



Downtown Vallejo

Central Core Restoration Corporation

Promoting a cleaner, vibrant downtown Vallejo

January 2014

Welcome!

It's a brand new year and we are excited for our goals that can be achieved in 2014! Included among our plans: being a proactive voice in the development of Vallejo's new general plan, trimming the trees in the district, the completion and installation of wayfinding signs, ongoing communication with Code Enforcement, Housing and other city agencies to help remedy problem issues that concern our property owners, and the sponsorship of community programs and events that will help to spur the economic vitality we seek in our downtown district. Cheers to that!

Annual Meeting

CCRC's annual meeting, to which all property owners are invited, will be held at 7 pm Thursday, Jan 30 at the USA World Class Event Center at 1525 Sonoma Blvd., at the corner of York and Sonoma. A meet and greet begins at 6. Please join us for heavy hors d'oeuvres catered by local restaurants, and the opportunity to meet your fellow stakeholders and share ideas regarding the downtown district. Expect to receive a formal invitation in the next couple of weeks. Please RSVP to Erin Bakke via phone at 707.557.6762, or email ccrcvallejo@gmail.com.

CCRC Mission Statement

Our mission is to revitalize Historic Old Town Vallejo as the Main Street of commercial and cultural activity that promotes shopping, working, dining, and living in a secure and progressive environment.

Arts and Entertainment District: Year in Review

Although you may not know it, our PBID (Property and Business Improvement District) maintains within its boundaries the city's Arts and Entertainment District. What does this mean for you? For one thing, changes regarding zoning ordinances have made it easier than ever to open eateries and tasting rooms. For another, there has been a proliferation in 2013 of art and entertainment-related events, drawing thousands of visitors to the downtown. The events of 2013 included:

The Renaissance of the Empress Theatre: A new theatre manager, a new vision for programming, and the enthusiastic support of dedicated volunteers have given the architectural gem new vigor. Every Wednesday first rate musicians converge to provide top-quality entertainment at an unbeatable price, and Vallejoans show up to listen, to dance, and to celebrate their community. Empresstheatre.org for schedule.

Grand Opening of Temple Art Lofts, August: The renovation of the old Masonic Building aims to provide affordable artist housing downtown, contributing to the development of downtown as the cultural center of Vallejo.

The Odd Ball, August: held at the newly re-invented Oddfellows Hall (now home to The Hub art and community center) featured music and a masquerade ball. From all accounts, it was the first such event held in the Oddfellows ballroom in 40 years!

Light Up Vallejo Art and Wine Walk, October- This fundraiser to continue putting lights in the trees was spearheaded by the unstoppable Fred Menard of Indian Alley Antiques. It was a great success, drawing hundreds downtown and earning thousands of dollars for the continuing initiative.

Vallejo Art Windows October-- this 2nd annual event to install high quality art in otherwise vacant storefronts drew over 500 people to our well-lit downtown on a mild fall evening to stroll the streets, view art, enjoy music and help support our Community Arts Foundation. Art will remain in the windows for a year, or until the space occupied is leased.

Mad Hatter, December- one of the biggest events the downtown hosts, this year the Festival drew over 4,000 people downtown with its parade, ball, family events and annual tree lighting.

Property Report

Mr. Eddie Nino has purchased the property at 236 Georgia St., previously owned by Triad, and is making improvements to the building. He is actively engaged with the city and CCRC to help improve his property and the neighborhood in order to make the area more business friendly. Thank you and welcome downtown, Eddie!

The old **Mr. Ric's** building is for sale and in negotiations with a potential local buyer.

The building at **316 Georgia** has recently been undergoing renovations.

The ownership of **250 Georgia** has begun making improvements and potential tenants are showing serious interest in the building.

The building at **343 Georgia** has changed ownership.

List Your Property

Send us your vacancy information in the following format: 200 characters or less; no pdf flyer format please; include one image sized 263 x 161 pixels (pdf or jpg); and please DO NOT USE ALL CAPS. 😊

Thanks!

Your CCRC Board

Pres. Buck Kamphausen, Skyview Memorial
VP Phil Elfstrom, Evergreen Trust
Secretary Bob Lando, Vallejo Maine Partners
Treasurer Robert Litwin, Bay Property
Jim Barcewski, Georgia Street Plaza
John Dooley, Member-at-large
David Fischer, Downtown Property Owner
Ken Ingersoll, Gracie's Barbeque
Fred Sessler, Sessler Realty
Janet Sylvain, Pieced On Earth
Annette Taylor, City of Vallejo
Alternate Director Mark Reed, Townhouse

Vallejo in the News

Recently Vallejo was featured on the front page of the San Francisco Chronicle. An abbreviated excerpt of that article is included here. To read the story in its entirety, visit this link at SF Gate.com.

