

City opens Laguna park trail

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by Frank Robertson
Sonoma West Staff Writer

SEBASTOPOL — The official opening of the Laguna de Santa Rosa Wetlands Preserve drew a devoted gathering of familiar faces to celebrate the new park on Morris Street last Saturday.

"This is a wonderful day," said Sebastopol resident Brenda Nichols, who along with her husband, Richard, was one of the original park advocates starting nearly 15 years ago. "It's hard to believe," said Nichols.

Sebastopol Mayor Bill Roventini raised a large ceremonial pair of scissors to cut a red ribbon held by Bill Haigwood, president of the Laguna de Santa Rosa Foundation.

"Bill Haigwood's name is synonymous with anything to do with the enhancement of the Laguna de Santa Rosa," Roventini told the gathering of about three dozen people, mostly veterans of the long campaign to restore and preserve the Laguna's remaining undeveloped habitat.

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photos by FRANK ROBERTSON

DEDICATION — The opening of Sebastopol's Laguna de Santa Rosa Wetlands Preserve was celebrated Saturday with a dedication at the new park on Morris St. Above, Laguna park advocates Brenda Nichols (left) and Anne Magnie sit on one of the new park benches they helped pay for. At right, Laguna de Santa Rosa Foundation President Bill Haigwood spoke at the dedication, as did Sebastopol Mayor Bill Roventini (center), who offered, "My sincere thanks and congratulations" for the Laguna park effort.

