

SUMMER 2018

# COMPASS

Healthy Parks Healthy People



## Challenge Accepted

THE KATAYANAGI FAMILY AND THOUSANDS OF OTHER PARK VISITORS MARK THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TRAILS CHALLENGE



## ON THE RIGHT TRACK



This year marks a milestone time for the Park District with the 25th anniversary of the Trails Challenge and park membership at an all-time high. The vital role our parks play in keeping the East Bay happy, healthy and active is clearer than ever.

Park visitors of all ages can take part in the annual Trails Challenge—finding new paths to hike and parks to explore. A few years ago, the Foundation heard from two senior women who had been walking together at Lake Chabot for decades. After taking the challenge, one of the women shared: "I get to see new places, clear my head and get healthy. I feel great about it."

The Trails Challenge had a similar impact on our cover subjects: Jonathan, Donica, Penny and Rocky Katayanagi. Jonathan and his daughter, Penny, took on the 2017 Trails Challenge when Penny was 6, completing all five trails in one day. Now, the challenge is a family tradition, with all four of them hitting the trails together—and fostering a lifelong love of hiking.

Inspiring people to be active and enjoy our beautiful regional parks is one of the best parts of the Trails Challenge, and it's why the program continues to grow. Here's to another 25 years!



**Carol Johnson**  
Executive Director  
Regional Parks Foundation

**Robert Doyle**  
General Manager  
East Bay Regional Park District

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On the cover: Trails Challenge participants (pictured clockwise) Jonathan, Donica, Penny and Rocky Katayanagi.



## DID YOU KNOW?

Fun facts about the  
East Bay Regional  
Park District



**\$192,839**

Total amount of bequests given to the Foundation in 2017



**743**

The number of Foundation-funded swim lessons given in 2017



**168**

Bird species and subspecies spotted at Martin Luther King Jr. Shoreline Shorebird Sanctuary in 2017

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT!



Park membership has many benefits, including free access to swim facilities.

## Join the Fun

**Membership is booming in the East Bay Regional Park District—bringing health and recreation benefits to more people throughout the area**

Regional Parks Foundation membership is at an all-time high, with 10,528 Members enjoying hiking, swimming and many other recreational activities that the Park District has to offer.

"People are taking advantage of the parks to lead a healthier lifestyle," says Juliana Schirmer, development director for the Foundation.

From signing up for the Trails Challenge (see page 6 for more) to walking the dog, Members are finding ways to be more active and incorporate fresh-air outings into their lives. Take 84-year-old Jack Antrim, who—along with his wife, Bonita—joined the membership program in 1998. The Hayward resident goes fishing in his small aluminum boat at Quarry Lakes Regional Recreation Area at least three days a week.

"My husband has been a fisherman for almost as long as I've known him," says Bonita. "He is big fan of the East Bay Regional Parks, and the staff is so kind to him. He needs the rowing for his upper-body strength, and it is such good physical therapy for him."

The Antrims, who have two grown daughters and four grandchildren, also visited Tilden Regional Park and other local parks when their children were young. "We've been involved in recreation ever since we got married," says Bonita (the couple is going on 65 years together). "My children and grandchildren all take advantage of activities in the parks as well."

Becoming a Member is more convenient than ever with the recent introduction of on-site membership sales in select parks with point-of-sale systems. REI also began membership sales in five Bay Area stores in May.

"We want to make it even easier for people to become Members," says Michele Kageura, membership development officer. "Our Members really take pride in giving to the parks, as well as enjoying benefits such as swimming, fishing and parking for free."

▶ For more membership information, visit [www.RegionalParksFoundation.org/mem](http://www.RegionalParksFoundation.org/mem).

The historic merry-go-round celebrates 70 years at Tilden Regional Park this year.

# Protecting the People's Playground

## Upgrades and renovations help keep Tilden Regional Park a destination for visitors of all ages

Considered the crown jewel in the East Bay Regional Park District, Tilden Regional Park (originally called Wildcat Canyon) is one of the District's oldest parks and has been a treasured playground for the East Bay since it first opened in 1936. Tilden boasts many historic attractions including the Regional Parks Botanic Garden, the original Redwood Valley Railway steam train, a carousel, the Little Farm and the Environmental Education Center (EEC) on its 2,079 acres. The park also offers a wealth of educational and recreational activities—making it a memorable destination for generations of families.

"Tilden has something for everyone," says Dave Zuckermann, regional interpretive and recreation services manager. "It has this amazing, unique combination of open space and everything from swimming or golf or seeing heritage animals at the Little Farm. A lot of people grew up coming here and now they take their kids."

