



Juvenile Detention Officers receive long due recognition



More than 60 Pima County Juvenile Detention Officers were honored this month when court administrators rescinded a decision made more than a decade ago.

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Juvenile Detention Officers have badges restored

After 15 years, a wrong has finally been righted. At least, that's the way John Schow, Pima County Juvenile Court's director of juvenile court services sees it.

Earlier this month, more than 60 juvenile detention officers raised their right hands, took an oath and were presented with nice shiny gold badges.

While some of them have been sworn public safety officers for decades, an administrative decision 15 years ago left them badge-less.

"At one time, there was the belief that because some families and kids distrust law enforcement officers, the detention officers shouldn't have badges," Schow said. "I feel, though, that our officers regularly build positive relationships with kids and families. I think we can show that people wearing badges can be positive influences on the kids and families we deal with here at the court."

Because they didn't have badges, many detention officers were left feeling unappreciated and inferior to their colleagues in probation, Schow said.

"Juvenile detention offices are trusted with the safety of our children, though," Schow said. "To have



such a high level of responsibility, but not be recognized was a disservice to them."

Presiding Juvenile Court Judge Kathleen Quigley heartily agreed when Schow broached the topic with her and before long, badges were being ordered, new badge-related rules were being written and ceremonies were being scheduled.

During the ceremony, Judge Quigley, Schow and Deputy Court Administrator Tina Mattison thanked them for all they do.

Schow pointed out juvenile detention officers are a key part of the juvenile justice system. They build rapport with the kids, provide direction, help them make positive changes and truly believe all kids are capable of success.

"It feels like I'm completed as an officer," said Yolanda, who has been an officer more than eight years. "This confirms that I'm an officer, a detention officer."

She was highly appreciative of the folks who made it possible.

"They know what we do back here, the struggles that we have," Yolanda said. "For them to give us this confirmation is awesome to me."

Robert, a 20-year officer, was also pleased.

"It's a good feeling to be recognized for the work that we do," Robert said. "We are officers."

CASA Support Council honors those in the field

Too often, when stories hit the paper or the air about the foster care system, they break hearts and cause outrage.

This isn't one of those stories.

This is a story recognizing great people for doing great things for abused and neglected children. It's a story about attorneys, Department of Child Safety case managers and Court Appointed Special Advocates.

Every year, the CASA Support Council for Pima County invite attorneys, judges and DCS case managers to nominate a CASA of the Year and the CASAs nominate an Attorney and a DCS Case Manager of the Year.

The winners and the nominees are then formally recognized at a luncheon.

The following is a list of this year's nominees and winners, with the winners in blue.

Attorney of the Year:

Gabriel Munoz
Jillian Aja
Sybil Clarke

Attorney's Choice:

Kathleen Elsberry
Linda Koral
Annette Weneck
Claudia Levin
Susan Haynes

DCS' Choice:

Dede Wilpizeski
Ellen Wertz
Marcia Katz
Claudia Levin
Andrea Dempsey
Susie McClinton

DCS Case Worker of the Year:

Gisela Ramacciotti
Rosa Nunez-Koirif
Felicia Castellans
Cassandra Robinson
Ana Torres



DCS Case Worker of the Year nominees



Attorney of the Year nominees

(Contd. Page 4)

Judges' Choice:

Linda Koral
 Lydia Mercier
 Ann Jansen
 Dede Wilpizeski
 Roger Pinkstaff

CASA of the Year:

Roger Pinkstaff
 Kathleen Elsberry



Judge Kathleen
 Quigley, Kathleen
 Elsberry and Roger
 Pinkstaff

The following was said about each of the winners:

Sybil Clarke – A CASA described Sybil as always being the “voice of reason.” When tempers flared during mediation, Sybil was able to calmly, firmly, and professionally advocate for the best interest and needs of the child. She helped lessen the child’s fears by explaining what was happening and she always promptly returned the CASA’s phone calls and emails.

