



## Letters

February 7, 2003

*'Friends' love Kottinger Creek*

*Editor,*

I really appreciated last week's article that covered the City Council's unanimous vote to make restoration the goal of the Kottinger Park Creek-Area Project. I am also grateful to each member of the City Council for the wisdom, foresight and environmental concern they showed in doing so.

I offer two corrections to the information presented in the article: €The Friends of Kottinger Creek was formed early in 2000 (not 2001). We have been advocating creek restoration to the city staff for three years. €We organized following the city's removal of five (not one) mature arroyo willows from the banks of Kottinger Creek in January 2000. Later, the California Department of Fish and Game instructed the city to replace each tree that had been removed with three new trees.

The Friends of Kottinger Creek wants scientific studies (hydrology/ecology) to be conducted to determine how the creek can be restored to a steady state - meaning, a dynamic balance in which it will virtually maintain itself, effectively control flooding, support wildlife, keep the water clean, and provide a beautiful environment. Then, using the results of those studies, we want the creek to be restored. We want our children and grandchildren to experience the wonder of a creek habitat.

We love the natural character of Kottinger Park and Creek and are working to preserve it. In addition, we hope the restoration techniques and creek maintenance manual developed from this project will be valuable assets in caring for all Pleasanton's creeks.

Cheri Puls

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