



**SUPERVISOR MONICA BROWN NEWSLETTER**

**November 1, 2024**



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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

**Information this week**

**West Nile Virus detection in Fairfield**



The Solano County Mosquito Abatement District (SCMAD) has detected the presence of West Nile virus in the city of Fairfield off Smith Drive on October 25. The map below indicates the area where the virus was detected. Residents are advised to take preventive measures to reduce the risk of mosquito bites and protect public

health by inspecting their properties for standing water. SCMAD urges residents to be proactive against mosquitoes by wearing EPA-registered insect repellent. Technicians are carrying out control as necessary in the surrounding areas to reduce the number of mosquitoes and interrupt further transmission of the virus. The District will continue to monitor the area.

**Assessor/Recorder**

(707) 784-6200

**Resource Management**

(707) 784-6765

**Registrar of Voters**

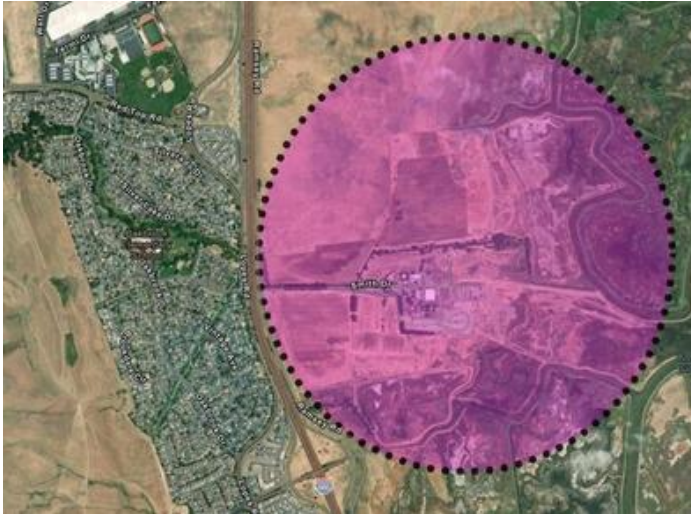
(707) 784-6675

**Tax  
Collector/Treasurer/County  
Clerk**

(707) 784-7485

**Area Agency on Aging**

(707) 784-8960



### **West Nile Information**

Transmission: West Nile virus (WNV) spreads when a female mosquito bites an infected bird and then bites a person.

Symptoms: Most people show no symptoms. Some may have fever, headaches, and body aches. Severe cases can lead to hospitalization and, rarely, death. If you have symptoms, contact your healthcare provider.

High-Risk Groups: Elderly people and those with chronic conditions (diabetes, high blood pressure, cancer, kidney disease) are at higher risk for serious complications.

### **Preventing West Nile Virus**

To reduce mosquito breeding on your property:

Check for standing water. Drain standing water. Empty items like flowerpots, planter dish, pet dishes, buckets, and old tires. Clean regularly, wash bird baths and pet bowls weekly. Repair leaky faucets and broken sprinkler heads. Avoid over-watering. Ensure window and door screens are intact, have no holes, and fit well. Keep swimming pools at proper water levels for circulation and filtration. Request free mosquito fish for neglected pools, ornamental ponds, water troughs, and other artificial water bodies.

### **About The District**

SCMAD plays a crucial role in controlling mosquito populations across both incorporated and unincorporated areas of Solano County, which spans over 900 square miles. Established in 1930, SCMAD has been committed to protecting public health and improving the quality of life for residents by reducing the risk of mosquito-borne diseases. Over the years, the district has implemented a variety of strategies, including surveillance, public

### **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

education, and environmentally responsible treatments, to effectively manage mosquito populations. The dedicated efforts of SCMAD ensure that the community remains safer from the threats posed by mosquitoes, West Nile virus and other vector-borne illnesses.

Contact: (707) 437-1116; [solmad@solanomosquito.com](mailto:solmad@solanomosquito.com)

For more information, visit [www.solanomosquito.com](http://www.solanomosquito.com)

## Ride Free to Vote 2024



We're free to vote, SolTrans is Free to Ride. Ride free all day on Tuesday, November 5 on all local and paratransit service

SolTrans, which operates in the cities of Vallejo and Benicia, will offer free rides on all local and paratransit services on **Election Day, Tuesday, November 5**, to help community members access the polls.

Exercising the right to vote is so important, that SolTrans wants to make it as easy as possible to get to the polls. Free rides will be on all local routes for all riders, and paratransit trips will be free for all ADA-eligible persons. Reservations are required for Paratransit service, please follow normal protocol to book a paratransit trip on or before November 1.

To find your Solano County polling place and check your voter status, visit [Solano County Registrar Voters](#). Riders can plan their travel early.

For help planning your trip, customers can plan a trip with SolTrans' [trip planner](#). Be ready to provide the starting address and the address of the polling place you will be traveling to.

## Bridge toll hikes are coming

Drivers who cross the Bay Area's seven state-owned bridges—including the Carquinez and Benicia-Martinez bridges in Solano County—could see a series of annual toll hikes for bridge maintenance lasting into 2030.



