

VOLUNTEER NOTES

Where Are They Now?

Former Marin County Probation Department intern **Rachel Hay** graduated from the San Diego County Regional Academy in December, then trained at the Las Colinas Women’s Detention Facility. She since has refined her career plan, moving to a non-sworn position with the San Diego County Sheriff’s Office. Experience taught her that “I prefer to help law enforcement officers in a non-sworn capacity.” Her Marin internship was helpful because it included conversations with probation officers and non-sworn staff. Rachel encourages others to intern with the Marin Probation Department because “there are so many officers that you can learn from, and a non-sworn side with amazing people who also have great careers.”

Alexa Pal, a Board of Supervisors District 4 summer intern in 2020, lives in Indiana now and works in the corporate office of Forest River, an RV company out of Elkhart, IN. She appreciates her employer but hopes to return to the west coast in future because she misses the sunshine.



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Intern Helps Newsletter Team While Learning

By *Tiyona Pariani*

During Covid-19, **Natalia Aghazadeh**, a Marin School of the Arts senior at Novato High School, serves remotely several hours a week with the Human Resources Department as a graphic design aide intern. As a member of the editorial team, she lays out this newsletter.



Natalia Aghazadeh

PHOTO BY NATALIA AGHAZADEH

She began as a Marintern in August 2019, applying her photography skills with the Benefits Division of Human Resources. She contributed photographs for a wellness video promoting exercise to county employees.

Later, she began a newsletter layout internship. The July issue stood out for Natalia, because that’s when she replaced the previous layout volunteer while starting to teach herself Adobe InDesign, a software program which she calls very challenging but also interesting because she is learning so much.

“I wanted to do extra work on photography and graphic design outside of school to attain more experience for my future,” said Natalia, a lifelong Novato resident.

At Marin School of the Arts, Natalia has studied photography all four years of high school. She learned to use

Photoshop software to edit images at school and applies those skills as an intern.

She is set to graduate this spring and attend College of Marin in the fall, majoring in graphic design.

“Natalia has been a godsend,” said her Human Resources

Department staff supervisor, **Joy Fossett**, coordinator of the Marinterns program. “Our former layout volunteer went on maternity leave, and we needed a new layout person with access to InDesign. Natalia was already a Marinterns photography intern, and she had a subscription to InDesign. It is incredible what she has picked up in a short period, and we are thrilled that she continues to offer her photography and layout skills with our newsletter.”

Natalia said, “Joy has been amazing with always walking me through projects and giving me a lot of support even though it has been challenging to communicate only online during Covid.”

The educational component of Natalia’s newsletter internship is supported by MarinShares volunteer **Eleanor Lau**, a graphic designer with considerable knowledge of InDesign. Eleanor provides guidance via Zoom. At her suggestion, Natalia has acquired

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a Marin County Free Library card so that she can take LinkedIn Learning courses from InDesign experts for free.

Besides photography, Natalia enjoys hiking, cooking, and baking in her free time. Her biggest takeaway from interning with Human Resources has been gaining valuable work experience and developing skills that will be useful in college and life.

“This internship has given me the opportunity to improve my skills in graphic design and has challenged

me to teach myself how to work with difficult software when I’m under pressure to make a deadline,” said Natalia.

While serving as an individual, Natalia also is part of a team. Since the Covid shutdown of March 2020, she and her fellow editorial contributors (for their names, see the masthead at the bottom left corner of page 1) continue to produce this e-newsletter from their remote locations.

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Happy Anniversary

We congratulate these volunteers who celebrate their anniversaries this month and thank them for their ongoing involvement.

28 YEARS

Art Marthinsen (San Rafael), Health Consultant, Community Development Agency

24 YEARS

Dan Healy (Woodacre), Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service/Auxiliary Communications Service (RACES/ACS) Volunteer, Marin County Sheriff's Office (MCSO)

Shirley Trimble (Mill Valley), Writer, Human Resources

21 YEARS

Bill Mittendorf (San Francisco), Air Patrol Volunteer, MCSO

John Pope (Novato), Marin Search & Rescue Volunteer, MCSO

18 YEARS

Richard Courier (Petaluma), Air Patrol Volunteer, MCSO

16 YEARS

David Mitchell (San Rafael), Air Patrol Volunteer, MCSO

Richard Zarraonandia (Novato), Steward, Marin County Parks (Parks)

