1906: County jail sold; no spitting on sidewalks

celebrating its 150th year in 2006 by reaching into our archives to republish some of the noteworthy stories and retrospectives from that long history. Here are some of the noteworthy stories from Jan. 1906.

■ Supervisors decided to sell the old county jail and grounds on Mission hill and talked about a city park in its place.

■ The Santa Cruz Streets Commission-

er reported that, in 1905, a total of 15,000 feet of sidewalk had been laid in the city.

■ At the request of the Santa Cruz Improvement Society, the city council began enforcing an old ordinance against spitting on sidewalks.

A mound of walrus tusks (some three feet long) were unearthed at Neary Lagoon during work on the new Coast Line Railway.

■ The Watsonville Board of Aldermen announced a war against houses of ill repute.

■ Representatives from the Three Counties Oil Co. secured an option to purchase Coast Dairies land on "the strong faith in the existence of a big oil field in the district."

■ The Loma Prieta Lumber Co.'s Hinckley Creek mill was swept away in a storm that recorded 27 inches of rain at Wright's Station over a weeklong period.

■ The Santa Cruz Football Club played

a match against the San Francisco Club on the grounds of the Santa Cruz Athletic Club at the Vue de l'Eau.

A man drowned in a flume of the California Powder Works after taking "too much strong liquer."

■ A judge granted Mrs. Shumway a divorce from Mr. Shumway on the grounds of cruelty — those being that "her husband persisted in blowing tobacco smoke into her face after he had eaten his meals."