

PINAL COUNTY SIDE-BAR VOLUME 2—ISSUE 2

The Hon. Boyd T. Johnson
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court

The Hon. Stephen F. McCarville
Associate Presiding Judge

Paul A. O'Connell
Court Administrator



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDING JUDGE

I would like to congratulate and thank all of the officers and staff of our Adult Probation and Juvenile Court Services for another year of excellent service to the citizens of Pinal County, to the justice system and to the many youths and adults they serve and protect. In celebration of Probation, Parole and Community Service Week, those two offices coordinated and staged a weekend picnic and a very meaningful award and swearing in ceremony during their “special” week. Thanks are owed to Diane McGinnis and Todd Zweig for their leadership and to many members of both offices for their dedication and commitment. It would be difficult for the system to perform its duties without the existence of both offices and without the many hours of devotion provided by those often un- and under-appreciated officers and staff.

I would also like to pass on some information about events and changes involving the Courts: First, during the next few months an outside agency, the National Center for State Courts, at our request, will be conducting a study and an evaluation of our case management process and of the current judicial assignments. The goal is to improve the way we do business as a justice system. The report and its recommendations probably will not be available until close to the end of the year. When it is and all the stakeholders have had the time and opportunity to review them, there will be a reorganization of judicial assignments to best use the many talents and strengths of the judges and their staffs. Second, we will be adding a full time Family Law Commissioner to our judicial staff within the next month or so. That individual will continue to conduct the IV-D SE hearings and will also be assigned to assist our domestic judges. Third, we are in the process of once again having the criminal IA’s conducted by Special Masters so that the Judge, pro tem, may be assigned to conduct the TD (timely disposition) Court, our county’s version of “rocket docket” or “fast track” court.

While every individual within our justice system has an individual personality with his and her own strengths and weaknesses, we have never failed to work together in a spirit of cooperation to provide the vital services that are required in a civilized world. I thank all of you for your continued involvement, for your ideas and suggestions and for your commitment to providing the best and fairest service of which we are humanly capable. You should be proud of yourselves for being a vital and important part of a well-organized system governed by the rule of law, not some tyrant’s whims and fancies.

TWO PINAL COUNTY JUSTICE OF THE PEACE PARTICIPATE IN
NEW JUDGE ORIENTATION

In addition to the three Justices of the Peace who attended New Judge Orientation in January, (Judges Bravo, Estrada and Kent), two other Pinal County Justice of the Peace participated in the program.

Judge Lusk of the Apache Junction Justice Court was a subject matter expert and lecturer on preliminary hearings. Judge Lusk has considerable expertise in this area due to his many years of experience as a County Attorney and Judge. This was the second year Judge Lusk put on the program and it was very well received by the participants. Judge Lusk also is the subject matter expert in issues that involve the Motor Vehicle Division and spoke to the new Judges about this area in April

Judge Sulley of the Maricopa/Stanfield Justice Court was a table mentor for the new Justice of the Peace and City Magistrates attending the educational program put on by the Administrative Office of the Courts. Table mentors lend their experience to the five to six new Judges at their table in addition to facilitating discussions, role playing and to critique all the new Judges. This was the third year Judge Sulley was selected as a table mentor. "Not only do I enjoy the teaching and mentoring process, but I also get input from other mentors and guest speakers on how to handle different issues."



PINAL COUNTY DV COURT IS A MODEL

*"It's the team that gets the job done. If any person fails in their role, the whole team goes down. That's the reality, every player is important and critical to this program."
Judge O'Neil*

On Friday, March 30, 2007, representatives from Yavapai County visited Pinal County to learn about the Domestic Violence Court project. They spoke with employees "in the trenches" who do the work and know the strengths and challenges of the program; they observed DV Court; and they collected information to assist with their planning process. The folks from Yavapai County expressed their gratitude and were very impressed with Judge O'Neil's passion for and commitment to the work. Judge O'Neil in turn pointed out "It's the team that gets the job done. If any person fails in their role the whole team goes down. That's the reality, every player is important and critical to this program."

