

# HANNA

Summer 2011

## HAPPENINGS

### CONNECTIONS THAT COUNT

#### Mentoring Program Matches Boys to Caring Adults

If you think back to your teen years, you'll likely recall a family member, teacher, boss, or other adult whose encouragement and guidance at a critical time gave you a fresh perspective, introduced you to new possibilities, and inspired you to set higher goals. Most boys entering Archbishop Hanna High School haven't experienced that kind of support. But now, through the Center's new mentoring program, they're more likely to have someone

special to turn to as they chart their course to graduation and beyond.

"Sometimes incredible life opportunities or experiences stem from remembering one thing someone said to you or one particular event," said Jen Kinavey Riebli, Hanna's first volunteer mentor. "My hope is that my student will take with him memories of what to do and, more important, what not to do during job searches, work, and life in general."

A principal recruiter with Symantec Corporation and mother of three youngsters, Jen finds that Hanna mentoring gives her the chance to be involved with a school and people she respects in a way that fits her busy schedule. Her mentee is Jesse, a soon-to-be junior hoping to become a construction contractor through work experience and trade school. They've been meeting for two hours every Friday since February, usually over lunch at a local restaurant, to discuss Jesse's goals and strategies for achieving them.

"She worked with me on my résumé so I could apply for summer jobs," he said, "and has helped me to think through what I want after graduation."

"Jesse is easygoing, motivated, responsible, and a genuinely good person," said Jen. "I look forward to watching his journey."



Father Crews congratulates Dominic, class of 2011.

### Note from Father Crews

As our number of graduating seniors grows, so does their list of achievements. On June 3, we celebrated the commencement of the class of 2011: 16 students from Archbishop Hanna High and three Hanna boys from Sonoma Valley High. Their continuing education plans stand as testament to how hard they have worked and how far they have come since arriving at Hanna.

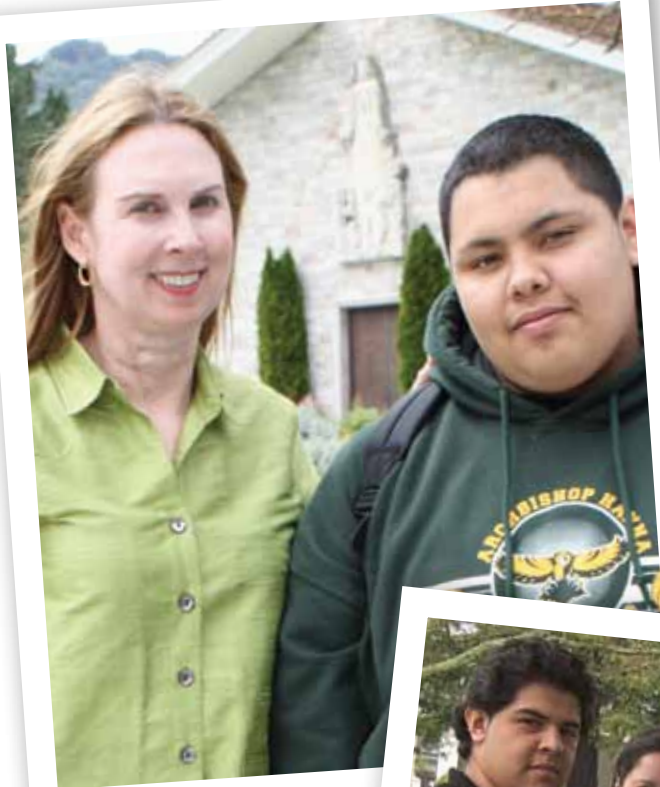
Tony and Luis, for example, have been participating in the organization Students Rising Above, which provides educational resources to disadvantaged teens. This year, our two boys each received \$50,000 from the Castner Scholarship Fund through The Community Foundation Sonoma County. Both will attend Sonoma State University.

