



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF WEST CENTRAL MISSOURI**

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

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2012 Pink Flamingo Award Nominees Announced

Voting for award open now through February 6

SEDALIA, MO – January 20, 2012 - Over the past five years, as part of the Boys & Girls Clubs of West Central Missouri’s annual fundraising auction, *An Evening of Heart and Hope*, one of the auction traditions has become the Pink Flamingo Award which honors an individual in west central Missouri for their community giving, philanthropic spirit, kindness, generosity, character and leadership.

In 2010, the Club started a new tradition for the Pink Flamingo Award. Instead of only allowing individuals to bid on the award the night of the auction, with the intent that the highest bidder would bestow it upon who they thought should be the Pink Flamingo Award winner, the Club opened up the opportunity for all individuals in the community to nominate those they felt captured the philanthropic spirit of the Pink Flamingo Award.

The nominees for the 2012 Pink Flamingo award are in and Boys & Girls Clubs of West Central Missouri’s Executive Director, Brett Barth-Fagan, is excited to share the results.

“This year, our nominations came in slower than we anticipated,” said Barth-Fagan. “However, the candidates are truly a heartfelt, genuine group of philanthropists. All of these candidates embody the spirit of the Pink Flamingo Award. I know that this is going to be a tough race and every vote will matter.”

Nominees Include:

1. Jack Menges

- a. Organization – Open Door Ministries
- b. “Jack’s giving spirit is well known throughout our community,” says Barth-Fagan. “He is willing to help any, and every, person he encounters. The lives touched by Open Door are too numerous to count in the Pettis County area.”
- c. Menges is active in many charitable movements in the Pettis County area through his affiliation with Open Door. In addition to Open Door he serves on the board of the Community Café, works with the United Way and Katy Trail Community Health Center.

2. Barbara Hayden

- a. Company – Starline, Inc.
- b. “Barbara is a strong supporter of area youth,” says Barth-Fagan. “The organizations in Pettis County that have benefited from her generosity for the last 20 years cannot thank her enough. She is a joy to be around and to work with.”
- c. Hayden has been active in the Sedalia community for more than 20 years as a supporter of organizations such as the Missouri State Fair, Economic Development of Sedalia and Pettis County, the Boys & Girls Clubs of West Central Missouri and many more. She is actively involved in the Broadway Presbyterian Church, Missouri State Fair Foundation and the committee that raised funds for the restoration of the courthouse columns.

3. Dianne Simon

- a. Company –Thompson Hills Shopping Center – Property Manager
- b. “When you talk with Dianne, the conversation is never about herself,” says Barth-Fagan. “It is always about other people and organizations she supports. Dianne is well known in both the Sedalia and Cole Camp communities for the time and effort she puts into helping others.”
- c. Simon is involved in numerous organizations in the Sedalia, Cole Camp and Whiteman Air Force Base areas. A sampling of these includes the Base Community Council Board at Whiteman, founding member of the Blue Ribbon Steering Committee and is vice president of the Cole Camp Community Center.

4. Dave Clippert

- a. Company – Sedalia-Pettis County Emergency Management Director
- b. “Dave’s commitment to the safety and well being of our community is well known,” says Barth-Fagan. “However, you only need to remember May 25th, 2011 to understand what he truly means to our community. His efforts of warning the community of the danger approaching the city that day, likely saved several lives.”
- c. Clippert is well known for his commitment to the Sedalia area community. His involvement with Healthy U (part of the Blue Ribbon Steering Committee), Noonday Optimists and Lion’s Club has a major impact on the area. His innovations with emergency management and the use of social media in that aspect have helped to make ours a safer community to live in.

5. Command Sgt. Major Randy Woods

- a. Organization – Smith-Cotton JROTC
- b. “Randy has been shaping the lives of our youth for years,” says Barth-Fagan. “The teachings of honor, responsibility and trustworthiness have resonated with many of our

young people. The influence Randy has in our community will be felt for generations to come.”

- c. Woods has broadened the school and community relationship, engaging many parents and community members with the school district who were not otherwise involved. His impact on the community in expanding that relationship has benefited not only the JROTC students, but the community as a whole. It is something that helps bring new business to the community, helped pass the school bond issue to build the new High School as well as impacting the lives of dozens of young people.

6. Dale Malone

- a. Organization – Owner, Dukes & Boots
- b. “If the sun has risen, that means Dale is looking for a cause to support,” says Barth-Fagan. “Dale is a huge fan of Sedalia and the Pettis County area. The only thing that might surpass his generosity is his ability to make people laugh and feel at ease; simply put he is a joy to be around and to have in our community.”
- c. Malone is involved with many causes around Sedalia and Pettis County. In just the past year he’s raised thousands of dollars in support of tornado victims in Sedalia and Joplin, the Boys & Girls Clubs of West Central Missouri and Pettis County Community Santa. He has been in the entertainment business since 1983, working in Chicago for several years before returning home to Sedalia.

Vote for the above mentioned nominees:

1. **Website:** (<https://www.bgckids.com/donate/donate.cfm>): Make a monetary donation to show support for your favorite candidate. Voter must include the nominee’s name in the “Who do you think should be the 2012 Pink Flamingo Award Winner?” box. \$1 = 1 vote. (The Club will also accept monetary votes at its administrative office at 3100 Aaron Avenue in Sedalia.)

2. **Facebook & Twitter:** (links to the accounts are listed on www.bgckids.com in the upper right side of the page) Individuals can only vote once on each social media site and the first vote given will be the only vote counted.

Facebook – Vote for your favorite nominee in the Question posted on the page.

Twitter - Tweet your favorite nominee’s name and include @bgckids in your tweet so the Club can see your vote in its mentions.

Voting for the 2012 Pink Flamingo Award is open now through February 6th. The nominee with the greatest website donations and the nominee with the greatest social media votes will each advance to final competition during the auction on February 11th. Additional nominees may be selected to advance to the final competition based on popularity. The candidate with the most monetary votes (\$1 = 1 vote) during the final competition at the auction will be the Club’s 2012 Pink Flamingo Award winner. Past Pink Flamingo Award Winners include: Robert Bond, Cara Canon, Pam Barb, Don Weaver and Reverend Jim Downing.

Tickets for the Boys & Girls Clubs of West Central Missouri’s 22nd annual auction, *An Evening of Heart & Hope*, are on sale now. The event will be held Saturday, February 11, at 5p.m. in the Missouri Electric

Cooperatives Building on the Missouri State Fairgrounds. This year, the silent auction will run from 5 to 6:30 p.m. and the live auction will begin at 7 p.m.

For tickets or more information about the 2012 Pink Flamingo Award call the Club at 660-826-8331 or find the Club online at www.bgckids.com.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of West Central Missouri serves more than 600 children every day at its 11 sites in Pettis, Benton and Johnson counties. Through programs that encourage positive life choices, the Club helps mold our society's future leaders. Learn more about the Club at www.bgckids.com, liking us on [Facebook](#) and following us on Twitter ([@bgckids](#)).

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