Carole’s Corner

There are no words in the English vocabulary to express the sadness and loss that we have had with the devastating fires in Yarnell. Nineteen men have lost their lives to the destructiveness of fire. Children have become fatherless, wives have become widows, and parents have lost their sons. The brave men and women who join in service to our community—be it as fire fighters or in other service where they put their lives on the line—they are true heroes.

The average age of the Granite Mountain Hotshot Crew was 23; the oldest was age 43, the youngest age 21. In memory of Andrew Ashcraft, Robert Caldwell, Travis Carter, Dustin Deford, Christopher MacKenzie, Eric Marsh, Grant McKeel, Sean Misner, Scott Norris, Wade Parker, John Percin, Anthony Rose, Jesse Steed, Joe Thurston, Travis Turbyfill, William Warneke, Clayton Whitted, Kevin Woyjeck, and Garret Zuppiger, may you all Rest In Peace.

As a mother, as a wife, as an Arizonan, I will remember this.

The fires aren’t done...as I sit and type, we just got word another fire has resulted in evicted homes in Kingman.

We need rain, we need precipitation, and quickly. The families of the firefighters, the families in Yarnell, the families in Flagstaff and Kingman, all have lost something.

As a service organization, I am hopeful we can help out the families of the firefighters, the families from Yarnell or Kingman, or wherever fire has devastated the community. We’ll let you know what can be done. As of now, the following can be done:

- Donate to the local United Way
- Donate to the Red Cross
- Have a fundraiser to help the families
- Keep all firefighters in your thoughts and/or prayers
- Hope for rain without lightening
- Give of yourself to help others
- Be fire safe
- Be fire prepared
- Learn how to be prepared for a fire or other disaster.

These are only a few ideas. God bless!
Feature Story:
Third Annual CSI Staff Retreat

In mid-June, CSI’s staff gathered in Flagstaff for three days for our third annual staff retreat. While many staff members meet regularly in small groups or collaborate among service programs on a small scale, these valuable three days are the only time every year that all staff members from across the state and from all of CSI’s volunteer programs see each other, collaborate, and cross-pollinate.

This year we focused on putting the “why” into what we do, strategy, communication, team building, and setting goals for the upcoming year. Many staff members also shared their expertise and helped equip each other to better perform our job duties. These yearly retreats help prepare us for the upcoming year of service. Thank you for joining us as we work to meet the needs of communities and neighborhoods throughout Arizona!

Sunnyside book exchange celebrates literacy

The Sunnyside Book Exchange is a partnership between CSI and Flagstaff Community Market. Each Wednesday from 4-7pm, June 26 – September 4, Flagstaff Community Market attendees are encouraged to “take a book, leave a book” in a community book exchange. The Market is held in the parking lot of St. Pius Church, 2257 East Cedar Avenue.

Each week CSI@NAU will also promote a local non-profit organization at the free book table. The Sunnyside Book Exchange brings knowledge, opportunities and a fun literary atmosphere to the Flagstaff Community Market in the Sunnyside Neighborhood.

Please stop by our table at the Flagstaff Community Market and grab a free book.

Meet the Staff

Nancy Rutherford and Michele Lytle
Rachel Nixon-Bacon
Jurixie Lopez
Elisabeth Sims and Noelle Martinjako

CSI-style twister during our staff retreat
April Saylor presenting during the CSI staff retreat

P.S. Please stop by our table at the Flagstaff Community Market and grab a free book.
AmeriCorps

Upcoming Events

- **July 17** – AmeriCorps featured at Sunnyside Book Exchange (4pm – 7pm)
- **July 19** – Recruitment open house at Willow Bend Educational Center on Sawmill Road (9am - 11am)
- **July 25** – EDC at Olivia White Hospice Garden on Switzer Canyon Rd. (8am – noon)
- **Aug 8** – Life After AmeriCorps workshop, details to come (9am – 3pm)
- **Aug 20** – Recognition
- **Sept 18** – Member Orientation

Recruitment Message from the Coordinator

Summer in the AmeriCorps program means recruitment season! We will be recruiting for approximately 40 positions that will start October 1st with orientation on September 18th.

**Here are a few common myths about AmeriCorps:**

**AmeriCorps members are age 18-24 years old** – Actually our program is open to all adults. You must be 18 years old by the end of your term, and we have no upper age limit. Our average age this year was 27.

**AmeriCorps members serve full time and cannot be in school or hold another job while serving** – Our program offers more flexibility than some. We have full time and part time options and we do allow members to take classes or hold another job as long as they are able to meet their AmeriCorps commitments.