Ana Torres – A CASA described Ana as being a “treasure trove” of knowledge. She attended Child and Family Team meetings in person, regularly checked in with each member in a particular case, took the time to answer everyone’s questions and shared her personal phone number with the CASA.

Susan Haynes – Susan was appointed the CASA for a 13-year-old who was timid, had poor communication skills and multiple placements. When he was placed in Maricopa County, Susan spoke with him regularly on the phone and went to see him there. When he had a hearing here, Susan drove up to Phoenix, spent the night and brought the boy back for the hearing. She also helped with the transition when he moved in with his father.

Susie McClinton – Susie was appointed the CASA for a 3-year-old boy. She is described as being a team player, polite, professional, available and capable of dealing with pressure. She attended all of the child’s meetings, hearings and supervised visits. She also spent hours researching schools and daycares in the state where he was going to be placed and even drove him to the airport when he was placed with a relative.

Roger Pinkstaff – Roger has been a 17-year-old boy’s CASA for the last eight years. He has attended every one of the boy’s juvenile justice and foster care hearings and developed a relationship with the boy despite the boy’s social, emotional, educational and behavioral issues. Even though the boy is now in the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections, Roger still keeps in touch.

Kathleen Elsberry – Kathleen has been a CASA for 16 years and served 25 children over that time period. She mentors new CASAs and attends all of her children’s Child and Family Team meetings, doctors’ appointments and Foster Care Review Board hearings. She effectively communicates with all of the parties on her cases and writes excellent and timely court reports. Kathleen is currently the CASA for five children in two separate cases.

Non-profit honors and helps court-involved youth

When 16-year-old Jimmy came back to his group home after a short hospital stay, he discovered nearly all of his clothes were gone. The other foster kids had divvied them up between them and he had no way of proving what was his.

Luckily for him, the Pima Foundation for Youth stepped in.

On a recent Friday, Tim Hart, a lead probation officer with Pima County Juvenile Court, met Jimmy at the Tucson Mall and took him shopping at Sears.

Jimmy picked out a couple of packages of socks, a few boxers, some jeans and a couple of pairs of shorts. He didn't get any shirts, he explained, because his legs are growing much faster than his torso.

"I think this is pretty amazing," Jimmy said. "My family would never be able to do this because of financial reasons. I think this is pretty cool they would do this."

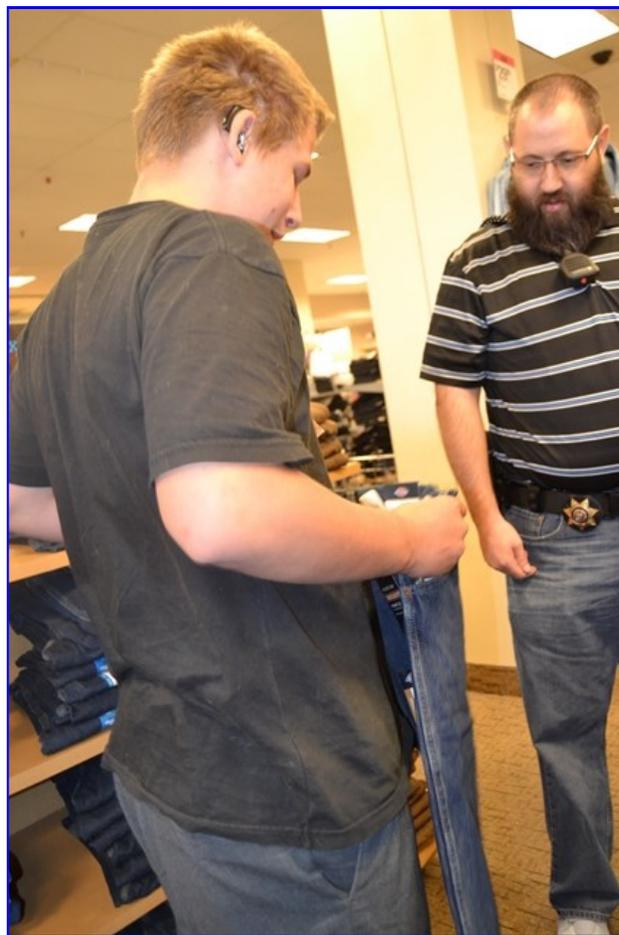
The Pima Foundation for Youth is a non-profit organization founded in 1974 to meet the unmet needs of children involved in the juvenile justice and foster care systems.

