



September 6, 2012

Trail Overcrossing has Johnny Cash Ties

Folsom's newest bike/pedestrian overcrossing will feature a unique design that reflects the architecture of Folsom Prison. The bridge will span Folsom Lake Crossing near Natoma Street, linking two sides of the newly named "Johnny Cash Trail".

The design concept approved by the City Council features a 155-foot bridge supported by two tower structures. The towers will echo the look of the Folsom Prison guard towers, and will include interior accent lighting and bars on the window openings. The 62-foot-long ramps leading to the towers will be representative of the prison walls with a cast concrete granite-texture face.

The \$3 million project is funded primarily through grants from the state and SACOG. The City's matching in-kind funds include earth fill material placed during construction of Folsom Lake Crossing valued at \$475,000. Construction is expected to begin in Spring 2013.

The City Council also authorized staff to develop concepts for the Johnny Cash Trail Art Experience and the Folsom Prison Blues Festival, and to seek approval from the Johnny Cash Family/Estate.

"The 2.5 mile Johnny Cash Trail traverses the prison property," says Parks and Recreation Director Robert Goss. "The trail honors Johnny Cash's 50-year career and provides a connection to the famous artist, the prison and the 'Folsom Prison Blues' song that millions of people know and enjoy."

The proposed Johnny Cash Trail Art Experience would serve as a tribute to the legacy of Johnny Cash through a public art installation featuring audio, visual art and interpretative information about the famed singer's life and his connection to Folsom.

"We need the endorsement and involvement of the Johnny Cash family to give meaning and insight to the project, as well as to guide the direction of fund raising for project expenses," said Goss. "There are no City funds designated for this project, so we will have to seek private donations and grants."

Christmas Comes Early for Library Patrons

More than 2,350 new children's books are now available for loan at the Folsom Public Library. Library Supervisor Greta Galindo says this is the largest shipment received since the 2007 opening.

New books at the Folsom Public Library include:

- 700 picture and board books
- 300 beginning to read books
- 1,000 new paperback children's fiction titles
- 300 graphic novels

"Our children's section is very popular and busy, and we are excited to expand the collection," says Galindo. "Two children's books are checked out for every one adult book."

Bestselling titles added to the Library's collection include:

- *Pete the Cat and His Four Groovy Buttons* by Eric Litwin
- *How Rocket Learned to Read* by Tad Hills
- *The Fantastic Flying Books of Mr. Morris Lessmore* by William Joyce
- *The Duckling Gets a Cookie!* by Mo Willems
- *Goodnight, Goodnight, Construction Site* by Sherri Duskey Rinker and Tom Lichtenheld
- *The Heroes of Olympus* series by Rick Riordan
- *Magic Tree House* series by Mary Pope Osborne
- *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* series by Jeff Kinney
- *Harry Potter* series by J.K. Rowling

The Folsom Public Library now has 84,121 items available for check-out; 37,515 registered borrowers; and an annual circulation of 552,161 items.

Meet Zoo's Newest Resident

Echo, a 100-pound playful male Cougar cub, arrived at the Folsom City Zoo Sanctuary in late August and will be ready for his public exhibit later this month. Echo joins the Zoo's three other Cougars – Rio, Flash and Cedar.

Echo was an illegally held animal that was confiscated by Arizona Fish and Game after his owner tried to sell him on Craig's list. Folsom zookeeper Amy Van der Molen says Echo is healthy and adapting well to his new environment.

“He is very playful and interested in everything,” says Van der Molen. “We are accepting monetary donations for enrichment items for Echo, as well as donations of extra large cardboard boxes, large bones, melons, herbs, pine branches, pumpkins and squash.”

The Folsom City Zoo Sanctuary is located in City Lions Park on Stafford Street. Learn more at www.folsom.ca.us.

It's All about the Kids

Caring adults with a desire to help kids have an opportunity to make a difference in the Folsom community by mentoring students at a few local schools during lunch time or after school.

