



# GREAT FUTURES START HERE.

The Newsletter of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Fresno County

## President's Message by Kenneth Quenzer



*Kenneth Quenzer*

Boys & Girls Clubs of Fresno is deeply appreciative of the generous support we have received from so many individuals and organizations over the 60 years we have been serving young people in Fresno County. Since our first Club opened in West Fresno in 1949, we have expanded across Fresno, Clovis, and into other communities in the county, up to our present total of seventeen Clubs.

Like most individuals and businesses, Boys & Girls Clubs of Fresno County has struggled financially during this economic downturn. At the same time, we have never experienced more demand for our programs than now.

In spite of the hard times, largely due to the sacrificial spirit of our staff and the fact that in December of 2010, we received a record number of year end gifts, we have experienced unprecedented success in reaching more young people. In January we were able to open a new Club at El Dorado Park near Fresno State University.

We are hopeful for the future of our programs and our young people. During this difficult economic time, we have positioned our self as an organization so that when conditions improve, we will be able to move mountains. Westside growers are stepping forward to support Boys & Girls Club growth on the west side of our county. The City of Reedley is determined to have a Boys & Girls Club there and has made significant strides to make that a reality by spring of this year.

We continue to improve the effectiveness of our youth development efforts, particularly in the areas of school dropout, youth gangs, and pregnancy prevention.

We are grateful for your generous investments in the lives of thousands of Boys & Girls Club young people and their families. Thank you.

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## Save the Date

- Sierra Pacific Golf Tournament - June 25<sup>th</sup>, Dinuba
- 15<sup>th</sup> Annual "Stepping Out for Kids" September 10<sup>th</sup>

## Special points of interest:

- If you would like to be a volunteer at any of our 17 Clubs, please contact our main office for information at 559-266-3117.
- Please call our office to update your mailing information if you have moved or plan to move.

CLOVIS BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

Black Tie & Boots

*Gala*

May 14, 2011

Veteran's Memorial Building

Please contact Sandy Chaney for tickets or additional information at (559) 266-3117.

Save The Date

BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF FRESNO COUNTY www.bgclubfc.org



A United Way Agency

# Boys & Girls NIGHTS OUT



## Professional volunteers needed for two special evenings!

We're asking YOU to join us for:



★ Dinner

★ Activities

★ Games

★ Prizes



★ And some Lighthearted  
Competitions!

It's an opportunity for our Club members to interact with a caring, responsible adult from their own community and beyond; Someone who just might make an impact and inspire them to think about the future and to dream big!



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS  
OF FRESNO COUNTY

### Boys' Night Out: April 8th

City of Fresno, City Manager—Mark Scott (Club Alumni)

**5:30pm to 9pm**

### Girls' Night Out: April 15th

Junior League Incoming President

**5:30pm to 9pm**

Zimmerman Boys & Girls Club  
540 N. Augusta Avenue  
(off Belmont Avenue, East of Fresno Street)  
Fresno, CA



Fabian L

Youth of the Year 2010-11



Fabian is 17 and was born in Fresno soon after his parents arrived here from Mexico. He has lived in the same two bedroom apartment all his life, in a neighborhood surrounded by local gangs. Hardly a night goes by when there isn't a police helicopter hovering overhead. Fabian describes his neighborhood as "frightening, a place that needs fixing." He feels his neighborhood

is a deterrent to his education and his family.

He has four brothers, ages 5 – 20. Fabian and his three younger brothers share a room with one bed. Fabian's dad is an independent roofer and sometimes works in the fields. His mother stays home to care for the family.

Fabian helps take care of his younger brothers. His one wish is that his parents could buy a visa and bring his older brother, whom he has never seen, from Mexico to the USA.

Fabian began attending East Fresno Boys & Girls Club when he was 12. The Club has supported his family with food and gift baskets during the holidays.

He serves in the Keystone leadership Club at the Boys & Girls Club and impacts other youth by demonstrating honesty, consideration and respect. He volunteers for the Community Food Bank and the Neighborhood Graffiti clean-up. He coaches younger club members in soccer and football, and also helps with homework. He is a positive mentor and role model.

Fabian is a senior at Sunnyside High School in Fresno. His GPA is 3.0. He loves history. He is active in video production and participates on the improv team. Last year he won the "Video of the Year" at his school.

## City/County All-Star Football Game



Friday, June 17, 2011  
7:30 PM

Buchanan High School Stadium, Clovis

The 57th Annual City/County All-Star Football Classic will be played on Friday, June 17 in the Stadium at Buchanan High School in Clovis. The game kicks off at 7:30 pm and features the top players from the City and County High Schools in Fresno County. The Optimist Club of Greater Fresno is in charge of the game and donates the proceeds to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Fresno County. Since 2001, the Clubs have received more than \$345,000 from this event. The Optimist Club, through the generosity and hard work of its members, has supported and encouraged thousands of underserved kids who come to the Clubs. Tickets are available by calling 266-3117 and may also be purchased at the Club locations as well as from various merchants in Fresno. Come out and enjoy a great evening of All-Star football and support the kids at the same time.

**For City/County All-Star Game Tickets  
call 266-3117.**

## Interview with Bob & Kathie Price, Long Term Donors

Bob & Kathie Price have been supporters of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Fresno County for nearly thirty years. Recently we asked them why they support the Clubs. Here is a portion of that interview:



*Q: What sparked your interest in the Boys & Girls Clubs?*

A: A friend shared with us about the Club and the significant role it plays in the community. She told us that the dollar amount of every donation that was used for directly benefitting the kids was significantly higher than many other charitable organizations.

