



Marana couple, sons open doors & hearts to kids in need



After Kelli gave birth to three boys, she and her husband, Kevin, decided they wanted another child, a girl. They ended up with six more – three girls and three boys.

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Check out these other stories in this month's bulletin:



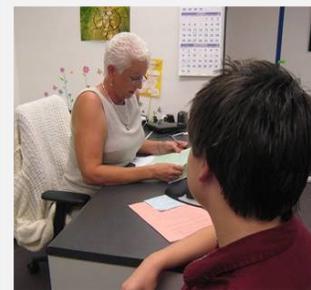
Chief Justice Rebecca White Berch honored five PCJCC employees at a recent event.

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Kids learn about poetry and environment in popular detention center class.

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Alternative Center aims to keep kids out from behind bars.

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Marana parents saw a need, jumped in with both feet

After Kelli gave birth to three boys, she and her husband, Kevin, decided they wanted another child, a girl. They ended up with six more – three girls and three boys.

“In our discussions about wanting a girl, I was positive we were going to end up with 10 boys in our attempt to get one girl, so we started talking about adopting,” Kevin Galloway, 45, said.

The Galloways adopted Michelle in 2002 when she was 5-months-old and their sons were 4, 6 and 8. Less than a year later, 6-week-old Missy joined the family and a year after that, 7-month-old Maria became a Galloway as well.

For the next four years, the Galloways were a family of eight, although they would take in foster children for a few months here and there.

In 2008, Connor came to them at 6-weeks-old, followed by 2-month-old Chase in 2010 and 3-year-old Caden in 2012.

Being foster parents and adoptive parents isn't easy, but the rewards are incalculable, the Galloways say.

“I'm just so blessed by all of my children,” Kelli, 43, said. “They're so amazing. I'm blessed because I'm getting to be their mom, watching them grow and knowing the influence I'm having on them. We're giving them the stability and the love they need.”

Not only have the Galloways adopted a large number of children, but two of them have special needs. (Contd. Page 3)



Kelli Galloway and two of her sons, Chase, 3, and Connor, 5.

They aren't fazed by taking on such an awesome responsibility though. The bottom line is the children needed them.

"Sometimes the most vulnerable of the vulnerable can be under-served," Kelli said.

People are always amazed to learn the Galloways have fostered 22 children over the years, some for as long as a year. How can they bear to say goodbye time and again?



Watching some magicians on YouTube are from left to right: Maria, Michelle, Connor and Missy Galloway.

"It's the best thing ever to see someone who works so hard reunify with their children," Kelli said. "Being part of that reunification is magical and painful and everything in between."

"Daily I hear from people who say 'I would do that, but I couldn't give them up,'" Kelli said. "My response to that is 'If you want to help a child, it's never going to be about you. It's about the children.'"

Kelli and Kevin try to remain in touch with their foster kids' biological parents; although after a few months of being reunified it's natural for everyone to drift away from each other.

"A lot of families are afraid of the birth families, but Kelli's able to break that down," Kevin said. "She gives them a hug right

off the bat. She teaches them how to be parents because many of them never saw good parenting and have no resources."

She just puts herself in their shoes, Kelli said.

"How would I feel if my children just went who knows where with who knows who? It's cruel," Kelli said.

One of the best things about being adoptive and foster parents is the life lessons being taught. (Contd. Page 4)

The Galloway children often talk about becoming adoptive parents, they rarely fight and they are inordinately appreciative of what they have, Kelli said.

“As I age as a parent, I focus on who they will be,” Kelli said. “I realize that what I instill in them today will influence them in the future and that’s very important to me.”

From the very beginning, the Galloway children have not only accepted, but encouraged additional family members.

When Michelle came along in 2002, her older brothers, Cody, CJ and Cole thought she was “the best thing ever,” Kelli said.

“It was so sweet to see their gentle side come out,” Kelli said. “They wanted her to have pretty things and they were just so tender with her.”

