



Solano County *California*

SUPERVISOR MONICA BROWN NEWSLETTER

January 5, 2024



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Benicia's economic situation



2024 will be a pivotal year for the city of Benicia as the municipality will need to eliminate \$6.5 million in programs and services to remain solvent.

In January, the city will hold a series of meetings and engagements for the community to share their thoughts on how the city should make those cuts, according to City Manager Mario Giuliani. A community survey will be released soon.

In-Person Town Halls include:

January 18 at 6pm at Benicia Public Library, 150 E L Street.

January 25 at 6:00 p.m. at Benicia Community Center, 370 East L Street.

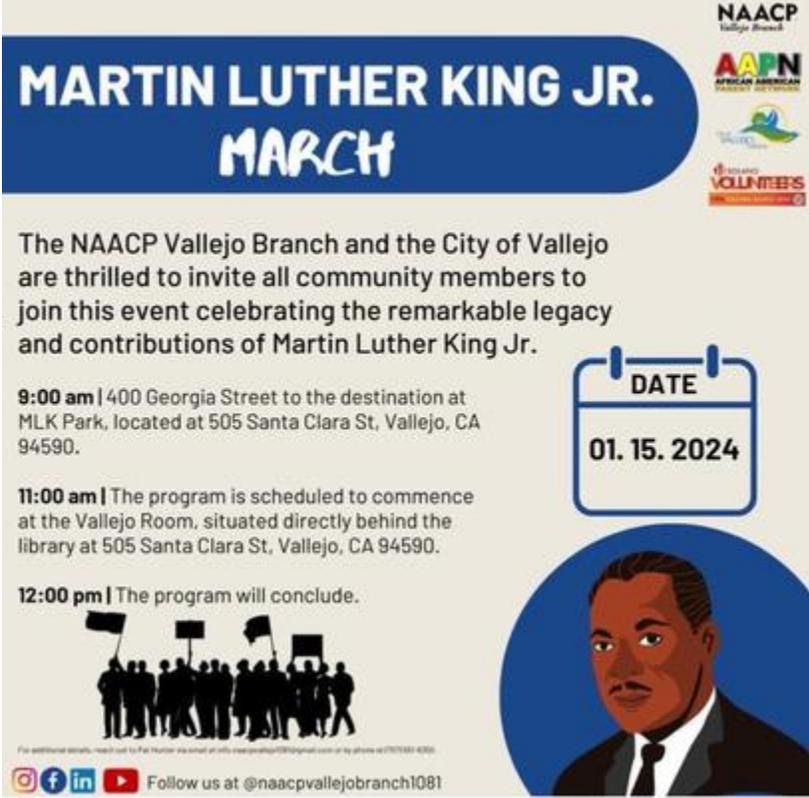
There will be virtual Town Halls at 6pm on January 17 and 24. The city will be providing the links soon.

"There is no easy fix or magic solution that will keep everything the same as it always has been. We have to make very difficult decisions," Giuliani said. "If we are willing to sacrifice today, then our resiliency will, by the end of this decade, lead to fiscal vibrancy so we may enhance the services and surroundings of our amazing community.

"I know these days are hard, but we will persevere," Giuliani added.

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

MLK March



The poster features a blue header with the text "MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. MARCH" in white. To the right of the header are logos for NAACP Vallejo Branch, AAPN African American Professional Network, and a logo for "VOLUNTEERS". Below the header, the text reads: "The NAACP Vallejo Branch and the City of Vallejo are thrilled to invite all community members to join this event celebrating the remarkable legacy and contributions of Martin Luther King Jr." To the right of this text is a calendar icon showing the date "01. 15. 2024". Below the text, there are three time slots: "9:00 am | 400 Georgia Street to the destination at MLK Park, located at 505 Santa Clara St, Vallejo, CA 94590.", "11:00 am | The program is scheduled to commence at the Vallejo Room, situated directly behind the library at 505 Santa Clara St, Vallejo, CA 94590.", and "12:00 pm | The program will conclude." Below the time slots is a silhouette of a group of people marching with flags, and a circular portrait of Martin Luther King Jr. At the bottom left, there are social media icons for Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn, and YouTube, followed by the text "Follow us at @naacpvallejobranch1081".

The NAACP Vallejo Branch and the city of Vallejo invite all community members to celebrate the remarkable legacy and contributions of Martin Luther King Jr. with a march at **9am on Monday, January 15**. Following the march, there will be a program at **11am** inside the Vallejo Room, on the first floor of the John F. Kennedy Public Library, 505 Santa Clara Street.

We Walk with Martin: Profiles in Unity



The We Walk with Martin: Profiles in Unity event will start at **2pm, Sunday, January 14**, inside the Benicia Public Library, 150 E L Street.