This makes the fifth county to visit our program, including Maricopa, Coconino, Yuma, and Pima. Pima County recently received funding from the Governor's Division for Women to start their Domestic Violence Court, and Yuma County is moving ahead with their implementation. In addition, Glendale City Court at one point received funding to implement probation supervision for first time domestic violence offenders. Like ripples in a pond, your work is making a difference both in Pinal County and across Arizona.

COPPER BASIN YMCA MAKES DONATION TO YOUTH JUSTICE CENTER

The Pinal County Juvenile Court Community Advisory Board has joined in a partnership with the Copper Basin YMCA to bring health and well-being education to juvenile detainees.

The YMCA, under leadership of Executive Director Libby Corral, made a generous donation of exercise equipment to the CAB on behalf of the Youth Justice Center. The equipment will be used to teach juveniles the proper way to be healthy and stay in shape. Staff at the Youth Justice Center will be receiving training from YMCA staff on the proper use, maintenance and ideas for activities using the equipment.

The donation, valued at nearly \$17,000, is just one way the YMCA is assisting local juveniles. They also host meetings for the Restorative Justice program for the department and allow many youthful offenders the opportunity to do community service work at their facility.



YMCA Executive Director Libby Corral show Juvenile Court staff and Community Advisory

PINAL COUNTY JUVENILE COURT HOSTS “CHARACTER COUNTS” ESSAY CONTEST

Pinal County Juvenile Court Community Advisory Board hosted a Character Counts Essay Contest for schools in Pinal County. Winners were chosen based on their essays about one of the six pillars of character: responsibility, citizenship, respect, fairness, caring and trustworthiness.

The Community Advisory Board honored the winners in front of family and school personnel in a recent ceremony at the Pinal County Superior Courthouse in Florence with the Honorable Gilberto V. Figueroa as the guest speaker. Certificates and bracelets were provided to each of the nearly 400 participants. Here are a few excerpts from the excellent essays written:



Responsibility, citizenship, respect, fairness, caring and trustworthiness.

1st Place (K-3)
Jessica Smith
Gold Canyon

What Responsibility Means To Me

To me it means doing things you know you are suppose to do without being asked, and being the best kid I can be.

I try to always follow rules and directions at school and at home so that I don't get into trouble and can be safe. I always keep my room clean.

I always feed my dog his breakfast as soon as I get up without being asked. I help set the dinner table and clean up after.

1st Place (Grades 4-6)
Zack Renowden
Apache Junction

What Citizenship Means To Me

Being a good citizen can make the country a better place. I think everybody should try to be of good character. This would make your life and other people's life around you better. Being of good character is just one way to show citizenship. There are many other ways to show citizenship. In this essay I will tell you some examples to show you how to be a god citizen.

When you get older you should obey all the laws of our country. Please do not drink and drive because this kills innocent people. Do not speed when you are driving because innocent children are just trying to get to and from school safely. When you get in your vehicles put your seatbelt on and make sure your children under age 5 are in their car seats. **Last but not least pay your taxes on time so that our country does not go broke.**

1st Place (grades 9-12)

Lexie Sweeney
Casa Grande

What Caring Means To Me

Caring is having the ability to show compassion and consent for what another person says or does. Whether that compassion is shown with physical attributes or vocal comments, it can all be considered as caring for others. Caring is also helping someone else if they need support or just someone to lean on. Someone who cares is able to forgive anyone no matter how big or small the problem or situation may be.



PROBATION, PAROLE AND COMMUNITY SUPERVISION— KEYS TO A BETTER TOMORROW!

(Florence, AZ) – During the week of July 15th through the 21st, 2007, people across the United States and its territories will join together to recognize the work that probation, parole and community supervision professionals do for our public safety.