Board members include community members and current and retired employees of the Department of Child Safety and Pima County Juvenile Court.

Probation officers and DCS case managers approach the Foundation for help when they become aware of a child's needs, said John Jackson, Foundation treasurer.

The kids sometimes need help with such things as school supplies, GED testing, sports uniforms and bus passes, but other times they have more critical needs.

There have been times when probation officers have discovered children aren't going to school because they don't have any shoes, Jackson said. (Contd. Page 6)



Lead probation officer Tim Hart offers his opinion on a young man's choice of jeans during a recent shopping excursion.

In one instance, a family asked for kitchen utensils, pots, pans and sheets after they were evicted.

“We can meet any reasonable unmet need,” Jackson said. “If they’re sleeping on the floor, we’ll get them a mattress. If a child is in treatment and a parent can’t afford to visit them, we’ll help them with gas cards.”



Foundation members don’t just help kids with their physical needs, however. Every year, the Foundation holds a special luncheon to recognize a handful of court-involved kids who have

overcome obstacles and are doing well.

The 39th Annual Youth Awareness Awards will be held May 6.

The children are selected based on nominations made by judges, DCS case managers, detention officers, probation staff, attorneys and prosecutors.

“These kids have experienced significant trauma and they’ve overcome challenges that are sometimes monumental,” Jackson said.

“In my experience, the kids are really, really honored to have the adults in their lives recognize the challenges they’ve overcome. They’re just so proud,” Jackson said. “It means so much to them to have the adults they’ve had to answer to, stand up and applaud them. It’s pretty powerful.”

The Foundation has also set up two scholarships to help defray the costs of post high school educational programs or college. The Jane Hedgepeth Memorial Academic Scholarship and the Kathyleen St. Louis Memorial Scholarship can be used to help with registration, tuition and associated fees.

The Foundation accepts donations year-round and holds an annual yard sale in the Fall. Those items not sold are often donated to group homes and other non-profit organizations.

Best of the best to be honored by Probation Officers' Association

Every year, the Arizona Chief Probation Officers' Association asks courts statewide to nominate people they believe perform their assigned duties in an outstanding or distinguished manner and/or make significant contributions in their jurisdiction. The association then selects winners in four categories to honor during the Statewide Annual Arizona Probation Employee Recognition Day.

Below are those who were nominated to represent Pima County Juvenile Court:



Line Officer of the Year – Zac Rood is a lead probation officer who currently supervises sex-offenders. He is also a firearms and motivational interviewing instructor. People from outside agencies regularly commend him for his extraordinary efforts in collaborating on the treatment and ultimate success of the kids on his caseload. Zac routinely seeks alternative, innovative responses to help kids who are struggling on probation. Zac leads by example and, as a result, he has given other officers a better understanding of the recent change in focus of our probation division. He has also made them feel more comfortable implementing new

tools. Zac personifies the type of balance we strive to achieve in the probation department; he is willing to use evidence based tools to ensure lasting behavior change in the kids on probation, while maintaining a professional attitude that confirms our commitment to officer safety and community protection

Detention Officer of the Year – Adesina embodies what Pima County Juvenile Court



represents -- professionalism, respect, and kindness to kids, co-workers, and superiors. With just over two-years of experience, Adesina is already performing beyond what is expected of a seasoned veteran. He adapts easily to changing work conditions and his "can-do" attitude has made him an officer every supervisor wishes they had on their shift. Adesina has assisted with ALL shifts, working over-time when shifts are short-staffed, and swapping days with co-workers who need to take time off. Adesina is not only well liked by his peers; he is also respected and

looked up to as a role-model by the youth he supervises in detention.