**AmeriCorps members build trails or do other physically-demanding assignments** – That is true for a few positions, but not for most. We have a wide variety of positions serving in schools, local government, human services, as well as environmental programs.

Interested in AmeriCorps? Email us at americorps3@gmail.com or call (928) 523-3560. Make sure to leave us with your contact information and a little about yourself and your interests.

- Sharon Tewksbury-Bloom

AmeriCorps Recognition Update: August 20

The 2012-13 AmeriCorps term is coming to a close, and in order to properly celebrate all of our achievements our staff is working hard to create a fun and festive day of recognition. Festivities will include an outdoor recreational activity. Later in the evening, we will share food in an historic building. The details will be revealed soon so stay tuned and prepare to celebrate!

American Conservation Experience, Hozhoni and the Civic Service Institute held yoga in the park on May 19, led by AmeriCorps Member and yoga instructor Rachel Esbjornson.
Statewide Impact Deserves Statewide Recognition

On May 9, 2013, approximately 300 Foster Grandparent and Senior Companion volunteers, station supervisors, program coordinators, and CSI central office staff came together from around Arizona to celebrate these volunteers’ accomplishments and share success stories with one another. Nine Arizona counties were represented: Coconino, Maricopa, Mohave, Navajo, Apache, Pima, Pinal, Yavapai and Yuma Counties. It was an opportunity for volunteers to see how they not only contribute to their own communities locally, but to see how others just like them are impacting communities around the state and how they are part of a nationwide volunteer effort with over 360,000 Senior Corps volunteers. Here are our state highlights for the 2011-2012 Fiscal Year:

• 182 Foster Grandparents served 96,461 hours, an average of 530 hours per volunteer for the year. 605 students received assistance at 143 different volunteer sites.

• 124 Senior Companions served 93,654 hours, an average of 755 hours per volunteer for the year. 532 homebound seniors received services through 80 different volunteer sites.

A great big thank you goes out to all of the volunteers and the station supervisors. We could not possibly have the impact that we do without all of your hard work and dedication to the children and clients being served.

Volunteers Are a Treasure

"You make a living by what you get; you make a life by what you give.”
~ Winston Churchill
Welcome New Volunteers

Did you know that there are OVER 300 Senior Companion and Foster Grandparent volunteers in the Senior Corps Programs sponsored by NAU around Arizona? Welcome to our newest volunteers!

Yavapai County
Christine Quinn
Martha Martinez
Lynn Cabot
Patricia Waggoner

Yuma County
Carma Smith
Felicitas Larios
Gudelia Teposte
Julia Elena Martin Del Campo

Navajo & Apache Counties
Nancy Sanburn
Pearl Evans
Deborah Goalby

Coconino County
Linda Knott
Lillie Winsley
Linda Stark

Maricopa County
Frederick Davis
Aileen Vick
Margaret Acel

Mohave County
Rachel Stewart
Vera Maggi
Sally Diehl
Mary Winchester
Judy Burnette

Upcoming Service Events

August 15
Verde Valley: Verde Valley volunteers will be organizing a blood drive. If you are in the Verde Valley area and can donate homemade cookies, blood, or your time please contact Shana Smith at 928-202-8261 or Janet Dews at 928-814-9425.

September 11
Pima County: Foster Grandparents will work in conjunction with RSVP and Senior Companions to place flags along the fence of the Veteran’s Hospital in honor of those who passed on 9/11. This will be the 2nd annual placement of the flags in Tucson and a very special thank you goes out to AmeriCorps volunteer, Rose Fuhs, who has been in charge of coordination.

Maricopa County: Beginning August 1, the Senior Companion and Foster Grandparent volunteers will be hosting a snack food drive to benefit local first responders. The volunteers will be making snack baskets for local fire stations for delivery on September 7 with a goal of delivering to 15 stations in the Phoenix/Metro area this year.

Cesar Chavez Day Report

Navajo/Apache Counties: Senior Corps volunteers partnered with the American Red Cross to distribute information on disaster preparedness to residents in the communities.

Pima County: Foster Grandparent volunteers met at Casa Maria, a kitchen that serves meals to the homeless and provides nonperishable food items to families. Everyone worked tirelessly serving soup, organizing the kitchen, helping clean up, talking with the recipients.

Maricopa County: Foster Grandparent and Senior Companion volunteers held their 2nd Annual stuffed animal drive to benefit Arizona Helping Hands, Inc. Approximately 600 stuffed animals were collected to benefit children in crisis.

