Who’s New & Welcome

Mark Adams (SRafael), Search & Rescue (S&R) Volunteer, Sheriff
Kevin Alarcon (SBruno), CAPA Nursing Student, Health and Human Services (HHS)
Rachel Arthur (SAnselmo), High School Intern, Public Defender’s Office (PD)
Steven Ashby-Anderson (Vallejo), Pre-Law Intern, PD
Amanda Aubeil (CM), Epidemiology Volunteer, HHS
Jackson Bailey (SRafael), S&R Youth Volunteer, Sheriff
Cachitiin Brister (SRafael), Chaplain, Sheriff
Roan Burns (SRafael), S&R Youth Volunteer, Sheriff
Angela Chavez (Nov), Teen Shelves, Novato Library
Francesco Cico (SRafael), S&R Youth Volunteer, Sheriff
Jillian Enriquez (SBruno), CAPA Nursing Student, HHS
Loretta Farley (Petaluma), Library Program Asst., Point Reyes Library
Lisa Ferguson (SF), Law School Intern, PD
Fluitt (SAnselmo), Environmental Steward, Parks
Jerry Foster (Nov), RACES/ACS Volunteer, Sheriff
Robin Glazer (Sudio), Mediator, District Attorney’s Office
Allister Greenfield (Sustem), Epidemiology Intern, HHS
Makaela Haeger (SAnselmo), CAPA Nursing Student, HHS
Scarlett Hayes (Sau), CAPA Nursing Student, HHS
Dan Healy (SRafael), RACES/ACS Volunteer, Sheriff
Tuan Huynh (SRoss), Environmental GIS Intern, Community Development Agency (CDA)
Riekio Inoue (SRafael), Administrative Asst., HHS
Robert Ireson (Grnbl), RACES/ACS Volunteer, Sheriff
Linda Kasper (MV), English Tutor; Novato Library
Michael Lanting (Nov), Teen Shelves, Novato Library
David Maestracci (Grnbl), Information Tech. Intern, HHS
Natsumi Makiyama (SF), CAPA Nursing Student, HHS
Anthony Mazzuici (Nov), Teen Shelves, Novato Library
Tosha McQuilthin (Concord), CAPA Nursing Student, HHS
Tristan Mitchell (MV), Fire Intern, Fire
Sierra Najolla (SRafael), Adult Case Management Asst., HHS
Peter Otis (Nov), RACES/ACS Volunteer, Sheriff
Anna Price (Nov), Shelves, Novato Library
Elizabeth Price (Rptk), Adult Probation Intern, Probation Department
Parker Pringle (Tib), Digitization Aide, CDA
Stuart Quan (SRafael), RACES/ACS Volunteer, Sheriff
Nicole Rehder (SRafael), CAPA Nursing Student, HHS
Christine Reyes (SF), Law School Intern, PD
Oleksandra Riley (SAnselmo), CAPA Nursing Student, HHS
Sierra Roles (SF), CAPA Nursing Student, HHS
Judith Santos (SRafael), Teen Program Intern, Civic Center Library
Jacquale Shepherd (Kensington), Nutrition Wellness Program Intern, HHS
Michael Simon (Tomeas), Volunteer Firefighter, Fire
Janice Stillman (SF), Law School Intern, PD
Ilene Taekman (SRafael), Marin Civic Center Tour Docent, Cultural Services
Danica Tse (SRafael), Behavioral Health Program Intern, HHS
Chloe Vicari (SRafael), CAPA Nursing Student, HHS
Christopher Warnag (SF), Law School Intern, PD
Rebecca Wilson (Frkx), English Tutor; Novato Library
Jeff Young (SRoss), RACES/ACS Volunteer, Sheriff

Volunteer Notes

Appreciation Event Coming Up

Be on the lookout for your email invitation, and save the date for the annual Civic Center Volunteers appreciation reception, scheduled for Thursday, April 27. Current volunteers, interns, and county staff members are welcome!

Lend a Hand

The Health and Human Services Department seeks event volunteers to help at a picnic on Saturday, May 13. Volunteers may set up, welcome guests, or clean up. For details, call Tara Clark, HHS Volunteer coordinator, at 415-473-3515 or email her at TClark@marincounty.org

Broom Busters celebrate two decades

On March 11, the Broom Busters of Tiburon’s Old St. Hilary’s Open Space Preserve celebrate 20 years of team perseverance against the invasive French broom plant. The hard-working group, led by Civic Center Volunteer Faith Brown and supervised by Marin County Parks Volunteer Coordinator Greg Reza, meets the first Saturday of every month.

“Broom has an unfair advantage,” Greg said. “It takes over large areas, consumes a lot of water, crowds out native plants, and is very flammable.” Broom plants produce thousands of seeds that can remain viable for 25 years or more. Removal is an ongoing challenge.

Faith joined Broom Busters in 2002 after moving to Marin from the Chicago area, where she had volunteered on prairie restoration projects. She was delighted to find a group here that allows her to pursue her passion of protecting native plants. After the former leader of the Broom Busters, Chuck Taylor, stepped down in 2006, Faith took over. She works with Greg to organize workdays and send regular emails to group members.

Of her stewardship role, Faith said, “I feel great spending a morning outdoors in a beautiful setting, doing something positive for the environment, and working with other people who care about our open space.”

The Broom Busters team formed as a partnership with the Marin County Open Space District and is aided by local contractors. The group won the Champion of the Community Award in 2005 from the California Parks and Recreation Society. A generous grant from the Marin Community Foundation in 2007 allowed them to purchase new tools.