And, just like in any other family, “Can we have another baby?” is a common question, Kelli said.

“It’s our normal,” Kelli said. “It’s a daily conversation. My daughters, who are now 9, 10 and 11, always ask us ‘Can we get a baby girl? We haven’t had a baby girl in soooo long.’”

The Galloways thought they were on an extended break from fostering and adopting children after taking in Chase. Then they got the call about Caden.

“Caden came out of the blue,” Kevin said. “He was one of 13 kids sleeping in a CPS office because there were no placements for him. We were told we’d have him for two weeks, but then he and Connor became best friends.”

Kelli said there’s an old saying that sums up her life.

“If you do what you love to do you never work a day in your life.”



Kevin Galloway with Chase, who was born with several serious health problems.

Inside/Out program going strong 10 years later

Twelve-year-old Lukas and 13-year-old Zech love Fridays, not because it's the end of the school week, but because it's the day Madeline Kiser comes to see them.

They love the goodies she brings from her "mystery chefs," but they love the letters she delivers even more.

Madeline is the creator of the Inside/Out Poetry and Sustainability Program and every Wednesday and Friday she sits down in a circle with a captive audience. For two hours, they read, talk and write about such things as the environment, compassion, empathy, learning from mistakes and becoming leaders.



Madeline Kiser, founder of the Inside/Out Poetry and Sustainability Program, gets the kids' take on a recent letter from a Pima County jail inmate.

The Wednesday group is made up of Pima County Jail inmates. The Friday group is comprised of kids from the Pima County Juvenile Detention Center. Every week they write to each other anonymously. Madeline then delivers the letters and a lively discussion ensues.

On a recent Friday, Madeline brought in some cookies baked by a local chef, an abstract painting created by a local artist and some popcorn.

The gifts, she explained, are from people in the community who care about them and are rooting for them, Madeline said.

Although she knows it sounds "sugary sweet," Madeline told the kids they were sitting in a "circle of love." (Contd. Page 6)

“The gifts I brought you are just a reminder that we are all here for each other and it’s not just a hostile world,” Madeline said.

Madeline, a native Tucsonan, has master’s degrees in Latin American studies and poetry and a bachelor’s in history. The former environmental journalist has spent a great deal of time in Costa Rica as both a Peace Corp. volunteer and a sometime-resident who advocates for rivers in the country’s most damaged basin.

Her life as a poet and environmentalist became entwined with the criminal justice system when she began teaching poetry and writing at the Federal Bureau of Prisons 10 years ago.

Her students wanted someone on the outside to write to. Before too long, the federal inmates, Pima Vocational High School students and kids in the juvenile detention center were being visited by various speakers and they were exchanging letters about the experience.

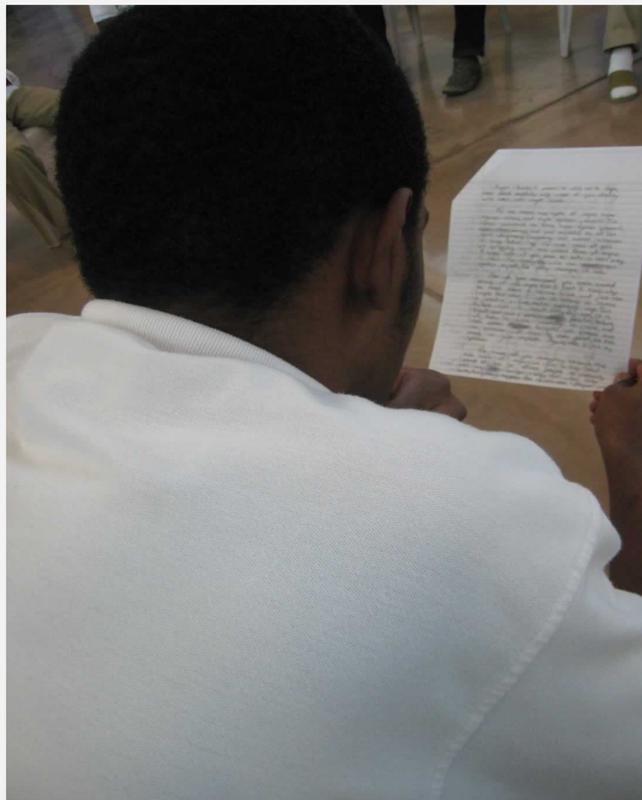
Over the years, the program has evolved. Nowadays, Madeline spends a lot of her time researching the environment and re-entry programs and bringing what she learns to the facilities.

