

Happy Anniversary

We congratulate these volunteers who celebrate their anniversaries this month and thank them for their ongoing service!

- 20 years** **Arthur Marthinsen**, Health Consultant, Community Development Agency
- 18 years** **Linda Davis**, Mediator, District Attorney's Office
- 16 years** **Shirley Trimble**, Writer, HR
- 10 years** **John Adikes**, Aide, Marin City Library; **James Selfridge**, Firefighter, Fire
- 7 years** **Sue Baty**, Knitting Instructor, Pt. Reyes Station Library
- 5 years** **Kelley Baer**, Investigative Aide, Child Support Services; **Susan Bunker**, Library Beyond Walls Liaison, Library; **Lani Jerman**, Mediator, Probation
- 3 years** **Vicky Chin**, **Genny Duffin**, **Janice Dushkes**, **Jill Engelbrecht**, and **Erica Schafer**, Senior Peer Counselors, HHS; **Jane Karp**, Internet Tutor, Civic Center Library; **David Stainbrook**, Fire Lookout, Fire
- 2 years** **Rick Bartolacelli**, Docent, Civic Center Library; **Rich McGrath**, Building Maintenance, Cultural Services
- 1 year** **Frankie Baxter**, Event Aide, HR; **Gabriel Carsillo**, Office Aide, HHS; **Deborah Gregor**, Admin. Aide, HR; **Daniel Parish**, Dental Student, HHS; **Gary Bennett, D.J. Colbert**, **Chenue Gill**, **Terry Norton**, **Danyelee Perrine**, **Daniel Steckline**, and **Kathryn Thyret**, Ombudsman, HHS



Volunteer Notes

Volunteers and Interns Celebrated

Current Civic Center volunteers and student interns will be invited to an appreciation reception at 4 p.m. Tuesday, April 30. Mark your calendar and plan to mingle and enjoy light refreshments. Watch your e-mail inbox for an invitation with details. To add or update your address, please contact Anita Erola by e-mail at aerola@marincounty.org or call 473-7407.

Board Proclaims Volunteer Month

The Board of Supervisors is scheduled to declare April as Volunteer Month in Marin in a proclamation sponsored by Board President **Judy Arnold**. Kudos to the generous volunteers and student interns who give of their time and talent to benefit the County of Marin!

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The Volunteer View

The Monthly Newsletter for Marin County Civic Center Volunteers

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April 2013

Community outreach volunteers Oak Dowling, Roberta Robinson honored



Roberta Robinson and Oak Dowling

A shared sense of exuberance and a serious determination to prevent fraud inspire volunteers **Oak Dowling** and **Roberta Robinson**, who make community presentations on how to avoid elder abuse. For

their effective efforts with Marin County's Financial Abuse Specialist Team (FAST), Oak and Roberta are the 2012-13 Outstanding Civic Center Volunteers of the Year.

Roberta plays straight man to Oak's humorous style, making them "presentation stars from Novato to Sausalito," said their supervisor, Projects Coordinator **Michele McCabe** of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). "They take the serious topic of elder abuse prevention and make it engaging, allowing Marin audiences to easily remember FAST's tips for avoiding fraud, scams, and identity theft."

FAST consists of 18 volunteer experts in banking, law, real estate, and related fields.

(Con't. page 3)

Casey Whiting is 2012-13 Intern of the Year



Casey Whiting

A dedicated high school intern with the Public Defender's Office is Marin County's 2012-13 Outstanding Student Intern of the Year in recognition of his excellent work. **Casey Whiting**, a

San Marin High School senior, served twice as long as the average intern and continues to be available for office projects.

"Casey is inquisitive, respectful, and modest," said Chief Public Defender **Jose Varela**. "He tackles assignments with positive energy, asks good questions, and accepts constructive criticism with a mature attitude. He understands that legal work is detailed and precise, and he accepts that challenge."

(Con't. page 3)

Charlie Barboni top supervisor of volunteers



Charlie Barboni

For exemplary leadership as the staff coordinator of the Marin County Fair's team of more than 700 volunteers, **Charlie Barboni** is the Civic Center Volunteers 2012-13 Outstanding Supervisor of Volunteers

of the Year. Charlie, the Fair's exhibits supervisor, said that volunteers are "integral to the Fair and we have deep appreciation for them." With more than 13,000 Fair entries to receive, judge, display, and return to exhibitors each year, there are myriad opportunities for volunteers to participate.

