



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF REDLANDS**

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 31, 2004

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Boys & Girls Club of Redlands to Breaks ground on new Clubhouse Congressman Lewis & Supervisor Hansberger to help

Redlands, Calif., July 31, 2004 – On the corner of Lugonia Avenue and Clay Street in Redlands, community leaders and supporters of the Boys & Girls Club of Redlands will gather for a groundbreaking ceremony of a new Clubhouse. Helping with the celebration is Congressman Jerry Lewis, Supervisor Hansberger, and other local officials. The groundbreaking will take place at 10:30am with light refreshments following.

The Clubhouse has been a seven year project, starting back with Marge Emrick, then Board President of the Boys & Girls Club of Redlands, and her discussion with Congressman Lewis about the need for a Club on the Northside of Redlands. Her conversation made a difference; In early 1998, Congressman Lewis got a \$500,000 federal grant to help build the clubhouse. “We are very fortunate to have Jerry Lewis as our Congressman. He cares and gives a great deal back to our district,” Emrick added.

The City of Redlands, lead by Chief of Police Jim Bueermann, used \$250,000 of other grant funds allocated to the Police Department to purchase the property that the clubhouse will be built on. The lot located at the corner of Clay Street and Lugonia Avenue is just under an acre. Chief Bueermann is a big proponent of community based organizations and believes in fighting crime through prevention, intervention, and finally suppression.

Recently, Supervisor Dennis Hansberger allocated \$492,000 of his discretionary Community Development Block Grant funds to assist in the construction of the Clay Street Clubhouse. These funds, along with those raised through the community

Nancy Bailey, local philanthropist in Redlands, is heading up the capital campaign, “Let’s Build A Clubhouse!” The goal is \$500,000 to help complete the construction of Clubhouse and furnish the facility. The campaign kicked off in mid-April and has raised over \$100,000 to date. “Our job is not done. The community has been very supportive of the project and now we are venturing out with face-to-face ask,” said Bailey. “We are asking for the many latch-key children in our school district that need a safe place to go after school.”

The Club has been around since 1968, but has never had a home of its own. The Boys & Girls Club has been renting different locations over the years. This will be the first time in the Clubs history to have a flagship Clubhouse where all the key operations can be together under one roof. The Boys & Girls Club has played an integral role in Redlands for over 35 years, providing daily programs and services to young people. 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. Contact the Boys & Girls Club of Redlands at 909-798-4599 for additional information.

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