



Solano County *California*

SUPERVISOR MONICA BROWN NEWSLETTER

February 9, 2024



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Black History Month moment

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

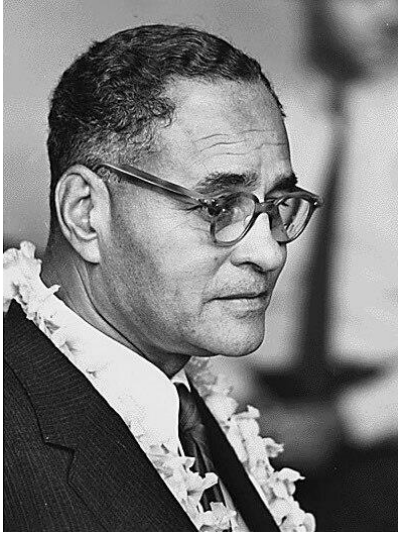
Registrar of Voters

(707) 784-6675

Tax Collector/Treasurer/County Clerk

(707) 784-7485

Area Agency on Aging



Ralph Bunche (August. 7, 1904 to December 9, 1971) was born in Detroit, Michigan. His grandmother, "Nana" Johnson was born into slavery.

His family moved to Los Angeles when he was 12 years old.

He attended Harvard University on a scholarship.

He was a member of the "Black Cabinet" in the Roosevelt's administration. In 1946 Bunche was placed in charge of the

Department of Trusteeship of the UN. To handle problems of the world's people who had not yet attained self-government.

From June of 1947 to August of 1949, he worked on the confrontation between Arabs and Jews in Palestine.

In 1950 Ralph Bunche received the Nobel Peace Prize, the first person of color to win the Nobel Peace Prize.

(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

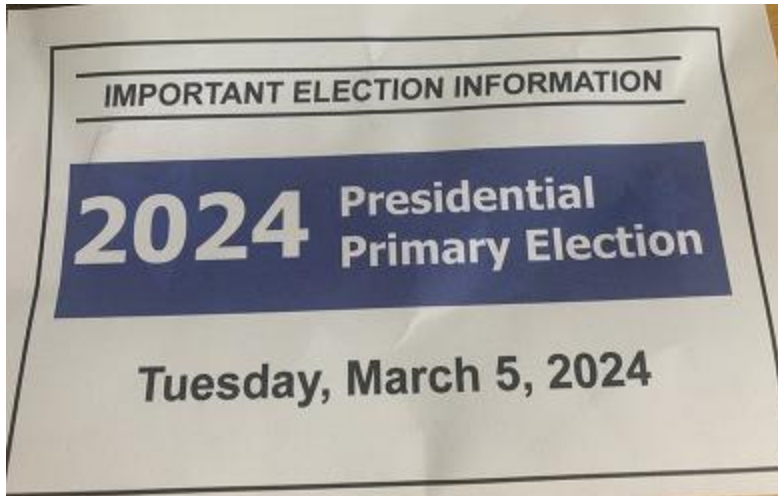
Information this week

Solano County closed during upcoming holidays



The Solano County Administrative Center will be closed in observance of Lincoln's Birthday on February 12 and President's Day on February 19.

Ballot materials



Solano County residents should be on the lookout for primary sample ballots and official ballots the first week of February.

"If a voter doesn't receive their ballot by Valentine's Day, they should give us a call!" said John Gardner, assistant registrar of voters with Solano County.

The Solano County Registrar of Voters can be reached at (707) 784-6675.

Diaper Drive

MY BOTTOM IS TOP PRIORITY

DIAPER DRIVE
FEBRUARY 1ST-29TH

Did you know that nearly 1 in 2 families struggle to afford diapers to keep their babies clean, dry and healthy? You can make a difference!

Donate new unopened packages of diapers to these drop off locations to support Solano County children and families.

Organized by:   

Diapers will support:

For questions call (707) 784-1332

DROP OFF LOCATIONS

<u>Vallejo</u>	<u>Fairfield</u>	<u>Benicia</u>	<u>Vacaville</u>
First 5 Center 3375 Sonoma Blvd Ste #10	Napa-Solano Central Labor Council, Operating Engineers Local 3: 2540 N. Watney Way	Benicia Chamber of Commerce 601 1st St Ste. 100	Parents by Choice 490 Merchant St, Ste 101
Watch Me Grow Inc. Online Diaper Drive	Suisun Joseph Nelson Community Center: 611 Village Dr Suisun City Fire Department 621 Pintail Drive	RE/MAX Gold 426 1st St	Vacaville Neighborhood Boys & Girls Club 100 Holly Ln

1/1

In the month of February, the Napa-Solano Central Labor Council will host a diaper drive to ensure local families have access to clean diapers.

Survey: San Francisco Bay Ferry wants to hear from you



The San Francisco Bay Ferry is asking residents to take a quick 5-minute survey on how the service can best serve the Bay Area in the coming years.

San Francisco Bay Ferry is a ferry transit service of the San Francisco Bay Area Water Emergency Transportation Authority (WETA). Bay Area residents now have an opportunity to help WETA finalize a Ferry Service Vision for the year 2050 by prioritizing:

- Affordability
- Service frequency and speed

- Expansion
- Environmental sustainability

The survey is available in English, Spanish and Simplified Chinese. Survey participants will be entered into a drawing for a chance to win a \$50 Clipper Card or a San Francisco Bay Ferry water bottle at the end of the survey.

