



SUPERVISOR MONICA BROWN NEWSLETTER

January 24, 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

(707) 784-8960

Information this week

MTC Commission and ABAG Executive Board Approve Plan Bay Area 2050+ Final Blueprint for Further Study



The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) have approved the Final Blueprint

for [Plan Bay Area 2050+](#). At the ABAG Executive Board's [January 16 meeting](#) and the Commission's [January 22 meeting](#), staff presented the long-range plan's [growth geographies](#), [strategies](#), as well as the final lists of [transportation](#) and [resilience projects](#) recommended for analysis in winter/spring 2025. This follows a [December 2024 presentation to the MTC Planning Committee](#), in which staff provided a more detailed overview of proposed transportation strategies and projects, as well as a refined transportation revenue forecast, weaving in recommendations from the Final [Transit 2050+](#) Network development process.

Staff will conduct further modeling and analysis of the Final Blueprint in the coming months, returning to policymakers in spring 2025 with Final Blueprint outcomes prior to advancing the plan to the environmental phase. Staff anticipate releasing the Draft Plan, Draft Environmental Impact Report and Draft Implementation Plan

for additional public feedback and engagement in summer 2025. Plan Bay Area 2050+ is anticipated for adoption in early 2026.

Updating the Plan's Equity Priority Communities

Leading up to this month's Final Blueprint approval, MTC and ABAG also released the [final update to the Equity Priority Communities](#) (EPCs) geographies in December 2024. In addition to informing long-range planning efforts, EPCs are also used to identify funding and public engagement priorities, among other areas. The final [Plan Bay Area 2050+ Equity Priority Communities Map](#) ensures that no EPC tracts previously identified as part of Plan Bay Area 2050 will lose EPC status in Plan Bay Area 2050+.

Existing EPCs designated under Plan Bay Area 2050 will continue to be recognized until the adoption of Plan Bay Area 2050+. Once the new plan is adopted, existing plus new EPCs will then be in effect until potentially early 2030, depending on the results and adoption of a forthcoming effort to re-envision the EPC planning framework.

Seeking Comments on Scope and Content of Forthcoming Environmental Analysis

On January 14, MTC and ABAG released a [Notice of Preparation](#) for the Plan Bay Area 2050+ Draft [Environmental Impact Report](#), inviting agencies and members of the public to [provide comment](#) on the scope and content of forthcoming environmental analysis that will be conducted on the draft plan.

The [scoping meeting](#) for Plan Bay Area 2050+ will be held **virtually on January 29, at 1 p.m.** Public comment will be accepted through February 13, 2025. More information can be found on the [EIR Scoping Meeting](#) page of the Plan Bay Area website.

More data is needed in California's fight against retail theft



Press release from the Little Hoover Commission:

New [state laws](#) regarding organized retail theft and property crime took effect in California on Jan. 1. Last August, California Governor Gavin Newsom signed a "[landmark legislative package](#)," which includes stricter penalties for individuals involved in retail and property theft, sentence enhancements for

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

property damage to businesses, and stronger tools to ensure law enforcement can arrest retail theft suspects.

Although these new laws will make it easier to prosecute retail theft, they don't address the need for a clearer understanding of retail crime in California. According to a 2024 Little Hoover Commission report, [Retail Theft: A Data-Driven Response](#), more detailed crime data is needed for policymakers to develop an evidence-based response to the issue.

The Little Hoover Commission, California's independent watchdog agency, released the report after conducting a comprehensive study on retail theft amid reports of rising retail crime in the state and complaints from retailers and law enforcement officials that existing statutes were inadequate. After looking at available data, the Commission found that despite a recent uptick, reported retail theft remained at roughly the same level as during the 2010s and lower than it had been in earlier decades. Retail theft is undoubtedly underreported, but the degree of underreporting is difficult to determine.

The Commission also learned that the state does not consistently collect detailed retail crime data, such as the circumstances surrounding a crime, law enforcement's response, demographic data about the people arrested, and the final disposition of the case.

The Commission commended the Department of Justice for its existing data initiatives, and recommended they be expanded in consultation with experts to include a much higher level of detail. In addition to data collection, the Commission recommended that the state partner with California universities and other nonpartisan research institutions to study preventative measures, rates of underreporting, economic impact, and drivers of public perception.