### GROUNDS FOR IMPROVEMENT

Keeping this beloved and busy park in top condition takes commitment and work at multiple levels. Funds from Measure CC, a parcel tax for the western parts of Alameda and Contra Costa counties that is due for extension on the June 2018 ballot, helped finance upgrades to the original infrastructure at the EEC; a new hand-washing station and electrical and roof improvements at the Little Farm; and a new sprinkler system and weather-tight enclosure at the merry-go-round.

The Regional Parks Foundation also supported major renovations to the merry-go-round in 2008. The 1911 Herschell-Spillman carousel is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and celebrates 70 years at Tilden this year.

Additionally, Measure CC funds went to help restore the District's Depression-era topographical model that was installed at the EEC in 2016. "That map is a bit of the Park District's history and was part of

the campaign to create the District," says Zuckermann. He also cites a recent Foundation-backed upgrade to a historic windmill at the Little Farm; the windmill now pumps water, allowing it to be used in educational demonstrations for young visitors.

### THE SHAPE OF WATER

Rehabilitation projects at Tilden go beyond structural improvements, however. A current stewardship effort is working on dredging a sediment basin within Wildcat Creek that feeds into Jewel Lake.

"Sedimentation is filling in the lake so you have less open water, less area for western pond turtles, less area for ducks and other migratory birds that might want to stop and forage," says Matt Graul, chief of stewardship.

A second phase of the plan is restoring two ponds near the EEC, improving their ability to hold water and expanding their size.

"We're going to connect the two ponds with a demonstration stream channel that will allow us to interpret the stream with kids," says Graul. "They can get in and observe a typical stream ecosystem without going into the main part of Wildcat Creek, where you could have ecological damage."

The undertaking also calls for the construction of a small overlook and mini amphitheater at one of the ponds (funded with a donation received through the Foundation) that will provide space for interpretive programming on the pond systems.

The restoration/improvement plan begins this summer and should be completed in the fall.

### LOOKING TOWARD THE FUTURE

Among the projects under development at Tilden is a major overhaul of the EEC, though what form that takes is still to be determined.

"The existing EEC is well-loved, but it is old. It opened in 1974, and it has a lot of maintenance needs," says Zuckermann. "The District is taking a close look at the best way to modernize it."

A recent study of the EEC conducted by an outside firm is currently under review.

Restoration of Jewel Lake is another future priority for the Park District, with the hope of re-establishing the lake's capacity and even rerouting the main stream around it to reduce sediment capture in the lake.

"Tilden is an ecologically rich area, with a lot of recreational use," says Graul. "We understand the value and importance of this area and are regularly looking for projects to enhance and improve the habitat."

Visitors to the park certainly see that value and importance as well.

"People are so appreciative of the work that has been done at Tilden," says Zuckermann. "The audience that comes up here is very committed to the park."



From explorations around Jewel Lake to animal encounters at the Little Farm, the 740-acre Tilden Nature Area offers a variety of family-friendly activities.



## CELEBRATING NATIONAL TRAILS

Among Tilden's many natural attractions is the portion of the Skyline National Recreation Trail that runs along its ridgetop. This year marks the 50th anniversary of this important national trail system. The Park District also includes another historic national trail: the multisite Juan Bautista de Anza Trail at Garin/Dry Creek Pioneer Regional Parks.

# UP TO THE CHALLENGE



2018

TRAILS  
CHALLENGE

25<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

East Bay Regional Park District

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF  
THE PARK DISTRICT'S BELOVED  
TRAILS CHALLENGE



From left: Trails Challenge participants Donica, Rocky, Penny and Jonathan Katayanagi at Del Valle Arroyo Road Staging Area.

CALI GODLEY



Bishop Ranch Regional Preserve

## **IF VARIETY IS THE SPICE OF LIFE, THE EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT'S ANNUAL TRAILS CHALLENGE HAS ADDED SEASONING TO THE LIVES OF THOUSANDS OF PARK VISITORS FOR MORE THAN TWO DECADES.**

"Park visitors appreciate the diversity of trails selected for the Trails Challenge," says Carol Johnson, executive director of the Regional Parks Foundation. "We try to get people out to various locations so they experience different types of nature."

Now marking its 25th year, the Trails Challenge is a free, self-guided hiking program held in partnership with the Park District, the Foundation and Kaiser Permanente. Each year, the Park District compiles a guidebook highlighting 20 trails of varying difficulty at parks throughout Alameda and Contra Costa counties. The trails change every year and spotlight a range of terrain and geography. Challenge participants must log five hikes (or 26.2 miles) before Dec. 1 to earn a commemorative pin; more than 10,000 people are expected to take part in the program in 2018.

"There are a lot of park users who want to push themselves and get involved in a little competition with their friends and family. The Trails Challenge meets that need for them," says Johnson. "Participants also love the challenge because it's easy. It may not be easy to hike the trails, but it is easy to plan your day when you have a guidebook that tells you exactly what you are going to see and experience."

