

His Help to City Worthy of a Badge

Next time you drive over one of the creeks flowing through Brentwood, take a second look at the sign informing you of the creek's name.

That sign was assembled and posted there by Josh Schwitters, a 17-year-old senior at Liberty High who put that sign and others on the creeks as part of his Eagle Scout badge project.

Last Nov. 11, while many people were looking forward to a Veterans' Day weekend, Schwitters was busy installing the last of 22 signs identifying Brentwood's various creeks.

Schwitters says he came to the project via a round-about series of referrals, beginning with a City official who is a member of his church. The scout asked about Eagle badge projects, and the official referred him to City Parks Director Craig Bronzan.

Bronzan referred Schwitters to staff member Barry Margesson.

"I gave him a list of projects we wanted to do," says Margesson.

Schwitters chose the creek sign project.

"The City provided the signs, tools, posts and cement for the base. The City didn't want me to have to pay for anything," Schwitters says.

Each sign bears the legend "Marsh Creek Watershed" with the name of the specific creek attached below the legend. Four named creeks flow through Brentwood: Marsh Creek, Deer Creek, Dry Creek and Sand Creek.

Margesson says the City received a grant from the Contra Costa Resource Conservation District to purchase the signs and material. The purpose of the signs is not only to identify specific creeks, but to alert residents that they are in a specific watershed and that they should avoid doing anything that might pollute the water.

Schwitters, the son of Kevin and Donna Schwitters, received his Eagle badge during ceremonies in late November. All candidates for the badge must complete a community service project in addition to other requirements.

Work Begins on City's Water Treatment Plant

Construction began last fall on the City of Brentwood's new \$40 million water treatment plant, and it should be operating by mid to late 2008, Assistant City Engineer Paul Eldredge says.

The new facility, which will expand the City's water treatment capability by 12 million gallons per day, is being built by Monterey Mechanical Co. of Oakland. The firm has had projects with other agencies in Contra Costa County including the cities of Danville, Pittsburg, Pleasant Hill and Walnut Creek, among others.

Brentwood's new plant is adjacent to the existing Randall-Bold water treatment plant, located in Oakley and owned jointly by the Contra Costa Water and Diablo Water districts.

The new facility will treat the City's surface water supply it obtained from East Contra Costa Irrigation District through a separate agreement in 1999 and will expand the reliability and capacity of the City's potable water system.

Redesigned Parks and Recreation Website Is Now Live

The overhaul of the City of Brentwood's website advanced another step this fall with the redesign of the Parks and Recreation Department's site.

Log on to www.ci.brentwood.ca.us and click on "Parks and Recreation" under "City Departments."

Parks and Recreation Department Administrative Supervisor Tammy Homan, Recreation Manager Poldina Scherff and City Webmaster Donna Grilli collaborated on the changes with an eye for simplicity and more opportu-

nity for citizen interaction.

"We wanted it to be more user friendly, so people could find what they were looking for easily and quickly," says Homan.

The City Activities Guide will be posted on the site, although there are no plans for the department to cease printing and mailing copies of the guide to all Brentwood households.

Many new items appear, and the new design allows posting many more documents, allowing residents to have

direct access without having to call for a copy to be mailed, Homan says.

Trail maps and park matrixes appear for the first time on the site. There are even service links where trail users can report graffiti or maintenance problems.

Another new section deals with nutrition. Go to the "general information" column, click "recreation/health" and then click nutrition on the bar near the top of the page.

Forms for facility rentals along with rental policies and procedures are also posted on the site. Click "facilities/rentals" at the top of the department's home page.

If you visit the site and have questions, contact the site's webmaster at: webmaster@ci.brentwood.ca.us.

Fun Run in April to Feature Booths for Health, Safety

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at 9:30 a.m.

The health expo will run all morning and will feature medical screenings for blood pressure, hearing, vision

and osteoporosis. Booth offerings are expected to include massage therapy, arthritis information, child and personal safety, women's health and nutrition education.