

AMERICAN RIVER MESSENGER

Volume 4 Issue 3

Serving Citrus Heights, Fair Oaks, Carmichael, Orangevale & Gold River

First Edition for February 2009

By Any Other Name



Lauren Forcella in front of a 48" x 60" original "Love is a Rose".

It's Valentine's Day. How do you say I love you? With roses, of course. Local artist, Lauren Forcella will never forget her first show where she displayed a red rose big enough to walk into. A handsome holistic doctor stood in front of it and said, "You must have a great sex life." Forcella says she turned red as the rose. Completely self-taught, Forcella calls painting "a gift dropped from the sky." It began 12 years ago in a women's group that met in an art studio. "There were bushel-barrels of brushes, paints, clay, wire, hammers, the yard was piled with doll parts, car parts, you name it. It was all for us. We could create whatever we wanted."

Forcella was drawn to the paints and brushes with no inkling of a latent talent. "It was shocking," she says of her first paintings. "I would take them home and just stare at them. They were seriously like something from heaven. I still feel that way about them." From there, Forcella began a journey that has never stopped. The rose, she claims, is a big part of it. "The rose is my journey," she says. "It is nature's own labyrinth. Each rose takes you into your center, causing you to touch your own soul. You can't help but follow the petals inward, like a bee to the nectar." But can roses improve your love life? Forcella thinks so: "People tell me they do and it makes sense. If you're

more in touch with yourself, you're naturally going to be more willing to share soul-to-soul. Consumer culture wants us to believe great sex is about the objectified act, but everyone knows the hottest sex has everything to do with the love we put into it from the inside." "Read The Da Vinci Code," Forcella says. "The rose is the key feminine symbol in male-female love." To jumpstart your love life, Forcella has a sumptuous selection of signed archival-quality 20" x 24" rose prints available for under \$90. To order, visit her website at www.laurenforcella.com, email laurenforcella@gmail.com, or call 916-638-1139.

Public Hearings Extended on Septic Tank Regulations

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Sacramento – Senator Dave Cox today issued a statement following the State Water Resources Control Board decision to extend the public comment period to February 23: "Due to a high volume of public outrage, the State Water Board has extended the public comment period by two weeks. The new deadline is Monday, February 23, 2009. "It is critical that residents continue to write to the Water Board to oppose the costly regulations. Residents should be polite, specific and assertive in their emails and letters. Please be mindful that the Water Board and its staff are responding to the requirements from the ill-

advised legislation (AB 885) that was passed in 2000 – a bill that I voted against while serving in the Assembly. "Officials from the Water Board need to understand the negative financial impact of the proposed regulations. It is important that residents take the time to voice their opinion. The email to submit comments is AB885@waterboards.ca.gov. For those who prefer to write a letter, the address is: State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Water Quality, Attn: Todd Thompson, P.E., 1001 I Street, 15th Floor, P.O. Box 2231, Sacramento, CA 95812 "All comments must be received by 12 noon on Monday, February 23, 2009."

Linda Budge Appointed to National Committee

Rancho Cordova - Linda Budge, Rancho Cordova City Council Member, has been appointed to the 2009 CityFutures Panel on Community and Regional Development for the National League of Cities (NLC). The League is the oldest and largest national group representing municipal governments throughout the U.S. Its mission is to strengthen and promote cities as centers of opportunity, leadership, and governance. The CityFutures Program panel that Budge will serve on addresses local development and challenges and strategies related to housing, land use, economic development and transportation. The 2009 focus will be on economic development and sustainability in communities. Council Member Budge has a national reputation as a municipal planner. She has

received awards and honors for leadership and planning. She is the owner of Geometra Planning & Permitting and has represented dozens of clients in general and community plan amendments, rezones, use permits, design review, and other applications throughout California and the U.S. She has been a member of the Rancho Cordova City Council since the City's incorporation in 2003 and has been Mayor twice. The NLC President said that Budge's "experience and commitment will bring great credit to the NLC and to the efforts of the CityFutures Program." The City of Rancho



Councilwoman Linda Budge

Cordova is celebrating its fifth anniversary of incorporation. City Hall is located at 2729 Prospect Park Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670. The phone number is (916) 851-8700 and the web address is www.cityofranhocordova.org.

Garbeau's May Face Final Curtain

A landmark for twenty-seven years, Garbeau's is now fighting to stay open in the face of a possible forced closure in March by their landlord. Mark Ferreira, CEO and co-owner of Garbeau's since June 2007, stated revenue was healthy and spiraling upward his first nine months of ownership. "Almost overnight, sales cut in half when gas first broke \$3.50 a gallon," Ferreira recounted. Able to cover other costs of managing the theater and restaurant, rent has become the company's primary shortfall. "For months we have been trying to negotiate a temporarily reduced rent considering the economy, but our landlord refuses," said Andrea Castel, Garbeau's COO and co-owner. Their building, the historic Nimbus Winery, is owned by Lakha Investments Co., which is headquartered in Bellevue, Washington. Garbeau's is launching an

effort to raise one hundred thousand dollars to meet the landlord's demands. "We are asking everyone who wants to see Garbeau's stay in business to buy a season pass or gift card of any amount from \$5 to \$5,000," said Ferreira. Those who purchase season passes will not be left empty-handed if the capital campaign does not succeed. Garbeau's website lists a number of regional theatre companies who have pledged to honor Garbeau's season passes if the effort fails. Support has already begun pouring out for the troubled theater. "Garbeau's is too great of an experience to lose," wrote Duane Johnson of Comstock Johnson Architects, Inc. in a letter of support. Jim Pelley, VP of Folsom Lake Bank and Chairman of the Folsom Chamber of Commerce said, "Garbeau's is a beloved part of this community and we have to do what we can to keep them in business."



Mark Ferreira

Ferreira is optimistic that the goal is not difficult to achieve if supporters contribute even small amounts: "For perspective, if the number of people who saw our production of I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change bought a \$26 gift card, this financial mess would be over," said Ferreira.

More information can be found at www.garbeaus.com or by calling Garbeau's box office at (916) 985-6361.

DMV Closes First & Third Fridays



Sacramento - All offices will be closed the first and third Fridays of each month beginning Friday, Feb. 6, the Department of Motor Vehicles announced today. The action is in connection with the Governor's Executive Order (S-16-08) that

Department encourages customers to schedule advance appointments, use online services

addresses the state's \$42 billion deficit and ongoing fiscal crisis. "The DMV wants to make sure our customers are not inconvenienced any more than is necessary," said DMV Director George Valverde. "We have a number of online and telephone options available, and if a visit to a field office is necessary, advanced planning can make the impact less stressful." The Department offers a number of online services through its website (www.dmv.ca.gov) – including payments for vehicle registration and driver license renewals via secure debit transactions, filing a notice of release of liability,

change of address, and scheduling appointments. Automated services are also available at 1-800-777-0133. Director Valverde also noted that if a field office visit is necessary, come prepared. "Having all necessary paperwork and documents beforehand will help out and significantly lessen the impact. And, give the DMV the same level of priority as you would a doctor or dental appointment." Motorists who have a registration renewal date that falls on a furlough day will have penalties waived until the next business day. DMV Customer Service Centers 1-800-777-0133