



City of Folsom Newsletter

June/July 2008

Stay, Play and Have Fun in Folsom this Summer

Yours may be one of many families staying close to home this summer. Fortunately when home is Folsom, there is no need to sacrifice fun for frugality. Here is a look at some of what's going on right here:

Folsom Concerts in the Park (June 6-Aug. 8): Bring a picnic and blanket to enjoy a great, free evening under the oak trees of City Lions Park. June 6: Have Mercy (classic rock); June 13: Azuar (classic/alternative pop); June 20: Mercy Me (funk/soul/R&B); June 27: Dave Russell Band (country); July 11: Andy Keane and Kinda Blue (Latin blues); July 18: Essex (classic rock); July 25: On Call (classic rock); Aug. 1: Bad Iron (cover/contemporary); Aug. 8: Peter Morgan Band (jazz). All concert times are 6:30-8:30 p.m., and are sponsored in part by "Take pART in the ARTs" utility bill donations. To learn more about the arts donation program, call the Folsom Parks and Recreation Department at 355-7285, or visit www.folsom.ca.us, Parks & Recreation/ Arts and Cultural Commission.

Folsom Cattle Drive and Pro Rodeo (July 2-5):

On July 2 at high noon, the Folsom cattle drive begins at City Lions Park and ends in historic Folsom along Sutter Street. The free family event features a herd of longhorn steers, cowboys, wagons, gunslingers, mutton busters and more. The best viewing will be along Sutter Street. On July 3-5, the rodeo begins nightly at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$15-\$22.50. Buckaroo ticket and meal packs for families of four are available for \$50. Auditions for Folsom Idol will be held on June 5. For more information, visit www.folsomprorodeo.com, or call 985-5555.

Thursday Night Market (June 5-Aug. 28): The new and improved Thursday Night Market is the place to be weekly from 6-9 p.m. The family-friendly event fea-



The Folsom Aquatic Center is a popular place for families to cool off on hot summer days.

tures 60 arts and crafts booths, a children's area, a fresh produce market, as well as music and entertainment from the Folsom Lake Symphony and Folsom Lake Ballet. Plenty of bike and car parking will be available in the new parking structure. For more information, visit www.folsomfairs.com.

Library Summer Reading Programs (May 30-July 31): New this year at the Georgia Murray Building are separate reading programs for young readers and adults. The children's theme is "Catch the Reading Bug" and the teen theme is "Metamorphosis @ your Library." Program participants of all ages will receive prizes, goodies and more. For more information, call 355-7374 or visit www.folsomlibrary.com.

Summer Day Camps (June-August): Kids of all ages can try a new activity or build on skills by taking part in Parks and Recreation Department day camps. Activities include academics, sports, dance and more. For information, visit the Parks and Recreation web page at www.folsom.ca.us, or call 355-7285.

A Look Inside:

Horses on Patrol: Learn where you can spot Folsom Police Department's Mounted Patrol Unit on page 5.
No Life Jacket? No problem!: Find out where your family can borrow free life jackets on page 3.



Weathering the Economic Storm

A Message from Folsom City Manager Kerry Miller

The effects of the current economic downturn are visible almost everywhere. Gas prices are at an all-time high while costs of food and other basic needs continue to soar. At the family table and in conference rooms

across the country and here in Folsom, many of us are rethinking budgets and tightening belts.

The City of Folsom's budget outlook has been impacted by what I see as a perfect storm of economic factors. The combination of decreased revenue sources, including sales taxes, property taxes and development fees, along with an increased cost of services and the possibility that the State may take away additional City revenues, pose a significant budgetary challenge.

We are proactively addressing these challenges as we strive to maintain our City's strong fiscal health. The preliminary Fiscal Year 2008-09 budget presented to the City Council on May 27 includes some significant budget cuts. However, please be assured we will continue our long-standing commitment to high-level police and fire services for our community. In addition, we are committed to maintaining other key services and programs that contribute to the outstanding quality of life that our residents expect and deserve.

The City Council's Budget Workshop will be held in Council Chambers at City Hall beginning at 1 p.m., Tuesday, June 3. Information about that workshop and other budget-related public meetings is posted on the City's website, www.folsom.ca.us. We welcome your participation.

How is the Downturn in the Economy Affecting Your Summer Plans?



The gas prices are putting a damper on everything. I'm definitely staying closer to home these days and walk whenever I can.

David Caren, Business Owner



I won't be doing as much traveling this summer. I have a good friend in Redding and unfortunately won't be visiting him as often.

