

Valley Voice

*Published by Valley Heights Senior Rental Community
for all our friends and family*

February 2012

❖ Valley Voices ❖

Name: Becca Martinez

Position: Dining Room and Front Desk

I have been a life-long Watsonville resident. I went to public school locally, and graduated Watsonville High in 2009.

While in high school, I was active in a few different sports. I played volleyball and softball. There was a terrific group of players that played on the same team for many consecutive seasons and we really played well together. I miss playing ball with them. I am starting to look for a fun, recreational team to be a part of this Spring.

I have one older sister and a younger brother. We are a very tight-knit family who enjoys spending time together. I live just a few blocks from Valley Heights, so during the warmer and longer days of summer I am able to walk to work for the breakfast and dinner shifts.

I am currently saving money so that I can pursuit my



dream of working with animals. I have always had pets—you could say I'm a "cat person." I currently have three cats (Franklin, Kiki and Kia) and hope to adopt a dog soon. There is a terrific veterinary technician certificate program offered at Gavilan College in Gilroy. I am very interested in that field. Even though it would take about a year of intense study to earn my certificate, it will be well worth it once I complete the studies.

I started work at Valley Heights as a waitress in the Dining Room in August 2008. I worked for about two years before leaving to pursuit other opportunities (for about a year). Then in July 2011, I started back as a waitress again for the wonderful residents. Some days are more challenging than others, but mostly I think working in the Dining Room is super fun. I enjoy the dining room staff. We all get along well.

Besides working in the Dining Room, I also have been working at the Valley Heights Front Desk since early December. At first it was very overwhelming. There are a lot of important things to know and be responsible for, but I try to take it a day at a time. It's been great that everyone is willing to help and is there to answer my questions. Many people don't recognize me from the Dining Room when I work at the Front Desk. I am only at the Front Desk a few hours a week, but feel free to stop by to say "Hi" if you see me there.

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: Do you know someone who would like to receive the Valley
: Voice newsletter each month? Are you receiving the monthly
: newsletter but would prefer reading it electronically on our
: website (www.valleyheights.com)? Are you moving and want
: the newsletter forwarded to you new address? If you've
: answered "YES" to any of these questions, please contact
: Valley Heights and we'd be happy to help!
:

Simply Elegant Petits Fours

Ingredients

- 1 package devils food cake mix
- 6 cups powdered sugar, sifted
- 5 ounces water
- 3 tablespoons light corn syrup
- 4 ounces unsweetened baking chocolate
- 1 tablespoon almond extract

Cake

Prepare cake mix per package instructions. Pour cake batter into a floured jellyroll pan and smooth top with spatula. Bake for 20-25 minutes or until firm to the touch.

Place in freezer overnight. Remove frozen cake from jellyroll pan by inverting onto a piece of parchment paper. Cut into small squares with a serrated knife. Place squares onto a parchment lined baking sheet. Freeze a minimum of 1/2 hour or until ready to glaze.

Chocolate Glaze

Combine powdered sugar, water and light corn syrup in a saucepan over low heat. Stir constantly until the mixture is blended well and is smooth and appears shiny. Remove mixture from heat, stir in almond extract and chocolate. Continue to stir until chocolate has completely melted. If necessary, place over low heat again.

Remove small cake squares from freezer and dip into melted chocolate. Place on wire rack to allow excess chocolate to drip off.

Allow coated cakes to cool, remove from rack and place on parchment covered baking sheet. Place in refrigerator until ready to serve. Decorate prior to serving.

Recipe used courtesy of <http://www.recipetips.com/recipe-cards/t--2027/simple-yet-elegant-petits-fours.asp>

Join in our Valley Heights Casino Night, located in our Cattail Lounge on Thursday, February 2 and February 16. Test your luck at the Black Jack table. Will you break the bank or be the big winner- find out if Lady Luck is on your side!



SUPER BOWL SUNDAY

February 5, 2012

Kick Off scheduled for 3:30 PM

Watch the exciting match up for Super Bowl XLVI on Sunday, February 5 in the comfort of the TV Lounge. Refreshments will be provided by Valley Heights.

