

January 10, 2025



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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

Area Agency on Aging

Information this week

What's the Difference Between Phishing, Smishing and Vishing?

Methods of Contact for Phishing, Smishing and Vishing	
Phishing	Email
Smishing	SMS/Text message
Vishing	Phone, robocall, voicemail, voice over internet protocol (VoIP)



Phishing: A method of cyberattack that attempts to trick victims into clicking on fraudulent links in emails. The link usually takes the victim to a seemingly legitimate form that asks them to type in their usernames, passwords, account numbers or other private information,

which is directly sent to scammers.

Smishing: Comes in the form of a text message and will often contain a fraudulent link that takes victims to a form that is used to steal their information. Can also download malware such as viruses, ransomware, spyware or adware onto the victim's device.

(707) 784-8960

U.S. Social Security

(800) 772-1213

Vishing: Scammers call potential victims, often using prerecorded robocalls, pretending to be a legitimate company to solicit personal information such as driver's license number, social security number, credit card information, first and last name and address from a victim.

SUICIDE PREVENTION

NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION HOTLINE

800-273-8255

How to Prevent them

1. Never click on links from someone you don't know.
2. Never give out personal information to someone who contacts you out of the blue.
3. Don't answer calls or texts from numbers you don't recognize.

SPANISH LINE

888-628-9454

DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING

How to Protect Yourself if Your Information Has Been Stolen

1. Credit freeze: You can freeze your credit for free with all three national credit bureaus. (<https://www.experian.com/blogs/ask-experian/credit-education/preventing-fraud/security-freeze/>).
2. Personal privacy scan: You can find out if your personal info is out on the web with Experian's personal privacy scan. (<https://www.experian.com/protection/personal-privacy-scan/>)
3. Identity theft protection: For complete identity theft protection after you've been victimized by a scammer. (<https://www.experian.com/protection/identity-theft-and-credit-protection/>)
4. Dark web surveillance
5. Three-bureau credit monitoring
6. Payday & non-credit loan alerts
7. Change of address alerts
8. Financial account activity monitoring

800 799 4889

FRIENDSHIP LINE FOR SENIORS

800 971 0016

CRISIS TEX LINE

741741

THE TREVOR PROJECT FOR LGBTQ YOUTH

866-488-7386

These are simple steps you can take to help protect yourself and those you love.

TRANS LIFELINE PROVIDING SUPPORT FOR THE TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY

MTC to Poll Area Residents on Options for Preserving, Improving Transit Service

877-565-8860



MTC at a special Commission meeting recently directed staff to conduct public opinion polling on several frameworks for a potential

2026 transportation tax measure that could avert deep service cuts by BART and other transit agencies; and could spur implementation

of the [Bay Area Transit Transformation Action Plan](#) to improve the customer experience for transit riders.

The first of the frameworks to be explored for a possible ballot measure in 2026 is a 10-year, half-cent sales tax that would appear on the ballot in Alameda, Contra Costa, San Francisco and San Mateo counties, with an option for Santa Clara County to participate as well. Under this scenario, the sales tax would generate about \$560 million each year, with 90 percent of the money used to support transit operations and the remaining 10 percent going to make customer-focused improvements to transit, such as fare discounts when a rider uses more than one transit agency on a single trip and projects to help buses bypass traffic.

The second framework — which would raise an estimated \$1.3 billion to \$1.5 billion each year — includes a 30-year, half-cent sales tax plus a parcel tax of nine cents per square foot of any building(s) on the property. This ‘hybrid’ measure would appear on the ballot in Alameda, Contra Costa, San Francisco and San Mateo counties, with an opt-in provision for Santa Clara, Marin, Napa, Solano and Sonoma counties. As with the first framework, 90 percent of the money from the sales tax portion would be used to support transit operations and 10 percent would be invested to improve the customer experience for transit riders. Sixty percent of parcel tax revenues would be used to support transit operations with the remaining 40 percent reserved as a "county flex" available to address a range of transportation needs in each participating county.

Another framework for which polling will be conducted would involve tax rates that vary by county. Developed by the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency, this third option would feature a higher tax rate in San Francisco (which has proportionally higher transit operating needs than other counties), a lower rate in Santa Clara County, and equivalent rates in Alameda, Contra Costa and San Mateo counties.

The Commission also approved several policy provisions for inclusion in new state legislation that would enable voters to consider a future ballot measure, including requiring stronger oversight of transit agencies’ financial information and requiring transit agencies to adopt policies to help improve the transit customer experience as a condition for receiving new funds. The Commission recommended against including transit agency consolidation as a topic for enabling legislation.

MTC engaged Oakland-based EMC Research to conduct public opinion polling. EMC will poll Bay Area residents on the potential tax frameworks in early 2025, with results reported to the Commission in February.

MTC’s pursuit of more information about the proposed tax frameworks and associated policy provisions follows work done earlier this year by a [Transportation Revenue Measure Select](#)

[Committee](#) established to help reach consensus for state legislation in 2025 that would authorize Bay Area voters consider a 2026 ballot measure to preserve and enhance public transit in the region. MTC Commissioner and Select Committee Chair Jim Sperring of Solano County noted in October, “There are three things a ballot measure must eventually do. It needs to generate enough revenue to address our most immediate transit shortfalls; it needs to introduce transformative changes to our transit systems that Bay Area residents have been asking for; and it needs to be a measure that voters will support, with coordination and vision.”

Rio Vista Bridge scheduled for third 55-hour closure



Caltrans is advising motorists of a scheduled closure of the Rio Vista Bridge (Helen Madere Memorial Bridge) on State Route 12 (SR-12) for ongoing repairs.

The weekend closure has been rescheduled to 9 p.m. Friday, January 10 through to 4 a.m. Monday, January 13.

This \$11.24 million project funded through the Bridge Rehabilitation and Replacement Program will require multiple 55-hour weekend closures for the work to be completed because of the limited width of the bridge to allow for heavy equipment access.