Mark Snyder, Business Owner



I drive an SUV and filling it up can be expensive. Fortunately, I don't have to go far to enjoy biking and going to the river in Folsom.

Reinee Reyes, Student



Staying close to home isn't bad at all. The Folsom Aquatic Center is great and the shopping and restaurants are also a lot of fun in Folsom.

Judy Hansen, Folsom Resident

Turn to City Website for More News, Events and Information

As the City continues to look for new ways to save and be green, there will be a slight decrease in the amount of mailings residents receive at home. Instead, more information will be posted on the City's website.

If you haven't logged on lately, we encourage you

to take a look. You will find a number of public service announcements, upcoming events, City Council webcasts, rebate information, waste collection schedules and more. Questions and concerns also can be addressed by utilizing the City Assist feature on the homepage at www.folsom.ca.us.

Dive into Safety with Loaned Life Jackets for the Family

Borrowing a life jacket is quick, easy and free thanks to two local life jacket loan programs. Fire station 35 located at 535 Glenn St., has approximately 100 life vests on hand for children and adults. Fire Chief Dan Haverty says that there is no limit to the number of vests that may be borrowed.

"The program operates on the honor system. The vests can be borrowed weekdays during regular business hours and on weekends by ringing the doorbell. Simply provide your personal information and bring the vests back within one week," said

Haverty. "If we save one life by making the vests available, the program is a success."

Sacramento County Emergency Medical Services also provides free life jackets. Nine loan stations are located at the following sites along the American River: Howe Avenue, Watt Avenue, Ancil Hoffman Park, Goethe Park, two sites at Discovery Park, Negro Bar, Folsom Point and Nimbus.

For more information, contact the Folsom Fire Department at 984-2280, or Sacramento County Emergency Medical Services, at 875-9753.

New Water Survival Skill Program for Young Children



One-year-old Josie Norville taking part in the Infant Swimming Resource program.

At just one year old, little Josie Norville of Folsom is already comfortable in the water and has learned how to float thanks to a new program co-sponsored by the Folsom Aquatic Center. Infant Swimming Resource (ISR) is a swim instruction and self-rescue

breath under water, roll onto their backs and float unassisted," said Stefani Norville, certified ISR Instructor. "Children over one year old and walking learn a sequence of how to hold their breath under water, swim with their head down and eyes open, roll onto their back to float, rest and breathe, and roll back over to resume swimming until they reach the edge of the pool to exit."

Norville says that it takes as few as four weeks for an infant to learn to roll back and float for survival, and approximately six to seven weeks for a child over one year to learn the swim-float-swim sequence.

ISR instruction includes one-on-one, 10-minute maximum lessons, five days a week specifically tailored to each child. For more information, contact Stefani Norville at h2osafe@comcast.net, or visit www.infantswim.com.

technique program for young children between six months and six years of age.

"Beginning at six months, infants learn to hold their

New Hands-Free Cell Phone Law

On July 1, a new California law will prohibit the use of handheld phones while driving unless the driver uses a hands-free device.

"Any activity that distracts a driver from attention to the roadway is of concern," said Folsom Police Chief Sam Spiegel. "Our department certainly will be enforcing this new law in hope of decreasing the amount of accidents on the road."

Drivers who violate the law will face a base fine of \$20 for a first offense and \$50 for each subsequent offense. The law allows drivers to use a handheld telephone for emergency purposes.

Hands-free device options include installed car kits, portable car kits, wireless headsets and wired headsets. For more information about the new law, visit www.dmv.ca.gov.

Collection Schedules Being Delivered

Check your mailbox for the updated recycling and green waste collection schedules being mailed to every Folsom household in late June. Remember that the collection of green waste and recycling is split into two cycles. When half of the city is receiving green waste collection, the other half is having recycling picked up.

To learn more about the City's recycling program or to get an extra collection schedule, view the Utilities web page at www.folsom.ca.us, or call 355-8359.



How to Stay Safe When Sharing the Trails with Animals

While Folsom's trails make the perfect path for hiking, biking or running, it's important to remember that they also are home to many wild animals. Do you know what to do if a mountain lion or coyote comes your way? What about a rattlesnake? Here are some tips that will help you, your family and pets stay safe:

Mountain lions: It is unlikely that a mountain lion will cross your path as they are actually shy and elusive animals. If you do happen to see one, stop! Do not run from the lion. Pick up any children or pets and make eye contact with the lion. Roberta Ratcliff, spokeswoman for the Folsom Zoo Sanctuary, advises that people group together, "look big" and make as much noise as possible. Most lions will try to avoid confrontation.