Her goal is to get both the adults and the children to become more self-aware and civic-minded.

“I want to see them become aware of the inter-related crisis we’re in – climate change, water scarcity, eco-system depletion, over-population – and to be inspired to serve,” Madeline said. “I want them to be agents of change in an era of change.”

Madeline has gotten the kids sharing their thoughts with Tucson environmental groups (Tierra y Libertad Organization and Sustainable Tucson, to name two).

The national group Green For All has chosen Tucson as one of three cities in a national campaign to link environmental and social justice issues – including connecting adjudicated teens and adults to green jobs and opportunities to serve their (Contd. Page 7)



One of the kids in the Pima County Juvenile Detention Center mulls over a letter shared in the Inside/Out program.

communities. The Southern Arizona Green for All Coalition formed in January 2012 as part of the national campaign.

Madeline has also shared inspiring stories about the Safe Return program started by the Pacific Institute in Richmond, Calif. and the Meet the Green Life program in San Quentin Prison.

Pacific Institute employees, working alongside former prisoners, convinced the City of Richmond to stop asking job applicants about their criminal histories so former inmates would have an easier time getting jobs. They are also continually working on other ways to help former inmates.

In San Quentin, prisoners created a sustainability and self-sufficiency program that includes a huge organic garden. Every year, more than two dozen companies, nonprofit groups and training programs hold a job fair to offer advice and information about the “green” jobs that are waiting for them.

Lukas and Zech have vowed to become part of the green movement when they are released from the detention. For example, they can recycle things and take part in car-pools, Lukas said.

“It’s real serious stuff,” Zech said. “She’s saying we should at least try and if we don’t succeed, we should try again.”

The boys also expressed a desire to help other kids avoid the mistakes they’ve made.

The boys are amazed Madeline, her friends and the adult inmates take the time to show they care and support them.

“It’s heartwarming to see people still care about us, that we’re not alone,” Lukas said.

“Madeline’s my role model,” Zech said. “If I could pick someone who could help me on the outs I’d pick her.”



Kim Chumley, assistant detention division director, and Inside/Out founder Madeline Kiser (right) listen as the kids share what they think about the Earth’s future.

Detention Center kids will soon have own classrooms

Getting up and going to school is something most kids do every weekday. Well pretty soon the kids in the Pima County Juvenile Detention Center will get to do it, too.

Officials are in the process of turning three empty living units in the detention center into classrooms complete with computers. Instead of waiting for teachers to make their rounds from living unit to living unit, our students will soon be able to spend their day in a specific classroom.

One classroom will be set up for middle school students, another for high school and GED students and a third for kids who need extra help because they have cognitive difficulties, are behind in their studies or are mentally ill, said Kim Chumley, assistant division director.

Creating actual classrooms serves a number of purposes, Chumley said. It places the children in the least restrictive setting as possible, provides them with the highest number of resources and it gives teachers a

chance to decorate their classrooms, which can instill a sense of pride and ownership.

“We want a more normalized feel,” Chumley said. “The kids will get up and get dressed and go to class, even though it’s in the same building.”

Pima County Juvenile Court Judge Jane Butler said the best detention centers have classrooms.

“The classrooms have desks, bulletin boards and are decorated like any standard classroom,” Judge Butler said. “It is important for children in detention to have a true school experience by going to a dedicated classroom, because this is what they will be doing after release from detention.”



