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Coyote Valley Family Harvest Feast

Celebrates the Valley of Heart's Delight with Fresh, Healthy Food and Outdoor Fun

San Jose, CA - Sept. 12, 2014: The Open Space Authority cordially invites the community to attend the festive ***Coyote Valley Family Harvest Feast***, a celebration of nature's bounty and the many ways nature contributes to our health, quality of life, and strength of the local economy. **Admission and parking are free.** The ***Family Harvest Feast*** will take place on Saturday, September 27, from 11:00am to 3:00pm at the Open Space Authority's 348-acre Coyote Valley Open Space Preserve, nestled between Morgan Hill and San Jose off of Hwy 101.

"The Open Space Authority is excited to welcome the public to the beautiful Coyote Valley Open Space Preserve," said Andrea Mackenzie, General Manager. "Our purpose in holding this event is to celebrate this last remaining area in the iconic Valley of Heart's Delight – and to help people experience firsthand how important nature and its benefits are to our everyday lives. Open space land helps protect our clean air and water, wildlife habitat, and provides healthy food produced by local farms and ranches. Open space is here for people to enjoy and we want to encourage people to visit often."

The Open Space Authority's [Greenprint](#) identifies Coyote Valley as one of the highest priority areas for conservation in Santa Clara County. "Coyote Valley encompasses one of only two critical landscape linkages that allow wildlife movement between the Diablo Range and the Santa Cruz Mountains. It is a critical recharge area for the groundwater basin on which Silicon Valley depends. Its farmland is an important source of healthy, local food and provides opportunities for the sustained livelihood of the county's farmers and ranchers," said Matt Freeman, Asst. General Manager.

The ***Family Harvest Feast*** will offer docent-led hikes, active games and interactive educational booths that represent the South Bay's deep agricultural roots and its vibrant conservation and environmental community. Veggielution, Committee for Green Foothills, Peninsula Open Space Trust, Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District, the San Jose Astronomical Association, Gilroy Gardens, and the Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society are just some of the many organizations that will host booths.

The **Harvest Feast** will offer plenty of delicious, affordable, multicultural food to tempt and satisfy a broad range of palates. Celebrity Chef Maurice Dissels of [Birk's Restaurant](#) will serve crisp and juicy rotisserie porchetta with a kale Caesar salad on the side, and demonstrate his extensive culinary talents for the crowd. A variety of chefs and food vendors will provide fresh fish tacos, veggie kabobs, roasted corn on the cob, turkey dogs and Thai, Indian and Mediterranean specialties including falafel, pad Thai, and healthy salads. Fresh, locally grown chilies will be available for free tasting courtesy of SAGE, Sustainable Agriculture Education.

Award-winning [Bay Area bluesman Willie G](#) and his band will play their high-energy soul, blues and jazz tunes that appeal to all ages. [Singer songwriter Andy Z](#) will delight kids and kids-at-heart with his storytelling and character voices. Community performance groups are also scheduled to perform, including the Vietnamese Lasallian Youth Troupe, a drumming and dance group; the [Kathak Indian Classical Dancers](#); and the traditional [Grupo Folkloric de Laureles](#) troupe.

The entertainment schedule is as follows:

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|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 11:15 – 11:30 am | Vietnamese Lasallian Youth Troupe |
| 11:30 – 12:00 noon | Kathak Classical Indian Dancers |
| 12:00 – 12:30pm | Grupo Folklorico de Laureles |
| 12:30 – 1:00pm | Andy Z |
| 1:30 – 3:00pm | Willie G |

The **Family Harvest Feast** will take place at the Coyote Valley Open Space Preserve, 550 Palm Avenue, Morgan Hill (just south of San Jose). Additional information and registration for this free event is available at: harvestfeastcv.eventbrite.com

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Since 1993, the Open Space Authority has protected over 16,000 acres of open space, natural areas, watersheds and wildlife habitat — providing outdoor recreation opportunities and preserving the natural beauty and environmental health of Santa Clara County