

Media Release

Immediate Release, Thursday, March 11, 2010

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When/Where:

Opening Exhibition Reception, 5:00 PM to 10:00 PM, Saturday, March 27, 2010
Save Mount Diablo Art Exhibition, , March 27th – April 27th, 2010

Kevin Milligan Gallery and Wine Bar

Hartz Avenue, Danville, CA 94526

Gallery Hours: Sun 12-4

Mon-Wed 11-6

Thurs-Sat 11-8

Dine for Diablo, individual restaurant hours will vary, March 24th – March 27th

Art: Image 1: “Snow Day on Mount Diablo” by photographer Scott Hein. Image 2: “Devil’s Backbone” by painter Kevin Milligan. Contact Beryl at banderson@savemountdiablo.org or (925) 947-3535.

Local Gallery to Feature Mount Diablo Art to ‘Save Mount Diablo’

A local art gallery, Kevin Milligan Galley and Wine Bar, is hosting the, “Save Mount Diablo Art Exhibit”, which will showcase twenty different artists’ works inspired by Mount Diablo to benefit Save Mount Diablo in their mission to preserve the land on and around the mountain for wildlife and people. The exhibit will open with a reception on Saturday, March 27th from 5:00 PM to 10:00 PM and will remain on display until April 27th. Leading up to the opening event, several restaurants will participate in “Dine for Diablo” by designating a meal between Wednesday, March 24th and Saturday, March 27th during which a percentage of proceeds will be donated to Save Mount Diablo.

DANVILLE, CA- An art exhibition featuring works inspired by Mount Diablo will be held in Danville to support the preservation of the mountain. The Kevin Milligan Gallery and Wine Bar will host the exhibit for a month beginning with an opening reception on Saturday, March 27th, from 5:00 PM to 10:00 PM. The “Save Mount Diablo Art Exhibit” will contain pieces from twenty talented artists with various styles and mediums. A portion of the proceeds from the art will go directly to Save Mount Diablo, a non-profit organization that preserves, protects and restores the lands on and around the mountain.

The artwork will encompass all tastes ranging from furniture and mixed media formats to classic paintings and photography. One of the contributing artists, Walnut Creek resident and painter John Finger, has a special affinity for the mountain, “Every time you look, it’s a new subject with new places and points of view. The landscape changes with the light, seasons and weather but is always breathtaking.” Finger cares for the mountain outside of his art as well. He has supported Save Mount Diablo through his artistic contributions and as an avid trail runner for years, “Save Mount Diablo does an incredible job preserving the mountain and increasing awareness and appreciation of the wildlife and land.”

Mount Diablo is more than just a beautiful back drop in the East Bay. The lands support numerous habitats that are home to rare flora and fauna. However, its importance to people should not be overlooked. Hikers, bikers, nature lovers and artists enjoy the landscapes as well. Kevin Milligan, local painter and owner of Kevin Milligan Gallery and Wine Bar in Danville, feels our connection to the mountain goes farther than that. “Mount Diablo is a unifying element that creates a community amongst the surrounding cities and towns”, Milligan explained. As a painter he has drawn from the scenery of the mountain for decades and he’s not alone. When Kevin learned of Save Mount Diablo’s mission, he knew he wanted to help, “Everyone wants open space without the noise of a jackhammer.”

Preservation of the Mountain takes a village. In addition to funds raised from art sales, proceeds from Gallery wine purchases and meals from participating Dine for Diablo restaurants will benefit the land efforts as well. Dine for Diablo will take place leading up to the opening reception of the art exhibit. On Wednesday, March 24th, Danville restaurants Esin, Amici's and Father Nature's will donate a percentage of their proceeds to Save Mount Diablo. Atol, a Spanish restaurant in Danville, has generously offered to donate a portion their proceeds over four days beginning Wednesday the 24th through the exhibit's opening night on Saturday the 27th. Diners, supporters and Exhibit attendees can also dine Saturday at Sideboard in Danville which will donate a percentage of their proceeds to the cause of saving the mountain.

Save Mount Diablo recently purchased the 165 acre Viera North Peak property which despite being in the literal heart of Mount Diablo and bordering the State Park had not yet been protected. The parcel is inhabited by more than fifty confirmed rare plant species many of which are specific to the Diablo area. Save Mount Diablo has long partnered with artists and the Save Mount Diablo Art Exhibition will be an exciting event and opportunity for the organization, artists and Mount Diablo enthusiasts alike. For more information about the Save Mount Diablo Art Exhibit visit www.SaveMountDiablo.org.

Save Mount Diablo is a non-profit 501(c)(3) conservation organization, which has been preserving lands on and around Mount Diablo and educating the public to the mountain's natural values since 1971. Preserved lands have increased from 6,788 acres in one park to more than 100,000 acres in 38 parks and preserves. Save Mount Diablo continues to preserve, protect and restore the remainder of the mountain. Contact: Save Mount Diablo, telephone: (925) 947-3535, fax: (925) 947-0642, 1901 Olympic Blvd., Suite 220, Walnut Creek, CA 94596; www.savemountdiablo.org

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