

# The La Honda Voice



Friday, August 11, 2006

## County Supervisors to Consider Steep Slope Ordinance

The San Mateo County Board of Supervisors will consider possible approaches to developing an **ordinance to regulate vineyard planting on steep slopes at its next meeting, August 15** at 9:00 a.m. at the County Center in Redwood City... [continued on page 2]

## Possible Logging at Jones Gulch

"County supervisors want the California Department of Forestry to hold a local public hearing on plans to harvest timber at the Jones Gulch YMCA Camp in La Honda. County Counsel Tom Casey asked the Board of Supervisors Tuesday to send the CDF a letter requesting the forum prior..." [continued on page 2]

## Vegetation Reduction Program

The La Honda Fire Brigade, the San Mateo County Firesafe Council, CDF, and San Mateo County Fire are all working cooperatively to offer a "Chipper Program" in the Cuesta La Honda subdivision. This pilot program encourages residents living on certain streets to remove low hanging limbs, brush and other woody vegetation from around their homes. They then stack the material near the roadway where CDF conservation crews will come by, pick the material up, chip it and return it to the community to use for landscaping etc. The **final pick up date** for this program is scheduled for Monday, **Aug. 14**. This pilot program has been used successfully by the Woodside Fire Protection District in both Woodside and Portola Valley. There are restrictions on which streets the program can be used on...A brochures is available at [http://www.lahondafire.org/06\\_FuelReduction.pdf](http://www.lahondafire.org/06_FuelReduction.pdf)  
**[Please contact the Fire Brigade or Larry Whitney - it still may not be too late to get a brush pickup]**

## Book on La Honda

A pictorial history is being written on La Honda and I'm asking anyone who has important facts about La Honda history and articles, and especially photographs, to **contact Bob Dougherty at 747-0102 or LH\_history@lahonda.com**. The publisher has a strict format for the book with between 180-240 images and about 8000-18000 words, primarily associated with the photographs. Anybody who provides information that is used in the book will be acknowledged. The book will be completed by the end of this year.

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**"County wants Hearing on Timber harvesting" [continued from page 1]**  
...to issuing a permit. The hearing doesn't imply that the harvesting of timber at the camp is opposed but is an opportunity for groups and individuals to make their positions known, said board President Jerry Hill. The request was submitted as an urgent matter Tuesday because it was too late to formally add it to the board agenda. CDF occasionally harvests timber at the camp to manage tree growth. The camp is located at 11000 Pescadero Road in La Honda. [As reported in the San Mateo Daily Journal [http://www.smdailyjournal.com/article\\_preview.php?id=61597](http://www.smdailyjournal.com/article_preview.php?id=61597) ]

**Note: there is a related message in the Post Office that raises concerns about this logging - you may want to read it**

**Steep Slope Ordinance [continued from page 1]**

...The La Honda Guild is concerned how this ordinance will affect planting above its reservoirs. According to a statement on the Guild website [www.clhg.org](http://www.clhg.org), "A primary concern raised by the Vineyard Ordinance memo is County Counsels' opinion that 'any option for approach and process would not impact the Clos de la Tech project.' While the Board of Supervisors may choose to 'grandfather' existing projects, they must decide to do so (and presumably have supportable reasons for making such a choice). In addition, since the County currently does not regulate vineyard planting, the vineyard portion of the Clos de la Tech project cannot be considered 'in the pipeline.' "

Information on contacting the County Supervisors and to download the Vineyard Ordinance Memo and proposed Agricultural Awareness Ordinance go to the [www.clhg.org](http://www.clhg.org) website.

**Thefts and Vandalism in la Honda**

The Cuesta La Honda Guild has offered a **reward of \$500** for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the people involved in the recent vandalism in La Honda. Things were thrown into the community pool, a water pipe was deliberately broken and Guild equipment and supplies costing thousands of dollars were stolen. If you see anything suspicious happening around town, contact the sheriff at 363-0361 or the Guild office at 747-0361.

