



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

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

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**The Boys & Girls Clubs of West Central Missouri to Host Annual Auction
'An Evening of Heart & Hope'**

SEDALIA, MO – December 28, 2009 - The Boys & Girls Clubs of West Central Missouri's 20th annual auction, *An Evening of Heart & Hope*, will be held Friday, February 5, at 6 p.m. in the Missouri Electric Cooperatives Building on the Missouri State Fairgrounds.

This year's auction will feature a full line-up of live auction items as well as silent auction items and silent auction premium packages. Some examples of the premium silent auction packages include a German Beer Fest, wine tastings, sports and family vacation packages. Premium auction packages will be promoted on the Club's website at www.bgckids.com. These packages will open for bidding from 6 – 7 p.m. the night of the event. In a change from last year's auction, the silent auction will close prior to the start of the live auction which is set to begin at approximately 7 p.m.

The auction committee, chaired by volunteer Terri Barker, has set a goal of \$50,000 for the evening. The money from the auction goes directly to helping the Boys & Girls Club offer kids a safe place to go after school, have a healthy snack, get homework completed and engage in positive relationships with peers and trained youth development professionals.

Over the past three years one of the auction favorites has been the Pink Flamingo Award which honors an individual in West Central Missouri for their community giving, philanthropic spirit, kindness, generosity, character and leadership. In the past, the highest bidder during the live auction got to bestow the Pink Flamingo Award to someone who has shown exceptional dedication and service to the community. This year, the Club is holding a nomination process for the 2010 Pink Flamingo Award nominees.

“We are tremendously excited about the new layout of this year’s Pink Flamingo Award,” said Brett Barth-Fagan, executive director of the Boys & Girls Club. “It is a grand opportunity to highlight many of the kind-hearted and generous members of the community while also providing support, hope and opportunity to the members we serve.”

Those interested in nominating someone who they believe exemplifies the spirit of the Pink Flamingo Award can download the nomination packet off the Club’s website www.bgckids.com or they can pick up a nomination packet at the Club’s downtown Sedalia site at 314 South Washington. The nomination packets are due back to the Club no later than January 20. The nominees’ names will be listed on the Club’s website (www.bgckids.com) and Facebook (www.facebook.com/pages/Boys-Girls-Clubs-of-West-Central-Missouri/190529020627) account for voting. The two nominees that receive the greatest Facebook and Web contributions are guaranteed to be one of the final 2010 Pink Flamingo Award candidates voted on the night of the auction. Additional candidates may be selected from all nominees based on popularity and will advance to the final competition. The candidate that receives the greatest amount of monetary donations the night of the auction will be deemed the Club’s 2010 Pink Flamingo Award winner.

“Not only are we changing the Pink Flamingo Award process but we are also adding many new and exciting offers to the festive evening,” said Barth-Fagan. “Although details are still being finalized, this year we plan to add a premium game of chance that could allow one individual to win a new car or cash equivalent the night of the event.”

In addition to the premium game, the highly anticipated beef raffle drawing for a half side of beef and processing valued at over \$725 is back again. Other opportunities to support the Boys & Girls Club programming include a 50-50 raffle for auction bucks, a door prize drawing for an iPod Touch worth approximately \$200, plus much more. The Heads or Tails raffle will kick off the live auction when the last person standing with their hands on their “heads or tails” after the final flip of the coin may claim their pick of any live item auction item.

Tickets for the event are \$25 if purchased before February 3, and \$35 at the door. Tickets can be purchased on the Club’s website www.bgckids.com or at the Boys & Girls Club downtown Sedalia site at 314 South Washington.

Light refreshments for the event will be provided and beverages will be supplied by County Distributing, Glazers Distributors and Pepsi.

For more information about *An Evening of Heart & Hope*, or to learn more about the Boys & Girls Club programs, please call 826-8331 (toll free 877-242-9260). Opportunities still exist for individuals to donate their time, talent or treasure for the auction and the Club.

Come for the Kids...Stay for the Fun...Bid from the Heart!

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