These proposed increases are separate from the recent toll hikes for transportation projects that voters approved in 2018 (Regional Measure 3). One-way tolls are currently \$7 and are slated to rise to \$8 in January.

The Bay Area Toll Authority is considering increasing tolls on the region's seven state-owned bridges by 50 cents a year from 2026 through 2030. Tolls were already set to increase to \$8 for all bridges on Jan. 1, 2025. Under the proposal, on Jan. 1, 2026, tolls would rise to \$8.50. On Jan. 1, 2027, tolls would rise to \$9 for those with FasTrak transponders, \$8.25 for those with license plate accounts, and \$10 for other drivers. On Jan. 1, 2028, tolls would rise to \$9.50 for those with FasTrak transponders, \$9.75 for those with license plate accounts, and \$10.50 for other drivers. On Jan. 1, 2029, tolls would rise to \$10 for those with FasTrak transponders, \$10.25 for those with license plate accounts, and \$11 for other drivers. On Jan. 1, 2030, tolls would rise to \$10.50 for those with FasTrak transponders, \$10.75 for those with license plate accounts, and \$11.50 for other drivers.

The Bay Area Toll Authority has borrowed \$56 million since 2021 to pay for bridge preservation. Borrowing another \$600 million over the next five years would result in having to pay back \$690 million, including interest, according to the report.

Drivers paid a toll of 40 cents on the Carquinez and Benicia-Martinez bridges in the late 1980s, or \$1.04 in today's money. That was before a series of voter-approved increases for transportation projects and authority-approved increases for seismic retrofitting.

**People can weigh in on the proposed toll increases during a comment period that begins Monday, Nov. 4 and continues through 5 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 3. They can send comments to [info@bayareametro.gov](mailto:info@bayareametro.gov)**

The toll authority and MTC will host a public webinar from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 13 to present details about the proposed toll hike.

The two agencies will hold a public hearing at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 20 in San Francisco. Members of the public will be able to participate in person or via Zoom.

This was adopted by the Bay Area Toll Authority, so the public does not get to vote on the increases. This is the time to make your voice heard!

Sources: *Barry Eberling, Napa Valley Register*

*Michael Cabanatuan, San Francisco Chronicle*

Below is the proposed toll increase schedules:

	FasTrak	License plate account	Invoice
Jan. 1, 2025	\$8.00	\$8.00	\$8.00
Jan. 1, 2026 (with toll increase)	\$8.50	\$8.50	\$8.50
Jan. 1, 2027	\$9.00	\$9.25	\$10.00
Jan. 1, 2028	\$9.50	\$9.75	\$10.50
Jan. 1, 2029	\$10.00	\$10.25	\$11.00
Jan. 1, 2030	\$10.50	\$10.75	\$11.50

Table: Anna Buchinans / The Chronicle. Source: Bay Area Toll Authority

## City Streets, County Roads Stuck in Neutral as Middling Pavement Quality Prevails Across Bay Area



From the Metropolitan Transportation Commission:

Overall pavement conditions on the Bay Area's 44,000 lane-miles of local streets and roads landed once again in fair territory last year, with the typical stretch of roadway showing serious wear and likely to require rehabilitation soon. Data released today by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) put the region's 2023 pavement condition index (PCI) score at 67 out of a maximum possible 100 points, as computed on a three-year moving average basis. This marks the ninth consecutive year Bay Area streets and roads have registered an average score of 67.

"Napa County's improvement is an encouraging sign," said MTC Chair and Napa County Supervisor Alfredo Pedroza, referring to a seven-point jump in the one-year PCI score for roads in unincorporated portions of the county to 52 last year from 45 in 2022 and a three-year moving average that rose to 48 from 45. "But our county roadways are still among the lowest rated in the Bay Area and MTC's goal of having all the region's streets and roads in a state of good repair is proving to be frustratingly hard to reach. The good news is that city and county public works teams have been able to prevent large-scale deterioration. We're even seeing big

improvements in some places. The bad news is there's still so far to go."

PCI scores of 90 or higher are considered "excellent." These are newly built or resurfaced streets that show little or no distress. Pavement with a PCI score in the 80 to 89 range is considered "very good" and shows only slight or moderate distress, requiring primarily preventive maintenance. The "good" category ranges from 70 to 79, while streets with PCI scores in the "fair" (60-69) range are becoming worn to the point where rehabilitation may be needed to prevent rapid deterioration. Because major repairs cost five to 10 times more than routine maintenance, these streets are at an especially critical stage.

Roadways with PCI scores of 50 to 59 are deemed "at-risk," while those with PCI scores of 25 to 49 are considered "poor." These roads require major rehabilitation or reconstruction. Pavement with a PCI score below 25 is considered "failed."