Since 1841, the practice of probation and parole has played a vital role in our justice system. These professionals are a critical part of the public safety system.

Community corrections professionals are to be commended for the bravery they show when making home visits to some of the nearly five million adults under community supervision to areas that most people would never enter. The work they do is unnoticed and least known about, yet it is one of the most important jobs in community safety.

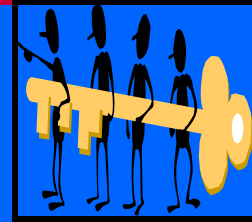
Members of the community joined together during Probation, Parole & Community Supervision Week to

honor those who work to make our communities a safer place to live. They celebrated with a Family Fun Night and BBQ, the Swearing-In Ceremony & Reception at the Pinal County Courthouse and an Office Potluck Lunch.

A special thanks to Diane L. McGinnis, Director of Pinal County Juvenile Court Services and Todd Zweig, Chief Probation Officer for their hard work and dedication and in recognizing their staff for the same.



*America Observes
Probation, Parole & Community Supervision Week*



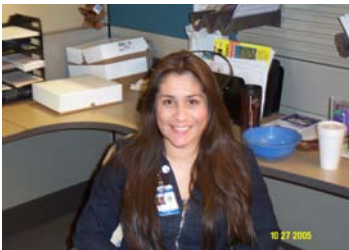
WELCOME ABOARD

Jackie McMurry, Eran Gonzales, TJ Palacios, Eddie Apodaca, Megan Applegate, Amanda Guillen, Regina Redman, Israel Garcia, Sherry Bolte, Yvette Rodriguez and Karrie Guerra to Pinal County Juve-



Mini Meadows joins staff at the Oracle Justice Court

Mini Meadows joined the staff at the Oracle Justice Court on March 3, 2007 as the civil traffic clerk. Before joining the court system, she worked for the Marana Police Department in the records division.



Mini grew up in San Diego, California and moved to Cochise County in 1985. She stated that working for the courts has been challenging as she learns the AZTEC court program, but the staff at the court and Katrina Castillo (AZTEC Court Field Trainer) have been patient and helpful.

Mini lives in San Manuel with her husband Sgt. Jim Meadows and their “combined household” of five children, three boys and two girls. She enjoys listening to music, singing, swimming, fishing, walking and decorating her home.

We welcome Mini and wish her all the best!!

Little Johnny’s kindergarten class was on a field trip to their local police station where they saw pictures, tacked to a bulletin board, of the 10 most wanted men.

One of the youngsters pointed to a picture and asked if it really was the photo of a wanted person. “Yes,” said the policeman. “The detectives want him very badly.”

Little Johnny asked, “So, why didn’t you keep him when you took his picture?”



COJET COMMITTEE PLANS ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE

COJET Committee Members

Becky Ballisteros
 Ellie Brown
 Katrina Castillo
 Greg Clark
 Summer Dalton
 Kim Faust
 Judge Judy Ferguson
 Kathy Garcia
 Stephanie Jordan
 Dyani Juarez
 Melissa Knight
 Judge Lorona
 Melva Watts
 Lilah Myers
 LeAnn Pappas
 Ashley Sanger

The Committee on Judicial Education and Training (COJET) is a standing committee of the Arizona Judicial Council (AJC). The Arizona Code Of Judicial Administration, Section 1-302, governs COJET.

The Pinal County COJET Committee begins planning the conference months before most people even start thinking about attending. Planning begins in January for the conference that is held in June. Members work very hard to find classes that not only provide outstanding information to staff, but also those that are fun and entertaining to attend. The Committee pays close attention to the requests made by court staff on their educational interests. Searching for qualified instructors that are willing to travel to Pinal County is a difficult and costly effort. The Committee is grateful for the several

county employees who contributed their expertise and time as instructors.

Court staff must successfully complete a total of 16 hours of "COJET" credit. This years conference offered 19.5 hours. There was a record number of 480 participants, not including instructors, Security and Court Administration staff.