To read the Commission's full report on Retail Theft implementation and find more information about the Commission's work on the subject, click [here](#).

Public hearings

Fairfield City Council Retreat

The Fairfield City Council will hold their council retreat special meetings next weekend to provide direction on the organization's goals and key projects that will guide the budget and employee activities. The meetings will be held in person only and the public is encouraged to come and participate.



The retreat schedule is as follows:

Council Retreat Day 1

Friday, January 24: 5 to 8 p.m.

Police Training Facility, 1717 Rex Clift Lane, Fairfield

Council Retreat Day 2

Saturday, January 25: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.


Police Training Facility, 1717 Rex Clift Lane, Fairfield

For more information, call the City of Fairfield at (707) 428-7400.


The agenda will be posted January 22 or 23

at fairfield.ca.gov/councilagendas.

Vallejo monitor town hall meeting



Vallejo Community Session
The Vallejo Police Department Evaluator Team
In Person Meeting | Monday, January 27, 2025

<p>DATE: January 27, 2025</p> <p>LOCATION:</p> <p>Vallejo Room - City Hall 555 Santa Clara Street</p> <p>TIME: 6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.</p> <p>DURATION: 1.5 hours</p> <p>The session will be accessible to Spanish and Tagalog speakers.</p> <p>If you have any questions, contact the Evaluator Team contact@vallejomonitor.com</p>	<p>Vallejo Community Members:</p> <p>Please come meet the Vallejo Evaluation Team overseeing the implementation of the reforms under the Agreement between the City of Vallejo and the California Department of Justice.</p> <p>We invite the Vallejo community to participate in a listening session to share their perspectives regarding the Vallejo Police Department (VPD). We would also like to hear about your experiences with VPD and the outcomes you would like to see under the reform work.</p> <p>The Vallejo Evaluation Team will speak about the specific requirements of the Evaluator under the Agreement and the Year One focus for implementation of the agreed-upon reforms.</p> <p>This session will be in person, and a summary of notes will be posted on our website. You can find a summary of our last session here: https://www.vallejomonitor.com/community-voices</p>  <p>JENSEN HUGHES</p>
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The Vallejo Evaluator oversees the implementation of the Settlement Agreement (Agreement) entered into by the California Department of Justice (CALDOJ), the Vallejo Police Department (VPD) and the City of Vallejo (City) (the Parties) on April 8, 2024. The Agreement contains a series of police reform measures that the City and VPD will implement.

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

Community Open House next week regarding Vista Cove Development

Sancerra is hosting two community open house meetings next week to discuss the proposed residential development, "Vista Cove" in the Glen Cove community.

This is an applicant-led informational meeting. Sancerre states in their invitation that "Your input and feedback on our project is very important to us - questions and comments will be accepted at the meeting, and we hope you will join us to learn more and share your feedback with us."

There are two dates to choose from:

Tuesday, January 28, 5:30 to 7 p.m. and Wednesday, January 29 5:30 to 7 p.m. Both meetings will be held at the **Norman C. King Community Center, located at 545 Magazine Street in Vallejo.**

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

To view the SR 37 Projects Visual Library, click [here](#). Below is a rendering of the proposed tolling Gantry East of the Tubbs Island Trailhead Road Intersection Looking East.

Solano County General Plan community forum



**SOLANO COUNTY 2028
GENERAL PLAN UPDATE**
& Healthy Communities

Thursday, Feb. 6, 2025
5-7 pm
County Events Center (Room A)
601 Texas St., Fairfield, CA

Solano County's General Plan will be updated in 2028. There is interest in incorporating a 'Healthy Communities' chapter this time around, which would benefit from a strong local food system, access to healthy food, successful local farmers and more. This Healthy Communities chapter would also hold the county's Climate Action Plan. But how do all these elements come together to support the plan? And how can the public participate in this process? Get answers to these questions and more at this public educational forum with local experts in planning, zoning, food systems and food access.

