

## **Andre Agassi to Tour Boys & Girls Club of Western Nevada with Assemblywoman Bonnie Parnell**

LAS VEGAS – March 27, 2009 – On April 1, 2009 Andre Agassi will visit the Boys & Girls Club in Carson City with Assemblywoman Bonnie Parnell during a day spent in the capital city to testify on education policy reform.

Assemblywoman Parnell invited Agassi to the Club since they share a focus on education reform and the need for better programs to serve children growing up in Nevada. Parnell serves as the Chair of the Assembly Committee on Education, and Agassi's Foundation, the Andre Agassi Foundation, is dedicated to transforming public education in Nevada and beyond.

Boys & Girls Clubs have long been important to Andre Agassi. In 1997, his Foundation opened the Andre Agassi Boys & Girls Club in one of Las Vegas' most economically challenged neighborhoods. His Foundation has given more than \$4 million towards the construction and operations of the Club that bears his name, which includes ongoing funding for its signature youth tennis and basketball programs at the 25,000-square-foot facility.

During his visit to the Carson City Club, Agassi will tour the facility and its tennis program, which serves more than 200 children each year. Agassi and Parnell will together meet and thank some of the club's supporters who have been instrumental in the organization's capital campaign for a new, improved facility.

Bonnie Parnell commented, "The Boys & Girls Club of Western Nevada embodies my passion for local programs that serve and protect our city's youth. I am pleased to showcase our community to Andre Agassi, who has been a longtime advocate for children and education, and the need to improve educational opportunities."

Hal Hansen, chief professional officer of the Carson City Club, is proud of the organization's efforts in raising over \$5 million toward its total capital campaign goal of \$5.5 million. The campaign funds the capital dollars needed for a new state-of-art facility that will feature improved tennis courts.

"Our tennis program – with volunteer coach Bob Phelps at the helm – is a critical part of our goals to boost children's self-esteem, focus and self-discipline," commented Hansen. "We are really proud of the enrichment we provide to our community's children and look forward to sharing what we do with Mr. Agassi."

### **About the Andre Agassi Foundation**

The Andre Agassi Foundation is dedicated to transforming U.S. public education for underserved youth. The Foundation drives reform by engaging in practice, policy and partnerships that provide quality education and enrichment opportunities. The Foundation is a 501(c) (3) not-for-profit public charity that was established in 1994. Learn more at [www.agassifoundation.org](http://www.agassifoundation.org).