The project is making necessary mechanical repairs and rehabilitating the roadway surface by placing a polyester concrete overlay on the bridge deck. Work also includes replacing bridge rails, repaving bridge approach ramps, and constructing Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant ramps.

Delays for the arrival of bridge materials and a request from the city of Rio Vista has extended the original date.

For updates, click [here](#).

Yolo County: 55-hour Closure Scheduled for Enterprise Boulevard Ramps-Signed Detours in Place for Motorists to Eastbound U.S. Highway 50



Caltrans is alerting motorists of upcoming extended weekend ramp closures for the ongoing Yolo Interstate 80 (I-80) and U.S. Highway 50 (US-50) Pavement Rehabilitation Project.

Construction work will include a closure of the Enterprise Boulevard on- and off-ramps to eastbound US-50. Caltrans urges motorists to plan for additional travel time and to expect delays.

SCHEDULED CLOSURE:

- 9 p.m. Friday, January 10 to 5 a.m. Monday, January 13

DETOUR:

- Eastbound US-50 motorists can exit at Harbor Boulevard (EXIT 1) east of Enterprise Boulevard.
- Motorists on West Capitol Avenue can continue to Industrial Boulevard, then Harbor Boulevard to US-50 (see detour map).

The work zone is from the just west of the Yolo Causeway through I-80 and US 50 in West Sacramento. The speed limit has been reduced to 55 miles per hour 24/7 for the safety of workers and motorists. Work is scheduled to begin as listed but subject to change due to traffic incidents, weather conditions, availability of equipment and/or materials, and construction-related issues.

The extended lane closures will help to minimize the duration of the work and improve workers' safety.

This \$280 million project includes \$47 million from Senate Bill (SB 1), the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017. SB 1 provides \$5 billion in transportation funding annually, shared equally between state and local agencies. Road projects progress through construction phases more quickly based on the availability of SB 1 funds, including projects partially funded by SB 1. To view the latest news and information on state and federal infrastructure investments, visit RebuildingCA.ca.gov, which contains data on state and federal funding.

Medicare

CONFUSED ABOUT MEDICARE..
CALL HICAP!
the MEDICARE Health Insurance Counseling & Advocacy Program.

HICAP Health Insurance Counseling & Advocacy Program
Free Service to Medicare Beneficiaries

Before you consider all the options, sit with a truly unbiased source so you can make more informed decisions.

SHIP
State Health Insurance Assistance Program
Navigating Medicare

California Department of AGING

TRULY UNBIASED HELP.

TRUSTED SOURCE
for unbiased help as the **TECHNICAL EXPERTS** on Medicare, since 1986

www.SeniorAdvocacyServices.org/HICAP

For more information about Medicare, click [here](#). To learn more about Senior Advocacy Services, click [here](#).

Also, to learn more about what's new for Medicare in 2025, click [here](#).

CHP Senior Volunteer Program



Are you 55 years or older and looking for a meaningful way to give back to your community? The CHP Senior Volunteer Program offers an opportunity to make a difference by assisting your local CHP office in providing vital public services.

Requirements to Apply:

- ✓ Be at least 55 years old
- ✓ Commit to a minimum of 4 hours per week
- ✓ Pass a background check
- ✓ Maintain a good driving record
- ✓ Complete the CHP Senior Volunteer Training Program

This program operates statewide, with positions available at CHP offices near you. Join a team dedicated to serving California's communities while building connections and supporting public safety.

For more information on our Senior Volunteer Program, and other helpful tips, contact your local CHP office, or visit the CHP website: [CHP Programs & Services](<https://www.chp.ca.gov/Programs-Services>) and apply today!

PG&E's January 1st rates



Information from PG&E:

PG&E rates are adjusted every January 1 based on regulatory approvals. While electric rates will roughly remain the same (slight decrease), gas rates will increase which is primarily driven by the previously approved GRC and balancing account

true ups.

As always, please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Resources PG&E offers customers to help manage energy use and bills:

- Check out our [Energy Action Guide](#) for product and program guidance to help customers meet their unique energy needs.
- [Personalized Rate Comparison](#) supports customers by providing the best rate plan options for their household, which can help save money on energy bills.
- [Budget Billing](#) averages out energy costs for more predictable monthly payments and helps customers avoid seasonal bill peaks.
- [Bill Forecast Alerts](#) are notifications sent by email, text or phone notifying the customer if their monthly bill is expected to exceed a specific amount set by the customer, based on how they are using energy.

- [Home Energy Checkup](#) helps customers assess their energy use and gives free customized savings tips online.
- [HomeIntel](#) is a free energy saving program that includes a Smart Audit and a personal energy coach. Customers who have lived in their home for more than a year and have a smart meter installed are eligible to participate.
- [Medical Baseline](#) is an assistance program for residential customers who depend on power for certain medical needs. It offers cost reduction on energy bills and extra notifications before a planned safety outage.
- Build an [Energy Efficiency DIY Tool Kit](#): with an investment of less than \$200 in energy-efficient materials, customers can save hundreds of dollars every year on their energy bills.

Income-eligible programs that can help customers lower their bills:

- [California Alternate Rates for Energy \(CARE\) Program](#) offers a discount of 20% or more each month on energy bills.
- [Family Electric Rate Assistance \(FERA\) Program](#) offers a monthly discount of 18% on electricity bills for households with three or more people.
- [Low Income Energy Assistance Program \(LIHEAP\)](#): a federally funded assistance program overseen by the state that offers a one-time payment up to \$1,000 on past due bills to help low-income households pay for heating or cooling in their homes.

Energy Efficiency Support Programs

- [GoGreen Home Financing](#): a statewide program which offers affordable financing for energy efficiency upgrades to help homeowners and renters reduce their energy use.
- [Golden State Rebates](#): This is a statewide program that provides residential residents with instant rebates on energy-efficient products including smart thermostats, air conditioners, and water heaters. Homeowners and renters are eligible to receive these rebates through single-use coupons they can redeem in-store or online at participating retailers.

