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**Boys & Girls Club Celebrating 60 Years,
Seeking Club Stories**

Shelton, CT, January 21, 2016 – The Boys & Girls Club of the Lower Naugatuck Valley is celebrating its 60th anniversary in 2016. Special events will be held throughout the year commemorating the milestone, culminating with an anniversary gala in November.

As part of the year-long celebration, we are looking for stories about anyone whose life was positively effected by our Boys & Girls Club. Stories are welcome all year long, from Club members, past members, friends, and family. If you have an experience you'd like to share with us, please email Press@BGC-LNV.org, or call Ann Wheeler at 203-924-7462.

The Boys & Girls Club of the Lower Naugatuck Valley is for boys and girls ages pre-K through 18, of all ethnicities, races, and creeds. Trained professional staff provide members with positive adult mentors and role models. Nationally recognized programs are designed to help members succeed in school, stay healthy, learn important life skills, pursue interests in the arts and sports, and explore vocational choices.

The club was established in 1926 as the Community Building Association. In 1956 the organization was incorporated as a Boys Club and merged with the Community Center in 1969. In 1980 girls were accepted as full-time members. The name changed to the its current iteration in 1993 to reflect the service increase to the entire Valley. The Raymond P. Lavietes Clubhouse in Shelton was opened in 1999, the Joel E. Smilow Clubhouse in Ansonia was opened in 2009, a satellite program at Elizabeth Shelton School also opened in 2009, and the latest addition, the Seymour Unit, was opened in 2014.

For further information about the Boys & Girls Club of the Lower Naugatuck Valley, visit us at www.BGC-LNV.org.

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