COMMENDING
THE YMCA OF MARIN
SAN RAFAEL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
2004 LARGE BUSINESS OF THE YEAR AWARD

WHEREAS, the YMCA of Marin has been selected as the Large Business of the Year by the San Rafael Chamber of Commerce for the contributions it has made to the economic vitality and the quality of life of our community; and

WHEREAS, the YMCA of Marin, one of Marin County's major employers, has served the local community for 56 years by providing quality programs for children, teens, adults, seniors and families. The branch, its community-based Board of Managers, and its staff support the local economy by frequenting and buying from local businesses and by subcontracting most maintenance work to local vendors and service providers; and

WHEREAS, as a community-based organization, the YMCA of Marin also has a long history of successful partnerships with local schools, government offices, and civic and private organizations. It partners with the City of San Rafael Parks and Recreation Department and the Catholic Youth Organization to offer after-school and sports programs at Pickleweed Park. The YMCA also provides a fully subsidized physical education program a Bahia Vista Elementary School, a program they have operated for 10 years. Two other partially subsidized programs are offered at Laurel Del and San Pedro Elementary Schools; and

WHEREAS, the YMCA supports local organizations, such as the Marin Abused Women’s Shelter (MAWS), and has programs in partnership with the Arthritis Foundation and the Susan G. Komen Foundation. In addition, the staff actively participates in local festivals, business and career fairs, health and wellness events, parades, golf tournaments, marathons, Relay for Life activities, and AIDS walks; and

WHEREAS, in keeping with its mission to “build strong kids, strong families, and strong communities,” the YMCA provides volunteer opportunities for local teens and seniors, and for individuals who need to complete community service hours. The YMCA works closely with Kaiser Permanente to offer a Cardiac Therapy program that assists heart patients in reaching optimal physical and psychological health; and

WHEREAS, other important YMCA programs include an intervention and mentoring program for at-risk youth. This program includes Camp Chance, a summer overnight experience offered in partnership with the San Rafael Police Department. Additionally, the special needs programs provide an opportunity for individuals with physical disabilities to work one-on-one with trainers or aquatics personnel; and

WHEREAS, the organization also hosts three annual community events: Camp Creepy, a safe alternative for Halloween and fund-raiser for the teens in the Youth & Government program; SPLASH, a four-day water safety event held each April; and Healthy Kids Day, an informational and entertaining event. Other periodic public events include blood pressure screening, blood drives, flu shots, osteoporosis screening, cancer patient support group, Weight Watchers, financial planning seminars, lectures, and a book mobile.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marin recognizes and commends the YMCA of Marin on the occasion of their being named the San Rafael Chamber of Commerce 2004 Large Business of the Year.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marin held this 6th day of April 2004, by the following vote:

AYES: SUPERVISORS
Susan L. Adams, Harold C. Brown, Jr., Annette Rose, Cynthia L. Murray, Steve Kinsey

NOES: SUPERVISORS
None

ABSENT: SUPERVISORS
None

President

Clerk