San José, which has by far the largest street network in the Bay Area at nearly 4,500 lane-miles, climbed into the "good" range last year with a three-year moving average score of 71, up two points from 69 in the 2020-22 period. San Francisco's three-year moving average score held steady at 74 last year. Oakland's three-year moving average rose by three points to 57, but the city's single-year score fell by a point to 56 from 57 in 2022.

The Sonoma County city of Petaluma achieved the biggest one-year PCI gains of any Bay Area jurisdiction last year, with its 393 lane-miles of city streets registering a score of 55 (at-risk) for 2023, up 12 points from 43 (poor) the year before.

Besides Petaluma and unincorporated Napa County, other communities with big year-over-year improvements in their PCI scores include Cotati, which rose eight points to 74 (good) last year from 66 (fair) in 2022; Moraga, which recorded a five-point increase to 76 from 71; and Dixon, Larkspur, Richmond and St. Helena, each of which boosted their one-year scores by four points. Larkspur's one-year PCI score for 2023 now ranks as the highest of any Bay Area municipality at 89 and its three-year moving average score of 83 is tied with Orinda and Palo Alto at the top of the Bay Area charts. Larkspur as recently as 2017 registered one-year scores in the "poor" range but twice in recent years passed local sales tax measures dedicated to rehabilitating the city's 65 lane-miles of streets.

Six Bay Area municipalities registered three-year PCI scores in the "very good" range for the 2021-2023 period. These include Larkspur, Orinda and Palo Alto (83); Cupertino (82); and Hillsborough and unincorporated Solano County (81). Jurisdictions with three-year PCI scores in the "poor" range include Vallejo (45) and Pacifica (47) as well as Petaluma and unincorporated Napa County (48).

The complete 2023 Pavement Conditions Summary — including percentages of local roadways in various conditions, and a listing of average PCI scores for the arterials, collector roadways and

residential streets for all Bay Area counties and cities — may be accessed at <https://mtc.ca.gov/digital-library/5035838-pavement-condition-bay-area-jurisdictions-2023>.

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

## **Notice for Retailers accepting SNAP EBT Benefits**

Electronic benefit theft continues to be a significant problem, preventing EBT cardholders from accessing their benefits.

To reduce electronic benefit theft in California, the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) will upgrade magnetic stripe only EBT cards to a more secure Chip/Europay, Mastercard, and Visa (EMV) and Tap Pay (Chip EMV/Tap) technology card.

SNAP EBT Chip and Tap cards are coming mid-January 2025, and retailers must take action to be able to continue to process EBT transactions at Point of Sale (POS) terminals.

California is leading the nation as the first state to enable the integration of Chip EMV/Tap technology to improve EBT card security and increase the protection of food and cash benefits.

## **Medicare Open Enrollment**

Congressman John Garamendi is reminding persons that Medicare Open Enrollment is now underway and runs through December 7.

From Congressman Garamendi:

"In 2022, I proudly voted to pass the Inflation Reduction Act, empowering Medicare the power to negotiate lower prescription drug prices and reduce healthcare costs for seniors.



As your voice in Congress, I am committed to fighting for universal healthcare and protecting Americans' existing healthcare rights. I'm excited to share the progress we've made to improve our community's access to healthcare.

Thanks to the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), Medicare now has the authority to negotiate lower prescription drug prices. Beginning in January, total out-of-pocket costs for prescription drugs will be capped at \$2,000 annually, ensuring seniors never pay more than

that for medications covered under Medicare, including those used to treat cancer and chronic illnesses.

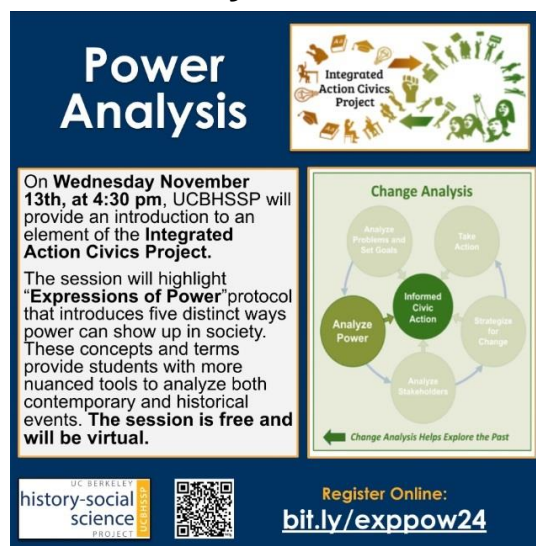
The IRA also caps the cost of insulin for seniors with diabetes at \$35 a month. In California's 8th District, approximately 74,000 individuals living with diabetes, and 20,000 rely on daily insulin. Medicare beneficiaries who depend on insulin are now saving an average of \$320 annually compared to 2020 prices.

In 2010, I voted to pass the Affordable Care Act, which has helped tens of millions of Americans access affordable, high-quality health insurance. As of 2024, about 26,000 of my constituents are enrolled in the Affordable Care Act marketplace, a 16% increase since 2020. Thanks to the IRA, the average enrollee will save \$2,630 in premiums this year. Without the IRA's enhanced subsidies, the average premium would have increased 117%, to an average of \$4,870.

