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### *February Birthdays*

#### **Residents**

Kay - February 9th

Clyde - February 14th

Bernice - February 16th

#### **Staff**

Carol - February 24th

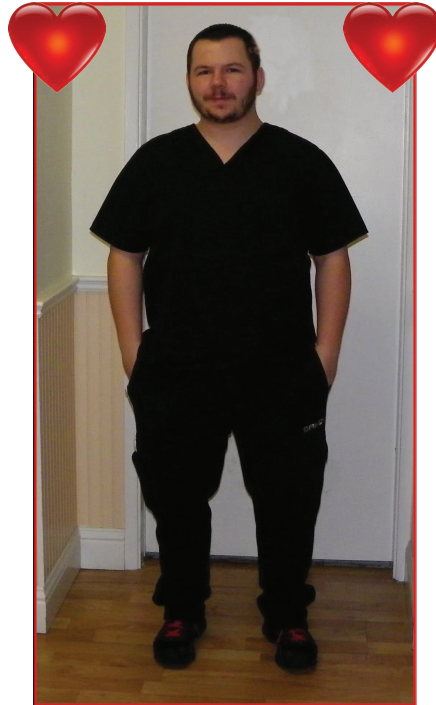
Jackie - February 25th

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Leo was born on March 30, 1990 in French Camp. He grew up in Stockton and moved to Amador County in time to go to Argonaut High School. He says that his favorite subject in school was "girls". He was the class clown and a big flirt. He also liked drama and PE.

Leo joined the Army right after High School. This was something he always wanted to do. He became a Specialist in the Infantry and did one tour in Afghanistan. He indicates that it was mostly policing. Leo would like to pursue a career in some aspect of law enforcement in the future. He has not yet determined if that will mean going back into the military, going to college or joining a Sheriff's/Police Department.

Leo has an older sister, 2 younger brothers and a younger sister. He has too many nieces and nephews to count. He loves animals and looks forward to the day when he will be able to have a dog again. Currently Leo has no girlfriend but he's on the market! Leo loves to draw and would like to get into wood-working. Thank you for working the nox shift Leo so that the rest of us can sleep!



# AssistCare Communities of Amador County Journal

*Your Lifestyle, Your Choice*

**February 2016**

This month we would like to acknowledge and thank the Therapy Dogs and their humans whose visits are eagerly anticipated by our residents each month. These dedicated teams (human & dog) have been visiting us twice each month for the past 4 years. Margaret Blaire of Twin Cedar Canines started this group which is part of the Alliance of Therapy Dogs. Each team must be tested and certified before they can become part of the group. The group knows the value of canine companionship and wish to share this with those who can no longer have a dog of their own. It is clear that the dogs love making these visits as much as we love having them. Pippa is a second chance dog who was extremely shy before she got into the program. Now she joyfully leads the way to start her visit. Nervous Nellie (no longer nervous) makes a bee line to greet anyone she sees in a wheelchair or walker - it's her job. Therapy dogs are beneficial in many situations including visiting Calaveras High after a tragedy involving 5 students. We appreciate their visits and the joy they bring to our lives.

**Alicia, Kim, Eileen, Debi, Terry**



**Brooklyn, Pippa, Sophie, Nellie, Ditto**

## **Meet Your Staff**

Leonard "Leo" Parks has been a Care Giver/Med Tech for about 3 years now. He likes the quiet of the nox shift and enjoys the one on one interaction he has with our "night owls". He says "We have a lot of early risers" so there is more activity going on at 5 AM (which is when I spoke to him) than one would expect. Leo likes helping people. This is made apparent by the congenial way in which he interacts with our residents.



## Resident of the Month

Betty Pebley was born in Stockton on January 18, 1936. She lived almost her entire life on the family's 2500 acre ranch located on Jesus Maria Rd. She and her older brother Raymond worked on the ranch as they were growing up. Betty attended the Mokelumne Hill School on Old School Way from 1st through 8th grade. There were three rooms in the school. One housed the 1st -4th grades, another the 5th - 8th grades leaving the last one for a lunch room. Betty graduated Calaveras High School in 1955. Then she proceeded to "flap her wings". She first worked at the hospital in Murphys, then went to Stockton and eventually wound up in Southern California.

Betty met her future husband Bill at a dance while in Southern California. They married in 1958 and moved back to Mokelumne Hill in 1959. They bought a house located right next to the ranch. Bill was a cowboy who worked at the cement plant. They had 2 boys, Clint and Ross. Betty was a homemaker who sewed her husband's shirts, baked and enjoyed the bounty from her Mom's large garden. As Betty says "Why have my own garden when my Mother's was so beautiful?" Betty drove a 90 passenger bus for the Calaveras School District for 30 years. Her route took her over Jesus Maria Rd., Whiskey Slide Rd., and Mountain Ranch Road. Her passengers ranged from kindergarten to 12th grade.

Betty says that Jesus Maria is home. The boys are still working the ranch which is now split between her and Raymond. The recent Butte fire devastated the ranch taking four homes and numerous head of cattle. Betty says that she has had to take this in stride. She lost so much; the most important thing being her rolodex. Her son was able to save her cat "Lilly" who is living in Paloma with her granddaughter until her new house is built. She is looking forward to



moving into her new home and being back on Jesus Maria Rd. She likes to visit the Senior Center in San Andreas and play on her computer. We talked about all of the changes that Betty has seen over her lifetime. "I never even thought about a man on the moon" she reflects. Betty has 4 grandchildren and a great grandson on the way. While we are sorry for the circumstances that brought her to us, we are glad to have this time with her as part of our community.

