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Santa Monica Mountains Fund to Celebrate Post-fire Renewal

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. – The Santa Monica Mountains Fund’s Annual Spring Celebration 2019 on June 9th brings together the community to celebrate the renewal and rebirth we are seeing in the Santa Monica Mountains after the incredibly destructive Woolsey Fire of November 2018.

The Woolsey Fire devastated 88% of the National Park Service land in the Santa Monica Mountains, destroying 29 structures including the Western Town at Paramount Ranch and the Peter Strauss Ranch. In addition, retaining walls, bridges and trails were burnt, along with acres of valuable wildlife habitat lost.

The event begins at 5:00PM and will take place at the Anthony C. Beilenson Interagency Visitor Center at King Gillette Ranch on June 9th. Situated at the heart of the Santa Monica Mountains, the Visitor’s Center offers beauty aplenty under the sycamore trees. Local band, LA Takedown, will entertain guests. Food will be provided by Malibu restaurant Tra di Noi and Saddlepeak Lodge. Silent auction prizes include a safari to South Africa, artisanal jewelry, photographs, books and unique Southern California experiences.

Guests also are invited to join a guided walk to one of the National Park Service sites in the Santa Monica Mountains prior to the event at either Paramount Ranch or Rancho Sierra Vista. At Paramount Ranch, guests will enjoy a gentle stroll around the burnt remains at Western Town and will learn about its movie-making. At Rancho Sierra Vista, guests will learn about this beautiful landscape’s Chumash cultural heritage.

Sara Horner, President of the Santa Monica Mountains Fund, explains, “The good news is nature’s resilience in the face of such a disaster. The Fund wants to bring people together to celebrate this recovery”.

Tickets available at www.samofund.org/spring-celebration

Sponsors include Grow@Annenberg, Morse Sandlin Associates, Jean and Timothy B. Schmit, Kim Kovacs and Bruce Bockwoldt, Horner Music, The Capital Group, The Cheesecake Factory Charitable Foundation, Logix Credit Union and the Greater Conejo Valley Chamber of Commerce.

The Santa Monica Mountains Fund works to protect and encourage appreciation and understanding of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area. The Fund achieves this by supporting National Park Service efforts in education, science, research, improved facilities, citizen engagement, stewardship and philanthropy. For more information, visit www.samofund.org.

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