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MEMORANDUM

Community Services Department – Memo No. 13-113

DATE: March 12, 2013

TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

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

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

SUBJECT: 2012 CELEBRATION PLAZA HONOREE RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATION: The Chandler Parks and Recreation Board recommends the approval of the following Celebration Plaza honorees for 2012:

- **Chandler Compadres** – The Chandler Compadres have contributed to the disadvantaged kids and families of the East Valley for over 30 years. The Chandler Compadres is a non-profit service organization that was established in 1980. A dynamic organization, the Compadres consist of 40 active members and over 60 life members. Compadre members are civic-minded business and community leaders. This organization embodies dedication, vision, heart and passion.

The first project taken on by the Compadres in 1980 and continuing today as a sustaining member, is the Boys and Girls Club. Chandler Compadres' other charitable donations have included hosting an annual awards dinner for high school students meeting academic excellence, sponsoring youth teams throughout the City and funding emergency shelter and homeless children's programs. The Compadres have and continue to support numerous youth organizations including the YMCA, Christmas Family Food Basket Project, youth sports leagues, summer at-risk programs, Thanksgiving dinner at the Boys and Girls Club and a toy drive for needy children and families.

- **John H. Dick** – Mr. Dick spent almost the entire 86 years of his life making significant and long lasting contributions to the City of Chandler as well as to those around him. In 1953, after completion of military service and law school, John moved to Chandler where he enthusiastically served the City and surrounding areas. Serving as a City of Chandler Prosecutor and City Attorney, John helped to uphold the vision of Chandler as a City where families could enjoy residing in a safe and wholesome environment.

John volunteered countless hours to the Chandler community in numerous capacities. As a charter member, he helped launch the Chandler Kiwanis Club, never missing a meeting in fifty years. Through John's efforts, the Kiwanis Club annually donated thousands of dollars for scholarship grants to high school seniors, funding for youth programs at the YMCA, Boys and Girls Club and Salvation Army in Chandler. John also served as the treasurer of the Chandler IDA Board and was a formation committee member for the Chandler Center for the Arts. John also took part in helping Mr. Barnum in the construction of Chandler's first Tumbleweed Christmas Tree.

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 two 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 March 5, 2013 meeting. The Board endorsed the recommendations and unanimously voted to recommend them to the City Council for approval.

The nominees selected for the 2012 induction will be honored at an induction ceremony this fall. Past inductions to Celebration Plaza include:

2007 - Lenford C. Calley, Officer Robert J. Nielsen, Henry Salinas

2008 - Chandler Service Club

2009 - Eddie Basha

2010 - Patti Bruno, Marty Wright, Officer Carlos Ledesma, Dave McDowell, Lowell Huggins

2011 - Najeeby Basha, Jerry Brooks

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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 2012:

Chandler Compadres
John H. Dick