Rattlesnakes: This is the time of year that rattlesnakes come out of hibernation. Stay out of tall grass and brush. If the snake is within striking distance, stand still until the snake moves away. Leave rattlesnakes alone.

Coyotes: Under normal circumstances, these animals are not a danger to humans. If you see a coyote, keep kids and pets close. Most likely, the coyote is checking to see who is where and will go on its way.

Always keep children in sight and keep dogs on

short leashes. If you happen to see skunks, bats, fawn or feral cats, call Folsom Animal Control at 591-1064 or 491-1048.

Thank You, Trails Day Volunteers!



On April 19, more than 230 volunteers gathered for the City's 14th annual Trails Day and Creek Clean-Up event. Participants of all ages constructed approximately 400 linear feet of split rail fencing, replanted 60 native trees along the Humbug-Willow Creek trail and picked up dozens of bags of litter. City crews

provided dumpsters and collected all refuse. Above, Dewey Verhage and his sons proudly show off a tire that they fished out of Alder Creek.

City and County Reach Mather Lawsuit Settlement

The City of Folsom and the County of Sacramento have reached a settlement agreement in a lawsuit filed by Folsom last year over the expansion of cargo operations at Mather Airport's DHL Facility.

The agreement specifies that the County will take the lead in identifying and implementing potential solutions to Mather noise over-flight issues affecting Folsom residents. The City will serve as the County's partner in identifying and implementing solutions. In return, the City agrees not to raise issues with respect to Mather Airport projects that the parties agree are non-master plan projects.

"We are satisfied with the settlement and feel that this is a proactive way to address the concerns of our community and ultimately alleviate the noise impact of over-flights for area residents," said Folsom City Manager Kerry Miller.

The County and City will jointly hire a consultant to develop noise abatement procedures and examine alternative flight paths into Mather. The consultant also will review short-term options to direct aircraft arriving from the south and east to routes that will have less impact on the populated areas of Folsom and El Dorado Hills.

Entries Pour in for 'Name the Bridge' Contest

Approximately 350 Folsom residents submitted more than 800 potential names for the new bridge being built across the American River. The names were entered in the City's "Name the Bridge" contest earlier this spring.

The mayor appointed a Council sub-committee to review the entries. Popular themes included the attack on 9/11, American River, Johnny Cash, Folsom Dam

and the Gold Rush. The sub-committee will develop a list of preferred names for consideration at the City Council meeting on June 10.

The new bridge will replace the two-lane Folsom Dam Road that has been closed since February 2003. The bridge is more than halfway complete and is scheduled to open in spring 2009.

Back to the Future: Modern Advantages for Old Fashioned Horse Patrol Unit

The click-clack of hooves turns heads and slows cars on Sutter Street as Rocky and Dice trot down the road. The beautiful former show and racehorse belong to the Folsom Police Mounted Patrol Unit that will be visible at various city events this summer.

Folsom Police Chief Sam Spiegel created the Mounted Patrol Unit in 2004. Since then, Sgt. Dirk Regan and Officer Eric Baade have evaluated more than 60 horses, but only four have made the cut.

"It can be hard to find horses with the right temperament and build," said Sgt. Regan. "Rocky and Dice were generously donated to us by area families. I have two personal horses that are part of the unit and we have two potential additions at The Grace Foundation, an equine rescue and rehabilitation facility in El Dorado Hills."

According to Officer Baade, one police horse is equivalent to having up to 30 officers in a crowd control situation. That could explain why the Mounted Patrol Unit is so effective.

"We have a perfect record for crime prevention," said Officer Baade. "In the three years that we have been out during the holidays at major shopping areas, there has been no crime reported in our patrol area. One individual tried to commit a theft last year, but he couldn't outrun Rocky before he was arrested."

Youth education and outreach also are key components. The Mounted Patrol Unit partners with the Folsom Police K9 Division to teach a life-science curriculum in the Folsom Cordova School District. The horses and officers also take part in special education



Four-year-old Chloe Baade stops to greet Rocky and Dice of the Folsom Police Mounted Patrol Unit.

courses at The Grace Foundation.

"It's like bringing a piece of history to Folsom with some very modern-day advantages," added Officer Baade.

The Mounted Patrol Unit horses can be seen at the Folsom Pro Rodeo and Thursday Night Markets. For questions or information on Mounted Unit presentations and youth outreach, contact Sgt. Regan at 355-8321 or dregan@folsom.ca.us.

