

Granada Gazette

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Kevin B. McGlynn, editor

What's in a name?: *Charity Bell balances academics, foster parenting*

Excerpts from a Harvard University Gazette article
by Alvin Powell



In the stacks of the Kennedy School Library, graduate student Charity Bell cautions her partner: "Sshhh, there is no crying allowed in the library." photo by Rose Lincoln

Sitting in a Harvard Square cafe in front of a half-eaten bagel and a Mountain Dew, Charity Bell could be any young mother, cradling a 3-month-old in one hand and a baby bottle in the other. But Bell isn't just any young mother, she's a student at the Kennedy School of Government and an "emergency foster parent," juggling the twin sleep-depriving roles of graduate student and new mom. And her baby isn't just any little girl. Withdrawing from methadone, not charming dotting relatives, is her first task in life, compliments of her birth mother's drug habit.

By all accounts, Bell is rare among college students, piling the weighty chores of child care on top of the course load of her master's in public administration program. Unfortunately, that rarity is not shared by the children she has cared for. They - 36 since March 2000 - are all too common. Joy Cochran, family resource coordinator for the Massachusetts Department of Social Services' Boston Region, said Bell is unique in several ways. Not only does she lug the kids along to class with her, but, 28 and single, she's younger than most foster parents and handling the challenge alone. Cochran said Bell's ability to keep the babies with her all day helps the children through a tough time when they would otherwise be put in day care or shuffled between providers. "I don't think many foster parents are taking babies to class," Cochran said. "I think it's fabulous."

Bell is one of just four emergency foster parents in DSS's (Department of Social Services') Boston Region. DSS workers call Bell and the three other emergency parents "hot line" families, because the DSS can call them days, nights, weekends, and holidays to take in homeless, abused and abandoned children at a moment's notice. The children stay with Bell for varying lengths of time. Sometimes the placement is short, arriving at night and staying just long enough for DSS workers to get to the office in the morning to find a permanent placement. Other times the placements are longer, such as the case of Joshua, who stayed with Bell for three months. "When Joshua left after three months, I was devastated," Bell said. "Then the social worker said that in the first three months a baby learns what love is. That's what keeps me going." Bell has had children as old as 2 but specializes in infants, particularly drug-addicted or premature babies. She has had as many as three children at a time. Once she had eight, including a set of twins, placed with her over one two-week holiday period. Bell said she manages to juggle the responsibility of caring for fragile infants and her course load with the help of close friends and the understanding of Kennedy School faculty members who don't object when she shows up to class with books - and baby - in tow. Caffeine doesn't hurt either. "I don't sleep. It makes it easier," Bell said. David King, associate professor in public policy at the Kennedy School, said Bell is providing a real-life case for students to study. He said students' first reaction to Bell's babies is "how cute," but that view changes as they understand what has happened in the babies short lives. Bell is uncertain about what course she'll take after graduation. She believes the foster care system urgently needs reform and is trying to figure out the best way to effect change. *Published in May 2002*

Charity Bell finished her studies at the Kennedy School of Government and has moved on with her life. Charity Bell is the niece of Tony, our manager. Care seems to run in the family, trying to make a difference. What's in a name? Try this one out: Kathy, Tony's sister named her daughters: Charity and Faith. When Tony's oldest daughter was born Kathy recommended the name Hope, but Tony named her April (with a middle name of Hope). Ed.

A Granada Welcome to

Mary Liddle

Hiro Miyanga

Thomas Moeller

George Anki

Estella Ramirez

Lorin Stacey

Lauretta Barker

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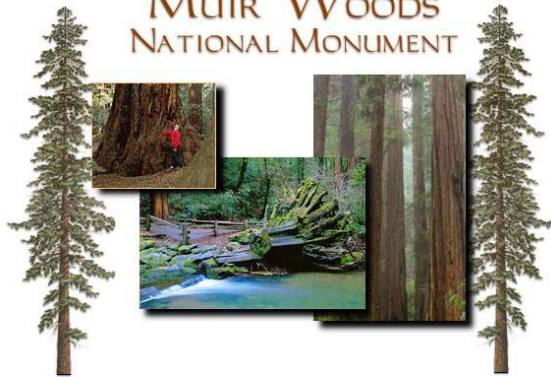
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Granada Gazette

MUIR WOODS NATIONAL MONUMENT



Doesn't matter how many times I go to Muir Woods, the wonder of this grove of Redwoods that greets you, in sight, sound and breath, never ceases to please; that why I take company. Our group split into three walking trails and three walking guides. Doug, Juan and Carmen of the Granada staff lead the explorers through the woods (on a wooden trails about 1/8 mile in a circle). While I lead the others to the canteen and the apple pie, which was recommended by Carmen Concepcion. Talk about easy, the weather was beautiful and by the time everything was done, we found ourselves back on our coach passing over the Golden Gate Bridge one more time, to home. Ed



It's clear to Roy, always a cheery man, why he came, for the splendor of it all, or course.



Bob Shinnick coming out of the deep forest of Redwoods (notice the wooden trails).



A comfortable coach outside our door to take us into the Muir Woods, 25 miles over the Golden Gate Bridge.



Just over the Golden Gate Bridge is a Vista Point where we uses San Francisco as a background with a side of Alcatraz and a Bay Bridge back.



Phil Prather in the Redwood Groves beside restful waters.

Photography by Kevin McGlynn

A free examination and consultation
plus a 10% discount on any dental care.

Mohamed Ali, D.D.S.

450 Sutter Street suite 1905
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Mention the Granada Gazette



Mr. BINGO, Joseph Aubrey calling out the numbers, looking for a winner!

