

## Liana: thanks to contributors

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"Thanks to my Mom, for all the sewing of my outfits and helping me prepare, and Aunties Rosie Tom, Lois Lesarley, Arlene Bryant, Anna Hurtado, Leona Ike, and Janet Billy for donating, putting together the (fund-raising) raffle and selling tickets, Aunt Janet and Uncle Jessie Jones for the Traditional outfit, Anna Clements for letting me use her horse outfit this summer, and Rosie Tom, Albert and Arlene Bryant, and Eldon and Marie Tom for helping my Mom do my fundraisers," she said.

Contributing financially were Moapa Paiute Tribe of Nevada, Power Enterprises, Kah-Nee-Ta Resort and Casino, Karnopp and Peterson Attorneys, Myrna Courtney, Theron "Bones" Johnson, Uncle Wilson Wewa Jr., and Hazel Gibson.

Friends Shannon Williams-Thom, Kim Just and Kendra Williams, she said, also helped, particularly Williams, who provided "vast knowledge in the area of preparing for this contest" and to Preston Williams "for letting me ride all of his horses both in practice and at the NFR."

## Kids First: door to door, one house at a time

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At the next house, the only resident around to greet the group was a rottweiler dog chained to a pole stationed next to the front door.

"Good boy. He needs to be neutered," Collins said. "As time goes on, you kind of get a sense for that sort of thing. Neutered or not neutered."

Medina distracted the watchdog while Collins hung the bag of information on the knob on the front door.

The group concluded it needed to bring dog treats for the next round of canvassing, including the six-week-old blue heeler puppy at one of the houses.

In all, residents answered the door at nine of the 14 houses the group visited that morning.

Five pickups, some of them apparently running, some perhaps not, were in the yard at one house. Collins said her department is able to pick up disabled vehicles and take it to the landfill where they can be crushed. A total of 1,100 cars were crushed recently.

Children lived at five of the houses, while the resident at another house said she babysat her nieces and nephews. Kuntz, carrying a clipboard, accounted for each of the children by their ages.

Miller said the Kids 1st program reminds him of a time on the reservation when officers traveled on horseback and visited every home.

"They'd spend time with

them, they'd work with them, help them do stuff, work stock, cut wood," he said. "That way, they knew who was out there."

"Most police officers, the only people they get in contact with are the ones they have calls on."

"I like to know who lives where. I like to know who stays there, if there's any elder people in there, if they have any children in there, and it gives me an idea of the address," Medina said. He said it also gives him an opportunity to follow up victims of crimes.

"For me, I could see a way of getting out there and making personal contact with more people than I would normally do on patrol," Miller said.

"These people will start to know who they are, that we're not just sitting by our cars waiting for our calls, we're not just sitting by the phone waiting for a call," Medina said.

Collins, who came to Warm Springs from Eugene 13 years ago, said the personal contact is what drives her, too.

"We're out in the community

and we're not just sitting by the desk," she said. "If they don't happen to come in to the clinic or if they don't happen to see us, they don't know who we are, and so if you go out and you knock on a door, they see you out doing something, and they can recognize you, and they aren't afraid to talk to you about different issues, so you find out a lot more information if you're out there talking to them first."

Medina said residents of the reservation still don't know what services tribal government provides, and won't if no one goes out and tells them.

"We've had the dog program since '94," Collins said. "People still don't know about it, so when we go we tell them about it, that you can get a certificate to get your dog vaccinated."

Kuntz moved to Warm Springs in September, so it's not surprising that many on Upper Dry Creek had never seen her before.

"I think it's great that they go door-to-door because it is hard, especially when you're new here because people don't know who

you are here," she said. "A lot of people I've come across don't even know there is a social worker at the clinic, or they ask me, 'Are you with (Child Protective Services),' and I'm like, 'No, I'm not CPS. I am a social worker and licensed, but I'm not CPS.'"

