

Mendo Mill offers to help local charities through matching plan

Contributed by Editor
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CLEARLAKE ‐ Mendo Mill and Lumber has stepped in to assist local charities that are stretched thin by increasing needs in a slow economy with high unemployment.

Mendo Mill President Mike Mayfield announced a hiatus in the company's annual summer "Thank You Barbecue" events this year and will use the money saved to help local charities in Lake and Mendocino Counties.

From now through the end of July Mendo Mill will match contributions made to local charities up to an aggregate of \$10,000 thereby giving those charities potentially \$20,000 at a time when their budgets are drained by heavy demands.

While the free barbecues have been a popular Mendo Mill tradition for over 25 years, the decision to shift the money to local charities was easy according to Mayfield, who presides over home improvement stores in Ukiah, Clearlake, Willits and Fort Bragg.

"Every day I see the difficulties that people are facing in this economic downturn and I know firsthand how their needs are placing increased burdens upon the local charities," Mayfield said.

"I am confident that the hundreds of people who attend the barbecues will understand and support our decision to direct the money to more critical needs in our communities," he added.

Mayfield explained that persons may make a contribution to the local charity of their choice and Mendo Mill will match the donation.

"All they need to do is bring their donation to any Mendo Mill store, designate their favorite charity and Mendo Mill will automatically match it," Mayfield said. "We prefer checks made out to the charity but we can deal with cash or credit cards if necessary. Persons will receive a receipt for their records.

"In the event that aggregate donations exceed \$10,000, each contribution will be reduced on a pro-rata basis to keep the total Mendo Mill obligation to \$10,000," he said.

Mayfield said the contributions and matching funds will be distributed to the local charities in August.

Persons who have questions about the process may call Mayfield or his vice president, Gail Strong, at 707-462-8806, or contact the store managers in Ukiah, Clearlake, Willits and Fort Bragg.