



# BAY AREA BARNS AND TRAILS

**BAY AREA BARNS AND TRAILS - EDUCATION, PRESERVATION & STEWARDSHIP**  
**'Helping preserve and grow stables, trails, pastures, staging areas, and horse camps in the San Francisco Bay Area.'**

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## BAY AREA OPEN SPACE COUNCIL CONFERENCE: JUNE 13, 2007

"Thank you to all who attended the Council's Ninth Annual Open Space Conference on Wednesday, June 13th, 2007, at the Golden Gate Club, Presidio of San Francisco. Together, we learned more about collaborative leadership, challenging our assumptions, and building healthier and whole communities in the Bay Area." [www.baosc.org](http://www.baosc.org)



### "Every Town Needs a Horse Hill"

Morris Older, Karen Johnson and Barbara Weitz explain how Bay Area Barns and Trails supports the mission of the Bay Area Open Space Council.

## AMIGOS DE ANZA PAGEANT HONORS GEORGE CARDINET IN SAN FRANCISCO PRESIDIO - JUNE 27

We encourage all to participate in this great event. We are honoring George Cardinet on the June 27 gathering of the Los Californianos who celebrate each year on this specific date, the Birthday of San Francisco. This year, it falls on a Wednesday. The pageant starts at 11 a.m. and any riders will want to come in either the night before and camp at the stables or arrive at 8 a.m. so they can tack up and put on their uniforms or get one from us if they do not already own one.

We then ride up to the parade grounds, stand at attention for the ceremony and then disband (turning in our flags and swords) to go on a trail ride led by the National Park Police. This is the ONLY time and way you can ride in the Fort. Maps and information are available by contacting:

Nancy Dupont, Vice President, Amigos de Anza - 925 937 7661

or George Cardinet's daughter, Michele (Pinky) Tomasulo - 925 672-6229



## GOLDEN GATE PARK STABLES

A Reply to Bay Area Barns and Trails:

Thank you for your interest in the Golden Gate Park Stables Renovation project. The information provided on your website is accurate. We are anticipating the issuance of the Draft Environmental Impact Report for public review and comment in late July. Please feel free to contact me directly for updates on our progress.

Sincerely,

Mary A. Hobson, Project Director  
CCSF Recreation and Park Department - Capital Improvement Division  
30 Van Ness Avenue, 5th floor | San Francisco, CA 94102  
phone: 415.581.2575 | fax: 415.581.2540  
mary.hobson@sfgov.org

## SANTA CLARA COUNTY OPEN SPACE AUTHORITY ACQUIRES 702 ACRES

By Paul Rogers, MEDIANEWS STAFF

June 15, 2007

**SAN JOSE MERCURY NEWS excerpts:**

A 702-acre cattle ranch with rolling grasslands, oak forests and panoramic views of Santa Clara County's richest farm country has become Silicon Valley's newest protected open space preserve.

The Santa Clara County Open Space Authority, a government agency based in San Jose, paid \$7 million to longtime Gilroy car dealer Harry Marx for the ranch, made up of two adjacent properties, known as Doan Ranch and Nielsen Ranch.

The land is five miles east of Gilroy, just off Canada Road and Highway 152, about a half-mile south of Henry Coe State Park. ...Congdon said it will be several years before the property is open to the public. That will require planning for trails and parking, he said, and it will require his agency to raise additional funds.

The property had been for sale for several years. ...It could have been split into about five lots, each of which could have been developed with a house and supporting buildings.

"Now it's going to be open space forever," Marx said. "And it's a beautiful piece of ground."...

Several government agencies -- the open space authority, the Santa Clara County Parks Department and the state parks department -- have purchased both property and development rights in the area in recent years, particularly when lands are adjacent to Henry Coe State Park.

In other areas, such as around Calero Reservoir in South San Jose, private land trusts such as the Peninsula Open Space Trust, based in Palo Alto, also have acquired rural property.

Their goal is to preserve not only the county's remaining rustic views, but also to provide recreational land for hiking, bicycling and horseback riding, along with wildlife corridors for animals such as coyotes, badgers, black-tail deer, and tule elk....The agency, which has five rangers, earns about \$4.1 million a year from property tax revenue. Voters in 2001 narrowly approved a measure to triple the agency's budget to \$12 million a year by raising the annual assessment from \$12 to \$32. Although that money has been collected for the past five years and now totals \$41 million, it cannot be spent. The reason: The Silicon Valley Taxpayers Association sued to overturn the vote, saying it violates a state law requiring two-thirds approval on assessments that have a general, rather than geographically specific, benefit. The taxpayer's group lost a lawsuit in 1998 that challenged the authority's original funding source. It has lost the most recent case both in district court and on appeal, and has taken its claims to the state Supreme Court."Our legal counsel tells us the final ruling could be one year, two years, even five years from now," said Congdon."

[www.openspaceauthority.org/](http://www.openspaceauthority.org/)

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P. O. Box 2435, Mill Valley, California 94941-2435 | Phone 415-383-6283; Fax 415-381-3809; e-mail [BABTT@earthlink.net](mailto:BABTT@earthlink.net)  
[www.bayareabarnsandtrails.org](http://www.bayareabarnsandtrails.org)