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He gains the trust of kids because he treats them with courtesy, respect, and fairness by setting a positive example. He mentors our kids by promoting cooperative behavior, being responsible, and teaching accountability.

Supervisor of the Year – Jennifer is the director of the Pima County Juvenile Court



Detention Center. While she has been the director, our detention center has expanded and improved upon many wonderful and innovative programs that enhance our philosophy and goals, including a Master Garden program, a culinary program that utilizes the garden, yoga, dog therapy, a Youth Transitions program and most recently a Parent Support program that meets twice a month. In addition, our county administrator proposed to occupy a portion of our juvenile detention facility. Jennifer was intricately involved in the process and we relied heavily upon her knowledge of the detention center, from the

physical structure to the minute details of the business operations. It was particularly impressive to watch her skillfully address the political aspects of the negotiations, the varied personalities involved including the county administrators and the sheriff's personnel. She earned their respect and trust. As a result, Jennifer successfully negotiated for the needs of our youth and the requirements of our Court.

Employee of the Year – Adrian Marquez transferred to the Electronic Monitoring Unit of Pima Juvenile Probation in September 2014 after working as a standard field team surveillance officer. There is the impression that EM is



simple to learn; however, there are many details to the job that only people with experience in the unit can know and understand. Adrian took advantage of the short time he had to train in the unit before his partner retired and he would be required to run the unit on his own for several months. Adrian accepted this challenge with no hesitation. His organizational skills, attention to detail and commitment to producing an excellent work product, have served him well. His supervisor reports: "Without hesitation, I know that he is always on top of

everything and has a great handle on where things stand with the EM Unit."

(Contd. Page 9)

Still learning himself, Adrian trained a new surveillance officer, while ensuring kids were “hooked up” and schedules were accurate. Adrian proved to be an excellent trainer and displayed extraordinary leadership and patience while training his partner. He has demonstrated excellent communication skills not only between his co-workers but also with the kids and families with whom he works. He is patient, thorough, clear and helpful when he is interacting with families.

Although the association selected other nominees as statewide winners, Chief Juvenile Probation Officer John Schow said he remains proud of the court’s nominees. “They represent our Court as highly qualified, caring professionals who make a difference in the kids and families we serve.”

This year’s Line Officer of the Year is Lisa Lewis from Pima County Adult Probation. Claudia Jimenez from Pinal County Juvenile Probation was selected Detention Officer of the Year and Seann Day of Coconino County Adult Probation was selected Employee of the Year. The Supervisor of the Year is George Owens from Yuma County Juvenile Probation.



Chandler family recognized with tree dedication

When Danielle used to lose control of her temper, her grandmother would send her out to the garden to pick some flowers. Invariably, she'd feel better when she was done.

The Pima County Juvenile Court's Detention Center Garden has the same effect, the 16-year-old told the crowd gathered in the garden recently.

"It's a wonderful way to get away from the stresses of school and life," Danielle said.

She was happy when she learned the garden would be getting trees, Danielle said.

On Sunday, April 19, more than 30 people gathered in the garden to dedicate a peach tree and a plum tree to Tom and Helen Chandler, both of whom passed away in 2013.

Tom Chandler, a retired attorney, was a dedicated philanthropist who helped raise millions of dollars for youth sports, helped found the Arizona Adopt-a-Classroom Project and was a past member of the Arizona Board of Regents.

The Chandlers had five children, including retired Judge Terry Chandler, who spent many years of her career at Juvenile Court.

When they passed, Judge Jennifer Langford wanted to do something special for her friend, Judge Chandler, and something to honor the Chandlers.

