COASTAL VIEW NEWS

August 20, 2015

club scene



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Girls Inc. member Lupita Echeverria (wo)mans the front desk at the Carpinteria Valley Chamber of Commerce, where she had her externship.

Girls Inc. members learn the ropes at local businesses

Girls Inc. of Carpinteria partnered with more than a dozen local businesses this summer to support, mentor and encourage teenage girls while exposing them to the workplace for the first time. Through the organization's Eureka! Program, the teens were paired with businesses throughout Santa Barbara County and offered an externship in their field of interest. Following a week of training, the young women worked approximately 80 hours over four weeks in July, immersing themselves in hands-on career readiness. "I learned how to schedule time for work and school, and I grew personally because I learned how to be more responsible," said Girls Inc. member Anna Artiaga, 15, who completed her externship with Genuine Chiropractics. Artiaga is interested in a career in sports medicine and engineering.

"Our goal is to help provide young women with the support they need so they can grow and develop as leaders, not only in the classroom but also in the workplace," said Victoria Juarez, executive director of Girls Inc. of Carpinteria. This year's program sponsors and hosts included Carpinteria Valley Chamber of Commerce, Dowitcher Designs, Eye of the Day, Ever-Bloom, Genuine Chiropractic, Gigivac, Helix Medical, Lynda.com, Housing Authority of the City of Santa Barbara, Maximum Nursery, Ohana Fun Company, Seascape Realty, TV Santa Barbara, United Boys & Girls Club of Carpinteria (sponsored by Venoco, Inc.) and Waxing Poetic.