Verde Valley: Senior Corps volunteers partnered with United Blood Services to organize a blood drive and provide homemade snacks for donors. There were 25 donors, which was an excellent 96% of the goal.
Focusing RSVP

You may have noticed a few changes happening within RSVP. Volunteers coming and volunteers going. Stations coming and stations going. A cycle of change is happening and as with all change, it will leave us some room to grow, to focus our efforts, and to make a huge impact in each of our communities; an impact that is concrete, has very clear outcomes, and that we can report not only to you but also to our funders.

Going forward, RSVP’s three main focus areas are to serve veterans and their families, to provide tutoring services to children with special and exceptional needs, and to help create healthy futures for our citizens. We will focus on recruiting partner agencies that fit into these categories and have clearly defined volunteer position descriptions. Our primary objective will be to recruit volunteers to meet the needs of those agencies. When we know and understand what an organization needs, we can make successful volunteer matches that will last a long time.

Often a person knows he or she would like to help out in their community but doesn’t know where to begin. RSVP coordinators in eight counties (Apache/Navajo, Cochise/Santa Cruz, Coconino, Mohave, Yavapai, and Yuma) are able to help find the match for volunteers that will give meaning and direction to a person’s desire to serve their community.

Tell a friend about RSVP and have them contact us!

**Navajo and Apache Counties**
Diana Lowell: 928-581-1872, diana.lowell@nau.edu

**Mohave County**
Nancy Rutherford: 928-715-2200, nancy.rutherford@nau.edu

**West Yavapai County**
Jean Jongsma: 928-713-4114, jean.jongsma@nau.edu

**East Yavapai County**
Shana Smith: 928-202-8261, shana.smith@nau.edu

**Coconino County**
Michele Lytle: 928-523-1082, michele.lytle@nau.edu

**Yuma County**
Jurixie Lopez-Elizalde: 928-276-2891, JL474@nau.edu

**Cochise and Santa Cruz Counties**
Melissa Hernandez: 520-305-2482, melissa.hernandez@nau.edu

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**New RSVP Project Starts This Quarter!**

Starting July 1, the Civic Service Institute will be bringing RSVP to Southeastern Arizona. We will be building partnerships and recruiting volunteers to help meet community needs in Santa Cruz, Cochise, Graham, and Greenlee Counties. Initially we will be focusing on Santa Cruz and Cochise Counties as we ramp up this exciting project. Stay tuned for more news about RSVP in Southeastern AZ.

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“The world as we have created it is a process of our thinking. It cannot be changed without changing our thinking.”

~Albert Einstein
Project GIVE

Project GIVE works on multiple levels of volunteer matching, large-scale events, group projects, and individual matches. When matching individuals, it is important to find the best-fit placement possible. For that, Project GIVE uses their SHAPES for Service. Try it out and see if it helps you self-assess and better match your volunteers to their strengths!

**S – Service** - What service have you been involved in previously? What service are you involved in currently?

**H – Heart** (Passion) - What are you passionate about? Do you have a heart for serving a particular population or cause?

**A – Abilities** (Talents) - Every person has unique talents, skills, and abilities. These are things that can be developed and honed through education, training, and experience. What talents, abilities and skills do you have? In what areas are you confident and competent? (Example: athletics, piano, carpentry, gardening, nursing, etc.)

**P – Personality** - We relate to others and the world in accordance with our personality. Our differing behaviors and responses reflect our preferences. Our particular preferences determine our personality, or our temperament. You will serve better when your role expresses your unique preferences.

**E – Experience** – We often have significant life experiences that mold us and equip us to serve others as we learn important life lessons.

**S – Spirit** – What are your spiritual beliefs/spiritual background?

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**Project GIVE STAR Day of Service**

June 23 was the 2nd annual STAR Day of Service with Project GIVE. The STAR program is a wonderful summer bridge program that invites incoming first generation freshman to spend a month on campus attending classes and living in the dorms prior to the school year. They finish with several credits completed to kick-start their year. Most importantly, though, they get an early introduction to our local community through their volunteer work! This year, approximately 180 STAR volunteers served at sites throughout Flagstaff. It made an amazing impact on our city! This year’s projects focused on the community surrounding campus and included clean-up in the Southside neighborhood, the SSLUG garden on south campus, work at Murdoch Center, St. Mary’s Food Bank, and Riordan Mansion. It was an exciting day to have volunteers out in force to impact the area!
What an exciting time for our Southside Communities for All Ages project! The Civic Service Institute at Northern Arizona University received the full funding that we requested from our partners at Full Circle Trade & Thrift. These funds will be used for collecting, researching, and putting together oral histories from residents in Flagstaff’s Southside neighborhood. These oral histories will be used to enrich the Historical Southside Tour.

The kick off celebration for this project will be this coming October during our 2013 Make A Difference National Day of Service. Stay tuned for more information on this project.
**CALENDARS**

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