



greenfootnotes

COMMITTEE FOR GREEN FOOTHILLS

BY LENNIE ROBERTS LEGISLATIVE ADVOCATE &
SHANI KLEINHAUS ENVIRONMENTAL ADVOCATE
WITH SANTA CLARA VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY

What's Next for Searsville?

Habitat created by Searsville Dam is home to many important wildlife and plant species.

This article originally appeared in the Almanac News on May 20, 2015, and the Palo Alto Weekly on May 29, 2015.

On May 1, the day Stanford University released its plans for Searsville Dam, an article labeled “1000 dams down and counting” was published in the journal *Science*. This study showed that stream ecosystems are resilient, and respond quickly and positively to dam removal. It also cautioned that current models are not very effective at predicting downstream effects. With that in mind—what should be the fate of Searsville Dam?

Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society and the Committee for Green Foothills started grappling with this question in 2011 when we were asked to support dam removal. Although removing a dam that no longer serves its original purpose of water storage is clearly an appealing idea, we were concerned about the many unknowns and decided not to take a position at that time. We did not doubt that dam removal would facilitate passage of

steelhead trout to their upstream historic spawning areas, but what were the likely impacts to other habitats and sensitive species that live in the watershed?

We were also concerned about increased flood risks to the 8,400 homes and businesses in the creek’s historic floodplain in East Palo Alto, Palo Alto, and Menlo Park. No dam removal project located above a similar highly developed flood zone has ever been attempted. We asked ourselves, what are the risks to cities downstream? And what opportunities are associated with the dam that could be lost if it is removed?

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COMMITTEE FOR GREEN FOOTHILLS

We are a grassroots 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization working to establish and maintain land use policies that protect the environment throughout Santa Clara and San Mateo counties.

Our mission is to protect the open spaces, farmlands, and natural resources of Santa Clara and San Mateo counties through advocacy, education, and grassroots action.

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Extraordinary Gift from Unexpected Source

BY MEGAN MEDEIROS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

We received a huge boost last November with a generous gift from Richard and Beth DeAtley. The couple gave \$500,000 dedicated to our legislative advocacy program.

Their dedication to the environment can be traced back to their childhoods. “I grew up in Idaho, a state of great beauty, with pine forests and mountains, working on my uncle’s family farm,” says Richard. Beth “grew up in the Virginia countryside, surrounded by trees and landscape. We took for granted that it would always be beautiful.”

Richard and Beth were both raised in households where conservation and the environment were a part of life. Around the time Committee for Green Foothills was founded, when large cities were paving over the countryside, Beth’s parents and their neighbors banded together to prevent subdividing of parcels of less than five acres.

Richard and Beth moved to the San Francisco Bay Area before they met with hopes of living where incredible scenic beauty surrounds bustling cities filled with visionary people open to new ideas. “I can’t think of anything worse than being surrounded by buildings and cement all the time,” says Richard, “I feel best when I’m surrounded by nature and greenery, and I want to do what I can to protect what we have left.”

Richard was the President of West Coast Aggregates (WCA), a quarrying firm, and will be the first to say that he’s always been an industrial-type guy. But, he says, “I was very mindful about declaring that our motto was ‘An environmentally concerned company.’ This byline meant something to me. We wanted to tell the world that we cared.”

In 2014 a long permitting process for WCA’s quarry expansion just a few miles east of Half Moon Bay came to an end unopposed by the California Coastal Commission because of the environmental initiatives Mr. DeAtley championed. Among the many mitigations offered by WCA was giving back two-thirds of the property with an easement funded in perpetuity.

About Committee for Green Foothills, Richard and Beth say, “It’s an organization that has our trust. Those who develop need to learn to coexist with the environment. We need to protect our local landscapes.”

The DeAtley’s extraordinary gift, one of the largest ever given to our organization, will help fund our advocacy efforts long into the future. And not only will our work be helped tremendously, but the entire area surrounding the WCA quarry also will benefit from the environmental commitment made by the DeAtleys.