I encourage every senior in our community to take advantage of these new, lower-cost Medicare benefits. It is more important than ever to look at your drug coverage for 2025 during Medicare Open Enrollment and make sure you are enrolled in the Medicare Part D plan that is best for you. Click the button below for more information on Medicare Open Enrollment."

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

## Power Analysis



The poster features a dark blue background with white and green text. At the top left, the title "Power Analysis" is written in a large, bold, white font. To the right of the title is a circular graphic with various icons representing different aspects of the project. Below the title, the text provides details about the event: "On Wednesday November 13th, at 4:30 pm, UCBHSSP will provide an introduction to an element of the Integrated Action Civics Project." It then describes the "Expressions of Power" protocol and mentions that the session is free and virtual. On the right side of the poster, there is a diagram titled "Change Analysis" showing a cycle of five steps: "Analyze Problems and Set Goals", "Take Action", "Strategies for Change", "Analyze Outcomes", and "Informed Civic Action". At the bottom left, there is a QR code and the UC Berkeley History-Social Science Project logo. At the bottom right, there is a registration link: "Register Online: bit.ly/exppow24".

**Power Analysis**

On **Wednesday November 13th, at 4:30 pm**, UCBHSSP will provide an introduction to an element of the **Integrated Action Civics Project**.

The session will highlight "**Expressions of Power**" protocol that introduces five distinct ways power can show up in society. These concepts and terms provide students with more nuanced tools to analyze both contemporary and historical events. **The session is free and will be virtual.**

**Change Analysis**

Analyze Problems and Set Goals → Take Action → Strategies for Change → Analyze Outcomes → Informed Civic Action → Analyze Problems and Set Goals

Change Analysis Helps Explore the Past

UC BERKELEY  
history-social science PROJECT

Register Online:  
[bit.ly/exppow24](https://bit.ly/exppow24)

To register, click [here](#).

## Teach the Election

California History-Social Science Project is offering classroom-ready resources for the 2024 Election.



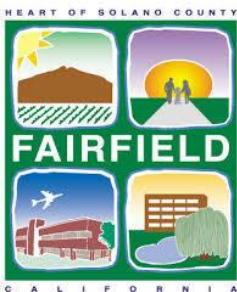
The electoral process can be confusing. The *Teach the Election* series offers short readings, discussion questions, and primary sources to help students understand the historical context of today's election. And with a better understanding of the electoral process, students are more likely to participate.

- [Electoral College](#). What is the significance of the Electoral College in the 2024 presidential election?
- [Party Platforms](#). What values and policies do each party stand for?
- [Immigration](#). How has immigration shaped America? Students can explore the role that immigration is playing in the 2024 election.
- [Role of the Media](#). What is a responsible press? How does it exercise this right in a way that is most beneficial to a democracy?
- [Analyzing the Debate](#). Students can use this tool to watch and analyze the upcoming presidential debate.
- [Super Tuesday](#). What is Super Tuesday and why is it important?
- [Primaries and Caucuses](#). What are primaries and how are they different from caucuses? What are the advantages and disadvantages of each?
- For information about local elections, civic engagement, and media literacy, check out our [YCYCI Teaching Civics resources](#).

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## Public hearings

### Fairfield Forward 2050: Next steps through adoption



The public comment period for Fairfield Forward 2050, consisting of a General Plan Update, Climate Action Plan, and Environmental Impact Report (EIR), closed in September 2024. The Public Drafts remain available on the Fairfield Forward 2050 project website at [www.fairfieldforward.com](http://www.fairfieldforward.com).

Public comments will be published on the project website after Wednesday, October 9.

Responses to Draft General Plan Update and Draft Climate Action Plan comments will be provided in future staff reports for the Planning Commission and City Council. Responses to Draft EIR comments will be provided in the Final EIR.

Next steps through adoption are as follows:

- **November 6, 2024:** Special meeting of the Planning Commission to review and make a recommendation to the City Council
- **December 3, 2024:** Regular City Council meeting to vote on the adoption of the Fairfield Forward 2050 project

Please contact Jessie Hernandez, Associate Planner, with any questions at (707) 428-7450 or [jhernandez@fairfield.ca.gov](mailto:jhernandez@fairfield.ca.gov).

## General Plan Amendment Public Hearing



The Solano County Planning Commission will hold a public hearing to consider a General Plan Amendment (G-24-01) to update the Public Health and Safety Chapter of the General Plan.

The updates address recent state requirements for General Plans, including information relating to evacuation routes, minimum road widths and clearances around structures, mapping of known seismic hazards, current flooding and fire risk conditions, hazard mapping, flooding and fire hazard-related policies, a climate change vulnerability assessment, and comprehensively addressing the short-term and long-term threats posed by climate change.

The project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Sections 15061(B)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines because it has been determined that implementation of the proposed project would not have the potential to cause a significant effect on the environment. (Project Planner: Matt Walsh, 707-784-6765).