Volunteer opportunities include:

- **JUMP** (Judah United Mentor Project) at Theodore Judah Elementary and **BAM** (Bears and Mentors) at Blanche Sprentz Elementary -- One-on-one lunch time mentoring programs to help students in need of extra support and attention.
- **STARS** (Smart Talented and Responsible Students) at Theodore Judah – After school program for Theodore Judah and Blanche Sprentz students. Volunteers provide homework help, tutoring, recreational activities and art lessons.

Adults interested in volunteering for either the lunch time or after school programs may email Salwa Kasabian at elswaify@yahoo.com.

When her children started attending Theodore Judah, Kasabian recognized that some students needed extra support and attention from caring adults. She worked with school staff to develop the lunch time mentoring program that was later expanded to Blanche Sprentz. She was also a force behind the STARS after school program.

“JUMP and BAM volunteers share 40 minutes of one-on-one time once a week during the school lunch period,” Kasabian says. “This program isn’t academic. The focus is on providing consistent support by caring adult volunteers who are positive role models.”

The STARS after school program focuses on academics, as well as recreation, and local teens are also stepping up to help. Members of the City’s Teen Council assist with recreational activities and homework help, according to City Recreation Supervisor Susanne Linnane.

“This is a wonderful opportunity for the teens to give back to our community and it’s an example of the great collaboration between the City and school district,” Linnane says. “When students apply to be a part of the Teen Council, one of their commitments is to be a STARS volunteer. It’s a win-win situation.”

Public Works Director Lorenz Retires

Richard Lorenz, a 24-year City employee who led the Public Works and Utilities Department and served as City Engineer, retired from City service on Aug.31.

“Rich served this City well for many years, building bridges literally and figuratively,” says City Manager Evert Palmer. “We thank him for his many years of dedicated service and wish him well in his retirement.”

A civil engineering graduate of UC Berkeley, Lorenz came to Folsom in 1988 as a traffic and land development engineer. He served as assistant public works director before his promotion to public works director in 2000.

Lorenz oversaw or was directly involved in about \$1 billion of public infrastructure in Folsom, building Folsom Lake Crossing and other key projects. He also supervised water, trash and recycling, transit, streets, traffic signals and signs, wastewater, storm water and fleet maintenance.

September Happenings

Antique Peddler’s Faire, Sept. 11 Remembrance Ceremony, Top of Folsom Art, Food & Wine Event and Folsom Live . . . there’s much to do in Folsom this month.

- **On the Wild Side Opening Reception**, 6 – 8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 7, Gallery at 48 Natoma. Three artists work in animal art, plus exhibit of paintings by Folsom Zoo Sanctuary animals. (916) 355-7285.
- **Second Saturday on Historic Sutter Street** , 5:30 – 8:30 p.m. Sept. 8. Live music, street performers, art walk, special tastings and more – www.historicfolsom.org.
- **Sept. 11 Remembrance Ceremony** to honor those who lost their lives during the 2001 terrorist attacks, 9 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 11, Veterans Memorial in City Lions Park (corner of Stafford and Natoma streets).
- **Fall Book Sale**, Friday – Sunday, Sept. 14 – 16, Folsom Public Library, 411 Stafford St., sponsored by Friends of the Folsom Library – www.friendsofthefolsomlibrary.org.

- **Top of Folsom Art, Food & Wine Event**, 6 – 9 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 15, features fine artists, wineries, top chefs, performing artists and musical performances in Historic Folsom -- www.TopOfFolsom.com.
- **Antique Peddlers Faire** , 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 16 on Historic Sutter Street. Free admission, four blocks filled with antiques and collectibles, entertainment and food – www.historicfolsom.org.
- **Folsom Live!** 5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 22, Sutter Street rocks with 15 bands on five stages. Sponsored by Folsom Chamber of Commerce. Ticket information at www.folsomlive.com.

Coming in October

Fire Department Open House, 9 a.m. – noon Saturday, Oct. 6, Fire Station 35, 535 Glenn Dr. Meet the crews, tour the station, fire extinguisher training, kitchen safety and more. Pancake breakfast, \$5 donation (children 10 and under free). Raffles and silent auction. Sponsored by City of Folsom Fire Department, Folsom Firefighters Association and Folsom Fire Safe Council.