

# CONTINUITY

Newsletter of the Preservation Action Council of San José

Volume 3, Number 3, May/June 1992

## URM Workshop a Great Success

*Peter Fenerin*

There is always a tendency to think that if you give a party perhaps no one will come. But sometimes you are pleasantly surprised. We had an excellent response to our URM (Unreinforced Masonry) Seismic Retrofit Workshop on March 21. Eulipia Restaurant and Bar kindly provided the venue. And we had not only the movers and shakers, but also the moved and shaken. Engineers, contractors, preservationists, architects, and city officials mingled with the building owners and tenants.

And that was the purpose of the workshop for URM building owners. As of April, only about 46 URM building owners have submitted plans or letters to the city, leaving about 100

buildings without any plans. Our purpose was to provide any help that we could to move this process along.

At a minimum, we were able to provide essential tools to expedite the right decision. Attempting to take a comprehensive approach, we designed and printed a decision tree, which displayed the range of options for each building owner, and a handbook. The decision tree was produced as a construction drawing by Craig Mineweaser, Frank Guyre, and Peter Fenerin. Several members of our community and the Preservation Action Council contributed articles to the handbook, which was edited and assembled by Linda Larson, in a triumph of efficient use of time.

The task force staff was at Eulipia by 9 a.m. Coffee and pastries were set out to refresh the early arrivers

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## Preservation Action Council Signs Memorandum of Agreement on River Street

*Karita Hummer*

On March 4, the Preservation Action Council Committee on River Street, (April Halberstadt, Paul Bernal, Craig Mineweaser, and Karita Hummer), met with representatives of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Santa Clara Valley Water District, and the Redevelopment Agency of the City of San José. We expressed our concerns for the River Street District, which is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, and which thereby activates federal Section 106 process for protection of historic places.

We submitted the following proposal:

“For the River Street historic area, the Preservation Action Council of San Jose proposes a way to preserve the fabric of this district in a significant way which enhances some of the goals of the City: Providing identity for its citizens and attracting tourists for economic development purposes. More specifically, the Preservation Action Council recommends:

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Workshop attendees discuss a seismic retrofit project.

*Nancy Newlin photo*

**URM**

*from page 1*

out to refresh the early arrivers (ourselves) and to facilitate a convivial mood of mixing. The setting of the restaurant and the refreshments caused most everyone to feel at ease.

The program proceeded without a hitch. Karita Hummer, President of the Preservation Action Council, gave the opening speech and identified the workshop goals.

Peter Fenerin discussed the decision tree in light of the options he and his family had to examine in the process of deciding to retrofit their building at 65 Post St.

Two of the featured speakers were URM owners: Jim Niles and Joe White. Jim and his family own the building housing Schurra's Candy Factory on The Alameda at Sunol Street in San Jose, and Joe and his firm own several buildings in Los Gatos. Each owner gave true-to-life details of their experiences with the seismic retrofit decision and implementation.

After a brief question and answer period, the guest and experts stayed past our noon deadline to trade stories, gain more information, and make contacts for the future.

I cannot offer enough thanks for the task force members. On a limited budget, and in a very short time, we were able to run up the flag and take a position on the frontier. It was a job well done

The city has imposed a strict set of deadlines for the retrofit or demolition of many of the old buildings that are favorites of ours. Shortly after the May 17 deadline, a list of all buildings out of compliance with the first deadline for the ordinance will be sent to the City Attorney's office for

appropriate legal action. Those consequences may include actions to vacate or orders to demolish.

We were able to come up with a workshop prior to this first deadline in order to help owners avoid the worst consequences of non-compliance. We hope that we have helped owners avoid these consequences, and have done a service to our community.

For more information on the Seismic Retrofit Task Force contact Peter Fenerin at (415) 322-7440.

**River Street**  
*from page 1*

1. That as many buildings be saved as is necessary to preserve the area's eligibility for the National Register for Historic Places;
2. That as many of these buildings as are necessary to preserve the eligibility status remain on their sites or, if moved, be used in the Guadalupe River Park, as close to their original site as possible and situated on a lot in a configuration as close to the original as possible;
3. That a use, cost and financing for these buildings in the Guadalupe River Park be determined through a feasibility study.

