

HOWARTH PARK: THE EVOLUTION

1873

Santa Rosa Water Works Company forms and secures property for an earthen dam

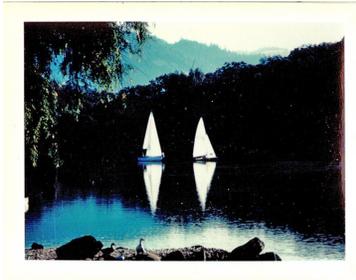
1930

Leonard Howarth, a successful British-born industrialist, comes to Santa Rosa for treatment when stricken by paralysis. He leaves \$75,000 at his death to be used for Santa Rosa

**Parks
Make
Life
Better!**

1956

The City acquires Lake Ralphine and surrounding property from City Water Department



1958

Camp Wa-Tam founded, Santa Rosa's first recreational program, held every summer in the hills of Howarth Park

1963

Original boathouse built



1969

Big K-Land built, including relocated tracks and a new train as well as landscaping to reflect the area's natural beauty



1993

"Frontier Village" playground area torn down due to deterioration of wooden structure

1999

"Land of Imagination" playground area is developed; designed as a "walk through time"



2008

Camp Wa-Tam celebrates its 50th year



1894

Mark L. McDonald acquires Santa Rosa Water Works and raises the dam to its present height. He names the new lake after his wife Ralphine North

Mid-1950s

Leonard Howarth's funding was used to create the City's first "modern playground" next to Burbank School. The sale of this park to the Board of Education and remaining funds left by Leonard Howarth are used to build Howarth Park

1958

"Pop" Lampson, a retired railroad engineer from Lakeport, moves his miniature steam train, roller coaster, and hand-carved carousel to Howarth Park



1969

Construction of "Old Man Olson's Farm", an animal barn named for the volunteer efforts of the Olson family

1976

"Frontier Village" is added to Big K-Land play area in honor of the Country's Bicentennial celebration in 1976

1982

Howarth Park's five-turnstile pony ride is converted to today's "Pony Express" trail ride



2004

Through the efforts of the Tomales Sailing Club, new "Bottini Boathouse" is built. It is named after Carlo Bottini, who taught sailing lessons on Lake Ralphine for 31 years

2012

Animal Barn restored thanks to generous funding by local resident Beth Martinez