The We Are ALL Related series at the Benicia Public Library invites you to a special program called “We Walk with Martin: Profiles in Unity”, an exploration of how King’s work and message stay current and relevant in the words and labors of others who strive to keep his dream alive.

Participants will learn about the ongoing influence of Martin Luther King Jr. as his message continues to reverberate today and will have opportunity to share this message with others in a peaceful march through downtown Benicia.

Solano Master Plan for aging

Solano Master Plan for Aging

TO ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF OLDER AND DISABLED ADULTS

MEETING OVERVIEW

- Learn about Solano's process for developing a Master Plan for Aging that addresses the needs of older and disabled adults.
- Review local data about older and disabled adults.
- Learn how to apply for Solano's Master Plan for Aging Advisory Committee.
- Explore ways you can get involved in this exciting, important, and worthwhile process.



Don't miss this chance to contribute to the discussion, share your insights, and help us make our community a more inclusive place for all ages.

January 30th | 9:30–11:30 am

**Solano County Events Center
Conference Room A**
601 Texas Street | Fairfield



CLICK HERE, scan the QR code, or visit www.mpasolano.org to REGISTER for this event!



(707) 766-0192
info@innovativehealth.com
innovativehealth.com | aaans.org



INNOVATIVE
HEALTH
SOLUTIONS



Charting Lifelong Livability: Together, We're Creating a Community for All Ages & Stages

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

A public meeting is scheduled from 9:30 to 11:30am, Tuesday, January 30, inside the Solano County Events Center, 601 Texas Street.

The MPA is a proactive response to the observable diversification and accelerated growth of the older adult population in Solano County and the State of California. In the next decade, the number of older adults in Solano County is expected to double, representing 20% of the county's population. The plan outlines evidence-based approaches and five strategic plan goals to address this demographic shift and its unique challenges.

To register, click [here](#).

Garamendi Statement on Newsom Administration Advancing Delta Tunnel



Congressman John Garamendi (D-CA) made the following statement this week on the California Department of Water Resources' [recent certification](#) finalizing the state environmental review for the proposed Delta Tunnel and reiterating his longtime opposition to the Governor's proposal:

"As I told the six previous Governors and now Governor Newsom, this tunnel will never be built. The state should not continue spending hundreds of millions of tax-payer dollars in pursuit of a multibillion-dollar boondoggle. Tunneling under the Delta to export more water to Southern California risks collapsing the Delta's earthen levees and inundating this iconic working landscape with saltwater. While I share the Governor's enthusiasm for modernizing California's water supply infrastructure, forcing a tunnel on Delta residents ignores better ways to meet our state's future water needs. I urge the Governor to reconsider this deeply misguided project," said Garamendi.

This past February, Garamendi reintroduced the "Stop the Delta Tunnel Act" ([H.R.924](#)) with Congressman Josh Harder (D-CA09).

Information this week

New State Grant Gives Big Boost to Hwy. 37 Upgrades

The California Transportation Commission (CTC) today approved a \$50 million grant to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission to help MTC, Caltrans and project partners advance transportation and ecological resilience along State Route 37 between Vallejo and Sears Point.

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

West Texas Complete Streets Project

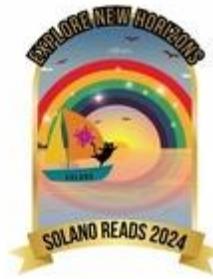


The city of Fairfield will be providing a project update on the status of the West Texas Street Improvements between Beck and Pennsylvania avenues on **Wednesday, January 17 from 5:30 to 7pm at the Downtown Theatre at 1035 Texas Street.**

West Texas Street is an important corridor that connects I-80 to downtown Fairfield and various community destinations. Proposed complete-street improvements will make the road safer and encourage more people to walk and cycle. The well-designed mixed-use thoroughfare will attract new residents, jobs, and commercial development, making it a more desirable location for everyone.

For more information on the West Texas Complete Streets Project, click [here](#) or contact David Vong at (707) 428-7784.

Solano Reads



Solano County Library invites residents to participate in the Solano Reads 2024 program, which asks participants to read a book for each of the twelve observance months. Participants will earn a commemorative enamel pin for every four monthly challenges they complete, for up to three pins!

January: International Holocaust Remembrance Day, January 27: Read a book to honor and remember the profound stories and impact of the Holocaust.

February: Black History Month: Celebrate and reflect on the culture and experiences of Black Americans. Read a book written by a Black author.

March: Women's History Month: To recognize and celebrate the contributions of women throughout history and contemporary society. Read stories about women or books by women writers.

