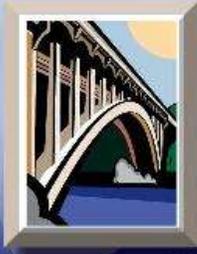


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**News@95630**

**September 16, 2013**

## **City replenishing cash reserves**

For the second year in a row, the City ended the fiscal year with a surplus that was added to unrestricted cash reserves. At last week's City Council meeting, Chief Financial Officer Jim Francis reported a Fiscal Year 2012-13 surplus of \$640,930. He noted that the surplus was primarily the result of expenditures under budget, rather than improving economic conditions.

Prior to the recession, the City had approximately \$16 million, or 26 percent of expenditures, in reserves. Currently, reserves total a little more than \$5 million, or 7.8 percent of expenditures.

"Because we had ample reserves in the bank when the recession hit, we were able to minimize the impact on services to our community," says City Manager Evert Palmer. "We used \$12 million from our reserves during those lean years, and that's exactly what those reserves were intended for. Now that the economy is improving, our goal is to continue growing our unrestricted fund balance to 15 percent of expenditures so we will be prepared for unexpected expenses in coming years."

Other highlights from the FY 2012-13 Fourth Quarter Financial Report:

- General Fund revenues totaled almost \$65.8 million, up almost \$317,000 over FY 12, but \$76,000 less than expected. Sales tax increased almost 12 percent. Housing sales, prices and new home construction were up, and 73 percent of existing home sales exceeded assessed values. Francis projects an increase in property tax revenues next year.

- General Fund expenditures of approximately \$65 million were down almost \$290,000 from FY 12, and \$717,000 less than budgeted. Expenditures in all departments were closely monitored and most vacant positions were not filled.
- The Utility funds all ended the year with operating revenues exceeding operating costs and adding to their cash balances.
- No new debt was issued in FY 13 and the Sports Complex debt was paid off.

“All in all, the last fiscal year should be looked at as a financially successful year that produced some desirable outcomes, improved our financial position, and positioned us well for the coming year,” says Palmer. “We will continue fiscal prudence as we manage our current budget to ensure our revenues and expenditures are balanced.”

## Library celebrates 20 years in Folsom

Newcomers may take Folsom’s beautiful, spacious Public Library for granted. However, those who’ve been around awhile remember previous facilities -- the cramped former firehouse on Persifer Street and the miniscule county branch library. There’s much to celebrate as the Folsom Public Library celebrates its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

“We would not be where we are today without the enduring support of the City Council, Library Commission, Friends of the Library, and our loyal patrons,” says Library Manager Lisa Dale. “Our library is the busiest in the county with close to 600,000 books and other items circulated last year and programs that attracted 26,000 attendees. Our doors are open and we invite the community to help us celebrate this important milestone.”

### Anniversary Celebration

**10 a.m. – noon, Saturday, Sept. 28**

Enjoy storytime with Clifford the Big Red Dog, view a display of historical photos, pick up a commemorative giveaway, and enjoy refreshments.

### Meet You Half Way

During the month of September, pay half of your library fine and we’ll waive the rest up to \$20 (lost and damaged books not included).

### Looking back . . .

- |             |  |
|-------------|--|
| Early 1900s | Folsom’s earliest residents rented books from local merchants before Sacramento County opened a small branch library in a shopping center.                         |
| 1992        | Sacramento County announced plans to close the Folsom branch library due to budget cuts.   |
| 1993        | Led by Georgia Murray, local residents formed the Friends of the Library, raised funds and refurbished an old firehouse on Persifer Street (provided by the City). |

The temporary library opened in July and served as the community's only library for 14 years.

- 2005 Construction begins on the new 24,000-square-foot Folsom Public Library in City Lions Park; City Council votes unanimously to name the new building in honor of long-time library supporter Georgia Murray.
- 2007 Community celebrates opening of state-of-the-art library at 411 Stafford St.

## Join your family, friends & neighbors for fun fall activities all over town

**Folsom Live Rocks Historic Sutter Street**, 15 bands, 5 stages, 1 night. Enjoy the music from 5 to 11 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 21. Country, rock, blues and more. Tickets, free shuttle and more information at [www.FolsomLive.com](http://www.FolsomLive.com).

**8<sup>th</sup> Annual Folsom Family Expo & Wellness Festival**, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 28, Folsom Community Center, 52 Natoma St. Presented by Sierra Style Publishing.

**Folsom Public Library's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration**, 10 a.m. to noon, Saturday, Sept. 28, 411 Stafford St. See main page for details.

**World Rabies Day**, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 28, City Lions Park. See main page for details about the "Three for Free" program for your pets.

**Folsom Zoo Sanctuary's 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration**, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 5. Party games, face painting, birthday card crafting station, yummy BEAR floats and much more. Regular Zoo admission fee.

**Folsom Glow Run**, 7:45 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 5, 4K course starts and ends in Historic Folsom. Family friendly event for all ages. Registration and information at [www.stylemg.com/folsomglowrun](http://www.stylemg.com/folsomglowrun).

**Folsom Focus Photography Contest** entries due Oct. 18. Sponsored by Folsom Arts Association. Learn more at [www.folsomarts.org](http://www.folsomarts.org).

**2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Fire Prevention/Fire Safety Open House**, 9 a.m. to noon, Saturday, Oct. 12, Fire Station 35, 535 Glenn Dr. Tour the fire station, meet on-duty crews and enjoy a pancake breakfast.

**Bark ‘n’ Splash Bash**, 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 12, Folsom Aquatic Center. More details coming soon!

**21<sup>st</sup> Annual Folsom Renaissance Faire**, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Oct. 19 & 20, City Lions Park. [www.folsomfaire.com](http://www.folsomfaire.com).

## **Free rabies shot, microchip & license**

As part of World Rabies Day, local veterinarians will offer no-cost microchips; rabies vaccines for dogs and cats; and a one-year license for first-time, altered pets at 11 sites in the region. Bring your pet to City Lions Park between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 28, and help set a Guinness World Record for the number of pets microchipped.

Cindy Walden, City Animal Services Officer, encourages local residents to take advantage of the “Three for Free” event:

1. Free rabies vaccines
2. Free microchips
3. Free one-year pet license for altered cats and dogs that have not previously been licensed

“We hope to set a Guinness World Record for the number of pets microchipped within eight hours to bring attention to the benefits of microchipping,” she says. “The real winners will be the pets and their owners who, if ever separated, can be reunited because of the chip.”

Walden is recruiting volunteers to assist with the Sept. 28<sup>th</sup> “Three for Free” event. If you can work a half-day or full-day shift, email her at [cwalden@folsom.ca.us](mailto:cwalden@folsom.ca.us)