**The hearing will be held on Thursday, November 7 at 7 p.m. in the Board of Supervisors Chambers, County Administration Center, 1st Floor, 675 Texas Street, Fairfield.**

Staff reports and associated materials will be available to the public approximately one week prior to the meeting at [www.solanocounty.com](http://www.solanocounty.com) under Departments; Resource Management; Boards, Commissions & Special Districts; Solano County Planning Commission.

## Informational Webinar Powering Up Californians: CPUC Energization Timelines



CALIFORNIA  
Public Utilities Commission

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) invites you to an informational webinar to learn how recently adopted energization

timelines and targets will accelerate requests for new and updated electrical service. Energy Division staff will provide an overview of the timelines that are designed to speed up the process to connect new residential and commercial developments, electric vehicle (EV)

charging stations, and other loads to the grid, improve utility transparency and accountability, and support the state's economic and electrification goals. A Q&A session will follow the presentation.

The event will be held from 10 to 11:30 a.m., **Wednesday, November 13.**

**Please register [HERE](#)** (we ask that you register to receive the webinar link).

Senate Bill 410 (Becker) and Assembly Bill 50 (Wood), enacted in 2023, directed the CPUC to establish energization timelines for new and upgraded electrical service and to establish a process for reporting electrical service delays. Last month, the CPUC approved a decision to establish new energization timelines and targets for the three large electric investor-owned utilities (IOUs) to complete steps in the energization process that they control. The timelines are based on the utilities' energization data from the last five years in addition to party comments submitted in a process that was streamlined to meet a September 30, 2024, statutory deadline.

More detailed information on CPUC's energization timelines and targets can be found [here](#).

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## Updates from around Solano County

### Service Academy Nominations



A message from Monica: This week my office did an email blast to inform constituents about the Service Academy Nominations. I spoke with Congressman Garamendi's Office concerning the deadline date. It did not seem fair to receive the information so late and have the deadline be today. Good news. You may turn your application in by November 8. Now for the tests. With your application send in a copy of when you will be taking the SAT or the ACT. I know it is hard to get a slot to take the test. Try to take the test ASAP. I hope this extra week will help.

A message from Congressman Garamendi:

"Every year, one of my greatest honors is nominating outstanding young people from our district to the United States Service Academies. These prestigious institutions provide our youth with the tools to become exceptional leaders as officers in our armed forces.

If you are interested in requesting a Military Academy Nomination from our office and attending the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, the U.S. Naval Academy, the U.S. Air Force Academy, or the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, or if you have any questions, please click the button below. All applications with required supporting documents must be hand-delivered, emailed, or postmarked by November 8."

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

## Winter Shelter at BayNorth Church of Christ Opens November 1



BayNorth Church of Christ will be providing a winter shelter for city of Fairfield residents who are unhoused.

The winter shelter will operate each night, beginning **November 1, 2024, through March 31, 2025. The intake process will be from 6:30 to 8 pm and the shelter exit time will be 6 am each morning. Those needing shelter are allowed to line up starting at 6 pm.**

The winter shelter will be filled on a first come, first served basis each night with a limited capacity of ten. Individuals needing shelter must be able to independently manage activities of daily living and agree to comply with program guidelines. There will be limited space for personal belongings.

**The winter shelter address is 2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, and the phone number is (707) 260-9794.**

**FAST will provide free bus rides to the winter shelter on FAST route 3 from 6 to 7 pm Monday-Friday.** Those who need a ride will need to board the bus at the Fairfield Transportation Center and let

the driver know they are going to the winter shelter. Exit the bus at Solano Town Center, make a left on Pennsylvania Ave. and walk one block to Bay North Church of Christ.

## Town Hall with State Sen. Bill Dodd



State Senator Bill Dodd will host his final in a series of virtual town halls discussing the results of the general election and priorities for 2025 with other district leaders.

The town hall will be streamed live over multiple channels and broadcast on KSVY Sonoma. Sen. Dodd and his guests will take questions via email and phone. The call-in line phone number is below.

Sen. Dodd; will be joined by Assemblymember Lori D. Wilson; Christopher Cabaldon, former mayor; David McCuan, political science professor at Sonoma State University.

**The townhall will take place from 4 to 5 p.m. Nov. 6.**

Streaming live audio: [KSVY.org](https://www.ksvy.org)

Video:

- <https://sd03.senate.ca.gov>
- <https://www.facebook.com/SenBillDodd>
- <https://www.youtube.com/user/SonomaTV/>
- [SonomaTV.org](https://www.sonomatelevision.org)

The event also will be broadcast locally on KSVY 91.3 FM

Email questions to: [townhall@ksvy.org](mailto:townhall@ksvy.org)

Call-in questions: (707) 933-9133

## Dia de los Muertos - Vallejo



## Dia de los Muertos - Fairfield



The city of Fairfield is partnering with the Sullivan Language Immersion Academy and Solano Community College to bring you the Dia de los Muertos Event on **Saturday, November 2, from 12 to 4**

p.m., at the Sullivan Language Immersion Academy, 2195 Union Avenue.