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

“They need to be on the hook for it”: PG&E customers bristle at rate hikes to fund maintenance

Pacific Gas and Electric bills jump as company raises money to pay for aging infrastructure. To read more, click [here](#).

MTC to Seek Legislature’s Approval to Put Bay Area Transportation Measure on 2026 Ballot



The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) has voted to seek state legislation which would enable Bay Area voters to consider a

transportation revenue measure as early as November 2026, the agency announced this week

"The proposed measure aims to advance a climate-friendly Bay Area transportation system that is safe, accessible and convenient for all," officials said in an official announcement. "This includes preserving and enhancing public transit service; making transit faster, safer and easier to use; repairing local streets and roads; and improving mobility and access for all people, including pedestrians, bicyclists and scooter and wheelchair users."

MTC expects any new transportation measure it pursues to generate at least \$1 billion annually. The Commission has not yet identified a revenue source for the proposed measure.

MTC is the transportation planning, financing and coordinating agency for the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area.

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

BAHFA Advisory Committee recommends placing housing bond on 2024 ballot

The [Bay Area Housing Finance Authority](#)'s Advisory Committee has adopted a resolution recommending that the BAHFA Board and the Executive Board of the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) submit for consideration by voters in all nine Bay Area counties this November a general obligation bond measure of as much as \$20 billion to produce more affordable housing, preserve existing affordable housing and protect current residents from displacement.

Voter approval of a \$20 billion bond is projected to spur the creation of some 80,000 additional affordable homes around the Bay Area in the coming years, the committee said.

To allow local governments to determine how best to produce and preserve affordable housing in their own communities, 80 percent of the money from the proposed bond would go directly to the nine counties as well as to four cities: San Jose, Oakland, Santa Rosa and Napa. BAHFA would invest the remaining 20 percent in affordable housing developments throughout the Bay Area, while also developing new resources to support affordable housing development after the bond money is fully spent.

BAHFA was established by the state Legislature in 2019 to support the construction of new affordable housing and the preservation of existing housing across the nine-county Bay Area. It is governed by the BAHFA board, which is composed of the same members as the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and by the ABAG Executive Board. As required by state law, BAHFA's nine-member Advisory Committee is comprised of members with expertise in affordable housing finance, production, preservation and/or tenant protections.

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

Insurance Commissioner Lara alerts consumers throughout the state to insurance coverage following winter storms

As winter storms pelt the state with extreme wind, rain, and snow, Insurance Commissioner Ricardo Lara is working to help Californians understand their insurance coverage and how they can recover from storm damage. The Department has posted a Top Ten Tips for People Affected by Winter Storms to answer questions about what consumers' insurance policies may cover.

To read the tips, click [here](#).

Public hearing

Notice of Public Availability of Refinery Flare Minimization Plan Annual Updates



The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is releasing the 2022 Flare Minimization Plan (FMP) Annual Updates for public review and comment. The five Bay Area refineries prepared these plans subject to [Regulation 12, Rule 12: Flares at Refineries](#).

Under Regulation 12-12, each FMP Annual Update must include:

- New prevention measures identified during investigations of flaring events that occurred during the period July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022;
- A description of the prevention measures previously taken or currently planned to reduce flare emissions at the refinery;
- Commitment to implement all new feasible prevention measures expeditiously; and
- A 30-day public comment review period

The plan updates are now available for review on the Air District's [Flare Minimization Plans](#) web page.

The deadline to submit public comments regarding the 2022 FMP Annual Updates is **Monday, February 26**.

Comments can be submitted the following ways:

- Mail to BAAQMD–FMP Update Public Comment, 375 Beale Street, Suite 600, San Francisco, CA 94105
- Email to compliance@baaqmd.gov

Be sure to identify which refinery, or refineries, your comment is applicable to.

After consideration of public comments received, the Air District will evaluate each refinery's Flare Minimization Plan Annual Update to determine whether it meets the requirements of Regulation 12-12 and will take final action in accordance with the regulation.

For any additional information, please visit the [Air District website](#) or email compliance@baaqmd.gov

NAMI Solano County General Meeting

Leap into the future with hope and join the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Solano County for their monthly meeting from **6 to 7:30pm, Thursday, 29, Becker Balmer Meeting Room Fairfield Civic Center Library, 1150 Kentucky St, Fairfield.**

To join the meeting, visit [here](#). For more information, call (707) 438-9510 or info@namisolano.org

Updates from around Solano County

Lopes Road update, Fairfield City Council to approve design consultant



In March 2023, the hillside west of Lopes Road became saturated from a series of winter rainstorms, causing a failure in Lopes Road that broke the City of Benicia's water supply line and other underground utilities. Since then, both cities have been working with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and California

Office of Emergency Services (Cal-OES) toward receiving financial support through the public assistance grants process.

Additionally, both cities have been planning to ensure that all permanent restoration is completed in the most efficient and cost-effective manner. Pre-design work in the form of soil investigations and local permitting have begun in advance of selection of a design services consultant.

