

# SARATOGA HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

# PO BOX 172, SARATOGA, CALIFORNIA 95071 November 2013

 New Exhibit – A Victorian Christmas-opened Nov. 15 • Come to Open House on Nov. 29 for music and cookies! •January 21 membership program on California
Apricots • February 9 Celebrate Chinese New Year • March 18- enjoy the history of Monte Sereno, membership program

# Dickens of an Open House in the Saratoga Village on November 29!!

#### Free Entertaining Activities at the Museum

No need to drive far on November 29 for an entertaining, festive evening. Come to the Saratoga Village.



Hustle over to the Saratoga History Museum after the tree lighting ceremony ends at 6 PM in Blaney Plaza and hear the Marshall School choir sweetly sing holiday carols. The always favorite Skillet Likkers will sing from 6:15-8:00 PM. Be sure to enjoy a cup of cider and homemade cookies.

The elfs have decorated the

Historical Park in all its holiday splendor. Take some time to enjoy the festive appearance of each building.

#### New Holiday Exhibit

A Victorian Christmas exhibit debuted November 15 in the museum and will run through the end of January. The exhibit is free and contains interesting information about the origin of many of the holiday traditions associated with the Victorian period.

#### **Canned Food, Toy Drive, Cards for Wounded Veterans**

Be sure to bring some nonperishable canned food or an unwrapped toy for the annual drive to help the less fortunate. The canned food will be given to Second Harvest and the toys will go to the Sacred Heart Community Service for distribution. The drive ends on December 12.

Also, sign a card for a wounded veteran while visiting the museum. The cards will be sent to Holiday Mail for Heroes on December 1 for distribution.

#### Four New Books in the Gift Shop

Be sure to check out the gift shop with four new local history books available: California Apricots, the Lost



Orchards of Silicon Valley by Robin Chapman; The Mineral Springs of Santa Clara Valley by Ian L. Sanders; The Tie That Bound Us—the women of John Brown's family and the legacy of radical abolitionism

by Bonnie Laughlin-Schultz; and Gulchin' Out by Vince Garrod. Gulchin' Out is a new book written in Vince Garrod's own words and is a collection of his favorite Saratoga stories. When reading the entertaining book, you can almost hear Vince telling the story in his inimitable style. These books will go on sale on November 29.

### Activities in the Village

Rumor has it that Father Christmas aka Jack Mallory will stroll the Village in costume; a special snow zone for children (and you can buy a package of snow to make at home --only \$5); children's activities; a wide range of music; talented craftspeople; free rides on strutting horse-drawn carriages are many of the planned events—something for all ages. If you would like to participate in the Chamber of Commerce's wine stroll and buy a ticket. Activities begin at 5 and end at 8 PM with the tree lighting ceremony beginning at 5:30. Bayshore Lyric Opera will be featured in the tree lighting ceremony in Blaney Plaza. Don some Dicken's-like clothing and get in the spirit!

# Adding to the Museum's Collection

We recently received some important donations. "We Won't Forget. We Will Remember."

From the estate of Miles Rankin, former Saratoga resident and WWII veteran, we received WWII books and his hat and life belt from the USS St. Lo.



The USS St. Lo website states: "The USS St. Lo participated in the largest naval battle in history, and claimed a pivotal part of that history by becoming the first US ship to be sunk by a kamikaze

during the Battle off Samar, the third and final of the confrontations between the US Navy and the Imperial Japanese Fleet during the Battle of Leyte Gulf.

"The much smaller destroyers, destroyer escorts, and jeep carriers of Taffy 3 fearlessly met the Imperial Japanese Fleet, comprised of battleships and cruisers. The men of these ships and aircrews fought so valiantly, the Japanese were forced to retire before accomplishing their mission of bombarding General MacArthur's invasion beachhead at Leyte.

"Of the thirteen ships of Taffy 3, five were sunk, the USS Hoel, the USS Samuel B. Roberts, the USS Johnston, the USS Gambier Bay (the only carrier sunk by gunfire in WW II), and the USS St. Lo. Over 900 hundred young men lost their lives.

"Hermann Wouk wrote in War and Remembrance: "The vision of Sprague's three destroyers – the Johnston, the Hoel, and the Hermann – charging out of the smoke and the rain straight toward Kurita's battleships and cruisers, can endure as a picture of the way Americans fight when they don't have superiority. Our school-children should know about that incident, and our enemies should ponder it."