April: Arab American Heritage Month: To celebrate Arab American heritage and culture and recognize the contributions of Arab Americans and Arabic-speaking Americans. Read books that highlight Arabic culture and history.

May: Asian Pacific American Heritage Month: Read a book that celebrates Asian or Pacific Islander culture or highlights the American-born or immigrant experience.

June: Pride Month: Honor the movement for LGBT rights and celebrate LGBT culture. Read books featuring lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer/questioning (LGBTQ) individuals.

July: Disability Pride Month: To celebrate people with disabilities, their culture, contributions to society, and to end the stigma around disability. Read a story that portray members of the disabled community in positive and significant featured roles.

August: South Asian Heritage Month: To celebrate the heritage of people with roots in South Asian countries of India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, Nepal, Bhutan, and the Maldives. Read stories by South Asian and Indian authors.

September: Hispanic Heritage Month: Read a book that celebrates Hispanic culture or highlights the American-born or immigrant experience.

October: Filipino American History Month: Commemorates the first Filipinos to arrive in the continental United States. Read books that celebrate Filipino culture, heritage, and history.

November: Native American Heritage Month: Celebrate the heritage and culture of the Native peoples and recognize their contributions to American history. Read stories about or by indigenous people.

December: Universal Month for Human Rights: Commemorates the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by the United Nations. Read stories about human rights activists or stories on human rights.

To register, click [here](#) or download the Beanstack app.

Solano County Ag Department currently accepting applications for the 2024 Ag Pass program



The Solano County Department of Agriculture is currently accepting applications for 2024 Ag Pass program training classes, county officials announced this week.

"The program trains and preemptively issues passes to commercial farmers, ranchers, ag processors and horse stable operators so they may enter evacuation areas to care for crops and livestock during emergency events,"

officials said.

Commercial agricultural business owners and managerial employees interested in obtaining Ag Passes must apply with the Agriculture Department.

Eligible participants will be required to attend an Incident Safety for Agricultural and Livestock Producers training. Although possession of an Ag Pass preapproves farmers and ranchers to enter evacuation areas during emergencies, there may be times when conditions will not allow for safe access. Emergency responders retain the right to enforce road closures and prevent access into restricted areas to protect imminent threats to life and property.

The Agriculture Department, County Office of Emergency Services and CalFIRE will be holding trainings on January 23 and February 27 at the County Event Center in Fairfield. These will be the only trainings offered this year. Ag Passes will not be issued again until 2025.

To apply online please visit the [Ag Pass website](#). For more information call (707) 784-1310, or email agpass@solanocounty.com.

How to tell if there is debit card skimmer on gas pumps, ATMs

Debit card skimmers on gas pumps is becoming more of an issue. To read about this growing problem and how to protect yourself, click [here](#).

Medi-Cal Adult Expansion in 2024

On January 1, Medi-Cal expanded their full scope coverage to undocumented adults between ages 26-49 years old, regardless of immigration status.

Applying or using Medi-Cal will not affect your immigration status. Full Medi-Cal covers doctor visits, prescribed medications, vision care/eyeglasses, mental health care, vaccines, dental care, emergency services, and referrals to specialist.

Community Health Initiative can provide you with support and help you apply – call (707) 395-550 or visit www.calchi.org for more information.

Solano Community Corrections Partnership seeks individual to serve on committee to represent victims

The Solano Community Corrections Partnership (CCP) has announced the search for a dedicated and passionate individual to serve as a representative on the CCP as a committee member representing victims.



The person sought must be an advocate for the rights and needs of victims within the criminal justice system. The selected individual will play a crucial role in ensuring that the voices of victims are heard and considered in the development and implementation of policies and programs.

Key Responsibilities of the Committee Member Representing Victims:

- Collaborate with CCP members to develop and implement victim-centered policies and programs.
- Provide insights / perspectives on the impact of criminal justice policies on victims / their families.
- Act as a liaison between the CCP and local victim advocacy organizations.

Individuals interested in this opportunity are invited to submit their interest, outlining their relevant experience and motivation for serving on the Solano CCP to TRobinson@SolanoCounty.com **by or before January 12.**

The Solano CCP is a collaborative effort aimed at enhancing public safety and improving outcomes for individuals involved in the criminal justice system.

City of Vallejo accepting commission applications

The City of Vallejo is seeking applicants for several boards and commissions, including the Solano County Mosquito Abatement District and the SolTrans Public Advisory Committee. Vallejo residents who are interested in serving on an advisory body are invited to submit an application and supplemental questionnaire for consideration.