 **FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!**
Scan for registration and updates.

**THIS PUBLIC EVENT IS HOSTED BY THE
SOLANO LOCAL FOOD SYSTEM ALLIANCE**

SustainableSolano.org/events

The poster features three circular images: a garden, a market stall with fresh produce, and two young girls smiling. The background is a mix of green and brown tones with a brushstroke effect.

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

Solano County Caregiver Forum



SOLANO COUNTY CAREGIVER FORUM

PRESENTED BY THE ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

9 a.m. to Noon

Solano County Events Center,
Conference Room A, 601 Texas St.
Fairfield, CA 94533

Register at

tinyurl.com/SCCGForum25

or call 800.272.3900.

Registration is required.



Presentations will include information on Alzheimer's disease and other dementia, research advancements, caregiving strategies, caregiver self-care, recent legislative policy successes, and local community resources. Light refreshments will be served.

Please feel free to reach out to Stefanie Bonigut, sbonigut@alz.org or 925.290.7911 if you have any questions.

FEATURED PRESENTATIONS



ADVANCING THE SCIENCE: THE LATEST IN ALZHEIMER'S AND DEMENTIA RESEARCH

CLAIRE DAY - Chief Mission and Program Strategy Officer, Alzheimer's Association, Northern California & Northern Nevada

Claire Day has been on the staff of the Alzheimer's Association since 2001. She oversees all care and support, DEL operations, and research initiatives for Northern California & Northern Nevada. Ms. Day is a clinical social worker and received her degree from Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania. She has more than twenty-five years of experience as a family and professional educator in dementia care.



2024 CALIFORNIA STATE POLICY SUCCESSES

JESSICA ROTHHAAR - Senior Public Policy Manager, Alzheimer's Association, Northern California & Northern Nevada

Jessica Rothhaar helps people who have been personally impacted by Alzheimer's and other dementia share their stories with elected officials to advance Alzheimer's research, care and support. She has over 20 years of experience in public policy advocacy, and is deeply committed to giving a voice to people living with Alzheimer's and their loved ones to drive policy change.



BRINGING OUT THE BEST IN THE PERSON LIVING WITH DEMENTIA

DAVID TROXEL, MPH - Writer and Consultant; Co-author, *The Best Friends Approach to Dementia Care*

David Troxel is an internationally known expert in Alzheimer's disease and memory care. An informative and engaging speaker, David holds a Masters Degree in Public Health from Rutgers Medical School (now UMDNJ/Robert Wood Johnson Medical School). During his 25 years in the field, he has also served as an Executive Board member of the American Public Health Association and a member of the Ethics Advisory Panel for the Alzheimer's Association. David has co-authored six influential books (most notably, *The Best Friends™ Approach to Dementia Care*) relating to dementia care as well as staff development and training.



CHARGING YOUR BATTERY - CAREGIVER SELF-CARE STRATEGIES

RAENIKA BUTLER - Senior Manager of Community Engagement, Alzheimer's Association, Northern California & Northern Nevada

Raenika Butler provides support and education to caregivers and individuals affected by Alzheimer's Disease and other forms of dementia. She has a Master of Arts in Gerontology and over 12 years of experience in the field of aging with a previous background in adult day health care and geriatric care management. Raenika is deeply dedicated to helping improve the lives of older adults and their communities of support, and she continues to make a significant impact in the community.

To register, click [here](#).

Updates from around Solano County CHP Women in Law Enforcement -in person- Hiring Seminar

Join the CHP for their next Women in Law Enforcement Hiring Seminar on **Saturday, February 1, at the Golden Gate Division office in Vallejo, 1551 Benicia Road, beginning at 9 a.m.**

Learn about the incredible opportunities a career with the California Highway Patrol has to offer. Hear from current employees about their path to the CHP, and the different roles they served on the department.

You will have an incredible group of people available to answer all the questions you have wanted to ask about a career in law enforcement and why a career with CHP is for you.

To learn more about this event, and to sign up, click on the link: <https://bit.ly/4hkMt1H>

If you have any questions, reach out to the Golden Gate Division Recruitment Unit at 30recruitment@chp.ca.gov or call (707) 917-4360.

Free COVID tests at the Benicia Library



Free COVID antigen tests are available at the Benicia Public Library for anyone who needs them. Each package contains two tests.

Limit two packages (4 tests) per person per visit while supplies last.

