

St. Rose Neighborhood Assoc.

Summer 2006 Newsletter

Our 3 Oldest Homes:



(541 A Street)

In our last newsletter we reported that the oldest home in our neighborhood was the 1872 Runyan-Metzger house at 535 B Street. This is, indeed, the oldest home *built* in our neighborhood. However, three homes that were moved to our neighborhood all have estimated construction dates of 1870. These are the two Carpenter Gothic homes located at 541 and 546 A Street and the Italianate cottage at 327 Tenth Street.



The Gothic Revival style (popular in the 1800's) features steeply pitched roofs, 1-story porches, and windows with pointed arches. Originally, this style was executed in stone and was supposed to imitate cathedrals of medieval Europe. But in the U.S., the easy access to wood and the invention of the steam-powered scroll saw lead to a new style known as Carpenter Gothic. This new style lavished modest wood frame cottages with lacy trim.

By the late 1860s, Italianate was the most popular house style in the U.S. One of the reasons for this is that this style could be constructed with many different building materials and could be adapted to modest budgets.

We plan to research why homes would need to be moved during a time when Santa Rosa's population was less than 15,000 residents and provide insight to this intriguing mystery in future articles.

St. Rose Project Updates

Moore Project - 615 Healdsburg Ave.

This project of up to 80 apartments over retail, is due to be completed in November of this year. Three of the four retail spaces have been filled with 1) Borolo's Pizza, 2) BrewBakers Espresso Bar & Micro-Bakery, and 3) Panini's – a European deli.



Empty Lot – 10th & Washington Sts.

This project has started. When finished there will be one duplex and one single family home in the bungalow style.



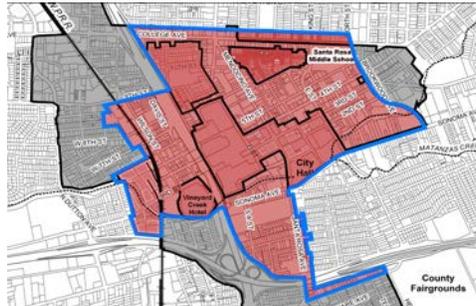
Santa Rosa Proposed Arts District

Imagine Santa Rosa as the hub of arts and cultural activities in Sonoma County with artists' loft/ live work spaces/ galleries/art events/ and kiosks pointing the way to art exhibits around the downtown area. An art district would provide a central location of cultural offerings, and communication networking and create an incubator for the arts sector.

A group of representatives from downtown neighborhoods, the City, and local art groups are working together to see if they can make this scenario become a reality. As proposed, the district would include several hundred acres downtown and be funded by donations, grants, various city sources, and a proposed 1% fee on downtown commercial construction projects that cost in excess of \$500,000. The St. Rose neighborhood is one of the downtown neighborhoods within the district's proposed boundaries which are: Bennett Valley Road near Hwy. 12 to the south, College Avenue to the north, Brookwood Avenue to the east, and the west side of Railroad Square. For more information visit the Arts Council of Sonoma County website:

<http://www.sonomaarts.com/artsdistrict.php>

(Proposed Art District Map)

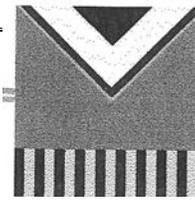


Who is the Santa Rosa Neighborhood Alliance?

The Neighborhood Alliance is a group of thirteen Santa Rosa neighborhood associations:

The group supports the following goals for the City of Santa Rosa:

- 1) Develop a streetscape plan with design guidelines to make Mendocino Avenue and Santa Rosa Avenue more vibrant and amenable to pedestrian and bicycle traffic.
- 2) Speed up the planning and funding for the Highway 101 pedestrian and bike overcrossing between the SRJC and west side of the freeway.
- 3) Designate a full time position in the City administration to plan for and encourage more pedestrian, bicycle, transit, and wheelchair friendly development.
- 4) Increase the educational opportunities for City staff, and City Board and Commission members, to enhance their knowledge of current best practices of urban design.
- 5) Provide more resources to encourage and promote neighborhood-focused programs and organizing.
- 6) Develop an online area where graphics of developments be posted for easy viewing by the public.
- 7) Update the Historic Properties inventory.
- 8) Develop policies that promote at least one supermarket or farmer's market per neighborhood.
- 9) Study the feasibility of returning trolleys to the streets of Santa Rosa.



IMPORTANT MEETINGS & INFO



Neighborhood Alliance Candidate's Night - *Santa Rosa City Council*

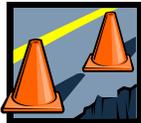
**Monday, September 18th
6:30pm-8:30pm**

Steele Lane Community Center: 415 Steele Lane

Wondering who to cast your vote for in the upcoming Santa Rosa City Council election? Join us for a candidate's night sponsored by the Santa Rosa Neighborhood Alliance. The proposed format is:

- A three-minute opening statement by each candidate
- Key questions, selected by the Alliance beforehand, which each candidate will have the opportunity to answer. As the Alliance is neighborhood based, their questions will relate to current neighborhood issues of city-wide significance.
- Questions from the audience, if time allows.
- A closing statement by each candidate.

There are 10 candidates for 3 council seats. Come find out who you want to vote for!



Cal Trans Hwy. 101 Project Update

- 1. Third Street under Hwy. 101:**
Scheduled to reopen by Oct. 2.
- 2. Fifth Street under Hwy. 101:**
Scheduled to close by Oct. 2. Expect to open Spring 2007.
- 3. Ninth Street under Hwy. 101:**
Scheduled to close by Oct. 2. Expect to open Spring 2007.

For more information on road closures, alternative routes, and progress updates visit:

<http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist4/son101/>

PHONE NUMBERS OF NOTE:

- **Police:** to report abandoned cars and suspicious or illegal activity: **528-5222**
- **Graffiti Hotline:** **543-3499**
- **Homeless Service Center:** **525-0226**
- **Low Cost Pet Spay/Neuter:** **579-SPAY**
- **Pot Hole Hotline:** **543-3871**

Street Sweeper's Schedule

Third Friday of every month. Be sure to park off the street the night before.

If you would like to be on our newsletter mailing list and received regular e-mail updates, please contact us at faire@sonic.net or 544-5713.



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