



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

NEWS RELEASE

314 S. Washington | Sedalia, Missouri 65301 | (660) 826-8331 | jconner@bgckids.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 9, 2010

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Jenelle Conner
Outreach Specialist
Boys & Girls Clubs of
West Central Missouri
jconner@bgckids.com
(660) 826-8331

**Be a Part of Something Great and Celebrate National Boys & Girls Club Week with the
Boys & Girls Clubs of West Central Missouri**

*Boys & Girls Clubs of West Central Missouri opens its doors to the community during
National Boys & Girls Club Week, March 21-27*

SEDALIA, MO – March 9, 2010 – The Boys & Girls Clubs of West Central Missouri is joining Boys & Girls Clubs across America in celebration of National Boys & Girls Club Week, March 21-27, by hosting several events to emphasize the importance and value of the Clubs to the youth of west central Missouri. The organization invites everyone to come visit the Club’s sites in Cole Camp, Green Ridge, La Monte, Leeton, Sedalia and Smithton to see first-hand the impact being made on today’s youth.

“Boys & Girls Clubs are increasingly playing a vital role in many young people’s lives,” said Brett Barth-Fagan, executive director of the Boys & Girls Clubs of West Central Missouri. “In today’s economic climate, we offer a positive place for kids whose parents are seeking an economical, safe and enriching environment for their children.”

Boys & Girls Clubs are unique in the field of child development due to five identifying characteristics. Clubs provide:

- A safe place to learn and grow,
- Ongoing relationships with caring, adult professionals,
- Life-enhancing programs and character development experiences,
- Hope and opportunity, and
- Peer, staff and volunteer recognition.

For more than 75 years, Clubs have celebrated Boys & Girls Club Week in a variety of ways, all with an emphasis on five core Club program areas: Character & Leadership Development; Education & Career Development; Health & Life Skills;

The Arts; and Sports, Fitness & Recreation. Activities in these five core areas support Boys & Girls Clubs of America's overarching goal to help each child reach their full potential and BE GREAT by securing academic success, living a healthy lifestyle and distinguishing themselves as young leaders.

Planned activities in celebration of National Boys & Girls Club Week include:

- **March 18th**
 - **10:30 a.m.** - Mayor Horn will help kick off the celebration by signing a proclamation declaring March 21-27, National Boys & Girls Club week in Sedalia. The proclamation will be signed in Mayor Horn's office in Sedalia at the Municipal Building on 200 S. Osage Ave - Office 200.

- **March 22nd**
 - 6 p.m. – Green Ridge Site – Sports day theme

- **March 23rd**
 - 5 - 6:30 p.m. – Cole Camp Site
 - Cole Camp Mayor Judy Harris will sign a proclamation declaring March 21-27, National Boys & Girls Club week in Cole Camp. The proclamation will be signed at the Club's afterschool program in the Cole Camp school cafeteria.
 - Seuss-a-ville – in celebration of Dr. Suess' birthday Cole Camp elementary Club members will be tie dying vegetables
 - Cole Camp Teen members will start their cake baking and decorating competition
 - 6 p.m. – Green Ridge Site – Crazy Socks Theme

- **March 24th**
 - 5 - 6:30 p.m. – Cole Camp Site
 - Seuss-a-ville- in celebration of Dr. Suess' birthday, Cole Camp elementary Club members will be baking tie dyed cakes
 - Cole Camp Teen members will continue their cake baking and decorating competition
 - 6 p.m. – Green Ridge Site – Sunglasses theme

- **March 25th**
 - 5 - 6:30 p.m. – Cole Camp Site
 - Seuss-a-ville- in celebration of Dr. Suess' birthday, Cole Camp elementary Club members will be making tie dye flowers and hosting a family fun night. The night will include some examples of the activities and programs that the members have participated in throughout the year
 - Cole Camp Teen members will be part of the family fun night and the cakes they built over the past two days will be served

- 6 p.m. – Green Ridge Site – hat theme

- **March 26th**
 - 5 - 6:30 p.m. – Cole Camp Site
 - Seuss-a-ville- in celebration of Dr. Suess' birthday, Cole Camp elementary Club members will be hosting a Dr. Suess read-a-thon
 - The Cole Camp Teen members will be celebrating Suessapalooza with everything Dr. Suess. Members will do a variety of projects that center around his works as well as try to create their own Dr. Suess like stories and tongue twisters.
 - 6 p.m. – Green Ridge Site – Club shirt or blue shirt theme

For more information about the Boys & Girls Clubs of West Central Missouri or the National Boys & Girls Club week activities call 660-826-8331, toll-free 877-242-9260 or find the Club online at bgckids.com.

About the Boys & Girls Clubs of West Central Missouri

For almost 50 years, the Boys & Girls Clubs of West Central Missouri (www.bgckids.com) has been providing hope and opportunity to local communities by helping youth realize their ability to "Be Great." There are more than 4,300 Boys & Girls Clubs nationwide that serve some 4.5 million young people through Club membership and community outreach. Known as The Positive Place for Kids, the Boys & Girls Clubs of West Central Missouri helps young people 6 to 18 years old with guidance-oriented character development programs conducted by trained, professional staff. The Club positively impacts lives by helping youth reach their full potential as productive, caring citizens. Key programs emphasize leadership development; education and career exploration; community service; technology training; financial literacy; health and life skills; the arts; sports, fitness and recreation; and family outreach. In a recent Harris Survey of Club alumni, 57 percent said the Club saved their lives. For more information call 660.826.8331, toll-free 877.242.9260 or find the Club online at www.bgckids.com.

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