

# CITY NEWS

AUGUST / SEPTEMBER 2019 FOLSOM NEWSLETTER



FOLSOM, CALIFORNIA — INCORPORATED 1946

CITY OF  
**FOLSOM**

## Volunteer Opportunities Open for Community Service Day

Join your friends and neighbors for Folsom's largest day of volunteerism Saturday, September 21. The sixth annual Community Service Day will unite thousands of volunteers of all ages and interests to complete dozens of projects throughout Folsom that make a positive, lasting impact in the community. Beginning Monday, August 5, volunteers can sign up for community projects, including:

- A citywide food drive
- Project supporting military troops
- Cleanup projects at Folsom Lake
- Trail enhancement projects

- Neighbors Helping Seniors projects
- Library projects

Community Service Day is organized by the City of Folsom, community organizations, and local businesses. The annual event is made possible thanks to generous sponsorship support from Intel, Dignity Health, Rotary Club of Folsom, Style Media Group, Folsom Telegraph, Lakeside Church, and The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. Visit [www.folsomcommunityservice.org](http://www.folsomcommunityservice.org) to learn more and volunteer.



## OAK PARKWAY TRAIL UNDERCROSSING NEARING COMPLETION

The Oak Parkway Trail Undercrossing is on schedule to open at the end of August. This new addition to Folsom's recreational trail system tunnels under East Natoma Street near Prison Road to provide a seamless and safe route for pedestrians and cyclists to transition between the Oak Parkway and Johnny Cash Trails. Related roadway work on East Natoma Street will wrap up in early August, lifting vehicle traffic restrictions that were in place during construction. Construction on the Oak Parkway Trail Undercrossing began in October 2018; the project was funded with monies from state and federal grants and the City of Folsom. For more information about the project, contact City of Folsom Senior Trails Planner Brett Bollinger at [bbollinger@folsom.ca.us](mailto:bbollinger@folsom.ca.us) or call 916-461-6632.



# Lake Natoma Crossing Turns 20

The Lake Natoma Crossing first opened to the public in August 1999, providing an important connection across the American River and between the two sides of town, creating a more cohesive community within Folsom. The bridge significantly improves traffic impacts within Folsom, helping to relieve regional commute congestion on the Rainbow Bridge and in the Historic District. Located on Folsom-Auburn Road, the 2,265-foot-long Lake Natoma Crossing includes four lanes for vehicles and one reserved lane for future light rail or high-occupancy vehicles. The bridge is also well-used by cyclists and pedestrians, who enjoy beautiful views of the river from dedicated lanes separated from traffic on both sides of the bridge. Today, more than 35,000 motorists use the Lake Natoma Crossing daily. The bridge is known for its architectural design and soaring arches, and is one of Folsom's most iconic bridges.



## CITY JOINS RESIDENTS ON NEXTDOOR

The City of Folsom, Folsom Police Department, and Folsom Fire Department have joined Nextdoor, the free private social network designed to bring together neighbors and communities. The city will have the ability to deliver pertinent, localized information directly to residents, such as roadwork notices, storm notifications, and public safety tips.

The platform is already a well-adopted tool in Folsom—83 neighborhoods have started Nextdoor websites and more than 20,000 residents have joined the network. Residents can sign up for Nextdoor at [www.nextdoor.com](http://www.nextdoor.com). To view all the City of Folsom's public information platforms and social media accounts visit [www.folsom.ca.us/communications](http://www.folsom.ca.us/communications).

## COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE: GIVE BLOOD, GIVE LIFE

The Folsom Public Library invites the community to consider donating blood at its summer blood drive from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday, August 6. The library is teaming up with Vitalant (formerly Blood Source), the local organization that produces a blood supply for those in need. To meet their current demand, Vitalant must collect 700 pints of blood each day. Since less than 10 percent of Americans donate, the lives of many depend on the generosity of a few. To make an appointment to donate blood, visit [www.bloodsource.org/drives](http://www.bloodsource.org/drives) and enter the code D327. Call Vitalant at 1-877-258-4825 for more information.