Did You Know: Tax Day is now April 17, 2012

The IRS is giving taxpayers two extra days to get their taxes turned in this year. While Tax Day typically falls on April 15, the IRS announced in January that was pushing back this year's filing deadline to Tuesday, April 17.

The extension was granted because April 15 falls on a Sunday, and the next day is Emancipation Day, a holiday in Washington D.C. that celebrates the freeing of slaves in the district. Last year, Tax Day was extended also due to Emancipation Day.

For those requesting an extension, you have until Oct. 15 to file your 2011 tax return, the agency said.

The IRS said it expects to receive more than 144 million individual tax returns this year, with the majority projected to be submitted by the new April 17 deadline.

"WHY DON'T THEY PASS A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROHIBITING ANYBODY FROM LEARNING ANYTHING? IF IT WORKS AS WELL AS PROHIBITION DID, IN FIVE YEARS AMERICANS WOULD BE THE SMARTEST RACE OF PEOPLE ON EARTH."

- WILL ROGERS

Come for an overnight visit at Valley Heights

Enjoy all the comforts of home in our beautiful guest apartments. Your stay includes dinner and breakfast for two, served in our gracious Cattail Dining Room. Whether it's visiting someone special or to see if this is the life change you are looking for, come experience Valley Heights and our independent retirement lifestyle. For more information, rates, and availability, contact our Marketing Department at (831) 722-4884.

February Highlights

Everyone is welcome to attend our events.
Please call 722-4884 for times and details.

- 2/1 *Food Committee
Lunch Outing to Cowboy Corner Cafe*
- 2/2 *Casino Night*
- 2/3 *Social Hour with Richard Stauff*
- 2/4 *BINGO from 12 - 1:30 pm*
- 2/5 *SUPER BOWL XLVI*
- 2/7 *Social Hour with Carol Thorson*
- 2/8 *Welcome Lunch*
- 2/9 *Poker Night*
- 2/10 *Social Hour with Fenton Murray*
- 2/14 *Social Hour with Young at Heart
Valentine's Day Theme Night*



- 2/15 *Resident Council Meeting*
- 2/16 *Casino Night*
- 2/17 *Social Hour with David Field*
- 2/20 *President Day Holiday*
- 2/21 *Social Hour with Tapateers*
- 2/23 *Poker Night*
- 2/24 *Men's Lunch
Social Hour with Silvertones*
- 2/26 *Day Family Show
Academy Award Show*
- 2/28 *Dr. Hyland (Podiatrist) visits*
- 2/29 *Ladies Luncheon*



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!
Emily and Koso Takemoto
Feb. 21, 1943

Valley Heights would like to
welcome our newest resident

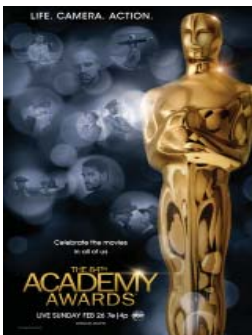
ANN CLARK

Celebrate Valentine's Day on Tuesday, February 14 at Valley Heights. Come to our Social Hour at 3:30 PM. Johnny Fabulous (of Young At Heart) will be performing for us in the Living Room. Then enjoy a delicious dinner in our gracious formal Cattail Dining Room.

Happy Birthday Wishes

Dorothy Skillicorn	February 06
Nancy Sambrailo	February 07
Joe Castro	February 15
John Odom	February 17
Peggy Jacobs	February 20
Marilyn Sauer	February 22
Maxine Warns	February 26

Enjoy a wonderful performance with our very own Henry and Alta Day and their extended family. "Day Family Show" will be on Sunday, February 26 at 3:00 PM in our Living Room. Come early for a great seat and invite all your friends and neighbors to enjoy the show!



Wondering which films and actors will be awarded outstanding achievement for 2011? Find out by watching the Academy Awards Show live on Sunday, February 26, in the 3rd Floor TV Lounge. The show begins at 4:00 PM.