There are currently openings on the following boards, commissions, and committees:

- [Commission on Culture & the Arts](#) (2) terms expire 12/31/27
- [Code Enforcement Appeals Board](#) (1) Term expires 12/31/27

- [Housing Authority](#) (1) tenant commissioner) term to expire 12/31/24
- [McCune Collection Commission](#) (1) term to expire 6/30/24
- [Measure P Oversight Committee – District 1 Member Only](#) (1) term to expire 10/10/24
- [Participatory Budget Steering Committee](#) (3 alternates) terms expire 6/30/25
- [Surveillance Advisory Board – District 3 Member Only](#) (1) term to expire 1/2/25
- [Solano County Mosquito Abatement District \(SCMA\) Board](#) (1) Vallejo representative. Term to expire 4 years from date of appointment
- [Solano Transportation Authority \(STA\) Pedestrian Advisory Committee \(PAC\)](#) (1) Vallejo representative. Term to expire 12/31/26

For City Boards and Commissions, except for the Commission on Culture & the Arts, McCune Collection, Surveillance Advisory Board, and the Participatory Budgeting Steering Committee, all appointed members must complete and file a Statement of Economic Interests, Form 700, within 30 days of appointment.

All City Board and Commission members must complete AB 1234 Ethics training and file a Certificate of Completion within 30 days of appointment.

In most instances, to be eligible for appointment, applicants must be residents of the City of Vallejo. Information regarding the duties of each board and commission and specific criteria for appointment may be found within each application. With some exceptions, appointments are typically for a term of 4 years.

Interviews with the City Council will be held in June/early July. Specific dates will be announced at a later date. Applicants must attend the interview to be considered for appointment on a committee or commission.

Application forms and supplemental questionnaires are accessible in several ways:

- The City's website, located on the [Boards and Commissions page](#)
- At City Hall, Office of the City Clerk, 555 Santa Clara Street, 3rd Floor, Vallejo, CA
- By Email at abrahamson@cityofvallejo.net, or by phone at (707) 648-4527

By UP Postal Mail: City of Vallejo, C/O City Clerk, PO Box 3068, Vallejo, CA 94590

Kaiser Permanente's new Community Health Care Program



This month, Kaiser Permanente launched the [Community Health Care Program](#) (CHCP) in California for people who do not have access to any other health coverage. Individuals do not need to be U.S. citizens to qualify.

CHCP members will get the Kaiser Permanente Platinum 90 HMO plan. Monthly premiums for comprehensive coverage are subsidized, and members do not have to pay copays for out-of-pocket costs for most care.

The deadline to apply for CHCP is January 31, 2024, and space is limited.

For details on the Community Health Care Program, click [here](#). Or call Member Services at 1-800-464-4000 (TTY 711), 24 hours a day, 7 days a week (closed major holidays).

Proposed SMART link from Marin to Solano eligible for federal funding

A proposal to add passenger rail service along the traffic-plagued Highway 37 corridor, linking Marin and Solano counties, has taken a significant step forward. To read more, click [here](#).

Solano Public Health's Don't Think Know Program



Solano Public Health has launched a new program, Don't Think Know (DTK), a free Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) testing resource that is now available in Solano County.

DTK is a free and confidential home test kit for vaginal chlamydia and gonorrhea infections. The free home test kit program is currently available to young women, girls, transmen, and any person with a vagina who is between 12 to 24 years of age and living in Solano County.

It is ideal for those who prefer testing at home instead of visiting a clinic. DTK serves as a reliable option for remotely accessing health information and guidance, ensuring seamless and efficient care in the privacy and comfort of your home or wherever you feel comfortable! Get tested conveniently and confidentially.

Visit solano.dontthinkknow.org for more information. Clients can place an order through a laptop, smart device, or by calling (707) 784-8001. Results will take 3 to 5 days. For additional support, email Solano@DontThinkKnow.org.

Metropolitan Transportation Commission Preps Regional Transit Measure



The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) got a look at what a \$1 billion regional transit measure might entail during a recent meeting. "73 percent [of those polled] thought seamless fares and schedules were important," said Rebecca Long, MTC's legislative analyst, during a presentation to the commission directors.

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

New traffic laws bringing changes for California drivers in 2024

For California legislators, the start of the new year means a slew of new bills signed into law will go into effect, including more than a dozen new traffic safety laws impacting the state's some 27 million drivers.

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

When to see 4 full supermoons, including rare blue moon in 2024

Stargazers, mark your calendars: 2024's night-sky highlights include four full supermoons in a row, plus a rare blue moon.

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

Public hearings

STA's Draft 2024 Legislative Platform Open for Public Comment



Solano Transportation Authority (STA) legislative and management staff updated STA's Legislative Platform and Priorities in preparation for the new year's legislative session while the STA Board authorized the release of the 2024 Draft Legislative Platform and Priorities for 30-day public review and comment.