Parks featured in the 2018 Trails Challenge range from the scenic Sunol Regional Wilderness to the historic Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve to the newly opened Dotson Family Marsh at Point Pinole Regional Shoreline—providing a trove of natural treasures for participants of all ages to explore.

For Martinez resident Jonathan Katayanagi, the Trails Challenge is an ideal way to spend time with his young daughter and encourage the novice bike rider's love of nature. Katayanagi, who is the director of Parks, Trails & Recreation for the city of Lafayette, began the 2017 Trails Challenge last September with his then-6-year-old daughter, Penny. After completing the challenge in one day (see the following pages for more details), the pair did it again—this time at a slower pace with Penny's mom, Donica, and little brother, Rocky.

"It's a good way to introduce young learners to nature and make it accessible to a beginning hiker. You know the mileage and the elevation changes because it's all laid out so nicely in the guide," says Katayanagi.

Now the Trails Challenge is a family tradition. The Katayanagis have already explored the spiral labyrinths in Sibley Volcanic Regional Preserve for the 2018 challenge.

"This year, we are taking our time to savor it," says Katayanagi. "Now that we've been through it once, we are there for the enjoyment of nature and hiking. Every trip is an adventure."

Here, Katayanagi tells his story of Penny's epic experience with the 2017 Trails Challenge.

## PENNY TAKES ON THE TRAILS CHALLENGE (AS TOLD BY HER FATHER)

"We began on Sept. 2, 2017, at 6:30 a.m. It was the hottest weekend all summer, so when Penny woke up early that morning we decided to sneak out for a bike ride. I told Penny about the Trails Challenge and showed her a picture of the commemorative pin. She got very excited and said, 'I can get a badge! I've never gotten a badge before!' I showed her how the map worked, and we were off to the Radke Martinez Regional Shoreline trail.

It was the most beautiful morning. We saw snowy egrets, herons, fence lizards, hummingbirds and even an otter. We finished the 2-mile ride in 45 minutes, and Penny wanted to know which trail we were going to next. I explained how hot it was going to be and told her that we could work on the challenge over a couple more weekends.

The next Saturday, Penny said that she wanted to do the whole challenge, all five trails in one day. We loaded our bikes up in the car and set off for Bishop Ranch Regional Preserve in San Ramon. We enjoyed hiking up in the hills and finding cows and the skin of a gopher snake. After tackling the steep hill and finishing the first 2.5 miles of the day, I asked Penny if



Penny Katayanagi during her 2017 Trails Challenge adventure.



Sunol Regional Wilderness

**"PARK VISITORS APPRECIATE THE DIVERSITY OF TRAILS SELECTED. WE TRY TO GET PEOPLE OUT TO VARIOUS LOCATIONS SO THEY EXPERIENCE DIFFERENT TYPES OF NATURE."**

**-CAROL JOHNSON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE REGIONAL PARKS FOUNDATION**

TOP TO BOTTOM: COURTESY OF THE KATAYANAGI FAMILY, HILARY VAN AUSTEN, CALI GODLEY



Penny and Rocky Katayanagi

## HOW TO HIT THE ROAD

No registration is needed to participate in the Trails Challenge. Download the guidebook at [www.ebparcs.org/trailschallenge](http://www.ebparcs.org/trailschallenge) or access it via the AllTrails app. Complete five of the 20 trails in the 2018 challenge (or 26.2 miles) by Dec. 1, then log your results with the Park District to receive your commemorative pin.





Martin Luther King Jr.  
Regional Shoreline

she wanted to keep going and she said, 'Yes, I am going to do the Trails Challenge today.' So we got in the car and headed to Martin Luther King Jr. Regional Shoreline.

After taking in the sea life, we set off on the very flat 4.4-mile trail. Penny really liked the sandbox with the whale in it, and we saw a rabbit near the observation tower. After an hour and a half of riding and exploring, we were hungry, so we grabbed a couple of sandwiches and headed to Roberts Regional Recreation Area.

We were approaching the hottest part of the day but stayed cool under the tall redwood trees. After hiking up to the Chabot Space & Science Center, Penny was excited to discover the archery range. At the end of our hike I asked again and she still wanted to do 'all five trails.'

Our next stop was Point Pinole. The trail is full of elevation changes, so we rode our bikes where we could and walked them where we couldn't. About 2 miles in, Penny lost control of her bike and went over the handlebars. I rushed over to find her with tears in her eyes, minor scrapes and dirty knees. I asked if she wanted to head home, but she said no way. To see her dedication to finishing the challenge, even when she went over the handlebars, was something special. So we headed for Owl Alley where a barn owl silently glided across our path. We stopped to watch the train go by as we left the park. I told Penny that she had completed five trails for the challenge, but she said she wanted to do all five in one day, so we were off to Martinez.