Judge Langford remembers watching Tom Chandler watch his daughter preside over a Drug Court graduation and the look of pride he had on his face.

The idea of the trees came to her while having lunch with her friend, Peggy Young, who is a member of the Pima County Cooperative Extension Master Gardener program, as is Judge Chandler.

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Retired Judge Terry Chandler admires one of two trees dedicated to her parents recently. The peach and plum trees are in the Detention Center garden.

Before long, a group of judges had purchased the trees and large pots and a group of kids in the detention center had planted them.

Surrounding the trees are planters filled with a wide array of flowers and vegetables. Since early November, Master Gardeners have been meeting with a rotating group of kids on Sundays to teach them everything they need to know about gardening, nutrition and sustainability

During the dedication ceremony, Judge Langford said the trees perfectly represent what the Chandlers stood for. Like the Chandlers, the trees will have deep roots and will



nourish future generations.

Presiding Pima County Superior Court Judge Sally Simmons told the crowd the Chandlers would be proud to have their names associated with the garden since they loved children so

well.

The garden is “a place of hope” and judges strive to give that to children every day, Judge Simmons said.

Among those in attendance at the ceremony were Judge Chandler, several of her family members, a group of detention kids, detention staff, Master Gardeners, and Judges Langford, Sally Simmons, Kathleen Quigley, Richard Gordon, Gilbert Rosales, Danelle Liwski, Joan Wagener, Wayne Yehling and Brenden Griffin.

After the ceremony, the crowd was treated to lessons on grains and worms. They were also invited to plant egg plants.

“Today was pretty overwhelming,” Judge Chandler said. “Judge Langford’s words about planting seeds and nurturing and about my parents and what they stood for...it meant the world to me and my family. I can’t think of a more fitting way to honor my parents.”

11th Annual March for Children draws big crowd

This year's March for Children was a well-attended event with more than 200 people coming out to Reid Park in support of National Child Abuse Prevention Month. Several hundred others stayed for Casa de los Niños' Family Fiesta.

Below is a list of the nominees for the Child Abuse Prevention Awards. Those in purple took home the honors in their respective categories.

Keith Smith Foster Parents of the Year

Mark & Ryan Van Dero

Michelle & Fernando Figueroa

Shayla & Daniel Campos

Pat & Rita Hatfield

Connie & Gary Halkowitz

Sharon & Karl Hiestand

Individuals of the Year

Beth Braun — Esperanza Dance Project

Sgt. Gerard Moretz — Pima County Sheriff's Department

David Reynolds — Department of Child Safety

Derek Koltunovich — Office of Children's Counsel

Sandy Walters — Casa de los Niños

Larissa Ortiz — Department of Child Safety

Carol Orr-Bolger & Stephanie Richardson — Casa de los Niños

Chris Vogler — Pima County Juvenile Probation

Sandy Stein — Retiree

Cathleen Linn — Arizona Attorney General's Office



The Van Deros with Pima County Juvenile Court's Chris Swenson-Smith.



Sgt. Moretz with Pima County Juvenile Court's Rebecca Manoleas.

(Contd. Page 13)

Business/Agency of the Year

CASA Peer Coordinator Pioneers
Higher Ground
I Am You 360
Court Appointed Special Advocates of Pima County
Kappa Alpha Theta-Beta Delta Chapter

Resilient Family

Joeli L. & Family

Edward Casillas & Family



Court Appointed Special Advocate Program Supervisor Krissa Ericson with Pima County Juvenile Court's Susana Samborsky.

