

COMMUNITY PROFILE

Inspiring young students

Tomales High School teacher Tina Marweg is the recipient of the Golden Bell award for education

By LYNN SCHNITZER
FOR THE ARGUS-COURIER

Tina Marweg says she is a person who leads two lives; “there is my Tomales life and my Petaluma life.”

In Tomales, Marweg teaches physics and chemistry at Tomales High School and serves as student activities director, homecoming organizer and co-leader of the school’s Link Crew group. In addition, Marweg, along with biology teacher Bernard Gregoris, involves her students in the CAMEOS ocean research projects with University of California, Davis graduate students and the Bodega Marine Lab.

Her love of teaching has earned her the Golden Bell in education from the Marin County Office of Education.

“I’ve always loved to learn and my passion is for learning,” says Marweg. “As I grew up, I felt I could help invigorate younger students (by becoming a teacher).”

Marweg grew up on a dairy in Tomales, but has lived in Petaluma for 18 years. She received a bachelors degree in education from Northwestern University and her masters in education administration from Sonoma State University.

She was the first in her family to receive a college degree. “My mom and dad very highly regarded education,” she says. “I’ve been lucky to have been surrounded by strong, independent women in my family, and my dad, who is a ‘true-blue,’ down-to-earth American. Unflappable is the word to describe David Righetti.”

When she’s not busy in the classroom, she’s busy coaching soccer, Little League and T-Ball.

“I was named Petaluma Recreational Soccer Coach of the Year a couple of years ago,” she says.



LYNN SCHNITZER/FOR THE ARGUS-COURIER

Tina Marweg, a teacher at Tomales High School, also coaches soccer, Little League and T-ball.

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TINA MARWEG

Like many, Marweg’s greatest challenge is being a wife and mother of three children.

“It’s a constant balancing act between the needs of my family and my responsibilities at work,” she says.

Marweg considers her kids as her greatest accomplishment, saying, “I’m proud and lucky to have them.”

Losing one of the strong women in her family was a turning point in her life.

“My mom (Sharon Righetti) passed away several years ago and it was a huge shock to all of us,” she says. “I was fortunate to have a great relationship with her, and one thing I’ve learned from this is that you can survive it; you gain strength from the obstacles you face. They ground you.”

Her immediate goal is

to keep doing a good job with her kids, “working through the next phases of their lives.”

Describing herself as “energetic, involved, funny, positive and happy,” she says her personal philosophy is, “If you’re not having fun, it’s not worth doing. Focus on the enjoyment.”

The craziest thing Marweg says she’s done is “walking in the Big Sur International Marathon. It was exciting but the training was excruciating. I trained for a couple of months, partly by walking home from work.”

Marweg confesses to a love of travel, and says, “When I was younger, I loved to travel. Once during college, I spent my entire spring semester check on a trip to France with my sister. When I got back, I had to live on \$5 a day, basically, during the

AT A GLANCE

Name: Tina Righetti Marweg

Age: 47

Occupation: Physics and chemistry teacher at Tomales High School.

Family: Married to Mike Marweg, with three kids, Brandon, Caitlin and Jared.

Hometown: Tomales. “I’ve been in Petaluma for 18 years.”

Awards: “I got the Golden Bell in education from the Marin County Office of Education and I was named Petaluma Recreational Soccer Coach of the Year a couple of years ago.”

Community service: “I coach soccer, Little League, T-ball and teach religious education for St. Vincent.”

Hobbies: “I like to travel, garden, read, walk a lot and do yoga.”

Book: “I’m currently reading Nora Robert’s ‘The Next Always: Book One of the Inn BoonsBoro Trilogy.’ I love to read her books.”

Favorite Petaluma-area hangout: “Any of my kids’ sporting events. Brandon is playing varsity football for Petaluma High, Caitlin plays soccer and Jared is on the Petaluma Panthers (football team).”

semester, but oh, it was worth it.”

If there was one thing Marweg would change, she says, “I think we have so many riches. Seems as if we could find a way to make sure that everybody has enough food.”

Her advice to others? “Smile more. It raises the mood of everyone around you.”

(Contact Lynn Schnitzer at argus@arguscourier.com)

OUT&ABOUT

Carousel Fund Casino Night

The Carousel Fund holds its 15th annual Casino Night from 5 p.m. to midnight Oct. 6 at the Petaluma Veterans Memorial Building.

The event raises funds for Petaluma families with children suffering from life-threatening illnesses.

The evening features dinner, dancing, casino games and live and silent auctions.

Special musical guests are Jefferson Starship and The Family Stone.

Admission is \$85 per person.

For information and tickets, visit www.carouselfund.org or call 762-9136.

Garden tools recycling

Local residents who have old or broken metal shovels, rakes, digging forks, trowels, garden clippers and other metal garden tools may donate these items to Petaluma Bounty from 10 a.m. to noon Saturdays beginning Oct. 6 at the farm, 55 Shasta Ave.

