

# **Monarch Folks Cut a Deal**

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The national Monarch Project reports success in preserving one of the migratory butterfly's winter habitats from destruction by development. Santa Cruz developer Travis Van Brash has cooperated with the Monarch Project by allocating what the project calls a "conservation easement" under which the critical monarch area is deeded to the Monarch people for protection. The Van Brash project is in the Branciforte Creek area, which some years is home to as many as 30,000 migrating butterflies. The Monarch Project originally opposed the eight-unit Van Brash development, but will now support the plan when it goes before the city Zoning Board this week. Another such "conservation easement" is being negotiated for a monarch migration site in Pacific Grove. — Vicki Bolam

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