The Committee looks forward to another conference in 2008 and welcomes any ideas and suggestions for another successful conference!

A special "Thank You" to Katrina Castillo for all her hard work in coordinating the COJET conference. Good Job!! :o)

Another note of "Thanks" to Ashley Sanger for keeping all the AV equipment up and running! :o)

2007 COJET EDUCATIONAL STAFF AND CLASSES

Case CATalyst – **Kim Portik**

True Colors – **Jim Buzard**

Forcible Detainers and Garnishments – **Honorable Eugene Lane**

Mock Trial – **Robert**

"Deal with it" Customer Service for the Courts – **Sabine Michael & Ashley Sanger**

Van Dynamics/Van Safety – **Sam Powers**

Making Dollars and Sense of Grant Writing – **Rick Reager & Ernie Feliz**

Team Building – **Debra Carr / Jorgensen Brooks Group**

12 Angry Men – **Ellie Brown**

Drug Recognition – **Detective Rankin PCSO**

Van Driver Safety Re-Certification – **Sam Powers**

Butterflies 101: Public Speaking Workshop – **Melissa Knight**

Enforcement of Court Ordered Fines and Sanctions – **Leonard Montanaro**

Legal Advice vs. Legal Information – **Fran Johansen/Katrina Castillo**

Ethics for Court Interpreters and Bilingual Staff – **Juan Cordova**

Child Abuse It's Everyone's Business – **Carla Conradt**

English 101 Writing in the Workplace – **Heather Moulton**

Understanding your role as a manager – **Leonard Montanaro**

Disposition Rejects – **Carol Sonier**

Spanish Legal Terminology for Interpreters and Bilingual Staff – **Juan Cordova**

In Her Shoes – **Elizabeth Ditlevson**

Treating Victims with Dignity – **Dan Levy**

Incident Report Writing – **Dennis Pickard**

Criminal Street Gangs – **Officer Elliot Campbell**

Life Management – **Jacqui Montano**

Public Access to Court Records – **Leonard Montanaro & Jennifer Greene**

MADD – **Theresa Babich & Heather Robles**

To Kill a Mocking Bird – **Ellie Brown**

Incident Management System – **Mike Burger**



Thank you for "Sharing the Knowledge".



Judge O'Neil Honored at Arizona Judicial Conference

Elected to the Superior Court in Pinal County in 1991, the Honorable William (Bill) J. O'Neil serves on many committees and associations throughout Pinal County, the State of Arizona, and the United States. He served as Presiding Judge from 2001 to 2005, and Presiding Juvenile Court Judge from 1992 to 2003. Currently, Judge O'Neil serves as Presiding Civil Judge.

Judge O'Neil has spent a great deal of his judicial career in helping to improve the impact of domestic violence (DV). Working with a remarkable collaboration of community members and organizations, he created the first DV Court in the state. In 2003 he was appointed as Chair of the Committee on the Impact of Domestic Violence (CIDVC). Under his leadership, the Committee has written resource books for the bench, covering criminal and civil domestic violence cases. He also led the task of rewriting antiquated Order of Protection forms, forms that are now a model for the nation.

He also was appointed to head the Domestic Violence Rules Committee and in less than one year as chair, the Committee petitioned the Supreme Court to approve separate rules of procedure for Orders of Protection.

Judge O'Neil has also served as chair of the Committee on Juvenile Court, as co-chair of the Committee to Study Family Court in the Superior Court, and on the Arizona Juvenile Justice Commission. Two governors have appointed him to the Governor's Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Advisory Council, and the Governor's Children Justice Task Force.

Yet even with his judicial duties, Judge O'Neil finds time to coach little



Improving Public Trust and Confidence
The Honorable William (Bill) O'Neil
Pinal County Superior Court

league and soccer teams, and has served on the Board of Directors for many organizations including the Heart Association of Pinal County and the United Way of Pinal County.