## ENTRIES DUE IN AUGUST FOR THE ANNUAL "FOLSOM FOCUS" PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

Amateur photographers of all ages are encouraged to enter their photographs showcasing life in Folsom to the 13<sup>th</sup> annual photography competition, sponsored by the Folsom Arts Association. Contestants are not required to be city residents, but all entries must be images taken in Folsom. Capture images using one of the four contest categories as your guideline: Folsom Outdoors, Folsom Wildlife, Urban Folsom, and Macro Photography. Submit entries August 12 through 23 to the Folsom Senior and Art Center, 48 Natoma Street (open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday). Contest entries will be featured at the Community Gallery at 48 Natoma, and winners will be announced Friday, September 13 during the public reception from 6 to 8 p.m. Find complete contest details and entry forms at [www.folsomarts.org](http://www.folsomarts.org).

# Programs for Little Learners

**Fun Factory Preschool** offers classes for four-year-olds Monday/Wednesday/ Friday and classes for three-year-olds Tuesday/Thursday; classrooms are located at the Folsom Community Center and the Andy Morin Sports Complex. Fun Factory introduces children to the structure of a classroom setting with learning activities that include small group stations, arts and crafts, and carpet time for songs and stories; as well as outdoor exercise, and a snack break. Theme days, holiday celebrations, and occasional off-site field trips are held throughout the year.

**Kindergarten Readiness** introduces children to the joy of learning in the unique setting of the Hinkle Creek Nature Center. The curriculum focuses on preparing students for grade school with social and academic skills. Classes are held Monday through Thursday; students must be age four by September 1 to enter the program. Kindergarten Readiness focuses on pre-reading skills including alphabet sequence and phonics, and verbalization of facts and concepts.

Both programs start in August and continue through May, following the Folsom Cordova Unified School District instructional calendar (except staff development days). Call 916-461-6610 for more information and to arrange a classroom tour.



## FRIENDS OF THE FOLSOM LIBRARY BOOK SALE

The popular biannual book sale takes place September 13 through 15, with thousands of books at deeply discounted prices. Proceeds from the sale help fund the library's programming, materials, and more.

Shop Friday from 4 to 7 p.m. for the best selection; \$5 admission on Friday only (military with ID and Friends of the Folsom Library members are free). Admission is free on Saturday and Sunday. Sunday shoppers can fill a grocery bag for just \$5!

In the last two years, the Friends of the Folsom Library has donated \$92,000 to support the Folsom Public Library and keep it one of the most popular in the region. *Learn more at [www.foflib.org](http://www.foflib.org).*

## NEW TRAFFIC SIGNALS ON EMPIRE RANCH ROAD

Six new traffic signals have been installed along Empire Ranch Road to further increase road safety for drivers, pedestrians, and cyclists; and provide emergency vehicle access for Folsom Fire Station 39. The signals have been placed at the intersections of East Natoma Street, Ritchie Street, Fehr Road, Broadstone Parkway, Owl Meadow Street, and Iron Point Road. The city incorporated the most advanced technology available, including high-definition detection cameras, closed-caption TVs, advanced controllers, and fiber optic connections. This technology allows the Public Works Department to remotely monitor and adjust traffic timing, and provide proactive maintenance from the Traffic Operations Center.

For more details, contact Associate Civil Engineer Zach Bosch at 916-461-6710 or [zbosch@folsom.ca.us](mailto:zbosch@folsom.ca.us).



## THE CAVE TEEN CENTER AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM

Folsom Parks & Recreation's CAVE Teen Centers provide an after-school destination for sixth through eighth grade students attending Folsom Middle School or Sutter Middle School. There is a CAVE Teen Center located on both of the school campuses, operating from the close of school until 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and the close of school until 5:30 p.m. Friday (including early dismissal and minimum days). Recreation leaders provide supervision and engage teens in outdoor sports, group games, crafts, and other fun social activities. A completed registration packet and \$200 annual administration fee must be submitted prior to attending The CAVE. Turn in packets and fees to 48 Natoma Street (the Folsom Senior and Art Center) or to a CAVE location. For more information about the program, contact Nicole Benbow at 916-461-6619 or [nbenbow@folsom.ca.us](mailto:nbenbow@folsom.ca.us).