Penny led the way along the path as the sun set over the shoreline. We stopped at her favorite bridge crossings to enjoy the beautiful sky. We finished the challenge with a high five and a hug. We did five trails and more than 15 miles in one day. Penny was so happy and proud of herself. I was very proud as well.



**"IF YOU ASK PENNY ABOUT HER FAVORITE THINGS TO DO, HIKING IS NOW ONE OF HER TOP PICKS. THE TRAILS CHALLENGE WAS THE CATALYST THAT GOT HER ON THE TRAILS."**

**-JONATHAN KATAYANAGI**

That week I went to turn in our forms, and the assistant running the desk was very kind. She gave me our pins and found us one of the very last T-shirts they had. It was an adult small, but Penny wears it as a dress and will have it forever.

If you ask Penny about her favorite things to do, hiking is now one of her top picks. The Trails Challenge was the catalyst that got her on the trails. I am forever grateful to the East Bay Regional Park District and Kaiser Permanente for the Trails Challenge. My daughter and I will always have this memory, and she will probably hike for the rest of her life."



Radke Martinez  
Regional Shoreline



Point Pinole Regional Shoreline



Kaiser Permanente supports many  
Park District programs, including  
Multicultural Wellness Walks.

## PARTNERING FOR HEALTHY HABITS

Thanks to the involvement of Kaiser Permanente, park visitors have participated in the Trails Challenge for free for the past decade.

“When we first initiated the Trails Challenge, we charged registration fees to cover costs for the T-shirt and guidebook,” says Carol Johnson, executive director of the Regional Parks Foundation. “When Kaiser Permanente came on board, they said, ‘We’ll pay for all of the costs. We want to give access to this program to everybody.’ ”

That enthusiasm for the Trails Challenge has extended throughout its network—Kaiser Permanente has replicated the program with partners in Santa Clara County and other regions—as well as its own employees.

“They want to get their employees connected with the outdoors and with nature, and what better way than the Trails Challenge,” says Johnson. “Every year we get more and more Kaiser Permanente participation.”

“Physical activity supports both mental and physical health,” says Yvette Radford, regional vice president of external and community affairs at Kaiser Permanente in Northern California. “We are committed to bringing our communities together to establish healthy habits while also enjoying the great outdoors.”

# TAKING A STA



GARY CRABBE / ENLIGHTENED IMAGES



Redwood Regional Park

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## THE FOUNDATION WORKS WITH THE SAVE THE REDWOODS LEAGUE TO PROTECT OUR REGIONAL TREES

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**A**

mong the Park District's most beloved landscapes are its stands of coast redwoods (*Sequoia sempervirens*) in the Oakland hills. Rampant logging in centuries past nearly wiped out these natives, but thanks to careful stewardship and the redwoods' resilience in resprouting, second-growth forests of the stately giants thrive in Redwood Regional Park and the adjacent Roberts Regional Recreation Area. The Regional Parks Foundation recently teamed up with the Save the Redwoods League to safeguard these treasured resources.

The Park District and the League have already partnered on a variety of educational projects. Using curriculum developed jointly by the two groups, elementary school students learn about their watershed—literally from top to bottom—through field trips to redwoods in the hills and the Crab Cove Visitor Center on the bay. High school students are studying the impact of climate change and learning how redwoods are powerhouses at storing carbon. “The students and teachers appreciate having the lessons tied to local resources,” says Deborah Zierten, Save the Redwoods education and interpretation manager. “Our goal is to put these second-growth redwoods on a trajectory toward becoming old-growth redwoods.”

This year, as the League celebrates its 100th anniversary, several major endeavors are in the works, with the Foundation and the League partnering to shepherd them through.

## ADVOCACY AT WORK

One important joint effort is advocating for the passage of Proposition 68, which appears on the June 2018 ballot. If passed, the measure would authorize \$4 billion in general obligation bonds for state and local parks, environmental protection and restoration projects, water infrastructure projects, and flood protection projects. Jennifer Benito, chief communications officer for the League, says, "We're excited to be working with the coalition of Proposition 68 supporters—groups we really care about—so they can continue to steward magical places."

Additionally, the League is backing the extension of Measure CC, passed by East Bay voters in 2004, that is also on the June ballot. The parcel

tax of \$12 per year provides much-needed funds for infrastructure, maintenance, safety and services in select parks. The Park District has been putting that money to good use, improving public access, installing picnic tables and restrooms, clearing brush to reduce wildfire danger, and maintaining healthy forests. The extension of the measure would enable the Park District to continue its critical mission of maintaining open spaces for the public to enjoy.

