



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF REDLANDS**

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 31, 2006

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Boys & Girls Club honors Board Members and Supervisor Dennis Hansberger

*At the annual board meeting of the Boys & Girls Club of Redlands, Supervisor
Dennis Hansberger and board members receive service awards*

Several board members and Supervisor Hansberger were honored for their service and commitment to the Boys & Girls Club of Redlands at its annual board meeting July 19, at the Redlands Country Club.

As noted by the Chief Professional Officer, P.T. McEwen, the Boys & Girls Club of Redlands has been extremely busy the past few years with such projects as Let's Build A Clubhouse Campaign, the annual celebration of Boys & Girls Club Day for Kids and with the challenges of operating three Club sites in a school district that has traditional schools, traditional modified, and year-round schedules.

But that evening the Club took time out to not only recognize its current and outgoing Board members, but to also welcome new Officers and those in the community who have made major contributions to the success of the Club.

Immediate Past President, Neal Macready, welcomed and introduced three new Board members and Club champions who have joined the Club recently. Afarah Board, Manager at Southern California Edison, joined the Club in January 2006, and since her

arrival has been active in taking on the chair of the Marketing Committee and in developing the Club's marketing strategic plan. The Club also welcomes Nancy Bailey who joined the Board in April 2006. Bailey is not a stranger to the Club as she played a key role as chair in completing the Club's Let's Build a Clubhouse Capital Campaign. Nancy is a member of the Assistance League and former Associate Professor of Nursing at Loma Linda University. The newest Board member introduced as joining the Club was Steve Dunkerken who joined the Club in May of this year. Steve has been a committed supporter of the Club and of various other community service organizations for many years. Steve is employed with CEO Strategic Solutions.

Three members leaving the board were recognized for their tireless support and commitment over the years. Colleen O'Neal, who has really shined on the Chocolate Fantasy Committee, has been part of the Board since 2003. Bob Baldwin, a long-time friend of the Club. And over the years his Executive Director position at the United Way has provided him tremendous opportunity for interaction and collaboration between the two organizations. Most notably Bob has spent the last eighteen months guiding the Club through its three-year strategic planning process. Melissa Ruiz-Morse, who has been an active Board member since 1995, has been the Club's insider at the Redlands Daily Facts, assisting the Club in publications as needed. Melissa has also served on the Chocolate Fantasy committee co-chairing that event in 2005. The Club expressed their gratitude and appreciation to these three as they stepped down.

In January 2004, the Club embarked on a Let's Build a Clubhouse Campaign. A steering campaign was formed and Nancy Bailey agreed to chair that committee. The steering committee was formally acknowledged during the dinner as recognition of the Club's appreciation. Nancy Bailey as chair, Linda Serros, Ron Warren, Bob Baldwin, Neil Macready, Kate Salvesen, and Linda and Jim Foster as committee members were recognized for playing important roles in the success of the campaign. Neil helped to structure the campaign and provided experience and knowledge throughout. Linda Serros and Ron Warren were recognized as the dynamic duo for their role in joining together to obtain the first significant gift and naming opportunity. The master of getting the word out went to Bob Baldwin. Bob spearheaded the creation and execution of a

presentation that was taken to many service organizations and other community groups. This not only achieved awareness, but led to gifts as well. Leading the business sector for the campaign was Kate Salvesen, spreading the word to businesses through letters and discussions. The government campaign was started through a simple phone call by Linda Foster for a meeting to discuss the Clubhouse with Supervisor Dennis Hansberger. This conversation led to an initial appropriation of \$1.3 million dollars. Even with this very generous appropriation amount, there was a shortfall of funding. However, the help of Linda and Jim Foster has resulted in a total of \$4million in funding, and the Club is well on its way to achieving the long-awaited Clubhouse.

Additionally, the Club paid special recognition to Nancy Bailey who worked extraordinarily hard using her professional contacts to spread the word about the exciting campaign sponsorship opportunities. The result of all of her hard work resulted in raising over \$700,000 from the community.

The National Award of Merit is given to individuals outside Boys & Girls Club who have provided outstanding support to the local Club. This award was presented to Supervisor Dennis Hansberger for his support and commitment to the Let's Build a Clubhouse Campaign.

The awarded was presented to the Supervisor by Macready who stated, "Supervisor Hansberger believes in the Club's mission and the good works we do. We honor him for his dedication and support in establishing a permanent home for the Boys & Girls Club of Redlands. His support will dramatically impact the lives of thousands of children in the city of Redlands. The first permanent home of the Club will provide a larger, safer location where members will be able to participate in even more Boys & Girls Club programs than at our previous smaller and scattered sites. Supervisor Hansberger's help is greatly appreciated by the children, staff, and board of the Boys & Girls Club of Redlands".

The Supervisor graciously accepted the award and commented that supporting service organizations such as the Boys & Girls Club is a priority of him.

The “Spark Plug Award” is given to a first-year Board member who exhibits exceptional initiative, who has jumped in with all cylinders and “spark” and who has given countless hours of service to the club. The “Spark Plug Award” was awarded to Sabi Dadabhai, Chief Financial Office at Redlands Community Hospital. Dadabhai has been active with the Club’s Resource Development Cluster, ensuring budget development, investment, monitoring and review of financials. “He is always there ready with a smile and the question of what do you need?” Said Macready.

The Outstanding Service to the Club award is given to a Board member who has made significant contributions to the Club. This year’s recipient was Bob Baldwin. About eighteen months ago, the Club leadership decided that it was time for a strategic plan. It was unanimous who should lead the charge as our Strategic Plan Champion – Bob Baldwin. Bob set right out going into the community, seeking information on what the community needed and talking with city officials and community leaders. The end result was a three-year strategic plan with a vision of – 40 Years of Hope & Opportunity.

The Club’s “Friend of Youth” award which is given to a volunteer or organization who volunteers “on the front lines”, working directly with Club Members, helping to improve our daily programs in the Club, was awarded to Art Lopez.

Lopez has been volunteering at the Boys & Girls Club of Redlands as the much needed van driver and is a Club Alumni from the LA Times Boys & Girls Club and the Variety Boys & Girls Club. His Friend of the Youth awarded is well deserved and demonstrated by his personal commitment and initiative of meeting the compliance necessary to transport the youth.

The evening also included the passing of the torch to the new Officers. Sworn in were: Linda Serros and Ron Warren, co-Presidents; Pat Caudle, Treasurer & President Elect; Monte Stuck, Vice President of Support and Services; Debbie LeDoux, Vice President of

Resource Development; Ken Tolar, Secretary; and Neil Macready, Past President. Andy Hartzell, who serves on the Board as Vice President of HR & Board Development was not present that evening. The returning board members include Nancy Bailey, Afarah Board, Sabi Dadabhai, Steve Dunkerken, Marge Emrick, Manny Espinoza, Wendy Hoopes, David Regalado, Kate Salvesen, and Steve Wormser.

Closing the evening with some insights into their vision of the Club for the next few years were co-Presidents, Linda Serros and Ron Warren. Warren stating that “He looks forward to the Boys & Girls Club of Redlands having a permanent home. Over our last 40 year history, we’ve had to beg and borrow for a place to call home. The new Clubhouse will mean that we can provide more youth with hope and opportunity in our community.”

The Club is open Monday through Friday, after school until 6:00pm, providing programs in character and leadership development, education and career enhancement, the arts, health and life skills, and sports, fitness and recreation. For more information, to volunteer, or to support the Club, contact Kathy Dunn, Director of Program Services, at 909-798-4599 or www.bgcr.org. Donations can be sent to P.O. Box 8416, Redlands, CA 92375.

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