Little Hoover Commission Biennial Report (2023-24)



A Little Hoover Commission press release:

The Little Hoover Commission released 13 reports in the 2023-24 biennium, according to a new report summarizing the work of the independent, nonpartisan watchdog agency. The new report, [*Advocating for Change, 2023-24*](#), also notes that 15 bills supported by the

Commission to implement its recommendations were passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor.

The studies released by the Commission during the past two years touch upon a wide array of policy areas, including how the state cares for those with developmental disabilities, efforts to divert organic materials out of landfills, the impact of the aging of the state's population, the California Environmental Quality Act, the state's response to retail theft, the homeowners insurance market, and the use of artificial intelligence in state government.

The state also released several reports examining how well its past recommendations had been implemented, including with regard to intimate partner violence, human trafficking for purposes of labor exploitation, and the state's Medi-Cal Dental Program. Each report follows an extensive hearing and study process by the Commission and its staff, including testimony from a variety of affected groups, a review of existing research, and in some cases original data-gathering by staff.

"Our Commission searches for ways to make state government work better for Californians," said Commission Chairman Pedro Nava. "By focusing on the facts and digging deep, we offer practical solutions to the problems facing our state."

After making recommendations for policy change, the Commission supports actions, including legislation, that implement its recommendations. The new report outlines Commission-supported bills signed into law this biennium on topics including the developmental disabilities system, labor trafficking, intimate partner violence, open-meetings laws, organic waste disposal, and customer-centric government.

The Commission includes nine public members and four sitting members of the Legislature, who are appointed by a combination of the Governor and legislative leadership. By law, no one political party may control more than five of the nine public seats. The Commission is charged in statute with making reform recommendations that foster "economy, efficiency and improved service."

Stay connected with the latest Little Hoover Commission news by subscribing to our [email updates](#).

Wildfire preparation



The Glen Cove Community Association issued the following recommendations:

In light of the devastating fires in Los Angeles and Los Angeles County, it highlights the importance of being prepared. As Glen Cove residents, we are all immensely aware of our unique situation of basically having one way in and one way out.

[Click here for information about Alert Solano, how to sign up and what it means to you.](#) This is the method in which Police and Fire will advise on evacuation plans.

Please have a "To Go Bag" prepared and in a place where you can grab. In this bag, include what you will need if you are forced to evacuate, including your important papers, medications, phone chargers, and clothes to last a couple of days. You can also have a basic survival kit with water and food. I know this is a lot to have, but it means a lot if your home is destroyed. [Click here for information from Ready.gov to build a kit.](#)

The most important thing you can do is to make sure that the area around your home is hardened. Keep bushes away from your house, and ensure vents covered to prevent embers from blowing in. [Visit the Glen Cove Firesafe website for information to help you prepare your home.](#)

Public hearings

State Route 37 Sears Point to Mare Island Improvement Project



State Route 37 is an important regional connection linking the north, east and west SF Bay Region following along the northern shore of San Pablo Bay. This 21-mile-long roadway from US 101 to I-80 connects job markets and housing within Marin, Sonoma, Napa and Solano counties.

The future of the State Route 37 Corridor requires finding solutions to traffic congestion, periodic flooding, and rising sea levels. But it will also require balancing transportation needs with protecting and enhancing sensitive marshland habitats. Planning a long-term solution presents an opportunity to provide bicycle, pedestrian, transit, and carpool options for all travelers, and enhance the quality of life for residents and build stronger local and regional economy for all. Caltrans is working with its [partner agencies](#), The Metropolitan Transportation Commission and the four North Bay County Transportation Agencies to develop a more resilient corridor.

- [Draft Supplemental Environmental Document \(PDF\)](#) is now available for review.
 - **Public Comment Period: Through February 3, 2025.** Comments may be submitted via the following methods:
 - Email to stateroute37@dot.ca.gov
Postal Mail addressed to:
Caltrans District 4
ATTN: Skylar Nguyen, Senior
Environmental Scientist
P.O. Box 23660, MS: 8B, Oakland, CA
94623-0660

Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) Hybrid (In-Person and Virtual) Public Meeting.

January 14 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Vallejo Room, located at the basement level of the John F. Kennedy (JFK) Library, 505 Santa Clara Street, Vallejo, CA 94590

- - Virtual Meeting
Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85317647303>
Or by phone: (669) 900-6833
Webinar ID: 853 1764 7303
-

Updates from around Solano County

"Stripped for Parts" Documentary Film Event



"Stripped for Parts" Documentary Film Screening Event
on **Thursday, January 30 at CSU Maritime Campus, Rizza Auditorium. 200 Maritime Academy Drive.**

"Stripped for Parts: American Journalism on the Brink" is the story of one secretive hedge fund that is plundering America's newspapers and the journalists who are fighting back.

Investigative reporter Julie Reynolds, *Denver Post* editorialist Chuck Plunkett and a handful of others, backed by the NewsGuild union, go toe-to-toe with the faceless Alden Global Capital in a battle to save and rebuild local journalism across America. Who will control the future of America's news ecosystem: Wall Street billionaires concerned only with profit, or those who see journalism as an essential public service and the lifeblood of our democracy?

Order of Events:

4 to 5 p.m.: reception

5 to 6:30 p.m.: documentary screening

6:30 to 7:30 p.m.: Q&A with filmmaker Rick Goldsmith

Hyperlink for the Registration

form: <https://forms.office.com/r/EXRpJEpXfc>

Documentary site and trailer: <https://strippedforpartsfilm.com>

Solano Reads 2025



Join the Solano County Library for a fun and rewarding year of reading as part of its **Read-a-Thon** challenge! Here's how you can get involved:

1. Beginning January 2, Sign Up at Your Local Library

Head to your nearest library to register for the challenge. Friendly library staff will be happy to help you get started.

2. Pick Up Your Gameboard

Once registered, you'll receive a special **gameboard** filled with reading prompts. The gameboard is designed with different **mile markers**, each with a unique reading challenge to inspire and guide your reading journey throughout the year.

