



BREVARD County
Human Resources

Public Information Release

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JEFFERSON AWARD WINNERS SELECTED

VIERA, Fla. – Brevard Commission on Aging volunteer Mark Brimer, 4-H air rifle club founder Donald Brumm, Criminal Justice Services volunteer Marilyn Galli, Environmentally Endangered Lands program archeologist Thomas Penders, Friends of the Melbourne Library volunteer Scott Shenton, 4-H Foundation president Frank Sullivan, and 4-H Archery Club founder Paul Tucker have been selected to receive Jefferson Awards for Public Service on behalf of the Brevard County Board of County Commissioners.

Brimer, Mayor of Satellite Beach, developed the Brevard Commission on Aging's elder fall prevention initiative, aimed at reducing falls among the most fragile older adults in Brevard. He crafted the Elder Home Safety and Environmental Assessment Tool and a training manual. Four fall prevention events have been hosted during the past year, reaching over 1,000 Brevard seniors.

Brumm, a Port St. John resident, was contacted by Brevard's Extension Service in 1995 to assist them in establishing an air rifle program. The 3 Position Shooters 4-H Air Rifle Club has met twice monthly since 1996, providing an opportunity for youth to safely learn how to handle firearms. Other than a one-time minor grant from the National Rifle Association, the club has been supported through donations from individuals and organizations such as the Titusville Rifle and Pistol Club. Brumm has volunteered over 5,000 hours to this program.

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Galli, a resident of Merritt Island, has provided critical front-line service to clients reporting directly from court or jail since 1997. She ensures that the clients have an understanding of the process of completing conditions of their court requirements while on misdemeanor probation, community supervision or alternative community service. She also assigns clients to perform their court-ordered community service hours at various non-profit organizations and county agencies, providing an ongoing workforce for 110 community service agencies throughout the county.

Penders, of Titusville, is a professional archeologist who has initiated, permitted and led an archeological and paleontological investigation at the Pine Island Conservation Area on Merritt Island over the past four years. His meticulous documentation, photography, and analysis of artifacts and fossils from the site will allow the EEL program to interpret and display the 50,000 years of history on Merritt Island.

Shenton, an Indian River resident, has served as a volunteer with the Friends of the Melbourne Library since 2006, and has volunteered over 2,000 hours during that time. He is chairman of the semi-annual book sale, each of which generates around \$5,000 to support special summer programs for children. He is also responsible for the new in-library bookstore, which opened in December 2008. The bookstore is open daily, selling new and used books and media to raise funds for books and materials for the library.

Sullivan, a long-time resident of Cocoa, has been president of the Brevard County 4-H Foundation for eight years. Under his leadership, the foundation provides over \$8,000 annually in scholarships to help youth participate in 4-H activities, and has recently begun providing four 4-year scholarships to Brevard 4-H'ers. He also took on the responsibility for the new Brevard County Fair three years ago, and worked many hours with a variety of community organizations to showcase agriculture and produce the first true Brevard County Fair this March.

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Tucker, a Cocoa resident, was contacted by Brevard's Extension Service in 2006 to assist them in establishing an archery program. The Sharp-Eye Shooters 4-H Archery Club meets twice monthly, providing archery instruction to youth. He and the Brevard Archers, a local enthusiast group, have contributed thousands of dollars in equipment and offer free monthly archery lessons, special tournaments, and day camps. Since 2006, nearly 3,000 Brevardians have been introduced to the sport of archery through this program.

The prestigious Jefferson Awards program was founded by the American Institute of Public Service in 1972 to encourage and honor individuals for their achievements and contributions through public and community service. Each year in Washington, DC, the Jefferson Awards are presented to four nationally recognized individuals and five local "Unsung Heroes." One winner from each media market is honored as part of these national ceremonies.

On the local level, Jefferson Award recipients are ordinary people who do extraordinary things without expectation of recognition or reward. Criteria for selection by Brevard County include volunteer activity, community impact, involvement, and initiative.

The recipients received their awards at the May 19 Board of County Commissioners meeting.

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Media Note: Individual and group photos are available.