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Record Times



Special Thanksgiving Edition

A monthly newsletter for Clerk of the Superior Court employees

November 2012

Vol. 18 No. 11



And the 2012 costume winners are...

The results are in from the **Annual Office Costume eVent** and the new **Paws-tume Contest**. The winners are listed on pages 1, 2, and 3. There were **523** total votes cast by Clerk employees for the Costume eVent (282 votes) and for the Paws-tume Contest (241 votes).

BEST LARGE GROUP



Richard Simmons and Class

Left to right (Jessica Bernal, Jackie Ortiz, Duffy Watson, Krizna Rodriguez, and Aurora Avina)

BEST SMALL GROUP



Gorilla and Bananas

Left to right (Pam Crawford, Vonda Culp, Flor Nevarez, and Kathleen Slabaugh)

CUTEST



Cabbage Patch Kid

Reta Sneddon

SCARIEST



Red Devil

Jenela Fierro

MOST AUTHENTIC



Artist Frida Kahlo

Chinue Moore

BEST EXPRESS LANE COSTUME (4 items or less)



Sleepy Nerd

Kerry Crockett

HALLOWEEN SPIRIT



Lady in Black

Rebecca DeLong

SEE PAGE 2 FOR ...

• more costumes

• costumes voted as "Best Pose"

SEE PAGE 3 FOR THE...

• Paws-tume winners

COSTUMES VOTED AS "BEST OVERALL"

1st - Red Devil

2nd - Richard Simmons and Class

3rd - Gorilla and Bananas

4th - Cabbage Patch Kid

5th tie - Artist Frida Kahlo and Super Heroes

7th - Angry Birds



... more costume contestants

"ANGRY BIRDS"



(From left, in back) Doris Mofford, Ana James, Stacy Kennow, Tiara Anderson (in front) Amanda Duran

"CARDINALS FANS"



(From left, in back) Brain Colwell, Travis Joy, Yvonne Bondanza-Whittaker, Sean Donahoe (Front row) Kelly Sleseman, Robin Manning, Wendy Powley

"ITSY BITSY SPIDER"



Regina Romero

"SUPER HEROES"



Mauri Nielson, Sherry Murphy, Franci Smock, Nicki DeLaCruz, Jessica Folts

"WALKING DEAD"



Tamra Phillips, Adrienne Southard, Carmen Saldana

"KITTY CAT"



Annette Young

"TAILGATERS"



Katie Sullivan, Sarah Dignard, Lisa Smith

"WEREWOLF"



David Wolff

"BUBBA AND BERTHA"



Michelle Monick and Margaret Brickman



"BABY DOCTOR"



Ashley Williams

"COUNTESS"



Shannon LaSpaluto

"MASKED LADY"



Daisy Stout

"HIPPIE"



Evelyn Laborin

COSTUMES VOTED AS HAVING THE BEST POSE

- 1st - Richard Simmons and Class
- 2nd - Angry Birds

- 3rd - Red Devil
- 4th - Itsy Bitsy Spider

- 5th - Super Heroes
- 6th - Cardinals Fans
- 7th - Kitty Cat



PAWS-TUME CONTEST WINNERS

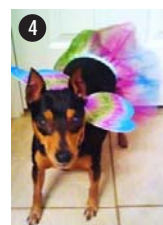
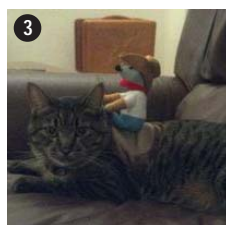
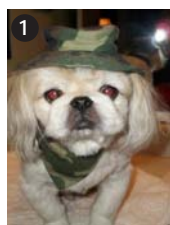


COSTUMES VOTED AS BEING THE BEST OVERALL

1st - Harley as "Chiquita Banana"
 2nd - Dewey as a "Frog"
 3rd - Buddy as "Dracula"
 4th - Chloe as "Obedience School Rebel"
 5th tie - Precious as "Bret Michaels' groupie," Rosie as a "Witch," Romeo as "GI Romeo," and Sierra as a "Pumpkin"



More Paws-tume participants

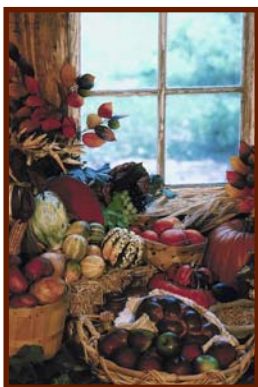


1) Maxwell as "Sergeant Maxwell," owned by Veronica Olivas; 2) Cheyanne as a "Butterfly," owned by Arlene Chee; 3) Tigger as "Cat and Mouse Game," owned by David Wolff; 4) Guinness as a "Fairy," owned by Amanda Duran; 5) Romeo as "GI Romeo," owned by Laura Dagna; 6) Chloe as an "Obedience School Rebel," owned by Maria Wasson; 7) Chuy as "Woody" from *Toy Story*, owned by Debora Wells-Guevara; 8) Baby as "Internet Sensation NYAN Cat," owned by Shannon Stulz; 9) Baxter as a "Jack-O-Lantern," owned by Amanda Duran; 10) Bailey as "Warlock Bali," owned by Lorrie Stogsdill; 11) Rosie as a "Witch," owned by Maridel Soileau





Thanksgiving Tributes — Who in the Office are you thankful for?