Petaluma Bounty can also arrange to pick up tools for estate donations and for larger farm equipment.

Petaluma Bounty will try to repair the donated tools to use on the Bounty farm and make the refurbished tools available to other community gardens and farms for use.

Any unusable metal tools will be recycled, with proceeds used to help Petaluma Bounty.

For more information, visit www.petaluma-bounty.org or contact Paul at pcmarin2010@gmail.com.

Friendship Sunday

Sovereign Grace Community Church hosts a Friendship Sunday at 10 a.m. Sept. 28.

This is a day especially designed for visitors, new residents and those looking for a church to attend.

There will be a pre-worship get acquainted fellowship at 9:45 a.m. followed by a worship service at 10 a.m. and a free friendship brunch at 11:30 a.m.

The church meets every Sunday at the Bernard Eldridge Complex, 207 Maria Drive. For more information, call 778-1296.

Growing and harvesting flowers

Chica Bloom flower farmers Ariana Reguzzoni and Lisa Murgatroyd lead a workshop on growing and harvesting flowers at 10 a.m. Oct. 7 at Petaluma Bounty, 55 Shasta Ave.

Participants will learn how to grow colorful, fragrant flowers and which flowers grow best in Petaluma.

The cost is \$20 on a sliding scale and includes a bouquet to take home.

To reserve a spot, e-mail flowers@chica-bloomfarm.com.

Save your tools workshop

Petaluma Bounty offers a workshop on how to maintain garden tools at 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 29 at the farm, 55 Shasta Ave.

Participants may bring a small pair of garden shears to be sharpened for free.

The cost of the workshop is \$15 on a sliding scale.

To register, e-mail pcmarin2010@gmail.com or visit www.petaluma-bounty.org.

Art docent program

The Petaluma City School District art docent program is looking for volunteers to teach art in classrooms from kindergarten through sixth grade.

Lessons explore art history, technique, and curriculum-based art as well as exposing students to a variety of mediums.

No art experience is necessary. Training and supplies are provided. Volunteer time is flexible.

For information, contact Alyse Breece at abreece@petk12.or or call 778-4958.

The joy of singing

Sovereign Grace Community Church offers a free singing enrichment class at 6 p.m. Fridays at the church, located in the Bernard Eldridge complex, 207 Maria Drive.

The class provides individual voice lessons, group practices and occasions to sing in church worship services.

For information, call 778-1296.

Sing-along with Susan

Susan Gilbert leads a weekly sing-along from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Thursdays at the Petaluma Senior Center, 211 Novak St.

Song styles include pop, folk, jazz standards, Broadway and patriotic. Lyrics are provided and the ability to carry a tune is appreciated.

The cost is \$3. Participants are asked to refrain from wearing fragrances.

For more information, call 778-4399.

Tuesday Farmers Market

The Agricultural Community Events hosts an East-Side Farmers Market Tuesdays in the parking lot of the Petaluma Community Center, 320 N. McDowell Blvd.

The market is open from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. with a variety of vendors offering produce, beverages and lunch items.

For information, visit <http://fb.me/7rWvNbVrQ>.

Writing and acting for seniors

An eight-week writing and acting class for seniors ages 55 and older is being offered from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Mondays through Oct. 29 at the Petaluma Senior Center, 211 Novak Drive.

Led by instructor Susan Kay Gilbert, the class is designed for all writing/acting levels, including those with limited writing/acting experience.

Memorization of text is encouraged, but not necessary.

The goal is for students to develop a short autobiographical monologue (three to five minutes) to perform for the class.

The cost is \$5 per class.

For details, call 778-4399 or e-mail susankaygilbert@yahoo.com.

PHS marching band receives new uniforms

(A look back at news and events from previous editions of the Argus-Courier.)

LOOKING BACK



Petaluma Boulevard North to the river. Phase one will take 18 to 24 months. (Sept. 25, 2002)

30 years ago

The first time around for the Farrell House was not exactly rosy, but now the eating establishment is under new ownership and seems to be headed in the right direction. Last week’s re-opening was success-

ful and owner David Scott is confident the changes will result in customer satisfaction and renewed prosperity for the Farrell House. Editors note: The Farrell House is known as the River House at 222 Weller St. (Sept. 20, 1982)

Petaluma High School marching band members showed off their sharp new uniforms during a gala half-time performance. The new outfits featuring a shimmering gold cape and ruffled shirt. They replace 16-year-old faded, threadbare outfits. Total cost for the new duds was \$25,000. (Sept. 18, 1982)

40 years ago

A 680-acre site in the San Antonio Creek area south of Petaluma may be the permanent site of the Renaissance Pleasure Faire. Ron Patterson, who along with his wife Phyllis originated the Pleasure Faire, have been negotiating with Mr. and Mrs. Anthony C. Veronda for the Marin County property bordering Highway 101. (Aug. 31, 1972)

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