



June 16, 2023

SUPERVISOR MONICA BROWN NEWSLETTER



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Weeds

Please cut your weeds.! I am sure you have seen the photos of the fires in Canada. Please cut your weeds!

Information this week

Public hearing for the Bay Area Air Quality District Management

On Wednesday, June 21 at 9am, the board members of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District will host a public hearing to discuss amendments being made to the State Implementation Plan. These amendments would change the rules in order to reduce the amount of



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Important Numbers Resources and Dates

District 2 Office

(707) 784-3031

Clerk of the Board & County Administrator's Office

(707) 784-6100

Veterans Services

(707) 784-6590

Health & Social Services

(707) 784-8400

Assessor/Recorder

(707) 784-6200

Resource Management

(707) 784-6765

Registrar of Voters

(707) 784-6675

Tax Collector/Treasurer/County Clerk

(707) 784-7485

nitrogen oxide emissions that come from gas-fired space and water heaters. Click [here](#) to read the full announcement or visit the District's [website](#) to access the meeting via Zoom.

Department of Technology releases public survey on internet use and adoption

The California Department of Technology has released their public survey on internet use and adoption. This information will inform California's State Digital Equity Plan and help California design solutions to ensure that all California residents have access to high quality and affordable internet service, devices, skills training, and digital support. The survey is available in 14 languages: English, Spanish, Mandarin, Cantonese, Vietnamese, Tagalog, Korean, Armenian, Persian/Farsi, Arabic, Russian, Japanese, Punjabi, and Khmer. It is a 10-15 minute survey.

To view the survey, click [here](#).

Area Agency on Aging

(707) 784-8960

U.S. Social Security

(800) 772-1213

SUICIDE PREVENTION

NATIONAL SUICIDE
PREVENTION HOTLINE

800-273-8255

SPANISH LINE

888-628-9454

DEAF AND HARD OF
HEARING

800 799 4889

FRIENDSHIP LINE FOR
SENIORS

800 971 0016

CRISIS TEX LINE

741741

THE TREVOR PROJECT
FOR LGBTQ YOUTH

866-488-7386

TRANS LIFELINE
PROVIDING SUPPORT
FOR THE TRANSGENDER
COMMUNITY

877-565-8860

Public notices

RCRC Launches Seventh Annual Rural County Photo Contest



The Rural County Representatives of California has launched the 7th Annual Rural County Photo Contest. The contest invites individuals to submit their photographs capturing life in rural California and showcasing the beautiful scenery, activities, communities, history, and charm of RCRC's 40 member counties.

The first prize winner will receive a \$300 gift card, the winning photograph will be featured during the September RCRC Board of Directors Meeting and in related print, online,

and social media presentations.

Photo entries (limit 3) should be sent to photocontest@rcrcnet.org and must include:

- Location where the photo was taken, including the county in which it was taken; and
- Photographer's full name and email address.

All entries must be received by **11:59 p.m. on June 30th**. Visit www.rcrcnet.org/photo-contest for details & [official contest rules](#).

How do you feel about e-bikes at Rockville?

The City of Fairfield staff and the Rockville Citizen Advisory Committee have created a survey to gauge park visitors' views on the use of electric bikes (e-bikes) in Rockville Park. The survey will only be open through **June 30**. To participate, click [here](#).

California's e-bike incentive project

The California State Legislature has allocated \$10 million for California Air Resource Board to create an Electric Bicycle Incentive Project. The goal is to encourage adoption of electric bicycles as a replacement for in-town motor vehicle trips by helping low-income Californians afford to purchase e-bikes. For more information, click [here](#).

2023 public safety realignment plan



The Solano County Probation Department, in coordination with the Solano County Community Corrections Partnership, will host a community forum meeting on **Tuesday, June 20 at 5 p.m.** on Zoom, to receive input on the development of the 2023 Public Safety Realignment Plan.

The plan will give insight and feedback on the strengths, weaknesses, challenges, needs and service gaps for the Solano County adult justice continuum, as well as improve the services that help reduce the recidivism rate of offenders in the local criminal justice system. To register, click [here](#).

Link21 virtual community meeting

Have questions about train service in the Bay Area? Link21 will be hosting a virtual community meeting from **5:30 to 7pm, Tuesday, June 27**.