On February 6, 2024, City Council is scheduled to approve selection and award of a design services contract for the permanent repairs, as well as a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the Cities of Fairfield and Benicia. The City of

Benicia and Fairfield continue to work with Cal-OES and FEMA in order to ensure that both cities remain eligible to receive reimbursement from the state and federal agencies.

For more information on the City's status with FEMA/Cal-OES, as well as any progress updates pertaining to the project, click [here](#).

First Year Debaters Win Big in Three Regional and National Tournaments



Congrats to the Benicia High School Debate Team!

The Benicia High School Debate team started 2024 on a hot streak. Sophomore Daniel Delgado and junior Cozette Calderon placed in the top ten out of 48 teams competing in the New York Parliamentary Debate League's online invitational. This tournament attracts New York's top public and private high schools as well as other top east coast teams. Three varsity teams competed.

Two weeks later, the entire Benicia team traveled to Dougherty Valley High School in San Ramon joining 95 other Bay Area teams for the final Golden Gate Speech Association tournament. Once again, first-year debaters took the spotlight. Newcomer Isabella Renteria paired with Lila Green to sweep all four rounds in their division. Freshman Charles Sanders and junior Spencer Ball brought home winning record trophies. This year's leading newcomer, Calderon, and team captain Gabriel Stockwell were one of three first-place teams that went undefeated in varsity after four rounds.

The busy month ended with the Berkeley International Parli Debate Invitational on Jan 27th and 28th when 142 schools from seven states battled online. Newcomer Jillian Guan and teammate Nehmat Sekhon made it to the quarter-finals, finishing 7th out of 47 teams in their division. They won four out of five pre-elimination

rounds and lost in the quarter-finals to the eventual champions. Seniors Garret Slody and Jacob Andrews won three of their rounds, and Andrews finished 7th out of 62 junior varsity debaters in speaker points - a separate category designed to acknowledge the tournament's best speakers. Andrews has recently joined the team's leadership as the speech coach.

The team is led and coached by seniors Gabriel Stockwell and Michael Delgado, Benicia's most decorated debaters who, in their sophomore year, earned a coveted place in the national Tournament of Champions. Benicia alumni Timothy Knox and Juhi Yadav lend their expertise to the team when available.

For further information, contact Michele Gaines at Mgaines@beniciaunified.org

First 5 Solano Request for Applications



The First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission (First 5 Solano) has released its

Request for Application ("RFA #2024-01) for its Annual Grants Program.

The Annual Grants Fund is designed for one-time projects to address the needs of children ages 0-5, their parents/caregivers, and/or providers of services to children ages 0-5 in Solano County.

The Commission has committed up to \$120,000 in annual grants for FY2024/25. Multiple grants of up to \$20,000 each will be awarded for up to a 1-year period from July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025.

Applications will be accepted for a wide variety of activities that align with the First 5 Solano Strategic Plan Framework and address a gap in services, address a community disparity, and/or address a time sensitive community need.

A mandatory letter of intent is due by February 12 and applicants must also attend a mandatory grant development session. The complete application is due by **March 11 at 5pm**.

For the complete RFA, instructions for submitting a Letter of Intent and the application, click [here](#).

Congressman warns new Solano Co. city will disrupt 'critical training operations' at Travis AFB

There's new pushback to the proposal to build a new city in Solano County. This time, it's coming from officials at Travis Air Force Base.

Congressman John Garamendi told ABC7 these new concerns will impact our national security and potential future operations at the base itself. This comes a few weeks after California Forever launched their ballot initiative to take to voters.

To read more, click [here](#).

February calendar for Benicia Veterans Memorial Hall

The February calendar of events for Benicia Veterans Memorial Hall:

February 9 hamburgers with Sons of The American Legion

12 Patty and Kevin Dinners watch for signups at bar

13 Mardis Gras; Hot dogs **with Boys Under the Hood**

14 Valentine's Day; AMERICAN LEGION / AUX meet at 1900 hours

15 week of 15th is **The National Salute to Veteran Patients**; The observance of George Washington's Birthday, Feb. 22nd, 1732, is always the third Monday in February.

16 hamburgers with American Legion Auxiliary

19 Patty and Kevin Dinners watch for signups at bar; President's Day; official birthday of the United States Coast Guard Reserve. Officially set-up in the late 1930s as a "civilian reserve" operation, it was non-military in nature. The Coast Guard Reserve Act of 1939 was the earliest incarnation.

20 Veterans House Commission meeting

21 SONS AMERICAN LEGION meet at 1900 hours; Hot dogs;

23 hamburgers with VFW

24 Crab Feed Dinner, tickets at bar \$75 each

26 Patty and Kevin Dinners watch for signups at bar

The Benicia Veterans Memorial Hall is located at 1150 1st St, Benicia. For more information, click [here](#).

2024 Veteran Home Rehab applications deadline



Rebuilding Together Solano County provides home rehabilitation services to veterans and surviving spouses of veterans, seniors and disabled homeowners residing in Solano County. The goal is to provide a safe and healthy living

environment for low-income veteran homeowners and community facilities.

Do you know of someone, or do you qualify yourself for the home rehabilitation program? [How to apply:](#)

1. Complete 2024 Veteran / Military Homeowner Application
2. No later than 03/31/2024 Mail the completed Application and all supporting documentation to RTSC, PO Box 5996, Vallejo, CA 94591.