Join for a vibrant celebration where we honor and remember loved ones with colorful altars, lively music, and delicious traditional foods.

## Western Day at the Adobe



Peña Adobe welcomes back "Western Day at the Adobe"! this **Saturday, November from 11a.m. to 2p.m.**

The open house event will feature performances by the Congressional Gunfighters of America, a professional acting stunt troupe! The reenactment group is dedicated to preserving old Western history, specializing in live entertainment. They use period costuming and weaponry.

## City of Vacaville Seeks Community Feedback on its Public Engagement Practices



The city of Vacaville is analyzing its current outreach methods to identify best practices and areas of improvement. The city invites the community to participate in this process and share feedback in a **short survey** by **Sunday, November 17.**

The survey aims to gain insight into how the community currently receives information from the city.

"One of the goals in the City of Vacaville Strategic Plan is to promote community engagement and increase equity and inclusion. Analyzing our current practices is an important step in developing a comprehensive engagement plan, and we want to make sure your voice is heard early on in the process," said Assistant City Manager George Anne Meggers-Smith. "Your input is essential in helping Vacaville promote community dialogue and engagement. We encourage all of you to participate in this survey so we can make sure we are doing our part to best serve you."

The short 3-minute survey consists of a series of brief questions designed to gather feedback on the outreach channels the community prefers and how informed they feel about things going on in Vacaville. The feedback received through this survey will help shape the goals, objectives and strategies in the future **Community Engagement Strategy and Communications Plan.**

As part of this ongoing effort to enhance the City's communications, the city plans to conduct additional surveys in the future to gather more targeted feedback.

The survey is available now at [CityofVacaville.gov/Survey](http://CityofVacaville.gov/Survey).

For any questions, contact Joanna Leal, Public Relations Manager, [Joanna.Leal@CityofVacaville.com](mailto:Joanna.Leal@CityofVacaville.com)

## Volunteer for the Veterans Day Parade on November 11



Even beauty queens need help! You can come to their rescue by volunteering as a stager or pacer for the Veterans Day Parade on Monday, November 11! Stagers will assist with getting entries ready and pacers will help with entry timing down Texas Street.

You can signup by clicking [here](#). This is also a great way to get community hours for school!

## Solano County libraries



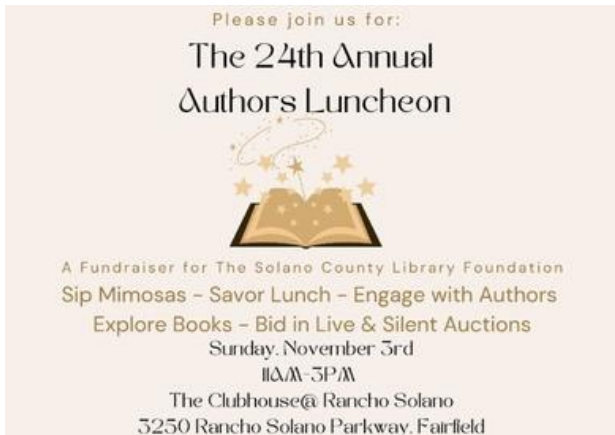
The Solano County Library will be closed on the following dates:



**Monday, November 11: Veterans Day**  
**Thursday, November 28: Thanksgiving**  
**Friday, November 29: Day After Thanksgiving**

Branches will close early at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, November 27.

## 24th Annual Authors Luncheon



Join the Solano County Library Foundation for their annual Authors Luncheon, a fundraiser benefiting the Solano County Library Foundation. This event features engaging author talks, a delightful lunch, mimosas, book exploration, and exciting live and silent auctions. By supporting this event, you help fund vital programs that promote literacy and education throughout Solano County.

To purchase tickets and/or or to view the speakers list, click [here](#).

## November calendar for Benicia Veterans Memorial Hall



The November calendar of events for Benicia Veterans Memorial Hall:

**November 1:** Hamburgers by VFW Aux;

3 Daylight Savings Time Ends

6 **VFW AND Aux** meeting is 1900 hours; Judy's Hot dogs

8 Hamburgers by The American Legion

10 **Marine Corps birthday**

11 **Veterans Day** Remembrance Day, VFW AUX WILL BE SERVING PANCAKES 9-11AM, donations accepted; SONS OF THE LEGION

COOKING hamburgers and hot dogs 12-2pm, see day's events  
BVMH and postings in bar

12 **Boys Under the Hood** meeting, **Hot dogs**

13 **AMERICAN LEGION / AUX** meet at 1900 hours, Judy's Hot dogs

15 Hamburgers by Sons of The American Legion

19 House commission meeting 1830 hrs

20 **SONS AMERICAN LEGION** meet at 1900 hours; Judy's Hot dogs;

22 Hamburgers by American Legion Aux, Kevin and Patty

28 **Thanksgiving Day**

29 Hamburgers by VFW

The Benicia Veterans Memorial Hall is located at 1150 1st Street in  
downtown Benicia.