## PROTECTION AT THE ROOT

Roberts Regional Recreation Area and Redwood Regional Park are well-loved and heavily visited sites, but that popularity can take a toll. Anne Kassebaum, the Park District's chief of interpretive and recreation services, explains

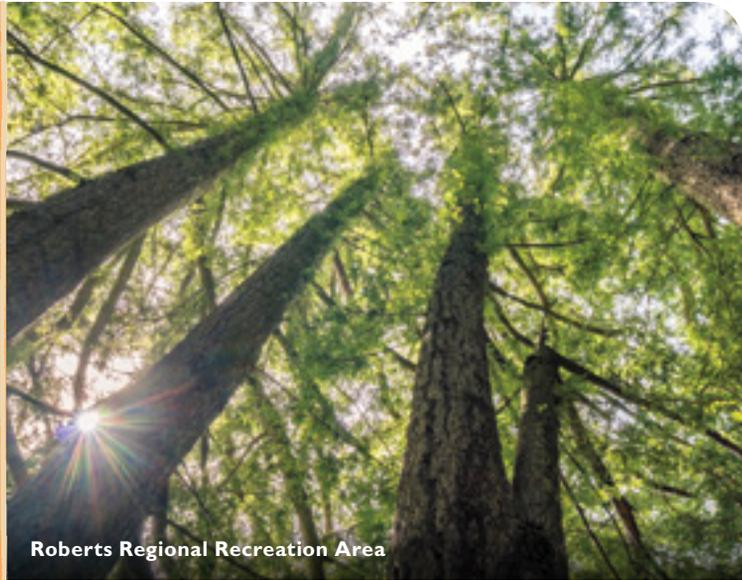
**"The new-growth redwoods in Redwood and Roberts Regional parks are truly a treasure for the East Bay, and we are fortunate to have groves available in our parks for people to enjoy."**

—Robert Doyle, general manager of the Park District

that to stay healthy, redwoods need the blanket of shed needles that collect around their base. This accumulation of duff acidifies the soil, holds moisture and protects the shallow roots. "Too much foot traffic removes the duff and negatively impacts the trees," Kassebaum says. Many people are unaware that these majestic trees have delicate root systems. The Park District and the League have worked together to educate park users about the risk of human impact and the importance of protecting the trees' ecosystem. To ensure that the trees have the space they need to thrive, the Park District rerouted several trails and repositioned some picnic tables to provide additional clearance. Additionally, split-rail fencing has been installed around some



Roberts Regional Recreation Area



Roberts Regional Recreation Area

sensitive areas, with interpretive panels to educate park users about how they can help protect these beautiful trees.

Day camps make ample use of Roberts, taking advantage of its playground, pool, grassy area and proximity to the Chabot Space & Science Center. These young visitors are eager to explore and learn, and the District has taken the opportunity to increase its educational outreach about the importance of split-rail fencing and ground clearance in order to develop a new generation of stewards.

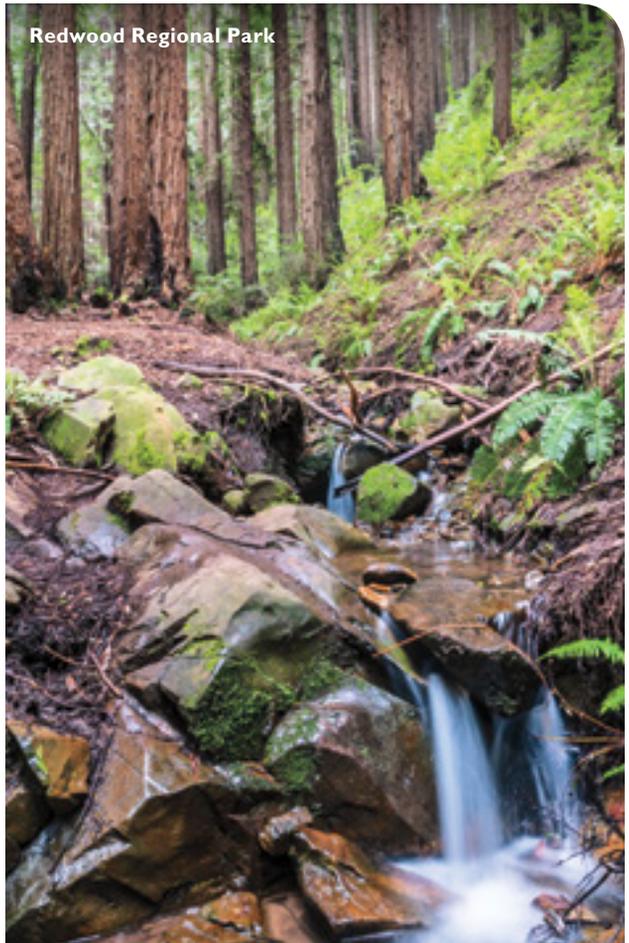
"The new-growth redwoods in Redwood and Roberts Regional parks are truly a treasure for the East Bay, and we are fortunate to have groves available in our parks for people to enjoy," says Robert Doyle, general manager of the Park District. "Our goal is to create a plan to protect these trees so everyone will have the opportunity to visit, explore and learn about these redwood giants!"