3. Read and Track Your Progress

For each **mile marker**, choose and complete **one reading prompt** from the list. You can read books, listen to audiobooks, or explore other reading materials based on each prompt. Track your progress on your gameboard as you go!

4. Complete the Challenge

Once you've finished reading from every mile marker, **visit your library** to collect your exclusive **Solano Reads medal** as a token of your achievement. You've earned it!

5. Online Registration and Tracking

Prefer to sign up and track your progress online? No problem! You can register for the challenge [HERE](#) on the library website and keep track of your readings digitally. Simply log in and update your progress as you go along!

Who Can Participate?

This challenge is designed for **adults and teens**, but **all ages are welcome** to join the fun. Whether you're reading on your own or as part of a family, everyone can enjoy the Read-a-Thon! **The program runs from January 2, 2025- December 31, 2025.**

MLK March and Program - Vallejo

NAACP VALLEJO BRANCH #1081
"I HAVE A DREAM"
MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

MLK Jr. March new route along Mare Island Parkway

SUN 5:30 PM	1/19	MON 9:00 AM	1/20	INSTALLATION VM VALLEJO MUSEUM
NAACP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE INSTALLATION		MLK JR. DAY MARCH AND PROGRAM		

The MLK Day March and Program is scheduled for **Monday, January 20 at 9 a.m. with a new route starting at Kentucky Street and Mare Island Way ending at the Vallejo Room, on the first Floor of the John F. Kennedy Library in downtown Vallejo, 505 Santa Clara Street.**

Benicia Community MLK Day Celebration



On Monday, January 20, Benicia's 6th public observance of Martin Luther King Day will be held at 7 p.m. at Community Congregational UCC, 1305 West 2nd St.

All who attend will be encouraged to reflect, sing together, and share their particular reasons for honoring Dr. King "in these turbulent days." In this way we will sustain one another with the "power of endurance."

A pick-up choir will get together at 6 p.m. to rehearse "The Storm Is Passing Over." Email msgast45@gmail.com to receive a copy of the music.

Flaring at Benicia Valero Refinery



There was a release of sulfur dioxide at the Benicia Valero Refinery on December 31, 2024. For more information, click [here](#).

Photo: Scott Morris, the [Vallejo Sun](#).

Benicia Chamber of Commerce 78th Annual Installation Dinner and Business Awards



The Benicia Chamber of Commerce will host its 78th Annual Installation Dinner & Business of the Year Awards. This year's dinner is hosted by the Chair of the Board, and the 2025 Directors.

Cocktail hour will begin at 6 p.m. followed by dinner and program at 7 p.m. Tickets must be purchased in advance due to assigned seating. No tickets will be sold at the door.

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

Solano County Water Agency accepting entries for Water Awareness Video Contest



15TH ANNUAL SOLANO COUNTY WATER AGENCY
WATER AWARENESS VIDEO CONTEST

THIS YEAR'S THEME:
**The Water Cycle:
Why we need to
Think Outside the Sink**

Create a one-minute public service announcement video explaining how we can all work together to conserve water on a broad scale.
We encourage students to think about ALL the different ways people, industries, and institutions use water.

FOR 6TH - 12TH GRADE STUDENTS

CASH PRIZES AWARDED FOR OVERALL WINNERS & SPONSORING TEACHERS

LEARN MORE 

OR VISIT WWW.SCWA2.COM

Submissions open January 6, 2025
Contest deadline March 18, 2025



SOLANO COUNTY WATER AGENCY

The Solano County Water Agency is now accepting entries from Solano County students in grades 6 through 12 and their sponsoring teachers for the Water Agency's 15th annual video contest. Winning entries will receive up to \$1,500.

This year's theme is The Water Cycle: Why We Need to Think Outside the Sink. The contest is challenging students to explore the need for Solano County residents to think globally and act locally in order to conserve water.

Students should create a one-minute public service announcement video explaining how we can all work together to conserve water on a broad scale. In their PSAs, we encourage students to think about all the different ways people, industries, and institutions use water, and to offer creative conservation steps for individuals and our society at-large to take.

This year, the Solano County Water Agency will award prizes of \$1,500 to the first-place video, \$1,000 to the second-place video, and \$500 to the third-place video. Additionally, the winning entry from each school with ten or more submissions will be awarded a \$100 gift card. The three teachers who generate the most student participation in the contest will each win a \$200 gift card.

Entries will be judged by a panel of water efficiency experts and community leaders for content, accuracy, and response to the assigned theme; entertainment value and originality; videography, style and organization; and audio/sound quality.

Complete information about the 2025 video contest, water conservation information, samples of past winning videos, and the 2025 entry packet is available by clicking [here](#).

Entries can be submitted through e-mail to Education@solanorcd.org, via Google Drive using the form found on the contest website, or on a USB flash drive via US mail or delivered in person to the Solano Resource Conservation District office in Dixon.

Release forms and entry forms must accompany video submissions in order for them to be considered.

All entries and paperwork must be received by Tuesday, March 18, at 5 p.m.

Contact Shea Kinser at Solano Resource Conservation District at shea.kinser@solanorcd.org with questions or for more information.

Solano County comment letter on Draft Sacramento/Delta Update to the Bay-Delta Plan



From Solano County Public Information Officer Matthew Davis:

The attached comment letter, signed by Chair Mitch Mashburn, is addressed to members of the State Water Resources Control Board, on behalf of the Solano County Board of Supervisors, regarding the draft Sacramento/Delta Update to the Bay-Delta Plan.

In the letter, Solano County expresses its concerns about the potential economic, housing development, environmental, and groundwater sustainability impacts that could result from the proposed 55 percent unimpaired flow objectives and water quality standards listed in the plan.

While Solano County appreciates the SWRC Board's commitment to protecting the Bay-Delta ecosystem, the letter underscores the need for a more balanced approach.

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

Fairfield seeks applicants for the CDBG Advisory Committee

The city of Fairfield is accepting applications for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Advisory Committee. Meetings are held when necessary.

