



### NEWS RELEASE

May 15, 2014

TWO PAGES

### Meritorious Community Service Award Honors Two Couples

The City of Santa Maria Recreation and Parks Commission is pleased to announce Bill and Anna Libbon, and Frank and Scottie Ortiz as recipients of the 2014 Meritorious Community Service Award.

Through their tireless efforts, Bill and Anna Libbon have developed the Boys and Girls Club of Santa Maria Valley into the organization it is today. Together, the couple has worked to provide recreational opportunities for the community's youth through fitness programs that provide opportunities to build social and interpersonal skills, while making positive use of their leisure time. Throughout their careers, over 40,000 local youths have benefited from the Club's services.

Bill started his career as a volunteer flag football coach with the City of Santa Maria Recreation and Parks Department in 1968. He was hired as a Recreation Leader the following year and worked with the City for three years, even coaching Special Olympics in 1971. Bill is the Executive Director and has been with the Club for 40 years. He was a member of the Boys Club in Pennsylvania and started with the Santa Maria Club as a volunteer coach. His dedication has earned him several awards including Service to Youth Award from the Boys and Gils Clubs of America in 1994 and 2005; Outstanding Youth Development Professional Award for the Pacific Region of Boys and Girls Clubs in 1999; and the Working Families Award in 2013 from Santa Barbara County Action Network. He has been a volunteer coach for a variety of youth sports including football, soccer, track and field, basketball, and Little League baseball. His volunteer efforts earned him the title of Grand Marshall at the Elks Rodeo Parade in 2012. Bill is currently a member of Santa Maria Noontime Rotary and a board member for Central Coast Cal-Soap Consortium. He is also on the committees for People for Non-Violence at Marian Regional Medical Center, and Recreation Advisory for Allan Hancock College.

Anna started at the Boys and Girls Club in 1990. She has held several positions with the Club including Activities Director, Program Director, and is currently the Unit Director. Anna's tenure of service with the organization is spurred by her deep passion for improving the lives of our community's youth. She previously served on the board for the Central Coast Literacy Council and was involved with Big Brothers and Big Sisters for many years. Anna is a talented mosaic artist and often donates her art for various organization fundraisers including Rotary Club, Community Partners in Caring, St. Mary School, the Boys and Girls Club, and Friends of the Santa Maria Public Library. Every year the Boys

MORE



### Page 2 of 2

and Girls Club is a sponsor of the Altrusa Festival of Trees, and Anna uses her artistic talents to create a tree for all three Altrusa Clubs on behalf of the organization. Bill and Anna have been married for 22 years and have seven children and seven grandchildren.

Frank and Scottie Ortiz have been active members of the community through various organizations including Rotary Club of Santa Maria Breakfast, Shoes for Students, and CASA. Frank is a retired Fire Chief for the City of Santa Maria and has served as Rotary Club's 20<sup>th</sup> president in 2003-2004. This is the same year the Club was named "Outstanding Medium Size Club" for District 5240. He has held several Club offices including Secretary, International Service and Vocational Service. Key leadership positions at the District level include Group Representative and Assistant Governor, each for two years; 2008 District Conference Chair; 2009 Foundation Gala Chair; District Personnel Committee; District Governor Nominating Committee; Vocational Service Director; Community Service Director; and Rotary Foundation Area Representative. In 2005-2006, he was named Group Representative of the Year. In 2008-2009 he was honored as the Co-District Rotarian of the Year. Frank was also the Club's District Governor from 2012-2013. Frank completed a six-year term as a member of the board of directors for the American Red Cross of Santa Barbara County and was presented with their prestigious Clara Barton Volunteer Leadership award in 2003. Frank is currently a board member with Shoes for Students. Frank and Scottie are Rotary Foundation Major Donors and multiple Paul Harris Fellows. Their dedication has provided countless leisure opportunities for the entire community, including the development of Rotary Centennial Park. Frank co-chaired the park and took the initiative to spearhead the campaign and bring all local Rotary Clubs together to create the park. The park is by enjoyed residents of all ages and is often a prime location for local events. Scottie is on the CASA North County Advisory Committee and advocates for at-risk youth.

The Meritorious Community Service Award was established to provide public recognition to individuals, businesses or organizations whose contribution of time and/or resources have made a significant impact on the youth programs and leisure services in the Santa Maria Valley.

Recipients will be recognized at a reception on Thursday, July 17, from 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. at the Abel Maldonado Community Youth Center, 600 S. McClelland Street.

Questions may be directed to the Recreation and Parks Department 925-0951 ext. 260.

<b>Department:</b>	<b>Recreation and Parks Department</b>
<b>Contact Person:</b>	<b>Dennis Smitherman, Recreation Supervisor</b>
<b>Telephone Number:</b>	<b>(805) 925-0951 ext. 263</b>
<b>E-mail Address:</b>	<b><a href="mailto:dsmitherman@cityofsantamaria.org">dsmitherman@cityofsantamaria.org</a></b>