

Lafayette Civic News continued

Party for Open Space Acquisition

By Cathy Tyson



View of Acalanes Ridge Open Space

Muir Heritage Land Trust (MHLT) is going all out to host the *Autumn Celebration 2010* party to support acquiring and protecting twenty-three acres of open space in Acalanes Ridge that encompasses the highest, most visually significant promontory in the area. The public is invited to enjoy wine, appetizers and the music of legendary Bob Athayde, and support the Acalanes Ridge Land Acquisition project while mingling with celebrity guests and MHLT members at the Lafayette Library and Learning Center on November 3. Freshly elected officials are expected to attend, as well as MHLT volunteers and award winners.

It's not everyday that residents get to ensure a scenic landmark is preserved in perpetuity for the community to enjoy and possibly get an autograph from Doug McConnell of "Bay Area Backroads" fame.

The parcel in question is located within the City of Lafayette

and is vitally important because it links the Acalanes Ridge Open Space and Briones Regional Park and has commanding views from the summit of the Livermore foothills, Mt. Diablo, Suisun Bay, the Carquinez Strait, Briones Regional Park, the Oakland Hills and Las Trampas Regional Park.

In an innovative collaboration, the MHLT generated a plan to combine the resources of all par-

Photos Richard Gylgayton ties and signed a purchase agreement in February with partners the City of Lafayette, the City of Walnut Creek, and the East Bay Regional Park District. "In this agreement, the Muir Heritage Land Trust will hold title to the property, which will be governed by a conservation easement held jointly by our three partners," said Linus Eukel, Executive Director of MHLT in a statement.

"Escrow must close by the end of December, and completion of this project hinges on all partners fulfilling their part of the agreement. Our partners have pledged funds from Measure WW and other sources to purchase the land, at a price of \$1,305,500. MHLT must raise \$400,000 to cover the costs associated with acquisition, and to provide for stewardship, administration, planning, and an endowment for long-range management," he continued. Contributions are still needed to reach their goal in addition to current significant donations from the Seaborg Open Space Fund, the Walnut Creek Open Space Fund and many individuals in the community.

The festivities run from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00p.m., Wednesday, November 3 at the Community Hall of the Lafayette Library and Learning Center. Please RSVP to ellen@muirheritagelandtrust.org or call 925-228-7152. The event is being sponsored by Overaa Construction and Saintsbury Vineyards. For more information, go to www.muirheritagelandtrust.org.



GARDEN NEED HELP?

Start with Calvin Craig Landscaping



AWARD-WINNING DESIGNS
Quality, Value and Service Since 1988

SUSTAINABLE YEAR-ROUND BEAUTY
LOW MAINTENANCE • LOW WATER USE
Fine and Organic Gardening Service
Landscape Renovation and Drainage Specialists

Call us today for a **FREE** consultation.

Horticulturist • Designer • Contractor



Calvin Craig Landscaping

925-935-5269

View our online portfolio at www.CraigLandscaping.com

Licensed, Insured & Bonded. CLC#545003

Lafayette Care Home

A Residential Care Home for the Elderly

Lafayette Care Home features six private rooms in a beautiful setting. We pride ourselves in giving personal and individual care. Currently, we have two rooms available. Please contact Linda at (925) 451-6456 to arrange a visit.

Testimonial from Marian M.

"Our mother has been with the Lafayette Care Home for over 3 years, and we are more than pleased with the loving care provided. We highly recommend this exceptional care home."



Lafayette Care Home 3640 Baker Lane, Lafayette, CA 94549 (925) 451-6456 Lic # 075600841



LAFAYETTE LIBRARY
AND LEARNING CENTER
FOUNDATION

AN OPEN INVITATION TO THE LAFAYETTE COMMUNITY

The Lafayette Library and Learning Center Foundation (LLLCF) invites community members to apply for the position of member of the Board of Trustees

LLLCF Board responsibilities include:

- ✦ Fiduciary management of Foundation assets
- ✦ Development/implementation of a strategic fundraising plan
- ✦ Oversight of the Foundation's budget, operations and staff
- ✦ Sustainability of the Glenn Seaborg Learning Consortium
- ✦ Collaborative relations with the County, City, schools and other community partners

Trustee responsibilities include but are not limited to active participation in:

- ✦ Fundraising including support of special events
- ✦ Monthly board and committee meetings
- ✦ Promotion of Foundation programs and events
- ✦ Ability to communicate LLLCF's vision, mission, goals and scope of work to the community

Applications are available at www.LLLCF.org

Printed copies available at City Offices, Library Foundation Office, Chamber of Commerce

Applications are due November 12, 2010 ~ Applicants will be contacted for interviews

LLLCF's Governance Committee

(composed of three trustees and three community members) will:

- ✦ Manage an open recruitment process with a particular focus on finding board members with finance, communications or fundraising experience
- ✦ Select up to 4 candidates to serve as Trustees

Please return applications to LLLCF

3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Suite 214, Lafayette, CA 94549

For further information call 925.283.6513 x 104

Eagle Scout Design-Build Project Complete

By Cathy Tyson



Ted Kessler works on his Eagle Scout fence project.

Photo provided

Ted Kessler, a 17-year-old senior at Acalanes High School, recently finished an ambitious Eagle Scout project to make the Lafayette Community Park just a little safer.

Calling it, "a lot of work," Kessler, a member of Scout Troop 241, had to jump through a number of administrative hoops and get a green light from Scout Leadership to bring his plan for a 35-foot long fence to fruition. Kessler had found

a trail within the park that led right up to the unseen edge of a steep embankment in a remote area of the park.

The process involved making several presentations to various committees to get the project approved. Pitching the plan, figuring out a design, making a budget, coordinating workers, getting funding for supplies, even accommodating a wildlife right of way under the fence were all components of the

task that took an estimated 170 hours to complete. "It was cool organizing everything," he said.

Kessler just received his Eagle rank at a recent Board of Review on October 19. The project needed to be complete by his eighteenth birthday. Not easy to do considering Kessler is also in the midst of applying to a number of colleges.

"This is a rare chance to learn project management," said Laura Kaufman, Kessler's mother, noting the need to coordinate a myriad of details. The average high school senior is usually not thinking about durability, efficiency and Community Park fencing requirements. She said the Scout Leaders, Phil Chernin, Blake Rothfuss and Brad Prescott, M.D., were great about stepping back and leaving room for Ted to figure it out.

"I was impressed that he came up with the idea of a protection fence near Las Trampas Creek on his own," said Jennifer Russell, Parks and Recreation Director. Usually Eagle Scout candidates come to her looking for a task.

Kessler describes it as a great learning opportunity, "Nothing compares with doing the entire thing - it's the best experience a teenager could have." The project was completed just in a nick of time, as Kessler turned 18 on October 18.

DIABLO FLOORING, INC



CARPET • HARDWOOD • LAMINATE • TILE • VINYL

Diablo Flooring Inc. is here to bring the best possible pricing with the most beautiful and complete installation to the Bay Area. We are a small store which lets us give you the attention needed for a more professional experience. We cater to residential & commercial customers, designer, contractors, and developers.

FREE ESTIMATES

(925) 426-RUGS (7847)

(925) 988-WOOD (9663)

5600-D Susal Blvd, Pleasanton, CA 94566

1813 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Walnut Creek, CA 94596

VISIT OUR SHOWROOM OR Shop@Home WWW.DIABLOFLOORING.COM

License #098787 • Bonded • Insured up to \$2 Million

\$250
Off*

*Minimum 1,000 sq. ft.
Exp. 11-30-10