A major component of the feasibility study should be a market analysis for the buildings that would remain in such a district. (The Preservation Action Council believes that there are a number of potential uses of these buildings for the park:

- That could enhance design elements of the park;
- That would lend considerable

character to the park; and

- That would attract tourists to the park.

We are reminded of how old buildings have lent character to parks in Sacramento, San Diego, Los Angeles, and to the River Walk in San Luis Obispo. Some possible uses for the buildings include:

- functional buildings for park purposes;
- a natural history museum;
- a complex for shops, artists studios, non-profit offices, affordable housing, and a mercado.)

4. That any buildings that are removed from the area, beyond those that remain to ensure the preservation of the eligibility status, be sold to the public for housing or salvaged, ideally for curatorial purposes preferably in the Guadalupe River Park."

These were the issues that we presented on March 4. Also during that meeting, the Army Corps of Engineers' archaeologist, Patti Johnson, introduced for discussion a working draft of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) pertaining to mitigation measures for the historic properties and other archaeological finds. The Preservation Action Council was invited to become both a consulting party and a concurring signatory to the MOA, along with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the California State Historic Preservation Office and the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers.

After review and consideration, we agreed to our role as concurring

signatory and consultant, and signed the final MOA on March 27. The provisions in the MOA are that an alternatives analysis (feasibility study) will be conducted regarding the buildings to be removed for the Flood Control Project, and that documentation will be completed, and that costs of mitigation measures will be borne by the Army Corps of Engineers (up to \$600,000 or 1% of the Federal Cost of the Flood Control Project for that section. Funds for mitigation must cover both historic preservation and archaeology. There are ways to expand these funds, but it is necessary to go through Congress in order to increase the appropriations. The Preservation Action Council is investigating that avenue).

The role that the Preservation Action Council has been designated to play in the MOA is that our organization will:

- “(a) Be provided with an opportunity to review and comment upon the scope of work for the analysis.
- (b) Provide assistance in identifying uses and community resources for the analysis.”

In addition, the Preservation Action Council will be meeting with a number of parties to promote the most important buildings for use in the Guadalupe River Park design and to explore options for others. The National Trust for Historic Preservation has expressed interest in the project and Courtney Damkroger, Western Office of the Trust, has offered to do a field visit to the site to provide feedback. We will be arranging such a visit.

Interested in this project? Contact April Halberstadt, (408) 293-2860 or Karita Hummer, (408) 971-0940.



*Karita Hummer*

In honor of Preservation Week, May 10 to 16, I want to comment on why the Preservation Action Council of San José believes that preservation is important to the community and relate this to some of our current projects.

First, we think that preserving historic architecture has a value for itself. Historic architecture is an embodiment of our history and culture. It connects one generation to another and binds the ancestry of ethnic groups with visible continuity. It builds community—a sense of place and identity. Historic architecture also tells the story of a community. Look around at our local architecture and you can see the story it tells of the various periods of San José’s history: Native American Indian, Spanish, Mexican, and American.

Preserving buildings from every era says something about the community’s respect for and appreciation of its heritage. It gives the community a lesson in respectfulness for all its cultures, and can affect a spirit of acceptance among and between groups in our current culture.

Second, preservation is an important economic tool for the community. Because of its inherent value, historic architecture is a natural draw for people eager to tap their roots and experience a sense of continuity with their past and the past of other cultures.

The most economically viable cities provide this opportunity for their citizens and for tourists and become destination cities: Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Chicago, Atlanta, Charleston, Savannah, and more

regionally, Monterey, San Francisco, San Luis Obispo, San Diego, and Santa Barbara. These cities thrive in large part because of the aesthetic historical and cultural character that permeate them. San José has been late to recognize the economic potential of historic architecture, but it has begun to do so.

We applaud the city’s efforts thus far, and encourage more support yet for historic preservation. The benefits will be great. A community with a sense of identity and pride is attractive to tourists and visitors who will want to linger, enhancing the city’s economic vitality

Therefore, when we decide upon projects we want to get involved in, we keep these two operational directives in mind: the inherent value of the activity and the economic feasibility of the activity.