Five seats will be available to fill an unexpired term of January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2028.

Applicants must be residents of the city of Fairfield and registered voters. The mayor will appoint the committee member with the approval of the City Council.



CDBG funding is awarded to projects that principally benefit low- and moderate-income residents. CDBG Advisory Committee applicants residing in CDBG target areas, which include downtown, low- and moderate-income census tracts, or in the Neighborhood Revitalization areas, will be given preference for appointment to the CDBG Advisory Committee.

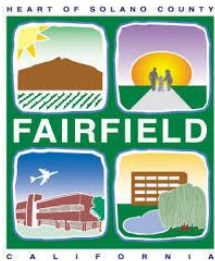
The CDBG Advisory Committee participates in community meetings and public hearings during the development of the City's 5-Year Consolidated Plan and Annual Action plan update, reviews applications for CDBG funding, receives testimony from applicants, makes annual CDBG allocation recommendations to the City Council and reviews the annual performance and evaluation report detailing the City's progress toward accomplishing the goals set forth in the plan. The recruitment process is ongoing until positions are filled.

Applications are available at the City Clerk's Office at Fairfield City Hall, 1000 Webster Street, 4th floor.

[Download the application](#), or request one by mail or email by contacting Deputy City Clerk Esther Beavers at (707) 428-7402 or cityclerk@fairfield.ca.gov.

Completed applications may be submitted via mail, email, or in person. The city is not responsible for lost or misdirected applications.

Rockville Hills Regional Park fee increase effective in 2025



From the city of Fairfield:

The Fairfield City Council voted unanimously to approve the fee increases at Rockville Hills Regional Park after a recent presentation from City Manager David Gassaway on December 17, 2024.

Entrance fees were budgeted at \$100,000 a year. The cost of managing and maintaining the park is about \$650,000 a year.

An individual day pass, for residents and nonresidents, increases from \$3 to \$5.

The cost of a six-month season pass will go from \$19 (resident) and \$20 (nonresident) to \$30 and \$36, respectively. The family pass jumps from \$32 (resident) and \$35, (nonresident) to \$75 and \$96, respectively.

Fees for disabled residents go from \$10 to \$15. Disabled nonresidents will see the fee go from \$13 to \$21. Those 50 or older will now pay \$10. Older nonresidents will pay \$21. Canine fees will also increase.

A new annual pass will offer some savings. That cost is \$60 for an individual, \$150 for families, \$30 for disabled and seniors 50 or older. The same fee would apply to dogs.

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

Jason Ta Selected to Serve as Vallejo Police Chief



On Tuesday, December 31, 2024, Vallejo City Manager Andrew Murray announced that he has selected Jason Ta to serve as Vallejo's next permanent Police Chief.

He served for over 27 years with the San Jose Police Department in many capacities, including patrol; undercover, gang, robbery, and sexual assault investigations; field training; traffic enforcement; internal auditing; and community services. Chief Ta departed San Jose at the rank of Captain prior to joining the Vallejo Police Department in 2021 as a Deputy Chief.

Chief Ta has served as the Interim Police Chief since November 2022.

Murray stated that “The City was fortunate to have a pool of strong candidates. Jason distinguished himself by receiving the top rating from all four interview panels as well as having a track record of improving community relationships and advancing the collaborative reform effort. I look forward to working closely with Jason, our Police Officers, the community, and Cal-DOJ to make the Vallejo Police Department a model of community-oriented constitutional policing and a rewarding and fulfilling organization in which to work.”

Chief Ta stated that "It has been a privilege serving as the Interim Police Chief for the last two years. I am honored to be selected to lead the department into the future. The Police Chief selection process was very comprehensive. I am thankful for City Manager Murray’s confidence in me advancing the department and look forward in working with him. My commitment to the community, city, and department remains steadfast as we continue our journey in elevating the Vallejo Police Department in becoming the “Gold Standard” of public safety. We have come a long way and still have much road ahead. I will continue the work and momentum we have achieved in strengthening and building community engagement and trust, working collaboratively with local, county, state, and federal partners, preventing and reducing crime and quality of life concerns, restoring departmental working conditions and staffing levels, and completing our reform efforts with Cal-DOJ."

For more information, click the following links, [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#).

Bay Area's Vallejo is getting its first ‘diverging diamond’ traffic interchange. Here’s how it works

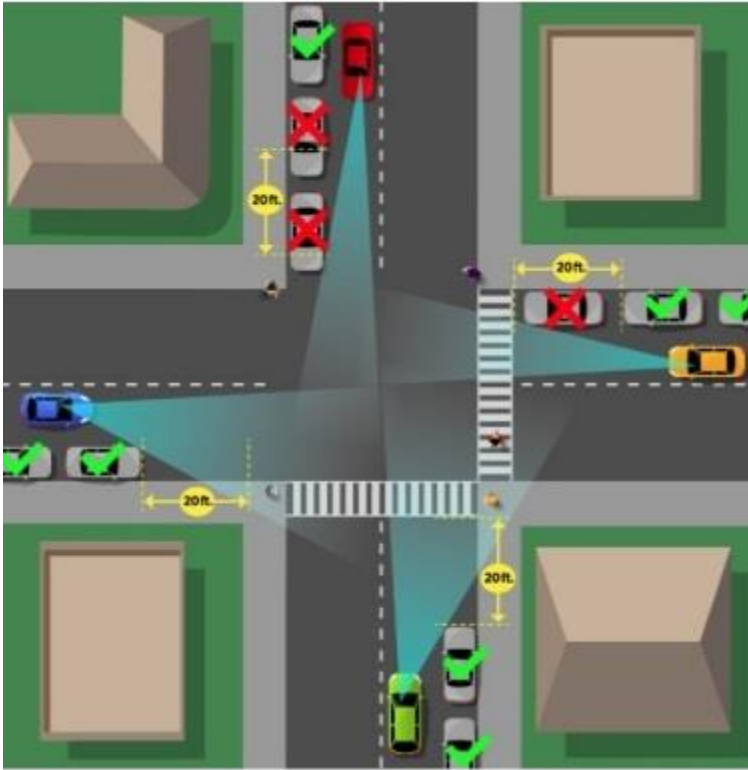


Normally, the thrill of visiting the Bay Area’s Six Flags Discovery Kingdom involves the twists and turns of roller coasters with alluring names like Medusa, Boomerang and Sidewinder Safari.