These tests have been provided by the California Department of Public Health.

The library is located 150 E L Street.

Love Is in the Air on Benicia's First Street



The popular wine and chocolate walk returns!

Thirty (30) Downtown Benicia businesses will open their doors to sample wine and tasty bites. Grab your sweetheart or make it a galentines day as you sip, stroll and explore the unique boutiques and galleries on First Street.

Enjoy up to 15 tastes and souvenir glass with over 30 downtown locations (and wines) to choose from. Lite bites are served at select locations.

TICKET PRICES:

Early Bird tickets are \$35 each or \$65 for two until midnight on January 25.

Starting January 26, all tickets are \$40 each.

Online tickets sales end January 31 at midnight.

Day of tickets are sold in-person at 90 First Street while supplies last.

Ticketholders must be age 21 and over.

WHAT TO KNOW BEFORE YOU GO:

- Check-in starts at 12:30pm at Benicia Main Street, 90 First Street.
- Tasting begins at 1PM.
- A map of tasting locations, wristband and souvenir glass will be provided at check-in.
- Each ticket holder **MUST** be present and must show ID at check-in.
- This is a rain or shine event.

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

Molly Cares Calling Program Hosted by Molly’s Angels



Thanks to support from the Napa/Solano Area Agency on Aging, the Molly Cares friendly calling

program expanded to Solano County in June 2024.

This no-cost program pairs local seniors with volunteer callers for weekly check-in calls, offering companionship and identifying those in need of vital resources.

Through partnerships with local organizations, they help connect seniors to essential services, including food, housing, and mental health support.

For more information, visit the [website](#) or call (707) 224-8971.

2025 Teen Photo Contest



2025 Teen Photo Contest Fine Print Rules

Eligibility: Any teen age 12-

18 in Solano County

Contest Period: Submit entries February 3- March 10 by 9 p.m. Pacific Standard Time.

Prizes:

- 10 winning photos (1 from each photo category) will be displayed in our library branches. Category winners may request to keep the print of their winning photo from the library branch of their choice.

How to Enter:

- **Email:** Send your photos to teentechsolano@gmail.com. Include your Name, City, photo Category, and Title of Photo (optional).
- **Instagram:** Use **#sclphotocontest2025**. Include your Name, City, Photo Category, and Title of Photo (optional). Important: Make sure your privacy settings allow the Instagram account 'Solanolibrary' to see your submissions.

Contest Rules: You may submit one entry per category. Solano Library staff or its guest judges shall choose the winners from all entrants who have submitted an entry during the submission period. Winners shall be selected based upon which submissions are the most original, artistic and/or funny expression of the theme and category. The decision of the library is final. Prize winners will be notified by email or Instagram on or before March 29. Entrants will only be eligible to win one category each year.

Photo Categories

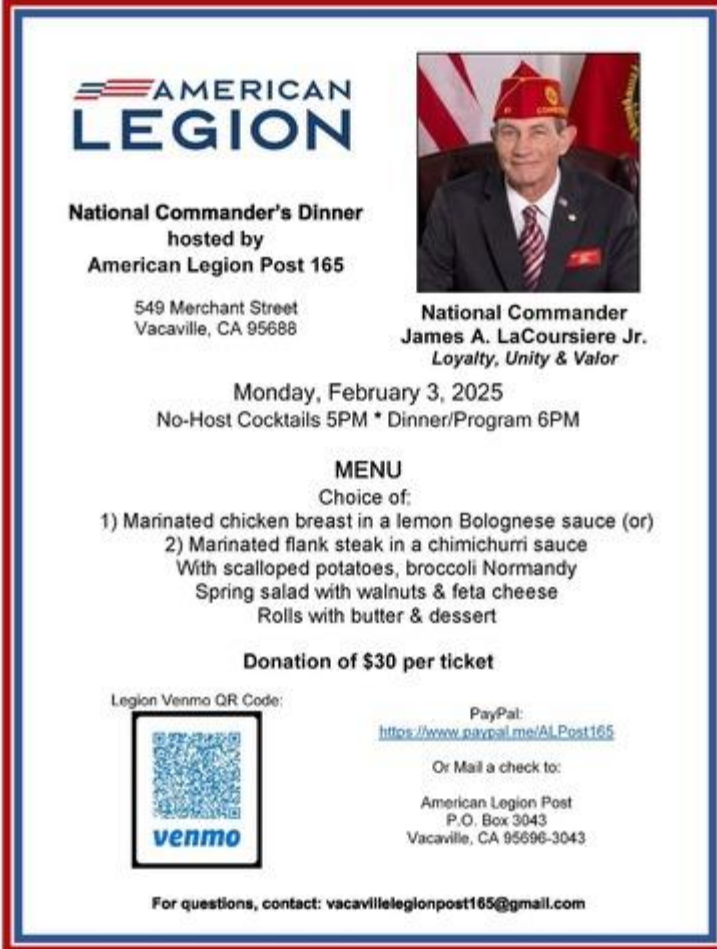
Architecture
Album Covers
Animals
Food/Drinks
Library (pictures of the inside/outside of your favorite library)
Nature
People & Portraits
Special Effects
Sports
Travel/ Landscapes