The gift comes via a donor-advised fund from the Silicon Valley Community Foundation. It is earmarked for the legislative advocacy program and will have a maximum annual draw of \$75,000. Combined with annual giving from our members, the gift will protect our three advocate staff positions for many years to come. If you are interested in making a designated gift to support our Legislative Advocacy program, as the DeAtley’s did, I hope you will let us know.



Richard and Beth DeAtley enjoying the wildflowers on our April hike at Harvey Bear Ranch County Park.

Megan Medeiros is our Executive Director. Raised in the foothills of the Mount Diablo Range, she now lives in downtown San Jose. She enjoys hiking, bicycling, and rock climbing.



Honoring Two Icons in California Publishing: Malcolm Margolin and David Loeb

BY RON ERSKINE BOARD VICE PRESIDENT

At our 12th annual Nature's Inspiration gala this October, Committee for Green Foothills will be celebrating the accomplishments of two icons in California publishing. Through Heyday Books and *Bay Nature* magazine, Malcolm Margolin and David Loeb have challenged readers to see our landscape and our place in it with a fresh perspective.

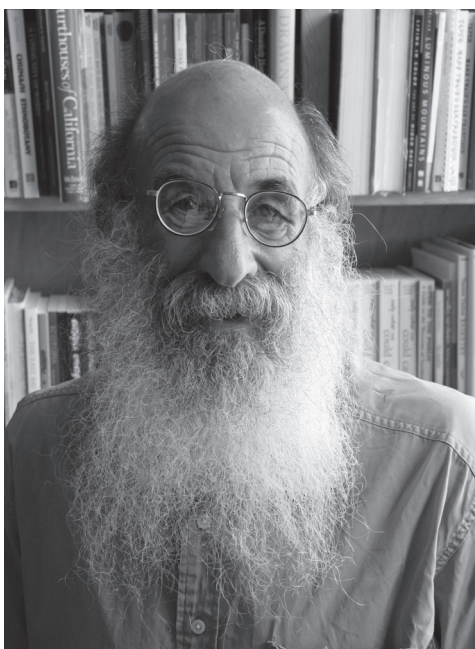
While the work of Malcolm and David overlaps, it is only at the margins, and each man expresses a distinct personal vision. Two of our board members, Helen Chapman and Ron Erskine, along with Executive Director Megan Medeiros, recently sat down with our honorees to hear their stories.

"I drove to the Bay Area from New York in a VW bus during the summer of love and found a unique community that welcomed and interested me," said Malcolm, "Feeling at home, I settled in Berkeley and never left."

Malcolm went on to found Heyday Books, an independent nonprofit publisher with an eclectic library of titles on history, nature, architecture, politics, and the diversity of cultures—both native and immigrant—all deeply rooted in the California landscape. He is himself a published author, with well-known books like *The Ohlone Way: Indian Life in the San Francisco-Monterey Bay Area*.

At our meeting David reminded Malcolm of their first encounter, when Malcolm interviewed David for an office manager job at Heyday. "We both agreed that the job

"If it wasn't for the advocacy of groups like Committee for Green Foothills, there wouldn't be anything for us to write about."



Malcolm Margolin

was not right for me, and I spent the next several years working at the Guatemala News and Information Bureau."

Like Malcolm, David is a transplant from the east coast, drawn to the area by its combination of natural beauty and cultural diversity. Since first arriving here in 1973, he had enjoyed exploring the Bay Area's open spaces, but never in a deep way.

But on a hike one day, David decided that the beauty and diversity of the local landscape deserved a publication that would share the importance of our region's wild places. "It's simple really. I thought the natural landscapes of the Bay Area were incredibly beautiful and wanted to understand them more deeply and share that with others."

So, David met with Malcolm a second time in 1997 to propose that they work together to create such a publication. "We sketched out an estimated budget on the back of an envelope to see if it could work," remembered David. "The \$50,000 annual deficit looked daunting to me, but Malcolm said, 'No, this can work.' And off we went." One man's talents were a perfect complement to the other's.

