



City of Folsom Newsletter

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Tom Paniagua

Nearly completed, the new library glows in the fading light of dusk. Inside, there's hardly a spot without a view.

Georgia Murray Building opens Feb. 24

The new city library offers expanded services and expansive views

The challenge in designing Folsom's new library for architect David Ross was to bring together two opposing elements: expansive views of the park and enough wall space for books.

After inspecting the nearly finished building in mid-January, Ross headed back to San Francisco elated. "We've been successful," he said. "I am absolutely thrilled."

All the library needs now, he added, is people, voices, laughter. "That's the most important thing, seeing people

enjoying the space."

That will happen beginning at 10 a.m. Feb. 24, when the Folsom Public Library's 24,000-square-foot Georgia Murray Building officially opens. Murray is a Folsom activist who doggedly advocated for a new library for more than a decade.

Like its namesake, this building is extraordinary.

Its design, Ross says, defies traditional architectural

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What's Happening

- ◆ The use of some city sports fields is restricted in the winter. To find out which fields are open, call the sports hotline at 568-3915.
- ◆ Buy your family swim pass by Feb. 25, save money and get priority registration for all aquatics programs. Good for up to five family members from May 26 to Sept. 3. Call 355-8318.



Inside

- ◆ Beginning in this issue, we are adding two pages to the City Newsletter to keep you informed of the progress of bridge construction. This month, meet the contractor.

State of City: Many achievements in 2006

Mayor Andy Morin delivered the annual State of the City address Jan. 23. Here are highlights from that speech.

I want to be brief but there is much to share. To start with, a number of national magazines recognized Folsom as a highly rated place to live. Money Magazine ranked Folsom 34th nationally and second in the state in quality of life for like-sized cities. Business Week ranked Folsom as one of the top 100 affordable communities in the U.S. Our recent city survey results also reflected very high levels of satisfaction by our residents.

On Feb. 24, we will celebrate the grand opening of the 24,000-square-foot Georgia Murray library building. Thank you to everyone who worked for more than a decade to make this happen. Additionally, we will be adding 14,000 more square feet of library services when the final phases of the new Vista Del Lago High School are completed in March 2008. This will be a joint-use library, fully accessible by all throughout the day.

In conjunction with construction of the library is our new memorial for Folsom's fallen veterans scheduled for completion this spring. This is a reverent tribute, inspired by the memory of Marshall Farley, a 1967 Folsom Viet Nam War casualty.

Our police and fire departments are a source of community pride. We will continue to grow our public safety resources with the needs of the community. In our police department we now have a dedicated narcotics unit. We know we have a preponderance of traffic and congestion issues and we are sensitive to these enforcement needs.

Light rail now connects to the Amtrak depot. We are working hard to deliver a number of improvements, including increasing train frequency with double tracking, extending operations later in the evenings and implementing some express runs. Retooling our own bus system around light rail continues to evolve.

Our solid waste division successfully completed the implementation of our new three-can recycling system. This was completed within mandated timelines.

Our water treatment plant expansion and improvement project was completed this year. Our plant now has the capacity to serve the existing city boundaries through buildout. To ensure even more system reliability, we are working with the City of Roseville and the San Juan Water District to develop a backup delivery system from Folsom Dam.

Our sewer system and maintenance and operations team continues to develop a wastewater collection system

that is recognized for dependability and environmental safety. Recent awards include the Collection System of the Year for medium-size cities in our region by the California Water Environmental Association and state champion status for an operations challenge.

Street maintenance was a major effort this past spring. We spent \$3 million resurfacing and overlaying roads. We know there is still much to be done. Funding for our road maintenance plan will accelerate during the next few years.

Decision making at the council level continues to employ our long-established pattern of an efficient, conservative approach to delivering the best value in support and service to the residents and businesses in the City of Folsom. We maintain a healthy fund reserve and diligently plan ahead with constantly monitored five-year budget projections.

A few weeks ago, a contractor was selected to build a new bridge to reconnect our lost corridor across Folsom Dam. This was a monumental effort with contributions from many to work through accelerated timelines.

Our parks and trails are a source of zealous community pride. As we seem to do every year, much was added to the system. Miles of trails were added, a dog park site was identified, zoo exhibits were enlarged, a cross country track was developed, 60,000 square feet of indoor recreation area was acquired with the Folsom Sports Complex.

Last year we awarded a contract to reconstruct the former main fire station next to City Hall into a 10,000-square-foot joint senior and arts center. The grand opening of this facility will occur this spring.

Very important planning work continues for the sphere of influence area south of Highway 50. We are being careful and deliberate as we adhere to mandates for schools, a new water supply and 30 percent open space.

Finally, a synopsis of a special area of focus for this council during the past few years, and that is the Historic District. After many years, planning is now progressing. Light rail terminates at a beautiful rail plaza. Work has started on a 320-space parking structure. Access from the drop structure on the Leidesdorff Lid is now permanently open. Future railroad block property improvements include upgrades for the depot building and interpretive center.

