in Egypt would hit us with a ruler for punishment. But I learned a lot!.”

Are you still friends with people from school?

Christina Nielsen; “Yes, I am friends with girls I have known since I was 5 years old, and from elementary at St. Francis Cabrini and Archbishop Mitty High School.”

What was the naughtiest thing you did in school?

Bella Mahoney: My grandmother taught me at home, so I couldn’t get away with anything! And I was a wall-flower! I studied hard at Sacramento Senior High School.”

Our Halloween "Tea with Bella"

You are all invited to the teas held on the last Tuesday of every month at 3pm held in AL Level One



Check out Bella's hat!



Jan gave the wicked witch her hand-made turkey!



Our monthly "Teas with Bella" have proven to be very popular. It is a wonderful time to get to know each other better.

The October Tea with Bella Celebrated Halloween. We asked our residents some questions and learned how they celebrated. Many played "tricks"! Knocking on doors and running away, moving outhouses. Did you know that Sister Cor Marie's favorite candy is Hershey's with nuts! You never know what you may discover when you come

COMMENDATION OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF SARATOGA
HONORING
OUR LADY OF FATIMA VILLA

WHEREAS, Our Lady of Fatima Villa is a short term rehabilitation, assisted living, and skilled nursing community located in Saratoga since 2004 and has many staff who are trained as CERT volunteers; and

WHEREAS, on October 20, 2012, Saratoga held the Annual Disaster Exercise with Fatima Villa as one of the participants; and,

WHEREAS, volunteers, including Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Saratoga High School students, and Prospect High School students, became pretend victims and were deployed to Fatima Villa; and

WHEREAS, pretend victims simulated the possible reactions of residents of the assisted living facility and staff performed search and rescue, medical triage, and medical treatment on the pretend victims; and

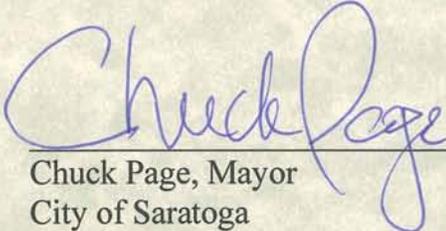
WHEREAS, the staff at Our Lady of Fatima Villa displayed a high level of competence and seriousness for the drill; and

WHEREAS, Our Lady of Fatima Villa graciously hosted the barbecue for all of the volunteers at the end of the exercise;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that, the City Council of the City of Saratoga proudly acknowledges Our Lady of Fatima Villa as an integral part of the Saratoga Community and thanks the facility and staff for participating in the disaster exercise.

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE CITY OF SARATOGA on this 7th day of November 2012.




Chuck Page, Mayor
City of Saratoga

The Importance of Giving Thanks

Thanksgiving Day is dedicated to giving thanks for life's many blessings and to acknowledge that we're all interconnected. We depend on one another for everything. We celebrate with a wonderful meal and in that feast, we receive the bounty and abundance of this earth. Let's make a daily practice to express our gratitude.

It does not matter where the blessings and gifts come from, what we know ultimately is that there is an infinite source of energy and supply of all things.

Today and every day may we all appreciate the many gifts we have. May life continue to bring you blessings, peace, and love.

Here are some quotes to remember the importance of giving thanks.... If even just one touches you — that's good.



• If the only prayer you ever say in your entire life is 'thank you', it will be enough. ~ Meister Eckhart

• Unselfish and noble actions are the most radiant pages in the biography of souls.
~ David Thomas

• Silent gratitude isn't much use to anyone.
~ G.B. Stern

• Gratitude is born in hearts that take time to count up past mercies.
~ Charles E. Jefferson

• The only people with whom you should try to get even are those who have helped you. ~ John E. Southard

• Happiness cannot be traveled to, owned, earned, worn or consumed. Happiness is the spiritual experience of living every minute with love, grace, and gratitude. ~ Denis Waitley

• God gave you a gift of 86,400 seconds today. Have you used one to say "thank you"? ~ William Arthur Ward

