

# The Positive Connection



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS**  
OF THE NORTH VALLEY  
Serving Butte & Glenn Counties  
Local Kids • Great Futures



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**YOUR GIFTS CHANGE LIVES**

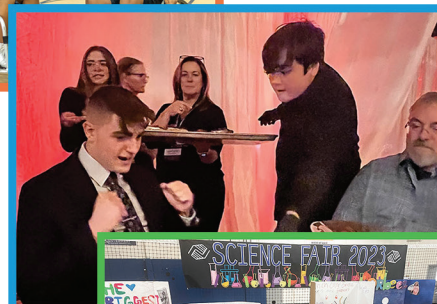
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"Boys & Girls Clubs makes me feel happy, welcomed and respected. My favorite part are the fun programs!"  
- River G. Age 13 Paradise Junior High

# HEALTHY KIDS, HEALTHY FUTURES

A key to living a healthy life is making healthy choices - whether that be exercising more, improving eating habits or taking care of your mental health. Staff have been creating fun, engaging programs and events throughout the region to encourage healthy habits. Our SMART Girls program, which promotes physical and mental health through small group activities for girls ages 8 to 18, hosted a "SMART Girls Summit". During this summit, girls from all Club sites gathered together to hear a special guest speaker, make friendship bracelets, paint their nails, and create vision boards to highlight their life goals. Once the younger girls left, the teens had an opportunity to dive further into what to expect as they develop into young women, share their struggles, accomplishments, experiences, and come together to learn about resources to support each other. This opportunity was made possible by a grant from California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls.

In addition to the summit, the Teen Centers and Junior High programs participated in a month-long 3 on 3 basketball season, which culminated in a jamboree playoff. The jamboree included a 3-point shootout, skills competition and even a BBQ for the players! Members represented their sites as they travelled for games and enjoyed meeting Club members from other communities. Many youth in our programs do not have the chance to play organized or travel sports - this basketball league, and other leagues like it, encourages them to build their self-confidence through sports, work on being part of a team, and learn life-long lessons all while moving and exercising. Thank you to Rite Aid KidsCents program and Sierra Pacific Foundation for helping fund our sports leagues!



## THE IMPORTANCE OF MENTORSHIP

For more than seven years, Holly Weir, the head chef at Sycamore Glen Active Senior Community, has been sharing her passion for cooking with Club teens through our Valentine's Gala event. Holly works directly with a group of teens to create recipes, help them decide on their favorite, then teaches them how to make the chosen dessert for a crowd, which in some years was over 400 guests to serve.

While Holly shares her passion, teens learn invaluable professional skills, build relationships, and gain a mentor in the food service industry. Often, the teens who participate in this program go on to join other Workforce Readiness programs within our Clubs or get more involved in community service projects. Mentors open the world up to young people, exposing them to ideas and nurturing the unique talents they possess. Our Clubs and programs are successful in changing lives because of people like Holly who give their time and talents to help youth become productive and engaged citizens.



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## FULL STEAM AHEAD

Have you ever wondered which brand of gum blew the biggest bubble? How about which cookie would float in milk the longest or if plants react based on what we say to them? Club kids put these questions to the test and showcased their knowledge from our science, technology, engineering, arts and math (STEAM) programs during a Club-wide science fair!

*"I liked working with my friends and answering questions about our project during the Science Fair. Also, the Oobleck project that the other kids made was really impressive!"* – Bella C., Age 9 Hamilton Elementary School

Nearly 150 youth worked alongside staff to design fun and colorful science project display boards that highlighted their hypothesis, how they tested it and the results they gathered. Science projects are a great way to get youth out of their textbooks and into real life as they learn how to apply the knowledge and skills they acquire to real-world problems. Projects like these are a great investment of time for both youth and staff that produces amazing rewards. In addition, youth practiced and improved their reading, critical thinking, writing, mathematics and public speaking. These skills engage youth and open the door for leadership opportunities, improved personal development and enhances collaborative teamwork skills. It was fun to see the kids' curiosity, creativity and personalities shine in their projects.

Today, careers in STEAM in the United States are one of the most sought after and needed fields. Engaging youth in science projects can play an important role in helping youth see a successful and fulfilling career within STEAM fields.



## CELEBRATING THE RIDGE

This year's 9th Annual Paradise Cook-Off at the Paradise Vets Hall was an incredible evening for our three (soon to be four) Ridge Clubs - thank you to all who sponsored, purchased tickets, cooked and volunteered to help us make this a sold-out event! Next time you're on the Ridge, please be sure to stop into all the businesses who donated their time and money on behalf of Club kids and families. A special thanks to Sandy & Vic Makau for once again being our presenting sponsors and supporting local kids.

### 2023 Paradise Cook-Off Winners:

- Golden Spoon & People's Choice - Table Mountain School (Tacos de Carne Deshebrada)
- Best Decorated - Table Mountain School (Churro Cheesecake)
- Best Appetizer - Lofi Cafe (Candied Bacon Deviled Eggs)
- Best Side Dish - Hope Crisis Response Network (Potato Surprise)
- Best Entree - Hoondogs (Ribs w/ Cherry Bourbon Sauce)
- Best Dessert & Kid's Choice - Dulce Cocina (Apple Pie Empanadas)



# HELP US PROVIDE CRITICAL SERVICES FOR YOUTH THIS SUMMER!



## Why your support of Camp Jamoa & Teen Summer Services matters -

Local youth will experience exciting adventures as they travel through weekly themes such as Animal Planet, Extreme Sports, Imagination Station, Splish Splash Water Week, Creative Campers and more. By supporting our Summer Services, you will be giving youth, that need it the most, a summer filled with fun, laughter, learning, and lasting memories. To get involved please scan the QR code, return the included envelope or give us a call today to make a donation!

## Summer Services gives local youth opportunities they may not otherwise have:

- 3 meals and a snack each day
- Fun and engaging programming with positive mentors
- Weekly field trips around their community
- Career Readiness programs at three Teen Center locations
- Themed weeks for youth to explore all of their interests
- A safe place to just be a kid

SCAN HERE &  
SUPPORT SUMMER SERVICES



## JOIN US THIS YEAR FOR THESE FUN EVENTS!



**Growing Great Futures Farm to Fork Dinner**  
Saturday, April 29 | Capay Farms

Join us at Capay Farms for a beautiful backyard dinner. Guests will enjoy live entertainment, hors d'oeuvres, and a family style meal complete with beer and wine.



**Barrels, Bites & Bounty**  
Friday, June 9 | Historic Oroville Inn

This fun event features tastings from local vendors, breweries, wineries, live music, and a raffle. Support our three Teen Centers in Oroville!



**Pasta on the Plaza**  
Thursday, Sept. 14th | Chico Rotary Plaza

Visit the Chico Campus to enjoy an all-you-can-eat spaghetti dinner, complete with salad, garlic bread, live music and a raffle!

## CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS FOR EVENTS!

Do you want to spend your time making a difference in the lives of local youth and their families? We are looking for individuals, groups or businesses to support at our fundraising events. These events are a great opportunity to give back as a team representing your business. Reach out to us today to learn about all of our volunteer opportunities!



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The mission of the BGCNV is to inspire and enable all youth to reach their full potential as productive, responsible and caring citizens.