Pipeline Upgrades Underway this Summer

Folsom's recent water and sewer rate increases are already being put to good use. The revenue is funding the rehabilitation of approximately 7,000 feet of water and sewer pipelines—some of which are more than 50 years old.

"Completing these upgrades as soon as possible helps us to reduce costs by avoiding expensive emergency repairs while ensuring system reliability," said Todd Eising, Senior Utility Engineer. "We are fortunate to have applied for and received a \$250,000 grant from the Environmental Protection Agency to help with the \$1.5 million cost of upgrading the pipelines."

Drivers may experience minor disruption on the following streets scheduled for infrastructure improvements:

June: School, Rumsey and Duchow streets

July: Market and School streets

August: Rumsey, Duchow, Market and School streets

For more information, call 355-7200 or e-mail waterquestions@folsom.ca.us.

City Calendar

Shadows of the Past: The Gallery at 48 Natoma features black and white photography by George and Jo Ann Aiello, and a watercolor exhibit by Kara Castro. **Now through July 11.** For more information, call 355-7285.

Volunteer to Keep History Alive: The Folsom Interpretive Area is looking for volunteers to give tours, greet visitors and run demonstrations that bring history alive. Volunteer shifts are any **Thursday- Sunday from 11 a.m.- 4 p.m., or Thursday Nights (June- August) from 6-9 p.m.** For more information, call the Folsom History Museum at 985-2707.

Water Features Open: The water features at Kemp Community Park and Livermore Community Park are open **now through Sept. 30.** Swim lessons are underway at the Folsom Aquatic Center. For more information, call 355-8318, or refer to the City of Folsom Activities Guide at www.folsom.ca.us.

Summer Reading Events: Dana Smith and his performing dog will entertain near the library gazebo on **June 5, at 10:30 a.m.** Family concert with Cotton Candy Express near the library gazebo on **June 21, at 11 a.m.** For more information, call 355-7372.

Roll into Fun at City's First Cyclebration Event

Boston has the marathon.

Ashland has the Shakespeare Festival.
Pasadena has the Tournament of Roses.
Now Folsom is preparing to have its own signature event: Cyclebration—Folsom Lake Bike Festival.

This family-friendly, fun weekend of bicycle riding and racing will take place on Sept. 12-14 at Negro Bar State Park at Lake Natoma and will be centered around the trails, hills and history of Folsom.

"We will have an expo area, food, vendors, both leisure riding and racing events for all ages, and much more," said Robert Goss, Parks and Recreation Department Director. "There really will be something for road biking, mountain biking and every member of the family. We expect the Cyclebration festival to be a draw to the area for many years to come."

There are still plenty of opportunities to become a vendor or volunteer. To find out how or for more information about the event, call 351-3505 or visit www.folsomcyclebration.com.



Report Mather Airport flight noise to planenoiseinfo@saccounty.net or call aircraft noise report line at 874-0800.

Meetings

(Held at City Hall unless noted otherwise)

City Council

6:30 p.m.

Second and Fourth Tuesdays

Planning Commission

6:30 p.m.

First and Third Wednesdays

Parks and Recreation Commission

6:30 p.m.

First Tuesday

Library Commission

6:30 p.m.

First Monday

Architectural Review Commission

7:30 a.m.

Second and Fourth Thursdays

Historic District Commission

5 p.m.

First and Third Wednesdays

Traffic Safety Committee

4 p.m.

Fourth Thursday

Murer House Foundation

5:45 p.m.

Fourth Wednesday
Murer House Classroom

Redevelopment Agency Citizens' Advisory Committee

8 a.m.

Fourth Thursday

Landscaping/Lighting Districts

7 p.m.

Third Thursday

Arts and Cultural Commission

6:30 p.m.

Second Thursday

Utility Commission

6:30 p.m.

Third Tuesday

Location varies



City of Folsom Newsletter

June/July 2008

www.folsom.ca.us

Folsom Radio Station: 1500 AM

50 Natoma Street Folsom, California

Folsom City Council

Eric King, Mayor

Steve Miklos, Vice Mayor

Andy Morin, Kerri Howell, Jeff Starsky

Kerry Miller, City Manager

95630 (916) 355-7200

City of Folsom
City Hall
50 Natoma Street
Folsom CA 95630

FOLSOM POSTAL CUSTOMER

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
FOLSOM CA
PERMIT NO. 218