Enrique and Oliver each received \$20,000 scholarships from the Castner Fund to attend Chabot College and Santa Rosa Junior College respectively. Seven more of their classmates have college plans, too. One has enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps, and another has applied to barber college. Meanwhile, Jesus has just begun his apprenticeship as an electrician, sponsored by the Laborers International Union of North America Local 261.

The Hanna staff is working harder than ever to help each student develop a plan for his future. In most cases, our graduates never could have imagined at the time they enrolled where they are headed today. I am happy to say that they have needed to look no further

Continued on page 2

Continued on page 2



Roman and his mentor Pat Rey get together twice a month.



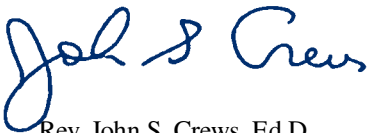
Jesse and his mentor Jen Kinavey Riebli have lunch every Friday.

*Note from Father Crews continued*

than recent Hanna alumni for the inspiration to set their sights high.

Jonathan Trainor, class of 2006, just earned his bachelor's degree in economics, while Walter Linares, class of 2002, received his master's degree in sports management, both from the University of San Francisco. Meanwhile, our 2007 Boy of the Year Nathaniel Garrod not only received his bachelor's degree in English from Sonoma State University on May 28, but also was chosen by his classmates as student commencement speaker. He'll enter graduate school at Oklahoma State University this fall.

I am proud of our 2011 graduates for all they have accomplished so far and am confident that they will have similar successes to report in the years to come. Thank you for the scholarship and other donations that help make our boys' new, bigger dreams come true.



Rev. John S. Crews, Ed.D.  
Executive Director

*Cover story continued*

### Just the Beginning

Jen and Jesse are the first mentoring pair in a program designed ultimately to support some 16 students. Hanna has formed a partnership with the Sonoma Valley Mentoring Alliance (SVMA) to develop and administer it. Mentors receive training at SVMA headquarters, and then work with Hanna caseworkers to select and establish a rapport with their mentee and coordinate get-togethers.

"We're pleased and honored to partner with Hanna to provide caring adult role models for the boys," said Kathy Witkowiicki, SVMA executive director. "There is no doubt that Hanna mentees will now have another layer of support to help them be the best they can be."

Even with the extraordinary care boys receive at Hanna, mentors fill an important need. "The Hanna staff does a great job," said caseworker Kevin Thorpe, "but we can rarely give a student two to four hours of undivided

attention at one time. Especially for boys who are a bit shy, having an advocate and someone to talk to outside the Hanna circle can make a real difference."

Roman, another mentee, agrees. He and his mentor Patricia Rey have been meeting every two weeks since April. "It means a lot to me," he said. "So far, we've gone to lunch, shopping, and hiking. It's good to get off-campus, get away from day-to-day problems, and talk about my future." He hopes to study veterinary technology.

Patricia is a human resources consultant and substitute teacher who volunteered after reading about Hanna's mentoring program in the newspaper. "Roman is delightful," she said. "I particularly like the consistency of working with a student in the sophomore year and continuing through to graduation. I hope to serve as a resource for him in making academic and career plans."

You might be the perfect match for a Hanna boy, too. To volunteer or learn more about becoming a mentor, contact Lori Hines at 707-996-6767 or lhines@hannacenter.org.

*"My mentor helps me see what I want to do and find ways to do it."*

—Jesse

## Fundraising Continues for New Facilities

After an unusually rainy spring that slowed progress, Hanna's phase-one construction projects are nearing completion. The new Admissions and Alumni Center and Multi-Use Auditorium are both slated to open in the fall, while the new baseball field and multi-use soccer field are on track for a 2012 debut.

Just entering its second year, the "Spreading Our Wings" Campus Development Campaign so far has raised more than \$3.5 million in donations and pledges to help build the new facilities and fund the operational endowment that will enable Hanna to accommodate additional students.

All contributions to this historic capital initiative — the first since the campus was established in 1949 — must come from individuals and foundations; Hanna accepts no government or church funding.

