

# THE WESTIN BEAR MOUNTAIN ASSOCIATE NEWSLETTER

## Associate of the Month—Front of the House



### JOLENE MALNARICK—FOOD & BEVERAGE

Jolene (pictured left with Jonathan Amirault, Banquet and Food & Beverage Service Manager) is a server in our Food & Beverage Department. She started with Bear Mountain when the clubhouse building opened in the spring of 2006. She was soon known as the face of Panache but with its seasonal close last winter has since moved to Bella delighting guests in the Italian Themed Restaurant. Jolene has an extensive wine knowledge which she has put to good use in assisting the F&B managers to revamp the wine lists. Jolene is being recognized for her ability to connect with her guests in a way that continually exceeds their expectations. She is very passionate about working at Bear Mountain and it shows in her work performance. Jolene was born in Vancouver and raised on the Sunshine Coast. She moved to Victoria to finish her Bachelor of Geography and worked different jobs in hospitality during that time. It wasn't long before the industry took hold of her and never let go. She has held many unique serving positions as well as gaining some management experience in assisting with the opening of a restaurant in Vancouver. Her free time is spent with family and friends as much as possible and she also enjoys golfing. When asked for a quote that inspires her it was "What goes around comes around (in a good way)". What she likes about working at Bear Mountain is the people, both guests and associates and she says overall she is grateful for life, family and her job. We are proud to have Jolene as an outstanding member of the Bear Mountain Team for such a long time. Congratulations!

## Associate of the Month—Heart of the House



### SIMON DEJONGH - CULINARY

Simon (pictured left with Iain Rennie, Executive Chef) is a long standing member of the Bear Mountain Team. He is a first cook in the culinary department and can be considered one of the original crew having started with Bear Mountain in August of 2003! He was born in East York Ontario and grew up in St. Albert, Alberta. His first job out of High School was as a salad cook and dishwasher and he hasn't looked back since. Outside of cooking, his passion is running and most days when he leaves work he is heading out to train for his next run. His long term goal is to eventually be a running coach hoping to inspire kids as he was inspired when he was young. Simon is being recognized for his outstanding attitude on the job. He takes great pride in his work and sets a high standard for every new associate introduced to the Culinary Team. Not only does he have an amazing work ethic but he has the kind of great personality that is contagious and makes working those really early shifts seem not so bad. When asked what he liked about working here Simon stated "it's the same drive every day so its easy to remember how to get here"! But on a more serious note he said he enjoys working for Chef Rennie. He says the Resort has a good feel, its professional but fun and feeling a part of the resort is a very comfortable feeling. We would like to thank Simon for being such a positive part of the Bear Mountain Team for so many years. In closing, he made sure to mention that if anyone would like to go for a run, just let him know! Congratulations Simon!

April Birthdays



Liezel Banquilay...	10
Michelle Bender...	03
Mike Buckham...	28
Don Butcher...	10
Gina Carden...	26
Colin Hobbs...	13
Kim LeJeune...	03
Haitao Liu...	16
Chrystal Newton...	16
Torsten Novak...	28
Alexa Palmer...	28
Denise Palmer...	27
Francis Parkinson...	12
Carmen Parry...	05
Mark Piciacchia...	16
Iain Rennie	07
Sandeep Sandhu...	18
Vick Siu...	04
Kristy Stone...	25
Juan Villota...	30
Frank Williams...	01



Congratulations to Liezel Banquilay (Housekeeping) and her husband Eduardo on the birth of their first child.

Their son Dhane Edward Paguirigan was born on October 12, 2011. We have been waiting to see a picture of this little one and the wait was worth it... what a handsome baby boy!

Westin guests are at the center of our landscape.

Successful and career-driven, they seek balance between work and family and enjoy a healthy lifestyle.

They believe that life should be lived to the fullest, and have a passion for both work and travel

Westin Bear Mountain participated in Culinaire 2012- Victoria's Premier Food Tasting Experience which offers guests the opportunity to experience a selection of the most unique restaurants and purveyors of fine food and beverage our region has to offer. Pictured right, CJ McLauchlin (First Cook) prepares the booth for its guests. The event was a huge success and attendees were treated to a taste of some of Bear Mountain's most delectable menu items. What a spectacular way to showcase our Food & Beverage outlets as well as the Resort! Great Work Team!





Above and Beyond– Kira Stevenson

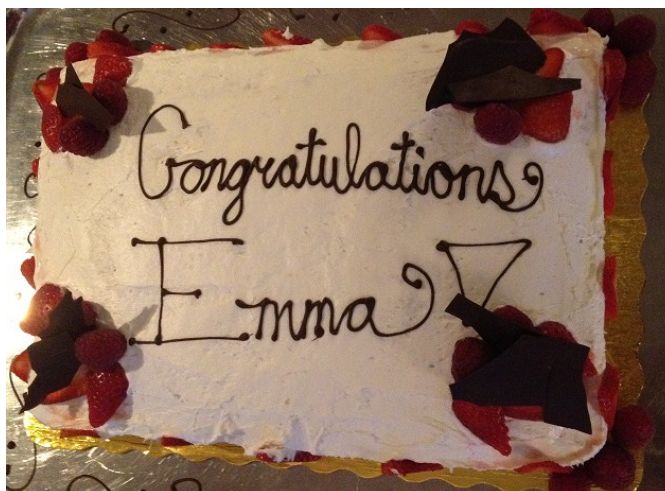
Congratulations to Kira Stevenson (In Room Dining) for going Above and Beyond for one of our guests staying at the hotel for a very special occasion. In February Kira was tasked with making a special delivery to a room for a proposal. She was to bring wine and chocolate covered strawberries as requested while the guests were at dinner, but she also took the extra time to decorate the entrance to the room and the table where the wine and strawberries were placed. With some very careful timing by Kira, the guests returned to a romantic setting where the proposal was accepted! Not only did the guests say how impressed they were with Kira’s thoughtfulness and creativity but they will also be considering Bear Mountain for a possible wedding location. We want to recognize Kira for creating a lasting memory for our guests and representing Bear Mountain in such a positive way. Kira, please stop by the HR office to accept a token of appreciation for going Above and Beyond!



**BABY SHOWER**

The Food & Beverage Team held a surprise Baby Shower for expectant mom Emma Spurling (banquets) who is due to have her baby any day now. Here are some photos.

We can't wait to meet her son or daughter!





**SAVE THE DATE! JEANS DAY 2012**



Bear Mountain will participate in Jeans Day 2012 in support of BC Children's Hospital on Thursday April 26th. This is our fourth year participating and we have always been quite successful in raising an impressive donation for the cause.

All Associates are invited to wear jeans to work on April 26th for a small donation of \$5. Buttons are available from Kelly in the HR office.

You must have the button to wear the jeans!

*(Please remember: no torn jeans, cutoffs or jean skirts. All other components of your uniform must be worn.)*

**SECOND ANNUAL NG'R SWINGER**

The second annual NG'R Swinger was held on March 25th in memory of our dear friend and colleague Kevin Ng. The event saw many employees, members and friends of Kevin show up for an afternoon of Golf, and dinner with a silent auction. The weather was beautiful and was a perfect showcase for a memorial bench placed on the First Tee of the Mountain Course in Kevin's honour and made by his close friend Josh. Not only was this a time to gather and remember our friend but it was also a fundraiser in support of research into a cure for Adrenal Cortical Cancer. Part of the funds raised will also be donated back to the BC Hospitality Foundation who supported Kevin during his battle with the disease. Congratulations to all those who worked so hard to put together this wonderful event. Kevin would be proud!

