

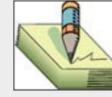
Happy Anniversary

We congratulate our volunteers who celebrate their anniversaries in December.

- 11 years** **Edwin L. Currier** (S.R.) Aide, Civic Center Library
Pat Currier (S.R.) Special Project Aide, Civic Center Library
- 5 years** **Flinn Moore Rauck** (Nov.) TV Studio Volunteer, Novato Library
Lynn Grant (Nov.) Shelver, Novato Library
Sue Severin (S.R.) Car Seat Technician, Public Health Services
- 4 years** **Wyman Hicks** (Ffx.) Library Aid, Fairfax Library
- 2 years** **James Powell** (S.R.) Data Entry Clerk, Assessor Administration
- 1 year** **Pat Tillman** (Grnb.) Senior Peer Counselor, H& HS
Delores Hahn (Grnb.) Senior Peer Counselor, H& HS
Bryan Galli (Wdacre.) Explorer Program Advisor, Woodacre Fire Headquarters
Jennie Butler (S.R.) Data Entry Clerk, Assessor/Recorder

CCV contributed services valued at more than \$8 million in 2007

Civic Center Volunteers
Marin County Human Resources
3501 Civic Center Drive, Suite 403
San Rafael, CA 94903



Volunteer Notes

Financial Impact Analysis Is Worth Millions

Last year CCV contributed more than 8 million dollars in services! How do we know? We count every single hour volunteers report to our office. We know we gave more than that because we didn't capture every hour worked. Even if you work a single hour in a month, we need to know it. We are beginning the arduous task of collecting all unreported hours for the 2008 annual report. Will you please email your hours to jbrown@co.marin.ca.us fax (473-5960), call (499-7407) or send by snail mail to **Civic Center Volunteers Marin County, H.R. 3501 Civic Center Drive San Rafael, CA 94903** We need any unreported hours you have for the year, including hours for this month so we can fully credit you and the CCV program.

Marin Civic Center Holiday Schedule

December 24 - half-day
December 25 - closed
December 31 - half-day
January 1, 2009 - closed

CCV Staff

Joan Brown, Manager, 499-7167, FAX: 473-5960, jbrown@co.marin.ca.us;

John Vogee, Extra-Hire Admin. Services Specialist, 499-7407, jvogee@co.marin.ca.us;

Anne Starr, Employee Programs Coordinator, 499-6028, astarr@co.marin.ca.us;

Volunteers:

Shirley Trimble, Profiles Writer;

Russ Bevans, Layout Editor;

Joanne Elder, Vivienne

Freeman, Bess Niemcewicz,

Marlene Gerbsman, and

Sherry Pray, Administrative

Aides.



The Volunteer View

The Monthly Newsletter for Marin County Civic Center Volunteers

Volume 30, Issue 12

December 2008

Cary Mandell, student, helps maintain the books at the Bolinas Library



Library Specialist Jane Silva and Volunteer Cary Mandell at the Bolinas Library

When **Cary Mandell** first volunteered to help out at the Bolinas Library, Library Specialist **Jane Silva** sized up the eager 12-year-old before her and decided that he wasn't tall enough to reach the upper book shelves.

That's how Cary began taking care of the children's books and returns each Wednesday afternoon. Now at 15, he's had a considerable growth spurt and his longer reach includes taking care of the DVD and AV returns and getting the mail. "I really enjoy the library and being around books," says Cary, whose literary taste includes fantasy, novels, mystery and biography.

"Cary is amazingly reliable and gets along well with our volunteer staff," says Jane. "He's mature, tech savvy, and a sweet and a bright guy."

Cary, between ninth and tenth grade, is home schooled by his guardian, Donna Moffat. "We work thru lot of projects including science, history and physical science, which involve a lot of writing and field trips," he explained. He's visited New York, Washington D.C., all the Civil War battlefields, and traveled to Canada, Chile, Uruguay and Argentina on vacation, always doing research before a trip.

A student of martial arts since he was 9, Cary almost has a black belt in Tae Kwondo. He assists his instructor once a week and takes classes twice a week. He has a step-brother in college and a sister, Samantha, a Tamalpais High School senior. His ambition is to major in "something like physics." He has been looking at colleges such as Simon's Rock, part of Bard College in Massachusetts, that admit students early.

- by Shirley Trimble

In Memorium Martha Heston

Last month, **Martha Heston** unexpectedly passed away. After retiring from PG&E, she volunteered as an administrative aide with the Public Defender's office three days a week for 24 years on the front desk. "Martha was a friend, a confidant, a loving person, and an incredible human being. She saw generation upon generation of attorneys and staff members go through this office, always with charm and affection," says **Jose Varela**, Assistant Public Defender. A kind and classy lady has left us. She will be dearly missed.

Who's New & Welcome

Eleanor Ann Sumner (Novato) Library Aide, Library
Evangeline Black (San Pablo) Marin Womens Studies,
H&HS

Tom Whittler (San Francisco) Advocate, H&HS

Sean McGuire (San Francisco) Advocate, H&HS

Neptune Bangdel (San Rafael) Admin. Assistant, Planning

Russ Bevans (San Rafael) Layout Editor, HR

Mary Anne Gilles (Novato) Library Aide, Library

Hong Nguyen (Milpitas) Advocate, H&HS

Anh-Tram Nguyen (San Jose) Advocate, H&HS

Vanessa Naval (San Francisco) Nurse Student, H&HS

David Cooper (Sonoma) Intern-Probation, Adult
Probation

Rochelle Newman (San Anselmo) Mediator, DA

Meredith Cadwaller (San Francisco) Intern-Social Work, H&HS
Robin Marie Cooper (Berkeley) Intern - Psychology,
H&HS