Because of our record of accomplishing so much every year, expectations by our residents and businesses are high. We revel in the challenge of meeting these expectations. We are driven by delivering the best that any city has to offer. Folsom is a city truly greater than the sum of its parts.

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Three City Hall appointments

City Manager Kerry Miller filled three management positions in January.

David Miller, new to Folsom, is the community development director, and employees

Nav Gill and Evert Palmer have been named assistant city managers.

David Miller, who most recently was the commercial development manager for the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority, directs a department that handles planning, inspection, arborist and some engineering services.

He brings to Folsom two decades of related experience. At the Santa Clara VTA, his responsibilities included developing property along light rail lines, a role that involved attracting developers to projects and helping them through the entitlement process.

Miller also has worked in management positions in planning, public works and community development for several cities and an urban county; for private development companies; and as a planning consultant.

In Folsom, Miller's broad experience will be valuable as the city proceeds through annexing the sphere of influence



David Miller

area south of Highway 50, says City Manager Kerry Miller.

David Miller says he will work to maintain quality development in Folsom. "There has been a lot of excellent planning here," he says. "It sets the bar pretty high."

Gill and Palmer have assumed their new duties in addition to their present positions. In their new roles, they will assist the city manager with a variety of programs and activities.

Gill, the city's chief financial officer, now also works with the Public Works and Utilities departments, and Palmer, the director of administrative services, works with Community Development and Neighborhood Services. Palmer managed the construction of the new library.

"This organizational structure will provide the greatest benefit to the city and will complement my own management style," Kerry Miller says.

Filling the assistant city manager positions with current staff saves the city about \$350,000 a year, he says.

Finance earns budget award

For the fourth year in a row, the City of Folsom has earned an award for its budget presentation from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States



Garage to add parking spaces – but where to park now?

Parking in historic Folsom will be harder to find for the next year while the city builds a four-level parking garage on the Railroad Block.

More than 200 spaces at Reading, Leidesdorff and Sutter streets have been closed since construction began Jan. 16. However, the new structure will provide more than 300 spaces when it opens late this year.

To help ensure parking will be available for all users during construction, the city has imposed three-hour time limits for parts of the day on some lots and streets, as shown on the map above. The lots shaded in yellow, at Leidesdorff Street and Gold Lake Circle, will be restricted from 5 to 11 a.m. The areas shaded in green will be restricted from 5 a.m. to 5 p.m. The blue-shaded lots, on and adjacent to the Leidesdorff Lid, west of the light rail station, are not restricted. These lots are primarily intended for light rail use. Light rail riders also may find parking at the Glenn Drive and Iron Point stations.

For more information, call Public Works at 355-7272.

and Canada.

The award is not competitive but signifies the city's 2005-2006 budget meets the organization's stringent requirements for preparing and reporting financial information in a format and language the public can understand.

The judging criteria also require the budget serve

as an effective financial plan, policy document and guide to financial operations.

"We have an open book when it comes to our budget," says Jeffrey Meyer, budget and evaluation manager. "This award shows that the level of information we're providing meets the high stan-

dards of GFOA. The citizens of Folsom can feel comfortable that what they're reading is clear and concise and identifies what the city is planning to accomplish in the upcoming budget year."

The 360-page budget book includes not only the city's financial information, broken down by department, but also information on the city's history and goals and a guide to understanding the budget and its terminology. You can see copies of the current budget and previous budgets online at www.folsom.ca.us, under Finance Department.

The 2007-2008 budget process is now under way. Departments will complete their proposed budgets by late February. The preliminary budget will be presented to the City Council on May 22, and the council will hold a public hearing May 29. The budget is scheduled to be adopted June 12. The public may comment at all budget hearings.

City arts grants total \$31,000

The city's Cultural Arts Grant program has awarded nearly \$31,000 for 2007 to Folsom organizations that develop or enhance arts opportunities for the community.

The grants are given each year for programs that take place during that year. This year the amounts vary from \$500 to \$5,000.

Safety academy starts Mar. 7

If you've wanted to know more about public safety – identity theft, perhaps, or crime scene investigation, Megan's law, K9, animal control, disaster preparedness, narcotics, SWAT, Neighborhood Watch, fingerprinting and more – consider enrolling in the next Public Safety Citizens Academy starting March 7.

This 10-week course introduces Folsom area residents to the city's public safety programs. It's required for Police and Fire Department volunteers but is open to anyone interested in city and public safety services.

The program includes opportunities for ride-alongs with officers and sit-alongs (with a dispatcher).

The academy is held on 10 consecutive Wednesdays from 6 to 8 p.m. It's free but all candidates must be at least 21 years old and pass a background check.

