

# Bistro fundraiser for Butters Canyon

By Lucinda Ryan

*Correspondent*

Montclair Bistro will be the setting for a Celebrity Bartender and silent auction event Oct. 1 to raise money for the continued preservation of Butters Canyon. Oakland District 4 Councilwoman Jean Quan will serve drinks while music plays and bidders win prizes. Appetizers will be provided.

Just above Butters and Robinson drives in the Oakland hills, Butters Canyon has been protected from development by a group of neighbors who began acquiring the land eight years ago. They have preserved the ½-mile long canyon by creating a nonprofit organization called the Butters Canyon Conservancy.

Through events, private donations and a \$198.3 million initiative voters passed in 2002, the land remains a safe ecosystem for wildlife and a nice view for passing bicyclists and pedestrians.

Tickets to the event, which will run from 6 to 9 p.m., are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. The bistro is located at 6118 Medau Place. Ticket and cocktail sales will go directly

toward Butters Canyon preservation efforts and a portion of the auction proceeds will benefit Butters, also.

To reserve tickets, contact Lynette Cravens at [BCCEvent@lynettecraevens.com](mailto:BCCEvent@lynettecraevens.com). To donate to Butters Canyon efforts, send a check to Butters Land Trust, 3039 Burdeck Drive, Oakland, CA 94602 or call 415-694-3004.

The conservancy owns most of the 18 parcels, but there is still some privately owned land. Conservancy treasurer Paul Dries said residents in the area have supported keeping the land undeveloped.

According to the conservancy's Web site, [www.butterslandtrust.org](http://www.butterslandtrust.org), the board of directors decides on land use within the needs and wishes of the community and within environmental guidelines. The Web site has photographs and information about the canyon and the conservancy's progress in acquiring its land.

The conservancy will hold title to the land in perpetuity or until a public agency, such as the city, buys or receive title to it.