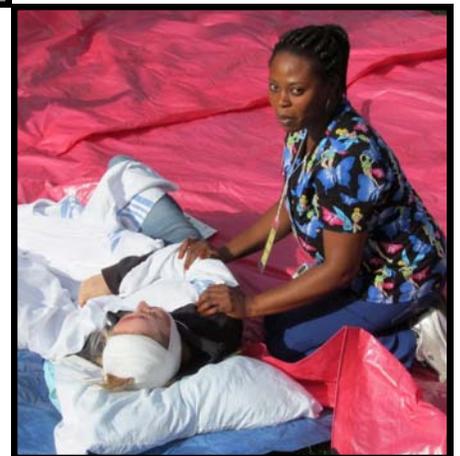
• What if you gave someone a gift, and they neglected to thank you for it - would you be likely to give them another? Life is the same way. In order to attract more of the blessings that life has to offer, you must truly appreciate

***Wise men say the secret to being happy is: Be grateful for what you have.
Remember — Perfect Lives are Few.***

- I would maintain that thanks are the highest form of thought, and that gratitude is happiness doubled by wonder. ~ G.K. Chesterton
- I would thank you from the bottom of my heart, but for you my heart has no bottom. ~ Author Unknown
- Gratitude is the memory of the heart. ~ Jean Baptiste Massieu
- How far that little candle throws his beams! So shines a good deed in a weary world. ~ William Shakespeare
- It's nice to be important, but it's more important to be nice. ~ Author Unknown
- I feel a very unusual sensation - if it is not indigestion, I think it must be gratitude. ~ Benjamin Disraeli
- What if you gave someone a gift, and they neglected to thank you for it - would you be likely to give them another? Life is the same way. In order to attract more of the blessings that life has to offer, you must truly appreciate what you already have. ~ Ralph Marston
- To the generous mind the heaviest debt is that of gratitude, when it is not in our power to repay it. ~ Benjamin Franklin
- Gratitude is the sign of noble souls. ~ Aesop
- Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today, and creates a vision for tomorrow. ~ Melody Beattie
- Joy is the simplest form of gratitude. ~ Karl Barth
- Thankfulness is the beginning of gratitude. Gratitude is the completion of thankfulness. Thankfulness may consist merely of words. Gratitude is shown in acts. ~ Henri Frederic Amiel
- Real generosity toward the future lies in giving all to the present. ~ Albert Camus
- None is more impoverished than the one who has no gratitude. Gratitude is a currency that we can mint for ourselves, and spend without fear of bankruptcy. ~ Fred De Witt Van Amburgh
- At times our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us. ~ Albert Schweitzer

Our Lady of Fatima Villa Practices Being Ready for Any Disaster!

It may have looked strange to see bloody and wounded people being carried on stretchers — but it was not real! On October 20th, Our Lady of Fatima Villa once again stepped up and was a host site of Saratoga's city-wide Disaster Preparedness Drill. We hope to avoid any such disasters, but we want to do all we can to be ready and prepared — if and when they happen!



Terrific late breaking News! City of Saratoga Honors Our Lady of Fatima Villa With City Proclamation. See page 17 for details.



Making the most out of life, no matter your age.
Wonderful.

Having Our Lady of Fatima Villa health care:
Priceless.

We Care. For you and the ones you love.

We are proud to have received the highest



FIVE STAR RATING

from State and Federal Surveyors.



OUR LADY OF
*Fatima
Villa*

In the Dominican Tradition

Rehabilitation, Assisted Living, Skilled Nursing
and Respite Care. Short or Long Term.

Call for a no-obligation tour.



20400 Saratoga-Los Gatos Rd., Saratoga, CA 95070 408.741.2950 www.fatimavilla.org

RCFE License #435201683

Assisted Living ● Rehabilitation
Skilled Nursing ● Respite Care
Short or Long Term Care



OUR LADY OF
*Fatima
Villa*

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