Antique Faire celebrates 10 years in operation

Monthly street fair draws many bargain hunters to Lincoln Street

By CATHY KELLY

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SANTA CRUZ — The second Sunday of the month draws antique hunters to downtown Santa Cruz. And this Sunday was no exception, with many people milling about the Downtown Santa Cruz Antique Street Faire, browsing through everything from old photographs to weathered statues of Buddha.

The Antique Street Faire celebrates 10 years in operation this year, said Bonnie Belcher of Santa Cruz, the fair manager.

The original fair started on Pacific Avenue 20 years ago, but stopped and started a couple of times before its current manifestation, Belcher said.

"It's going well," she said.
"There are very few monthly
fairs in Northern California

and the word is getting out." At one of the 50 vendors' booths Sunday, both seller and buyer are former Santa Cruz residents who enjoy coming back to town.

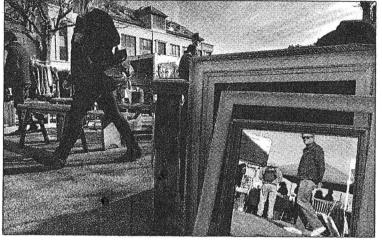
Warren Bloch of Hollister was shopping with his wife, Maureen. He said they met in Santa Cruz and that "our hearts are here."

Bloch held up a Crosby, Stills & Nash album to show his wife.

"Memories, memories," he said. "They claimed this was one of the first covers to be like art. It's just something I had as a kid. I sold my album collection to my brother, thinking I ripped him off. But he might have gotten the better deal."

Mark Jones was selling the old records, along with some antique hard-cover books, and some old Rolling Stones and other magazines

"It's a great fair," said Jones, a



SHMUEL THALER/SENTINEL

The monthly Downtown Santa Cruz Antique Street Faire is in full swing on Sunday.

San Francisco resident. "I come down because it's fun. I lived here for about 20 years."

Two young college students. Nick DeVarco and Phoenix Peterson, were browsing through the records as well. "Old records are cool to collect and listen to," said DeVarco, a UC Santa Cruz student who was in the band at Santa Cruz High. "The sound is better — the bass

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really comes out and the vocals are clear."

DeVarco said his friend has a record player, and that he is in the market for one.

As for the fair, he said he comes often.

"I love this; I just like the little treasures you can find," he said.

Belcher, the manager, said she has noticed an increasing number of young people coming.

"Repurposing and recycling is big now," she said.
"And a lot of times, the things are made better and less expensive than new items. This is just a nice, low-key fair."

It is held from 9 a.m. to 5

p.m. on the second Sunday of each month on Lincoln Street between Pacific Avenue and Cedar Street, including in the Cedar Street parking lot where the Farmer's Market is also held.

For more information, call Belcher at 831-476-6940 or visit the Santa Cruz Antique Faire's Facebook page.

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