



**Chandler · Arizona**  
*Where Values Make The Difference*

# 15  
FEB 10 2011



**MEMORANDUM**

**Community Services Department – Memo No. 11-118**

**DATE:** FEBRUARY 2, 2011

**TO:** MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

**THRU:** RICH DLUGAS, ACTING CITY MANAGER *RD*  
MARK M. EYNATTEN, COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR *ME*

**FROM:** MICKEY OHLAND, PARK DEVELOPMENT AND OPERATIONS *M.O.*  
MANAGER

**SUBJECT:** 2010 CELEBRATION PLAZA HONOREE RECOMENDATIONS

**RECOMMENDATION:** The Chandler Parks and Recreation Board recommends the approval of the following Celebration Plaza honorees for 2010:

- **Patti Bruno** – Ms. Bruno’s commitment to Chandler and the many community organizations operating within it is extensive. She has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for Chandler and its citizens and continues to do while changing lives every day through the many organizations that she supports. Further, Patti served eight years on the City Council and was highly regarded as a fair and practical representative.
- **Marty Wright** – Mr. Wright was an engaged and dedicated Chandler citizen, who gave his all for his community for over 30 years. After moving to Chandler in 1978, Marty quickly became involved in his newly adopted city through his active participation in the Lions Club, Faith Community Church and various Chandler youth sports programs. Marty became an integral part of the community supporting community activities both monetarily and through personal involvement.
- **Officer Carlos Ledesma** – On July 28, 2010 Chandler Police Officer Carlos Ledesma lost his life in the line of duty. Officer Ledesma was serving as a member of the department’s Narcotic Unit when he was shot and killed during a narcotics operation in Phoenix. Carlos was dedicated to the community and lost his life serving it proudly.
- **Dave McDowell** – Mr. McDowell is an excellent example of an individual who strongly believes in serving his community. Dave dedicated 25 years of service to the Chandler Community Services Department where he oversaw the design, construction and operation of many of Chandler’s parks and recreational facilities. In addition to and outside of his long career and exceptional contributions to the City of Chandler, Dave has provided community service through various groups and activities. Dave has served as an active member of the

Ojo Rojo Lions Club in Chandler since 1986. He has held every leadership position in the club and in 2000 he received the Melvin Jones Fellowship in honor of his community service.

- **Lowell Huggins** – Whether in his barbershop or in his office, Mr. Huggins has been known as a constant advocate for the community. A longtime member of this community, Lowell first came to Chandler in 1956. In 1965 he began his career in law enforcement as a Chandler Police Officer and served in that capacity until 1985. Lowell's reputation of being an advocate for the citizens of Chandler grew over the years as his barbershop was known as Chandler City Hall "Two". Anyone could walk into his barbershop to seek assistance or advice regarding city government. This past September, the Office of the Governor of Arizona commended Lowell for his 35 years of dedicated service to the City of Chandler and the State of Arizona.

**BACKGROUND:** Each year the City of Chandler accepts nominations from the public for inductees to Celebration Plaza, a permanent monument at Tumbleweed Park.

Constructed in 2006, Celebration Plaza features a fountain and a decorative wall used to display brass plaques honoring a select group of Chandler residents, living or deceased, who have displayed outstanding civic commitment, leadership, innovation, public outreach and service to the City. Individuals holding an elected City of Chandler office or serving on the Parks and Recreation Board are not eligible for nomination.

Staff received nominations for seven individuals during this year's nomination process. These nominations were forwarded to the Celebration Plaza Nomination subcommittee for evaluation and recommendation. The subcommittee met and analyzed the nominees, then formulated their recommendations. The subcommittee based its evaluation on the following criteria:

- Community leader(s) whose outstanding personal service has resulted in significant and enduring contributions to the community.
- An individual or individuals who have made exceptional contributions to the City of Chandler.
- An individual or individuals who have added to the quality of life for Chandler residents through their involvement or financial contribution to short or long-term city projects or activities.
- An individual who has demonstrated leadership, innovation and creativity, which have made Chandler a better place to live and work.
- City of Chandler employees killed in the line of duty and local heroes.

The subcommittee recommendations were presented to the Parks and Recreation Board at their February 1, 2011 meeting. The Board endorsed the recommendations and unanimously voted to recommend them on to the City Council for approval.

The nominees selected for the 2010 induction will be honored at an induction ceremony this spring. Past inductions to Celebration Plaza include:

- 2007 - Lenford C. Calley, Officer Robert J. Nielsen, Henry Salinas
- 2008 - Chandler Service Club
- 2009 – Eddie Basha

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**PROPOSED MOTION:** Move to approve the recommendation from the Parks and Recreation Board that the following individuals be recognized with plaques in Celebration Plaza at Tumbleweed Park for 2010:

Patti Bruno

Marty Wright

Officer Carlos Ledesma

Dave McDowell

Lowell Huggins