"The greatest hope of these WWII Navy veterans is that the legacy of the USS St. Lo and its crew would be preserved for generations to come. We won't forget... We will remember."

# Saratoga Historical Foundation Officers

The mission of the Saratoga Historical Foundation is to preserve the unique history of Saratoga for the education and enjoyment of the community.

Executive Committee

Annette Stransky, President

Bob Himel, Vice President Ron Hagelin, Recording Secretary Open, Treasurer

Newsletter

The Saratoga Historical Foundation newsletter is produced 6X a year. If you have comments or suggestions, please call 408-867-7468 or e-mail: <u>annette@saratogahistory.com</u>

#### Museum and Gift Shop

The Saratoga History Museum, McWilliams House and schoolhouse are open from 1-4 PM Friday through Sunday. Call 408-867-4311 to arrange group or docent-led tours. Visit our website: <u>http://www.saratogahistory.com</u>. Or www.facebook.com/Saratoga Historical Foundation

### The Legacy of Sarah Brown

Saratogan Amy June Jorgensen donated two 100 year old chairs for use in the McWilliams house and a painting by her mother.



The painting is very special because it was produced under the tutelage of the daughter of Abolitionist John Brown, Sarah Brown. Sarah Brown taught painting classes, as one means of making a living in

Saratoga. Amy June's mother said that Brown had students use pictures from post cards as their subject matter. The painting had a Dutch image, surmising that it was a favorite of the artist.

## **Plans for the Outdoor Exhibit**



On the horizon for 2014 at the Saratoga Historical Park is a new design for the outdoor exhibit. The plan is to create a blacksmith exhibit in keeping with the McWilliams House storyline. James McWilliams was the town's second blacksmith. The blacksmith exhibit would utilize most of the agriculture, timber and other tools presently stored in the outdoor exhibit. The exhibit is for educational purposes and would be open to the public 24/7.

Also planned is a nonworking outhouse also to be used as an educational tool. A round of fundraising and grants will take place in 2014.

### **Time to Renew Your Membership**

If you have an insert in your newsletter—it is time to renew your membership. We hope you enjoyed the many programs and services that came with membership this year.

You can give a gift of membership to a friend for only \$15 when you renew your membership. It is a great way to share your enjoyment of learning about local history.

And you can consider renewing at a higher level this year—membership funds our programs, services and the newsletter.

# 2013-14 Calendar of Events

November 15	A Victorian Christmas Exhibit – at the
	Saratoga History Museum
November 29	Open House at the Museum and in the
	Village
January 21	Membership potluck and meeting:
	6:30 potluck; 7:30, presentation by
	Robin Chapman
February 9	Chinese New Year, 2-4 PM at
	Argonaut school
March 18	Membership potluck and meeting:
	6:30 potluck; 7:30, presentation by
	Doug McNeil
March	Blossom Festival held in the Heritage
	Orchard

# California and Local History Book Sale—at the BookGoRound



Want to cuddle up with the history of James Lick (Lick Observatory fame) or read about the missions in California? The BookGoRound is having its annual sale of used California and local history books. Saratoga favorites such as "Images

of Long Ago", "The First Hundred Years in Saratoga," and more are presently available at a very reasonable price. The BookGoRound is open from 12-5 on Sunday-Friday and 10-5 PM on Saturday. BookGoRound is located at 14410 Oak Street—or near the Museum.

The annual holiday gift book sale starts on November 29 at 5 PM. Books make great gifts and stocking stuffers!

# California Apricots—the Lost Orchards of Silicon Valley on January 21

Don't miss hearing Robin Chapman share information about



the history of apricots and memories of 'cots grown locally on January 21. The presentation promises to be a great one. The presentation will take place at the Immanuel Lutheran Fellowship Hall at 14103 Saratoga Avenue in Saratoga. The potluck begins at 6:30 PM—bring food to share, your own utensils, plates, and

preferred beverage. Coffee and water will be provided. The lecture will begin at 7:30 PM. The event is free and open to the public.

# February 9—Chinese New Year

A special celebration of Chinese New Year will take place on February 9 from 2-4 PM at Argonaut School (13200 Shadow Mountain Drive in Saratoga). The program is still in development but will be very festive. A table with city programs AND information on the Saratoga History museum will be part of the event. The Chinese Lunar calendar follows a 12 year cycle and each of the 12 years is represented by 12 animals which form the Chinese Zodiac. After every 12 years



the Chinese Calendar repeats itself. The animals in the Chinese Zodiac or the animals which constitute the Chinese calendar are Rat, Ox, Tiger, Hare, Dragon, Snake, Horse, Sheep, Monkey, Rooster, Dog and Pig. 2014 is the year of the horse—so you can

expect to see some "horsing around" during the festivities!