Input now will help Link21 understand service improvements that will best meet the needs of the diverse community. Train network service improvements will allow more people to conveniently travel around the Megaregion. This meeting is available in English, Spanish, and Cantonese. To request American Sign Language and other accommodations, email inquiries@Link21Program.org or call 855-905-Link (5465) between one and five days in advance of the meeting date.

Link21 is a long-range transportation program sponsored by the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District (BART) and the Capitol Corridor Joint Powers Authority (Capitol Corridor) to transform the train network serving the 21-county Northern California Megaregion, which includes the greater San Francisco Bay Area, the Monterey Bay area, the Sacramento area, and the Northern San Joaquin Valley.

To register, click [here](#).

Mental health survey

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) California is asking residents to participate in a 2023 Mental Health Survey for Family Members and/or Caregivers in California. NAMI California makes this survey available as a way for you to provide them with your opinions, thoughts and experiences around accessing the mental/behavioral health services in your respective communities. The goal is to provide a detailed report of the unique perspectives and needs of the family member or loved ones of those with mental health conditions. The survey can be found [here](#).

There is also a "Sharing Hope: Mental Wellness in the Black Community," a New NAMI Solano County Program Coming This Summer

Lack of information surrounding mental health issues can prevent people in Black communities from getting the help and support they need. Sharing Hope is a program that explores the journey of mental wellness in Black communities through dialogue, videos, storytelling and guided discussion.

Those interested can fill out this form [here](#).

Benicia Citizen's Police Academy

BENICIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

presents our

Citizen's Police Academy



A 5 week course exploring policing

The academy is designed for all Benicia residents 18 years of age or older at no cost.

Applications can be found online or at the Police Department lobby.

**APPLY
TODAY**

WHAT TO EXPECT

- ✔ Department Tour
- ✔ Crime Scene Investigations
- ✔ Firearm Instruction
- ✔ and much more!

WHEN

August 14 thru September 18
Mondays & Wednesdays
6:30 PM to 9:30 PM
*(2) Saturdays for special training

Questions?
Please contact: Sgt. King 707-745-3411 mking@ci.benicia.ca.us

The Benicia Police Department is seeking applicants for its Citizen's Police Academy. The five-week program will allow participants to learn about the department and how officers respond to crime. The academy will run from 6:30 to 9:30pm on Mondays and Wednesday nights August 14 through September 18.

The application can be found [here](#).

“I Love My County Because...” art contest

In an effort to bolster civic education and educate communities on the role of county government, the National Association of Counties (NACo) is launching the 2023 “I Love My County Because...” art contest.

NACo and county leaders are spreading the word about county roles and responsibilities, which are often unknown or misunderstood. By inviting children and young adults K-12 to create artwork for the 2024

“Counties Matter” calendar, NACo hopes to raise awareness about programs and services that impact people’s lives every day.

For more information, click [here](#).

National Night Out registrations open



National Night Out is an annual community-building event, promoting police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie in an effort to make neighborhoods safer, better places to live.

The city of Fairfield will host its 40th Annual National Night Out (NNO) on **Tuesday, August 1st, from 5 to 8 pm**. To register your neighborhood, click [here](#).

In Vallejo, registration is now open and available online by visiting www.vpd.net. The Vallejo Police Department will close registration on Monday, July 17.

Updates from around Solano County

Congratulations to the local biotech program

In May, the Biomanufacturing Bachelor's degree program at Solano Community College graduated its fifth full-time cohort. The director of this program, Dr Gulnur Sanden, captures students' interest and fosters completion within the program by both full-time and part-time attending students through an innovative multi-pronged cohort model. Solano Community College is the only Bachelor degree in the community college baccalaureate system which has part-time students finishing their degrees. Solano College created four different part-time cohort pathways for working students to complete their Bachelor's degree in three or four years.

In addition, the biotechnology program of Solano College celebrated its 26th anniversary this year. Some of the sons and daughters of the first graduates have completed one of the degrees or certificates and several have joined their parents in the biotech industry. Students who enter this industry start their career with a livable wage and an opportunity to create a life for their families well above the California and national average yearly income.

Summer reading program



Starting Thursday, June 1, come to any Solano County library branch to sign up and get your summer reading challenge pamphlet. The pamphlet is full of reading challenges like "Read a book that teaches a skill" or "read a book that is recommended by a friend." There are 10 challenges in the pamphlet in total.