For example, our Seismic Retrofit Task Force Workshop, on March 21 was organized for the purpose of saving important old buildings at risk due to the state and local requirements for seismic retrofit. At the same time, we approached the project cognizant of the multiple dilemmas facing the owners and tenants. We provided practical information and resources to analyze the economic feasibility of their seismic retrofit situation. (The event was a major success. Many thanks to: Peter Fenerin, Chair, Craig Mineweaver and Frank Guyre for the conceptual decision-making model, and Linda Larson, for her excellent production of the information packet provided to owners, and to all our volunteers for their exceptional help).

With the same principles of inherent value and economic feasibility, we are guided in our work on behalf of: River Street, the José Theatre, the

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## President

from page 3

former First Church of Christ, Scientist building, and the Bernal-Joice Ranch.

Preservation Week gives us an opportunity to reflect on our philosophy. We believe very strongly in these values, and are giving a great deal of energy to realize the goals that underscore them. We welcome all of like mind to join our efforts and make preservation and excellent, respectful design a strong force in San José.



## Naglee Park Historic Home Tour Slated for May 16

In celebration of National Preservation Week, the Victorian Preservation Association and the Campus Community Association are jointly sponsoring a historic home tour in the Naglee Park area of downtown San Jose.

The walking tour will feature seven homes, including examples of Classic Revival, Georgian Revival, Craftsman, and Spanish Revival architecture. The tour will be from 11:00 to 5:00 on Saturday, May 16.

Tickets are \$12.50 in advance or \$15.00 the day of the tour and are tax deductible. To purchase tickets in advance, send a self-addressed stamped envelope and a check made out to the Victorian Preservation Association to VPA, P.O. Box 331, Santa Clara, CA 95052.

Until May 15, you may also purchase tickets at Capital Properties, 18 Paseo de San Antonio in San Jose. On the tour day, tickets are available at 125 S. 14th Street or 608 S. 13th Street from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.



*Preservation Profile highlights people in our community who have a long-standing interest in and commitment to historic preservation.*

## Judy Stabile

*Nancy Newlin*

A new reporting structure for the Historic Landmarks Commission. An historic preservation officer for the city. The city purchase of the Hayes mansion for future development. These are but a few of the accomplishments of the San José city councilmember whom people in historic preservation circles immediately identify as doing the most for historic preservation: "Judy Stabile!"

Fifteen years ago she took her son, at his request, to the San José Historical Museum to do research for a school project. At that time, the museum was in its infancy, with a small staff and an ever-growing collection of historical materials. During her visit, Judy remarked that, based on her past experience as a librarian, there were some additional systems they could use to make the archives easier to access. She offered her help. So, one day a week for nearly two years she worked with the staff as a volunteer to sort, catalog, and list the collection. That experience rekindled her long-time interest in history, and gave her an in-depth knowledge and understanding of San José's history.

But it was the Hayes mansion that began her now-passionate interest in historic preservation, and is the building that remains her personal passion. "I was so impressed by the size and beauty of the building when I first saw it," she says, gazing back to look at the large floor plan of the

mansion on her office wall. She led the campaign to save the mansion, and this effort led in two additional directions: first to a seat on the Historic Landmarks Commission (1980-1984), and then to a position as aide to then-councilmember Jerry Estruth (1982-1984). (At that time it was not considered a conflict of interest to be a council aide and a commissioner—today it is.)

Her work as Estruth's aide gave her an inside look at the city's planning process, and helped her identify ways in which the Historic Landmarks Commission could be more effective. Getting the commission moved under the wing of the Planning department was the first change. Then she campaigned for a historic preservation officer. "With a preservation officer as staff to do the background research, and with a connection to the planning department, the landmarks commission went from reactive to proactive. And that has made all the difference," she says.

Always at her side is "the other Judi," Judi Henderson. They were neighbors, their children went to the same school, and they worked together on the League of Women Voters. Judi Henderson had already served for two years on the Historic Landmarks Commission when an opening on the commission became available. She persuaded Judy Stabile, who had recently passed the Hayes mansion petition, to apply. Judy Stabile gives a lot of credit for her accomplishments to Judi Henderson, who has been her aide since she became a councilmember and preceded her in historic preservation. "Judi has been a partner in virtually everything I've done [in historic preservation]."

