

VOLUNTEER NOTES

Volunteers Boost Arts & Crafts Fair, November 19 & 20

MarinShares volunteers from Human Resources are supporting the 2025 Employee Arts & Crafts Fair. On the fair dates, November 19 and 20, event aides **Maureen Caslavka**, **Marie Fitzgerald**, **Deborah Fox**, and **Deborah Gregor** will assist. Volunteer **Phyllis Gray** is coordinating the November 19 charity bake sale, and artist **Annet Katan** designed the fair poster. The public is welcome both dates from 11:00 to 4:00 at the Marin Civic Center cafeteria, Room 237. Enjoy live music, handcrafted gifts, and original art!

We Remember

MarinShares volunteer **Genny Duffin**, a 15-year member of the Health and Human Services Department's Senior Peer Counseling team, died September 29 at age 93. Her staff supervisor, Behavioral Health Practitioner **Michael Turrigiano**, said she "brought kindness, wit, and a sparkling spirit to her clients and fellow Senior Peer Counseling volunteers."

Holidays

County offices will be closed November 11 for Veterans Day and November 27 and 28 for Thanksgiving.



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Chaplain Feels Called to 'Something Bigger'

By Marjorie Grannan

For Marin County's Sheriff's Chaplain **Chuck Campbell**, the upward turn in his life's path started over a cup of coffee with a fellow pastor at the Starbucks in Strawberry Village.

His ministry at a Mill Valley church was rewarding, and he wanted to continue with his law practice and ministry, both based on helping people. Then destiny, in the shape of a Marin County Sheriff's deputy, walked into the coffee house and "that's where it all started."

The deputy was familiar with Chuck's church and asked if he would consider becoming one of the sheriff's chaplains. "I left Starbucks with a sense that I was being called into something that was bigger than me," Chuck said. He began volunteering as a chaplain in 2010.

Chuck's life passions—law practice and the chaplaincy—have been entwined since his upbringing in Southern California. His family's lifestyle was a slice of Americana: Church every



PHOTO BY GREGG TURNER

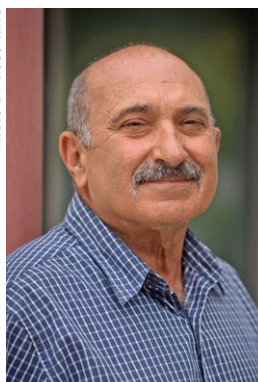
Chuck Campbell

Sunday, Sunday suppers, sports activities after school, study hall, and hanging out with his schoolmates. In college, Chuck felt the pull to a disciplined lifestyle, deciding to major in business—economics and get a law degree. Now in the 43rd year of his law practice, he considers the two careers as inseparable.

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Volunteer Helps Reduce Harm During Fentanyl Epidemic

By Scott Harrop



Andy Fyne

MarinShares volunteer **Andy Fyne** joined Marin County Health and Human Services (HHS) in a harm-reduction role in May 2024, assisting after a takeover by the Ritter Center of such health services from the Spahr Center.

It was among the latest steps for a volunteer with roots reaching back to Atlanta in the 1990s. That's where Andy began his volunteer history as a

volunteer services coordinator. "It was part of the environment—that's just what you did, if you were of the LGBT community and had a conscience," he said.

After moving to Marin in 1999, he continued in AIDS social work as the volunteer coordinator with the Marin AIDS Project (MAP) under county-managed health care contracts.

Andy's focus has shifted over time. "You do different things when the funding shifts," he said.

Along with the drug epidemic came a surge of Hepatitis C virus (HCV), mostly caused by substance abuse. AIDS organizations have always worked on

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Volunteer Helps Reduce Harm During Fentanyl Epidemic

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needle exchanges to reduce harm. With the advent of state funding, the work became a regular public health endeavor. Staff and volunteers of MAP handed out safer injection tools, Narcan® (an opioid-overdose antidote), and safer smoking tools to help drug users avoid infections.

“By the time I retired, we were finally actually fully funded to do this work,” Andy said.

There was cooperation between agencies and nonprofits. With OD Free Marin, Andy trained thousands of county workers and residents. With Community Action Marin and Ritter Center, he visited homeless camps, giving Narcan® and saving lives.

Work continued under the Ritter Center and Community Action Marin, with enthusiastic support from Dr. **Matt Willis**, the county’s public health officer at the time.

When the Spahr Center folded in early 2024, Andy saw a need. He asked HHS Public Health Division Director **Cicily Emerson**, “What can I do to help?” He became a MarinShares volunteer with HHS, organizing fellow volunteers to prepare packages for homeless people.

“Andy is dedicated, passionate, and has a can-do attitude. He has a wealth of experience and shares his knowledge with others,” Cicily said. “He has a good sense of humor and is fun to work with.”

A need remains for harm-reduction volunteers. The county’s Marin Medical

Reserve Corps (MMRC) stepped in to help, and Andy began training MMRC volunteers as well as interns from San Francisco State University.

Andy’s approach is practical. “What’s the most important thing?” he asks. “It’s like the AIDS epidemic: with the rise of the fentanyl epidemic, along came overdoses, bacterial infections, a rise in HCV, and the greater possibility of HIV transmission. It is important that people who use substances fill in the blanks with harm reduction. Basically, private citizens have to step in because it is a huge problem.”