“I am thankful for **Linda McNamara** who has always been there for me. She has a great smile and makes people feel special. She goes out of her way to see if there is something she can do to help make things easier for others. I am grateful to know Linda. She is a tremendous asset to the Clerk’s Office.” – **JakinDee Perez Kosaka**

“We are thankful for the work ethic and teamwork shown by the **Juvenile courtroom clerks** during a period of staffing shortages. The clerks from the Southeast division frequently assist the Durango division with their workload. Both groups are quick to volunteer to assist their co-workers, despite having a very full plate of their own. We are so grateful to them for helping us get through this period. Thank you Juvenile Court clerks! – **Shannon Ward, Jenny Black, Connie Marcum, and Debora Wells-Guevara**

“We are thankful for each and every **courtroom clerk and the Courtroom Services managerial team**. You have very important, yet challenging and often stressful jobs. Your dedication and commitment to high quality work, excellent customer service and professionalism are very much appreciated.” – **Laura Eng and Debra Olsen**

“I am thankful for **Ken Daniels**. He is a great leader through his example. I am thankful for his patience, kindness, understanding, listening ear, and HUMOR! Thank you Ken.” – **Mauri Nielsen**

“I am thankful for **Robert Jordan** and **Kathryn Martin** – both of them are so bright, knowledgeable, and have always been willing to take time and share their wealth of knowledge all year long. Thank you both for all you do!” – **Kimberly Cheeks**

“I am thankful for **Betty Finney** - our amazing and always supportive training manager. I am especially thankful for **Chrystal Castro, Kathy Ballard, and Sheryl Brown** - the very knowledgeable and patient clerks who trained me this year. I am thankful as well for the other clerks who have been kind and helpful in many ways. I am thankful to have such a great group of people to work with.” – **Kelly Carter**



“I am thankful for all of my fellow **NE clerks**, who never fail to jump in and help each other out when things get busy. These ladies never cease to amaze me in all the unconditional support and kindness they give.” – **Brandy Lambert**

“I am thankful for **Scott Hensel, the ITG PC Support Team, Freddie Rubalcaba, Lauri Million, Correnia Snyder, Laura Eng, Debra Olsen** and every employee who has been a great teamplayer during the South Court Tower project, Chambers move, and remodel of the CCB-WCB space. Without all of you, none of these projects would be successful. Thank you!” – **Wendy Johnson**



“I am thankful for the **staff in Shipping/Receiving/Mailroom** for working together to accomplish what we need to do each day and for the support of the management team.” – **Ed Morris**

“I am thankful for **Andy Stropka**. He is always to friendly and eager to help with any computer issues you have.” – **Kristin Wolfe**

“I am thankful for the **NW courtroom clerks**, who continually work as a team; always jumping in and helping each other without being asked.” – **Diane Jamison**

Thanksgiving Tributes continued on page 5...





... Office thanksgiving tributes continued



"I am thankful for **Ana James** and **Marcie Romero**, who have both provided excellent training and guidance and exhibited patience while assisting me in learning the functions of RCC/EDC and Grand Jury. Thank you!" – *Amanda Duran*

"To the **CRS Managers**: I am so lucky to be working with such a wonderful group. I have learned and will keep learning so much from every one of you. It's such a great comfort to know that anyone of you is willing to help give your assistance and support at a drop of a hat...and for that, I want to thank each of you. It means a lot to me and I am very grateful for the support you give to me on a daily basis." – *Sig Perez*

"I am thankful for **ALL of the courtroom clerks**. Thank you all for the teamwork, dedication, and friendship. The difficult job you all do is appreciated and in my opinion, you are the backbone of the judicial system." – *Christopher Kilgus*

"We are thankful for the **DT Family Court courtroom clerks**. They are hard-working, diligent, and always willing to help each other. They are the perfect example of how to work together as a team!" – *Leslie Wilkins and Diane Jamison*

"I am thankful for **Laura Eng**, who graciously took me under her wing when I joined the Clerk's Office earlier this year. She is always available to answer my questions and provide guidance and support." – *Debra Olsen*