Library Use of Entries: By entering your work, you acknowledge that Solano Library shall have the right to use, modify, reproduce, publish, display, distribute, or make derivative works of Entry Materials for promotional or any other purposes.

Original Work: You hereby warrant and represent that (a) you own all rights to all Entry Materials submitted by you; and (b) all such Entry Materials are original works of authorship on your part and have not been copied, in whole or in part, from any other work and do not violate, misappropriate or infringe any copyright, trademark or other proprietary right of any other person or entity. You hereby verify that you will provide full written permission of any

recognizable person, and their guardian if they are a minor, who are depicted in your Entry Materials.

American Legion National Commander Dinner



The poster features the American Legion logo at the top left. To the right is a portrait of National Commander James A. LaCoursiere Jr. wearing a red Legion cap. Below the logo, the text reads: 'National Commander's Dinner hosted by American Legion Post 165'. The address '549 Merchant Street, Vacaville, CA 95688' is listed. The date and time are 'Monday, February 3, 2025' and 'No-Host Cocktails 5PM * Dinner/Program 6PM'. The menu includes a choice of marinated chicken breast or flank steak, scalloped potatoes, broccoli Normandy, spring salad, rolls, and dessert. The ticket price is \$30. Payment options include Venmo (with QR code), PayPal (with URL), or check to American Legion Post, P.O. Box 3043, Vacaville, CA 95696-3043. Contact information is provided at the bottom.

AMERICAN LEGION

National Commander's Dinner
hosted by
American Legion Post 165


549 Merchant Street
Vacaville, CA 95688

National Commander
James A. LaCoursiere Jr.
Loyalty, Unity & Valor

Monday, February 3, 2025
No-Host Cocktails 5PM * Dinner/Program 6PM

MENU
Choice of:
1) Marinated chicken breast in a lemon Bolognese sauce (or)
2) Marinated flank steak in a chimichurri sauce
With scalloped potatoes, broccoli Normandy
Spring salad with walnuts & feta cheese
Rolls with butter & dessert

Donation of \$30 per ticket

Legion Venmo QR Code:


PayPal:
<https://www.paypal.me/ALPost165>

Or Mail a check to:
American Legion Post
P.O. Box 3043
Vacaville, CA 95696-3043

For questions, contact: vacavillelegionpost165@gmail.com

James A. LaCoursiere Jr. was elected National Commander of The American Legion on Aug. 29, 2024, in New Orleans, during the 105th National Convention.

An Air Force veteran, LaCoursiere has been a longtime field representative for the American Legion Department of Connecticut's Soldiers, Sailors and Marines Fund, which financially assists veterans and their families in need.

LaCoursiere has held many leadership positions at The American Legion post, department (state) and national levels. He is a member of American Legion Post 91 in Moosup, Conn. He has also

served as a national vice commander, Connecticut state commander, and chairman of the national Legislative Commission.

LaCoursiere is married to his wife, Lisa, and has two children (Patrick and Meghan), and three stepchildren (Jason, Kaylene and the late Johnathan).

Born to a military family in Honolulu, Hawaii, LaCoursiere attended Montville High School where he played junior varsity football, varsity football and varsity track.