But soon, getting to and from the Vallejo amusement park will include some thrills of its own, taking vehicles through a “diverging diamond” — a new type of traffic interchange that will be the first of its kind in the Bay Area and only the second in California.

To continue reading, click [here](#). Image courtesy of Caltrans.

Assembly Bill 413 - Effective January 1



From the city of Fairfield:

The State of California recently passed Assembly Bill 413, also known as the Daylighting Bill, which prohibits the stopping, standing, or parking of a vehicle within 20 feet of any unmarked or marked crosswalk or 15 feet of any crosswalk where a curb extension is present.

This existing law also prohibits stopping or parking within an intersection, on a sidewalk or crosswalk, or in front of a fire station. Similar laws exist in 40 states.

- Parked vehicles near crosswalks limit pedestrian visibility, increasing the risk of severe injury or fatal collisions.
- Removing these obstructions helps drivers see pedestrians and lets pedestrians see oncoming cars without stepping into the intersection.

• Intersection daylighting is a proven traffic safety practice. The city has implemented this in school zones as part of safe routes to school and complete streets using physical devices such as signs, markings, and delineator posts.

California's citation enforcement starts on January 1, 2025. Due to the budgetary constraints ongoing maintenance needs the city will be opting NOT to mark every crosswalk location.

The city of Fairfield has produced a short video on the topic, to view, click [here](#).

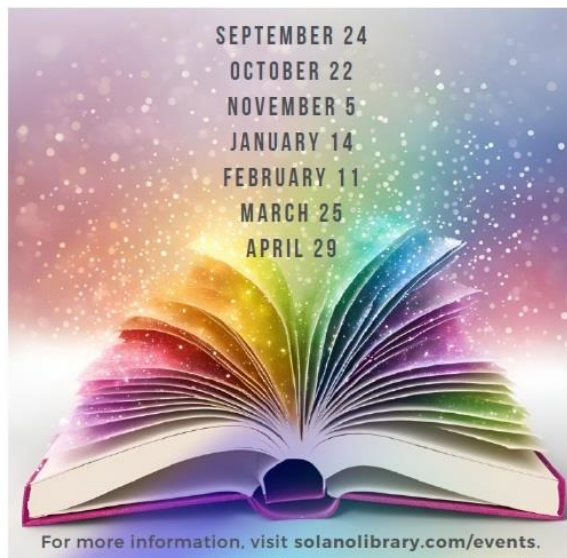
Teen Rainbow Reads Book Club



RAINBOW READS BOOK CLUB

FAIRFIELD CIVIC CENTER LIBRARY
4 - 5:30 PM

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!



The next book club meeting is Tuesday, January 14 at 4 p.m. at the Fairfield Civic Center Library. 1150 Kentucky Street.

All teens are welcome to join this book club! Snacks and water will be provided!

Anime film showing



On Saturday, January 25, the Fairfield Civic Center Library will be showing the immensely popular 2016 fantasy anime film "Your Name" from 2 to 4 p.m. **The library is located at 1150 Kentucky Street.**

This film is best suited for teens and adults. Popcorn and water will be provided as well!

January events at JFK Library



The John F. Kennedy Public Library is hosting the [following events](#) in January. The library is located at 505 Santa Clara Street in downtown

Vallejo.

Sheriff's Citizens Academy begins meeting Jan 22



The 2025 Citizens' Academy with the Solano County Sheriff's Office begins Jan. 22.

Participants in the 10-week course will meet 6 to 9 p.m. Wednesdays and have two Saturday daytime classes to give hands-on experiences.

Classes are at various Sheriff's Office locations.

To continue reading, click [here](#). To apply, click [here](#).

Solano County Public Defender Clean Slate Day 2025

**SOLANO COUNTY
PUBLIC DEFENDER**

CLEAN SLATE DAY 2025

WHEN
January 29, 2025
9am – 3pm

WHERE
County Events Center
601 Texas St, Fairfield, CA 94533

LIMITED SLOTS! REGISTER EARLY!

CLEAR YOUR CRIMINAL RECORD!



REQUIREMENTS:
Must not be in violation, on probation, parole, or mandatory supervision

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS:

- Clear your felony and misdemeanor convictions
- Clear your juvenile record
- Seal your arrest that did not result in a conviction

**SCAN WITH YOUR
PHONE TO REGISTER**



OR VISIT:
<https://forms.office.com/g/cr6LqnK7g>

For more info:
FreshStart@SolanoCounty.com
(707) 784-6700

To apply, click [here](#).

Solano Master Plan for Aging (MPA)

Solano County, in collaboration with Napa/Solano Area on Aging and Innovative Health Solutions (IHS), unveils the Solano Master



**INNOVATIVE
HEALTH
SOLUTIONS**

Plan for Aging (MPA), a strategic initiative to address the evolving needs of the growing population of older and disabled adults in Solano County. The plan is shaped with active input from community leaders and professionals to ensure a targeted, impactful approach.

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

Exclusively Black prenatal groups hosted by Solano HEALS

Solano HEALS Exclusively Black Virtual Prenatal Groups

Preparing for pregnancy and childbirth with a supportive community of Doulas.

Who should attend...

Pregnant Black women living in Solano County who are seeking a supportive environment to learn how to process their trauma and develop techniques to support their pregnancy journey.

What to expect...

- A supportive community of pregnant women with Doula led curriculum.
- Improved insight into your pregnancy journey and how to empower your birthing experience.

Groups are **free!**
Wednesdays - Feb 5th to Mar 26th
from 5-7 p.m.



Scan to fill out the interest form!

Free Giveaways!

Participants who complete program aspects will have the chance to receive giveaways!

