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San Dieguito River Park Appreciation Event 2006



photo credit - Jeremiah Sullivan

July 6th, 2006 The Social Diary Columnist & Photographer Margo Schwab

APPRECIATION EVENT HOSTED BY SUPERVISOR PAM SLATER-PRICE

In Pam's words the invitation read:

"You are invited to a party in appreciation of your support for the San Dieguito River Park. Substantial progress toward ensuring a secure future for the River Park has been accomplished over the last few years.

I would like to personally thank you for your support of our visionary environmental project. I hope you will be able to join me for a few hours between 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 29th at the Strawberry Stand Wetland Learning Center located just off Via de la Valle and San Andres Drive.* We will receive an update on River Park progress and the soon-to-begin San Dieguito Lagoon Restoration Project from the River Park's Executive Director. We will enjoy light hors d'oeuvres and drinks while gazing out over the sweeping view of the San Dieguito River Valley that we all appreciate so much.

I look forward to visiting with supporters of the San Dieguito River Park who have taken action to ensure the River Park's long-term survival as a legacy for future generations."

And a natural habitat legacy it is, due to some key ingredients. First, both the host herself, Pam Slater- Price, and her husband Hershell Price, have been tremendous supporters of the San Dieguito River Park. As noted by <u>Dick Bobertz</u>, Executive Director, San Dieguito River Park Joint Powers Authority:

"Your mention of the support County Supervisor Pam Slater-Price provides reveals just the tip of the iceberg of her community interests. I have had the pleasure of working with her over the last eight years in her role as a Board Member of the San Dieguito River Park Joint Powers Authority (visit <u>www.sdrp.org</u> to learn more). Supervisor Slater-Price is always the

first to find a way to support projects that raise the level of community opportunities in both the arts and the environment. An example of those interests combining to produce a notable community asset is the Strawberry Stand Wetland Learning Center on Villa de la Valle. Supervisor Slater initiated and funded that project (and personally participated in development of the design concept) which won the American Institute of Architects 2005 Design award. One of the architect judges described it as a "poetic" structure."

And poetic was the evening, with a beautiful wetlands setting, gourmet appetizers from Vons, award winning Orfila wines, and some great pizza. Some of those there enjoying conversation and conservation were Dave Roberts, City of Solana Beach, Jerry Finnell, City of Del Mar, noted Scripps' Scientist water current expert Janet Sprintall, and numerous representatives of the Friends of the San Dieguito River Park, the Del Mar Lagoon Committee, the San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy, and the San Dieguito Endowment Contributors.

Not to be forgotten too is Mike Furby and his team at Marathon Construction. Marathon Construction has been hired to move 2 million cubic yards of earth to allow natural tidal flushing in the wetlands. A very key job.

Key too is the partnership forged by the San Dieguito River Park and the San Diego community. To learn more about the SDRP's projects, its educational programs, its hiking/ biking trails, and future fundraisers, please visit <u>www.sdrp.org</u>.









* Margo Schwab has produced, written, interviewed and photographed for various media organizations since 1989. Schwab has a college degree from Scripps College and a Masters of Business degree from the University of San Diego. Schwab volunteers for numerous charity organizations. She also continues to lobby for water safety and for family violence mitigation. Schwab is the owner and publisher of *the Social Diary*.

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