Contact Rebuilding Together at: Ehoffman.rtsc@gmail.com if you have additional questions or need an application mailed to you.

For more information and/or to apply, click [here](#).

HEC's Mental Health Training Program now accepting applications

The Health Education Council is actively recruiting interested Solano County adults 18+ who are interested in participating in a Spanish-only cohort for its Peers Helping Peers/Facilitadores Comunitarios program, made possible through funding from Solano County Public Health. This program was originally created in 2020 (in Sacramento) with the following mission:

- to decrease mental health stigma throughout Sacramento County
- increase social connection and the ability of participants to serve as mental health supports for their peers
- to introduce participants to entry-level mental health jobs through community projects and paid internships

For more information, contact Nancy Ramirez nramirez@healthedcouncil.org or call (916) 512-3325.

Food is Free

Free food is available every second Saturday of each month from 10am to noon between the Benicia Library and Senior Center. Brought to you by ARPA funds from Solano County. Sponsored by the Benicia Public Library and Food is Free Bay Area.

Community Investment Fund - Annual Grants 2024



The Solano County Administrator's Office is seeking highly qualified agencies to tackle the highest priority needs in Solano County. Through a human service needs assessment process, the Solano County Board of Supervisors identified the top six most pressing needs as follows:

1. Mental Health
2. Housing
3. Homelessness
4. Early Education
5. Youth Development
6. Safe and Stable Environments for Children

This assessment resulted in the development of a Community Investment Fund (CIF) with a 3-pronged funding approach. This Request for Proposals (RFP) addresses the implementation of an Annual Grants Program outlined in the Community Investment Fund.

The County Administrator's Office is seeking proposals to support the implementation of annual grants that address one or more of the above six most pressing needs in the county. To support the Annual Grant Program, the Solano County Board of Supervisors has allocated up to \$365,000 to be distributed to successful applicants. Proposers may apply for funding in either of the following funding tiers:

- A) Tier 1: Funding up to \$75,000 to implement larger projects, or B) Tier 2: Funding up to \$25,000 to support smaller community projects.

Only non-profit organizations are eligible to apply.

Responses due: March 11 by 5pm.

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

Teen photo contest



Solano County Library's teen photo contest is returning this year!

It runs from February 1 to March 8.

Teens between the ages of 12 and 18 are encouraged to submit their photos in one or more of the following categories:

- Album Cover (a photo you think would make a great music album cover)
- Architecture
- Animals
- Food/Drinks
- Landscapes
- Library (pictures of the inside/outside of your favorite library)

-Nature

-People & Portraits

-Special Effects

-Your Choice/Miscellaneous

Ten (10) winning photos (one from each category) will be chosen and posted in the library branches! Also, one grand prize winner will be chosen from the 10 winning photos! The grand prize winner will get one session learning from a professional photographer!

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

Solano County Residents get involved with STA Advisory Committees



The Solano Transportation Authority (STA) is currently seeking to fill various open positions on its Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC), the Pedestrian Advisory Committee

(PAC), and Paratransit Coordinating Council (PCC).

The BAC and PAC advise the STA on the development of bicycle and pedestrian facilities as an active mode of transportation in Solano County. To accomplish this, committee members assist the STA to develop countywide transportation plans and projects and provide funding recommendations for active transportation projects.

The PCC works on countywide senior and disabled transit issues as required by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and makes recommendations on transit and paratransit funding, claims and coordination.

The openings include:

Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC)

- City of Dixon

Pedestrian Advisory Committee (PAC)

- City of Suisun City
- County of Solano
- Member-at-Large (Solano Community College)

Paratransit Coordinating Council (PCC)

- Public Agency – Education member

For more information on the [BAC Open Positions](#), [click here](#); [click here for more information on the PAC Open Positions](#), and [here for information on PCC Open Positions](#)

Workforce Development Board offering free pre-apprenticeship training program

The Solano Workforce Development Board will be offering a free six-week pre-apprenticeship training program starting in February.

The program, for young adults between the ages of 18-24, aims to help them to complete all the training they need for an introductory trades position.

This free pre-apprenticeship training will be offered Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Feb. 12 to March 22 at the Vallejo Adult School.

To read more, click [here](#).

Arts Benicia

Join Arts Benicia Gallery for their annual Arts Benicia members-only Community Art Exhibition! An exhibition in which the wealth of talent of their regional member artists, ranging from those with limited experience to master artists, is shared. The exhibition runs **through February 25**, and will feature over 150 works. Gallery Hours for the exhibition: Thursday to Sunday, 1 to 5 pm. The Arts Benicia Gallery is located at 1 Commandant's Lane

In addition, Arts Benicia also has special events related to the exhibition located at the Arts Benicia Gallery: **Ekphrastic Poetry Event, Sunday, February 18, 2 to 4 pm** and **Family Art Day**, Sunday, February 4, 1 to 3 pm.

