



Ensuring tomorrow's Paradise through charitable giving today.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PARADISE STATE OF THE FOUNDATION CELEBRATION GIFTS \$1,800 TO
BUTTE COUNTY SHERIFF'S SEARCH & RESCUE

Over 130 community and non-profit organization leaders, school, Town of Paradise and Butte County dignitaries gathered to get an up-date on the Paradise Community Foundation (PCF) and learn from individuals and organizations the difference that the Foundation has made in their lives and in our community.

The Paradise Community Foundation strives to serve the community. Being a small, locally run organization, many times they are able to react quickly to community needs, and connect donors with needy causes. This year, the organization that the Foundation chose to champion really earned both their respect and support according to Dennis Schmidt, PCF Treasurer. That organization was Butte County Sheriff's Search and Rescue. The Paradise community witnessed the professionalism and commitment of this group last winter when a family went out on a Christmas tree cutting trip above Inskip and became lost. Butte County Search and Rescue was notified and responded with search dogs, snowmobiles, rescue personnel, and all the overhead staff required to run a major winter rescue operation. Nearly 72 hours after this fateful trip began, a CHP helicopter was able to spot the family, and they were whisked off to safety. Without the professionalism, training and courage of the Butte County Search and Rescue volunteers and their partners, it was likely that our community would have been reeling with the death of three local community members, rather than rejoicing that Fredrick, Alexis and Josh Dominguez were found safely. The Foundation presented a community challenge to those present at the celebration. If the Foundation collected \$500 at the celebration for Search & Rescue the Foundation Board of Directors would match that amount. The amount collected from those present was \$900 and the Foundation responded to that challenge. A total of \$1,800 will be deposited into the Butte County Search and Rescue Fund held by the Paradise Community Foundation. The donations to this fund ensure that Butte County Search and Rescue have funding for unforeseen expenses, and to insure that the organization is fiscally sound in future years in order to respond to the emergency search and rescue needs in our area. Scott Steele, representing Butte County Search & Rescue, provided background on the Butte County Search and Rescue organization and an account of the rescue operation last December 2007.

Over \$10,000 in scholarships were awarded, Wachovia Securities Neighborhood Grant for \$1,000 was awarded to the Boys & Girls Clubs of the North Valley/Paradise Ridge and \$400 was awarded to Youth for Changes Family Fun Night program from the Wendy Martinez Memorial Fund and from the Foundation's Board of Directors in honor of Ms. Martinez's service to their Board and the community.

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Special presentations were done by Jean Crist informing the group about the view site on Coutilenc Road which the environmental fund she supports keeps weeds under control so the public can enjoy this extraordinary view of Lookout Point and the surrounding area.

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Evergreen 6, a program at Paradise Intermediate School, produced a video on their recycling efforts presented by Jennifer Arbuckle, representing Northern Recycling & Waste Services. The funding for this project was made possible through the Thorne "Partners In Education" grant.

Chris Buzzard, Vice President, reported that the Foundation has served the Paradise Ridge communities since 1994, receiving, managing and distributing charitable funds to not-for-profit organizations. In 2007 over \$88,000 was granted to various not-for profit organizations. The Foundation manages 33 funds customized to achieve diverse donor interest. Currently the Foundation has \$2.25 million in total assets, carefully managed and prudently invested for the long term. Achieving an 8.58% increase in total assets from January 2007-December 2007.

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According to Gary Manwill, President, the State of the Foundation gathering is a great opportunity for our community to come together to celebrate our accomplishments in connecting people with causes that matter. If you would like additional information about the Foundation or have questions visit our website at www.paradisecommunityfoundation.com or call 876.8033.