# March 18 Program: Monte Sereno Historian Doug McNeil and the History of Monte Sereno

Well-known historian Doug McNeil will speak at the March 18 membership program on some interesting people and events associated with the history of Monte Sereno. The presentation will take place at the Immanuel Lutheran Fellowship Hall at 14103 Saratoga Avenue in Saratoga. The potluck begins at 6:30 PM—bring food to share, your own utensils, plates, and preferred beverage. Coffee and water will be provided. The lecture will begin at 7:30 PM. The event is free and open to the public. Don't miss this entertaining event.

# Need Exercise? Take a Historic Walk!!



It is never too late to start an exercise program and what better way than to take a historic walk. Mix a little learning with a lot of walking!! A new walking tour is available at the Saratoga History Museum covering the Heritage Lane

portion of Saratoga Avenue. It is a great way to learn about the community and to get some exercise.

# Where in the Village Can You See This Sign?

It is always interesting to walk around the Saratoga Village. Now is a great time to enjoy the holiday decorations, pat the



local dogs, shop a little, and savor the scents of food being prepared by the local restaurants and wafting through the Village. Have you ever noticed this sign hanging on the door of The Bank? The Bank is a fun pub (14421 Big Basin Way) if you have not ventured inside. Once known as the Garden City Bank, it was Saratoga's first bank. The classic revival style of the 1919 building is worth snapping a

photo or two. Some of the interesting things to see inside is the original vault; or the bar itself is a handsome antique and was shipped around the Horn; and one of the benches has coverings so you can quaff your drink anonymously with your favorite squeeze. And for those who enjoy puns— the sign HAS to make you smile.

# Shedding Light on the History of Ascension Parish

Garages have been known to spawn new products as witness Hewlett-Packard and Apple computer products but can a fruit drying shed inspire faith?

After World War II, Moffet Field in nearby Mountain View attracted many returning military personnel to settle.

In the 50's, the Stanford Industrial Park wooed companies such as Hewlett-Packard, Varian, Sylvania, Philco-Ford, General Electric and Lockheed's Research Laboratory. IBM also came to the valley. During 1950-1975, the Santa Clara Valley population grew from 95,000 to 500,000. Orchards quickly gave way to housing and shopping centers cropping up throughout the Valley.

The San Francisco diocese began a search for a location for a new church in Saratoga to accommodate the influx of new residents. Joseph Pon offered a ranch-style home, 13 acres of land on the corner of Prospect Road and Miller Avenue to the diocese.

Under the direction of Father William Worner, the new parish quickly selected the fruit drying shed, affectionately known as "the barn", to be the temporary location of the church. The original farmhouse and family residence became the parish office.



For two months the men of the parish were busy placing boards on the front of the shed, putting in windows obtained from a discarded railway car, patching holes, and shoring up the roof. And so, the first Ascension Church was a converted fruit drying shed affectionately called "The Barn".

By 1951, the 85 families making up the new parish had a church.

## Saratoga Beautiful



Saratoga Beautiful—is it a song? A movement? Or? Back in 1969, Oskar Thurnher became the chairman of a committee called Saratoga Beautiful.

The objectives were to create an association of volunteer citizens dedicated to enhancing

the environmental quality of the community. The committee would employ education as well as encourage citizens to participate.

According to Thurnher, the group was active for several years. Thurnher recalled that their achievements were

primarily landscaping the median on Prospect Road and parts of the Village.

# **Against All Odds**

Lois Pendleton graduated from the University of California



Medical School at San Francisco in 1920 at a time when most women were viewed as teacher or nurse material only.

Her parents moved to Saratoga in 1895 from Minneapolis where they built a home on Farwell Avenue.

Pendleton's family belonged to the Saratoga Congregational Church, which had long supported missionary work.

graduating from medical school, Dr. Pendleton (age 26) and a

classmate were posted to China by the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions. When she arrived, she had a few months of language training in Beijing. Proficiency in Chinese was essential, as all communication with patients, hospital staff, and nurses was in Chinese.

Dr. Lois (as she became known) settled into work at a mission in Tenchow, and found that her responsibilities included everything-- critical patient care, and general surgery. She worked at the hospital from 7:30 each morning until 6:30 at night, and was on call all night and was responsible for the medical care of all the women and children patients, including surgery.