STA's main priorities in 2024 include advancing projects such as:

- I-80 Corridor Freight and Mobility Improvements
- Access to Travis Air Force Base
- Canon Road Overcrossing (Fairfield),
- Parkway Blvd. Overcrossing (Dixon)
- SR 37 Corridor Improvements,
- I-80/I-680/SR 12 Interchange Package 5,
- Vaca Valley Parkway,
- Electrification of Freight and all Solano County Transit Operators,
- and EV Charger Infrastructure.

Written comments may be submitted prior to the STA Board meeting on January 10. To view STA's Draft 2024 Legislative Platform and Priorities, click [here](#).

Updates from around Solano County

Point-In-Time Count 2024 Volunteer recruitment

Register to Volunteer Today!

Solano
**POINT
IN TIME
COUNT**

JPA
CAP Solano



What is a Point-in-Time Count?

The Point In Time (PIT) Count is a count of unsheltered people experiencing homelessness on a single night in January. This is a requirement by HUD to be conducted every other year.

The PIT Count provides data that is used to determine funding from the State and Federal Government to help provide better programs and services to people experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

When: January 31, 2024
Time: 5:30AM – 10:00AM

For more information or to sign up to volunteer:
Visit <https://solano24.pointintime.info/>
or scan the QR Code from your mobile device



For any additional questions, please reach out to:

Becky Farris
PIT Coordinator
rlfarris@solanocounty.com

The Community Action Partnership Solano Joint Powers Authority is looking for volunteers to help with the Point-In-Time (PIT) count next January. The PIT count is a count of unsheltered people experiencing homelessness on a single night in January.

This is a requirement by **United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)** to be conducted every other year. The PIT Count provides data that is used to determine funding from the State and Federal Government to help provide better programs and services to people experiencing or at risk of homelessness. How can you participate:

1. Register to volunteer on the [Volunteer Registration Portal](#)
2. Reach out to family, friends, and co-workers to volunteer for the count

Fairfield Adult School Classes Starting January 2024

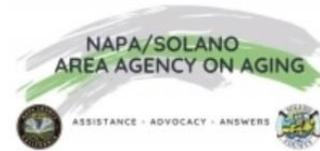
Fairfield Adult School is offering several classes in computers and technology, professional trades and education starting in January 2024.

Classes include Basic Computer Skills, Introduction to Microsoft Excel, Forklift Operator, Introduction to Welding, and Paraeducator Exam.

To view available classes and register, click [here](#). Registration can also be done in person at 900 Travis Blvd., Fairfield. For more information, call (707) 421-4155.

Napa/Solano Area Agency on Aging Request for Proposals

The Napa/Solano Area Agency on Aging is excited to announce a Request for Proposals (RFP) to support services to seniors and disabled adults. Services include senior nutrition, case management, transportation, visiting, ombudsman, legal assistance, home care assistance, emergency aid and assistance.



The deadline for proposal submission is January 17, 2024 at 5pm.

For more details or to apply to the RFP, click [here](#). Contact Nesmith Despabiladeras at nadespadilaeras@solanocounty.com or at (707) 784-6322 for any questions.

Benicia Lyft rides



The Solano Transportation Authority (STA) will pay a portion of your Lyft rides throughout the City of Benicia, and to Springstowne Center in Vallejo. These rides are valid only to specific destinations and between the hours of 6am to 9pm for Benicia residents. To qualify you must be an older adult (65+), a veteran, or ADA eligible. If your pickup or drop-off is outside the specified areas, the discount is not valid. More questions? Call the mobility call center: [1-800-535-6883](tel:1-800-535-6883)

Solano Senior Fraud Prevention Center

Solano Public Health's Older and Disabled Adult Services (ODAS) Bureau is proud to announce the launch of their new website, www.SolanoScamCenter.org which houses the Solano Senior Fraud Prevention Center, to address financial abuse among seniors.

Due to a significant portion of APS clients reporting financial abuse last year (about one-third of clients which totaled close to 750 individuals), ODAS began the Financial Abuse Media Campaign. This campaign focused on financial abuse prevention among the senior population. Nationally, seniors lose more than \$3 billion each year, or an average of \$34,200 per victim. Unfortunately, this type of abuse is under-reported, so the loss is likely greater.

Hopefully, through the Solano Senior Fraud Prevention Center, seniors and others will be educated so that they will not become a victim. The new website Solano Senior Fraud Prevention Center is on the Network of Care – www.SolanoCares.org site, www.SolanoScamCenter.org.

