

Two Juvenile Raptors Released at Los Lagos Golf Course

After spending several weeks at the Wildlife Center of Silicon Valley (WCSV), two juvenile red-shouldered hawks (*Buteo lineatus*) were released at Los Lagos Golf Course on Thursday July 15, 2004. The golf course is adjacent to Coyote Creek, an area that provides native habitat for numerous species. Los Lagos was the 30th golf course in the state of California to be certified as a cooperative sanctuary by Audubon International last April. The two hawks were found in the San Jose Area and required some rehabilitation at the WCSV before re-entering the wild.

Alan Andreasen, CGCS, Superintendent at Los Lagos, initiated a relationship between the golf course and the WCSV, an organization that provides high quality care and rehabilitation of injured, sick, and orphaned birds and mammals within Silicon Valley. The successful working partnership between the WCSV and Los Lagos led to the adoption of a raptor and its release at Los Lagos Golf Course.

"There has been a lot of bad press on golf courses and

their effect on their environment," said Andreasen. "At Los Lagos Golf Course and CourseCo, Inc., we really pride ourselves on being environmentally friendly; we're well aware of things that can harm the wildlife and have gone out of our way to increase the wildlife. This raptor release is a nice symbol of the potential harmony between gold courses and wildlife."

Trudi Burney, Director of Education with the WCSV, cannot hide her excitement when discussing the developing relationship with Los Lagos Gold Course. "We've come full circle: This is an organization that has supported us and we've got a great collaboration going with CourseCo."

After the release, the birds soared in the air, wings spread to a full three feet, examining their new territory along Coyote Creek. "These birds offer a lot beautiful sights and sounds for those of us who slow down enough to take notice," said Burney.

CPR, Defibrillator as Effective as Paramedics, Studies Say

By Robert Davis, *USA Today*

Bystanders performing CPR and using automated external defibrillators save as many cardiac-arrest victims as highly trained paramedics – and send more of them home with normal brain function – according to studies out today. The findings may lead to sweeping changes in the way emergency medical systems across the nation allocate resources, experts say.

The chances of surviving a cardiac arrest nearly quadruple if fast-acting lay people perform CPR instead of waiting for paramedics, according to one of the studies in today's *New England Journal of Medicine*. The study found that the chances of survival more than triple if a shock from a defibrillator is delivered within eight minutes.

Paramedics could not save more lives than people who performed CPR and used an automated external defibrillator (AED), according to the study, the first of its kind.

A second study in the prestigious medical journal shows that twice as many lives are saved when an amateur

rescuer uses an AED to deliver a shock to cardiac-arrest victims before emergency medical services crews arrived.

About 60,000 people suffer a short circuit of the heart and require such a shock each year. In recent years, easy-to-use, foolproof AEDs have saved tens of thousands of lives.

And the devices have exposed shortcomings in EMS.

Paramedics simply can't reach victims fast enough, *USA Today* found in an investigation published last year. Thousands of lives are lost each year because of fragmented, inconsistent and slow emergency medical services.

"These two studies will change the way we think of EMD," says Robert O'Connor, chairman of the EMS committee for the American College of Emergency Physicians. He says more cities may now deploy more AEDs. "This changes the playing field."