Charlie has designed volunteer assignments ranging from entry processing to clerking to releasing exhibits when the Fair ends. Residents who compete for the prettiest

(Con't. page 2)

Civic Center Volunteers
Marin County Human Resources
3501 Civic Center Drive, Suite 415
San Rafael, CA 94903



Who's New & Welcome

Pinar Ozsoy, Intern-CAPA Student, HHS
Nancy Little, Intern-CAPA Student, HHS
Anne Feltes, Intern-CAPA Student, HHS
Marc Woo, Packet Assembly Aide, HHS
Lee Spiegel, Patient Advocate, HHS
Tamara Small, Packet Assembly Aide, HHS
Jackie Oldenburg, Intern-CAPA Student, HHS
Val Modesto, Intern-CAPA Student, HHS
Kirtikumar Menon, Library Aide, Corte Madera Library
Tim McClain, Marin Employment Connection Customer Service Asst., HHS
Kere Kripal, Intern-CAPA Student, HHS
Alexis Jimenez, Intern-CAPA Student, HHS
Mary Ann Fernandes, Intern-CAPA Student, HHS
Mark Cummings, Library Aide, Law Library
Larry Berkelhammer, Advocate, HHS
Alfred Baumann, Planning Aide, Parks
Kathy Atkinson, Intern-CAPA Student, HHS
Savannah Appel, Intern-CAPA Student, HHS
Sarah Gerber-Kai, Law Library Intern, Law Library
Nicole Needham, Intern-CAPA Student, HHS
Zorayda (Ceci) Sibrian, Legal Asst., DA

Adrian Rodriguez, Intern-CAPA Student, HHS
Amanda Esposito, Intern-CAPA Student, HHS
Dung "Michelle" Phan, Intern-CAPA Student, HHS
Yoodong Moon, Intern-Dental Clinic, HHS
Matthew Chan, Intern-CAPA Student, HHS
Lexie Anderson, Shelver, Fairfax Library
Janet Cohen, FLAGship Aide, Civic Center (CC) Library; Admin. Aide, HR
Jeanell Hall, Organization Develop. Intern, CC Library
Erica Beedle, Organization Develop. Intern, CC Library
Austin Myers, Explorer Intern, Fire
Richard Odgers, Consultant, Probation
Marcia Skall, Tutor, Library
Marlena Skall, Tutor, Library
Sarah Wilkins, Safe Routes for Seniors Intern, HHS
Bryana Robles, Tutor, Probation
Marian Blue, Library Beyond Walls (LBW) Researcher, Library
Diana Johnson, Library Aide, Fairfax Library
Sarah Henriksson, LBW Researcher, Library
Jeffrey Youngberg, Intern-Dental Clinic, HHS
Stella Kim, Intern-Dental Clinic, HHS

Supervisor of Volunteers of the Year

(Con't. from Page 1)

rose, tastiest honey, or funniest cartoon can rely on their flower, jar, or framed image being accurately recorded, attractively displayed, and safely returned thanks to the efforts of volunteers organized by Charlie.

His connection with the Marin County Fair began over 40 years ago. A volunteer himself for eight years, he later was a contractor in charge of exhibits. In 2000, he was hired as the Cultural Services Department's full-time exhibits supervisor. Since then the number of Fair volunteers has nearly doubled. Equally impressive, the Fair has a remarkable retention rate, with some 85 percent of the team returning to serve each year.

The Fair team is the county's largest single-event volunteer group, yet individuals matter. "We know our volunteers and take care to assign people to tasks for which they are well-qualified," Charlie

said. Known for his cheerful attitude, calm demeanor, and unflagging energy, he enjoys interacting with volunteers from ages 16 to 80-plus.

While one Fair is open, the next year's event is already in the planning stages, so Charlie also has designed projects for a core group of year-round volunteers.

A fourth-generation West Marin rancher who learned the value of volunteerism and teamwork as a 4-H Club member, Charlie enjoys creating opportunities for residents who have "a sense of pride in their county Fair. By volunteering they provide a great service," he said.

Cultural Services Director **Jim Farley** said Charlie is well-deserving of the top annual honor for his many contributions to the Fair's volunteer program. Year-round volunteer **Sue Crivello** described working with Charlie as "just a delight!"