In 1984 Judy ran for and was elected to replace Jerry Estruth on the city council, beginning her career as a councilmember with a very strong foundation in historic preservation.

"It's the only political passion I have," she says. During her eight years as a city councilmember, Judy has quietly worked with other councilmembers and city departments to see that historic preservation has a voice in city planning. But, she feels that she wasn't alone in her quest. "With the councilmembers I've served with, and our past and present mayor, the opportunities for historic preservation have been great, and we have accomplished a lot because of that."

When asked about her most significant accomplishment during her tenure as a councilmember, she points to the *Mercury News* endorsement of her candidacy for reelection in 1988. "They said that I had 'brought historic preservation in from the lunatic fringe.' To the extent that I was a part of that, that is probably my most significant accomplishment," she says modestly. "When I was on the landmarks commission, historic preservation was a joke. There was no sensitivity on the council or in the redevelopment agency for historic preservation. If a building was old, and in the path of construction, it was gone."

Right now, with the Hayes mansion on its way to rebirth as a conference center, Judy is concentrating her efforts on the future operations of the Fallon House.

As for her plans after her term ends in December, Judy says, "I would like to do something in historic preservation, but what it will be I can't say. I have several ideas. Historic preservation is very important to me. My strong preference is to do that in San José." And that's our preference, too, Judy.



Preservation Week is  
May 10 - 16.

## Fox California Theatre Update

*Gary Parks*

The Fox Theatre Advisory Board, appointed by the City of San José Redevelopment Agency, is slowly moving toward approval of a master plan created by James Stewart Polshek and Partners, architects for the project. Major design factors and options are still the topic of in-depth discussion, however, and need to be resolved before the project moves forward.

The first topic of discussion is ways in which the project can be completed in phases over a period of time, allowing

the theatre to be used, but responding to the current economic situation.

The second topic is proposed changes to the auditorium proposed by the architects which will impact the historic nature of the space.

Other parts of the master plan include excellent solutions to the problems of providing much needed expansion of backstage facilities, and maintaining the splendor of the theatre's terraced grand lobby.

Interested in the Fox Theatre?  
Contact Gary Parks at  
(408) 371-9103.

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# of San José

# GARGOYLES



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... and where to find them.



1. Levine Building, 630 South First Street (just south of Reed Street)



2. San Jose Museum of Art, 110 South Market Street (corner of San Fernando)



3. St. Claire Hotel, 302 South Market Street (corner of San Carlos)



4. Letitia Building, 68 South First Street (between Santa Clara and San Fernando streets)



5. Odd Fellows Building, 82 East Santa Clara Street (corner of Third Street)



6. Scottish Rite Temple (now the San Jose Athletic Club), 196 North Third St. (corner of St. James)

SCOTT HINRICHS

# A Photographic Essay by



## Open House Planning Underway

Nancy Newlin

The open house committee, co-chaired by Sharon Heinrichs and Nancy Newlin, has selected San Pedro Square as the location and Saturday, October 17 as the date for our annual open house. Now the committee is identifying key people for the committee and beginning all the planning work. The open house is one of our major community relations, membership recruiting, and fundraising events.

Interested in participating? Call Sharon Heinrichs at (408) 298-7810 or Nancy Newlin at (408) 297-4084.



## Preservation Action Council Opens Office

The Preservation Action Council of San José has an office! We recently moved into the Knights of Columbus building at 40 North First Street. Our office is on the first floor, and we have window space in the front where we will be able to have an ongoing exhibit. We will *not* be changing our mailing address or phone number at this time.

Theo Van Dyne is currently coordinating our office resources, including development of a resource library. We need volunteers who can fill these positions: window display artist, administrative assistant, office manager, resource center manager, librarian, and artist.

If you have a few hours a week to spare, contact Theo Van Dyne at (408) 292-0756.

## MAY OPEN BOARD MEETING

Special Place!  
Special Event!