Judge O'Neil, thank you for all that you do and the fine example of leadership that you provide! _____




What's up with this? See Pg. 9



District Magistrate Judge Tom Webb visits Pinal County

District Magistrate Tom Webb from Haskell County, Kansas, visited Pinal County in June. Judge Webb has served on many local and national committees; one being as past president of the National Judges Association, where he was the recipient of the Most Outstanding Non-Attorney Judge award. Judge Webb became acquainted with several judges from Arizona, including former Oracle Justice of the Peace, Ellie Brown. "We invited him and his wife Judy three years ago to stay in our home if he ever came out to Arizona. We kept in touch with him over the years and often discussed his trip to Arizona. In his travels throughout many states as a well-known, motivational speaker, he and Judy stopped by and spent four days in Oracle with Steve and myself," stated Ellie.

Judge Webb's life story, "You can make a difference" focuses on making a positive difference in a negative world. He has experienced life from a perspective not commonly shared by individuals who live in this part of the world. His dynamic message to value and appreciate the qualities of other people is delivered with a sense of humor that is inspiring, thought provoking and entertaining.

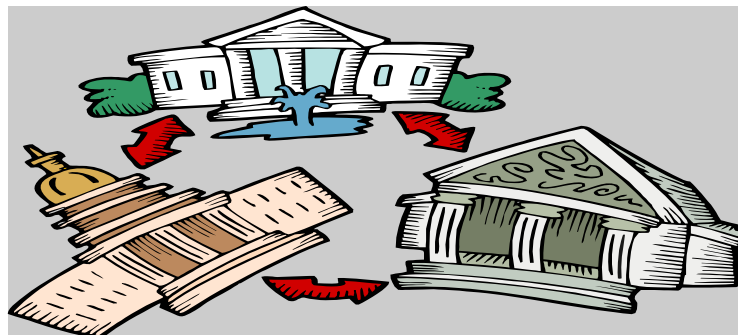
Judge Webb is perfectly honest when he states that he really has no idea how old he is, either being born in 1951, 1952 or 1953. He doesn't know much about his natural parents except that his mother was a Korean prostitute and his father was probably a soldier from the United Nations forces stationed near Seoul during the Korean War. He truly is an American success story, from being a war orphan surviving horrific perils and misery, to dispensing justice in a small town in Kansas.

Judge Webb stated that his life experiences have shaped his approach to being a judge as he seeks creative ways to straighten out unlawful behavior. He explores created sentencing, especially in juvenile court cases. He often has parents supervising whatever task is assigned to these young people through community service. "People need to take responsibility for their own kids," he said.

While in Arizona, Judge Webb golfed all four days, attended the Ladies Professional Golf Association tournament, ate in as many Mexican restaurants as possible and talked "golf". He and his wife enjoyed their visit to Arizona and plan on coming back as soon as possible.

"My alliance with Judge Webb is a prime example of networking with colleagues and friends in the National Judges Association. It's interesting to learn how justice is distributed in other states and how much we have in common."
Ellie Brown, Limited Jurisdiction Liaison

To learn more about [Judge Webb](http://www.haskellcounty.org), visit www.haskellcounty.org or the [National Judges Association](http://www.nationaljudgesassociation.org) visit www.nationaljudgesassociation.org



Networking: A system of linking together, sharing information.

Sandy Kay joins Court Administration

Sandy Kay joined Court Administration on May 21, 2007. She previously worked for the Clerks office, starting with Pinal county in October, 1995. Among her past duties, she served as the case flow manager for the past five years. Sandy was born and raised in California and has a son, 19 year-old Steven. Her hobbies include fishing, boating, playing pool and hanging out with her son.

Sandy is utilizing her skills and knowledge in her new position as Case Flow Manager for Court Administration. She is enjoying having her own office and the time that she can dedicate to the reports for the Superior Court judges. Thank you Sandy, welcome, and good luck!