Upcoming events in Solano County

Yoga



On the first Saturdays of each month enjoy a fitness class at the John F. Kennedy Public Library, 505 Santa Clara Street in downtown Vallejo. The next session is **Saturday, January 6 from 11am to noon.**

Yoga is a great way to de-stress, build up strength, and increase flexibility. Instructor Amy Raupach will guide the group through a beginner/intermediate-friendly session. No yoga mat? No problem! The library has mats that participants can borrow.

For more information, call 1-866-572-7587 or click [here](#).

City of Fairfield Homeless Roundtable

The City of Fairfield's Homeless Roundtable is holding their next quarterly Homeless Roundtable at **10am on Wednesday, January 10 at the Fairfield Community Center, Willow Hall, 1000 Kentucky Street.**

The homeless roundtable is a collection of local government, law enforcement, non-profit, health agencies, veteran's services and faith-based groups who get together for a meeting in which we collaborate and learn about ways to help address the unhoused issues in the city of Fairfield.

Come share, learn and help strategize ways to apply your services and resources towards one of our most vulnerable populations. Please send your RSVP to dombrowski@fairfield.ca.gov by January 8. Lunch will be provided.

Touro University California's Diabetes Education Class (in Spanish) starting in January

The Diabetes Services at Touro University California will provide a free six-session program to help you learn how to live a healthier life with diabetes. This class will be offered in Spanish and in-person at Family Health Services in Vacaville beginning on **Wednesday, January 10 from 1 to 3pm.**

To register, click [here](#). For more information, call (707) 638-5970 or email tuc.mobec@touro.edu.

Poetry in Notion

Poetry in Notion welcomes all who are interested in poetry every 2nd Saturday of the month. Participants are invited to bring their poems to share in a read around circle, discuss ideas for writing poetry, or simply come and listen. Poetry in Notion is hosted by the Co-Poet Laureates of Vallejo, Jacalyn Eyvonne and Kathleen Herrmann.

The next session is scheduled for **12 to 2pm, Saturday, January 13 inside the John F. Kennedy Public Library, 505 Santa Clara Street in downtown Vallejo.**

Leaders of Men Inc. in partnership with Solano County Presents: A Men's Conference

**Leaders of Men Inc. and Solano County
Men's Conference**



January 13th 2024
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Solano County Event Center
601 Texas Street, Fairfield, CA 94533

RESPECT IS EVERYTHING

**Free Food and Drinks
will be Provided**

Scan to register



**FREE
PARKING
IN THE COUNTY
PARKING LOT**

How to Empower Men of all Ages
NO COLOR LINE NO FINANCIAL LINE

Topics of Discussion

- Sharing info on Mental Health, Self Care, and Self Management.
- Career Choices and Opportunities
- Empowerment through financial literacy
- Being a resource to each other, forming partnerships, and building business relationships
- Veteran Resources
- Is asking for help okay?

Contact Us

Anthony E. McDonald Sr.
Executive Director/ Founder

 (510) 827-8490

 leadersofmeninc@gmail.com

 www.leadersofmeninc.org




Leaders of Men Inc. in partnership with Solano County will hold "A Men's Conference" from 1 to 4pm, Saturday, January 13, 2024 inside the County Events Center, 601 Texas Street in downtown Fairfield.

This Men's Conference is aimed at empowering men to become the best versions of themselves. Be prepared for a transformative experience filled with inspiring talks, interactive workshops, and networking opportunities.

Event Highlights:

- Engaging Keynote Speakers
- Dynamic Panel Discussions
- Practical Workshops
- Networking Opportunities
- Live Performances
- Exhibition Area showcasing products and services

Whether you're a young professional, a seasoned executive, or a student seeking guidance, this conference is for you. By attending, you'll gain invaluable insights, network with industry experts, and connect with like-minded individuals on a similar journey.

Free food and drinks will be provided.

To register for this free event, click [here](#). For more information, click [here](#).

Betty White Birthday Celebration



The Humane Society of the North Bay will be hosting a birthday celebration for the beloved Betty White, whose love of animals has inspired millions to recognize her birthday through supporting animal shelters. The Humane Society of the North Bay's Betty White Birthday Celebration will take place from 5:30 to 9pm, Saturday, January 13 at . A limited number of tickets will be sold for this event. Doors open at 5:30. Along with a delicious Italian themed buffet dinner, this

fun event will include a dessert dash and raffle. If you are not able to attend, please consider donating to support HSNB in honor of Betty.