You must pick up an application in person at the Police Department, 46 Natoma St. The deadline to apply is Feb. 23. For more information, contact Police Volunteer Coordinator Rosie Kessell at 351-3409.



The recipients are: Folsom Music Boosters for its Fall Festival; Folsom Lake Community Concerts for its 2007 season; Folsom Lake Symphony Orchestra for its winter concert; Three Rivers Chorale for its 2007 season; Folsom Hills PTA, Folsom Middle School, the Empire Oaks Shakespeare Academy, Sundance Montessori, Blanche Sprentz Elementary School and St. John's Notre Dame School for youth performances and education programs; and the Folsom Patrons of the Arts for organization development. Some groups received more than one award.

The grants application process opens in the fall. For information, call 355-7285.

MOWER, water workshops set

The city's free MOWER workshops not only teach you how to recycle your yard waste and grass clippings but also offer a free compost bin or rebate on a mulching mower to help you get started.

Composting and recycling yard debris reduce the amount of waste that goes to the landfill.

This year, the city will hold four Saturday workshops from 9 to 10 a.m. on March 24, April 14, May 5 and Oct. 13.

The March 14 and Oct. 13 workshops will be followed by free water-wise landscaping workshops, beginning at 10:15

a.m. The landscaping workshops teach participants to maintain an attractive yard with efficient use of water.

All workshops are held at Lew Howard Park. You must be a Folsom resident and register in advance to attend. To sign up, call 355-8367.

Pickup dates may be wrong

A calendar mailed in December from a private company to Folsom residents and businesses may contain incorrect dates for your recycling and greenwaste pickups.

The Folsom Town Planner assumes the entire city follows one pickup schedule. In fact, there are two schedules, with half the recycling and greenwaste carts picked up in alternating weeks. You cannot determine your rotation from the calendar.

To find your pickup schedule, check the city's Web site, www.folsom.ca.us, under Utilities Department, or call 355-8367.

Campaign for seniors center

A campaign is ongoing to raise \$200,000 to help furnish the new senior and arts center at 48 Natoma St. More than \$100,000 has been received so far from Mercy Foundation, the Dyer Family Foundation, the Folsom Athletic Association and Trinity Episcopal Church. Donors will be recognized in the center. To help, call 355-7285.



Here's a preview of the interior of the Georgia Murray Building as workers complete the final touches. At left is the circulation desk facing the park, or rear, entrance. Above is the view from the front entrance to the park and gazebo. Note the segment of "ribbon" on the floor. At right, a worker gets ready to install sun-shades in the children's wing. Clerestory windows add light throughout the building.

Library (from page 1)

classification. The radial floorplan is contemporary, yet its interior palette of wood and burnished tones is warm. There are thousands of feet of bookshelves, yet just about anywhere you stand is a view of the park. It provides far more library services than have been available here, yet it also serves as a community gathering place.

In an effort to complement the park setting, the architects designed this building with two entrances but no "back door." The formal front is a dramatic courtyard, with a fountain and seating. Enter here and you'll find yourself standing on a "ribbon" of stained concrete twisting along the green floor. Follow the ribbon to the left, and you'll reach the Friends of the Folsom Library bookstore and a cafe area. To the right are restrooms and meeting rooms.

This functional hallway allows access to the public areas even when the library is closed.

Follow the ribbon straight ahead and you enter the library proper. Visible across the lobby is the park, or rear, entrance – a wall of windows and glass doors that overlook a reading patio, the veterans flag court and the gazebo.

On the patio, as throughout much of the library, you'll be able to read or write or chat, perhaps while enjoying a (spillproof) cup of coffee.

Around the curved entryway are the circulation desk, book return, banks of computers and a designated area for teens with lounge chairs, computers and reading materials of interest to them.

From there, the building divides into separate wings for adult's and children's services. To the right, the adult area contains a reference room, an enlarged adult book and magazine collection, work tables, study carrels, a reading room with comfortable seating and a fireplace.

To the left of the entry is the children's wing. Here, along with books for kids of all ages on child-height

Library grand opening: Feb 24

The public is invited to help celebrate as the Folsom Public Library opens in the new Georgia Murray Building, 411 Stafford St., on Feb. 24. The day starts with a ribbon-cutting at 9:45 a.m. The library will open at 10, with self-guided tours and activities throughout the day. Volunteers and staff will answer questions and demonstrate new equipment. Refreshments will be available. Donations to help make the opening events possible were provided by Intel Corp., the Diepenbrock Harrison Law Firm, Elliott Homes and Granite Construction Company.

While the library is closed ...

The Folsom Library is now closed for the move to the new building. If you need library services, your Folsom library card is good at any Sacramento County branch. Rancho Cordova, Orangevale and Fair Oaks are the closest. Any books due during the closure must be returned to a county branch.

shelves, are a storytime area with banquette seating, child-size furniture with easel-style tables, soft chairs for parent-child reading, even a place for parking strollers.