With a generous grant from the Packard Foundation, the first *Bay Nature* issue was released in 2001.

With David serving both as the magazine's publisher and as Executive Director of Bay Nature Institute, the organization is stronger than ever. For the past 15 years, it has been the intelligent regional voice for our unique local environment and for the community of people and organizations who work for its preservation. "It is because of David's intuition about what readers wanted that resulted in *Bay Nature*'s success for all these years,"

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David Loeb

HABITAT GAINS AND LOSSES

resulting from Stanford's proposal to create an opening at the bottom of Searsville Dam to drain the reservoir, flush out the fine sediment, and restore fish passage.



Steelhead trout would gain access to historic spawning and rearing habitat in the upper watershed of Corte Madera Creek and its tributaries, assuming other limiting factors can also be addressed.



Yellow warbler and other migratory neotropical birds would lose riparian forest habitats. Another avian species that depends upon Searsville's emergent aquatic habitat is the saltmarsh common yellowthroat.



13 species of bats found at Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve (there are 16 species of bats found in California) would be potentially impacted by loss of Searsville's open water and wetlands habitats.



San Francisco dusky-footed woodrat, a species of special concern, would initially have its existing habitat disrupted, but could gain more acres than it loses long-term.

Since we wanted more information before taking a position, we expressed an interest in comprehensive studies of options that included evaluation of all the risks and tradeoffs. We were invited to join the 25-member Searsville Alternatives Study Advisory Group, which began meeting in early 2013. Other stakeholders included local elected officials, regulatory agencies, environmental and conservation interest groups, representatives of Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve, and residents concerned with upstream and downstream flooding risks. For two years we heard presentations from many disciplines, asked questions, and reviewed studies, models, and engineering and technological solutions. Our Advisory Group evaluated risks, discussed benefits and tradeoffs, and considered alternatives—each stakeholder contributing his or her own unique perspective.

As representatives of environmental organizations working in the communities of the San Francisco watershed, we focused not only on fish passage but also on the larger suite of habitats and resources, and the potential results of any action on the myriad species (and people) that share the watershed. A particular concern was the potential loss of open water at Searsville reservoir (at a great cost to bat species); potential loss of up to 200 acres of wetlands and wetland/riparian forest (at a great cost to migratory bird species); and unavoidable sedimentation of the creek downstream and the Bay (with potential impacts to several endangered species and increased flood risks).

Stanford's Faculty and Staff Steering Committee has also been intensively studying Searsville's options on a separate, parallel track. Their recommended course of action: create an opening at the bottom of the dam to drain the reservoir and flush out the fine sediment, with the intent that this will allow fish passage and provide attenuation of peak flood flows. Some habitats will be restored under this plan, while others will be reduced, relocated, or lost. A major advantage of this option is that it is reversible; if models of sediment impacts and risks of downstream flooding prove inaccurate, and adverse impacts become evident in the watershed, the opening in the dam can be closed.

The Searsville Alternatives process now begins an intensive new phase of public and environmental agency review. This process will be rigorous, particularly since many questions remain and details need to be fleshed out. There will be many opportunities for public engagement, and shovels in the ground will be several years away.

We thank Stanford University for inviting us to participate in the Searsville Alternatives Study Advisory Group and thank the other stakeholders that made it such an engaging educational experience. We are glad the collective wisdom of this process has chosen a cautious path forward. 🐾

For nearly 40 years, Lennie Roberts has been our voice in San Mateo County. One of the Bay Area's most respected environmental leaders, Lennie has led countless critical open space battles on the San Mateo county coast and along Skyline Boulevard.



THE MARY DAVEY LEGACY SOCIETY

For those wonderful people who care deeply about our local environment



Mary Davey, a longtime board member and inspirational leader of Committee for Green Foothills.

“Wonderful people!”

This wasn’t just Mary Davey’s catch phrase; it was her approach to life. She met every person or problem she encountered with the same positive energy embodied in that phrase. As a Committee for Green Foothills board member and volunteer for over 40 years, a founder of Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District, one of the leaders who raised the funds to purchase the Peninsula Conservation Center, and so much more—Mary left an incredible legacy.