Teen anime cafe



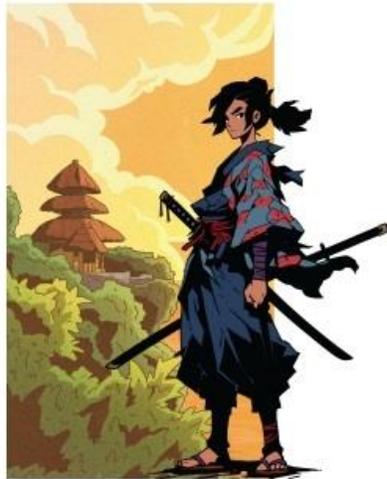
Solano County
LIBRARY

Web: solanolibrary.com

Phone: 1-866-572-7587

   : [solanolibrary](https://www.facebook.com/solanolibrary)

TEEN ANIME CAFE



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

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17
4 PM

FAIRFIELD CIVIC CENTER LIBRARY

For more information visit solanolibrary.com/events

The Fairfield Civic Center library's Teen Anime Café is returning this month! This program for teens will feature anime from Crunchyroll, manga, Japanese snacks and meeting other anime/manga fans!

The cafe will take place at **4pm, Wednesday, January 17, at the Fairfield Civic Center Library, 1150 Kentucky Street.**

Healing our Future: Addressing Black Maternal and Infant Health in Solano County Seminar



Solano County Supervisor Wanda Williams, Black Women Organized for Political Action Solano/Napa Chapter & Solano County Health and Social Services presents their seminar Healing Our Future: Addressing Black Maternal and Infant Health in Solano County scheduled for **Saturday, January 20, 2024 from 11:30am to 1:30pm** in Fairfield.

The program will be held at the Solano County Events Center, 601 Texas Street, Fairfield.

Sponsorship opportunities and booth space is available. For more information, contact Latressa Wilson Alford at lwilsonalford@solanocounty.com.

Poetry Reading and Open Mic

DYNAMIC TRIO
COME MEET AND HEAR THESE INSPIRATIONAL POETS!

POETRY OPEN MIC

FEATURING POETS:

FRANCESCA BELL



Author of *Bright Stain*, a finalist for the Washington State Book Award and the Julie Suk Award, and *What Small Sound*. She translated *Whoever Drowned Here* by German poet Max Sessner. Her work appears widely in literary journals, and she is the Marin County Poet Laureate.

CONNIE POST



First Poet Laureate of Livermore whose work has appeared in *Calyx*, *Slipstream*, *Comstock Review*, *2 River*, *American Journal of Poetry*, *River Styx*, *Spoon River Poetry Review*, *Slippery Elm*, and *Verse Daily*. Poetry awards include the Liakoura Award and Crab Creek Poetry Award. Her full-length collections include *Floodwater*, *Prime Meridian* and *Between Twilight*.

LUKE JOHNSON



Author of *Quiver*, a finalist for The Jake Adam York Prize, The Levis Award, The Vassar Miller Prize and the Brittingham. His second book *A Slow Indwelling*, a call and response with the poet Megan Merchant, is forthcoming from Harbor Editions Fall 2024.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 2024 | 1:00PM - 3:00PM
FAIRFIELD CORDELIA LIBRARY, 5050 BUSINESS CENTER DR

The Dynamic Trio: Francesca Bell, Connie Post and Luke Johnson will hold a special reading from **1 to 3pm, Saturday, January 20 at the Fairfield Cordelia Library, 5050 Business Center Drive.**

An Open Mic will follow their readings.

Crab feed




Crab Feed 2024

Saturday, February 10, 2024
6:00PM

NorthBay Administration Center
4500 Business Center Drive Fairfield

\$75.00 per person

\$1,000 SPONSORSHIP
Includes Table for 8
and promotional benefits
(includes 2 bottles of wine for table)

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

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



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

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

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

State of the City Event to feature lead economist



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

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

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

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

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

19th Annual Solano County African American Community Baby Shower



A More Excellent Way Health Organization and community partners are inviting African American pregnant and breastfeeding women and expectant fathers to the Virtual and Drive-Thru “More Excellent Way Community Baby Shower” on Saturday, February 24, 2024. This event is free and will include health and education workshops and a drive-thru health and resource fair.

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

The event will take place from **10am to noon, Saturday, February 25, 2024** via Zoom for the health and education workshops, and at Refuge Community Fellowship Church, 104 Lincoln Road, Vallejo from **12:30 to 2:30pm** for the drive-thru health and resource fair.

Back to Basics Class available

The Benicia Adult Education is offering a Back to Basics Class: A Sampler on Self-Sufficiency Living. It is a 16-week course that will cover topics such as growing food and herbs at home, beekeeping, keeping chickens, various methods of gardening, composting and making kombucha.

Tuition is \$250 and students will earn a certificate. **The class begins on January 20, 2024 and runs through May 4, 2024.** Classes are on Saturdays from 10 to 11am and will be held at the Benicia Adult School at 350 East K St., Room 7. To register, click [here](#).

