



County of Santa Cruz

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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JEFF ALMQUIST
FIFTH DISTRICT

AGENDA: 5/25/99

May 20, 1999

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
County of Santa Cruz
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA 950.60

Dear Members of the Board:

As Board members will recall, the community recently requested that more time and consideration be given to the idea of renaming the Polo Grounds County Park. During that time, it has become apparent that most community members who expressed an opinion wish to maintain the historical significance of the park by retaining the name 'Polo Grounds' within any proposed naming.

The development of the Polo Grounds County Park has indeed been a community effort. From the outset, the Aptos Soccer Club, the Aptos Little League and other community volunteers have been tireless in their efforts to realize fields on this site. Granite Construction Company, and the personal contribution of its employees, provided the necessary construction work, and Far West Design and Landscaping was essential to the planning and installation of the irrigation system. In all, it has been a remarkable testament to community effort and spirit. Currently, there is a sign at the east entrance to the soccer fields recognizing the Aptos Soccer Club and many other contributors. I would like to propose another.

In my original request, I suggested the park be named in honor of the Rudolph F. Monte Foundation. Through the vision and effort of President Marcus Monte, the Foundation provided the leadership and a very large financial contribution which drove the project to completion. The Monte Foundation has donated \$291,000 to the park project and coordinated the efforts of many contributors in concert with my office and the Department of Parks, Open Space and Cultural Services. In addition to the initial soccer fields, there is now a new access road, three baseball fields, and one more soccer field at the park. The Foundation has also contributed more than \$1,000,000 to more than forty schools within our five Supervisorial Districts.

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I therefore recommend that the Polo Grounds County Park retain its historical name, but that the new fields at the west end of the park be named "The Monte Family Fields." I also ask that any sign that is erected also include recognition of the Aptos Soccer Club, the Aptos Little League, Granite Construction Company, and Far West Design and Landscaping;

Sincerely,


WALTER J. SYMONS, Supervisor
Second District

WJS:lg

cc: Director of Parks, Open Space and Cultural Services
Aptos Soccer Club
Aptos Little League
Granite Construction
Far West Design and Landscaping
The Monte Foundation

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