To recognize Mary’s lifetime of service, earlier this year we renamed our legacy society the Mary Davey Legacy Society.

The Mary Davey Legacy Society honors and celebrates those wonderful people who, like Mary, have included Committee for Green Foothills in their legacy planning. It is thanks to these people that we are able to sustain our work and protect local open space for future generations.

If you have included Committee for Green Foothills in your plans, we encourage you to help with our financial planning by letting us know. Though we would like to welcome you publicly into the Mary Davey Legacy Society, we will ensure your anonymity if you prefer.

WE THANK OUR CURRENT MARY DAVEY LEGACY SOCIETY MEMBERS

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Megan and Mark Medeiros
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* Legacy Members who are no longer with us.

To learn more about legacy giving and what’s new with our work, please join us at our 2015 member socials, hosted at board members’ homes. We’ll enjoy wonderful company, delicious food, wine, sparkling drinks. Our next socials are:

Sunday, August 30

4–6pm

Hosted by Helen Chapman in San Jose

Sunday, November 8

3–5pm

Hosted by Ron Erskine in Morgan Hill

For more information or to RSVP, please see www.greenfoothills.org/socials or call Justyne Schnupp at 650-968-7243 x340.

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Robin Ann Sutton
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Rose Wright
Jeffery and Sophie Yost
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Fifi Zeff
Mary and Mark Zoback
Palomar Park Garden Club

In memory of:

Bill Brown
Mary Davey
Dan Gray
Walter H. Harrington
Jim Johnson
Darlene B. Jones
Audrey Kass
Bill Kortum
Martin Litton
Susan Marsland
Ollie Mayer
Howard F. Schopman
Joan Stiff
Lynn Torin
Georg Treichel

In honor of:

Matt Burrows
Lenora Fitting
Joanne Greenwald
Judy Holder
Amanda Henry
Julie Hutcheson
Margaret MacNiven
Mark and Rachel
Pete McCloskey
Megan Medeiros
Frank and Claire Pacelli
Lennie Roberts
Gabriel Zulman Rosenberg
Elizabeth Sarmiento
Brian Schmidt
Jeff Segall
Peter Stein
Diane Talbert
Mae and Jerry Tinkleberg
Ciddy Wordell
Ellen Zeff

Protecting San Jose's Creeks

BY ALICE KAUFMAN LEGISLATIVE ADVOCATE

On our Coyote Creek Watershed Tour in March, I spoke on the importance of riparian buffer zones. This article summarizes riparian issues and what we are doing to protect local creeks.

The recent history of our creeks can be summed up as “out of sight, out of mind.” During the era of sprawl in the 1950s and 1960s, many creeks were put into concrete channels or even buried underground. Moreover, even creeks spared that treatment have been compromised due to buildings and roads being located too close to the top of the bank. This has affected not only the wildlife that use creek corridors, but also the stability of creek channels, water quality, and flooding risks.

To preserve the health of our remaining creek corridors, it is vital to keep development—including roads, other paved surfaces, and any structures including fences and sheds—away from creek banks. Several local jurisdictions have riparian buffer zone ordinances, though some are more effective at protecting creeks than others. For example, San Jose has riparian corridor guidelines that indicate that development should be at least 100 feet back from riparian vegetation. However, these are only guidelines, not an enforceable ordinance.

For several years, I've been working with a group of riparian advocates in San Jose to achieve enforceable riparian corridor protection. This year, we've finally managed to get the city council to prioritize development of a real ordinance. We hope that 2015 will be the year when San Jose's creeks receive the protection they deserve and other cities in our region start to follow suit.

IMPORTANCE OF RIPARIAN BUFFER ZONES

Buildings and roads too close to a creek or river cause rainfall to run off into the creek instead of being absorbed into the ground. This runoff can carry pollutants from car traffic and can erode creek banks and lead to bank collapse. During heavy storms, runoff leads to an increased risk of flooding, compounded by the erosion silting up the creek channel.