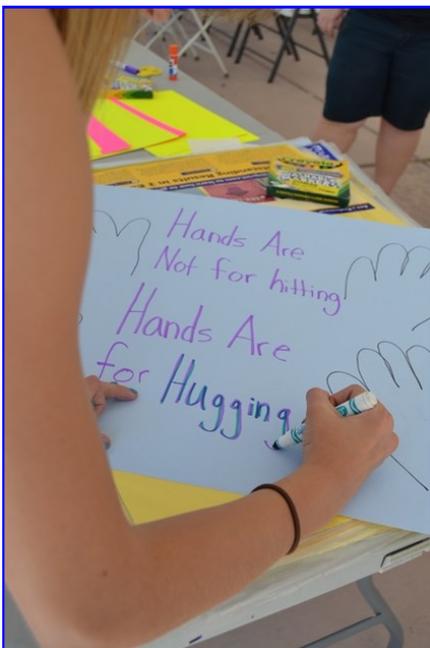


Edward Casillas and his daughter, Serena. They had the honor of leading the 11th Annual March for Children after their family was named one of two Resilient Families of the Year.

11th Annual March for Children



April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month and a time to acknowledge the importance of families and communities working together to prevent child abuse and neglect, and to promote the social and emotional well-being of children and families. On April 11, Pima County Juvenile Court, AVIVA Children's Services, CPSA, Gap Ministries, CASA and Casa de los Niños held the March for Children. Afterward, Casa de los Niños sponsored the Family Fiesta.



Odds & Ends

Milestones

Irene Boyiddle, 5 years, Children & Family Services

Keith Brunson, 5 years, Children & Family Services

Veronica Hookland, 15 years, Children & Family Services

Jane Tapia, 15 years, Detention

Carmen Delcid, 15 years, Probation

Upcoming Events

May 25 — Memorial Day

In the March bulletin, probation officer supervisor Sheila Pessingua shared her story about going through Washington State's Victim Offender Mediation Program and going through a TEDx program at Washington Corrections Center for Women. Here is the link to that TEDx program:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2ZtjkE0-5tA&list=PLz7pK3zKqJ26JKcgxZcaV0JOLwI10li5o&index=9>

By the way...

The Pima County Juvenile Court now has 353 followers on Twitter and 195 Facebook "Likes." Please check us out:



Twitter: Pima County Juvenile@PCJuvenileCourt



Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PimaCountyJuvenileCourt>

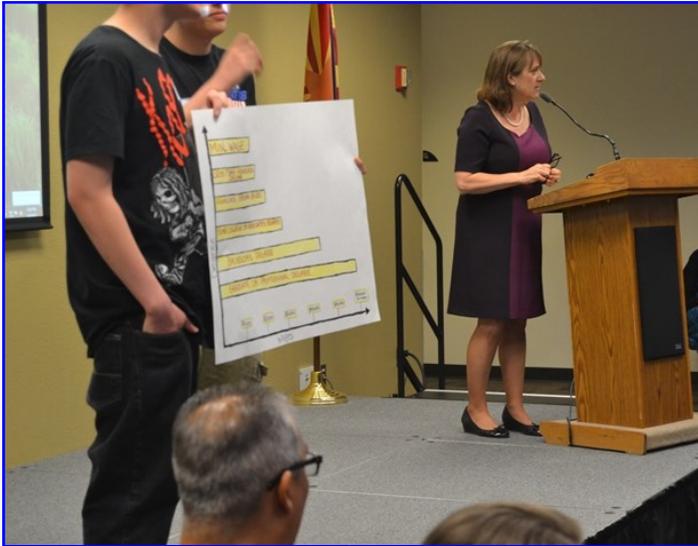
Month in Pictures



An Employee Internship Program graduate wipes tears from her eyes as she thanks everyone at the court for giving her an opportunity to learn some job skills while finishing up her time on probation. The young lady spent three months at the court gaining landscaping, custodial and warehouse experience. She leaves the court with a certificate from the presiding judge and a letter of reference from the facilities services manager. She is the first girl to ever graduate from the program.

Presiding Judge Kathleen Quigley congratulates a young lady for graduating from the Youth Achieving Resource Development Skills program on April 11. Joining her were the program's executive director, Joan Lionetti, (right) and Pima County Supervisor Richard Elias (center). Nine teens graduated that day.