**"Grand jury says public not prepared for disaster" (...but La Honda is an exception)**

"Even if local agencies are prepared to deal with a major disaster, residents are not, a San Mateo County civil grand jury reported Thursday...The report said only one in 1,000 San Mateo County residents are prepared for a major disaster. On the Coastsides the lack of preparedness is of particular concern as the area could easily be cut off from the rest of the county...The matter is pressing as the U.S. Geological Survey has said there is a 62 percent chance of an earthquake measuring 6.7 or greater hitting close to a major Bay Area population center before 2032. And there is a 10 percent chance that the quake will be located on the San Gregorio fault, which slices directly through Half Moon Bay...The grand jury report also pointed out that only a small number of residents were taking advantage of Community Emergency Response Team programs in cities across the county. CERT participants learn first aid, search and rescue, and fire safety, among other skills... Lt. John Quinlan, who heads the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office Area Office of Emergency Services and Homeland Security, said that his only problem with the grand jury's report was that it focused too much on CERT and not enough on personal preparation...**He noted that Pescadero and La Honda have very strong CERT programs...** [Excerpt from article by Marc Longpre at the HMB Review on 27 July 06 [http://www.hmbreview.com/articles/2006/07/27/news/local\\_news/story02.txt](http://www.hmbreview.com/articles/2006/07/27/news/local_news/story02.txt)]

## La Honda Faire and Music Festival a Success

"A special thank you to the La Honda Community for your turn out and support of the Faire. A warm note of gratitude to Paula Dennis for mentoring and being a noble soul, Jeff Ring, music coordinator, Perry And Charlie for sound, Tom Dodd for recycle/garbage, Gary Lee - security, Mike Pisani- printing, and of course Charlie Catania for preserving the tradition of the Faire in the Gardens. Additional recognition goes to the LHEF for allowing the opportunity and volunteers for the event. I look forward to coordinating the Faire next year. Once again, much appreciation for the community turn out and support - it was most heart-warming to see everyone dancing and enjoying the Faire as a community while supporting the elementary school.

Be well and laugh often,  
Bonnie" [from LH message board #11789, also see Karen Shaff's thank you #11812]

## La Honda Rodeo a Success

"... Yes, there was some prize money and yes, there were some belt buckles handed out. But the Driscoll Ranch Rodeo is as much a family reunion as an athletic competition...Several hundred people attended the two-day event. Tammy White earned the overall title for women while Scott McCulloch of Galt took home the top prize for men...Among the winners in the various divisions was **Rob Caughey**. **The La Honda resident** won the bull-riding competition. "Everyone you know is here," Caughey said. "You want to give it your all." Like most of the other competitors, Caughey travels throughout the state to participate. But being able to sleep in his own bed during a weekend competition makes this rodeo special. "That's an extra bonus," Caughey said..."

From The HMB Review by Mark Foyer  
[<http://www.hmbreview.com/articles/2006/08/04/community/sports/story3.txt>]

## ...and La Honda 4<sup>th</sup> of July Picnic a Success

"I want to publicly thank Janet & Jim Clark for putting an incredible amount of energy and perseverance into making the 4th of July picnic happen this year despite the loss of several key volunteers from the past, and doing so with two young children in their arms. It was, I believe, a triumph of will. It really is an exceptional event for a small town, and good expression of the positive nature of this community. Two people, one of which was the very determined Janet, showed up for the organizing meeting. Fortunately several important volunteers emerged from the shadows in the last few days. Particularly I would like to thank Mike Shaff, Sandi Poss & family, Betty Noguees & the indomitable Frank Rosas as well as Sheriff Strohm. Craig once again pulled together the local talent for music beyond any reasonable expectation. & Colleen Quigley thank you for the night of making Garlic Bread! There are others too, but I'm still fuzzy from the very long day (Jim and I packing away supplies at 10pm and then emptying the various trucks the next day). This reminds me that many things that we take for granted would not occur with extraordinary people." Tom Dodd [above from LH message board #11880, and Betty Noguees also gives Tom a well-deserved "thank you" and says " La Honda is a very, very special place!!!!!! but I don't need to tell you that." in message #11882]



Sack Race at the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Picnic

## Four of Northern California's most destructive Wildland Fires have occurred in our region.

"The Santa Clara County Lexington Fire of 1985, the Oakland Tunnel Fire of 1991, the Marin County Vision Fire of 1995 and the Santa Clara County Croy Fire of 2002 resulted in the burning of 31, 727 acres and the loss of 3,155 homes. There is no place in the State of California that is exempt from the threat of a Wildland Fire and that includes our area." [The first four messages on this page are from Larry Whitney, This one from the LH message board #11839]