There’s no better model for that than Andy’s decades of service in public health. ■

Happy Anniversary

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

20 YEARS

Steve Wilson (Mill Valley), Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service/Auxiliary Communications Service (RACES/ACS) Volunteer, Marin County Fire

17 YEARS

Richard Sievers (Healdsburg), Air Patrol Volunteer, Marin County Sheriff’s Office

16 YEARS

James Campbell (Belvedere), Steward, Marin County Parks

15 YEARS

Charles Campbell (San Rafael), Chaplain, Marin County Sheriff’s Office

Jerry Riessen (Tiburon), Steward, Marin County Parks

10 YEARS

Brian Crawford (San Anselmo), California Room Researcher and Writer, Civic Center Library

Lindsey Going (San Rafael), Environmental Steward, Marin County Parks

9 YEARS

Michael Simon (Tomales), Volunteer Firefighter, Marin County Fire

7 YEARS

Kathleen Safford (Mill Valley), Ombudsman Volunteer, Health & Human Services (HHS)

4 YEARS

Lynn Bloom (San Rafael), **Ida Hill** (San Anselmo), **Elfriede Weideli** (Mill Valley), Marin Center Ushers, Cultural Services

Burt Hoffman (Novato), Air Patrol Volunteer, Marin County Sheriff’s Office

Tracy MacLeod (San Anselmo), **Maureen McManus** (Fairfax), Ombudsman Volunteers, HHS

Kai Schiesser (San Anselmo), Packet Assembly Student Service Intern, HHS

3 YEARS

Nancy Castor (San Rafael), California Room Archivist, Civic Center Library

Rebecca ‘Becky’ Dahlstrom (Novato), **Lynette Greenlief** (San Anselmo), **Margie Schwartz** (San Anselmo), **Jennifer Taekman** (San Rafael), Marin Center Ushers, Cultural Services

2 YEARS

Steve Disenhof (Mill Valley), Photographer, Human Resources

Kara Halvorsen (Sausalito), Civic Center Tour Docent, Cultural Services

Helen Kay (Mill Valley), **Ella Pickett** (Mill Valley), Student Elections Ambassadors, Elections Department

Mark Klein (Novato), Radio Communications Volunteer, Department of Public Works

Anna Kondolf (Fairfax), Patrol Volunteer, Marin County Parks

Greta LaFemina (San Rafael), District 1 Intern, Board of Supervisors

Richard Racich (Tiburon), Fire Lookout, Marin County Fire

Wayne Scott (Ocala), Unmanned Aircraft Systems Pilot, Marin County Fire

Jacqueline ‘Jackie’ Whelan (Corte Madera), Consumer Mediator, District Attorney’s Office

1 YEAR

Lina Campopiano (Novato), **Michelle Gantos** (Tiburon), **Salim Islam** (Mill Valley), Marin Center Volunteers, Cultural Services

Jacob Righetti (Petaluma), Volunteer Firefighter, Marin County Fire

Kate Wagers (Novato), Homework Helpers Intern, Novato Library

Chaplain Feels Called to 'Something Bigger'

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The chaplains serve directly with the Marin County Sheriff's Office's teams of first responders, offering comfort to victims and their loved ones, and to deputies and staff facing distress.

"We don't preach," Chuck said. "We provide presence and support."

According to Sheriff's Lt. **Sean McKrell**, "Even though Chuck is a very successful attorney, he is always willing to make time to volunteer for us, sometimes at a moment's notice.

"Occasionally Chuck will meet with grieving family members on the worst days of their lives, and he always does it without complaint and with the spiritual courage to provide any help he can," Sean added. "Chuck's advice, mentoring, and spiritual guidance have helped save marriages and careers for our first responders and staff members."

Chuck's law practice regularly takes him to the East Coast. At home, he enjoys his work and the precious time he spends with his partner Kim, their

dachshunds Crate and Barrel, and his two adult sons and their families. His home is in Peacock Gap, so he's based close to the services which respond to 911 calls. He's grateful to live where he does, enjoying the beauty of Marin and San Francisco Bay.

"Chuck is an absolute pleasure to be around, and I wish I had 10 more volunteer chaplains like him willing to serve our members with the Sheriff's office," Sean said. "His willingness to help is an immeasurable blessing." ■

Who's New & Welcome!

Kira Costa (Sausalito), Student Elections Ambassador, Elections Department

Finlay Davies (Novato), Homework Helpers Intern, South Novato Library

Geneva Elias-Warren (San Francisco), Marin Wildlife Watch Volunteer, Marin County Parks

Amy Faulkner (Mill Valley), Marin Wildlife Watch Volunteer, Marin County Parks

Theresa Gibbens (San Rafael), Marin Wildlife Watch Volunteer, Marin County Parks

Jane Gitschier (San Francisco), Volunteer Civic Center Tour Docent, Cultural Services

Phyllis Gray (Novato), Volunteer Event Aide Lead, Human Resources

Lynn Hoerle (Inverness), Marin Wildlife Watch Volunteer, Marin County Parks

Diana Jones (Novato), Newsletter Writer Intern, Human Resources

Parker Kellman (Mill Valley), Marin Wildlife Watch Volunteer, Marin County Parks

John Lang (San Francisco), Marin Wildlife Watch Volunteer, Marin County Parks

Erin O'Brien (San Rafael), Marin Wildlife Watch Volunteer, Marin County Parks

Henry Pratt (San Anselmo), Pre-Law Intern, District Attorney's Office