As national commander, LaCoursiere is strongly committed to raising awareness for The American Legion's Be the One mission to prevent veteran suicide.

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



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.

Hunter Hill Rest Area on Westbound I-80 is now open



The Hunter Hill rest area along westbound Interstate 80 reopened to the public this week, following several weeks of work to restore power and water pressure, Caltrans announced.

Several utility boxes and many other infrastructure components were replaced in order to provide full services to Bay Area motorists.

For real-time traffic, click on Caltrans QuickMap: <http://quickmap.dot.ca.gov/>

For 24/7 traffic updates, follow 511.org

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](#).

Effective Black Parenting classes

The Solano County Office of Education is proud to offer the Effective Black Parenting Training Classes, specifically designed for parents of color.

This 8-week course is aimed at promoting family pride and cohesion, helping families set meaningful goals for their children, and identifying the necessary steps to achieve those goals. Through this interactive training, parents will gain valuable tools to strengthen their role in their children's lives and ensure their success.

The course time will be 5 to 6 p.m. central standard time (CST) and will be conducted primarily online, with in-person meetings every other Thursday.

Participants will also have the opportunity to celebrate their achievements at a closing graduation ceremony on February 28th, 2025.

To register, click [here](#).

Free Digital Literacy Classes



From the city of Fairfield:

Four class series with eight hours of training = Computer Skills and a free laptop to keep!

Mondays and Wednesdays, 1/27, 1/29, 2/3, and 2/5: 3 to 5 p.m. inside the Fairfield

Community Center, Lakeside, Suite B. 1000 Kentucky Street, Fairfield.

Participants will learn how to:

- Create & use an email account
- Safely search the internet
- Use Google Suite and other tools
- Sign up for low-cost internet plans
- And more!

To register, click [here](#).

For more information, call (707) 419-6165 or email SolanoConnected@techexchange.org

Women in Construction

LEVELING THE FIELD: Recruiting Women In Construction

NOR CAL
CARPENTERS
TRAINING

TRADESWOMEN INC

FOCUS

NOR CAL
CARPENTERS
UNION

ALL are welcome to attend

**WOMEN IN CONSTRUCTION
CAREER EVENT
RSVP BY MARCH 9TH, 2025**

Fairfield Training Center
800 CHADBOURNE RD.
FAIRFIELD, CA. 94534
(707) 339.2880

**FRIDAY MARCH 21ST, 2025
10:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

- CARPENTERS
- ACOUSTICAL INSTALLERS
- DRYWALL/LATHERS
- INSTALL FLOOR LAYERS
- INSULATORS
- MILLMEN & CABINET MAKERS
- MODULAR SYSTEMS INSTALLER
- PILE DRIVERS
- SCAFFOLD ERECTORS
- MILLWRIGHTS

TANK TOPS, SHORTS, CUT-OFF PANTS AND OPEN TOE SHOES NOT PERMITTED TO PARTICIPATE IN HANDS-ON EXERCISES

Fairfield Training Center is offering the Women in Construction career event happening on **Friday, March 21 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in-person at the Fairfield Training Center located at 800 Chadbourne Rd., Fairfield, CA 94534.**

All people are welcome to attend and must pre-register by Sunday, March 9th [here](#).

Dover Park playground area closed in February for repairs



For more information, contact Gary Sponslor (707) 428-7416.

City of Fairfield's Parks and Recreation Department hiring

We're Hiring!

Join the Parks & Recreation Team and #DeliverAwesome to our community!

Recreation Specialists Preschool Instructors
Facility Attendants Activity Specialists
Swim Instructors Lifeguards
and MORE!

Please Note: Positions are part-time, year-round, non-benefited, and limited to working no more than 1,000 hours in a fiscal year (July 1-June 30). Candidates must be available to work a varied schedule to meet program needs, including weekdays, weekends, and holidays as needed.

Apply Today at
www.fairfield.ca.gov/jobs

PARKS & RECREATION
fairfield
CALIFORNIA

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

Solano County jobs

Positions	Job Posting Opened
Appraiser (Entry/Journey)	01/17/2025
Capital Projects Coordinator (Senior)	01/23/2025

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.

If you have any questions, please contact recruitment@solanocounty.com.