### MAKING CONNECTIONS

The Regional Parks Foundation and the League—along with the city of Oakland parks department—have collaborated with Oakland Trails to produce a new 20-minute documentary, *Old Survivor*. The film highlights the East Bay's only remaining old-growth redwood tree—a city of Oakland Historic Landmark—and recounts the history of East Bay redwoods, now protected for future generations thanks to the foresight of concerned citizens. The film will have its world premiere on Oct. 9 with a free screening at Chabot Space & Science Center.

To further assist people wanting to connect with the giant trees, the League now offers a planning tool on its website that recommends hikes, camping, day trips and more excursions for redwood lovers.

"Many people don't know there's more than one place to visit redwoods in the Bay Area," says Benito.



Redwood Regional Park

## BE A FORCE OF NATURE

**Inspired to get involved in the Park District? There's a volunteer opportunity for everyone, says the Park District's Anne Kassebaum, who notes that volunteerism hit an all-time high last year, with more than 24,000 volunteers contributing a total of 168,700 hours of service to the Park District. People can sign up for a one-time work event or make an ongoing commitment. If you are passionate about redwoods and these parks, consider volunteering with the dedicated Redwood Park volunteers. All help is appreciated. "Our board really values our volunteers," says Kassebaum. "Not only do they do important work, but they're advocates for the parks."**

**👉 To find out about volunteer opportunities and offer your services, send an email to [volunteers@ebparks.org](mailto:volunteers@ebparks.org).**



# Gateway to the Future

A proposed shoreline park near the eastern span of the Bay Bridge promises recreation opportunities and spectacular views



The Bridge Yard building (top and above) will be a future hub for the East Bay Gateway Regional Park.



There are 55 miles of regional shoreline at parks in the East Bay, offering a wealth of outdoor activities as well as extraordinary vistas and peeks at marine life. At the end of 2017, the East Bay Regional Park District took a significant step in the development of a new shoreline park located in Oakland at the foot of the Bay Bridge.

The site of the future East Bay Gateway Regional Park is also home to the historic Bridge Yard building, a former maintenance facility for passenger trains that operated on the lower deck of the Bay Bridge until 1958. In December, the Park District signed a 10-year lease on the property with the intention of using the structure as a recreational anchor for the proposed park.

“The renovated Bridge Yard building’s space is absolutely beautiful,” says Beverly Lane, East Bay Regional Park District board member. “The building will serve as a great activity hub for the future East Bay Gateway Regional Park, with recreational programs, educational programs, concessionaires and space for public events.”

## A JOINT EFFORT

"The concept for East Bay Gateway Regional Park goes back to the earliest days of planning the new Bay Bridge, with a group of nine agencies, including the Park District, committed to realizing that vision," says Robert Doyle, general manager of the Park District.

Among the agencies collaborating with the Park District on the project are the Bay Area Toll Authority and Caltrans. The latter owns the Bridge Yard building and recently completed a multiyear renovation of the structure—transforming an industrial facility that was built in 1938 into a beautiful, award-winning venue designed for public use.

"The East Bay Regional Park District has a dynamic vision for the renovated building that will increase public access and provide education about the natural setting," says Bijan Sartipi, Caltrans District 4 director. "The restoration of the historic facility is an example of Caltrans' commitment to working with communities to repurpose historic transportation infrastructure in order to create public spaces with improved access to the bay."

## PROMISING OPEN SPACES

For several decades, the footprint of the future East Bay Gateway Regional Park served as a commercial and industrial zone utilized by the U.S. Army and the Port of Oakland. The 45-acre park currently under development will provide new shoreline access while highlighting the natural beauty of the San Francisco Bay, recognizing its industrial uses and creating a bold gateway to the city of Oakland.

"East Bay Gateway Regional Park, the Bay Area's newest shoreline park, will serve as a grand gateway to the entire East Bay," says Doyle.

East Bay Gateway, which will be managed by the Park District, includes Caltrans land and property transferred from the former

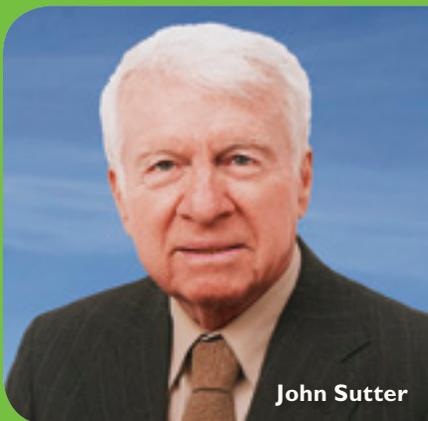


East Bay Gateway Regional Park promises views of the Port of Oakland and other shoreline highlights.