- Pack N' Play Portable Playard
- New Parent Kit from First 5 Solano
- Handmade Blanket
- Produce from Park It Market

Attendance at a virtual preliminary information session is required before the group begins. Virtual session will be on Thursday, January 30th from 5-6 p.m.

www.solanoheals.com | solanoheals@gmail.com



Starting February 5, 2025, Solano HEALS is providing an 8-week session to pregnant Black women living in Solano County who are seeking a supportive environment to learn how to process their trauma and develop techniques to support their pregnancy journey.

Participants can expect doula led curriculum, improved insight into your pregnancy journey, and free giveaways. Interest form available [here](#).

Winged Migration Expo hosted by Vallejo Flood and Wastewater District

Join the Vallejo Flood and Wastewater District on **February 1 and 2 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.** for their Winged Migration Expo and support the community through knowledge preservation of the Pacific Flyway in California and celebrate its birds within the natural world.



This free event will involve interactive kids' activities, speakers and experts, wing-themed art and vendors, and live or virtual tours of the island.

The location is building 34 on Nimitz Ave, Vallejo, CA 94592.
For more information, visit the website [here](#).

Ekphrastic - Fairfield

*Suzanne Bruce, Fairfield Poet Laureate Emerita
and the Fairfield-Suisun City Visual Arts Association
invite you to write a poem to an art piece*

Exhibit: Show Me Your Color



Spotlight Artist: Dennis Ariza

Exhibit dates: January 8 through February 23, 2025
Solano Town Center Gallery:
1350 Travis Blvd #D-8 (inside the Town Center Mall)

Art Reception and Poetry Reading:

Saturday, January 18, 2025
Art Reception- 3:00-6:00pm
Poetry Reading- 5:00-6:00pm

Art can be seen at the Gallery
Wednesday through Sunday 11:00am – 6:00pm (recommended)

Or online, beginning January 7th:
www.fvaa-arts.org click on Gallery

Please send your poem, **42 lines or less**
to Suzanne: fairfieldpoetlaureate.emerita@gmail.com
by Thursday, January 16th- 5:00pm

Send preferably in a word doc. No picture of art necessary
Do put the name of the art and artist's name with your poem

Suzanne Bruce information



The city of Fairfield's Poet Laureate Emerita Suzanne Bruce has new contact information:

Her new email is:

fairfieldpoetlaureate.emerita@gmail.com

She has also put together a new website:

www.suzannebrucepoet.com

Suzanne served as Fairfield's Poet Laureate from July 1, 2022, to December 31, 2024.

Winter Shelter at BayNorth Church of Christ



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 **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.

Vallejo pool



City of Fairfield's Parks and Recreation Department hiring



To apply, and/or for more information, click [here](#).

January calendar for Benicia Veterans Memorial Hall



The January calendar of events for Benicia Veterans Memorial Hall:

January 10: Hamburgers by VFW Aux

14 House commission meeting 1830 hrs. National Wreaths Across America

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

17 Hamburgers by The American Legion

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

24 Hamburgers by The American Legion Aux

31 Sons of The American Legion

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

Cal Maritime update



Effective July 1, 2025, Cal Maritime and Cal Poly will operate as a single university, Cal Poly.

The first Cal Poly Maritime Academy and Cal Poly Solano Campus students enrolling as Cal Poly students will begin fall 2026. Details and an FAQ are available [here](#).

Solano County jobs

Positions	Job Posting Opened
Administrative Services Manager	01/06/2025
Deputy Probation Officer (Entry)	01/08/2025
Deputy Public Defender V	01/09/2025
Director of Administrative Services (Open Until Filled)	01/07/2025
Employment/Eligibility Administrator	01/06/2025
Staff Analyst (Senior)	01/09/2025

NOTE: To be considered for the recruitment(s) listed above you must submit an application by the date indicated in the job announcement. The new eligible list(s) resulting from the above recruitment(s) may replace an existing eligible list; therefore, interested candidates are encouraged to apply for the current recruitment.

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

Girls Circle Hosted by Fairfield PAL



This exciting session of Girls Circle: Friendships & Feeds: Your Digital Glow-Up! will help girls between the ages of 13-18 who are enrolled in middle or high school level up their social media game while making real-life friendships.

Enjoy a delicious free dinner each night. The event is held every Wednesday starting January 8, at 5 p.m. at Fairfield PAL located at 2250 North Texas Street, Fairfield, CA 94533.

A free PAL Teen Center membership is required.

Basic Computer Classes Hosted by Workforce Development Board of Solano County



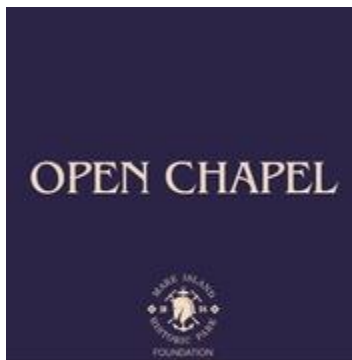
A flyer for a 'Basic Computer Skills Class'. At the top left is the logo for 'America's Job Center of California' and at the top right is the logo for 'Fairfield-Suisun Adult School'. The main title is 'BASIC COMPUTER SKILLS CLASS' in large white letters on a blue background, with 'NO COST!!!' below it. A photograph shows a woman pointing at a computer screen in a classroom. Below the photo, text states: 'This Introductory course is designed for beginners. You will learn basic skills needed to use a computer and communicate via email.' Under 'TOPICS:', there is a list: 'Basic Computer', 'Internet Basics', and 'Using Email', each with a checkmark. To the right of the list, the address '500 Chadbourne Rd, Fairfield, CA 94534' and the schedule 'Tuesday & Thursday 3:30pm-5:00pm' are listed. At the bottom left, contact information for Sheryl Cutler (707-863-3598) is provided. A small disclaimer at the very bottom reads: 'The WDB is an EO/AA/ADA Employer/Program. TDD Relay #1-800-0735-2922. Auxiliary Aids and Services are available upon sufficient notice to individuals with disabilities.'

