

## ***News from the Helotes Heritage Association***

Dear Readers,

As many of you are aware, the community of Helotes has made great progress in recent months to bring parks and open space to the City of Helotes and its surroundings, an area that currently has no parks. We are entering a critical period. We are extremely close to starting to develop the Parrigin Playground and to complete the purchase of the 33-acre parcel for the Sen. Frank Madla Memorial Park. Funding for both is being secured. And this funding is **NOT** coming from City of Helotes funds. It is **ALL** from external sources.

Sadly there are some who believe that we do not need park land and open space. They are attempting, in any way possible, to thwart the efforts to establish parks. These actions, if successful, will stall purchase of the 33-acre parcel until which time the property owner will be forced to sell to another. This beautiful property would then be undoubtedly developed for business and housing.

Helotes Heritage Association strongly believes these efforts are misguided and counter to the best interests and future of our community. We pledge to do everything in our power to assist those who put the betterment of the community ahead of a few who are attempting to enrich the fortunes of out-of-town developers.

Please make your voices heard at this very critical time. A tremendous effort has been spent to get us so close to finally bringing parks and open space to our community. Please contact Helotes City Council members Rich Whitehead and Jeff Ellis and especially Mayor Tom Schoolcraft (1-210-695-9908). They need to hear from you that stalling the efforts to get the parks is not acceptable. Please attend the Helotes City Council meeting at 7 pm on Thursday June 14 to make sure the message is getting through.

Sincerely,  
Ron Green  
President, HHA