

Rotary, volunteers plant 44 trees

The Almaden Rotary Club and the members of the T.J. Martin Park Neighborhood Association spent last Saturday, April 25 planting 44 trees at T.J. Martin Park.

The beautiful day and the eco-friendly task brought out about 120 volunteers and the job was complete before noon even though neighborhood association co-chairs Pier Maggiani and Russ Petruzzelli expected about 30 people.

"The turnout was way beyond our expectations," said Maggiani.

"We had maybe 30 adults confirmed and then all these people showed up," said Petruzzelli. "I figured it was going to take us both days of the weekend, but it's just 11:30 and we're nearly finished," he said. And that was despite a problem with one of the valves that turned into a 10-foot fountain and had to be capped off.

Both of the event chairs praised the

District 10 office because it was through that staff that the Rotary and the neighborhood association joined together. City Councilmember Nancy Pyle even helped for a little while in the morning.

The April 25 event was the first of three phases. The volunteers planted and staked 25 California Buckeyes, two Crepe Myrtles, 10 Coast Live Oaks and seven Chinese Pistaches. The park members are using a master plan to replant new trees. The second session is expected by the same time next year.



T.J. Martin Park Neighborhood Association tree planting co-chairs Pier Maggiani, left, and Russ Petruzzelli, stand beside the stakes holding the newly planted tree upright. The tree is one of 44 planted April 25 by the association, the Almaden Rotary Club, Santa Clara University, Starbucks, Power Integration, Our City Forest and Pioneer High and Kennedy Middle School (Cupertino). *Photo by Carol Rosen*

Besides the neighborhood association and the Almaden Rotary Club, volunteers came from Santa Clara University's Community Facilitators, Starbucks, Power Integration, Our City Forrest, Pioneer High School and Kennedy Middle School in Cupertino.

All the volunteers were then treated to a free lunch of hamburgers and hot dogs.