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 and youth, many of which are open to beginners. Consider checking out the new classes listed on our website. For our full listings, please

visit <https://artsbenicia.org/adult-classes> and <https://artsbenicia.org/youth-art-classes>

Interested in sponsoring a program with Arts Benicia? The support of local businesses and donors is essential to the quality and reach of our programs. To find out more about sponsoring an Arts Benicia exhibition or program, please get in touch by emailing info@artsbenicia.org

Probability 2

You are cordially invited to Probability 2, an interactive exhibit of sound sculptures at the NY2CA Gallery, 617 1st Street in Benicia. **The exhibit runs from February 1 through March 17, Thursday to Sunday, noon to 5 pm.**

Probability 2 is a new exhibition of interactive sound sculptures made collaboratively by visual artists Bodil Fox and Larnie Fox. The exhibition will be on display at NY2CA Gallery and combines materials favored by Bodil (copper, concrete, wire, felt, mixed media surface treatment) with those favored by Larnie (bamboo, plywood, recycled materials, motors).

The exhibition will be anchored by a performative installation covering the main walls with self-playing and playable wall-mounted amplified sound sculptures.

Upcoming events in Solano County

Inspiration-Reversal



FAIRFIELD POET LAUREATE, SUZANNE BRUCE,
IS HOSTING THE SECOND INSPIRATION----REVERSAL

POETS:

SEND ONLY THE TITLE OF YOUR POEM AND YOUR NAME TO FAIRFIELDPOETLAUREATE@GMAIL.COM BY FEB. 8. BRING TWO COPIES OF YOUR POEM TO THE EVENT (39 LINES OR LESS)

ARTISTS:

BRING YOUR CREATIVE MIND, LISTEN TO THE POEMS, AND CREATE AN ART PIECE INSPIRED BY THOSE WORDS!

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2024 10:00AM – 12:00 PM
DUNNELL BURTON CENTER 3351 HILBORN ROAD, FAIRFIELD

FOLLOWING POETRY READING, ARTISTS WILL SELECT A POEM TO CREATE AN ART PIECE FOR FINISHED ARTWORK WILL BE REVEALED ON APRIL 13. QUESTIONS? EMAIL SUZANNE AT FAIRFIELDPOETLAUREATE@GMAIL.COM



The second Inspiration-Reversal poetry portion is coming up on **Saturday, February 10, from 10am to 12pm**, inside the Dunnell Burton Center, Fairfield, 3351 Hilborn Road. It is on the corner of Hilborn Road and Hillridge Drive. GPS does not give the correct local. It is next to the Girl Scouts Center at this corner.

Poets should send the title of your poem by February 8. Bring two copies of your poem: one for you to read from, and one for the artist's table.

State of the City Event to feature lead economist



The Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce will be hosting Fairfield's State of the City presentation, "Looking Back, Moving Forward," on **February 15, 2024, from 8am to 12pm at the Hilton Garden Inn, 2200 The Courtyard in the city of Fairfield.**

Mayor Catherine "Cat" Moy will be joined by City Manager, David Gassaway, and guest speaker, Jerry Nickelsburg.

Nickelsburg is the Faculty Director of UCLA's Anderson Forecast, a leading, unbiased economic organization that has focused on global, national, state, and local economies for over 70 years. He holds a Ph.D. in economics and specializes in monetary economics and econometrics. He also plays a key role in national, state, and regional economic modeling and forecasting.

The breakfast event registration is now open for attendees at a cost of \$50 per person.

To buy tickets, click [here](#).

Free Bike Repair Day for Students at Fairfield PAL Teen Center

Join Bay Area Bike Mobile at the **Fairfield PAL Teen Center and get your bicycle repaired on Thursday, February 15 at 3:30pm.**

The Bike Mobile can fix flat tires, adjust brakes and gears, and even replace broken or worn-out parts like chains, seats, and tires. The only thing it can't do is replace missing wheels or gears. While the mechanics work on your bike they'll explain how to keep your bike running smooth and share safety and maintenance tips!

Space is limited and this is a first come, first serve event. Space is limited to 20 bikes. Please call (707) 330-8757 to sign up or for more information.

Meet the Doula Night

Join Solano HEALs and Doula Doula as they host a workshop where Partnership HealthPlan will discuss doula enrollment. This

is a wonderful opportunity for pregnant families and the community to connect with local doulas.

The event is from 5:30 to 7:30pm, Thursday, February 15, Fairfield Cordelia Library, 5050 Business Center Drive, Fairfield.

To register, click [here](#).

Teen Poetry Reading

**SOLANO COUNTY
LIBRARY TEEN
POETRY CONTEST
POETRY READING**

THE TEEN LIBRARIAN ELIZABETH BELL AND FAIRFIELD POET LAUREATE SUZANNE BRUCE ARE HOSTING A POETRY READING FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS OF THE SOLANO COUNTY TEEN POETRY CONTEST. PLEASE COME AND HEAR THESE STUDENTS READ THEIR POEMS!

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17
1:00 PM - 4:00 PM**

**FAIRFIELD CIVIC CENTER LIBRARY
1150 KENTUCKY STREET**

A RECEPTION WILL FOLLOW THE READING.
ALL POEMS WERE HUNG AT THE CIVIC CENTER LIBRARY ON DECEMBER 28, 2023, AND WILL BE DISPLAYED THROUGH THE END OF JANUARY, 2024.