Oakland Army Base. Among the park features are an observation platform constructed on top of the last few original Bay Bridge footing piers, hiking/biking trails, a kayak launch, picnic areas and plenty of places to take in the scenery.

"Views of San Francisco, the Port of Oakland waterfront and its location at the touchdown of the Bay Bridge will make this new park a great destination," says Doyle.

For now, however, bikers and hikers can enjoy the Bay Trail that adjoins the existing land while keeping an eye out for the shoreline park of the future.



John Sutter

## GATEWAY PARK VISIONARY

The future East Bay Gateway Regional Park was the vision of long-time Oakland leader and former EBRPD-elected director John Sutter. Now age 91, the former Superior Court judge—who also served on the EBRPD board for 24 years—has waited half of his life for this park to begin taking shape.

"While the area just south of the Bay Bridge is held by the U.S. Army, its possible eventual release and public use for recreation should be contemplated," Sutter wrote in a 1967 letter to the Association of Bay Area Governments. "With good views and good access to the water, it could be usefully developed and provide an attractive gateway to Oakland."

# FUN AND FESTIVITIES

Celebrating new additions and promoting community involvement in the Park District



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**1** Participants enjoy a Health in Nature walk organized by the Latina Center at Miller/Knox Regional Shoreline in March. **2** Park District board member Colin Coffey (at podium) and General Manager Robert E. Doyle take part in the March ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new Hazel-Atlas Mine stairway in Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve. **3** EBRPD board member Beverly Lane (foreground) and Assistant General Manager of Operations Jim O'Connor descend the new stairway in the Hazel-Atlas Mine. **4** Attendees at the Park District's annual youth job fair held in Richmond in January. **5** EBRPD board members and staff with city of Pleasanton officials, state Assemblywoman Catharine Baker and other guests at the opening of the Castleridge Trailhead in Pleasanton Ridge Regional Park. **6** Raising a glass in support of the EBRPD at Drake's Brewing's First Friday event.



## SPECIAL EVENTS

### CONCERTS AT THE COVE

Enjoy family-friendly fun and musical entertainment at the Crab Cove Visitor Center at Crown Memorial Sate Beach in Alameda. Visit [www.ebparks.org](http://www.ebparks.org) for lineup details. **June 8, July 14** and **Aug. 10**. Family activities at the Visitor Center start at 4:30 p.m.; concerts go from 5:30–7:30 p.m. Free. Parking \$5.

### OLD-FASHIONED INDEPENDENCE DAY

Salute the Fourth of July with rousing patriotic music, a magic show, train rides and tours of the Patterson House at Ardenwood Historic Farm in Fremont. The event includes activities such as a pie-eating contest, a bucket brigade, tug-of-war and more! Wednesday, **July 4**, 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Special event fee applies (\$5–\$10). Free parking.

### HISTORIC RAIL FAIR

Bring the whole family to the rail fair at Ardenwood Historic Farm. The daylong fair features a historic steam locomotive, model railroads, early-day gas engines, games and activities for the kids, and live music. **Sept. 1, 2** and **3**, 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Special event fee applies (\$7–\$12). Free parking.

### GARIN APPLE FESTIVAL

Honor our farming and pioneer past during this year's Apple Festival at Garin Regional Park in Hayward. Garin is home to an antique apple orchard with varieties of apples you won't find anywhere but here! Try your hand at hand-cranking ice cream or pressing apple cider and then taste the "fruit" of your labor. Music, dancing, crafts and old-fashioned games make this event fun for the whole family! Saturday, **Sept. 8**, noon–4 p.m. Free. Parking \$5.

### COASTAL CLEANUP DAY

Join us for the 33rd Annual Coastal Cleanup Day. Park District staff and volunteers will pick up litter and recyclables from shoreline



All aboard for the Rail Fair at Ardenwood Historic Farm.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Bring family and friends to these highlighted EBRPD programs and activities—perfect for nature- and fun-lovers of all ages. To view complete listings of EBRPD events, visit [www.ebparks.org/activities](http://www.ebparks.org/activities).

parks, lakes and creeks in Alameda and Contra Costa counties. The District will provide snacks, water and trash bags. Participants under 16 years old must be accompanied by an adult. In our efforts to "go green" and reduce the amount of waste, please bring a refillable water bottle, a bucket for trash, a hat and gloves. All volunteers should wear closed-toe shoes and appropriate layered clothing, and bring sunscreen. Saturday, **Sept. 15**, 8:30 a.m.–noon. Registration is required. Locations vary annually; visit [www.ebparks.org](http://www.ebparks.org) for this year's sites.

