



DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sacramento's newest park captures the magic of storybooks with scenes and characters from *Swiss Family Robinson*, *Treasure Island*, and other novels

Sacramento, California, April 8, 2009—Shasta Community Park, the City's newest park, captures children's imagination by bringing to life memorable scenes and characters from such timeless novels as *Swiss Family Robinson* and *Treasure Island*. Shasta Community Park's design not only borrows from storybook adventures, it also allows children to participate in a one-of-a-kind play experience that nurtures their love of reading, discovery, and learning.

This **Saturday, April 11th**, from **11 a.m. – 1 p.m.** Councilmember Bonnie Pannell will host a **Grand Opening Celebration** to officially open this incredibly imaginative park. **Shasta Community Park is located at 7500 Cotton Lane**, not to be confused with Drury Lane.

Shasta Community Park is appropriately located next to what will become Valley Hi/North Laguna Library, a 20,000 square-foot library that is now under construction. Children who play at the playground will be able to visit the library, where they can discover endless stories, characters, and ideas.

"We build playgrounds to help develop children's physical, social, and problem-solving skills. We build libraries so our children have a place where they can explore stories and ideas that prepare them for achievement," said Councilmember Pannell. "We built Shasta Community Park next to a library so that the things our children imagine as they play can one day be realized through the books waiting for them at the library."

Shasta Community Park is a 20-acre park. Some of its storybook-inspired features include:

- Playground based on the novel *Swiss Family Robinson*.
- Large tree house play-structure with thatched roof.
- Pirate ship and treasure chest based on the novel *Treasure Island*.
- Tropical island landscape with boulders and mature palm trees.
- 26 foot-long whale, and a life-sized tiger.
- Art in Public Places art piece: bronze sculpture of two rabbits, one reading a book and one using a laptop computer.

The park's other amenities include a large group picnic area with two shade structures and grills, a regulation-size soccer field, softball fields, volleyball and tetherball courts, two horseshoe courts, decomposed granite jogging trail, exercise stations, pathway lighting, and restroom facilities.

Media-related inquiries can be forwarded to Hindolo Brima, Media and Communications Specialist, Department of Parks and Recreation, at (916) 808-5972.

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