Solano County LIBRARY

FAIRFIELD

Teen Librarian Elizabeth Bell and Fairfield Poet Laureate Suzanne Bruce are hosting a teen poetry reading **from 1 to 4pm, Saturday, February 17, at the Fairfield Civic Center Library, 1150 Kentucky Street.**

There will be introductions of the winners from a recent teen poetry contest, then all students will read their entries. A reception will follow the reading.

Please come and support these teens! It is important they know their voices are heard!

Crab feed



Crab Feed 2024

Saturday, February 10, 2024
6:00PM

NorthBay Administration Center
4500 Business Center Drive Fairfield

\$75.00 per person

\$1,000 SPONSORSHIP

Includes Table for 8

and promotional benefits

(includes 2 bottles of wine for table)

Help support abused and neglected children while enjoying succulent crab, pasta, and salad, a raffle, auction, music and fun! Proceeds help to provide training for advocates and add to the children's fund which supplies extra-curricular needs for CASA children.

For tickets and
information
Call (707) 421-2272
Or scan the QR code



Purchase tickets

CASA of Solano County, a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization.
Taxpayer ID # 20-2551209

The Court Appointed Special Advocates for Children (CASA) of Solano County will hold a crab feed fundraiser at **6pm, Saturday, February 17 inside the Northbay Administrative Center, 4500 Business Center Drive in Fairfield.**

To buy tickets, click [here](#).

Comedy show



Solano County
LIBRARY

Web: solanolibrary.com
Phone: 1-866-572-7587
f @ i s: [solanolibrary](https://www.facebook.com/solanolibrary)

STAND UP COMEDY!



Come out for a night of laughter from
Vallejo's very own: **OG Vicc!**

THURSDAY, FEB 18 @ 6PM



JFK LIBRARY
505 SANTA CLARA STREET

For more information,
visit solanolibrary.com/events

Hailing from Vallejo, OG Vicc will have you cracking up from the start to the end. Come by yourself or bring a friend!

The comedy show will begin at **6pm, Thursday, February 18** inside the Joseph Room, at the John F. Kennedy Public Library, 505 Santa Clara Street.

Trash mob

TRASH MOB

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2024
ALLAN WITT PARK, 1741 W. TEXAS STREET



The city of Fairfield is looking for volunteers to help with its next Trash Mob on **Saturday, February 24, from 9 to 11 am, at Allan Witt Park, 1741 W. Texas Street.**

Snacks and water and all supplies will be provided, and Public Works will be on hand to collect the full trash bags.

Contact Karen Rees to register at krees@fairfield.ca.gov or call (707) 428-7767. Volunteers must complete a waiver form. For those under age 18, a parent or guardian signature is required. This is a great way for students to earn community service hours for school!

GVRD Block Party

GREATER VALLEJO
RECREATION DISTRICT

LET'S CELEBRATE!

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

HOMECOMING
BLOCK PARTY!

SATURDAY,
FEBRUARY 24TH
12-5PM

CHILDREN'S
WONDERLAND PARK
RAIN OR SHINE
EVENT!

DJ | DRUMLINE | PERFORMANCES | FOOD TRUCKS |
VENDORS | ARTWALK | RAFFLE |
DUNK & DOUBLE DUTCH CONTEST
| KIDS ZONE | AND MORE



(707)648-4600 | WWW.GVRD.ORG





19th Annual Solano County African American Community Baby Shower



A More Excellent Way Health Organization and community partners are inviting African American pregnant and breastfeeding women and expectant fathers to the Virtual and Drive-Thru "More Excellent Way Community Baby Shower" on Saturday,

February 24, 2024. This event is free and will include health and education workshops and a drive-thru health and resource fair.

To register, click [here](#). For more information, contact Monique Sims at Mnqsims@gmail.com or call (707) 319-7489.

The event will take place from **10am to noon, Saturday, February 24, 2024** via Zoom for the health and education workshops, and at

Refuge Community Fellowship Church, 104 Lincoln Road, Vallejo
from **12:30 to 2:30pm** for the drive-thru health and resource fair.

Birth Justice Solano 2024: Addressing Racial Disparities in Birth Outcomes

Join the Birth Justice Solano 2024 Event in Vallejo on Sunday,
February 25, where experts, doulas, nurses and public health
administrators will come together for an informative and supportive
event from **10am to 3pm, Sunday, February 25, at Touro
University, 105 Owen Drive on Mare Island in Vallejo.**

Let's address the racial disparities in birth outcomes and work
towards a healthier future for all!

To register for the event, click [here](#). If you are Interested in being a
vendor, click [here](#).

Book Club



**Solano County
LIBRARY**

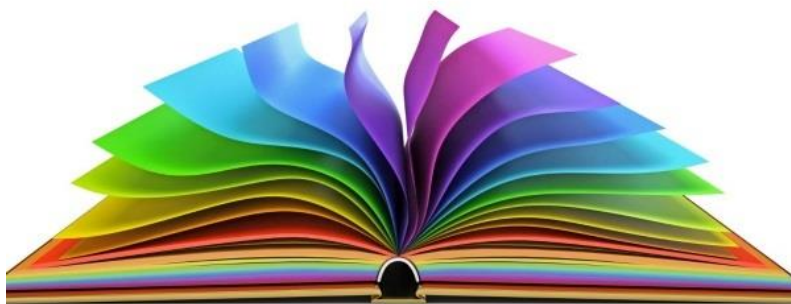
Web: solanolibrary.com
Phone: 1-866-572-7587
Facebook, Instagram, Twitter: [solanolibrary](#)

RAINBOW READS BOOK CLUB

A book club for teens with books featuring
LGBTQ+ themes and/or LGBTQ+ authors.
Come have some snacks, meet new friends,
and get a copy of the book we'll read!

