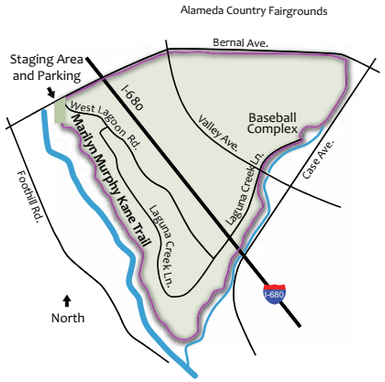

ACCESS— The Marilyn Murphy Kane Trail may be accessed from its staging area and parking lot located at 3200 West Lagoon Road, off of Bernal Avenue, west of the Interstate 680 freeway.

PARK RULES

- The trail is open during daylight hours.
- Dogs must be leashed at all times on the trail.
- No fires, fireworks, firearms or other weapons are permitted on the trail.
- No alcoholic beverages are permitted on the trail.
- Do not disturb, remove or damage any tree, plant, or other natural materials found along the trail.
- Do not disturb, remove or harm any bird or animal, either wild or domesticated, along the trail.
- No overnight camping is allowed, unless specially permitted by the Community Services Director.

You are responsible for obeying all trail rules. For a complete copy of the City of Pleasanton Municipal Code, Chapter 13.08, Parks and Recreation Facilities, contact the Community Services Department at (925) 931-5340 or go to **www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us**.

Brochure produced in cooperation with Friends of Marilyn Murphy Kane.

Cover photographs by Sue Evans Photography

March 2013

Marilyn Murphy Kane Trail

TRAIL MAP

THE CITY OF PLEASANTON

WELCOME—The Marilyn Murphy Kane Trail lies within the City owned 318-acre Bernal property. The 1.4 mile long trail follows the Arroyo de la Laguna from the trail staging area, southward to Bernal Canal, then northeast along the Bernal Canal to Valley Avenue. The trail is a link in a future regional trail that will extend north to Concord, and south, though Niles Canyon to the Bay. Marilyn Murphy Kane Trail features stunning views of the Ohlone Wilderness to the south, Mt. Diablo to the north and Pleasanton Ridge to the west. Benches are placed along the trail at view sites. Prominent features in the southwest corner of the trail and in the southeast corner of Lagoon Drive and Valley Avenue are large man-made retention basins which are home to ducks, geese and many other birds.

Marilyn Murphy Kane (September 26, 1926 – November 11, 2006) was a nature lover and outdoorswoman with a special appreciation for plants. She had a vision of preserving a natural park on the beautiful land next to the Arroyo de la Laguna and envisioned a park for anyone wishing to enjoy the natural world - whether walking, biking, jogging or just sitting. She tirelessly and passionately pursued that vision successfully convincing City leaders to set aside the land for such a park. In her memory, her family generously contributed the funds necessary to construct the Marilyn Murphy Kane Trail. A memorial to Marilyn Murphy Kane, a tribute from her many friends, is located .89 miles from the staging area.

History - At one time the entire Livermore-Amador Valley was a large, sediment filled valley gently sloping to a marsh ringed lagoon, Tulare Lake. This site was marshland below the lagoon, with willows and tules. The lagoon and marsh drained into the Arroyo de la Laguna which flowed into Alameda Creek and then to San Francisco Bay, as it does today. For over 5,000 years the Ohlone people, hunter gatherers, lived here in harmony with the land, harvesting the abundant water fowl, fish, fresh water clams, deer, seeds, acorns and tules. In 1772 the first Europeans, a Spanish expedition, entered the valley known until then only to the Ohlone. Mission San Jose was established in l797, and this site became part of the lands grazed by thousands of mission-owned cattle. In 1835 the mission was secularized, and this site became part of the Rancho del Valle de San Jose. In the late 1800's, the desire to increase the amount of land available for farming resulted in canals being constructed to drain the land. Wells were drilled to serve local residential and agriculture use and large tracts of land, including this site, were purchased for well fields to serve the growing urban area. If you look closely you can find remnants of previous water systems. When the canals were completed and the surrounding land was made acceptable for agriculture, it was farmed with a variety of crops. Most recently, the land has been used to grow red oat hay.

Plants and Animals - One of the richest and most interesting habitats of the site is the riparian woodland. The term "riparian" refers to vegetation or habitat along rivers, streams and waterways. While the Marilyn Kane Trail is in open grassland, it parallels the riparian woodland of the Arroyo de la Laguna, and the newly developed riparian corridor of the Bernal Canal.
The Arroyo de la Laguna offers outstanding views of native trees including sycamore, California Bay, buckeye, elderberry, valley oak, coast live oak, black walnut, willow and cottonwood. The shrub and plant understory contains baccharis, toyon, cow parsnip, hemlock, poison oak and thistle. The open grassland features valley oaks and live oaks. Live oak plantings are located along the trail to provide future users with a shaded pathway. The site was farmed for many years so native grasses and wildflowers have not been established in the open grassland. Some of the open grassland is now left fallow to one day allow for the emergence of a natural plant community.

Mammals that may be found include: deer, gray fox, possum, raccoon, jack rabbits, cottontail rabbit, squirrels and ground squirrels, and bobcats.
Birds commonly seen include: black shouldered kite, red tail hawk, blue jay, yellow billed magpie, various song birds, turkey vulture, egrets, great blue heron, red-winged blackbirds and mallard ducks.
Reptiles that may be seen include: western fence lizard, garter snakes, gopher snakes, king snake and rattlesnakes.

Marilyn Murphy Kane Trail

Park Maintenance 925-931-5565

EMERGENCY 911

The Marilyn Murphy Kane Trail is open during daylight hours to pedestrians, equestrians and bicyclists. The trail is closed to all motorized vehicles except emergency or maintenance vehicles. Dogs must be leashed at all times.

TRAIL	MILES
Staging Area to Valley Ave.	1.7
Staging Area to Memorial	.8
Staging Area to Lagoon Trail	1.0
Staging Area to I-680	1.5

LEGEND

- Marilyn Murphy Kane Trail (Hikers, Bicycles, Horses, Service & Emergency Vehicles)
- Temporary Connector Trail
- .18 Mileage Between Points

Restroom · Bench · Parking · Gate · Drinking Fountain · Vista Points · Observation Deck

Trail distance labels are in fractions of a mile.

0 300 600 1,200 1,800 2,400 Feet

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