# Council Approves New City Budget

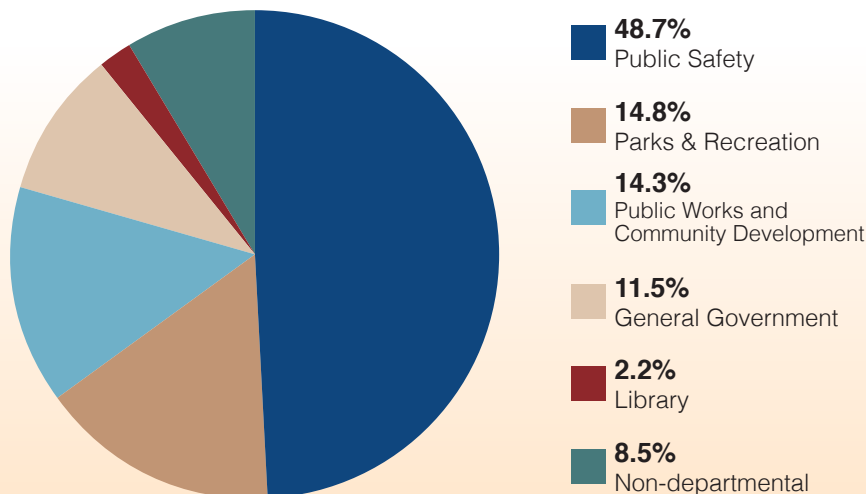
The City of Folsom started the new fiscal year July 1 with a healthy and balanced budget, enabling the city to continue to provide residents with the very high level of service that Folsom is known for. Highlights of the spending plan include:

- Widening of Green Valley Road
- Street resurfacing and drainage improvements
- Water treatment plant upgrades
- Davies Park improvements, including a new streetscape, parking lot, and baseball field
- Livermore Community Park improvements, including trail connections, walkways, drainage systems, and a new parking lot
- Benevento Family Park design, and partial funding reserved for future construction
- Fire Station 38 renovation and modernization
- One new replacement fire engine and 10 new replacement police department vehicles
- Expanded intelligent transportation systems technology

## Where the Money Goes

The city's main source of money covering day-to-day operating expenses is the General Fund Operating Budget, which is just under \$92 million. Nearly half of the City of Folsom's general fund budget funds public safety.

*Learn more about the city's finances at [www.folsom.ca.us/budget](http://www.folsom.ca.us/budget).*



## FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT AT THE STEVE MIKLOS AQUATIC CENTER

The Folsom Teen Council invites you to bring your family and friends for an evening of free entertainment starting at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, August 24. Cool off in the pool until 8 p.m., and then spread out a blanket and lawn chairs to enjoy an open-air screening of "Back to the Future" starting at 8:30 p.m. Bring a picnic dinner or purchase snacks and beverages at the Poolside Cafe. The aquatic center is located at 1200 Riley Street; call 916-461-6640 for more information.



## UNLEASH THE FUN!

The Steve Miklos Aquatic Center hosts their 17th annual Bark 'n' Splash Bash dog swim event from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, September 28. The entry fee is \$10 per dog – and as always, human companions are free! Attendees must provide written proof of a current animal license for their dog(s). Dogs are allowed to swim and frolic in the aquatic center's activity pool, which features a pooch-pleasing play structure and sloped beach-style entry into the water. For the water-shy, there's abundant lawn for romping and doggie socializing. (After the event, the pool is drained, sanitized and inspected as standard post-season procedure.) A variety of event sponsors and local pet-related businesses will be on hand to provide information and free samples. Call 916-461-6640 for more information about the event.

# Summer Sprinkler Tips

Performing a simple sprinkler checkup can improve your landscape and decrease water waste, benefiting the environment and local water supply.

Be mindful of how you water by remembering a few simple tips:

- Check the soil before watering; there is no need to water damp soil
- Check your sprinkler system and make any needed repairs and adjustments
- Check your sprinkler controller

and make sure it is programmed correctly

- Check for water runoff and don't over-water
- Water in multiple sessions with hour-long breaks between; a cycle-and-soak schedule will allow more water to be absorbed and prevent runoff

**Get help!** Contact Folsom's Water Conservation Team at 916-461-6171 or email [waterconservation@folsom.ca.us](mailto:waterconservation@folsom.ca.us) for a free irrigation system checkup.