We love our BINGO, ask anyone of our thirty regulars who, like celebrities Cathrine Zetta Jones and Robin Williams are big bingo fans.

The most common reasons for playing BINGO are because it's fun, it offers companionship and a chance to socialize, so three times a week, we play BINGO in the Granada Lounge.

Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7:00 PM, hosted by Joseph and Saturdays at 1:30 PM, hosted by Charles.

The first nine games are won by placing 4-in-a-line on your card either: horizontal, vertical, diagonal or four corners, the tenth game, "black out," you must fill all 16 spaces on your card to win. The prize, cash!

So you don't tug on superman's cape, you don't spit into the wind, you don't pull the mask off the old Lone Ranger and you don't mess around with the BINGO callin' man. ed.

Before and Now

Started his young adult life in January 25, 1943 when like many others, he was drafted into the Armed Services during WWII. Flying missions and sorties over France prior to D-day and after the invasion over Germany in the great B-17 "The Flying Fortress." 34 sorties and 50 missions later in October 25, 1945 it was over, over there. Six battle scar ribbons with six bronze clusters and four Air medals with four bronze clusters were awarded.

A wonderful family life consumed the next 50 years with the coming and goings of five children, three boys and two girls who in their turn produced nine grandchildren, seven boys and two grandladies. Then he came to the Granada, April 4, 1994 to retire to a San Francisco residence and share a rich retirement with other interesting people. Who is this person? Answer next month's Gazette.

Birthdays

RESIDENTS

August

- 15 Enrique Yam
- 16 Leon Yee
- 22 Lawrence Janssen
- 24 Marc Jackson
- 24 William Leiva
- 26 Larry Wong
- 28 Donna Schuck
- 29 John Casper
- 29 Laurretta Barker
- 31 Elsa Moy



EMPLOYEES

August

- 3 Naomi Colb
- 6 Jim Purcell
- 13 Delia Sadun
- 17 Rick Garcia
- 19 Elvin Rayos



Tony's Newsletter Column

Okay, Mark Twain said it and so did my Mom, San Francisco is too cold in the summer. It means back to Arizona for now; everyone knows about our famous Autumns, maybe she'll come back then. Thank you to those who were so kind to my mother.

My daughter April is touting freshmen at San Francisco State while Gabrielle continues to work corporate events at the Fluid Ultra Lounge.

The first Monday in September is Labor Day and with our new kitchen the party should be mighty, ribs galore.

Looking forward to the Giants baseball game on the 26th with the Cincinatti Reds, 25 of us are going together on a Granada Tour. Kevin tells me that at the end of the third inning, the Granada will be welcomed to AT&T Park with a welcoming notice on the scoreboard "AT&T and the Giants Welcomed the Granada Seniors," so bring your cameras.

Our best months of the year, enjoy them !

Thanks.



August 2006



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 7:00 p.m. BINGO	2 1:00 p.m. Pets Unltd 6:30 p.m. MOVIE	3 7:00 p.m. BINGO	4 10:00 a.m. EXERCISE 4:00 p.m. HAPPY HOUR 6:30 p.m. MOVIE	5 1:30 p.m. BINGO 6:00 p.m. MOVIE
6 10:00 a.m. SPCA Pets 7:00 p.m. 60 MINUTES	7 10:00 a.m. EXERCISE 6:00 p.m. MOVIE	8 7:00 p.m. BINGO	9 12:30 p.m. <i>Noontime Concerts</i> <i>at Saint Patrick's Church's</i> 6:30 p.m. MOVIE	10 10:00 Library on Wheels 12:00 p.m. Granada Bay Meadows Tour 7:00 p.m. BINGO	11 10:00 a.m. EXERCISE 4:00 p.m. HAPPY HOUR 6:30 p.m. MOVIE	12 1:30 p.m. BINGO 6:00 p.m. MOVIE
13 2:15 p.m. ICE CREAM SOCIAL 7:00 p.m. 60 MINUTES	14 10:00 a.m. EXERCISE 6:00 p.m. MOVIE	15 Birthday Party Dinner 7:00 p.m. BINGO * Enrique Lam	16 1:00 p.m. Pets Unltd 6:30 p.m. MOVIE * Leon Yee	17 7:00 p.m. BINGO	18 10:00 a.m. EXERCISE 4:00 p.m. HAPPY HOUR 6:30 p.m. MOVIE	19 1:30 p.m. BINGO 6:00 p.m. MOVIE
20 10:00 a.m. SPCA Pets 7:00 p.m. 60 MINUTES	21 10:00 a.m. EXERCISE 6:00 p.m. MOVIE	22 7:00 p.m. BINGO * Lawrence Janssen	23 12:30 p.m. <i>Noontime Concerts</i> <i>at Saint Patrick's Church's</i> 6:30 p.m. MOVIE	24 7:00 p.m. BINGO * William Leiva * Maire Jackson	25 10:00 a.m. EXERCISE 4:00 p.m. HAPPY HOUR 6:30 p.m. MOVIE	26 12:00 p.m. Baseball Tour 1:30 p.m. BINGO 6:00 p.m. HBO Movie * Larry Wong
27 2:15 p.m. ICE CREAM SOCIAL 7:00 p.m. 60 MINUTES	28 10:00 a.m. EXERCISE 6:00 p.m. MOVIE * Donna Schuck	29 7:00 p.m. BINGO * Launetta Baker * John Casper	30 12:30 p.m. <i>Noontime Concerts</i> <i>at Saint Patrick's Church's</i> 6:30 p.m. MOVIE	31 7:00 p.m. BINGO * Elsa Moy		* Birthday Person

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