Judge Jane Butler speaks to high school students about the impact education can have on potential income at Youth Career Day at Pima Community College April 9. The teens were taken on a tour of the campus and had the opportunity to speak with officials about college life, financial aid, sports, day care and a variety of other things.

Family Court Judge Susan Kettlewell presided over two graduation ceremonies in April. The two graduates were praised for all of the hard work they put into the program over the last several months and wished the best of luck in the future. Roughly 90 percent of the people who graduate from Family Drug Court are reunited with their children, compared with 45 percent of parents in general.



2015 CASA Volunteer Recognition Luncheon



The keynote speakers at the lunch were *CASA* Cynthia Dean and former foster child, Dimon. Also in attendance were Pima County Administrator Chuck Huckelberry, Deputy Court Administrator Tina Mattison, Director of Juvenile Court Services John Schow, Presiding Juvenile Court Judge Kathleen Quigley and Judges Peter Hochuli, Geoffrey Ferlan and Susan Kettlewell.

Voices

Since the PCJCC is here to help strengthen kids and families, it seems only appropriate the kids in our Detention Center have a platform from which to speak. We'll be asking them questions periodically and printing some of their unedited answers here.

What would you change about the world if you could?

"I would change the age of driving to 15 and older. Find a way that nobody can have cancer or diabetes," Andrew

"I would find a cure for AIDs or syphilis," Marcus

"I wouldn't change nuthen about the world because every thing seems to be running perfectly fine and everyday the world improves more and more each day everyones lifes change everyday and every one learns more and more each day so if I could change something in the world I wouldn't because its running perfectly fine and its improving every day," Arturo

"Well if I had that much power I would first stop the government and there evil skems, such as the Fema camps and the construation camps in the USA. Second I would change how people treat one another. Only because ignorance is getting worse by the minute," Richard

"I wouldn't change nothing. But if I could change my life it would be my bad decisions. And would have focused in school and did everything they taught me. I would have listed to everything my mom told me, like what to do and what not to do. The rest of the world I really don't care about. Except no drugs were ever made," L.W.

"If I could do so I would outlaw guns. I say this because what do we even need guns for? It would be a calmer world without guns and weapons. For example people wouldn't be getting killed or hurt in the streets for no reason if weapons were never made," Daniel

"If I had the power to change the world, I would change all the languages to English so everyone can understand what I say. I would also take away all the nuclear wepondry. I would also take away religion for religion is stupid and atheism is a smarter way. I would put a picture of me on all currency," Jonathan

"Find a cure for cancer," Gabriel

"I would change the government I would change the way that the system work I would put job in place for kids that are juveniles to keep them out of the streets I see wear the world gone wrong with number helping youth at risk, I think if the goverman can help the yout in his home and make shure the parent is doing what he or she have to do the world would have less criminals," K.S.

"I would change about the world is being at war, like fighting over land or food, oil. I mean we should all just share. They say killing is not the way and it's not the way. It's making things worst on the world. It's not getting better," Fernando R.

"I would change everything about it. I mean all the negative stuff. I would change how people get along. I would find houses for all the homeless people," Nieto

"If the world was within my power I would change the way money worked and all the other countries I would make a single currency that every country used. That way everything would be worth the same. I would also improve the crime rate by implanting microchips into all humans that way you would know everything they do. It would pull up all your information," Adrian

Universal Truth No. 1 –
Children succeed when they are surrounded by adults who believe they can succeed, NO EXCEPTIONS.

Universal Truth No. 2 –
Children succeed when they have meaningful and sustainable relationships with caring adults.

Universal Truth No. 3 –
Children succeed when they can articulate their future in more than one destination. (Home & Family, Community & Service, Hobbies & Recreation, Education & Career)



PCJCC Communications Bulletin

Published periodically

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