*Q: Why have you made the Boys & Girls Clubs one of your top charitable investment priorities?*

A: We care about kids, and about the community. Giving to the Club addresses both entities. The kids who belong to the Club often do not have enough support at home to grow to their fullest potential and the Club offers them hope and that opportunity. During the years of our support we have learned of so many heart-wrenching stories of how the Club has changed kids' lives. Also, many famous athletes, actors, and community, state and national leaders have stated that they owe their success to the Club, which is testimony to the benefit it holds for both kids and the community.

*Q: Apart from your financial commitment, what other ways have you been involved with the Clubs?*

A: We have attended celebrations at the Clubs. We have also participated in mentor evenings and been judges for the Club member of the Year. Through all these involvements, we have experienced deep satisfaction knowing what a positive impact the Boys & Girls Clubs are having on the children of our community.

*Q: You have included the Boys & Girls Clubs in your will, or estate plan. Why have you done this?*

A: We want to help continue the work we have supported during our lifetime.

[continued on back page](#)

## Board of Directors Appoints New Members

The Boys & Girls Club is pleased to introduce these new members of the Board of Directors. Our Board members volunteer their time, energy and resources for the youth of our communities. We are grateful for their service.



Wendy Marie Batti is the Chief Financial Officer for Jeffrey Scott Agency, which she owns with her husband Bruce. She has been active in the Junior League, the City of Hope, Fresno Metropolitan Museum, Fresno Historical Society, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, and St. Anthony's Church. For Wendy, being on the Board of the Boys & Girls Club "gives me the opportunity to give back and support the community that has allowed my husband and me to build a business and raise two daughters successfully."

Juanita Stevenson has worked for KFSN/ABC channel 30 as reporter and anchor. Most recently she was news director at KJWL Radio. She currently hosts "0-5 in 30 Minutes" on Valley Public Television. She has received an Associated Press Award and a Radio and Television News Directors Association Award. She lives in Fresno and has two children.



Bill Betts is Manager of Procurement and Logistics at Betts Spring Co. He and his wife Elizabeth have one daughter. Bill states, "I am passionate about today's youth and I believe in the charter of the Boys & Girls Clubs, providing kids with a fun, safe place to learn and be with their peers."

Kathleen Zacky and her husband Richard have been in business in the Fresno community for more than thirty years. She is active with the Fresno County Fair Education, with Common Threads, the California Poultry Association, and the Fresno Assistance League. She and Richard have two grown children. Kathy comments, "I am very honored and excited to be on the board of the Boys & Girls Clubs." No photo available

## New Club Opens at El Dorado Park

January 27th marked the opening of the newest Boys & Girls Club, the seventeenth. The Club is housed in what was a City of Fresno Parks & Recreation modular building that had been slated for closing by the City in a cost-cutting measure. Called El Dorado, the Club is located near Barstow and Fourth behind the Wesley United Methodist Church.

This Club is a partnership between the City, the Church and the Boys & Girls Club, with assistance from the Fresno Regional Foundation and the Peter Bennett Family Foundation. Through their combined efforts, the site did not close and is now open from 2:30 to 7:30 PM every school day.

Diane Carbray, Executive Director of the Boys & Girls Clubs, said, "The collaboration in the community was a key ingredient to being

able to open this Club. We are very excited to provide services . . . in this neighborhood where kids are underserved and need a safe place to learn and grow."

Through an agreement with the City, the Boys & Girls Clubs will operate the facility for three years. With support from the Foundations and from individuals and volunteers, the building has been carpeted and repainted and has shelves stocked with books and games.

Feel free to stop by any afternoon or evening to see this new Club, at 1343 E. Barstow.



**Interview with Bob & Kathie Price, continued**

*Q: What would you say to an individual or a business considering how they might make a significant community impact through their giving?*

A: Once you begin supporting the Boys and Girls Club, you will gain much satisfaction from knowing your support is having a tremendous impact on the quality of life in our community, beginning with the children the club serves. So, start now.

*Q: Kathie, anything you would like to say in conclusion?*

A: The Club changes the lives of so many wonderful children, offering them a safe, nurturing environment that brings them happiness, hope, and purpose; and a greater opportunity to realize their dreams, and become successful, productive, and caring members of the community.

*Q: And you, Bob?*

A: I think of the opportunities Kathie and I have had during our lives, which makes me appreciate the opportunities provided by the Boys and Girls Clubs, that many of these children would never have without the Club. These opportunities can make such a huge impact on the lives of the children served and to our community as a whole. I think it is wonderful.

*Q: Thank you.*

# It Just Takes One

## YOU Can Offer Hope To A Child

The Boys & Girls Club is beginning its annual "It Just Takes One" campaign, which provides significant funding to sustain and to increase the positive impact on the lives of young people in Fresno County. Through your investment as an individual, business, corporation or foundation, you open the door to a brighter future for lots of kids. When you invest in a child, you invest in the future.

When you change a child you can change a family

When you change a family you can change a community

When you change a community you can change a culture

When you change a culture .... who knows what the impact might be?

It all begins with one, one child

And one person like you to provide opportunity for change.

Will you be the one?

To donate, call the Club at 559 266-3117 or use your credit card to donate online at [www.bgclubfc.org](http://www.bgclubfc.org)

# GREAT FUTURES START HERE.

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**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS**  
OF FRESNO COUNTY



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