"Staff involvement is essential to the county's volunteer program, and

Charlie is an outstanding example of a successful supervisor," said Volunteer Coordinator **Anne Starr** of the Human Resources Department's Civic Center Volunteers program. "He thinks creatively about how best to utilize skills, welcomes people of diverse backgrounds and abilities, and always has time to greet a volunteer."

Right now, Charlie and the Fair volunteers are gearing up for their busiest season as they prepare to receive entries for judging and display. Fair dates are July 3 through 7. Google "Marin Fair competitive exhibits" for details on exhibits being coordinated by the Supervisor of Volunteers of the Year.

Congratulations, Charlie!

Board to commend annual honorees

The Marin County Board of Supervisors will award formal commendations to the 2012-13 Volunteers, Student Intern, and Supervisor of Volunteers of the Year during its regular meeting on Tuesday morning, April 23, in Board Chambers, Room 329, at the Civic Center. The public is invited.



2012-13 Volunteers of the Year Roberta Robinson and Oak Dowling, seated, with Financial Abuse Specialist Team colleagues: **L to R, Middle:** Paul Roye, Salamah Locks, Projects Coordinator Michele McCabe (HHS), Maria Gregoriev, Diane Cokely, Hans Adler, Susan O'Brien. **L to R, Back:** Peter Vine, Michele Boudinot, Ron Benjamin, Irv Gubman, Vicki Clarke, Supervising Deputy Public Guardian Mark Vanderscoff (HHS), Valerie Smith. **Not Pictured:** Chrisula Asimos, Ann MacArthur, Roye Panelli, Sylvia Roye, A. Michael Wolfe.

Volunteers of the Year

(Con't. from Page 1)

Oak is a retired attorney and Roberta is a retired bank manager. During investigations of elder abuse and fraud, FAST experts consult with officials on points of law, finance, and more. FAST has given more than 1,800 hours of service, educated more than 600 residents, and distributed over 6,000 pieces of informational material since its inception in 2011. Supervising Deputy Public Guardian Mark Vanderscoff chairs the team.

Asked for their No. 1 tip, Oak said,

"Beware of 'incomings' – messages you didn't request: phone calls, e-mails, regular mail, people at the door, a stranger who approaches in public, so-called love interests who want money, and family members. People who prey on others look for someone who is sensitive, vulnerable, or isolated."

Often after a public talk, a listener privately tells Roberta or Oak about fraud in progress. They immediately refer victims to community resources.

Roberta is a Cal graduate who taught school before raising twin sons and later

starting her banking career. She served on the Marin County Grand Jury, was San Anselmo's Town Treasurer, and has acting experience – a varied background perfect for her FAST role. She and her husband Tom volunteer for the Marin Superior Court Real DUI in Schools program. They have four grandchildren.

Oak's background includes the practice of corporate and elder law and 15 years as a stage actor. He teaches law at College of Marin. He and his wife Mary, celebrating their 50th anniversary this year, live in San Rafael and have two children and three grandchildren.

Student Intern of the Year

(Con't. from Page 1)

Casey helped create legal files, updated law binders, scanned documents, and organized the department's supply room. He also observed hearings, took notes, and met with attorneys afterward. "I learned that there's a law twist to every case," he said.

The PD staff represents defendants accused of crimes who cannot afford an attorney. As in any office, "some days are exciting and some days are boring, but throughout Casey has kept

a positive attitude for his work," said Jose.

Casey, who grew up in San Rafael and Novato, is supplementing his high school classes with an emergency-response course at College of Marin. After graduating in June he plans to attend Santa Rosa Junior College. He is considering a career in public safety.

"I thank Jose and the entire Public Defender's staff for giving me the internship opportunity," Casey said. "I definitely recommend internships," he

added. "You learn whether you want to do that career, you get a sense of fulfillment, and you get to meet people. I've met Sheriff's deputies, attorneys, and District Attorney **Ed Berberian**."

County Student Intern Coordinator **Joy Fossett** noted that interns receive "first-hand experience that helps inspire and define career aspirations. I am thrilled that we get to acknowledge Casey," she said. "His unassuming nature belies the tremendous work he continues to do in the PD's Office. Congratulations, Casey!"