In 1927 the political conditions in Shantung became dangerous so Dr. Pendleton and her colleagues were advised to leave the mission. She withdrew to Tientsin (now Tianjin) on the coast, where she met Oliver Todd, a young American civil engineer. They became engaged and two months later they married. Dr. Lois Pendleton Todd and her new husband settled in Beijing. Oliver Todd continued his engineering work on projects throughout China, while Dr. Todd provided health care for missionaries and other Americans in Beijing. She also taught at Peking Union Medical College and worked at the Presbyterian Hospital.

Dr. Todd and her husband had four children. When they were young, Dr. Todd worked as a school physician at the Peking American School, providing medical care and immunizations to the students.

When the Japanese invaded northern China in 1938, Dr. Todd and her family were forced to give up their work and return to the United States. They settled in California, near Palo Alto. Dr. Todd worked as a student health physician at Stanford University. She retired in 1960 at age 65 after twenty-two years of service, and went into part-time private practice. She died at the age of 68 years of age having had a rich and full life.

# Saratoga's Two Railroads Written by Ray Cosyn, Saratoga Historical Foundation, Director

I am often asked about the railroad that ran through Saratoga and surprisingly we had two rail lines which ran parallel to one another over much of their routes. One line, primarily driven by steam, was intended to carry freight and passengers over long distances; the other, an electric interurban, although it did have a small freight operation, was principally designed to carry local commuters and as a result made frequent stops.

The rails that still exist in our town, paralleling route 85, now serve the Kaiser Permanente cement plant (Lehigh Hansen) in Cupertino. Today only one or two trains a week can be heard on their way to and from the plant. The route is the remains of the Vasona Branch of the Southern Pacific (SP) RR which was put into operation 1908. It was powered by steam and broke off the SP mainline in Palo Alto, then made its way south along what is today's Foothill Expressway to a point just south of the where it crosses today's route 280. It then angled southeast to Vasona Park in Los Gatos. The end of the line was the Los Gatos where it served passengers until 1959. The line carried on as a freight hauler until 1963 when it was torn up and truncated at Winchester Boulevard where it was grafted on to what was the original SP line to Santa Cruz. The line is the cement plant line that you see and hear today.



In parallel with the SP line, an electric interurban eventually known as the Peninsular Railroad (PR) was built in stages to unite the towns of the south bay. The first stage started out in San Jose and ran down what is today Stevens Creek Boulevard to Saratoga Avenue where it headed south to Saratoga and then on to Los Gatos via a route that closely parallels Saratoga-Los Gatos Road. This portion of the line was opened in 1904. Four years later the SP acquired the PR and extended it down Stevens Creek to what is today's Foothill Expressway where it ran parallel with steam line all the way to Palo Alto. Early on in the operation of the Peninsular Railroad, the SP decided to run its short haul passenger service over the PR with the SP stopping only in Palo Alto, Los Altos, Saratoga, and Los Gatos.

The reason for this move was based upon the superior technology of the interurban in handling short haul passenger business. The electric interurban could accelerate faster and required fewer crew members. However as the automobile began to compete with the interurban over newly paved county roads during the 1920s, the interurban eventually had



to give up its fight for the passenger business. This private company could not compete with the automobile. The PR left the scene in 1934 when the population of Santa Clara County was just 152,000 versus the 1.8 million today. Little of this rail line can be seen today with the exception of the bridge abutments over Steven Creek just northeast of the intersection of Foothill Expressway and route 280.

What is left of this rich set of rails is a Union Pacific gravel train running at about 7 MPH twice a week between San Jose and Cupertino over the remnants of this once fine rail network. I guess that's progress.



#### Additions to the McWilliams House

Gary and Diane Espinosa recently donated an 1860's cradle for display in the historic McWilliams house. The cradle will make a handsome addition to the children's bedroom.

New rugs have been purchased for the parlor and the parent's bedroom, thanks to a grant by the Summit League. Other recent changes include a brick bed warmer and a long handled coal bed warmer.

Alex Nugent donated a tooth powder box. The McWilliams's House committee is looking for a toothbrush to go with the box. The first toothbrush was invented in 1857 by an American named HN Wadsworth using swine bristles.

# Preserve Your Home for Posterity---the Heritage Preservation Commission Wants Your Home!!

The Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC) is continually updating the current heritage inventory list and would like to add your home or historic structure to the list.