Hear about the  
San José Historical Museum's master plan!

Monday, May 18<sup>TH</sup>, 7:00 p.m.

Firehouse

San José Historical Museum

Park on the museum grounds by entering through  
the Phelan Ave. service gate.

### Schedule of Events

7:00 - 8:00 Board meeting

8:00 - 9:00 Special presentation of the museum's master plan by  
Craig Mineweaser, A.I.A., Steve Cox A.I.A.,  
and Marvin Bamburg A.I.A.

Join us for this special evening. Shortly thereafter the museum will close  
for approximately two months for the major construction  
you'll hear about that evening.

## Run or Walk For Preservation Action Council Fundraising

Emily Hollingshad

On Saturday, May 9, many members of the Preservation Action Council of San José are volunteering time to walk, run, or roll (for those confined in a wheelchair) in The Human Race in San Mateo's Central Park.

Sponsored by the Volunteer Center of San Mateo, The Human Race is a community fundraiser that reaches well over 100 different nonprofit organizations. Participating organizations receive 75% of money collected. The volunteer center receives the remaining percentage for coordinating the event.

The Preservation Action Council has a goal to raise \$2,400 toward operation

of the new office (rent, utilities, and telephone). (See separate article on the opening of our new office.)

Immediately following the race (around 10:45 a.m.), there will be a tour of historical downtown San Mateo for all Preservation Action Council members and race participants.

We encourage all Preservation Action Council members to take part in the race, or come to cheer on the race participants, and then join us for the tour. Times to remember are:

Registration begins	7:30 a.m.
Race begins	8:30 a.m.
Tour	10:45 a.m.

For further information on The Human Race, please contact coordinators Emily and Mark Hollingshad at (408) 294-1609.



## Speaking With Steve Thomas

Nancy Newlin

Steve Thomas, host of public television's *This Old House*, was in San Jose during February as a featured speaker at the Orchard Supply Hardware How-To Fair. He graciously consented to talk with me by phone prior to his trip here from Boston about preservation, preservation organizations, and the issues involved in working on an old house.

### Q: What has the reaction been from preservationists to some of the houses featured on *This Old House*?

I haven't had any negative [reactions]. [In the show on the Wayland, Massachusetts house], the historic board did see themselves on television, and I said "Did you feel that we fairly represented you," and they said "Yes, we felt that you fairly represented the problems that we have to deal with, and we often don't have the kind of resources that you had available to you, so we just have to make our own judgments."

### Q: Now that you've been with *This Old House* for two seasons, what do you think is the biggest issue people don't take into account when they work on their old house?

The main thing is design and planning. I think the more time you can spend designing your house or your project, then the better off you are. [It] is really the single thing that the homeowner can control that will save money, save time, and produce a better result.

In planning, anticipating the structural problems that you're going to encounter is part of that. The older the house,

the more problems you can count on finding and the older the house the more important [is] the principle of all or nothing. There's no such thing as just doing a little bit of work; you might as well plan on doing the whole thing. So if you don't have the heart to go all the way, just do the cosmetics and leave it alone.

### Q: What are the major issues that organizations such as ours need to be aware of?

[People perceive that historic districts and preservation organizations] are obstructionist and will not allow changes which promote the livability of a building.

I think the challenge is to position themselves in the community as being a positive force, upbeat, and [having] people who are a resource who can provide you with advice that will promote and encourage the sense of history of the neighborhood. [Neighborhoods] that are unified in design maintain property values much better than areas that have no sense of unity.

[Preservation organizations] need to bend over backwards to understand the physical problems that people face [in trying to make the best use of their space]. As I've worked on these old buildings, I've seen how they've changed.

Even one of the most famous architects in the Boston area, Samuel McIntyre, used to take old houses and cut them up, rearrange them, put Federal style roofs on them, and totally renovate the interior and create new historic buildings. I think there has to be some flexibility.

The ultimate goal should be to build goodwill with the community and be an educational resource that somebody can go to [for information and alternatives].

