



Parkway News January 2010

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You Can Help

Nominate the Trust

Fresh and Easy Neighborhood Market is asking the community to nominate a non-profit that represents what it means to be a good neighbor for a \$1,000 grant. We know that you believe the River Parkway Trust is very important to the community and we need your nominations. All you have to do is visit [this link](#). You will be asked to enter our contact information and a brief statement about why we are a great community group. The employees of the store will read all the nominations and vote for their favorite. The more nominations we get, the better chance we have!



Did you Know?



Check out the Salmon Redd

The Hidden Homes Trail, located at the River Center, now features an updated hidden home. Next time you are at the River Center, be sure to take a look at the new Salmon redd, which has been improved to meet ADA standards. The gravel bed was recontoured and new salmon eggs created by Margaret Hudson were installed. This larger-than-life sized home will help you see and understand the Salmon spawning process.

Did you know that salmon travel back to the streams and rivers they were born in to spawn? Spawning is the final act a Pacific salmon engages in before dying. The female will deposit eggs in a gravel bed, or redd, in the stream, after which the male immediately fertilizes them. The eggs will typically hatch in 3 months. Once hatched, juvenile salmon will remain in the stream for 1 to 3 years before returning to the sea.

You will have the chance to see the beginning of the salmon life cycle here at the River Center. In the next few weeks we will be receiving salmon eggs to go in the tank located in the Welcome Center as part of the *Salmon in the Classroom Program* sponsored by the Department of Fish and Game. Be sure to come by and take a look.

Parties for the Parkway 2010

2010 Art Exhibit is coming soon!

February 1 through February 28,
Monday through Friday, between
9:00am and 5:00pm
Fresno City Hall, 2600 Fresno St in
Downtown Fresno

The River Parkway Trust is pleased to present the 2010 Parties for the Parkway art exhibit at Fresno City Hall, which features over 80 works of art by very generous local artists. You can view the exhibit February 1 through February 28, Monday through Friday, from 9:00am to 5:00pm, on the first and second floors of City Hall. Remember, this art exhibit is your first opportunity to see the fantastic pieces that illustrate each of the parties in the Parties for the Parkway book. While the exhibit is on display, you may bid on your favorite pieces through silent auction. You'll want to make sure that you attend the Kickoff Party on March 18, as this is when final bids are taken on each piece. Read more about the Kickoff below.



Reception Honoring the Artists

Thursday, February 4, from 5:30pm to 7:30pm at City Hall
Each year the River Parkway Trust hosts a special reception to honor the local artists who donate original works to Parties for the Parkway. Part of Fresno's monthly ArtHop, this is your opportunity to come out and thank the artists in person. It is also a chance to view the exhibit outside of the normal business hours of Fresno City Hall. We hope that you will make an effort to join us in celebrating the 18th season of Parties for the Parkway and Fresno's wonderful art community.

For more information on the art exhibit or artist's reception, please call Estelle Boro at 559-248-8480 ext. 116 or email eboro@riverparkway.org.

Save the Date! It is time to party for the Parkway!

18th Annual Parties for the Parkway Kickoff
March 18, 2010, at 5:30pm

*Clovis Veterans Memorial District Building
808 Fourth St in Clovis*

*Kickoff reservations begin in early February and
accepted online, by mail or phone, by March 15.
Kickoff tickets can also be purchased at the door on*



the evening of the event.



Though it seems like we have just ended the 2009 parties season and rung in the New Year, it is time to start thinking about the 18th Parties for the Parkway season. This year we are featuring 71 parties that are sure to delight you. Prepare to be pampered, have a night in the Southwest, take a taste of old Italy, step back in time, and get a grown up time out. As always we have worked hard to put together this fantastic series of events with something for everyone to enjoy. The Parties for the Parkway book will hit mailboxes in early February; you will also be able to read about each party on our website at www.riverparkway.org. Once you have chosen your favorite parties, mark your calendars for the Parties for the Parkway Kickoff, which will be held on Thursday, March 18, 2010 at the Clovis Veteran's Memorial District Building.

At the 2010 Kickoff you will taste divine appetizers and exquisite wines from a variety of local restaurants, caterers and wineries. You can move to the sounds of live music including Rosetree Celtic Music. Perhaps you'll catch up with folks you met at parties you attended last year. Most importantly, this is the first opportunity to make your reservations for parties in the 2010 season. Remember, many parties sell out at the Kickoff each year, so if there is a party you definitely want to attend, you won't want to miss the Kickoff. The best part about the Kickoff is enjoying the food, wine and company for just \$35 per person for members and \$40 per person for non-members.

For more information please call 559-248-8476 or visit www.riverparkway.org.

A Warm Welcome to our New River Buddies Coordinator

Laura Goldstone joins the River Parkway Trust

Laura Goldstone joins the River Parkway Trust staff with a degree in Fine Arts from Fresno State. She has previously been employed with the Education departments for the Fresno Metropolitan Museum, The San Diego Natural History Museum and The Reuben H. Fleet Science Center; she has also worked as an outdoor educator with the San Diego Audubon Society. Laura has collaboratively worked the Trust's with Nature of Art camps in the past and is excited to be back at the River Center. "The River Center is an inspiring place to share with kids. Outdoor education, for me, is where some of the best learning experiences happen. I thoroughly enjoy the endless questions and ideas that come from students as they are exploring and investigating their surroundings, and that process is really significant." Laura has jumped right in to the River Buddies program with some great new ideas. We are pleased to have her on board.



Education Program Update

Let your children explore nature on the Hidden Homes Trail

Would you like to know what is inside a mouse nest? The Hidden Homes Trail located at the River Center is a perfect family destination during any season. Our quarter mile trail is specifically designed for preschool children and is an ideal place to observe wildlife and learn more about the



animals that live in and around the San Joaquin River. Wheelchair and stroller accessible, the Hidden Homes trail is complete with five larger-than-life sized models of animal "homes" with interpretive signs along the way that tell the story of each animal and their home. Tip toe through a mouse house, climb inside a caddis fly case, and be a baby eagle in our giant eagle's nest; then picnic and explore the River Center grounds and Ranch House. The Hidden Homes Trail is accessible Monday-Friday from 8:00am to 4:00pm and Saturday and Sunday from 11:00am to 3:00pm. If you would like more information about preschool programs contact Laura Goldstone at (559) 248-8480 ext. 153, goldstone@riverparkway.org.

[Click here](#) to download a coloring sheet with visuals on what you might find in a mouse nest.

A Look at Community Programs



2010 Season

Beginning in late January the first 2010 River Center Ranch House art exhibit will feature large paintings by Poppy Scarborough. There will also be prints of the Kaweah watershed by Matthew Rangel, who was recently featured at Fresno City Hall in the Trust's exhibit.

The Trust will be partnering with Stone Soup and the Center for Multicultural Cooperation on new projects in the next few months.

Respite by the River will kick off in April with a book release and solo exhibit by author/artist Dixie Salazar. A special Respite event with Heyday Books will take place in 2010, and renowned cowboy poet John C. Doffelmeyer will be featured.

This is just a sample of the many great things to come this season. To get involved please contact Tim Hernandez at 559-248-8480 ext. 154.

Thank you for your continued support of the River Parkway Trust.

Sincerely,

Sarah Parkes

San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust

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