## Wildland Fire at Log Cabin Ranch

"On Monday July 24 a Wildland Fire burned approximately three quarters of an acre in a heavily timbered area of rural San Mateo County. The difficult to spot and access fire occurred at the City and County of San Francisco's Log Cabin Juvenile Detention Center in La Honda. Fire apparatus from the La Honda and Kings Mountain Volunteer Fire Dept's, CDF/County Fire and the Woodside Fire Protection District responded to the incident. Additionally one CDF Helicopter, two Air Tankers, a Fire Crew and a Bull Dozer were also dispatched to the scene... "This is the earliest we have seen a fire of this type in our area in many years" said Larry Whitney, Chief of the La Honda Volunteer Department. "With the **weather having been as hot and dry** as it has recently been residents need to **be extra vigilant** in reporting fires as soon as they are noticed. With any wind at all this could have easily been a much larger and possibly damaging fire" he went on to state. [from Larry Whitney, Chief, La Honda Volunteer Fire Dept]

## Changes in Defensible Space Regulations

"In response to the devastating fires that Southern California experienced in 2003 last year the State of California expanded the **Defensible Space requirements from 30 ft up to 100 ft** in some cases. Last month the Brigade sent a great explanation of this change out to 1000 area property owners. This same document can be viewed at [www.fire.ca.gov](http://www.fire.ca.gov)

## Defensible Space Inspections

CDF plans to start these annual inspections as early as next week and they will continue through out the summer. Due to the increase in this year's fire potential additional areas are being added to the inspection program including Alpine Road and Middleton Tract. Now is the time to evaluate what needs to be done around your home and get started.

## LH Fire Brigade use Defibrillator to save Man

"A 60 year old man was saved in part by the use of a new state of the art AutoPulse CPR Board. On Sunday July 23, the Castro Valley resident was visiting the La Honda area when he began to feel ill. Seeking help he was brought to the Pioneer Market on Hwy 84 and 911 was immediately called... Upon their arrival, firefighters found the man to be unresponsive and not breathing. Further assessment dedicated the immediate need for CPR. This was done manually at first and within moments the compression portion of CPR was transferred to a new AutoPulse CPR board... After two minutes of CPR a single shock from a defibrillator was delivered and his vital signs started to return a short time later. The patient received follow up drug therapy and was transported to a waiting Lifeflight Helicopter for a quick ride to Stanford Hospital. "This call makes my entire career worth while, it's clearly one of the most rewarding calls I have ever been associated with said **Cathy Whitney**, an 18 year veteran and Captain/EMT with the La Honda Vol. Fire Dept." (article from the Half Moon Bay Review:

[http://www.hmbreview.com/articles/2006/08/02/news/local\\_news/story13.txt](http://www.hmbreview.com/articles/2006/08/02/news/local_news/story13.txt) )

## Fire Brigade Annual Flea Market and Open House / Ice Cream Social

"The La Honda Fire Brigade is having it's annual Flea Market and Open House / Ice Cream Social on Sunday, **August 13**. The flea market is from 10 a.m. till 4 p.m. and the open house / ice social is 1 p.m. till 4 p.m. there will be ice cream and safety information available. These events take place at the La Honda fire station at 8945 La Honda Rd. [from S Ruiz-Poss on LH message board #12037]

## Concern about Herbicide Spraying

"The San Mateo County Public Works Road Department sprays RoundUp (Glyphosate) an herbicide, along the unincorporated county roads before sunrise on an unspecified morning between January and April, without any notification before, during or after the application...The County does mow along these roadsides, which many of us local residents strongly support, as well as all of their hard work to maintain our roads.

...Due to our signatures and calls, for the first time ever, notifications were posted in the La Honda area before spraying in June of 2006. Pescadero residents spoke out and stopped the spraying on their county roads in the 1990's. Marin County has not sprayed for the past 30 years and mows twice a year. Santa Cruz County has a moratorium on spraying for 3 years.