The team is not just a gathering of stewards, but also a band of friends. Longtime member Roger Felton said, “Continued on page 3”
Happy Anniversary
We congratulate these volunteers who celebrate their anniversaries this month and thank them for their ongoing involvement!

20 years
- Rosine Reynolds (Lksp), Roger Felton (Belv), Mary Bowles (Tib), Helen Lindqvist (Tib), Stewards, Parks

16 years
- James Malaspinia (Fkrx) and Al Baumann (Petulama), PatrolVolunteers, Parks

11 years
- Libby Byers (Srtafel), Barbara Levin (Srtafel), Nora Martinis (CM), Senior Peer Counselors, Health and Human Services (HHS)

10 years
- Sandra Rowett (Grnx), Library Beyond Walls Liaison, Library; John Channell (Srtafel) and Robert Richter (Lksp), Search & Rescue Volunteers, Sheriff

8 years
- Cara Wasden (Petulama), Senior Access Reader, Novato Library; Sandra Walker (Srtafel), Chaplain, Sheriff

6 years
- Kathryn Mitchell-Ball (Srtafel), Senior Peer Counselor; HHS; Donald Johnson (Fkrx), Patrol Volunteer; Parks; Si Si Semple (Nov), Administrative Assistant, Cultural Services

5 years
- G. Andrew Pope (Sau), Maintenance Aide, Community Development Agency

4 years
- Susan Bautista (Wdacre), Shelves, Fairfax Library

3 years
- Jen Bach (Tomales), Volunteer Firefighter; Fire; Calvin Clark (Srtafel), Search & Rescue Youth Volunteer, Sheriff

1 year
- David Ball (Srtafel), Consumer Mediator; District Attorney’s Office; Earl McCowen (Nov) and Marty McCowen (Nov), Patrol Volunteers; Parks; Stephen Sarhad (Srtafel), RACES/ACS Volunteer, Sheriff; Min Sohn (Srtafel), Nutrition and Wellness Health Education Intern, HHS

Intern brings financial literacy to mental health program

Korina Vigil

While working toward her bachelor’s degree in sociology, Sonoma State University senior Korina Vigil interned 12 hours a week serving Marin County adults who have severe mental illnesses. Korina, who has worked in banking, has a year-long internship as an adult case management program assistant with the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). She said, “I’ve been interested in social work for some time, and thoroughly respect the goal of the Adult Case Management Program to promote both wellness and recovery through individualized treatment.”

Through the mentorship of HHS case managers and her internship supervisor, Kristine Kwok, Korina is learning about peer support, psychotherapy, psychiatric medication management, and intensive case management.

Kristine, who supervises the Adult Case Management Unit, explained, “Korina has 12 years of experience in the banking industry and utilizes her background to teach financial literacy skills to our clients with severe mental illness. She has decided to pursue her master’s in social work, so we hope to have her back at the county as a master’s level intern!” In addition to sharing her business knowledge with clients, Korina helps them connect with community resources, such as financial, educational, occupational, and legal services.

“Volunteering in a meaningful assignment is so rewarding and gives me so much professional experience toward my chosen profession,” she said.

Korina became interested in behavioral health and recovery services while pursuing her A.A. in social and behavioral sciences at Santa Rosa Junior College. She believes firmly in lowering the stigma of mental illness.

Using her Spanish language skills, she plans to work with local Latino families after completing her education.  By Barbara Webb

Where are they now?

By Emily Kesler

Marin County’s internship program offers law-related opportunities in departments including the Public Defender, District Attorney, and County Counsel’s offices and at the Marin County Law Library. Students interested in law, justice, and civil rights gain practical experience and prepare for their careers. We caught up with four former internship students.

Jimmy Reizman
2013 Legal Support Intern, District Attorney’s Office
Loyola Marymount, bachelor’s “I work at Google as a legal specialist in privacy, copyright, and law enforcement. I remember sitting in court watching a murder trial I helped a prosecutor prepare for. It was pretty cool to see material I had worked on in action in the courtroom.”

Lea Reizman
2013 Legal Support Intern, District Attorney’s Office
UCLA, bachelor’s degree
The George Washington University, JD in progress “I will graduate in May with my JD and will join the Department of Justice as an honors attorney in the fall. As an intern, I enjoyed getting to look through and organize evidence for the cases I worked on.”

Rachel Brockl
2013 Certified Legal Intern, District Attorney’s Office
San Francisco State, bachelor’s
Golden Gate University, JD
“ ’I am a deputy district attorney for the Napa County District Attorney’s Office. In my internship, I had the most amazing opportunity to conduct my very first jury trial. It was a DUI case and I learned so much from that experience.”

Broom Busters

Continued from page 1

“We are an interesting group with very different origins and diverse skills.” He said members meet regularly for fun dinners, potlucks, and other social events.

In the past several years, the Broom Busters have welcomed help from the UC Marin Master Gardeners and the Marin Garden Club. They help by propagating native grasses and wildflowers for planting. Faith said, “It’s really rewarding to see an area once covered with broom and blackberry being restored to native habitat conditions. We’re going to have to wait a few years to see if the seedlings we planted thrive. We certainly hope they do!”

Greg, Faith, and Roger agree that the local environment must be protected and have hopes for the longevity of the Broom Busters. Greg emphasized that it is up to the next generation to ensure the eradication of broom. Faith chimed in, “As the original Broom Busters ‘age out,’ I’d like to see the next generation take over our work. So many people enjoy this open space for hiking and walking their dogs. We need -- and welcome -- more volunteers to help maintain and protect it.”

Are you interested in joining the Broom Busters? Please email Greg at GReza@marincounty.org or call him at 415-473-3778. Greg also has details about other open space opportunities and projects for volunteers of all ages.

By Emily Kesler