

Krazy fund gets started for Porter-Sesnon park

By KEITH MURAOKA

Sentinel staff writer

CAPITOLA — Capitola is getting support from an unexpected source regarding its newly-unveiled suggestion concerning the purchase of the Porter-Sesnon property in Aptos for a regional park.

"Krazy" George Henderson, owner of Krazy's sports bar in Aptos, has started an "Aptos-Capitola Sports Field Association Fund." Funds, anticipated to be around \$2,000 a year generated from athletic tournaments, will go toward a park with playing fields for the 66-acre coastal property.

Meanwhile, Capitola's idea — that county supervisors form a service area to buy the property for a county regional park rather than the state park it is earmarked for — is not going over well with County Administrative Officer George Newell.

Newell questioned not only the need for a regional park there, but also said, "It would help if Capitola would contribute some money."

He noted that a county service area only covers the unincorporated area and not cities, such as Capitola. Therefore, Capitola residents would not be

contributing to such a suggested service area.

"I'm not sure why we (the county) would want to buy it," Newell added. "If the state buys it, it will become an extension to New Brighton State Park."

The Capitola City Council suggested that if only \$10 were levied against the estimated 88,000 parcels in the county, \$880,000 a year could be raised for the purchase of the as a regional park.

A regional park could have more active recreational uses than a state park, including baseball and soccer fields, noted Councilman Michael Routh, who made the proposal.

The county is looking at spending \$500,000 as a local contribution toward the purchase of the property as a state park. State Sen. Henry Mello, D-Watsonville, hopes the local contribution will help persuade state parks officials to spend approximately \$3.7 million in state park bond funds for the property. He says if the state cannot come to terms by July 1 with Palo Alto developer Ryland Kelley, who holds the 99-year Porter-Sesnon lease, the whole deal may be off.

Meanwhile, Henderson is enthused about Capitola's suggestion.