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

Arts Benicia



Arts Benicia invites the community to two new exhibitions, **Forma Natura: Nature as Source; and In Remembrance: Lowell Dalton, Fine Artist and Craftsman**. These exhibitions will open on **Saturday, January 25, an Opening Reception, from 4 to 6 p.m.**

Forma Natura: Nature as Source, juried by Alicia Escott, features artists' representations of the natural world. In the upstairs showcase gallery, there will be drawings, watercolors and paintings of Lowell Dalton, a longtime friend of Arts Benicia, curated by his wife Carol Dalton.

If you haven't signed up yet, there is still time to register for the upcoming program, **Art Talks and Timely Conversations Series: Estate Planning for Artists: Ensuring Your Legacy, to be held on February 8, 2 to 4 p.m. at the Commanding Officer's Quarters, 1 Commandants Lane.**

Speakers include Julia Schwartz, Sushanna Stern, Keley R. Peterson with moderator Ricci Victorio. To register for this program, which is free to Arts Benicia Members. To register or buy tickets use this link: <https://artsbenicia.org/art-talks-and-timely-conversations-estate-legacy-planning/>

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 p.m. 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, visit <https://artsbenicia.org/adult-classes>.

Interested in sponsoring a program with Arts Benicia? The support of local businesses and donors is essential to the quality and reach of the programs. With your sponsorship support, Arts Benicia 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 or visiting <https://artsbenicia.org/sponsorship/>

Inquiries? Email info@artsbenicia.org or visit <http://artsbenicia.org>

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

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

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.

January calendar for Benicia Veterans Memorial Hall



The January calendar of events for Benicia Veterans Memorial Hall:

January 31: Sons of The American Legion

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


Benicia.

Teen Writing Contest poetry reading

Solano County LIBRARY
Web: solanolibrary.com
Phone: 1-844-572-7587
solanolibrary

**TEEN WRITING CONTEST
POETRY READING**

Join Fairfield Civic Center Library and Suzanne Bruce, Fairfield Poet Laureate Emerita for a chance to hear teens read their poems that were entered into the 2024 Teen Writing Contest.



FAIRFIELD CIVIC CENTER LIBRARY | **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1**
1:00 - 2:30 PM

For more information visit solanolibrary.com/events

Upcoming events in Solano County Anime film showing

Solano County LIBRARY
Web: solanolibrary.com
Phone: 1-844-572-7587
solanolibrary

Join us for a special showing of the popular anime film **Your Name**

FAIRFIELD CIVIC CENTER LIBRARY
Saturday, January 25
2:00 - 4:00 PM
(This film is suggested for teens and adults)

Popcorn and water will be provided

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!

Setting the Bar on Filipino Food

~You are cordially invited to a special presentation:

Setting the Bar on Filipino Food

Sunday January 26, 2-4pm



Since 2009 Chef Roline Casper has promoted Filipino culture at her Vacaville restaurant, *Roline's Uniquely Filipino*, home of the original Halo Halo Bar®, Baonnista® gourmet sandwiches, and authentic Kamayan feasts. Roline graduated valedictorian from the Napa Valley Cooking School, and in 2020 released her first book, *The Easy Filipino Cookbook: 100 Classics Made Simple*. Chef Roline will share with us how the dishes she creates are inspired by her childhood, her travels, and those she has met along the way.

**~The McCune Collection~
Lower-level of JFK Library Bldg
505 Santa Clara Street, Vallejo CA**

~Filipino food & light refreshments will be served~

Enter through the sliding doors from the parking lot behind City Hall
Details & map: www.mccunecollection.org/about

Roline's
SET THE BAR™

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/cr6LqnK17g>

For more info:
FreshStart@SolanoCounty.com
707) 704-6700

To apply, click [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](#).

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.

Benicia's Third Annual State of the City

On February 11, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., the city of Benicia and the Benicia Chamber of Commerce will host the Third Annual State of the City, presented by Mayor Steve Young and City Manager Mario Giuliani.



The event will be held at the Benicia Clock Tower, 1189 Washington Street.