As you search for materials, you'll find much that's new. You'll be able for the first time to borrow movies on DVD and music CDs, for example. And when you're ready to check out, you have the option of doing that quickly yourself through one of three self-check scanners.

The library won't lose its personal touch, though. The staff will still be on hand to help you find and process materials, use the computers or research information.

Special Events

Continuing through Feb. 25 – **Alice in Wonderland**. Family series. An interpretation of the children's tale. 1:30 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Stage Nine Theater on Sutter Street. \$10-\$15. 353-1001.

Continuing through March 4 – **The Gin Game**. Off-Broadway series. In a metaphor for life, two people in a retirement home play gin and converse. 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, 3:30 p.m. Sundays. Stage Nine Theater on Sutter Street. \$20-\$22. 353-1001.

Jan. 31 – **Landscape & Lighting District Meeting**. Blue Ravine Oaks. 7 - 9 p.m. Community Center. 355-7207.

Jan. 31 – **SACOG Live TV Town Hall**. Join studio audience for dialog on metropolitan transit plan. 6:30-7:30 p.m. KCRA Channel 3.

Feb. 2-April 1 – **Take Me Out to the Ballgame**. History of professional baseball in the Sacramento area from 1886-1976. 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday. Folsom History Museum. Small admission. 985-2707.

Feb. 2-4 – **Folsom Quilt & Fiber Guild Annual Quilt Show**. Theme: "Spoken Without a Word." 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day. Fashion show at 2. Community Center.

Feb. 3 – **Free Museum Day**. Folsom History Museum joins others in region to offer one day of free admission. 985-2707.



The enigmatic caterpillar (Tyler Milliron) reveals the secret of the mushroom to a surprised Alice (Erin Mulvey) in the Young People's Theater of Folsom presentation of "Alice in Wonderland." The play continues at the Stage Nine Theater on Sutter Street at 1:30 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays through Feb. 25. Tickets are \$10 and \$15. For tickets or more information, call 353-1001.

Feb. 9-11 – **Coppelia**. Folsom Lake Civic Ballet performance of whimsical ballet set in Bavarian village. Deirdre Hawkins choreography. Ticket information: www.stages-perform-ingarts.org.

Feb. 10 & 11 – **Valentines for Zoo Animals**. Make lacy creations for your favorite zoo animal. 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. both days. \$1 plus zoo admission.

Feb. 20 – **Music Mike's Family Concert**. Music and movement for children. 7 p.m. Community Center. \$8/\$28 family in advance; \$9/\$32 family at door. 355-7285.

Feb. 24 – **New Library Grand Opening**. Ribbon cutting at 9:45 a.m. Library opens for business at 10. Self-guided tours, refreshments. Georgia Murray Building, 411 Stafford St.

Feb. 24 – **Abaca Duo**. Folsom Lake Concert Series. Guitar and voice. 7:30 p.m. Community Center. \$10-\$20. Tickets at Community Center or at the door before the show. 355-7285.

Coming Up

March 2 – **Senior First Friday New Library Tour**. See the new Georgia Murray Building, learn about the library's resources, meet the staff. Refreshments served. 10 a.m. New library meeting room, 411 Stafford St. Free. 355-7374.

March 11 – **A Victorian Afternoon**. Carolyn Loftis, as the Lady Loftis, explains Victorian clothing as she gently undresses down to her chemise. Includes a light lunch. Noon at the Community Center. Benefits the History Museum education and exhibits program. \$20-\$25. Tickets must be purchased in advance. 985-2707.

April 7 – **Annual Spring Eggstravaganza**. Pancake breakfast, egg hunt at Lembi Park. 8 a.m./hunt at 10. 355-7285.

Meetings

City Council meets 6:30 p.m. the second and fourth Tuesdays, City Hall.

Planning Commission meets 6:30 p.m. the first and third Wednesdays, City Hall.

Parks and Recreation Commission meets 6:30 p.m. the first Tuesday, City Hall.

Library Commission meets 6:30 p.m. the first Monday, City Hall.

Architectural Review Commission meets 7:30 a.m. the second and fourth Thursdays, City Hall.

Historic District Commission meets 5 p.m. the first and third Wednesdays, City Hall.

Traffic Safety Committee meets 4 p.m. the fourth Thursday, City Hall.

Murer House Foundation meets 6 p.m. the third Tuesday, Murer House classroom.

Redevelopment Advisory Committee meets 4 p.m. the last Thursday, City Hall.

Landscaping/Lighting Districts meets 7 p.m. the third Thursday, City Hall.

Arts and Cultural Commission meets 6:30 p.m. the second Thursday, City Hall.

Utility Commission meets 6:30 p.m. the third Tuesday. Location varies.



City of Folsom Newsletter

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Folsom City Council

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