

Participants named in 'Great Legs' contest

New Braunfels Herald-Zeitung Friday, February 3, 2012



Great Legs Contest participants pose for a photo around their donation buckets at Communities in Schools on Friday. Pictured are (front row from left) Aaron Jones and Albert Benavidez and (back row from left) Jim Streety, Rick Purdy, Jeff Binford, Mike Wohlfarth, Bubba Conran and Lenny Llerena. Not pictured are John Archer, Colie Reno, Chance Mabe, Michael Thompson and Russell Doege.

NEW BRAUNFELS — They've got legs, and — like it or not — they know how to use them.

On Friday, Communities in Schools (CIS) of South Central Texas kicked off its 10th annual Rock 'n Roll for Kids 2012 festivities with the announcement of “Great Legs” contestants. More than a dozen area men will bare it all from about the knee down for the next several weeks to raise money for local schools.

Area CIS executive director Chris Douglas she could not be more pleased with this year's showing of burly participants. She added, however, do not expect to have your breath taken away with what these guys have to show.

“We call it ‘great legs’ but it has nothing to do with actual great legs,” Douglas said. “But it’s a humorous way for community members to give Communities in Schools donations through the program.”

The entrants will solicit votes from friends, co-workers and other supporters, with each vote representing a dollar. There is no limit to the amount of times a person can vote. In previous competitions, men have let others shave and even color in advertisements on their legs to garner votes.

As for what stunts the guys plan to pull this year — well, they're keeping it a secret.

“I'm coming up with some ideas, but I'm not going to let people in on it — yet,” said Lenny Llerena, New Braunfels Airport director.

“I might have a few things planned, yeah, but I’m keeping it to myself for right now,” said Albert Benavidez of Gruene Harley-Davidson.

The men were, however, much more open about why they chose to enter the competition.

“Looking at the needs of the community, I felt it was important we unite for this great cause,” Llerena said.

“Our company does this a lot and I felt it was my time to step up to the plate,” Benavidez said. “I don’t have the greatest legs, but hopefully the Harley nation will back me up.”

CIS is a nonprofit organization that partners with local businesses and community organizations to serve at-risk students.

Douglas said she hopes the men will raise \$10,000 combined this year. In years past, the competition has raised as much as \$11,500, she said.

There also will be a pub crawl on Feb. 23 in New Braunfels as a way for competitors to raise their votes. The event will begin at the Faust Hotel, then move to the Oyster Bar, the Piano Bar, Kork Wine Bar, and The Phoenix Saloon.

Other Great Legs participants include John Archer of Huser Construction; Jeff Binford of Javelina Construction South; Bruce “Bubba” Conran of Bubba’s Big Deck; Russell Doege of Clemens High School; Aaron Jones of Schlitterbahn; Chance Mabe of Alpha Crossfit; Rick Purdy of Spectrum Lighting and Colie Reno of Texas Tubes, who’s also representing New Braunfels High School.

Also featured is legendary football coach of Jim Streety of Madison High School, who will join Michael Thompson of Oak Run Middle School and Mike Wohlfarth of Steele High School.

Rock ‘n Roll for Kids will begin at 6 p.m. March 3 at the New Braunfels Civic/Convention Center. In honor of its 10-year anniversary, CIS officials said there will be a new menu from River City Catering. The event will feature music by Rotel and the Hot Tomatoes and a live and silent auction.

Donations to the Great Legs contest are also being accepted through the Rock ‘n Roll event website at cissctx.ejoinme.org/rocknrollforkids.

Call Douglas at (830) 620-4247, ext. 11 for information.