## Veterans Day Closure

The Solano County Administration Center will be closed for the  
Veterans Day holiday on Monday, November 11.

## Solano County jobs

### Week of October 28, 2024

If you, or someone you know, are interested in learning more about any of the positions below  
or our other amazing career opportunities, please check out our [Job Opportunities](#).

Positions
Appeals Specialist
Code Compliance Officer (Entry/Journey) DOQ
Behavioral Health Services Administrator
Medical Assistant (Lead)
Legal Secretary (Entry)
Legal Secretary

To view the full job descriptions, click [here](#).

## Rio Vista Bridge 55-Hour Closure Postponed

Caltrans is advising motorists a scheduled closure of the Rio Vista  
Bridge (Helen Madere Memorial Bridge) on State Route 12 (SR-12)  
just east of the City of Rio Vista has been postponed and  
rescheduled due to a bad weather forecast.

All work on road construction projects will be suspended on weekends and holidays. Schedules are subject to change due to weather conditions, equipment or material availability, or other unexpected events.

#### **RESCHEDULED DATE:**

- **9 p.m. Friday, November 15 to 4 a.m. Monday, November 18**

Find projects that are building California's climate-friendly future at [Build.ca.gov](http://Build.ca.gov) and [RebuildingCA.ca.gov](http://RebuildingCA.ca.gov).

Caltrans District 3 is responsible for maintaining and operating 4,385 lane miles in 11 Sacramento Valley and Northern Sierra counties. Caltrans reminds motorists to "Be Work Zone Alert" and slow in construction zones for the safety of travelers and crews performing these improvements.

The department will issue construction updates on X [@CaltransDist3](#) and on Facebook at [CaltransDistrict3](#). For real-time traffic, click on [Caltrans' QuickMap](#) or download the QuickMap app from the [App Store](#) or [Google Play](#).

## **Arts Benicia**



p.m.

Arts Benicia will host the following event later this month:

**Family Art Day:** Sunday, November 17, 1 to 3

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 Benicia'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 the Arts Benicia website. For 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 Arts Benicia programs. With your sponsorship support, they can continue to offer an engaging, diverse array of programs at low or no cost to the community.

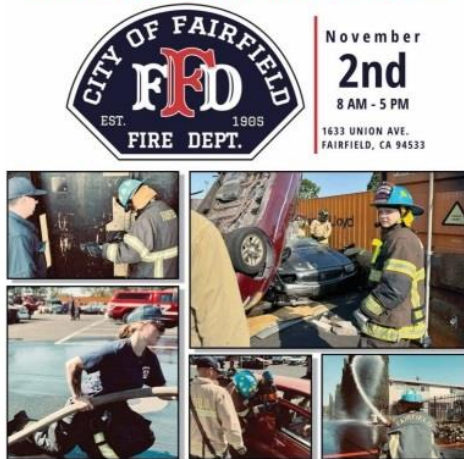
To find out more about sponsoring an Arts Benicia exhibition or program, please get in touch by emailing [info@artsbenicia.org](mailto:info@artsbenicia.org) or visiting <https://artsbenicia.org/sponsorship/>

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## Upcoming events in Solano County

### Citizen's Youth Fire Academy

#### CITIZEN'S YOUTH FIRE ACADEMY



Join the city of Fairfield Fire Department for a free day of training at the Fairfield Fire Department training tower on **Friday, November 2, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 1633 Union Avenue.**

The event is open to high school students looking to learn more about the fire service. Breakfast and lunch will be provided.

To sign up email:[sheilamc@fsusd.org](mailto:sheilamc@fsusd.org). Email [bdombroski@fairfield.ca.gov](mailto:bdombroski@fairfield.ca.gov) for more fire department related information.

### Catholic Charities Yolo-Solano and SolTrans Host “Treat Yourself” Resource Fair for Unhoused and At-Risk Community Members

Solano County Transit (SolTrans) and Catholic Charities Yolo-Solano are partnering to host a “Treat Yourself” Resource Fair for Unhoused and At-Risk Community Members on **Friday, November 8, from 12 to 4 p.m. at the Vallejo Transit Center, 311 Sacramento Street in the city of Vallejo.**

“Treat Yourself” is designed to provide essential services to individuals who are unhoused or at risk of becoming unhoused in the

community. The event aims to deliver vital services that are often unavailable to those most in need. Attendees will have access to mobile haircuts, mobile showers, a mobile clinic, and a warm meal, among many other resources that support dignity and well-being.

In collaboration with community partners, Catholic Charities Yolo-Solano and SolTrans are working to create a welcoming environment for all attendees, offering a day of care and pampering in the spirit of the holiday season.