**FAIRFIELD CIVIC
CENTER LIBRARY**

**JANUARY 23
FEBRUARY 27
MARCH 26
APRIL 23
4:15 PM**



The next Teen Rainbow Reads book club takes place on **Tuesday, February 27 at 4:15pm inside the Fairfield Civic Center Library, 1150 Kentucky Street.**

Teen Rainbow Reads is a book club where teens get to read teen books featuring LGBTQ characters. All teens are welcome to join this book club! Snacks will be provided, too!

Open House

A promotional poster for the Museum of History Benicia (MoHB) Open House. The background is a photograph of the museum's exterior with a fountain and flowering bushes. Two green banners with the word "FREE" in white are positioned at the top left and top right. The text "MOHB OPEN HOUSE" is prominently displayed in white, with "2060 CAMEL RD. BENICIA" below it. In the center, there is a circular logo for MoHB, which includes a building illustration and the text "MUSEUM OF HISTORY BENICIA" and "MoHB". Below the logo, the date "FEBRUARY 29, 2024" and time "5:00 - 8:00PM" are written in green. At the bottom, the website "www.mohbenicia.org" and phone number "707-745-5435" are listed. Three circular inset images show museum exhibits: a colorful hat, a historical building, and a museum interior.

Join the Museum of History, Benicia (MoHB) for a free evening at the Museum. Come out for a fun night of exhibits, surprises for the whole family, learn about the museum, how it operates, and volunteer opportunities, membership and so much more.

The open house will take place from 5 to 8pm, Thursday, February 29, at 2060 Camel Road in Benicia.

For more information, click [here](https://www.mohbenicia.org).

The Cold War: Mare Island's Secret War Beneath the Waves



The Mare Island Historic Park Foundation invites you to the Speakers Series: The Cold War: Mare Island's Secret War Beneath the Waves.

Join Master Chief Bill Linne and the Mare Island Historic Park Foundation as they present the story of Vallejo's own nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine. Built at Mare Island during the crucible of the Cold War, the submarine was the most powerful warship on earth built and manned under the highest national priority to address an existential threat to our nation.

In 1957, the Soviet leader slammed his shoe on the podium at an international conference and vowed to bury the West. The USS Mariano G. Vallejo (SSBN 658) had but one purpose: to prevent a Soviet preemptive nuclear attack. Her mission was to ensure that any attempt at a nuclear first strike by the Soviets would result in an unstoppable Armageddon being unleashed upon them.

The presentation will take place at 3pm, March 3 at St. Peter's Chapel, 1181 Walnut Ave, Mare Island, Vallejo.

For more information, and/or to buy tickets, click [here](#).

The Muses Speak



The Muses Speak

Creative Writing Students

Poetry Reading

March 7, 2024 12-1:30 pm

In Person:

Quinton Duval Reading Area/
Solano Comm College Library
4000 Suisun Valley Rd, Fairfield
(Parking \$2 at kiosk)



Online:

Scan for zoom

Presented by:

Fairfield Poet Laureate
Suzanne Bruce

&

English Professor
Michael J. Wyly



QUESTIONS?
fairfieldpoetlaureate
@gmail.com



Fairfield Poet Laureate Suzanne Bruce and Solano Community College English Professor Michael J. Wyly invite you to come and listen to poems written by SCC creative writing students from **12 to 1:30pm, Thursday, March 7, Solano Community College Library: Quinton Duval Reading Area, 400 Suisun Valley Road, Fairfield.**

Parking: \$2 paid at Kiosks. The library is in the center of the campus.

Map: <https://welcome.solano.edu/fairfield-campus/>

Or connect through this [Zoom link](#). No registration required.