#### What items are listed on the heritage inventory?

As an example you might have admired the Queen Anne home on the city property off Fruitvale Avenue or perhaps the fence built of creek stones on Saratoga-Los Gatos Road near the Saratoga History Museum—all are on the current heritage list. The structure can be a fence, barn, house, gate pillars, windmill, tank house or water tower or any place or structure that has cultural significance. It could even be a heritage lane such as parts of Saratoga Avenue or a commercial building. These resources are important because heritage is what gives the community our sense of identity and belonging.

#### Why protect old resources?

These resources create a record that preserves the heritage of the past—whether it is because an important architect designed the building or an important person once owned the structure or where an important event took place. Future generations can look at these resources as a record of the past.



Locally do all cities have a heritage resource inventory?

Cities such as Sunnyvale, Los Altos, San Jose and many others all have a resource inventory that they actively

maintain. The Saratoga Heritage Preservation Commission was organized in 1982 and created the first Heritage Resource Inventory in 1988. The inventory was published in 1993 with about 90 listings. It presently has over 100 properties in the inventory. Saratoga also has a Heritage Tree Inventory that was initiated in 2012.

#### What are the criteria for being on the list?

As a general rule to qualify as historic, a building must be at least 50 years old and be a good example of a particular architectural style or be associated with a person or event of local, statewide, or national historic importance.

The criteria to be on the list are standard throughout the state of California. The California standards mirror the federal requirements. However, the Saratoga Heritage Resource Inventory listings are intended to provide important information to property owners, prospective developers, and local citizens of potential historical qualities associated with buildings, sites and structures. The criteria to be on the California Register or to have national status are much more stringent.

# What are the advantages of being on the Heritage Resource Inventory?

People who have pride in their home and want to see their home last through the ages will typically be on the inventory list. Many people want to purchase an older home because older homes add character to the neighborhood. They don't want a cookie cutter looking house. By seeking historic designation, you are agreeing to keep this structure intact as part of Saratoga's historic look. As an example, if your building is granted historic status, then this means you would not replace wood windows with aluminum ones, not cover original wood with stucco or vinyl siding, and not put an addition on the building that would visibly change the architectural style or character of the house.

Another advantage is the Mills Act which enables the home owner to receive a property tax advantage if the structure is on the list. The tax advantage can be substantial—anywhere from 60-90%. Information about the Mills Act can be found at www.boe.ca.gov/proptaxes/faqs/faqs mills act.htm.

By getting your building historically designated, you are helping preserve Saratoga's architectural legacy. The Mills Act is a 10-year, "endlessly renewable," legally binding contract with the city. After your building is historically designated, you would fill out a Mills Act application and submit it to the city of Saratoga. When your Mills Act application is approved, you will be sent a contract to sign and have notarized.

#### Why don't more people participate?

Some people feel that they don't want "the government" controlling the appearance of their house. But it is only the exterior of the house that is maintained as "historic" and in many instances there are ways for a creative compromise. Not necessarily expensive, either. Many people are unaware of the advantages of being on the inventory or the criteria. Most purchased a home in a charming setting and would like to maintain that charm but don't know the process.

#### How can I get my home/structure on the list?

Fill out an application form available on the City of Saratoga website:

www.saratoga.ca.us/cityhall/comms/default.asp and click on Commissions and Committees; select Heritage Preservation Commission; select the Heritage Resource Application form to print. Be sure to include your name, address, and contact information. Attach a photo if you can and send it to the city. Questions? Contact Cynthia McCormick, HPC Liaison in the Planning Department at 408-868-1230.

#### The application process

Once the application is submitted, it will then be reviewed by the HPC. Once approved by the HPC, the item is listed on the Heritage Resource Inventory. Applications are reviewed monthly.

#### Where can you see the existing list of heritage resources?

You can see the entire list of Heritage Resources—listed by street online on the city website under the Heritage Preservation Commission section. Most include a photo of the home. The listing is interesting to read and you might find a home on your street included in the listing.

#### Who are on the Heritage Preservation Commission?

The mission is to provide the City of Saratoga guidance in order to preserve and protect the heritage resources of the community. The Heritage Preservation Commission is an allvolunteer commission appointed by the City Council. The seven-person commission is required to have two architects, engineers, builders or urban planners and a representative from the Saratoga Historical Foundation. A member of the Planning Department advises the group.

What kind of training do they receive?

Each member receives a minimum of 4-hours of training annually.

