



CITY OF
FOLSOM
DISTINCTIVE BY NATURE

Wild Nights and Holiday Lights at the Folsom Zoo Sanctuary

This popular annual family event returns for the 10th year with even more seasonal cheer! Thousands of bright and colorful lights, sparkling ornaments and trees, lighted animal figures, and displays transform the zoo sanctuary with holiday spirit. The Barnyard Experience serves as the entrance to the event, where guests can visit with Gus the horse and Ernie the Zebu. A special seat awaits Santa Claus, who will visit each night of the event through December 23. Santa Paws, the zoo sanctuary bear mascot, will be on hand each night to pose for photo ops. Local caroling groups and musicians provide the merry sounds of the season, and the Folsom Valley Railway miniature steam train provides special nighttime rides. Zookeepers will provide special food and treats for a variety of the animals that enjoy being out in their exhibit spaces at night, and volunteer docents will share fun facts and stories about the animals. Wild Nights and Holiday Lights is open from 5 to 8 p.m. December 6 and 7, 13 through 23, and 26 through 30 (weather permitting; heavy rains will cancel). All proceeds

from the Holiday Lights event benefit the zoo sanctuary animals.

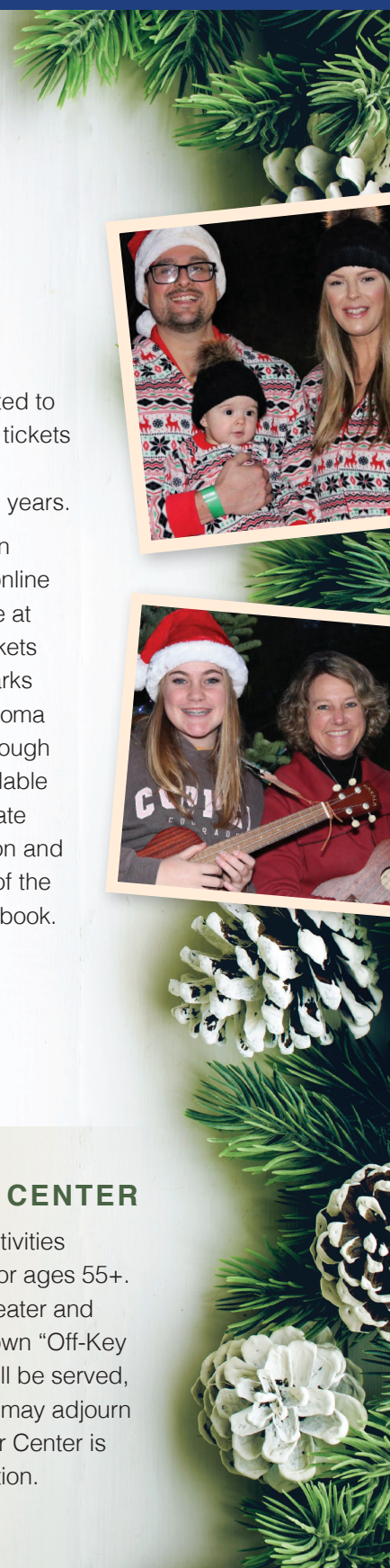
New this year: to provide an enhanced experience for guests, admission is limited to 2,000 people per night of the event and tickets are date-specific. Admission and train rides are free for ages under 2 years.

Discounted advance purchase admission tickets are \$7/person; the discount and online sales close each day at 3 p.m.; purchase at <http://webtrac.folsom.ca.us>. Advance tickets may also be purchased at the Folsom Parks & Recreation registration counter, 48 Natoma Street (open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday). If admission spaces are still available for a date, in-person ticket sales at the gate are \$9/person. Train tickets are \$5/person and limited to the first 500 people per night of the event and are date-specific. Follow [facebook.com/FolsomParksandRec](https://www.facebook.com/FolsomParksandRec) for daily event updates, ticket availability, and potential weather-related schedule changes. Call 916-461-6601 for questions.



HOLIDAY PARTY AT THE FOLSOM SENIOR CENTER

This fun annual tradition celebrates the joy of the season. The festivities begin at 11:30 a.m. Friday, December 20 and admission is free for ages 55+. Partygoers are encouraged to wear their most festive holiday sweater and may bring their own brown bag lunch. The Senior Center's very own "Off-Key Singers" will provide musical entertainment, light refreshments will be served, and a raffle will be held. The event ends at 1:30 p.m., but guests may adjourn to the Senior Lounge and socialize until 5 p.m. The Folsom Senior Center is located at 48 Natoma Street; call 916-461-6601 for more information.