### HARVEST FESTIVAL

Engage in some down-home country fun as you help bring in this year's crop of corn at Ardenwood Historic Farm. Wander through a 5-acre field searching for ears of Indian corn and popcorn, and take home a portion of what you harvest. Ride a narrow-gauge train,

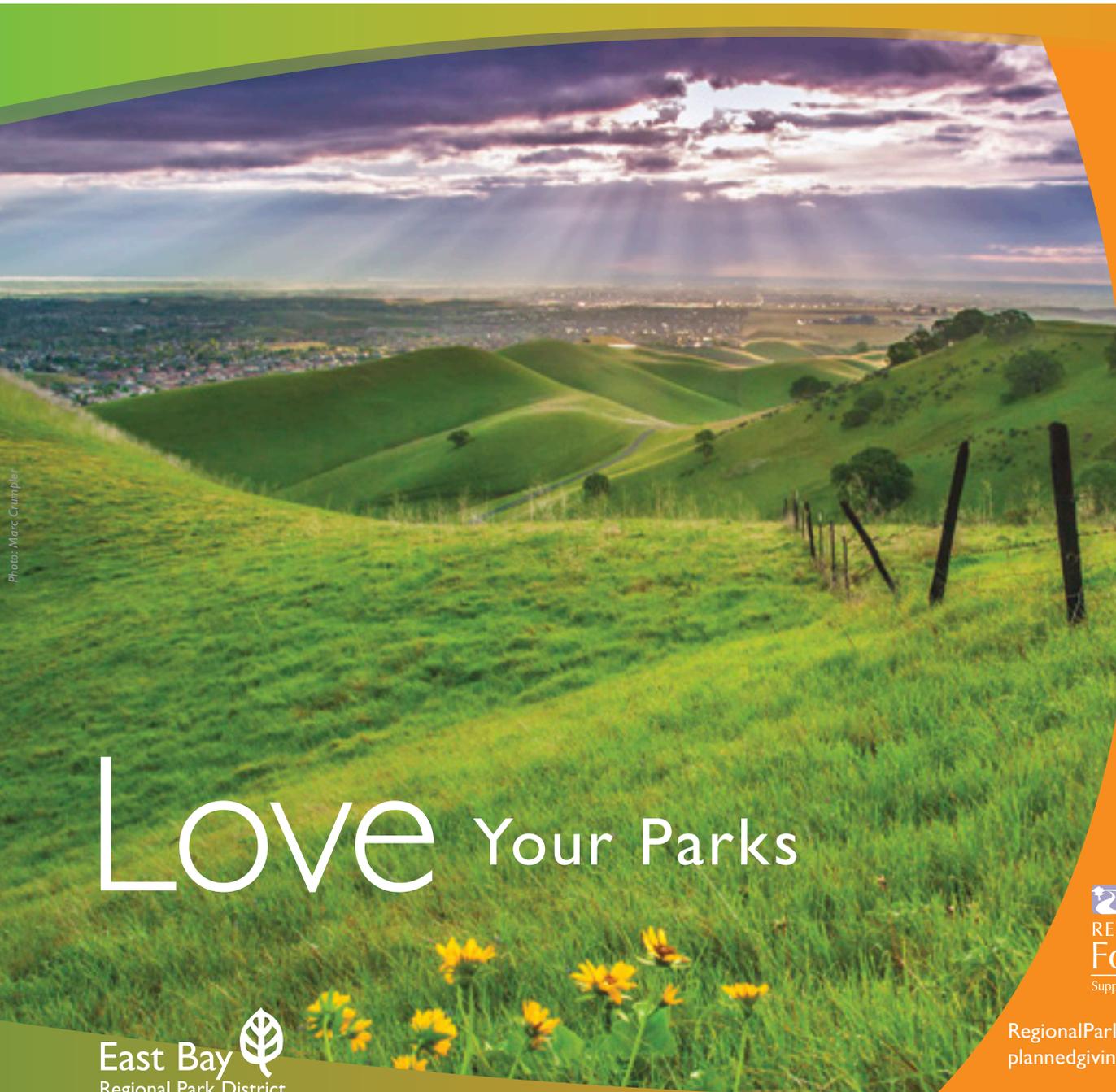
visit the pumpkin patch, and learn what late 19th-century life was like on a tour of the beautifully restored farmhouse. Please bring your own bags to take home your harvest. Other activities include magic shows, cider pressing, old-time music and historic crafts. **Oct. 13** and **14**, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. \$10/adults; \$8/seniors (62+); \$6 for children (4–17); under age 4, free. Purchase advance tickets at the farm or at [www.ebparks.org](http://www.ebparks.org) beginning in August. Free parking.

### SUNOL'S OLD-TIMEY COWBOY HOOTENANNY

Come celebrate our cowboy and ranching heritage, and join us at Sunol Regional Wilderness for some good old-fashioned foot stompin', hand clappin' music! History comes alive with games and activities throughout the day. Saturday, **Oct. 20**, 11 a.m.–4 p.m. Free. Parking \$5.

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