



MEDIA RELEASE

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From: Luther Burbank Home & Gardens

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Subject: **2009 tour season opens at Luther Burbank Home & Gardens April 1!**

Each year visitors from around the world visit Luther Burbank Home & Gardens (LBH&G), a national, historic landmark and home of world-renowned horticulturist, Luther Burbank, who lived and worked in Santa Rosa at the turn of the twentieth century. His famous plant breeding accomplishments earned him the name "plant wizard."

The 2009 LBH&G tour season is from April 1, 2009 thru October 31, 2009, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Tuesday through Sunday. LBH&G is located on the corner of Santa Rosa and Sonoma Avenues in downtown Santa Rosa. Docent led tours of the home are \$7 for adults, children are free. Stroll around the beautiful gardens and visit the Carriage House Museum & Gift Shop (open all year from 8am-dusk, free admission). Also year-round, you can take a cell phone audio tour by following the directions on the sign in front of the Carriage House Museum & Gift Shop. Group Tours and Children's Tours are available by appointment.

During the tour season, the **Carriage House Museum & Gift Shop** features new exhibits and unique Burbank-related items for sale for all ages. A variety of plants propagated from the gardens may also be purchased here. If you spot a photo of a plant that is particularly fascinating, be sure to pick up a site map showing where it's located in the Garden and locate it for an up close and personal look.

Our free museum features a stunning and informative new exhibit about Luther Burbank's Cedar of Lebanon. Planted by Burbank in about 1893, the tree grew to tower over this historic property for almost a century and became a community icon. After Burbank died in 1926 he was buried under its branches, as he had requested. The Cedar was illuminated for the holidays each year for decades, and its removal in 1989 due to root disease was considered a calamity. Our exhibit shows the many ways the Cedar lives on, through the use of its wood in benches, sculptures and products.

For more information call (707) 524-5445 or visit our website: www.lutherburbank.org