When developers remove riparian vegetation, all these issues are further exacerbated. Tree roots stabilize creek banks, and low vegetation filters contaminants from runoff and slows the speed of water. Trees provide nutrients to the creek by dropping leaves and branches into the water, and their shade helps keep the creek cool enough for fish habitat.

Finally, trees and other vegetation growing in riparian corridors are vital to wildlife. In the dry climate of the Bay Area, creeks and rivers are the lifelines of survival for most terrestrial species. The high-moisture environment found in and near creek



Protected creeks provide important habitat, flood prevention, and improved water quality.

channels sustains plants that do not grow elsewhere and that provide important foraging and breeding habitat for many species. This is true even during dry seasons when there is little to no flowing water in creek beds. About 80% of western species use riparian corridors at some point in their lives, and more species of breeding birds use riparian corridors than any other habitat—even though riparian corridors comprise less than 1% of total land mass. Particularly in urban areas, creeks can provide the only wildlife habitat for miles, and they create migration routes between the Bay and the hills.

When development is located adjacent to a creek, the value of this wildlife habitat is degraded. Human presence has a disruptive effect on movement patterns of animals and their ability to utilize nesting and foraging resources. Human activity, nighttime lighting, and noise are stressors for many species and can cause animals to abandon an area that might otherwise provide valuable habitat and migration routes.

I will continue fighting to protect the health of our creeks and riparian corridors in San Jose and throughout the area. If you want to join me in these efforts, or learn more, please contact me at alice@greenfoothills.org to get involved. 🐾

Alice Kaufman is one of our Legislative Advocates. She is a founding member of Redwood City Neighbors United, a community group working to oppose the massive Cargill/DMB Saltworks development on the Redwood City salt ponds.



Earth Day Celebration a Success in East Palo Alto

BY ALICE KAUFMAN LEGISLATIVE ADVOCATE & LISA DORN EAST PALO ALTO RESIDENT

Be green, keep our city clean,” was the theme of our second annual East Palo Alto Earth Day Celebration on April 25, 2015. We spearheaded the event to strengthen our relationships with local community leaders and introduce residents to a host of ways they can help the earth in their own backyard. We partnered with the city and other local nonprofits to provide volunteer opportunities, information tables, and an incredible panel of speakers.

The day was a great success, drawing over 150 residents to Cesar Chavez Elementary School for a day of service and celebration. Participants helped care for young trees with Canopy, worked with the East Palo Alto Police Department to paint over graffiti, picked up trash from the streets, and helped monitor the health of San Francisquito Creek with Acterra. Many local nonprofits and community agencies were on hand to discuss composting, watershed pollution, and farmers markets, among other topics. As the day concluded, attendees heard from Mayor Lisa Yarbrough-Gauthier, State Assemblyman Rich Gordon, and Len Materman, Executive Director of the San Francisquito Creek Joint Powers Authority. Stanford professor Dr. Rodolfo Dirzo gave a bilingual presentation about the community effects of climate change.

Our work in East Palo Alto stems from our observation that, unlike most other cities in San Mateo County, the city has little

open space and parkland. We know that the residents care deeply about the environment and their city, but East Palo Alto residents could benefit from additional resources to effect change. We have been working with the community for the past several years, advocating for more open space within the city. Our Earth Day celebration was an opportunity to reach a wider group of residents and inspire them to find new ways to improve the environmental health of their city. 🌱



Top: Assemblymember Rich Gordon and East Palo Alto Mayor Lisa Yarbrough-Gauthier both spoke at the celebration. Above: Volunteers help care for local trees as part of the East Palo Alto Earth Day Celebration.

Meet Our New “Green Feet” Team Member:

Justyne Schnupp Introduces Herself

I have always enjoyed exploring natural open spaces, and being a mother of two beautifully wild boys, I want to share the world with them as I enjoyed it growing up. What luck to work for Committee for Green Foothills, which helps protect that world.