Decide how many of the challenges in the pamphlet you think you can complete by July 31st. You can do one challenge, 2 challenges or all 10! It is up to you! Once you complete your challenges, come back to the Solano County Library branch you originally signed up at by July 31st to get your prize.

The prize for kids (ages 0-12) is a brand new free book of their choice (off the book cart) at the library while the teens (ages 13-18) get to order any book they want from Amazon that does not exceed \$15. The library will order it for them!

Adults who complete the program will get a custom enamel pin. Not only that, but all who are signed up for the program will also be entered into weekly drawings for additional prizes! The weekly raffle drawings will be for Oakland A's and SF Giants tickets.

"Stop & Shop" at the Fairfield PAL Student Food Pantry this summer

Local students may visit the food pantry every **Tuesday between 5 to 7pm** to pick up free pantry items to take home. A Fairfield PAL membership is not required to visit the pantry. Choose from fruits and

veggies, pancakes, mac and cheese, cereals, soups, peanut butter and jelly and more. Fairfield, Suisun, and Travis teens ages 13 to 18 are able to participate. The food pantry is located at 2256 North Texas Street.

Summer Youth Employment Program

The Workforce Development Board of Solano County is offering a five-week paid work experience program **starting July 5th**. Work experience will be focused on Climate Transition projects in the Fairfield, Suisun and Vallejo region concentrating on water, land, restoration, sustainable agriculture, and climate education. For more information, contact Matt Moon-Bailey at mmoonbailey@solanowdb.org.

Juneteenth events

Vallejo Juneteenth



Celebrate the 33rd Annual Vallejo Juneteenth celebration from **11am to 5pm, Saturday, June 17** at the Barbara Kondylis Waterfront Green, 301 Mare Island Way. A parade will take place from **9 to 10:30am** at Broadway and Tennessee streets.

There will be vendors, music, food, and dance. For more information, click [here](#).

Fairfield Juneteenth celebration

The 2nd annual Fairfield Juneteenth celebration will be held on **Saturday, June 17th, from 11am to 7pm**, next to the old courthouse, 601 Texas St. There will be speakers, live music, dancing and activities for the kids.

For more information call (707) 673-2148 and/or email info@solanoblackchamber.com.



Benicia Juneteenth



The 3rd Annual Benicia Black Lives Matter Juneteenth Celebration will take place from **noon to 5pm, Sunday June 18**, inside the Benicia Veterans' Hall, 1150 1st Street.

There will be live music, food, vendors and activities for the kids.

For more information, visit beniciablacklivesmatter.com

Upcoming events in Solano County

74th Annual Solano County Fair



The Solano County Fair returns for its 74th year through to **June 18**. There is free admission for military personnel - active, retired, and dependents with a valid ID.

Friday, June 16, noon to 10pm

Saturday, June 17, noon to 10pm. 1:30pm - Junior Livestock Auction. 5pm - Out At The Fair Photo. 6pm - Lucha Xtreme. 9pm (Approximately) - FIREWORKS! - Sponsored by Jelly Belly

Sunday, June 18, noon to 10pm. 2pm - Jaripeo - Mexican-style rodeo & concert (Additional admission required).

For more information, contact the Solano County Fairgrounds at (707) 551-2000. Fair is located at 900 Fairgrounds Drive, Vallejo.

Groundbreaking ceremony

There will be a groundbreaking ceremony for Ken Hoffman's walk in the marsh at the Pacific Flyway Center. The event will take place from **10 to 11am, Saturday, June 17**, at Gold Hill and Ramsey roads in the City of Fairfield.

Wildfire preparedness town hall

The Contra Costa County Fire Protection District will host a special fire safety town hall where they'll provide information on how to protect your home, family, and neighbors from wildfire danger. You can join in-person or virtually on **Saturday, June 17th, at 10am**.

The town hall will be held inside the Pinole City Hall Council Chambers, 2131 Pear Street. The meeting can be watched live on the 17th or archived thereafter on the Con Fire Facebook page: www.facebook.com/contracostafire

Mare Island Historic Park Foundation speaker series

The Mare Island Historic Park Foundation continues its speaker series with Shackleton's Voyage on **Sunday, June 18th from 2 to 3:30pm**, at St. Peter's Chapel, 1181 Walnut Ave, Mare Island.