15 YEARS

Emily Cushman (San Rafael), Marin Search & Rescue Volunteer, MCSO

13 YEARS

Larry Atkinson (San Carlos), Marin Search & Rescue Volunteer, MCSO

11 YEARS

Genny Duffin (Sonoma), **Erica Schafer** (San Anselmo), Senior Peer Counselors, Health & Human Services (HHS)

Scott McDaniel (San Rafael), Marin Search & Rescue Volunteer, MCSO

10 YEARS

Robert Gehlen (San Rafael), **Rich Shelton** (Tiburon), Marin Search & Rescue Volunteers, MCSO

Richard McGrath (San Rafael), Flag Raiser Volunteer, Cultural Services

9 YEARS

Deborah Gregor (Novato), Event Aide, Human Resources

Terry Norton (San Anselmo), **Kathryn Thyret** (Mill Valley), Ombudsmen, HHS

8 YEARS

Larken Bradley (San Rafael), Senior Peer Counselor, HHS

John Garcia (Dixon), Air Patrol Volunteer, MCSO

6 YEARS

Christine Camilleri (Novato), Mounted Patrol, Parks

Valerie Lels (Kentfield), Financial Abuse Specialist Team (FAST) Volunteer, HHS

Nancy Oswald (San Anselmo), Veterans Services Office Administrative Aide, HHS

5 YEARS

David Gannon (Corte Madera), **Timothy Mahoney** (Fairfax), **Marion Matthews** (Petaluma), Marin Search & Rescue Volunteers, MCSO

Mark Stoering (Tomas), Volunteer Tomas Firefighter, Marin County Fire

3 YEARS

Chrisula Asimos (San Rafael), FAST Volunteer, HHS

Nancy Carlisle (Novato), **Michael Fischer** (Mill Valley), **William Hitt** (St. Helena), **Drew Levy** (Sonoma), **Sean O'Leary** (San Rafael), **Steven Virshup** (Novato), Fire Lookouts, Marin County Fire

Brian Beidelman (San Francisco), **Gideon Bernstein** (Mill Valley), **June Bernstein** (Mill Valley), **Tom Kennedy** (Mill Valley), **Calvin Schrader** (San Anselmo), **Tate Thomas** (Kentfield), Marin Search & Rescue Volunteers, MCSO

Kasia Page (San Anselmo), **Cassidy Fragakis** (Larkspur), Marin Search & Rescue Youth Volunteers, MCSO

2 YEARS

Jennifer Doores (Fairfax), Shelver, Fairfax Library

Brigitte Gras (Mill Valley), Library Beyond Walls Liaison, Marin County Free Library

1 YEAR

Kristine Ball (Mill Valley), **Rick Duncan** (Mill Valley), Stewards, Parks

Who's New & Welcome!

Dorie Bernstein (San Francisco), Telehealth Nursing Student, Health & Human Services (HHS)

Lizbeth Cabrera (Sonoma), Telehealth Nursing Student, HHS

Isabella Castellon (Greenbrae), Marinfo NOW Newsletter Writer Intern, Human Resources

Rita Huober (San Francisco), Telehealth Intern, HHS

Melissa Im-Giuffrida (San Francisco), Telehealth Intern, HHS

Kevin Johnston (Novato), Radio Communications Team Volunteer, Department of Public Works (DPW)

Warren Leiden (Mill Valley), Radio Communications Team Volunteer, DPW

Blair Ogden (San Rafael), Senior Peer Counselor, HHS

Dorthea Parker (Petaluma), Reproductive Health Research Intern, HHS

Yonatan Paz-Priel (Mill Valley), High School Intern, Public Defender's Office

Isabella Pimentel (San Francisco), Telehealth Intern, HHS

Jessy Young (San Rafael), Telehealth Intern, HHS



Three Generations! Public service is a family affair for the Marthinsens. Former environmental health intern Michael Marthinsen, now county environmental health specialist employee, stands next to his grandfather, Art Marthinsen, who has volunteered 28 years with the Community Development Agency. At right is Art's son and Michael's uncle, Steve Marthinsen, a systems engineer with the Information Services and Technology Department. Art set a strong example in public service. After graduating from UC Berkeley, he had a 37-year county career. He retired on a Friday and started as a Civic Center Volunteer the following Monday. That adds up to 65 years in county service. Art also has the longest tenure at the Frank Lloyd Wright-designed Marin Civic Center. His department was second in the building after it opened in 1962, and Art has served at the Civic Center ever since.