Join the Folsom Zoo Sanctuary Docent Program

Do you have a passion for animals and want to make a difference? Consider joining the volunteer docent team! Docents serve a vital role in helping to promote the zoo sanctuary's educational mission of teaching responsible behavior toward all animals. Docents host school tours, interact with the public at community events, help with youth camps, and assist at a variety of special events. The docent training class is only offered once each year; the 2020 session begins February 10 and continues through March 16. Docents must be at least age 21 and pass a pre-registration telephone interview; class fee is \$40. To learn more and schedule your interview, contact Sue at 916-715-8610.

YOUTH AND TEENS CAN RIDE SACRT FOR FREE

Sacramento Regional Transit's new RydeFreeRT program offers fare-free transit for youth and teens on the entire SacRT network. The program is available all day, any day of the week during regular SacRT service hours. The RydeFreeRT program is available for youth and students in grades TK through 12. With RydeFreeRT, youth can ride the entire SacRT transit network, including SacRT buses, light rail, and Smart Ride on-demand microtransit service. The program is set to run through September 30, 2020.

To learn more, visit www.sacrt.com/rydefreert.



BE COUNTED, FOLSOM! 2020 Census

Every 10 years, the U.S. Census Bureau counts every person in the country. The next census begins April 1 and it will be the first to utilize online responses. Beginning mid-March, Folsom households will receive a mailed invitation to respond to the census. Every household will have the option to respond online, by mail, or by phone. The data collected from the 2020 Census is important as it determines federal, state, and local representation and is used to distribute billions of dollars in federal funds to state and local governments. Local benefits include funding for transportation, school programs, health and social services, and more. For more details about the census visit www.census2020.saccounty.net.



LEGO® BUILDING CONTEST

Put your skills to the test in the Folsom Public Library's LEGO® Building Contest. LEGO® maniacs are invited to submit their best original creations for competition.

Entries are due to the Folsom Public Library beginning Tuesday, January 21 through 11 a.m. Saturday, January 25. Judging will take place 1 p.m. Saturday, January 25 and the public is invited to view the entries and cast votes for their favorite in each age group.

For more information and contest rules, visit www.folsom.ca.us/library.



Annual Holiday Toy Drive

Help make the season bright for local families in need by donating to the annual toy drive. The Citizens Assisting Public Safety (CAPS) volunteers, in partnership with the Folsom Police and Fire departments and the Folsom Police Foundation, are collecting items for the toy drive. The toys and gifts collected are delivered to Folsom families in need by police and fire personnel in the days before the holidays. Here are two ways you can help:

1. **Make a wish come true.** Select an ornament from either of the trees, located in the lobby of the Folsom Police Department and Folsom Fire Department Station #35 to fill the specific wish of a child.
2. **Bring a gift of your choosing for a child, teen, or adult.** New, unopened, and unwrapped toys, as well as new clothing or gift cards, may be dropped off at the Folsom Police Department or at the Folsom Fire Department Station #35 between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Gifts will be collected through December 6. The Folsom Police Department is located at 46 Natoma Street and Folsom Fire Department Station #35 is located at 535 Glenn Drive. For more information contact Jessica Hess at 916-461-6516 or jhess@folsom.ca.us.



#SHOPSMALL



SHOP LOCALLY THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

Shopping locally supports the local economy, promotes a thriving community, and contributes to a high quality of life in Folsom. Dollars you spend in Folsom fund vital public services, such as police, fire, schools, trash collection and recycling, road maintenance, and parks. When you shop online, a smaller percentage of the sales tax is invested in the Folsom community. Make sales tax dollars work for you and your community!

HOLIDAY GIFT IDEAS THAT GIVE BACK

The Gallery at 48 Natoma sells a variety of beautiful artwork, jewelry, and other handcrafted gifts; a portion of the proceeds benefit community arts education programs at the Folsom Art Center. Shop from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday; the gallery is located at 48 Natoma Street, next to Folsom City Hall.