Captain Scott Shackleton, US Navy, Retired, will discuss his fifth cousin, Sir Ernest Shackleton, and his polar expedition from 1914 to 1917. The miraculous survival of the entire expedition crew earned Shackleton worldwide fame, even though his goal to cross the Antarctic on foot was never realized. Captain Scott Shackleton will also discuss the fulfillment of his family's dream when he set foot on the South Pole in 2009.

Tickets are limited. \$15/per person for advance purchase and \$20 at the door. Mare Island Historic Park Foundation members are free. All proceeds benefit the Foundation. For details and to purchase tickets, click [here](#).

The City of Vallejo and African American Family Reunion Committee Invite the Public to Celebrate Unveiling of Signage for Martin Luther King, Jr. Park

The Vallejo City Council and African American Family Reunion Committee (AAFRC) will honor the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. by unveiling new signage for Martin Luther King, Jr. Park, located at 505 Santa Clara Street in downtown Vallejo. The event will be held at **1pm, Tuesday, June 20.**

The program will include a variety of speakers, ranging from elected officials from the State, County, and City, as well as other local community advocates.

The park is located behind JFK Library, adjacent to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Unity Plaza, which has historically been the location of the annual Vallejo Juneteenth Celebration organized by the AAFRC.

Astronomy Nights return to Rush Ranch



By day, Rush Ranch is great place to see marsh and grassland ecotones, fascinating plants, and active wildlife. By night, it's a great place to behold the universe. The event will be held on **Friday, June 23 from 8:30 to 11pm.**

For this month's event, the topic will be "Hazards from space that will affect the Earth." Jon Pannier brings out a variety of special telescopes and helps stargazers interpret what is above. People from all over visit for this unique opportunity to enjoy the land after sunset and experience the wonders above in the company of a lively crowd.

To register, click [here](https://www.solanolandtrust.org/events).

Free virtual Narcan training

Touro University California's Drug Safe Solano Program is offering a free virtual Narcan training on **Saturday, June 24 from 1 to 2pm**. Come learn about opioids, the epidemic as it relates to Solano County, how to identify an overdose and how to save a life. Participants will receive a Certificate of Completion and a Narcan unit. To register, click [here](#).

Poetry at the Clocktower

Plan now to attend a festive and uplifting historic event at Benicia's Clocktower at **3pm, Sunday, June 25th** at 1189 Washington Street.

Benicians and friends will gather to celebrate our homeplace, to tell its story and join in song. This free event sponsored by the Benicia Public Library will feature California's Poet Laureate Lee Herrick, and outgoing Poet Laureate, Mary Susan Gast.

Visual artwork portraying life in Benicia will be on display, along with ZipOdes "94510" by Benicia residents. A super highlight will be the premier showing of "Benicia Our Home," a film portraying scenes of Benicia accompanied by over 200 Benicians in song.

Arts Benicia



Arts Benicia continues to host the exhibition, Reimagining History, juried by Sandow Birk. The diverse artworks in this show represent each participating artist's perspective, reimagining or reinterpreting an event, a historical idea, or a person. You can see the exhibition through **June 25**.

Starting June 26th, the EcoArt Camp for Youth, for incoming 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th graders, uses hands-on art-making activities as an educational tool to encourage creative expression while gaining awareness of environmental sustainability and natural resources, and the potential of re-use. More information is on our website at <https://artsbenicia.org/ecoartcamp2023>.

The Arts Benicia gallery is located at 1 Commandant's Lane, Benicia, in the Commanding Officer's Quarters, in the historic Benicia Arsenal. Gallery hours are Thursday through Sunday, 1 to 5 pm. Visitors are invited to walk throughout the historic mansion built in 1860, an important and interesting part of our town's history. For more information visit <https://artsbenicia.org>

Arts Benicia also offers art classes for adults, many of which are open to beginners. As summer provides more free time for fun and creativity, consider checking out the new classes listed on our website. Over the next few weeks, we will offer mixed media assemblage, portrait painting in pastels, printmaking, and a plein air painting class. There's much more each month, so for our full listings, please visit <https://artsbenicia.org/adult-classes>

Teen Anime Café



TEEN ANIME CAFE



Join us for a fun-filled afternoon to watch anime, eat Japanese snacks, read manga and make some new friends.

FAIRFIELD CIVIC CENTER LIBRARY

TUESDAY, JUNE 27

4:15 PM

For more information visit solanolibrary.com/events

The Solano County Library will host a Teen Anime Cafe on **Tuesday, June 27th at 4:15pm**, at the Fairfield Civic Center Library, 1150 Kentucky Street.