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

State of the City Event to unveil “Blueprint for a Brighter Future” on February 20

The poster is blue with white and light blue text. At the top left is the Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce logo. At the top right is the Fairfield logo. The main title reads 'FAIRFIELD-SUISUN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PRESENTS: STATE OF THE CITY BLUEPRINT FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE'. Below this, it says 'PRESENTATION AND BREAKFAST WITH:'. Three individuals are listed: Catherine 'Cat' Moy, Mayor; David Gassaway, City Manager; and Lisa Bonnington, Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce. Each name is accompanied by a small portrait photo. At the bottom, the website 'WWW.FAIRFIELD.CA.GOV/TICKETS' is displayed.

The Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with the city of Fairfield, invites the community to the State of the City Event, "Blueprint for a Brighter Future," on **February 20 from 8 to 10 a.m.** at the Hilton Garden Inn, 2200 The Courtyard in Fairfield.

Mayor Catherine "Cat" Moy, City Manager David Gassaway, and Chamber President Lisa Bonnington will host the event, which will include breakfast, a State of the City presentation, and a panel with local business and sector leaders. Discussions will focus on key topics such as Fairfield's economic climate, commerce, growth, manufacturing, workforce development, and real estate trends.

Registration is now open for attendees at \$55 per person. Space is limited, so interested individuals are encouraged to secure their spots now.

Don't miss this unique opportunity to gain a broader perspective of the city of Fairfield's achievements and future endeavors.

For tickets and reservations, click [here](http://www.fairfield.ca.gov/tickets).

Events I attended this week

MLK weekend: I attended the NAACP Vallejo Branch #1081 installation on **Sunday, January 19**. Thank you, President Ms. Hunter, for the invitation.

Monday, January 20, the MLK Day March was moved, and I walked on the sidewalks on Mare Island Way toward the JFK Library. Later, I attended the MLK event held at the Fairgrounds. The event was sponsored by the Black Chamber of Commerce. Thank you, Ms. Richardson, for the invitation. (Yes, I bought earrings from vendors). The evening ended at the Community Congregational UCC. Ms. Gast and friends put on a wonderful celebration. A shoutout to Brandon Greene whose poem was very moving. I would be honored to showcase it in my newsletter for others to read.

Tuesday, January 21, I attended the celebration of life for former Supervisor of District 2, John Silva. His words were: "Be Nice to People, Be Kind, Love Everyone." His legacy is truly: "A Life Well Lived"

Wednesday night, January 22, was Benicia Unified School District's "The State of the District," celebrating success while navigating the future. Students and staff were available to discuss what projects they were showcasing. I was overjoyed to learn several students were taking classes at Solano Community College. The Benicia High School Jazz Band provide music. The Benicia District Superintendent talked about successes, but the future will be bumpy. Lack of money due to declining enrollment as well as other factors will be hard to navigate. He did mention a parcel tax is being looked at. To view the meeting, click [here](#).

Thursday night, January 25, I was at the Measure P Oversight Committee meeting. I attended because I am concerned there might not be enough money to pay for the deputy sheriffs to help provide security for the city. When I brought this up during public comment, Vallejo City Manager Andrew Murray responded by saying the yearly cost is looking like \$11 million and the discussion at the table is the Risk Management. (Who is paying for that?) He spoke on Zoom, so I wrote down what I thought I heard. He stated that Measure P brings in \$18 million a year.

There were nine requests for money on the agenda. By 8:30, only four had been discussed. The meeting video is available, [click here to watch](#).

Looking for a job? Consider these links

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

[STATE OF CALIFORNIA](#)

[CITY OF BENICIA](#)

[CITY OF FAIRFIELD](#)

[CITY OF VALLEJO](#)

[SOLANO COMMUNITY COLLEGE](#)

[BENICIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT](#)

[FAIRFIELD-SUISUN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT](#)

[VALLEJO SCHOOL DISTRICT](#)

[POST OFFICE](#)

[GREATER VALLEJO RECREATION DISTRICT](#)

[YOUTH JOBS CORPS](#)

[CALIFORNIA CONSERVATION CORPS](#)

[SOLANO RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT](#)

[FAIRFIELD-SUISUN SEWER DISTRICT](#)

Newsletter photo

Officer's Quarters on Mare Island in the city of Vallejo. Photo:
Monica Brown



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