

## Most Beautiful Baby calendars on sale

by Johna Strickland, Features Editor



LUMBERTON — The babies from this summer's Most Beautiful Baby contest sponsored by the Robeson County Partnership for Children have been rounded up for a calendar.

Each month features a photograph of one of 12 babies who received the most votes during the contest. The opening page has photographs of all 95 contestants.

Calendars sell for \$10 each or five for \$45 and can be purchased at the Robeson County Partnership for Children office at 210 E. Second St. They will also be sold from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Dec. 19 at Biggs Park Mall.

The babies who are features by the months are: Carson Stephenson, prince; Andrea Cordoba-Solis, princess; Marlina Bullard, second; Kaydon Locklear, third; India Vazquez, fourth; Bryton Deese, fifth; Tandon Haywood, sixth; Emanuel Scott; Heaven Sosa; Kabrina Oxendine; Khloé Locklear and Kiera Oxendine.

Some parents selected their child's month for sentimental reasons, such as a birthday or the month they found out they were expecting, said Amy Cox, the partnership's program manager.

Winners were selected in June through a voting process that was open to the public. A vote could be purchased for \$1 between May 11 and June 11, with the profits going to the partnership. More than 14,200 votes were cast, easily exceeding the 5,485 votes cast in last year's inaugural contest.

"We had just hoped to break the \$5,000 made last year," Cox said. "We exceeded that and made \$14,206. We had a lot of support. We can't ask for more than that from the community."

With 200 calendars already sold, \$1,000 has been added to the amount raised. More than 700

copies were printed.

Cox said the idea for a calendar came from a parent. The layout and printing of the calendar was done by Bob Highet of The Graphics Place in Lumberton, Cox said. Photos of the featured babies were taken by Vanessa German of Vanessa G. Photography of Dublin.