Teens who attend will get the chance to watch anime from the anime streaming service Crunchyroll while also eating Japanese snacks and reading manga!

Free doula training available

In an effort to improve health disparities for Black women and their babies, Divine Birthright and Solano HEALS (Health Equity for African American/Black Lives) are partnering with First 5 Solano and Aliados Health to host a free (16 hour) exclusively Black doula training and certification for Solano County residents.

Cohort 1 begins **July 1**. Doula training includes: childbirth education, anatomy of pregnancy, comfort measures, lactation support, adult and infant CPR and so much more! All applicants must be at least 18 years old with a valid driver's license or state-issued ID to be considered. Please send all inquiries to solanoheals@gmail.com by June 23.

Free community health worker training

Touro University California, Aliados Health and the Northern California Center for Well-Being are providing a free community health worker training program for Solano County that will take place from **July 10 through August 16**.

The training will be a total of 80 hours and participants who meet eligibility requirements will receive \$1750 for completing the core training program. For more information, contact (707) 285-2964 or evmartinez@aliadoshealth.org.

Country Night at the Ranch

Come to Rush Ranch for our second annual Country Night at the Ranch from 4 to 7pm, **Saturday July 29.**

Local country luminaries Locked-N-Loaded play all-time classics and contemporary favorites with slick musicianship and plenty of heart.

Tickets are on sale today, and 100% of raffle sale proceeds support Solano Land Trust. For more information or to buy tickets, click [here](#).



Events I attended this week

Friday, June 9, I attended the Rodriguez's High School graduation. I am grateful for the invitation. One of my proudest efforts, while as a Solano College trustee (from 2012-2016), was shepherding through the Early College Program held at Solano Community College. All 86 ECHS seniors graduated with their peers from ROD. The ECHS class of 2023 had the following statistics: 1) 15 seniors competed this year on Rod's Varsity sports team. 2) 25 seniors graduated from Solano with one or more degrees. 3) ECHS class of 2023 averaged 45 college credits completed per student. It has been a pleasure over the years to see this program grow to 400 students.

Sunday, June 11, I attended the Pride picnic held on Mare Island in the City of Vallejo. The weather was just right. Seeing friends, making new friends and just enjoying the day with peace and quiet. It was a perfect Sunday.

Tuesday, June 13, I attended the Fairfield City Council meeting. The topic was the General Plan. The discussion was the Land Use Alternatives. (words from the agenda) Translation: Taking the unincorporated land (aka county's agriculture land). Many of you might know Nelson Hill. It is a quarry. There was discussion (again) of putting up to 400 homes inside the quarry. (As I write this, I am shaking my head). Anytime you read Fairfield Forward 2050, this means the General Plan. Please go online and look at the power point shown at the meeting.

Thursday, June 15, It is County Fair Time. I was invited to the Solano County Fair Opening Night Reception. Many friends were there. There are many activities such as visiting the animals, rides, food, and listening to music. The weather will be perfect. Fireworks are Saturday night. Get your tickets at scfair.com This is truly a family friendly activity.

Looking for a job? Consider these links

If you or someone you know is looking for a job, please consider a career with Solano County. Click [HERE](#) to access the website and follow on Facebook [@SolanoCountyJobs](#). Please also consider these other employment resources, including:

[STATE OF CALIFORNIA](#)

[CITY OF BENICIA](#)

[CITY OF FAIRFIELD](#)

[CITY OF VALLEJO](#)

[SOLANO COMMUNITY COLLEGE](#)

[BENICIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT](#)

[FAIRFIELD-SUISUN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT](#)

[VALLEJO SCHOOL DISTRICT](#)

[POST OFFICE](#)

[GREATER VALLEJO RECREATION DISTRICT](#)

[YOUTH JOBS CORPS](#)

[CALIFORNIA CONSERVATION CORPS](#)

[SOLANO RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT](#)

[FAIRFIELD-SUISUN SEWER DISTRICT](#)

Newsletter photo

Officer's quarters on Mare Island in the City of Vallejo. Photo by Monica Brown.



First elected in 2016, Monica represents District 2 on the Solano County Board of Supervisors. District 2 encompasses the city of Benicia, the portion of Vallejo south of Georgia Street, Mare Island, Cordelia, Green Valley and a portion of Fairfield.