



COMMITTEE FOR
GREEN FOOTHILLS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contacts:
Mary Davey, President • Phone (650) 941-0876
Zoe Kersteen-Tucker, Executive Director • Phone (650) 728-2823

NEWS RELEASE

Dinner and auction raise almost \$150,000 for Committee for Green Foothills More than 325 people celebrated group's 40th anniversary at Ridge Vineyards

PALO ALTO, CA – A sellout crowd of more than 325 people gathered at Ridge Vineyards in Cupertino last night to celebrate the 40th anniversary of Committee for Green Foothills and raise funds for future environmental advocacy on the Peninsula.

The grand finale of the nonprofit organization's 40th anniversary year, the event raised a record \$148,000 to support the group's work. Live and silent auctions attracted supporters with items including two signed Ansel Adams photographs, Wallace Stegner's famous sweater, and one-of-a-kind adventures in public space.

"We were astonished at how quickly the event sold out," said event chairwoman and Board president Mary Davey, "and truly gratified at how many wonderful people stepped forward to show their support for protecting local open space, both current and future."

Supporters in attendance included State Senator Byron Sher, State Senator Jackie Speier, Assemblymember Joe Simitian, San Mateo County Supervisor Richard Gordon and Santa Clara County Supervisor Liz Kniss, all of whom served as auctioneers for the evening. Many of those involved in the founding of Committee for Green Foothills in 1962 also joined the celebration.

In addition to the auction, attendees enjoyed Ridge wines and a gourmet barbeque dinner amidst the gorgeous setting of Ridge Vineyards on Montebello Ridge.

The lead sponsor for the celebration was Fisher Investments. The event was also generously sponsored by Hewlett-Packard Company, The Mercury News, Ridge Vineyards, and dozens of additional corporate and individual sponsors.

"Time and time again over the last four decades, the Committee has demonstrated that the protection of open space requires vigilance, conviction, and dedication. We are grateful that our founders and many supporters share those values, and know that our work today is the best gift we can make for future generations," said Committee Executive Director Zoe Kersteen-Tucker.

The program included special honors for the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District -- co-founded in 1972 by Committee for Green Foothills activists -- recognizing three decades of work to create an unparalleled network of open space. District General Manager Craig Britton and President Deane Little accepted the award, which was presented by Ken Fisher, CEO of Fisher Investments.

About the Committee for Green Foothills

Committee for Green Foothills is a regional grassroots organization working to establish and maintain land-use policies that protect the environment throughout San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties. Committee for Green Foothills, established in 1962, is a Bay Area leader in the continuing effort to protect open space and the natural environment of our Peninsula and Coast.

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Photos of the event are available at <http://www.GreenFoothills.org/photos> or by calling (650) 968-7243.

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3921 E. Bayshore Road
Palo Alto, CA 94303

650.968.7243 PHONE
650.962.8234 FAX

info@GreenFoothills.org
www.GreenFoothills.org