



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

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

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The Boys & Girls Club Announces 2010 Pink Flamingo Award Nominees

SEDALIA, MO – January 25, 2010 – In conjunction with the Boys & Girls Clubs of West Central Missouri’s 20th annual fundraising auction, *An Evening of Heart & Hope*, on Friday, February 5, the voting process for the Pink Flamingo Award winner has begun.

For the past three years the highest bidder during the live auction got to bestow the Pink Flamingo Award on someone who they believed showed exceptional dedication and service to the community, but in a new twist this year, the Club opened up the nomination process and accepted applications for the Pink Flamingo Award nominees.

The nominees for the 2010 Pink Flamingo Award are: Pam Allan, Cara Canon, John “Jack” McIntosh, Mary McLaughlin and Elle Wasson.

Pam Allan is with US Bank and is the Boys & Girls Clubs of West Central Missouri Board of Directors President. Allan was nominated by Dr. Bill Nicely, Superintendent of Kearney R-1 School District in Kearney MO and former Boys & Girls Club of West Central Missouri Board Member.

According to Nicely, he nominated Allan because of her tireless efforts on behalf of the children

in the West-Central Missouri area where she uses her organization and management skills to make the greatest impact and she sets an example for others to follow.

“It has been an honor and a privilege to work with Pam over the last several years,” said Nicely. “She, in my mind, is a perfect example of the good each of us is capable of if we unselfishly apply ourselves.”

Cara Canon is the ProEnergy Services Director of Marketing. She was nominated by Al Simon, ProEnergy Vice President of Professional Services.

According to Simon, he nominated Canon because she has made it her passion to raise awareness for the needs of the community and she inspires those around her to also give back by setting such an example.

“Because of Cara's obvious commitment to the community, ProEnergy employees pooled together to donate funding for patio seating at the new Cancer and Cardiovascular Wing at Bothwell Regional Health Center in honor of the Canons,” said Simon.

John “Jack” McIntosh is the CEO of Septagon Industries. He was nominated by John Joy, Boys & Girls Clubs of West Central Missouri’s Board Member.

According to Joy, he nominated McIntosh because he has promoted his community as a place to live, work and retire and he always puts forth the effort to move the community forward.

"If something in Sedalia moves the community forward to a brighter future, you will see Jack involved. He does so as a leader or a follower without regard to how he will be enriched. He enriches others in the community with his efforts," said Joy.

Mary McLaughlin is the fourth generation president of family owned business, McLaughlin Brothers Furniture Store and Funeral Chapel. She was nominated by Carla Childers, Advertising Account Executive with the *The Sedalia Democrat*.

According to Childers, she nominated McLaughlin because of her inherit sixth sense to recognize the needs of others in the community and her work to find the best, most compassionate solution in every situation.

"Mary is the most humble, unassuming individual I have ever met," said Childers. “Her unconditional giving spirit qualifies her for this honor. Mary is a friend to all she meets and Sedalia is a better place because of her.”

Elle Wasson is the Executive Director of the Sedalia-Pettis County United Way. She was nominated by Connie Rehmer, Boys & Girls Clubs of West Central Missouri’s Human Resources Specialist.

According to Rehmer, she nominated Wasson because she is a humanitarian and serves as a wonderful mentor to others.

"Elle is a miracle worker," said Rehmer. "Our community and many individuals have and still will be touched by Elle Wasson."

Up until February 3, individuals can vote on the Club's Facebook page (www.facebook.com/pages/Boys-Girls-Clubs-of-West-Central-Missouri/190529020627) and Web site (www.bgckids.com) for the person who they believe exemplifies the spirit of the Pink Flamingo Award through their community giving, philanthropic spirit, kindness, generosity, character and leadership. The highest vote getters on both Facebook and the Web site are guaranteed to be one of the final 2010 Pink Flamingo Award candidates voted on the night of the auction. Additional finalists 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 Faming Award winner.

"I am so pleased with the nominations we received," said Boys & Girls Club Executive Director, Brett Barth-Fagan. "They are all very deserving candidates and our community is a better place because of these amazing people."

Tickets for *An Evening of Heart & Hope* 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.

The event will be catered by Bandana's Bar-B-Q and beverages will be supplied by County Distributing, Glazer's Distributors and Pepsi.

Sponsors for the event are: **\$5,000 Platinum Level Sponsors:** KCP&L, *The Sedalia Democrat*, Starline, W-K Chevrolet; **\$2,500 Gold Level Sponsors:** Ditzfeld Transfer Inc., Impact Sign; **Silver Level Sponsors:** Inter-State Studio Employee Charity Fund, LAMM Technical Resources LLC, ProEnergy Services, SMC, Thompson Hills Shopping Center, Walmart; **\$500 Bronze Level Sponsors:** EXCEL Bank, Marcum Hauling, Marcum's Landscaping Stones LLC, McDonalds, David & Stephanie Parkhurst, RAC-JAC Properties, Tyson, Union Savings Bank and Yeager's Cycle Sales.

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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