"I just wanted to tell all of the people that I have worked with during the last 22 years how grateful I am for their friendships and support. The list is long and some of them are not here anymore, but my feelings of thankfulness are genuine and heartfelt." – *Lori White*



"I am very thankful for my support team in Courtroom Services (you all know who you are). I truly believe my journey thus far was made easier because of all of you (and Jerry too). Together we have witnessed answered prayers." – *Laurie Dagna*

"I would like to send a big THANK YOU to **Len Keso** for all his hard work in keeping the monthly newsletter coming and making it inspiring." – *Cyndie Rego*

"Not often do we say thank you to the person who sorts out the mail or delivers the supplies to the departments, or who helps when a drawer is not closing properly, but today, I want to say thank you to everyone in the **Mailroom/Facilities/Shipping/Receiving** for everything they do for the Office. You are willing to assist whenever there is a need and it is greatly appreciated." – *Frances Horst*

"I would like to thank **Travis Joy** (Civil Docket auditor) for his wonderful customer service. Whenever there is an issue with docket and/or party entries in iCIS, Travis quickly researches the issue and makes any necessary changes or clarifies the docketing procedures. I appreciate all that Travis does to make our court record more accurate." – *Kathy Ballard*



"I am so very thankful for the wonderful group of people who make up the **Juvenile team**, which includes those who work in operations and those in courtroom services. This is an incredible team and I am fortunate to be a part of this group. Also, I am thankful for the leadership of the office. These continue to be difficult times and I know that our leaders are doing everything that can be done to help us all work through the issues. I am thankful to be a part of this terrific organization!" – *Debora Wells-Guevara*

Thanksgiving Tributes continued on page 6...



... Office thanksgiving tributes continued

"I am very thankful for the **Southeast Juvenile courtroom clerks**. These ladies consistently pull together to get things done and show incredible teamwork. Their hard work and dedication is so appreciated and I am grateful to be a part of this team. I am also very thankful for the **Southeast Juvenile operations staff**. They are always so helpful and will stop what they are doing to assist in any way they can. Thank you for all you do! Happy Thanksgiving!" – **Jenny Black**

"I know I'm not alone in being thankful for **Michael Lane** in our office at Juvenile Durango. Over the years, he has saved me, as well as many others in our office, an immeasurable amount of time as well as frustration in adapting to the new technology. For the amount of extra computer issues he addresses, he ought to receive a pay differential, much as some of the bilingual employees do, since he speaks computer-ese that so many of us don't. He is very knowledgeable about most aspects of the office and is always willing to assist. He also developed UniForms, a separate Word document, to use in conjunction with MEEDS. For making our lives much easier and teaching us so much over the years, thank you Michael!" – **Valla Wrona**

"I am so very grateful for **JakinDee Perez-Kosaka**. She is ALWAYS there to help me, even when she has so much on her own plate. She is a wonderful person and a great friend and I'm so grateful to know her! I am very grateful for **Deralyn Pico**. She is always willing to step up and assist with my ex-partes. She is a tremendous help and is always there when I have questions! I am grateful for **Rachele Conner**. She always has a smile and a positive attitude and is there to brighten everyone's day! Thanks Rachele! I am also very grateful for **Kathlynn Miller**. She has a wonderful personality and a great sense of humor and looks out for me, especially on my bad days! Thank you Kathlynn! I am grateful for **Commissioner Miller**. She was EXTREMELY patient with me when I was in training. She has a wonderful spirit and is beautiful on the inside and out!" – **Valerie Marino**

"I am thankful for **Darlene Anderson**. It has been a great pleasure working with her through the years. She helped me many times with a variety of projects. I appreciate her friendliness, professionalism, attention-to-detail, thoughtfulness, humor, and wisdom. She is a great person and co-worker and will truly be missed by many as she retires." – **Len Keso**



Juvenile staff participate in National Adoption Day event



On Nov. 17, the Clerk's Office participated in the Court's **National Adoption Day Event**. There were **232** petitions, **13** calendars (courtrooms) going, **43** judges presiding, **13** courtroom clerks covering hearings, and **three** Office staff making certified copies of the final orders of adoption and accepting payment for the adoption of **336** children. The Clerk's staff who participated were: Courtroom Clerks - **Jennifer Herman, Kimberly Cheeks, Pat Rolling, Veronica Castillo, Dawn Wood, Liz Cacia,**

Maria Aldaba, JoAnn Cumming, LaVerne Willkomm, Rosalie Cabrera-Razo, Kathryn Martin, Arlene Chee, and Samatha Berman. The office staff members who assisted with the event were **Rachel Robles, Jessica Brown, and Rosalinda Nunez.** Staff members who helped with advance preparation of adoption files were **Diane Hoy, Norma Barron, Tracy Nalls, Delia Garcia, Sharayah Dunst, Lori Morris, Jan Price, and Kelly Laird.** **Jenny Black** coordinated the courtroom clerk schedule.