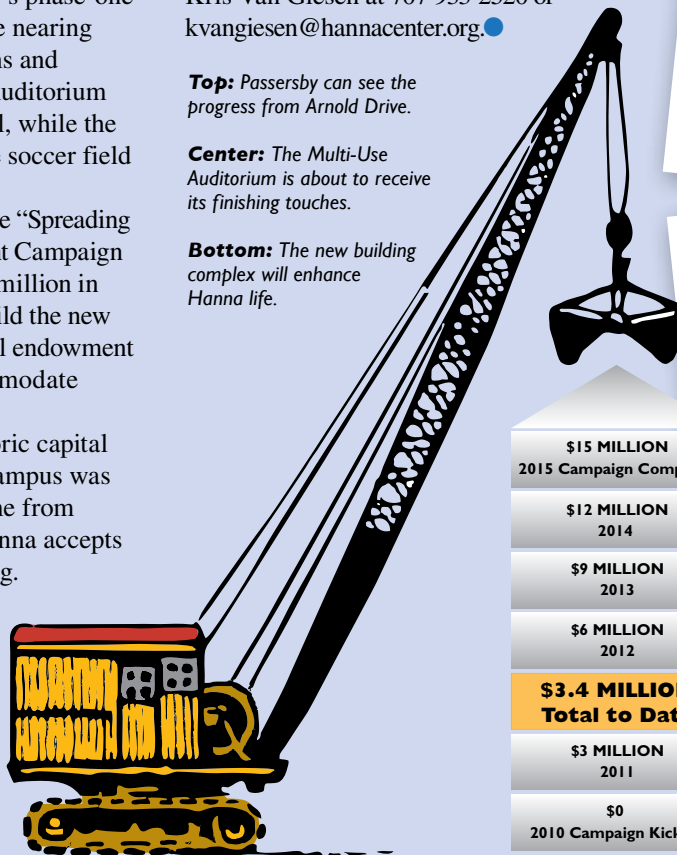
Your continued support is essential to achieving our \$15-million, five-year goal. To learn more about making a donation, about available naming opportunities, or how you can join the growing list of supporters on the Legacy Wall

of Donors, contact Chief Development Officer Kris Van Giesen at 707-933-2520 or kvangiesen@hannacenter.org.

**Top:** Passersby can see the progress from Arnold Drive.

**Center:** The Multi-Use Auditorium is about to receive its finishing touches.

**Bottom:** The new building complex will enhance Hanna life.



# Career Preparation Takes Center Stage

With so many juniors and seniors on campus, Archbishop Hanna High School has integrated career awareness into its comprehensive curriculum, encouraging students to think about what's next, not just what's happening now.

A course called "Career Choices" encourages boys to seek professions that align with their passions, lifestyles, aspirations, and skills. Students create a 10-year plan that includes requirements and milestones they'll need to reach to achieve their goals.

"Setting goals raises the chance of success, even if those goals change along the way," said Mick Chantler, follow-on care and living skills specialist. Hanna subscribes to the Career and Occupational Information Network (COIN), which offers career interest and aptitude assessments, résumé templates, and other resources online. After completing the assessments, students select careers to research. "When he leaves Hanna," said Mick, "each boy takes his COIN account with him, so he can continue to access the network as his plans evolve."

Every April, Hanna hosts a half-day career fair that brings professionals to campus for a series of half-hour presentations. Students research and select the sessions they want to attend and are encouraged to ask questions. In 2011, 21 speakers represented careers in law enforcement, firefighting, military service,

politics, construction trades, wine and food, medicine, engineering, software design, and more.

Job shadowing at the Sonoma Developmental Center and tours of facilities such as College of Marin's Automotive Technology Program and Santa Rosa Junior College's Public Safety Training Center, often hosted by Hanna alums, acquaint boys with a range of options. Back on campus, vocational classes introduce students to industries including music, technology, video and film production, nutrition and food service, viticulture, organic gardening, and carpentry.

An after-school or summer job is more than a way to earn extra money; it can also be a gateway to future success. On-campus employment in groundskeeping, food service, recreation, and other areas gives about 10 boys the opportunity to gain hands-on experience and work their way up.

