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THE WINGSPREAD FORUM. One of the greatest advantages of living in Santa Cruz County is the number of cultural attractions that are available to us. Theatre, music, dance, art, crafts (and a lot of things that don't fit into those categories) are all very much a part of our environment. Most of the time — in fact all of the time — the organizations and individuals involved with making those cultural flowers blossom work incredibly hard just to keep their particular art or profession alive. Recruiting new board members, raising funds, staging events and a thousand other necessary functions all consume an enormous amount of volunteer time. No cultural group or organization has or ever had an easy time existing in Santa Cruz. Ryeland Kelly, his 630 rental condos and the possibility of his building a performing arts building on the Porter-Sesnon property has, in the last three years, caused more harm to and dissension among these groups than can ever be realized. Cultural groups that once discussed stage lighting and makeup are bitterly arguing about whether to support or sponsor or be involved with this out-of-town developer's pie-in-the-sky promotion. Responsible citizens who once were primarily concerned with the quality of next season's productions are debating in their group meetings over land use issues. It's sad to see, and even sadder when one realizes that the reason for their dissension is nothing more than a developer's promise.

THE TRUTH IS. Most of the people in our County have little or no idea of the three years of dealing, proposals, rulings, plans, reams of paper and hundred of meetings that have been held over the Wingspread/Porter-Sesnon issue. Like any multi-million dollar development that encounters

opposition, it has become extremely complex. As I mentioned last week, there will be a forum Wednesday night (March 2) at 7:30 pm at Mar Vista School in Aptos. It's being sponsored by the Cabrillo Music Festival and the Santa Cruz County Symphony. The forum will be moderated by the League of Women Voters and will have as panel members: a representative of the County; somebody from the facilities committee of the Cultural council, a member of the Calif. State Parks Commission; a member of Rye Kelley's handpicked Wingspread Foundation; somebody from Rye Kelley's development group; and Vickie Powell, the president of Friends of Porter-Sesnon and former business manager of Kelley's enterprises. There will be a question and answer period after the formal presentations. Be sure to read Vickie Powell's opinions on this forum in the letters to the editor section of this very issue if you haven't already. And be sure to be at the forum on Wednesday night if you want to see this last plot of greenspace in County with bay frontage made into a State Park instead of being the site of 630 more rental condos like Kelley built at Pajaro Dunes.