Movers & Shakers Breakfast Summit

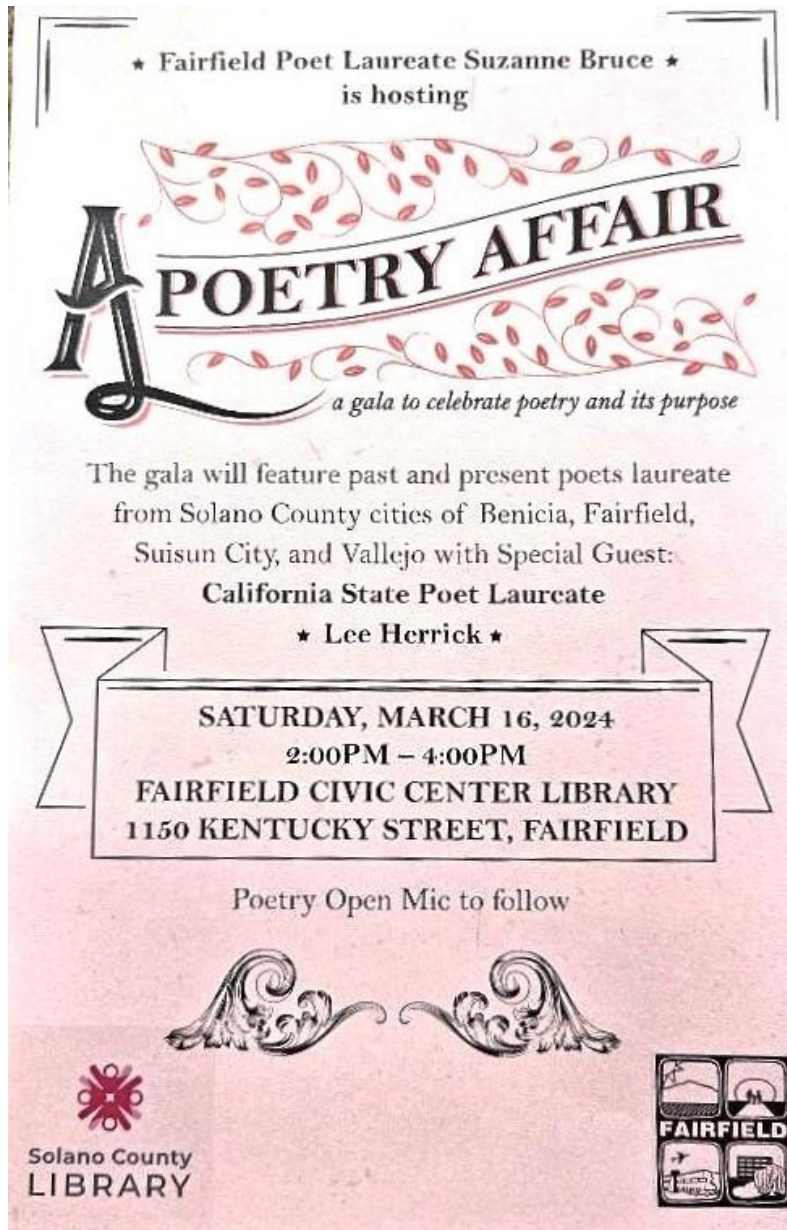
The Vacaville Chamber's **annual Movers & Shakers Breakfast Summit will be held March 13, at 8am inside** Vacaville Opera House, 560 Main Street, Vacaville.

This is the Vacaville Chamber's premier advocacy event of the year, bringing together policymakers and business leaders from throughout the county. The event will once again feature a State of the City presentation by Vacaville Mayor John Carli and City Manager Aaron Busch, along with a plated breakfast and networking.

Following the presentation, the city will be providing bus tours of select Vacaville sites for attendees to see first-hand what's in store for Vacaville's fantastic future.

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

“A Poetry Affair”



Fairfield Poet Laureate Suzanne Bruce is hosting "A Poetry Affair," a gala to celebrate poetry and its purpose featuring past and present poets laureate from Solano County cities of Benicia, Fairfield, Suisun City and Vallejo with Special Guest: California State Poet Laureate Lee Herrick.

Poetry open mic following the reading of the poets laureate.

The gala will take place between 2 to 4pm, Saturday, March 16, inside the Fairfield Civic Center Library, 1150 Kentucky Street, Fairfield.

Line Dancing Party

Join Us for a **LINE DANCE** *Party*

MAY 4, 2024

1 PM–6 PM

Dinner will be served.

Latin/Cinco de Mayo themed.

BENICIA CLOCK TOWER

1189 Washington St. | Benicia, CA

A Community Event
Presented By



**INNOVATIVE
HEALTH
SOLUTIONS**

TICKETS
\$30



<https://SecondAnnualLineDanceParty.eventbrite.com>

please RSVP

Contact our help line if you need
assistance purchasing tickets:
(707) 684-4376



Set your calendars for the 2nd Annual Line Dance party, scheduled from **1 to 6pm, Saturday, May 4** at the Benicia Clock Tower, 1189 Washington Street in the city of Benicia.

The event will celebrate Latin heritage, but there will be line dance instructors from all forms of line dancing. Dinner will be served around 3pm. There will also be resources for older adults.

For more information, and/or to buy a ticket, click [here](#).

Events I attended this week

Friday, February 2, I attended the debate at Benicia High School. The Benicia Award winning debate team ran the debate of

the candidates running for office for the State Senate position. The best question asked was "What is your favorite color"?

Sunday, February 4, I attended the Solano Together Town Hall meeting at the Nelson Center in Suisun. The event drew many people. I had a chance to talk to friends, I had not seen in years.

Tuesday, February 6, I attended the Benicia City Council meeting. The main topic was the survey done asking community members what city services might look like if more cuts are made if the sales tax does not pass.

Wednesday, February 7, I attended the Tobacco Free Solano Annual Celebration Meeting held at Beck Ave. I am highlighting two groups that spoke: The Friday Night Live Benicia group and the Suisun Youth Commission. Each group spoke about what they are doing to not get their peers to smoke. The event was excellent, and the work being done by so many adults to help our students navigate this issue was amazing.

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

The setting sun in downtown Vallejo. Photo: John Glidden.



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.