

Boulder Creek church coveted by historians

By **DONNA KIMURA**
Sentinel staff writer

BOULDER CREEK — Boulder Creek historians look at the 111-year-old Episcopal Church in town and see the future.

They have their sights on buying the church as the permanent home for the town's Historical Society.

"It's a chance to maintain a landmark," said Bob Hines, a San Lorenzo Valley resident and president of the San Lorenzo Valley Main Street program.

It is also an opportunity for the society to move its museum into bigger and historical surroundings, where there will be meeting space for the society and the community.

The county recently granted the society a change in the use of the building, which is now the First Church of Christ Scientist, so it could be used as a museum.

Now the group must raise

enough funds to buy the \$130,000 property.

To buy the church, the society has launched a fund-raising campaign. Private donations are critical to earn grants toward the project, Hines said.

Foundations are more likely to award grants to groups that have raised other funds and have demonstrated strong community support, he said.

The society already has about \$20,000 in its building fund.

The names of individuals and businesses contributing to the project will be displayed in the building. Memorial donations in the name of an individual will be listed on a separate "in memorium" plaque.

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