Many of us believe that mowing is most effective for all purposes without the significant health risks to people, our waterways, and wildlife that glyphosate imposes...To register your concerns about spraying or no notification of it on your road, call Supervisor Rich Gordon: 650-363-4569. Request no spraying around your property and notification of spraying by calling the County Road Dept.: 650-363-4149. Post "No Spray" signs around your property.

Please attend the first **Public Works' Community Meeting on Roadside Spraying: Sept. 20**, Wed., 7 p.m. at the Cuesta La Honda Clubhouse. From Hwy. 1, take Hwy. 84 east to La Honda, turn right on Entrada (at Apple Jack's), then right on Escondido, park in front of the playground, go up the stairway—follow the "Just Say Mow" signs. We hope to have more of these meetings and will keep you posted here." [from La Honda resident *Patty Mayall* in La Honda (from The Coastsider: [http://coastsider.com/comments/1692\\_0\\_1\\_0\\_M/](http://coastsider.com/comments/1692_0_1_0_M/))

## Third Annual La Ducati Day in La Honda in October

"The 2006 edition of La Ducati Day will take place in...**Downtown La Honda** (renamed "La Ducati") on Sunday, October 8th, 2006, from 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. The theme for this year's event is "Fatta Con Passione, Guidata Con Passione" ... Italian for "Built With Passion, Ridden With Passion" Events of the day include; the Concorso Ducati, the Motion Pro sponsored Ducati Garage Challenge, the Etymotic Research Sponsored Ducati Music Challenge, the Lindemann Engineering Sponsored Sportbike Suspension Setup Clinic, vendor court, food, raffles, and charity auction...Free event admission. All proceeds from entry fees, auctions, sportbike suspension setup clinic and raffles will **benefit the La Honda Fire Brigade**. These good men and women rescue crashed motorcyclists on that side of the mountain, so helping them helps the whole motorcycle community. We hope you will make the ride up into La Honda, situated in the beautiful Santa Cruz Mountains, and **help us rename the city "La Ducati" for the day** of the event.

[[http://www.motorcyclistonline.com/newsandupdates/122\\_0608\\_2006\\_la\\_ducati\\_day/](http://www.motorcyclistonline.com/newsandupdates/122_0608_2006_la_ducati_day/)]



1963 Ducati Apollo from motorcyclistonline.com

### Local and Recent Busts

" on Redwood Avenue, La Honda. On 7/11/06, appx. 0830 hrs., Suspect male, 03/04/72, was stopped by Sheriff's Deputies for he registration tabs on his vehicle. After further investigation, he was arrested for Possession of a controlled substance, Driving while under the influence of alcohol/drugs, Driving on a suspended license, Misdemeanor hit and run driving, and for an outstanding arrest warrant."

"11:50 p.m., July 31, La Honda, Reflection Lake - "Responding to a noise complaint, deputies found a girl who had a misdemeanor warrant for her arrest. She was arrested and booked into the Hillcrest Juvenile Facility."

### Quote on La Honda

<http://www.epodunk.com/cgi-bin/genInfo.php?locIndex=10364>

"La Honda was a strange place, a spot on the road that descended from the western slope of the Santa Cruz Mountains toward the artichoke fields on the coast. Situated mostly within the redwood forest, it had the quality of a raw Northwestern logging town, transported to suburban San Francisco."-- New Yorker, June 14&16, 2004 by Robert Stone

### Planning a trip to La Honda?

This website looks like it is entitled the "La Honda Vacation Guide" ... only one problem, when you click to compare the price of lodgings in La Honda, the nearest spot is in Palo Alto. It is listed at about 10 miles away, but what a long ten miles it is. Those ten miles could put a damper on the large crowds that want to vacation here. <http://travel.away.com/California/travel-vacation-11-305651-La-Honda.html>

### Hunter S. Thompson on the La Honda Days

(<http://www.freezerbox.com/archive/article.php?id=287> )

Thompson: "It was a madhouse over there, that whole La Honda scene. Blinking, blazing, lights going on all the time. I know that I've described that some place else, so I won't get into it."

### Below:

### La Honda Woman Selling Ferns in San Jose (from the Bancroft Library)

(<http://ark.cdlib.org/ark:/13030/tf4n39p0qh/> )