Annie Brown (San Rafael) Centering Pregnancy Volunteer,
H&HS

Ryan Ching (Suisun City) Advocate, H&HS

William Steiger (Novato) Maintenance Aide, Sheriff

Lucy Cochran (San Rafael) Office Asst, Library

Beth Milwid (Mill Valley) Chronic Disease Self Management
Group Trainer, H&HS

Beverly Neihardt (Greenbrae) Admin. Asst. HR

Jon Denton-Schneider (San Rafael) Marin Women's Study
Support Staff, H&HS

Alicia Lawson (Mill Valley) Peer Counselor, H&HS

Public Defenders Office volunteer Lindsay Page is learning the similarities and differences between investigation in the public and private sectors



Lindsay Page brings professional expertise to her volunteer position.

After working for a private investigator for four years, **Lindsay Page** searched the Internet for something new. On the Defense Investigators Association website, she found the bio of **Josie Cenicerros**, Chief Investigator for the Public Defender's Office. "Josie is a real role model," says Lindsay. "I sent her my bio and asked her for an informational interview. This resulted in my becoming, via Volunteer Manager **Joan Brown**, an Investigative Aide in the PD office."

Lindsay has worked 2 to 3 days a week since September at a variety of tasks for the investigators to help with their caseload—collecting files such as birth certificates and records, accompanying investigators into the field and on witness interviews, writing up supervisor's notes, and locating witness contact information on investigative data bases.

"I'm learning the similarity and differences between investigation in the private and the public sector. This has been a good experience," says Lindsay. "Everyone in the department has been kind, generous, and welcoming to me, and they are always courteous to the clients."

Lindsay is also an accomplished restaurant chef

"We're privileged to have a volunteer like Lindsay with four years of experience, and with strong computer research skills and organizational skills working with us. Our office and its clients benefit highly from her strengths. She is adapting well to our quick-paced office and is well-liked by her co-workers," says Josie.

This San Francisco native attended College of Marin and received a degree in English and Fine Arts from the University of Colorado at Boulder. She and her husband Dennis met when they were both sushi chefs in Boulder. Both worked for years in the restaurant field. Dennis is now on leave from restaurant management and is volunteering as a reserve fireman in Marin. The couple has two energetic sons, Forrest, 5, a kindergartener, and Thomas Kent, 2, who attends day care near the Civic Center while Lindsay volunteers.

- by Shirley Trimble

Marlene Gerbsman brings many unique skills to the Civic Center Volunteers Office

When the Civic Center Volunteers office recently needed help, manager **Joan Brown** remembered an offer from **Marlene Gerbsman**, a long-time (ten years) volunteer Job Coach, colleague, friend and Volunteer of the Year 1995-1996. "If you ever need help in the office, just call me." Bingo! Marlene started the next Tuesday and has become an essential part of the team.



Marlene Gerbsman multi-tasks at the CCV.

Marlene proof read resolutions of commendation in preparation for the Bi-Annual volunteer recognition at the Board of Supervisors. Multi-faceted, she also contributed and executed the beautiful table presentation of refreshments on the day of the event itself. On a regular basis she makes numerous phone calls and sends many emails to collect volunteer hours each month. (NOTE TO READER: Please call or turn in your hours the last day of each month, even

if you had zero hours.) "It's always the project of the day," says Marlene. "Until I worked in the office, I had no idea how important it was to get those time sheets in on time. The office probably spends at least 20 hours a month trying to collect the hours."

"We are grateful Marlene agreed to work each week," says Joan. Besides having a positive personality with a great sense of humor, she brings computer skills, common sense, self-direction, and a good mind. Any assignment we've given her, she's done superbly."

Marlene was an elementary school teacher in New York City. After she came to California in 1980, she subbed as a reading resource teacher and did a lot of volunteer work. She and her husband Steve have been married 40 years. The couple loves to travel. These days they travel a lot to Alexandria, Virginia, where they have recently rented a condo in anticipation of the arrival in February of their first grandchild, courtesy of son Jason, and daughter-in-law, Lauren.

- by Shirley Trimble

Russ Bevans enjoys the creative process as the CCV Layout Editor



Russ Bevans strives to become a triathlete again after injury.

A bit of serendipity was hovering around the Civic Center Volunteers office last month when super talented product and graphic designer **Russ Bevans** popped in looking for a volunteer job. Manager **Joan Brown** didn't have to think twice for a

referral. "Just the day before, **John Kaufman**, our previous Layout Editor for the past two years let us know he couldn't continue because he moved out of the county," exclaimed Joan.

"Russ is our newest team member and a great addition. Besides being relaxed, funny, and easy to work with, he brings outstanding skills as a result of his many years of design, creativity, and computer savvy," she added. This issue of the *VolunteerView* is Russ' first effort as its Layout Editor.

An outdoor person his whole life, and a 15 year competitor in many triathlons and marathon events, Russ concentrated his free-lance professional efforts on outdoor product and apparel design—mostly for big companies—notably The North Face.

"I design products that I use: backpacks, backpack tents, sleeping bags, golf bags, and men's and women's apparel," says Russ. He is a graduate of FIT, Fashion Institute of Technology in New York.

In a ski accident a year ago, Russ suffered a massive knee injury and had reconstructive surgery from which he is now recovering as fast as possible. "I will never stop running, biking, and swimming," he says.

During his time off from endurance sports, Russ volunteered to staff the Marin Triathlon and just started as a volunteer Park Aide at McNears Beach.

- by Shirley Trimble