Teacher Jim Byrne

DV Alternative Center keeps kids out from behind bars

Every year, roughly 1,100 kids are arrested on domestic violence charges in Pima County. More kids are arrested for misdemeanor domestic violence than possession of marijuana, assault, shoplifting and burglary.

Some are arrested for yelling and disturbing the peace. Some are taken into custody for kicking walls and throwing objects. Others actually hit someone.

Most have never been arrested before.

Several years ago, judges, probation officers and law enforcement officers had had enough.

Study after study has shown detaining children is not a deterrent. In fact, children who have been detained are more likely to develop antisocial behaviors, more likely to be re-arrested and more likely to become gang members. Mentally ill and suicidal kids get worse behind bars and kids already struggling in school are less likely to return to school upon their release.



Pima County Juvenile Probation Officer Judy Simons talks with a 13-year-old boy about where he will be going upon his release from the Domestic Violence Alternative Center.

“Probation officers and law enforcement officers understood the detention center wasn’t the best place for the kids and we were frustrated. What do we do with them?” said probation officer Cary Steele Williams. (Contd. Page 10)

That's when they came up with the idea of creating a place for children to receive crisis intervention and respite from the situation.

On Aug. 1, 2007, the Pima County Juvenile Court opened the Domestic Violence Alternative Center. Since that date, law enforcement officers have been bringing first and second-time misdemeanor domestic violence suspects to the center instead of the detention center.

The kids can stay at the center for up to 23 hours. They can lounge on a big over-stuffed couch watching TV or movies. They can read or they can work puzzles.

Master's level therapists from Lutheran Social Services provide immediate crisis intervention and put children who are already receiving mental health assis-

tance in touch with their counselors and case managers.

"The Crisis Intervention helps minors process what just happened. Youth are able to talk it through with an objective person," said Williams. "The 23 hours of

"The 23 hours of respite is a 'cooling off period' for both the minor and parent. It's a chance for the two to de-escalate," said Cary Steele Williams.

respite is a 'cooling off period' for both the minor and parent. It's a chance for the two to de-escalate, step back and calm down so another incident doesn't occur."

When kids were taken to the detention center, they were often released

within an hour or two and everyone's emotions were still running high, Williams said.

If a child doesn't have insurance or isn't enrolled with a behavioral health provider, probation support staff work with others to expedite mental health services.

They ensure families are provided information on community resources and counseling agencies. They also make sure parents have help applying for AHCCCS or Pima Community Access Program, a not-for-profit organization that provides access to professional health care at discounted prices.

How long the child stays is determined by the child, his or her parents, probation officers and the therapists. Most kids go home following their (Contd. Page 11)

stay, others go to a shelter, the Crisis Response Center, foster care or residential treatment facility.

“We do get the whole gamut of emotions. Some youth are really upset, some are angry, some are just really quiet,” Williams said. “For the most part, the kids are not angry at the staff therefore they usually are cooperative. The youth that are the most uncooperative usually have major mental health issues.”

Many of the kids never see the inside of a courtroom. Because they are first and second-time offenders, probation officers given them the opportunity to sign a domestic violence evaluation contract. If the child abides by all of the conditions in the contract within 90 days, their case is never referred to the Pima County Attorney’s Office.

Such contracts could require the kids to attend Teen Court or a three-hour domestic violence class, perform community service, write domestic-violence related essays, pay restitution and attend counseling sessions.

Court officials from other counties and states have called or come to visit the center because there are few other programs like it, Williams said.

In fact, the program was recognized at a national Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative conference as being “cutting edge,” said Stephen Rubin, court administrator.

“DVAC has prevented a lot of kids who shouldn’t be detained from being detained,” Rubin said.

In addition, more than 1,100 kids have taken the domestic violence education class, Williams said. Nearly 300 parents have attended the class as well.

In the beginning, the center was located at a house in the community; now it’s located at the Pima County Juvenile Court Center. The program started out with two probation officers, but now has six.