### Q: Any final comments about historic preservation?

People have asked me: What do I see in old houses? Is preservation important? What I enjoy is the sense of past lives. That generations have walked the streets and lived within these walls. It is a thrill to know that the man who sailed the clippers around the horn, and before that the men and women who sailed the ships to China and India walked these same streets. And it's a quality of life issue that is very important to me, so much so that we have made the decision to stay and live in an old house in an historic district and to put the money in that's required to make it comfortable and livable.

## Are You Moving?

If you'll be moving soon, please let us know so that you can continue to receive *CONTINUITY*. Our bulk mail permit does not allow for forwarding the newsletter. Please send your change of address information to our post office box address.

## José Theatre Task Force Still at Work

Gary Parks

The José Theatre Task Force, met recently with one of the owners and was assured that seismic retrofit plans will be submitted to the City of San Jose in time to meet the May deadline. A high priority now for the task force is to assist in securing one or more theatrical "anchor tenants."

For more information or to participate, contact Gary Parks at (408) 371-9103.

## Around San Jose With Norman Hollingsworth

*Jim Arbuckle*

Have you ever wondered about those old signs painted on the back of brick buildings that you can see going south on the Guadalupe Parkway near Julian Street? To get some background on old sign work around San José, I recently made a tour with Norman (Holli) Hollingsworth.

Holli has been painting signs here continuously for 62 years. Which is remarkable when you consider that his father told him that the introduction of the first neon sign here in 1929 would make it necessary to find a new line of work. You've probably seen his more recent work on the hot dog stands around town. That's how I first met him.

The signs on the back of brick buildings are located at 199 Bassett Street, adjacent to the old FMC plant. For a closer look, Holli and I trudged westward along the railroad tracks from First Street. The sign that you

can clearly see is the one for Hart's, "San Jose's Big Department Store - Warehouse No. 2." The faded sign is for Mangrum & Otter, a plumbing supply firm listed in the 1918 city directory. By 1922 the firm was Snyder-Du Brutz Co., then it became C.L.Snyder, and today it is Falcone & Snyder with offices on Lincoln Ave.

Holli gave the signs a quick look and said that they well predated his moving here from Redwood City in 1929. However, he knew both sign painters. The Hart's sign is about 75 feet wide and Holli calls it "prodigious...with a swing to the R." It was signed by Carl Fischer, "a man who'd never climbed a wall (much less a smokestack)." The plumbing sign was done by Phil Jung.

Why were these signs put in such out-of-the-way places? They weren't. They were right on the main line of the Southern Pacific Railroad, in full view of passengers arriving and departing on trains from the old main depot at First and Bassett streets.

You can see another old sign from inside the Talking Heads hair salon, on the third floor of the Knox-

Goodrich Building at 34 South First Street. The south wall of the salon is the brick wall of the next building. A sign on that wall is for Sage & Co., and lists underwear and crockery. Allen Augustus Sage was a general merchandiser. The 1882 city directory lists the establishment at 343 First Street, an address using an old numbering system. To the salon's credit, they've kept the old sign intact, using it as decoration for the salon. Holli did not do this sign.

One sign that Holli did do is the 1935 menu for the Five Spot Drive-In at 869 South First Street. The sign lists chili or a hamburger for 10 cents—a great bargain back when a hamburger was all meat!

You've probably seen Holli going about his work on site or in his 1957 blue Ford panel truck that's "been twice around the clock." It's the one with the sagging springs (from the load of paint) and the license plate "Sgn Man." Next time you see Holli, go up and introduce yourself and learn a little more about San José history.



Holli's sign at the Five Spot Drive-In, circa 1935. *Norman Hollingsworth photo*

## National Organizations Back Restoration of Rehab Tax Credits

The National Trust for Historic Preservation and Preservation Action (not related to the Preservation Action Council of San José) are actively seeking the restoration of historic preservation tax credits.

These credits, cut from the federal budget in 1986, represented the most important and successful nationwide support for advancing the cause of historic preservation. Restoration of these tax credits could revitalize historic preservation in San José and around the country.

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## From the Editor

Nancy Newlin

This issue of *Continuity* introduces a new contributor: David Ball. Dave is a former architecture student, now a graphic designer nearing the end of his training at Master's Institute and De Anza College. Beginning with this issue, he will be taking over the layout of *Continuity*. He will also be helping us with the design and layout of future promotional materials, and we've already tapped him to work with us on the open house. Welcome, David!

