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## **FRIENDS OF SANTA CRUZ STATE PARKS OFFERS NEW TRIBUTE TABLE PROGRAM TO HONOR LOVED ONES**

*Create a lasting tribute with an engraved redwood picnic table in a local state park or beach*

**JUNE 5, 2020—SANTA CRUZ, CA**—Friends of Santa Cruz State Parks (Friends) today launched its new Tribute Tables program. The program provides an opportunity to honor to a loved one, celebrate a milestone or demonstrate community support with an engraved redwood picnic table placed at a local state park or beach in Santa Cruz and San Mateo counties.

“Tribute Tables are a meaningful way to show appreciation for a loved one or special milestone in your life while supporting our beloved state parks and beaches,” Friends Executive Director Bonny Hawley said. “A gift of a Tribute Table also will give park visitors a place to pause and reflect, or take a break to celebrate.”

The Tribute Tables program is a collaborative project between Friends of Santa Cruz State Parks and California State Parks. The minimum donation for a Tribute Table is \$2,500. Proceeds from the Tribute Tables program support local state parks and beaches. The program is being launched following a pilot program phase over the last several months.

Constructed of solid redwood, the custom-engraved picnic tables will provide a place of respite for the donors and other park visitors. The name of honoree is engraved into the cross-timber on one end of the picnic table using a wood router.

“My family wanted to have some sort of memorial tribute to our mom. We chose to put our Tribute Table at Seacliff State Beach. We had so many good times there as a family, so it seemed the perfect place,” Tribute Table donor Anna Nieto said. “We were not disappointed! The table is beautiful and is the perfect way to remember her! We plan to have a nice BBQ with friends and family when we can.”

“Buzz loved the state parks. He ran and hiked in Nisene Marks and we were docents both there and at Seacliff,” Tribute Table donor Susan Gorsky said. “Thus, I could not find a better memorial for him than a picnic table in each park.”

To learn more about Tribute Tables, please visit <https://www.thatsmypark.org/tribute-tables/>. You also can contact Jo Kenny by email at [jo@thatsmypark.org](mailto:jo@thatsmypark.org) or by phone at (831) 429-1840, ext. 31.

### **About Friends of Santa Cruz State Parks**

Established in 1976, Friends of Santa Cruz State Parks (Friends) is a vital partner with California State Parks, creatively working to ensure our cherished local parks and beaches are thriving and available to all. Friends' innovative and collaborative community partnership provides support and investment for education, equity and inclusion, conservation, facilities improvements, historic preservation and cultural events. Friends also operates six ParkStores, offering nature- and history-themed merchandise for sale to benefit local parks and beaches. ParkStore locations include Natural Bridges, New Brighton, Santa Cruz Mission, Seacliff, Wilder Ranch and Online. Learn more at [www.ThatsMyPark.org](http://www.ThatsMyPark.org) or via Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube and Pinterest.

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