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THE GRAND OPENING OF THE ROSEMARY CLOONEY HOUSE, INC.

Former Kentucky Lt. Gov. Steve Henry and his wife Heather French Henry will be joined by members of Rosemary's family and local dignitaries for the official Grand Opening of The Rosemary Clooney House, Inc.

(Augusta, KY) - Former Kentucky Lieutenant Governor, Steve Henry, and his wife Heather French Henry, Miss America 2000, have announced plans for the Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for The Rosemary Clooney House, Inc. In the midst of a weekend of festivities, the official Ribbon Cutting ceremony will take place in front of Rosemary's home at 106 East Riverside Drive, Augusta, at 11 AM. on Saturday, October 1st, 2005.

The Henry's will be joined by Rosemary's husband, Dante DiPaolo, her brother and his wife, Nick and Nina Clooney, her sister and her husband, Gail and Chris Darley, her childhood best friend, Blanchie Mae Chambers, and her friend and "Girl Singer" co-author, Joan Barthel. Local dignitaries on hand will include: John Laycock, Mayor of Augusta, David Cartmell, Mayor of Maysville, and Mike Denham, State Representative, District 70.

The Grand Opening coincides with the annual Rosemary Clooney Concert held in Maysville, Kentucky, on the evening of October 1st.

In addition to being able to tour the home where Rosemary spent a quarter of her time in the last two decades of her life, visitors to the home will be able to view exhibits that include:

- The largest collection of "White Christmas" memorabilia anywhere.
- Costumes designed by Edith Head from Rosemary's days at Paramount Studios, including ones worn by Bing Crosby, Bob Hope, Vera Ellen and Mary Wicks.
- Original movie posters, lobby cards, costume test photos, magazines, sheet music, recordings and advertisements spanning her nearly sixty year career.
- The second floor of the home will be opened to the public. It features Rosemary's bedroom with her actual furnishings plus the Miss America room which houses Heather French Henry, Miss America 2000's gowns, crowns and memorabilia from her days as Miss Kentucky and Miss America.
- Linda Hope, the daughter of Bob & Dolores Hope and Vice President of Hope Enterprises has provided The Rosemary Clooney House with original rare photos and memorabilia featuring Bob and Rosemary from the Hope archives.

- Building materials salvaged from the demolition of Rosemary's Beverly Hills home at 1019 Roxbury will be exhibited. These materials will be used in an addition to the Augusta home planned for 2006.
- The director's scripts from Rosemary's television shows of the 50's will be on display as well as Bob Mackie designs for several of Rosemary's later concert gowns.
- Family photos including those of actor Miguel Ferrer, her son, and George Clooney, her nephew.

The Rosemary Clooney House has been the beneficiary of many private and corporate donations, the largest coming from Paramount Studios who provided most of the movie costumes visitors will see.

Additional activities planned around the official ribbon cutting include:

- Friday evening, September 30th, a reception/fundraiser will be held in Maysville at Rosemary's cousin's home. Ben Breslin has invited all to "Come On-A My House" from 8 - 11 PM at 219 E. Second Street, Maysville, KY.
- Donations for the fundraiser have been made by Concord Records, Patsy's NYC Restaurant, Hope Enterprises, the Jimmy Stewart Museum, the Lucy-Desi Museum, the Netherland Plaza Hilton, the Ava Gardner Museum, Caproni's Restaurant, Louisville Stoneware, LoneStar Restaurant, the Autry National Center and many others.
- Joan Barthel, the co-author of Rosemary's "Girl Singer" will hold a book signing at the house from 10 AM. to 5 PM on Saturday. Along with the purchase of an autographed copy of "Girl Singer" fans will receive a free laminated bookmark featuring a photo of Joan and Rosemary taken by Dante in the front yard of Rosie's Augusta home.
- On Sunday the Belle of Cincinnati Lock & Dam Cruise will travel from BB Riverboats in Cincinnati to Rosemary's Augusta home. Boarding is at 7 AM, departure at 8 AM, and arrival at Rosemary's at 1 PM and return to Cincinnati around 7 PM. The Henry's, Dante and Gail will be on board for the first part of the trip.
- The first ornament in The Rosemary Clooney House Collection will be available for just \$16.95. It's a three-dimensional replica of the front of Rosemary's Augusta home.
- Merchandise will be available that includes t-shirts, CDs, books, "White Christmas" nightlights, DVDs, and Christmas ornaments.

The Henrys are excited that they can extend the invitation to visitors from around the world to "Come On-A Rosie's House." "It's an honor to be able to preserve Rosemary's legacy through these exhibits and displays dedicated to her life and career," Dr. Henry said. "Not only was she a legendary singer born and raised in Kentucky, but she was an important part of all our lives."

"In many ways Rosemary and I share the same roots having been born and raised in the same Kentucky towns," Heather French Henry said. "I suppose that makes me especially passionate about preserving Rosemary's home and creating a living tribute to Kentucky's favorite 'Girl Singer.' The opportunity to give back to the communities that gave us both so much has also been important."

Rosemary called 106 Riverside Drive her home for more than two decades. This “pleasing house,” as she called it, was her centering place; her retreat from the demands of her career and a haven for rest and relaxation between performances that saw her traveling all over the world.

With the demolition of Rosemary’s historical Beverly Hills home, The Rosemary Clooney House is now the only Rosemary owned-home still standing.

Dr. Henry said he believed “visitors to The Rosemary Clooney House are sure to fall under the nostalgic spell of the town of Augusta and its 19th century feel, just the way Rosemary did. So, ‘Come On-A Rosie’s’ and spend some time in the place where Rosemary said, ‘I really feel as if I belong here.’”

The Rosemary Clooney House is open on weekends, and during the week by appointment. Admission is \$5.00. For more information call 1-888-898-8091.

For more information on The Rosemary Clooney House visit <http://www.rosemaryclooneyhouse.com>