

National Preservation Month

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Santa Clara County

To the Historical/Preservation Societies and Museums of Santa Clara County:

My name is Bill Hare, District 3 Commissioner on the Santa Clara County Historical Heritage Commission, as well as President of the Milpitas Historical Society.

May is National Preservation Month. The National Trust for Historic Preservation created this yearly celebration highlighting local preservation efforts nearly half a century ago. In many other parts of the country, the month of May is marked with historical tours, preservation award ceremonies, photo/art contests, and other festivities to bring awareness to the need for historic preservation.

It is time to bring these traditions to Santa Clara County, at the same time educating our residents about the importance of historic preservation before any more of our historically significant structures and sites are lost forever!

The Santa Clara County Historical Heritage Commission, in conjunction with The Preservation Action Council of San Jose, San Jose Historic Landmarks Commission, California Pioneers of Santa Clara County, and History San Jose, are planning an event to honor the efforts of historical preservation projects in every corner of Santa Clara County.

In order to fully represent the efforts in every corner of our county, we are hoping community historical and preservation/conservation entities such as yours will join with us so we can all spread the excitement about local history as well as show the urgency of preserving local historical landmarks.

These are some of the plans/ideas so far:

- * A National Historic Preservation Month celebration will be held at History San Jose at 7PM on May 21, 2022. The event will be held outside, with live historical music performances, a big screen for presentations, and more! You, of course, can help us with ideas for the “more” part.
- * An awards ceremony during the May 21 event, to honor those individuals and groups who have made a significant difference in preservation efforts all over Santa Clara County. Nominations for these awards will come from (and be presented by) the participating groups such as yours. Again, it is your participation that will help us make this a successful countywide event.
- * Other possibilities include a Photo and Art contest and exhibition, history tours given by docents of various societies around the county, an online space where we can all share ideas and take pride in the history of the entire county, and more!

We are interested in hearing any other ideas from the local historical entities, as well as any experience any group has had in conjunction with National Historic Preservation Month in years past. We hope you can join us in this endeavor!

Please contact me via email (bill@billhare.tv) or phone (408) 262-1776 to let me know if you would be interested in becoming a part of this!



Bill Hare, SCC Historical Heritage Commission,
Milpitas Historical Society