#### **Do It Today!**

You probably have bought your house because of its look and live in a neighborhood that you enjoy. List your home for posterity so future generations can enjoy the ambience! *Contributing to this article were HPC Commissioners Paula Cappello and Paul Conrado.* 

# Saving History—an Opinion By Annette Stransky, Saratoga Historical Foundation

By Annette Stransky, Saratoga Historical Foundation President

Historic old homes add to the ambiance of a city. They serve as a silent reminder of the people who once lived in the home — an indication of their contribution to the community. The style of the home reflects the period of time—the materials used to build the home. The number and size of the rooms demonstrates how people once lived. Sometimes the structure tells the story more eloquently than any story in a book or newspaper article.



Two such structures are in danger of being torn down and are located on Big Basin Way.

The John Henry house, named after the original occupant, dates back to the 1860's. John Henry, no, not the steel-

driving man of the song by the same name, was an engineer for the nearby paper mill. The house is interesting because it is made of local redwood using single-wall construction with square nails.



The Grover house dates to the 1890's and is significant because much of the original structure has been retained. It is a lovely example of a small home from the turn of the century.

Both homes have served the commercial business sector over the years. The homes are in danger of being torn down because they have been sold. It has been proven that people enjoy seeing historic

homes—walking tours in Saratoga are very popular. Both local residents as well as visitors enjoy taking the tours. Walking tours contribute to the community coffers--normally a walking tour is followed by a nice lunch in a local restaurant. Walking tours are healthy for the body as well as the mind.

Old homes can be restored to their former glory — examples would be Bella Saratoga or the Erwin T. King House. Or they could be successfully moved to a new location such as the Warner Hutton House, a lovely Victorian or the McWilliams House, a pioneer cottage. You might be asking yourself what can you do to save these homes. One step might be to write to the City Council at City Hall, 13777 Fruitvale Avenue, Saratoga, CA 95070 or send an email to the City Council: <u>jhunter@saratoga.ca.us;</u> <u>elo@saratoga.ca.us; hmiller@saratoga.ca.us;</u>

mcappello@saratoga.ca.us; cpage@saratoga.ca.us and to city manager danderson@saratoga.ca.us with a message to save the homes.

Once these homes are torn down, a piece of history has been removed. The character of the street is changed. The memory erased. That period of time is forgotten.

#### **A Popular Setting**



Members of the Santa Clara Valley Watercolor Association, enticed by the beautiful weather, recently visited the Saratoga Historical Park to paint. Each artist viewed the park slightly differently with some focusing on capturing the historic buildings; others focusing on the beauty of the garden; and one even painted his fellow artists painting!





Saratoga Historical Foundation **PO Box 172** Saratoga, CA 95071

Be sure to visit: www.saratogahistory.com or www.facebook.com/SaratogaHistorical Foundation

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**Return service requested.** 

# **On the Road**

You have most likely passed this short, stubby flag pole umpteen times on Saratoga Avenue (across from the old post office) — admiring the US flag waving gracefully. And like



most things, there is a story behind the flag pole---it once stood in front of the legendary Saratoga Inn. The Saratoga Inn was built on

Saratoga Avenue in 1912 by a group of local leaders who felt that there should be a place for travellers to stay in Saratoga. These local leaders included Mrs. Louis Mendelsohn, Mrs. Charles Bell, David Bell, Dr. Robert Hogg and George A. Wood.

Over the years the Inn grew to include six acres, a swimming pool, and cottages. There was even an outdoor amphitheater-Theater of the Glade which operated in the back. The amphitheater brought prestige to Saratoga with producer Dorothea Johnston directing plays. Olivia deHavilland, Joan Fontaine, and Lilian Fontaine all participated in the plays.

The popular Saratoga Inn was torn down in the 1960s and replaced with

condominiums.

**Straight From the Horse's Mouth** 



Madronia cemetary.

It is a 20th century phrase from the US and was printed in the Syracuse Herald, May 1913: "I got a tip yesterday, and if it wasn't straight from the horse's mouth it was jolly well the next thing to it."

# **On the Street Where You Live**



William Haun settled in Santa Clara as early as 1846 where he engaged in farming until 1852. He married Lavinia Whisman and later they moved to Tollgate (now

known as Saratoga) where he is credited as building the first water-powered flour mill with his father-in-law John Whisman. The mill building was three stories in height; it was constructed with great care and the water was conducted in a flume a distance of one-fourth of a mile to the wheel. In 1863 he sold the mill to Senator Charles Maclay who named it Bank Mills. He became active in the general grocery business

until his death in 1865. He and his wife are buried in