Support the animals by shopping at the Folsom Zoo Sanctuary Gift Shop for everyone on your list; find sweatshirts, hats, shirts, mugs, toys, books, and puzzles for a variety of ages ranges. Other unique gift opportunities that give back include honorary animal “adoptions” and the

animal enrichment tree – both help provide food, treats, and toys for your favorite animals.

Purchase a Legacy Leaf on the Giving Tree at the Folsom Zoo Sanctuary Barnyard Experience to honor a beloved individual, your family, or a special occasion. Proceeds benefit the Folsom Zoo Sanctuary Friends, a nonprofit organization dedicated to enriching the lives of the animals. Learn more and purchase your Legacy Leaf at <https://folsomzoofriends.org/givingtree>.

Love the city's beautiful recreational trails? Purchase a commemorative plate on the Johnny Cash Trail Donor Wall and help fund the public works of art that will make the trail a landmark destination. Plates are available in a variety of sizes; learn more and place orders at www.folsomcasharttrail.com.





Folsom Historic District Ice Rink

Lace up your skates and enjoy the holiday magic at the Folsom Historic District Ice Rink. Folsom's beloved ice rink encircles the historic railroad turntable and a tall, decorated Christmas tree. The Folsom Ice Rink is open daily from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., including Christmas Day. Learn more at www.folsomicerink.com.

SANTA'S SLEIGH TO VISIT FOLSOM

Santa and Mrs. Claus have teamed up with the Folsom Fire and Police departments to visit neighborhoods this December. A convoy of emergency vehicles, along with firefighters, police officers, and city officials will escort Santa through the neighborhoods. Santa's elves will collect non-perishable canned goods to help stock the Twin Lakes Food Bank for the holidays. Find Santa's schedule and information at www.folsompoa.com or www.facebook.com/FolsomPOA.

FOLSOM POLICE DEPARTMENT OFFERS VACATION CHECKS

Leaving town for the holidays? The Folsom Police Department Citizens Assisting Public Safety (CAPS) volunteers will check the exterior of your home while you're away. As often as once a day, a CAPS volunteer will walk the perimeter of your home, check doors and windows to make sure they are locked, and remove any advertisements or packages from the front porch. If CAPS volunteers see a problem, they'll notify you and, if appropriate, will have a police officer respond. Vacation checks are offered free of charge to Folsom residents. Applications are available at www.folsom.ca.us/police or at the Folsom Police Department, 46 Natoma Street.



HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS

The holidays are a time to celebrate, but it's also a time when busy people can be vulnerable to theft and other crime. By staying alert and following a few crime-prevention tips, you can have a safe and enjoyable holiday season. The Folsom Police Department offers a list of tips to stay safe this holiday season at www.folsom.ca.us/holidaysafety.

WINTER WATER SAVINGS

With winter's shorter and cooler days, your sprinklers shouldn't need to run until spring. Set your sprinkler timer to "off" and let Mother Nature do the watering. Or, if the weather is dry for several weeks, check soil moisture first and hand water, if needed.

Winter is also a great time to rethink your landscape to figure out ways to cut down on your outdoor water use. If you want to add new plants, consider using regionally appropriate, lower-water ones. These will typically not require much irrigation beyond regular rainfall and are more resistant to pests and diseases.

Add mulch around garden areas and shrubs to keep the soil moist, reduce evaporation, and inhibit weed growth. Mulching—which can include shredded bark, grass clippings, straw, or leaves—will also help moderate the soil temperature and prevent erosion. If you want to cut down on raking, leave some of the falling leaves on your yard to decompose and feed your lawn.

For more watering and landscaping tips, visit www.folsom.ca.us/water.

Holiday Recycling

Between the Thanksgiving and New Year's holidays, Americans throw away 25 percent more trash than at any other time of year. Help manage the extra waste by recycling what you can and keeping prohibited items out of the blue recycle bins.

RECYCLE

- Wrapping paper and tissue
- Cards and envelopes
- Food and beverage containers
- Cardboard boxes (flattened and cut to about 12"x12" pieces)

PLACE IN YOUR TRASH CAN (OR EVEN BETTER, REUSE THESE!)

- Metallic paper (including tissue with metallic trim)
- Vinyl or mylar wrapping
- Styrofoam
- Ribbons and bows

Learn more at

www.folsom.ca.us/recycle.



CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING



The annual Christmas tree recycling drop-off event will be held Saturday, January 4. Trees

will be accepted from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Rodeo Park at the end of Stafford Street. All ornaments, tinsel, lights, nails, and stands must be removed before dropping off a tree. Community organizations will collect trees throughout the city as part of their fundraising activities. Residents may also recycle Christmas trees in their green waste bins. Trees must be cut into pieces no larger than two feet in length and four inches in diameter, and the lid must close completely to receive service. As a reminder, the city collects garbage, green waste, and recycling on all holidays, so place cans out on your normal collection day.

HELP KEEP GUTTERS AND STORM DRAINS FREE OF FALLEN LEAVES

Ensure the drains are clear before the rain appears! When leaves accumulate on the street, it is challenging for street sweepers to pick up the leaves, which can clog storm drain inlets and cause localized flooding. Here's how residents can help:

- Avoid sweeping or blowing leaves into ditches or streets.
- Clear leaves from gutters and storm drains and place them in your green waste container, if possible.
- Keep sidewalks clear of leaves and other debris.

If there is a storm drain inlet that is difficult to clear, or you would like to report a storm drain issue, call the Public Works Street Department at 916-461-6722.





50 Natoma Street
Folsom, CA 95630

CITY OF
FOLSOM
DISTINCTIVE BY NATURE

FOLSOM POSTAL CUSTOMER

PRESORT STANDARD
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 218

“Mid-California Highlights: from the Sierra to the Sea” Exhibit Reception

The Gallery at 48 Natoma hosts a free public reception from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, January 24 for the outstanding new exhibit. The evening includes live music and light refreshments. The artwork on display showcases current members of the renowned California Art Club (CAC) chapters including Greater Sierra/Sacramento, Monterey, and San Francisco. Founded in 1909, the CAC is one of the most established and active art organizations in the country. The show features paintings that capture the natural beauty of California, from the peaks of the Sierra to the crashing waves along the coastline. The adjacent Community Exhibition Gallery features “California Highlights,” and the work of Folsom Arts Association members. The galleries are located in the 48 Natoma Senior and Art



Center; regular hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, with extended hours from 6 to 8 p.m. on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Pictured: A Quiet Brook, 1923, by William Wendt (1865-1946); second and fourth California Art Club President. Courtesy of the Irvine Museum.

PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED RATE INCREASES

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 6:30 P.M.

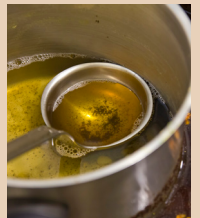
The City of Folsom is currently considering recommendations in an independent rate study to increase rates for water, wastewater, and solid waste services in the years 2020 through 2024, and will hold a public hearing during the regularly scheduled December 10 City Council meeting. The public is invited to attend the hearing to learn more and provide input on the proposed utility rate increases. Information about the proposed rate increases and instructions for submitting a valid written protest are available online at www.folsom.ca.us/utilityrates.

KEEP PIPES FREE OF FATS, OILS, AND GREASE

'Tis the season for feasting and an increase in sewer backups and overflows caused by fats, oils, and grease (FOG). When FOG-containing items from holiday cooking—like fatty meat scraps, gravies, cream, butter, and oils—go down kitchen sink drains and garbage disposals, they build up inside your sewer pipes, constricting the flow of water. The result is clogged sewer pipes, leading to messy, costly sewer backups into your home. To help prevent backups, properly dispose of FOG with these four easy steps:

- **Can It!** Pour solidified fats and grease into a sturdy container and place it in your garbage.
- **Scrape It!** Before washing, scrape out fats, oils, and grease from pots and pans and into your garbage.
- **Trash It!** Put fatty and greasy food scraps in the garbage.
- **Recycle It!** Place cooled cooking oil back into the original container and make an appointment to have it picked up through the City of Folsom Door-2-Door residential household hazardous waste program.

For more information, call 916-461-6181 or visit www.folsom.ca.us/FOG.



FOLSOM CITY COUNCIL

Kerri Howell, Mayor
Sarah Aquino, Vice Mayor

Roger Gaylord III
Mike Kozlowski
Ernie Sheldon

Elaine Andersen, City Manager
Jim Francis, Assistant City Manager

facebook.com/CityofFolsom
 @CityofFolsom

CITY OF FOLSOM NEWSLETTER

Produced by the City Manager's Office

Editor: Christine Brainerd (cbrainerd@folsom.ca.us)
www.folsom.ca.us
50 Natoma Street, Folsom, CA 95630