Vanessa Rose Gonzalez joins the Mammoth Justice Court

Vanessa Gonzalez joined the staff at the Mammoth Justice Court on April 17, 2007. She previously worked for the Pinal County Recorders Office and in Tucson for an escrow company. She is married to Guillermo Ortega who is a diesel mechanic for Asarco. She has one son, Guillermo Ortega Jr., also known as, "Nonie", and is raising her little four-year-old brother, Moses.

Vanessa is busy with her two boys who are active in wrestling and t-ball. The favorite family past-time is watching "Ultimate Fighting Championship" at their home in Winkelman. The family also enjoys hunting, fishing and off-road trips. Vanessa is happy that she is only twenty minutes away from work versus her long trip to Florence or Tucson. Vanessa finds working at the court interesting because it is new and challenging to her. Welcome Vanessa and good luck!

Gabriel Lara

Gabriel Lara has been working for the Court Administrators Office and the Law Library this summer. This is what Gabriel had to say about himself and his experience as a summer hire:

"Hi, I am Gabriel Lara. I am seventeen years old. I was in the 11th grade and now I am in the 12th grade. I go to Maricopa High School. I like to play sports, I like math class and I like the color blue. I like working here because it is a cool job and I learn a lot every day. I like the people that I work with."

Thank you Gabriel for working here with us, helping attend to the customers at the law library, and helping Laura with the book updates. Thank you for being such a big help to Court Administration. We appreciate your courteous manner and smiling face. Study hard and good luck in your Senior year of high school!

Margaret Navarez joins the Apache Junction Court

Margaret Navarez joined the Apache Junction court in February as a Clerk II. She moved to Apache Junction three years ago after retiring in New Mexico and decided to join the work force once again.

She has two "beautiful" daughters, one "precious" granddaughter, and one sheltie puppy named "Lilas". Her hobbies include traveling, singing, chocolate and people. She is a proud member of St. George Catholic Church in Apache Junction. "I am blessed to work here with the staff. We're like one big family. Everyday is something different and I enjoy the learning process!" Welcome Margaret!

FAMILY SERVICES OF THE CONCILIATION COURT

Family Services of the Conciliation Court (FSCC) provides divorce mediation, child custody assessments, and counseling. The services are mandated by statute and/or ordered by the Superior Court. Beginning January 22nd, FSCC offices will be under construction to increase the number of available offices in order to meet the needs of our growing clinical and support staff. FSCC now has a full-time security officer on duty during work hours. The Parent Education Classes provided through FSCC will now be conducted at the Superior Courthouse in Florence. Registration for these classes will continue to be done at the FSCC Coolidge office.



**PINAL COUNTY CHAPTER OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC MANAGERS
HOLDS SECOND ANNUAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE**

“The Four Windows to Extraordinary Relationships”

The second annual leadership conference held by PCCASCPM was held on July 16, 2007. The guest instructor, Mr. Jack Dermody, proved to be but ordinary in his energetic presentation of skills for improving relationships, increasing productivity and raising team performance.

Mr. Dermody stressed the three lasting insights and tools that produce the right results in working with those “extraordinary relationships”. Participants learned how to influence others in a positive way, connecting to their strengths, getting their attention and gaining their respect while doing so. The Four Windows provided the technology to look beyond the “job qualifications” and how to select people who are the best fit for the job and working with the team. Participants also learned how to turn conflict into cooperation so differences could be resolved and business could proceed.

A special recognition was given to Mrs. Sally Manet from Arizona State University for all her contributions to the Pinal County CPM program and those chapters statewide.

Those Pinal County employees who attended had a day of learning and non-stop theatrics, courtesy of Mr. Dermody. Each group, designated by their leadership style, was presented with their very own song, including a live accordion performance.

Congratulations to those “winners” of the door prizes—twelve in all!! Thanks to all the CPM members for their contributions of prizes, food and hard work.