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**Creative Expressions of Survival Motivate All Involved**

*Wood/Patel Executive Supports Children's Fight against Cancer*

(PHOENIX, September 20, 2006) – Wood/Patel, Arizona's #1 civil engineering firm (*Ranking Arizona - The Best of Arizona Business, 2004, 2005 and 2006*), announced that Sondra (Sam) Dennison, Director of Operations, was appointed to the Board of Directors of Beads of Courage®, an Arizona non-profit organization.

Beads of Courage® is a resilience-based intervention designed to support and strengthen the protective resources in children coping with cancer. Through the program, children tell their story using colorful beads as meaningful symbols of courage that commemorate milestones they have achieved along their unique treatment path.

"I know how critical this organization is to the community, and its children," said Dennison. "Beads of Courage enriches lives and provides something tangible children can use to tell about their experience during cancer treatment and after. It is personally rewarding to be involved and I'm looking forward to assuming this position."

For 14 years, Dennison has managed the growth of Wood/Patel. Currently, Dennison oversees management and direction of Wood/Patel's operations (resources and personnel), consults with all segments of management responsible for company policy or action (ensuring compliance with areas of responsibilities), and makes recommendations for improving the effectiveness of policies and procedures.

**About Wood Patel**

Wood/Patel, Arizona's #1 civil engineering firm, as ranked by The Arizona Business Magazine (*Ranking Arizona - The Best of Arizona Business, 2004, 2005 and 2006*), has been serving Arizona communities in the Valley for over 20 years. Wood/Patel is a full-service civil engineering, surveying, transportation and construction management firm providing services to public and private sector clients. The firm offers water/wastewater, transportation, water resources, master planned communities, surveying and construction management services. Currently, Wood/Patel employs more than 200 engineers, hydrologists, surveyors, construction managers and technical and administrative support staff. For more information, please visit our website at [www.woodpatel.com](http://www.woodpatel.com), or call 602-335-8500.

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