## FOLSOM GLOW

Folsom Glow is a family-friendly (2.5-mile) walk starting at 7:45 p.m. Saturday, October 5. The easy course begins and ends in Folsom's Historic District and covers paved trails. Along the way, participants take part in a Silly String battle, compete in a whipped cream pie-eating contest, travel through a foam tunnel, and capture memories at a selfie station. DJ music sets the mood at the start line and keeps the party going at the finish. All registered participants receive a custom-designed medal and glow goodies. Save on entry fees with the code "CityNews." Learn more and register at [www.folsom.ca.us](http://www.folsom.ca.us).



## "PUSHING THE BOUNDARIES" ART EXHIBIT RECEPTION

The Gallery at 48 Natoma hosts a free public reception from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, September 13 for the new exhibit featuring paintings and sculpture by Kim Thoman; and color studies, paintings, and prints by Carol Ladewig. The evening includes live music and light refreshments.

The professional art gallery is located in the 48 Natoma Senior and Art Center; the gallery's regular hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, with extended hours from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday.



## FOLSOM RENAISSANCE FAIRE AND JOUSTING CHAMPIONSHIPS

This living history event transports guests back in time to a 16<sup>th</sup> century English village with hundreds of costumed entertainers from reenactment guilds and troupes; parades; juggling, swordsmanship, comedy, music, and storytelling shows; artisan crafts and wares; and a variety of tasty food and drink. Jousting tournaments take place both days of the faire, featuring riders in full suits of armor riding on sturdy draft horses. The 27<sup>th</sup> annual event takes place in Folsom City Lions Park from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. September 28 and 29. Find details at [www.folsomfaire.com](http://www.folsomfaire.com).

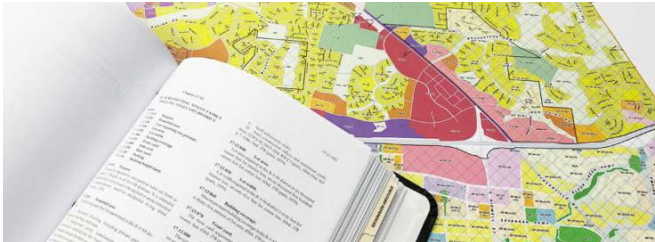


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### ZONING CODE UPDATE

Long-range planning has played an important role in the development of the City of Folsom and has shaped the vibrant and prosperous community we know today. Last year, the Folsom City Council approved the Folsom 2035 General Plan, a “blueprint” for the physical development of the city into the future.

The city is beginning a process to update the zoning code so that it reflects the new policies in the recently-adopted general plan. As part of the Folsom Municipal Code, the zoning code regulates existing and new development in the city to ensure that land uses are compatible with one another. The goal of the zoning code update is to create clear expectations for quality development and make those expectations easy to understand and follow. While small revisions have been made over time to Folsom’s zoning code, the last update occurred more than 20 years ago.

Public participation in the zoning code update is highly important. As part of this effort, the city has already held several community outreach events including stakeholder interviews, a community workshop, and an online community survey. Beginning this fall, additional workshops will be scheduled that focus on a range of important topics including signage, parking, contemporary development standards, and best practices. Stay informed at [www.folsom.ca.us/zoningcode](http://www.folsom.ca.us/zoningcode).

### NATIONAL NIGHT OUT RETURNS AUGUST 6

Communities throughout Folsom will team up with the Folsom Police Department Tuesday, August 6 for National Night Out, a nationwide program that promotes involvement in crime prevention, police-community partnerships, and neighborhood camaraderie. The Folsom Police Department, Folsom Fire Department, and city officials will join hundreds of residents at neighborhood parties that have been organized by local Neighborhood Watch groups. Attendees can expect to learn useful crime prevention information, and have the opportunity to meet police officers and firefighters, and possibly even the Folsom Police Department K-9 or mounted units. Parties will be hosted in many Folsom neighborhoods. To see if there is a party in your neighborhood, contact Jessica Hess at 916-461-6516 or [jhess@folsom.ca.us](mailto:jhess@folsom.ca.us).

### 9/11 REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY

The Folsom Fire and Police departments will host a 9/11 remembrance ceremony to honor those who lost their lives and commemorate the ultimate sacrifices made by first responders. The event will begin promptly at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, September 11, at Folsom City Lions Park near the gazebo.



#### FOLSOM CITY COUNCIL

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#### CITY OF FOLSOM NEWSLETTER

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