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Paradise — From Devastation to Inspiration:

Butte County, Paradise, California 4-H Clubs Use Woodstock Chimes to Aid in Camp Fire Recovery

4-H Club Members Personalize 125 Bells of Paradise for Survivors' Healing and Recovery

SHOKAN, N.Y., February 6, 2020 – The California-based Oroville Foothill 4-H Club recently partnered with Woodstock Chimes[®], the leading manufacturer of musically tuned windchimes, to aid survivors of the devastating November 2018 Paradise, California Camp Fire, the worst fire in state history. The 4-H Club personalized 125 of the aptly named Bells of Paradise™ windchimes donated by the company and distributed them as a special way to provide music to aid in the psychological and emotional recovery of survivors. A 4-H member who had lost her home in a fire three months earlier had found that working on group projects to help others played a significant role in her recovery, and she became the inspiration for the project. Other 4-H members instantly recognized how the idea would bring the healing power of music, comfort, inspiration and hope to fire survivors.

It was decided that each donated Woodstock Chime would be offered to survivors nominated by the community and would be decorated by club members and local middle school children. An online form was created that allowed 4-H Club members and others in the community to nominate survivors for the gift of one of the chimes. The Oroville Foothill 4-H Club first nominated members of the neighboring Pine Ridge 4-H Club and they in turn nominated other community members. Colorful beads and silver charms with inspirational words were used, each having a special significance to the recipients. Each nomination included a story about the person's experience, suggestions for appropriate word charms and bead colors, and the names of family members to be written on the windcatchers. 4-H Club members were asked to choose which stories resonated most with them and then they worked in teams to personalize the chimes for the individuals or families chosen. Many also added hand-drawn pictures and notes of hope and encouragement. Then 4-H members and nominators presented the chimes as gifts of peaceful, healing music to the recipients. The 4-H members presented the project and the first of the personalized chimes in April 2019 to the Paradise Mayor and City Council.





"All phases of this project have been eye-opening, but none as much as the giving phase," said Donovan Hill, an Oroville Foothill 4-H Club member. "We have met with recipients wherever they are...and have involved many of the nominators who have appreciated the opportunity to deliver the gifts. An unexpected benefit of our project has been the excitement of the nominators who were eager to assist us. Personally putting each gift into the hands of the recipient has been the most rewarding part of the project, and the emotions are overwhelming for everyone involved."

"As a company that believes in the healing power of music, we felt privileged to be involved, and the <u>Bells of Paradise</u> name synergy was especially fitting," said <u>Garry Kvistad</u>, founder and owner of <u>Woodstock Chimes</u> and a GRAMMY® Award-winning musician. "We were touched by the generous spirit of the 4-H members, who found the giving phase to be the most rewarding part. To those who nominated the recipients and personalized the chimes, and especially to the survivors who received them, we hope the peaceful and calming tones will be a source of comfort and inspiration, and a little piece of paradise for all."

Spencer Hill, an alumnus of the Oroville Foothill 4-H Club, made an inspiring music video that captures the spirit of the project. Hill additionally composed the video's music which includes the notes of the <u>Bells of Paradise</u> chime. <u>Click here to see the video</u>. To celebrate the creative energy of the young people of the Oroville Foothill 4-H Club and to express his wish that the sound of Woodstock Chimes bring comfort to families affected by the fire, Garry Kvistad recorded a video as well, <u>which can be seen here</u>.

To see and hear all <u>Bells of Paradise</u>, which come in a variety of colors, sizes and price points, and all <u>Woodstock Chimes</u> and <u>Woodstock Rainbow Makers™</u>, or to find a <u>Woodstock Chimes OneCoast</u> Territory Manager, please visit <u>OneCoast.com/find</u> or contact <u>Woodstock Chimes directly by calling 800-422-4463 or visit WoodstockChimes.com</u>.

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About Woodstock Percussion, Inc.: Woodstock Percussion, Inc. makers of Woodstock Chimes®, is the leading manufacturer of musically tuned windchimes. In 1979, GRAMMY® Award-winner Garry Kvistad and his wife, Diane, founded Woodstock Percussion in New York's Hudson Valley, where the company continues to design award-winning musical instruments, distinctive home and garden décor, musical gifts, fountains and crystal suncatchers using superior materials found around the world. The result is a unique collection of nearly 700 different products that bring joy to people of all ages. Popular collections include: Inspirational and Memorial Chimes, Coastal Chimes, Woodstock Gongs, Woodstock Bells, Encore® Collection, Woodstock Rainbow Makers™, Asli Arts®, Woodstock Music Collection® and, of course, Classic Chimes. For more information on Woodstock Chimes, visit WoodstockChimes.com or call 800-422-4463.