“We are truly honored to partner with Catholic Charities Yolo-Solano for this meaningful event, aimed at uplifting our most vulnerable community members by providing them with the essential care and services they deserve,” said Beth Kranda, SolTrans Executive Director. “This event serves as a powerful reminder of the impact we can achieve when local partners and volunteers come together. We are deeply grateful to everyone contributing to make this day a special one.”

For more information about the event or to register as an agency visit [here](#) or contact Alexandria Willingham at (707) 408-1027 [awillingham@ccyoso.org](mailto:awillingham@ccyoso.org).

Solano County Transit (SolTrans) has been the public transportation provider for south Solano County since July 2011. SolTrans provides local and Express fixed routes and complementary paratransit. The agency is a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) governed by a six-member Board of Directors, composed of two representatives from the cities of Benicia and Vallejo, Solano County’s representative on the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), and a representative from the Solano Transportation Authority.

## **Magical Glass: A Hands-on Workshop Exploring Stained Glass**



This fun, interactive children's workshop will start by studying the historic Tiffany-stained glass windows followed by time to explore St. Peter's Chapel on Mare Island. Everyone will then make their own tissue paper-stained glass window!

**The workshop will take place from 10 to 11:30 a.m., Saturday, November 9, at St. Peter's Chapel, 1181 Walnut Avenue, Mare Island in the city of Vallejo.**

To reserve a spot, click [here](#).

## Poetry Reading and Open Mic

FAIRFIELD POET LAUREATE SUZANNE BRUCE  
INVITES YOU TO AN EVENT

**Thankful for Poetry**

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2024 | 1:00PM - 3:00PM  
FAIRFIELD CIVIC CENTER LIBRARY - 1150 KENTUCKY STREET, FAIRFIELD

*Jackie Berger*



Jacqueline Berger's fifth book of poetry, *Left at the Ruin* (Terrapin Books) was published in August. Previous books include *The Gift That Arrives Broken*, *Autumn House*, and *Things That Burn*. She is a professor emerita at Notre Dame de Namur University, Belmont, California and has recently relocated to the Central Coast. Learn more at [www.jacquelineberger.com](http://www.jacquelineberger.com)

*Lenore Weiss*



Lenore serves as the Associate Creative Nonfiction (CNF) Editor for the *Mud Season Review* and lives in Oakland, California. Her environmental novel *Pulp into Paper* was published this year on Earth Day as was a new poetry collection, *Video Game Pointers*. Learn more at [www.lenoreweiss.com](http://www.lenoreweiss.com)

OPEN MIC TO FOLLOW

[WWW.FAIRFIELD.CA.GOV/POET](http://WWW.FAIRFIELD.CA.GOV/POET)

Solano County LIBRARY



## Open Mare Island Self-Guided Tour

**OPEN**  
*Mare Island*

MIHPF Presents  
**Free Self-Guided Tour of Mare Island**  
Sunday, Nov. 17 | 12 noon - 2 pm

- 5 Docent Stations
- SolTrans Shuttle Bus to all Stations
- Free Coffee @ The Quarters
- See inside St. Peter's Chapel

Pick up your map at:  
The Quarters Coffee House



Join the Mare Island Historic Park Foundation (MIHPF) and Mare Island Co. for Open Mare Island which features self-guided walking tours of historic Mare Island.

A SolTrans shuttle bus will be available to help you move from docent-staffed stations, including St. Peter's Chapel, the Old Hospital, and the Naval Cemetery. This is a free event!

The open house will take place from noon to 2 p.m., Sunday, November 17, at 1015 Walnut Avenue on Mare Island in the city of Vallejo.

To reserve a spot, click [here](#).

## Holiday fundraiser

Please join us for our  
**HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE**  
*A non-profit fundraiser*  
at the Benicia Veteran's Memorial Hall  
**Saturday, November 23rd** 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
HOLIDAY Decor, Art, Apparel,  
Crafts, Toys, Treats and More!  
There's something special about a  
**CRAFT FAIR**  
Vendor Space  
\$50.00  
Contact Kevin at  
925-457-2915  
Benicia Veteran's Memorial Hall  
1150 First Street, Benicia, CA 94510

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## Events I attended this week

**Last weekend (October 26 and 27)**, I attended the Mare Island Historic Park Foundation Speaker Series. The guest speaker was Jeff Dwyer who is a Paranormal Investigator. St. Peter's Chapel was packed. I went with several friends who know Jeff. I went with an open mind. The speaker was very organized. I am not sure that I believe but it makes one think especially the weekend before Halloween.

Later that night, I attend the Moonlight Masquerade held at the Clocktower. My costume was a dress depicting, "The Nightmare before Christmas." Yes, the fright was me wearing a dress. It was fun listening to music, seeing friends dressed up for Halloween.

Sunday, I attended the fundraiser for Benicia Fiestas Primavera Celebrating Diversity held at the Drift's 366 First Street. The music was wonderful. The food was excellent. The cause is just. Please

mark your calendar April 5, 2025, to attend the event. Hope to see you there.

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## 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](#)

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## Newsletter photo

A cloudy downtown Vallejo. Photo: John Glidden

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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.