<http://www.sfgate.com/bayarea/article/Vallejo-sees-influx-of-artists-from-pricier-areas-4969324.php>

Influx of artists raises hopes for renaissance

By Caroline Said

Lured by cheap, abundant real estate for rent and purchase, a growing number of creative professionals are turning abandoned storefronts into live-work spaces, studio and galleries. "Artists help energize neighborhoods," said Thomas Wojak, a master printer who moved to Vallejo after losing his studio space in San Francisco. Like Wojak, many Vallejo artists left other parts of the Bay Area in response to gentrification and rising rents.

City Manager Dan Keen said the city is trying to lure shoppers with a weekly farmers market, the Mad Hatter Parade, and other future events.

Downtown Stuff to Do

Farmer's Market Saturdays from 9-1

300-400 Block of Georgia St

Empress Wednesday Night Music

Wednesdays from 7-10, \$7 in Advance/ \$9 Door

Empress Theatre, 330 Virginia St

Blues, Americana, roots, Rock, R & B

(707) 552-2400 or EmpressTheatre.org

The Artizen Cultural Art Center at 337 Georgia Street hosts an 11:11 party on the 11th of every month, with open mic, performances, and entertainment, community potluck and children's activities. 11 am-11 pm. More info call 707-649-8984 or contact

artizenculture@gmail.com

The Townhouse at 401 Georgia hosts Acoustic Open Mic night every Wednesday, 8-12 pm, and features bands every 3rd Friday. For details on this and other events call (707) 553-9109, or visit www.facebook.com/townhouse.vallejo

Dance Unlimited at 510 Georgia Street offers dance classes in a wide variety of styles. For class schedules contact Natasha Clark at (707) 694-7401.

PROJECTS & SERVICES

Wayfinding Signs

The wayfinding signs that have been in the works for a number of years are now drawing near to completion. 10 signs, featuring directions to downtown's most oft-visited amenities such as the ferry building, museum, theatre and parking, and including references to Vallejo's rich history, have gained preliminary approval by city officials. Proposed installation sites are in the process of being finalized and we anticipate having the signs installed before summer. Stay tuned!

Tree Trimming

CCRC has contracted with local contractor EZ Tree to begin the process of safety-pruning the trees in the downtown. This is a recurring service provided by CCRC, and will be accomplished in phases.

PCFMA Farmer's Market

Sponsored by CCRC, the ever-popular Farmer's Market is held every Saturday from 9-1 and features live music, a jump house for kids, food vendors and wholesome produce at the best prices in the area!

More on the Farmer's Market, below

Saturday Farmer's Market

CCRC and Pacific Coast Farmer's Market Association work together closely to provide Vallejo with an ever-improving certified farmer's market. We are embarking upon a new marketing campaign and are working to make the market even more family-friendly, and to improve and expand its quality and selection. If you are interested in becoming a vendor or have questions regarding the market, contact Regional Manager Greg Pursley at 925-771-2906 / gregpursley@pcfma.com, or Director John Silveira at 925-771-2903 / john@pcfma.com.

"Whether you think you can or think you can't, you're right." Henry Ford



Community Resources & Partners

Black Talon Security Dispatch 707-975-2166
Security is provided in the downtown 5 days a week, 10-6.

Neighborhood Law Program 707-648-4146
As part of a two year pilot program, NLP lawyers Eli Flushman and Ryan Griffiths work with the Vallejo Police Department, Code Enforcement Division and other departments, to abate the City's most unfavorable nuisances and improve the quality of life in Vallejo.

City of Vallejo

www.ci.vallejo.ca.us 707-648-4527
A great and accessible website with city updates, city calendar, and Open City Hall, an online forum for civic engagement. City Council meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month at City Hall, 555 Santa Clara St.

Vallejo Main Street

www.vallejomainstreet.org 707-315-5282
Community Partner in Downtown Development
Gregg Goins, President

Fighting Back Partnership 707-553-7345
A non-profit collaboration that partners with business, residents, and government to improve neighborhoods, strengthen families, and support youth development creating a safe, healthy and thriving community.

Next Door Neighborhood www.nextdoor.com
An online meeting place to help build stronger, safer neighborhoods.

New Business Developments

The new Subway is open at 1745 Sonoma Blvd. We welcome Kal and Daisy Sidlu to the downtown community and wish them much success... please stop in, say hello, and enjoy a sandwich!

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The Unconventional Garden has opened at 727 Marin St. Owner Michelle Elikers offers a charming array of outdoor living accessories and also features local artists. Winter hours are 10:30 - 4:30 Wed. through Fri., 10:00 - 5:00 Saturdays.

CCRC Meetings

are held at 4:15 on the second Thursday of each month in the 2nd floor conference room at 301 Georgia Street. The meeting agendas are posted at this location and are also available at www.downtownvallejo.com. The public is invited to attend.

Contact Us

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