Now in its second year, the summer internship program, a partnership with Hanna supporter Les Vadasz and Nelson Staffing, has provided jobs for 14 boys at Benziger Family Winery, Don Sebastiani & Sons wine negociant, Fairmont Sonoma Mission Inn and Spa, the Hanna Maintenance Department, Imagery Estate Winery, Nelson Staffing, and Stevens Hemingway Stevens general building contractors. The Sonoma Ecology Center sponsors summer internships for four more



Captain Jon Morgan of the Sonoma Valley Fire and Rescue Authority gives Byron a taste of life on the line during Hanna's 2011 Career Fair.

students. And two businesses from last year's program — Brocco's Old Barn feed store and Price Pump Company — now employ four Hanna students year-round.

Wherever they work, all students must save half their earnings to put toward college and future living expenses. "That requirement helps promote financial literacy," said Mick, "as well as ensures that each boy has a significant nest egg to draw on after graduation.

"We try to introduce the boys to as many opportunities as possible, show them how to fend for themselves, and coach them in making smart choices for their future." ●



## Come join us for a construction-zone tour

any Tuesday or Friday  
from 11 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.,  
including  
lunch with the boys, staff,  
and Father Crews.

Contact **Leslie Petersen**  
at **707-933-2555** or  
**lpetersen@hannacenter.org**  
to reserve your date.



Are those holiday lights still dangling from your eaves? Is your garage a mess? Let the newly formed Hanna Helpers tackle your home improvement and maintenance projects. A staff member accompanies each crew. To hire yours, contact Brooke Davis at 707-933-2559 or [bdavis@hannacenter.org](mailto:bdavis@hannacenter.org).

# Hanna Calendar of Events

## Campus Development Tour and Lunch

Tuesdays and Fridays  
11 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.  
To reserve, call 707-933-2555

## 19th Annual Golf & Tennis Classic

Tennis on Friday, September 16  
At Silverado Resort, Napa  
Golf on Monday, September 19  
At Sonoma Golf Club

## Christmas Open House and Craft Fair

Sunday, December 4  
At Hanna Boys Center

## 6th Annual "Evening with the All-Stars" Gala

Saturday, April 21, 2012  
At Hanna Boys Center

This newsletter is published by Hanna Boys Center and is sent to our friends 4 times a year. Fed ID#94-1156478. Hanna is a non-profit, tax exempt organization – a 501(c)(3) non-profit under 509(a)(1) of the IRS Code – in full compliance with State and federal regulations. Hanna is supported through the generosity of individuals, businesses and foundations. Hanna does not seek funds from government agencies or the Catholic Church in support of its mission.

# Hanna Boys Center

SINCE 1949

17000 Arnold Drive • PO Box 100 • Sonoma, CA 95476-0100  
www.hannacenter.org • 707.996.6767



### 2011 Boy of the Year makes all the right moves.

In June, Tony La received not only his diploma from Sonoma Valley High, but also Hanna's 2011 Boy of the Year Award. This outstanding student and talented dancer will study chemistry at Sonoma State University on a Castner Fund scholarship. For the full story, visit [www.hannacenter.org](http://www.hannacenter.org).



## 19th Annual Golf & Tennis Classic

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16  
TENNIS TOURNAMENT  
SILVERADO COUNTRY CLUB

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19  
GOLF TOURNAMENT  
SONOMA GOLF CLUB

### Invitations mailing in August!

SUPPORT THE LIFE-CHANGING PROGRAM THAT  
HAS BEEN PROVIDING FAITH, EDUCATION, AND  
CARING TO AT-RISK BOYS SINCE 1949.

FOR QUESTIONS, PLEASE CALL  
TAMARA STANLEY AT (707) 933-2504

GO TO [WWW.HANNACENTER.ORG](http://WWW.HANNACENTER.ORG)  
TO PARTICIPATE

**Hanna Boys Center**  
SINCE 1949