I took my first step in the environmental field working with the nonprofit Environmental Volunteers. There, children learn through hands-on science and nature education. This program instilled in me the knowledge that kids need to be outdoors, embrace nature, and learn to be the world's stewards. But it isn't just kids. Everyone should be able to go outside and touch, see, taste, and smell the world around them.

After working in development and fundraising at various nonprofits, I have found event planning to be my true love. I hope that through our programs and events I can draw new members and partners to Committee for Green Foothills. By expanding our membership and diversifying it, we can gain more public support and achieve more results in the community.

I'm very thankful for this opportunity and cannot wait to meet all of you. 🐾

Justyne joined our staff in May as our Events and Outreach Coordinator. You can reach her at justyne@greenfoothills.org or 650-968-7243 x340.



Justyne is Committee for Green Foothills' Events and Outreach Coordinator. She is a graduate of the University of San Francisco and previously worked at Environmental Volunteers. When she's not planning events, she enjoys roaming the world with her husband and two sons.

Continued from Page 3

says Malcolm.

During our visit, a constant refrain of Malcolm's and David's was community; everyone who values local nature has an important role to play. While the day-to-day work of our two honorees is very different from the work we do at Committee for Green Foothills, our goals are very much the same.

The pieces of our landscape—the beaches and baylands, hillsides and grasslands, rivers and streams—are critically important to the Bay Area community. *Bay Nature* magazine and Heyday Books work to inform and inspire all of us to better know and love our unique region. Says David, “If it wasn't for the advocacy of groups like Committee for Green Foothills, there wouldn't be anything for us to write about.” Each piece is a critical element in the larger community dedicated to safeguarding our open lands and the health and vitality of the Bay Area.

Malcolm, David, and Committee for Green Foothills keenly understand the need to broaden our reach to include every segment of our wonderfully diverse community. This is why at this year's Nature's Inspiration, in honor of Malcolm and David, Committee for Green Foothills will make a gift to support the local work of Latino Outdoors, a great organization that builds and connects Latino leadership in the conservation community.

We hope you join us on October 4, 2015 at the Filoli Estate to celebrate as Committee for Green Foothills recognizes the accomplishments of Malcolm Margolin and David Loeb. It will be a day to remember. 🐾

Early Bird Ticket Price is \$125 until September 7. Sponsorship opportunities starting at \$500 are available. More information can be found online at www.greenfoothills.org/natures-inspiration



Cover of recent issue of Bay Nature.

Ron Erskine is Committee for Green Foothills' Board Vice President. A native Bay Area resident, Ron is an avid outdoorsman and lifetime backpacker. He writes a regular outdoor column called “Getting Out” for the Morgan Hill Times and Gilroy Dispatch that he hopes will entice others to hike our local parks and preserves.



The Committee is Watching...

San Mateo County

MENLO PARK — where the Parks Commission and city councilmembers will decide whether to enact a ban on radio controlled aircraft and drones in Bedwell Bayfront Park. Legislative Advocate Alice Kaufman has reminded the city that such uses are contrary to the park's master plan, which calls for "wildlife enhancement ... and an opportunity for people to enjoy peace and quiet."

HALF MOON BAY — where the city has initiated "neighborhood listening sessions" in 13 different neighborhoods, and four "building block workshops" on specific topics for its General Plan and Local Coastal Plan update. Legislative Advocate Lennie Roberts is keeping abreast of these outreach efforts and will be reminding the city of the need to maintain key Coastal Act policies that protect open space, sensitive habitats, and scenic vistas.

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION — which postponed consideration of important updates to Half Moon Bay's sensitive habitat maps and policies due to last minute pressure from the city.

EDGEWOOD PARK — where PG&E is planning to test a gas pipeline, which will involve digging and other disturbance of the park's sensitive serpentine grassland habitat. Legislative Advocates Lennie Roberts and Alice Kaufman, together with other environmental groups and San Mateo County Parks staff, are meeting with PG&E to discuss ways to minimize impacts to this habitat.