This free introductory computer course is designed for beginners. You will learn basic skills needed to use a computer and communicate via email.

Classes start Tuesday January 7 and are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays at Americas Job Center in Vallejo located at 1440 Marin Street, Vallejo CA 94590 from 9 to 11 a.m. AND/OR 1:30 to 4 p.m. or in Fairfield at 500 Chadbourne Rd, Fairfield, CA 94534 from 3:30 to 5 p.m.

Upcoming events in Solano County

Open Chapel



Visit Mare Island's historic chapel during our Open Chapel days and experience its serene beauty and rich history at your own pace. Step inside to admire the famous Tiffany-stained glass windows and take in the intricate details of this iconic site.

Docents will be on hand to answer any questions and share insights about the chapel's history and unique features. Come and enjoy a

peaceful, self-guided visit to one of Mare Island's most treasured landmarks.

The next Open Chapel is Sunday, January 12.

Open Chapel happens the 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Contribution is \$5 per person.

St. Peter's Chapel is located at 1181 Walnut Avenue on Mare Island.

Benicia Chamber of Commerce mixer

A vertical poster for a Benicia Chamber of Commerce mixer. At the top left is the Benicia Chamber of Commerce logo. To its right is a large stylized number '3' with a circular arrow inside, above the text 'EYE MEDIA'. Below this, it says 'Benicia Chamber of Commerce mixer hosted by 3 Eye Media'. The date and time are 'Wednesday, January 15th 5:30-7pm'. The location is '281 East H Street, Benicia'. At the bottom, a yellow banner reads 'ENJOY LIGHT BITES, NETWORKING, BEER AND WINE FOR SALE, AND DRAWING PRIZES'.

Human trafficking awareness walk

A colorful poster for a human trafficking awareness walk. At the top, it says 'SAVE THE DATE #SOLANOIT HAPPENS HERE'. Below that, 'Let's talk about JANUARY IS HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH'. The date is 'JANUARY 18TH 2025 AWARENESS WALK'. The start time and location are 'START AT 8.30 AM | 580 TEXAS ST, FAIRFIELD, CA 94533'. Logos for 'SOLANO ANTI-TRAFFICKING COALITION', 'FFINEST', 'VEST VICTIMS EMPOWERMENT SUPPORT TEAM', and 'SRP Solano Recovery Project' are included. A paragraph at the bottom reads: 'Stand with us as we walk to raise awareness and support the fight against human trafficking. Hosted by the Solano Anti-Trafficking Coalition, Nature of Sound, the Matt Garcia Foundation, and the Solano Recovery Project, with support from VEST, this event unites the community in a powerful statement against modern slavery.' At the very bottom, it says 'Survivor Storytelling Innovative projects Community driven' and provides contact information: 'CONTACT US AT CONTACT@NATUREOFSOUND.ORG OR CALL (707) 392-1205' with a QR code.

Benicia Chamber Workshop with Michael Welch



Michael Welch from Wealth Enhancement Group will present on "Options for Small Business Retirement"

The Workshop will be held in the Benicia Chamber of Commerce Boardroom from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Wednesday, January 29. The Benicia Chamber of Commerce is located at 601 First St. Ste. 100.

This event is free for chamber members and \$25 for non-members.

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

Black History Month Documentary

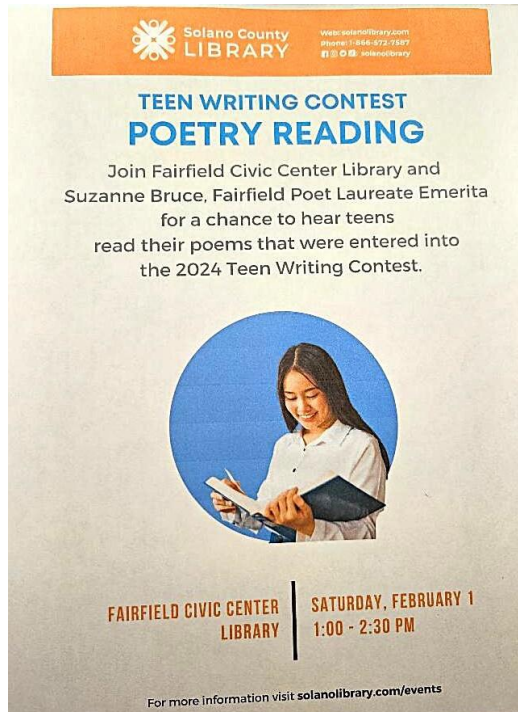


Join the Solano County Library for a screening of the documentary "100 Years from Mississippi".

This film is (1hr) and rated NR. Open to all ages, but children must be accompanied by an adult. Popcorn and water will be provided.

The showing will take place from 1:15 to 2:15 p.m., Saturday, February 1 at the Suisun City Library, 601 Pintail Drive.

Teen Writing Contest poetry reading



Events I attended this week

Thursday, December 26, I attended the lighting of the Menorah ceremony held in Fairfield.

Friday, December 27, I attended the Kwanzaa event in Benicia. I enjoyed this event as the leaders incorporated the teachings of what each day means. I like the concept of using the children to explain.

Sunday, December 29, I attended the Menorah ceremony in Benicia held at City Park.

Tuesday, December 31, I attended the New Year's Eve Gala held at Benicia Veteran's Hall. The food, live music, and talking with friends was a great way to say goodbye to 2024.

It is my hope that everyone had a nice Holiday. May 2025 be a good year for everyone.

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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[SOLANO RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT](#)
[FAIRFIELD-SUISUN SEWER DISTRICT](#)

Newsletter photo

Photo and caption by Marvin and Jeri Hermits Roost, California.

"This very healthy and happy coyote enjoyed breakfast with us this week on the hill. Of late, we have seen them during the day hunting rodents and other prey. He was enjoying his meal when the vultures started to circle him. As they closed in, he took off for the bushes for

some cover. Luckily, he stopped and posed for a few quick pictures."



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.