You may have noticed that Bill Zavlaris's column on urban design is not in this issue. Unfortunately, Bill has been ill enough over the past several months that he has had to limit his non-work activities. And it takes a lot of energy to research and write with the depth and skill that he brings to his column. We wish him a speedy recovery and look forward to publishing his column, *A City by Design*, as soon as possible.

Now that the end of my first year as editor is drawing near, and with other projects in my life including co-chairman of the open house, I'm actively seeking an editor to take over every other issue of *CONTINUITY*, from content development to writing. If you would like a challenge, and an opportunity to be in on the news as it happens, please contact me at (408) 297-4084. Because we do all our work with desktop publishing, word processing expertise is a requirement, as well as are writing and editing skill.

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Members are always welcome at our monthly open board meetings. Consult the calendar on the last page for the upcoming dates and locations.



April Halberstadt

The Watchdog Committee of the Preservation Action Council of San Jose keeps an eye on historic buildings that are threatened by rehabilitation, demolition, or neglect.

Several of the properties spotted by watchpuppies have become projects requiring a task force or ad hoc committee. These include River Street, the José Theatre, and unreinforced masonry buildings. Look for reports on these elsewhere in *CONTINUITY*.

Here are some of the historic properties we are currently watching:

- The Midtown redevelopment area which contains commercial and residential properties and the Cahill Street train station.



The Preservation Action Council of San José is a non-profit membership organization providing information to property owners and education to the public, and promoting programs and policies for historic preservation and compatible new architectural design.

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- Small Victorian houses near the new San José arena which may be lost due to the Guadalupe River Park and the arena parking lots.
- Two lawsuits in the Naglee Park area of San Jose are currently in litigation regarding old houses that have been illegally cut up into rooming houses.
- Further action is pending by the Santa Clara County District Attorney's office regarding the demolition without permit of the Mosby Ranch.

To participate in watchdog activities contact April Halberstadt at (408) 293-2860.

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## Recycle *CONTINUITY*

When you're finished with your copy of *CONTINUITY* please post it in your office or pass it along to a friend. We appreciate your efforts to help us attract new members.

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## Calendar

### May

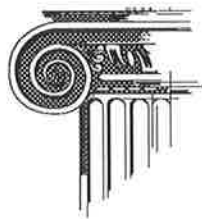
- 4 (Monday) Finance and operations committee meeting. John Mitchell's, 209 S. 14th St., 7:30 p.m., 288-6459.
- 6 (Wednesday) Community relations committee meeting. Patti Massey's, 1281 Fremont St., 7:00 p.m., 297-9478.
- 9 (Saturday) Human Race, San Mateo. (See details on page 8)
- 11 (Monday) Program committee meeting. April Halberstadt's, 240 S. 13th St., 5:45 p.m., 293-2860.
- 11 (Monday) Executive committee meeting. Karita Hummer's, 96 Fox Ave., 7:00 p.m., 971-0940.
- 10 - 16** **Preservation Week.**
- 16 (Saturday) Naglee Park Historic House tour. Victorian Preservation Association and the Campus Community Association. (See details on page 4)
- 18 (Monday) Open board of directors meeting and special presentation on the Historical Museum development. San José Historical Museum, 7:00 p.m. (See details on page 8)

### June

- 1 (Monday) Finance and operations committee meeting. John Mitchell's, 209 S. 14th St., 7:30 p.m., 288-6459.
- 3 (Wednesday) Community relations committee meeting. Patti Massey's, 1281 Fremont St., 7:00 p.m., 297-9478.
- 8 (Monday) Program committee meeting. April Halberstadt's, 240 S. 13th St., 5:45 p.m., 293-2860.
- 8 (Monday) Executive committee meeting. Karita Hummer's, 96 Fox Ave., 7:00 p.m., 971-0940.
- 15 (Monday) Open board of directors meeting. Le Petit Trianon, 72 N. 5th St., 7:00 p.m., 971-0940.



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