Santa Clara County

CITY OF GILROY — where the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the North Gilroy Neighborhood District project is expected to be released for public review in July. Legislative Advocate Julie Hutcheson commented on the scoping process for the EIR in January. We are opposed to the project because it would prematurely expand Gilroy city limits by over 700 acres and exacerbate Gilroy's jobs-housing imbalance.

CITY OF MORGAN HILL — where city councilmembers voted 3-1 to annex over 215 acres of an area known as the Southeast Quadrant. We are opposed to this plan, as it will result in the unnecessary loss of important farmland in the SEQ for growth that could be accommodated within current city limits. Legislative Advocate Julie Hutcheson has been calling for a revised project that addresses the many concerns expressed by CGF and others.

CITY OF MORGAN HILL — where city councilmembers appointed a working group to provide direction on how to best modify the Residential Development Control System (RDSCS), the city's voter-approved growth control measure. The city anticipates bringing the RDSCS back to the ballot in 2016 and including a new population cap and yearly growth rate. Legislative Advocate Julie Hutcheson is a member of this working group.

STEVENS CREEK TRAIL FOUR CITIES PROJECT — which is a joint effort to extend the Stevens Creek Trail further south. Constructing a trail along the creek corridor would have severe impacts on the creek. Legislative Advocate Alice Kaufman is advocating with the cities involved to route the trail along existing streets rather than within the creek corridor.

The Committee Applauds...

San Mateo County

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION AND STATE LANDS

COMMISSION — which have filed an amicus brief in support of the appeal by "Friends of Martin's Beach" of Judge Gerald Buchwald's bizarre decision that the State of California does not own this beach due to the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo of 1848.

SAN MATEO COUNTY SUPERVISOR DON HORSLEY — under whose auspices Committee for Green Foothills and other appellants were able to reach an agreement on improvements to the proposed Big Wave project near Pillar Point Marsh. The revised project, which has now been approved by the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors, includes a reduction in square footage of the office park, reduced impacts to scenic views and additional protections for wetlands.

Santa Clara County

GILROY CITY COUNCIL — which voted to change the designation of a 660-acre area of prime farmland on the east side of Gilroy

from "Campus Industrial/Employment Lands" to "Open Space" as part of its 2040 general plan update. Legislative Advocate Julie Hutcheson along with many Gilroy residents advocated for this change.

SANTA CLARA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS — for adopting a resolution authorizing the 13 eligible cities in the county to adopt their own Urban Agriculture Incentive Zone, which would entitle qualifying parcels to reduced property tax when the land is used for agricultural purposes for at least a five-year period. As a member of the Santa Clara County Food System Alliance, CGF has urged the Board of Supervisors to support this action.

SAN JOSE CITY COUNCIL — which voted to prioritize development of a riparian corridor protection ordinance. Legislative Advocate Alice Kaufman met with councilmembers and spoke at the council meeting to advocate for this prioritization.

MORGAN HILL CITY COUNCILMEMBER RICH CONSTANTINE — for consistently voting to oppose the current Southeast Quadrant Land Use Plan and Agricultural Lands Preservation Program.



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GREEN FOOTHILLS**

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Save the Date

Please join us for our 12th annual Nature's Inspiration:

Honoring Malcolm Margolin and David Loeb

Sunday, October 4, 2015, 3–6pm

Raise a glass with friends old and new for an inspiring afternoon among the ever changing gardens of the Filoli Estate. This year we're pleased to be honoring two California treasures, Malcolm Margolin and David Loeb. We hope you will join us as we celebrate Committee for Green Foothills and the people who have dedicated their lives to protecting nature.

For more information, to purchase tickets, or become a sponsor, please see www.greenfoothills.org/natures-inspiration

You're Invited to our Board-Hosted Member Socials

Sunday, August 30, 4–6pm – hosted by Helen Chapman in San Jose

Sunday, November 8, 3–5pm – hosted by Ron Erskine in Morgan Hill

For more information or to RSVP please see www.greenfoothills.org/socials

