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SEBASTOPOL, CA.

Rain doesn't faze third annual Laguna Day celebration

by Chantill Hickman
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SEBASTOPOL — The sweet sounds of children making music coupled with words of poetry, gratitude, and congratulations echoed through the Sebastopol Teen Center at last Sunday's third annual Laguna Day celebration.

The day's soegy drizzle didn't faze Laguna Day organizer Jeff Edelhelt, who cheered up the attendees when he spoke of how appropriate the wet weather was to honor the city's wetlands. Although this third Laguna Day drew a relatively small gathering, Edelhelt said each person there had meant a great

deal to the overall effort. "The whole purpose is to make people aware and bring people out there," said Edelhelt who initiated the Laguna Day in 1998.

The year 2000 Laguna Day celebrated the completion of the third, and at this point, last phase of the park with the installation of an outdoor classroom and a floating bridge.

The day's activities included Pacific Gas and Electric's Vice President Tom Bortorff presenting a \$5,000 grant to help with a learning guide about the Laguna.

City Councilman Larry Robinson also addressed the crowd, giving his thanks to vol-

unteers and community members for their hard work. Robinson presented city planning director Kenyon Webster and Assemblywoman Virginia Strom-Martin with certificates of appreciation from the council for their continued efforts.

Webster has been the project manager for the Laguna park

implementation project, leading a team of engineers, environmental consultants and workers through the different phases of the project.

"There have been some changes to the project. Some costs have gone up and some have gone down," said Webster. But, "It's pretty well complete."

Strom-Martin was honored for her help to secure \$95,000 in state funds for the project as well as for her continual support of the Laguna.

A list of contributors and volunteers who worked on the 1999-2000 implementation was (Please see *Laguna* page A12)