Book club



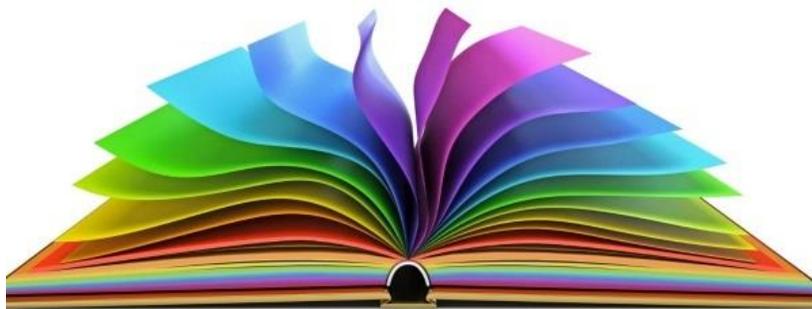
Web: solanolibrary.com
Phone: 1-866-572-7587
Facebook, Instagram, Twitter icons: [solanolibrary](#)

RAINBOW READS BOOK CLUB

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

FAIRFIELD CIVIC
CENTER LIBRARY

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



The next Teen Rainbow Reads book club takes place on **Tuesday, January 23 at 4:15pm inside the Fairfield Civic Center Library, 1150 Kentucky Street.**

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

Solano Community College crab and shrimp feed



**SOLANO COMMUNITY COLLEGE
EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION**



**SOLANO
COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Crab & Shrimp Feed

Saturday, March 2, 2024



Solano College



Captain Bob's Dive Bar
OPEN LATE!

Fresh Dungeness crab and extra jumbo sized shrimp, pasta, salad and garlic bread. Rotisserie chicken option with special order. Delightful ice cream desserts available from IT'S-IT.

Enjoy Captain Bob's Dive Bar with a live band & dancing, plus frozen margaritas, pina colodas, micro brews on tap from Heretic and fine wine from Suisun Valley.

\$75

Event Location & Time
Solano Community College
Student Center/Bookstore (1400 Bldg.)
4000 Suisun Valley Road
Fairfield, CA 94534
Saturday, March 2nd
5:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Dive Bar till about 10:00 p.m.



Early Bird price \$70 during November. Large parties of 20-38 may sit at one table at the \$70 price (no additional discount). Sponsorships start at \$500. Call Curt or Eileen at 707-864-7199.

Welcome to the islands!
Wear your island or nautical garb and have more fun!

All proceeds benefit the SCC Educational Foundation.
To purchase tickets call Eileen Amick at 707-864-7199 or go to our event webpage below:
<https://foundation.solano.edu/event/2024-crab-shrimp-feed/>

THANKS TO OUR PAST MAJOR SPONSORS:



The Solano Community College Educational Foundation will hold a crab and shrimp feed on **Saturday, March 2, 2024** inside the 1400 building at 4000 Suisun Valley Road, in the city of Fairfield. The early bird price is \$70 through the month of November.

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

Events I attended this week

Friday, December 15, I attended the Northern Carpenter's Moose Feed(lunch) held in San Francisco. Later that night, I attended the Benicia Art Event. Nice to see friends.

Saturday, December 16, I attended and spoke at the Wreaths Across America event held at Mare Island. The concept this year is to discuss and teach why Freedom is important. Thank you to everyone who came and put the wreaths on the tombstones.

Sunday, December 17, I attended the evening church service at St. Basil. The Filipino mass was to recognize and thank elected officials for their service.

Tuesday, December 19, I attended the Fairfield City council meeting. The main topic was the City of Fairfield general plan. Several friends and I attended as we are concerned about what the city is thinking for the unincorporated areas of the county.

Saturday, December 23, I was invited and attended the Grand opening of Manny's Steak Restaurant located on the Vallejo waterfront. I saw many friends as the weather was perfect, and I enjoyed the New England Clam Chowder. Later that evening, I attended the Thanksgiving dinner sponsored by the Filipino Community of Solano County Inc.

Friday, December 29, I attended the Benicia Black Lives Matter Kwanzaa event held at the Benicia Veteran's Hall. The agenda included going over what each day means as Kwanzaa is a 7- day celebration. We watched a short movie review about Frederick Douglas by the director of the movie. What was the director thinking when he was producing the movie? I personally have had a chance to take a tour of Mr. Douglas' home in DC. A quote from the preview of the movie, that moved me was EDUCATION IS EMANCIPATION. It reminds me that once educated, the knowledge cannot be taken away.

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

Wreaths Across America event held at Mare Island Naval Cemetery. 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.