"I'm here to help you access resources that you need, so it's been good to just get out and meet people, so I can stay busy at work."

Medina said Kids 1st's goal is to visit every home on the reservation, even the ones far from the main roads.

"We went to the one house over here in Charley Canyon, below Kah-Nee-Ta. Little old lady, almost totally deaf. She got so excited about having us come and visit her that day," Miller said. "That bag of stuff we gave her, she looked she had a Christmas present to go through. I felt good watching that."

"You have to understand that people live out in the boonies, and nobody comes to visit, and when they do get somebody at the door, boy, they get excited,"

Medina said.

Unfortunately, Miller said, there isn't much funding for Kids 1st at Warm Springs.

"We've been digging up whatever the departments can scrounge up," he said.

"Like the smoke detectors and stuff, we got through the detectors and batteries through the Sleep Safe grant," Collins said. "The mange medicine has come in through my program, and the other stuff is literature that we hand out."

The hand-out materials come from the Department of the Interior and the Red Cross, but usually, at most, Kids 1st has about \$800 at its disposal.

"When you order stuff, it doesn't take much to eat that up."

Miller said Kids First is just finishing up areas it has not yet visited and will go back to where it started in Warm Springs. He said they would return to Upper Dry Creek "sometime next fall."

And just as it did on this Thursday, go door-to-door, one house at a time.

## Middle school students post outstanding attendance

Jefferson County Middle School students received recognition for their outstanding attendance during the month of October. Following are those students with excellent attendance, who were absent two days or fewer.

### Eighth grade:

Alejandria Aguilar, Julia Begay, Farrelyn Bellanger, Laurissa Bellanger, Wade Bennett, Brittany Calica, Hazen Davis, Denise Frank, Maria Garate, Stephanie Gomez, Brandy Herkshan, Jordan Holliday, Chanda Howtopat, Sadie Johnson, Albert Kalama, Jr., Colleen Kalama, Waylon Meanus, Arthur Mitchell, Jr., Kirstie Morrison, Leslie Robinson, Maximino Ruiz-McKinley, Salena Sahme, Lawrence Shike, Jr., Ethan Smith, Leander Smith, Sean Sohapp, Tara Tuffi, Hilbert Williams, Sasha Winishut, Tanner Yallup, Chandra Yeo.

### Seventh grade:

Krysten Allen-Alford, Daniel Alonso, Leonard American Horse, Kendall Bobb, Tamiesha Brown, Idelia Cloud, Mary Ann Cloud, Arlene David, Desmond Flores, Jimmy Flores, Miguel Frank, Johnson Heath, Jr., Kayla Jones, Perry Kalama, III, Bethann Longknife, Kamianna Lujan, Eric Mitchell, Janna O'Neill-Jackson, Adriel Pineda-Soto, Stephanie Pratt, Allegra Robinson, Martika Saludo-Kelly, Patricia Sam, Roschena Sargent, Matthew Sconawah, Chloe Suppah, Jillisa Suppah, Nakia Suppah, Trevor Suppah, Colton Trimble, Sharon Williams.

### Sixth grade:

Triston Boise, Coder Clements, Matthew Clements, Jr., Tashina Clements, Joseph Cook, Lauren Holliday, K.C. Jensen, Edward Jones, Graceann Kalama, Alexander Katchia, D'Covyn Medina, Zachary Miller, Drew Pennington, Tyrone Saludo, Norene Sampson, Talon Sargent, Joseph Sconawah, Theron Spino, Daisy Thomas, Falcon Thompson, Patrina

VanPelt, Cheyenne Wahnetah.

Following are students with perfect attendance during the month of October, which is 17 days.

### Eighth grade:

Darrin Brisbois, Martin Brown, Trent Centre, Andrea Cook, Emerson Culpus, Jr., Micah David, Maria Farias, Jacoby Frank, Ford Fuiava, Philip Guerin, Charlie Herkshan, Kara Katchia, LaRonn Katchia, Davina Lucei.

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