

## The Gratitude Circle

*The Gratitude Circle is a partnership between the Conejo Recreation & Park District and Play Conejo. Annually, the ConejoRPD Board of Directors celebrates and honors individuals who have made a significant contribution of time, effort, or energy to recreation and parks in the Conejo Valley.*

The Gratitude Circle is also a place where people can honor loved ones and support ConejoRPD's parks and programs through charitable giving.

### CONEJO RECREATION & PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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The **Conejo Recreation & Park District** is an independent special district serving the Conejo Valley since 1963. Its mission is to enrich the quality of life for our community by preserving and enhancing recreational opportunities, parks, and open space.



**Play Conejo** is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization created in 2012 to provide volunteer, charitable, and financial support for public park facilities and recreation programs which benefit Conejo Valley residents. Play Conejo is raising funds to help the District maintain quality parks and offer diverse and affordable recreation programs.

**2018 Gratitude Circle Dedication**  
**Monday, May 7 at 5:30pm**

**The Board of Directors  
of the  
Conejo Recreation and Park District**

**is proud to honor and recognize**

**Richard F. Newman**

**for his dedication  
to the people of the Conejo Valley  
through recreation, parks, and open space**

1. Gratitude
2. Children's
3. Stream
4. Lake
5. Volleyball
6. Turf
7. Restroom
8. parking
9. picnic
10. Concert







## Gratitude Circle Honorees

2018

Richard F. Newman

2017

Doris Granholm

2016

Frances Prince  
Rorie Skei

2015

Dennis Gillette  
Mike Berger  
Barbara Kloster

2014

Tex Ward  
Mark Jacobsen

"The lives of countless young people have been made better because Richard Newman sincerely cared about them."

~ *Tex Ward*

"Richard is an OUTSTANDING choice for the Gratitude Circle. I first met Dick in 1978 and he was always doing something for kids (fostering, coaching, & serving). Richard was a true asset to this community."

~ *Mike Berger*



## Richard F. Newman

A Conejo Recreation and Park District Board Member from 1982 - 1989, Richard "Dick" Newman dedicated over 40 years of his life to the well-being of his community, with a focus on the youth within the Conejo Valley. He served as a Conejo Valley Unified School District Board Member from 1989 - 1998 and was also a credentialed middle and high school counselor for the Conejo Valley and Las Virgenes School Districts well into his late 70's.

He managed and coached in the Conejo Valley Little League (CVLL) for 24 years, including All-Stars and CVLL Board positions. With his counseling degree, he worked in the Oak Park School District as an At-Risk Counselor in middle schools until he was off the school board, at which time he shifted to At-Risk children in the Conejo Valley Unified School District middle schools. He volunteered at Sequoia Middle School until 2015.

Richard's career included stints in Hollywood as a publicist and writer. After moving to Thousand Oaks, he became a member of the Simi Valley Police Department, retiring as a Lieutenant. While with the SVPD, he earned Master's Degrees in Administration of Justice, Public Administration and Educational Counseling. He and his wife, Pat, welcomed 45 foster sons into their home over the years.

In addition to his wife, Richard is survived by three sons (Rob, Rick and Chris) and five granddaughters (Jessica, Ryan, Grace, Alexandra and Joy).



The Board of Directors of the Conejo Recreation and Park District are grateful to Richard for his positive impact.

The quality of life in the Conejo Valley is due, in no small part, to his unflagging dedication and passion for recreation, parks, and open space.