“It’s been really exciting to be a part of DVAC,” Williams said. “We’ve established a good working relationship with law enforcement and the community, working collaboratively when issues arise. We are proud of the success and the impact DVAC has had.”

Odds & Ends



This month, the Bravo Team awarded one U Roc award and one Gem.

Marisela Martinez from calendar services received a U Roc award for the way she handled not only the doubling of her work load when calendar services changed the way it operates, but the challenges created during the JOLTSaz/AGAVE roll-out. Her supervisor says Marisela is a hard worker, takes the initiative and has good communication skills.

Dawn Auman-Jihad from probation received a Gem for “always being a superior” support team staff member. Her supervisor says Dawn helped out when she was on vacation, is always reliable, keeps her updated and goes above and beyond to help their team.

Words of Inspiration...

Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do than by the ones you did. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade wind in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover. –
Mark Twain

Milestones

Cheryl Walker, probation, 15 years

FYI

The Pima County Juvenile Court has a clothing bank for court- involved youth. If you would like to donate gently-used, age-appropriate casual and dressy clothing, please contact detention supervisor Joy Johnson at 740-4785.

Voices

Since everyone at the PCJCC is here to help strengthen kids and families, it seems only appropriate that 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 answers here.

Which detention officer has inspired you the most and why?

Jessica. She helped me the most because she explained to me about different programming that are on the outs. She helped me get my GED and also kept me from being negative by changing the way life looks in my eyes — Richard

Chant, because he has been there for me on my bad days & always brings a smile to my face. He has taught me that I can be happy without all the negative behaviors & I will be better off in life when I do good — Shaun

Carlos, because he always helps me feel better when I am feeling down — Israel

Jaime, because he tries to help me out a lot — John

Steven, because he is always willing to talk when I need to — Patrick

Mike, because whenever I feel bad he is there to help — Tyler

Caryn, because she has talked to me the most about what I've done & what I can do & where I go from here which I appreciate. She is strict but respects us & our opinions which is one of the reasons I respect her — Andrew

Carlos, because he pushes me to do good — Enrique

ACPOA recognizes five of PCJCC's best

Five Pima County Juvenile Court Center employees were recognized Sept. 19 during Arizona's Statewide Probation Employee Recognition Day.

- Xavier Gracia was nominated for Detention Officer of the Year.
- Marisela Martinez was nominated for Employee of the Year.
- Brett Ames was nominated for Line Officer of the Year.
- Chris Vogler was nominated for Supervisor of the Year.
- Gus Markes was nominated for the Excellence in Education award in defensive tactics.



Arizona Supreme Court Chief Justice Rebecca White Berch congratulates Statewide Probation Employee of the Year nominees Marisela Martinez, Xavier Gracia and Chris Vogler (clockwise, left to right.)





Detention Director Jennifer Torchia & Deputy Detention Director Rachael Long at the Az. Chief Probation Officer's Association banquet .

Deputy Director of Probation John Jackson with Director of Probation Brenda Flynn at the AZCPOA banquet.



Roxana Matiella, juvenile justice services coordinator, & Deputy Court Administrator Dodie Ledbetter.

The Month in Pictures



Kim Chumley, assistant division director for detention, adjusts the cap of one of our recent GED graduates.



Our kids got to make some music recently when Children Carrying the Sound came for the first of many visits.



Ray Wood, PCJCC facilities services manager, wishes a graduate of the court's Employee Internship Program good luck.



Rachael Long, assistant division director for detention, helps out another of our recent GED graduates. We had six pass their GED tests this month bringing the total to 25 for the year.

Did you know?

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

- One out of four women experience DV.
- One out of nine men experience DV.
- One out of three teens experience dating abuse.
- More than three million children witness DV yearly.
- Seventy-five percent of DV victims remain silent.
- On average, more than three women and one man are murdered by their partners/spouses in this country every day.

If you are in danger, call 911, your local hotline at 1-888-428-0101, or the U.S. National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-7233.

Don't forget to check us out on these social media sites:



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