Juvenile Administrator **Debora Wells-Guevara** said, "I could not have been more proud of the way in which our team was represented throughout the preparation of and implementation of the entire event on Saturday. Everyone worked hard and went well beyond expectation. I am very grateful for this wonderful team!"

Maricopa County currently ranks No. 1 in the nation for adoptions on National Adoption Day. This year marks the 13th anniversary of National Adoption Day, a national day of celebration of adoptive families and an opportunity for courts to open their doors and finalize the adoptions of children from foster care.



The Employee Track

(A special newsletter section devoted to news about employees of the Clerk of the Superior Court's Office.)

BIRTHS

- Congratulations to Courtroom Operations Manager **Diane Jamison** on the birth of her twin grandchildren on Aug. 22. Her new grandchildren's names are Bailey Kathleen (6 lbs. 5 oz.) and Jackson Blair (5 lbs. 11 oz.).
- Congratulations to Financial Services **Cyndie Rego** on the birth of her third grandson on Oct. 31. Her new grandchild's name is Owen and he weighed 7 lb. 12 oz. Cyndie now has a total of six grandchildren.

MARRIAGES

- Congratulations to eFiling Lead **Kerry Crockett**, who got married on Nov. 10 to Brian Dalager.

OFFICE ANNIVERSARIES

The following Clerk of the Court employees celebrate milestone Office anniversaries in November:



- **5 Years** - **Cynthia Kasmer, Holly Lee, Leah Lindahl, Troy VanNorman, Sheila Soto, Jeannette Thornton**
- **10 Years** - **Connie Marcum**
- **15 Years** - **Lana Mitchell**
- **20 Years** - **Sylvia Anderson**

NEW EMPLOYEES

- **Durango Juvenile Courtroom Clerk** - **Errol Berman, Leslie Cook, Barbara Lagazo**
- **ITG** - **Aaron Sneddon, Lisa Hebert**

OFFICE HONORS/AWARDS



- Family Court Services Manager **Don Vert** was recently named the "2012 Clerk of the Year" by the Arizona Family Support Council (AFSC). This is his second year in a row to win the award. The AFSC's purpose is to enhance the delivery of efficient and effective family support services to those entitled to such services under the laws, rules, and regulations of Arizona.
- Congratulations to EDM QC **Chris Cerrato**, who earned a Master's Degree English: Literacy, Technology, and Professional Writing from Northern Arizona University.

RETIREMENT



- Congratulations to Executive Assistant **Darlene Anderson** on her upcoming retirement on Nov. 30 after 21+ years of service to the Office. During her tenure, she worked in the Family Support Center and in Administrative Services. She said, "As I leave to begin a new chapter in my life, I take with me many memories of the Clerk's Office and the people along the way that helped me to grow both personally and professionally. I will always consider the Clerk's Office a part of my extended family and I am thankful to have been given the opportunity to be part of such a wonderful team! I wish you all the best."



Clerk's Construction Corner

Below are photos that were taken on 11/16 that show the progress being made on the current remodeling work taking place at the Central Court - West Court Office areas.

Central Court - West Court Office Areas



Supervisors' offices.



Looking west. (Photo taken from former Family Court Services area).



Row of storage cabinets.



Looking through southside windows.



Employee side of new file counter.



File counter windows from lobby.





It's Pillar Time!

On Dec. 5, the names of three former Clerk of the Court employees will be added to the County's Pillar of Service located on the Central Court Plaza during a special ceremony conducted by the Board of Supervisors. The former employees being honored are:

- **Yolie Allen** - 44 years of service
- **Gloria Kuder** - 37 years of service
- **GeorgeAnn Smith** - 30 years of service

The ceremony will be held at 9 a.m. Employees are invited to attend. After their names are added to the Pillar, the Clerk of the Court's Office will have a total of 15 former employees listed on the Pillar. The Pillar is intended to honor employees who retired after serving the county for 30 or more years. The County has two other Pillars on the plaza – the Pillar of Salute for those employees who have achieved national recognition, and the Pillar of Sacrifice for those employees who lost their lives in the line of duty.

The cost of a classic Thanksgiving meal in Arizona this year

According to the American Farm Bureau Federation, the cost of the traditional Thanksgiving feast for an Arizona family of 10 this year is \$47.53, or around \$4.75 per person. This is a decrease of \$2.53 or around 5% less than last year.



Thank you!

During this season of thanksgiving, Clerk of the Court Michael Jeanes, Chief Deputy Chris Kelly and Deputy Directors Rich McHattie, Becky Magana, and Wimberly Doran would like to express their gratitude to the Clerk of the Court staff for their service throughout this past year. They want to wish all staff a happy and safe Thanksgiving holiday.

