

The Bronner Family Moves Closer to the Dream

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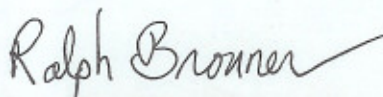
David, Michael, Kris, Trudy, Ralph, and Gisela Bronner are excited about the following steps towards our family dream. Last year, 2002, we finally paid-off the over \$3,000,000 debt to the IRS, when we inherited the business in 1997, after Dr. Bronner passed away.

After the debt was paid, we immediately set up the "Dr. Bronner Family Foundation." We will continue to support the over 20 humane charities that we have been funding for at least seven years.

The following two articles show the final step towards building a "Rain Forest Ranch Camp" for the Boys and Girls Clubs near San Diego. They had nothing and they now have the second largest land grant ever given to a Boys and Girls Club. Our dream is to donate funds to build a main lodge in the name of Jim Bronner, who coached soccer for them, but tragically passed away just a year after Dr. Bronner's death.

You are allowing this to happen when you purchase our soap.

From all of us, Thank-You.



NORTH COUNTY TIMES

Saturday, June 7, 2003

Boys, Girls Camp OK'd for Warner Springs

MARTY GRAHAM
STAFF WRITER

ESCONDIDO — The long-planned camp for the Boys & Girls Clubs of San Diego County took a big step forward Friday when county officials unanimously approved a permit for the 1,024-acre site in Warner Springs.

"We are so pleased that we can now get under way," said Danny Sherlock, president and chief executive officer of the organization, which has two clubs in Escondido. "This has been five years in the planning and we've still got some fund raising to do, but we've now crossed the major hurdle to build our dream camp."

The land was donated to the Escondido club in June 1998 by the family of the late eccentric soap-maker Dr. Emanuel Bronner. The Bronner corporation, which is in Escondido, donates 26 percent of its profits to charities, according to Ralph Bronner, the founder's son.

"This was part of Dad's vision, and he was a visionary," the younger Bronner said. "If it wasn't for Dad being obsessed with Mount Palomar as one of the most beautiful places on Earth, this would have never happened."

"Years ago, a Realtor contacted him and they started buying parcels in Warner Springs and eventually strung together 1,200 acres," Bronner

added. "It's a remarkable piece of upland desert with a spring-fed stream running through it."

The camp will be owned and operated by the Escondido club, but children from all the county's clubs will be welcome.

It will be built in phases, starting with a lodge expected in late 2004, Sherlock said. The countywide clubs hope to serve about 150 children overnight and about 200 kids a day at the camp once it is completed, he said.

"Ninety percent of the land will remain natural and we plan to build on about 100 acres," Sherlock said. "There will be lots of hiking, fire roads we can use for mountain bik-

ing, rock climbing and we are adding water features."

It took five years and just less than \$200,000 to get the permit because of environmental and habitat studies that had to be done. There was no opposition to the major-use permit, which was approved without comment.

Several members of the Bronner family and company employees attended the county hearing Friday morning.

"It passed so fast, nobody got to speak," Bronner said. "I wanted to break champagne over something but we just got up and left quietly."

The San Diego Union-Tribune

Saturday, June 7, 2003

Camp Plan OK'd for Boys and Girls Clubs

Dr. Bronner's land to help thousands

By Elizabeth Fitzsimons
STAFF WRITER

WARNER SPRINGS — Years ago, Emanuel Bronner, the eccentric man behind Dr. Bronner's Soap, thought he could change the climate by planting three miles of trees in the Chihuahua Valley. The plan failed.

Instead, Bronner's land north of Warner Springs will change children's lives, say officials with the Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater San Diego.

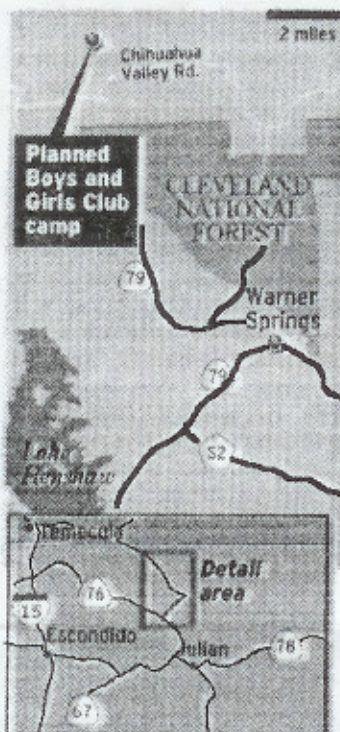
The clubs' plan to build a camp to serve tens of thousands of children was approved yesterday by the county Planning Commission.

Rainforest Ranch Campground, named for Bronner's attempts at climate manipulation and in honor of his family's donation of the land, will one day accommodate 200 people a day, and about 150 overnight.

Bronner, who lived in Escondido, died in 1997 at 89. His soap, which has labels covered with thousands of words promoting his All-One-God-Faith, is still sold all over the country.

"One man's effort to change his world will result in changing the lives of tens of thousands of children through the Boys and Girls Clubs," said Danny Sherlock, who is president and chief executive officer of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater San Diego.

The organization counts 79,000 children involved with Boys and Girls Clubs around the county.



PAUL HORN / Union-Tribune

The camp, which will occupy 360 of the clubs' 1,024 acres, will be constructed in three phases. The lodge, two caretakers' quarters and a storage barn will be phase one. In phase two, dining halls, cottages, cabins, bathrooms, a swimming pool and an equestrian facility will be built. Phase three would include improvements to buildings and the completion of landscaping, service roads and a parking lot.

The project will cost about \$10 million. The clubs plan to have the first children at the camp in 2005. But first the clubs must have detailed plans drawn up and infrastructure and utilities installed, Sherlock said.

The land is in a sparsely populated area, about 4,000 feet in elevation, north of Chihuahua Valley Road and west of Cooper Cienega Truck Trail. It is about half a mile from the nearest residents, some of whom initially complained about the project.

Residents were concerned about the poor state of the road, which the clubs will be required to improve, and traffic to and from the camp kicking up dust, said David Sibbet, the county's project manager.

Sibbet said the camp will not generate enough traffic to create a dust problem. No one spoke out against the camp during yesterday's commission meeting.

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