



Solano County *California*

SUPERVISOR MONICA BROWN NEWSLETTER

October 20, 2023



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Supervisor Monica Brown
District 2 e-Newsletter

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Information this week

Benicia virtual town hall meeting



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

The city of Benicia is beginning work on a new strategic plan and is asking residents for input. A virtual community town hall will be held from **6 to 7pm, on Tuesday, October 24**.

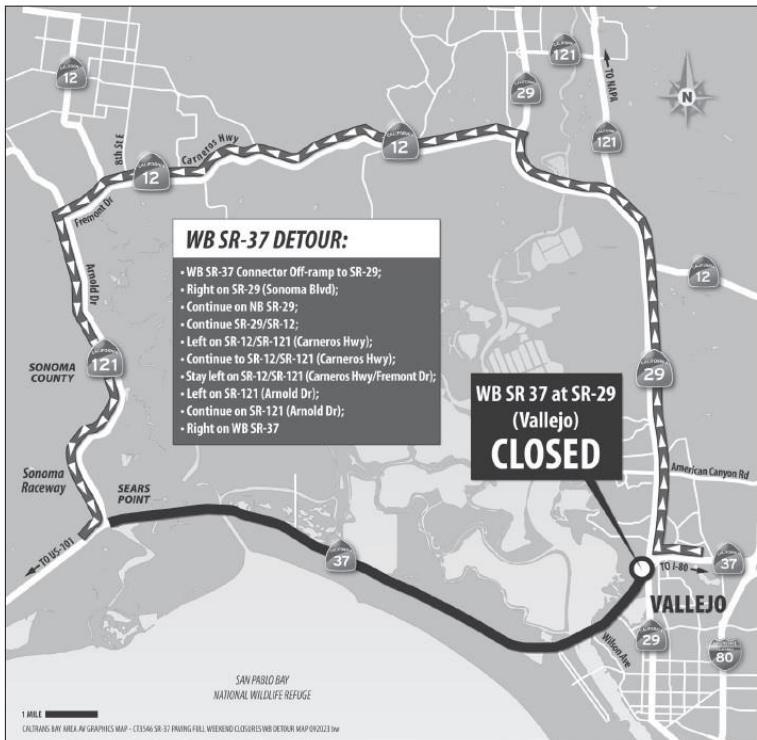
At this event, residents will be able to learn about the strategic planning process, share feedback on proposed priorities, and ask questions.

On **Tuesday, November 14 at 5pm**, the Benica City Council will host a special meeting to determine approximately five Strategic Goals to serve as guideposts for the alignment of all City programs. Simply put, we will evaluate which programs and services we keep and which ones we must retire according to the Strategic Goals selected.

Please log into the virtual community open house at 6pm using [this link](#). It is recommended that guests join the meeting on a computer as staff will be sharing a visual presentation, offering polling questions, and taking questions through the chat function. However, if you would like to listen into the meeting via phone you can do so by calling 1(253) 205-0468 and using meeting ID: 811 2405 1184.

If you have any questions about the strategic planning process, contact Tommy Conkling at Moss Adams via email at tommy.conkling@mossadams.com.

Traffic Advisory



(707) 784-8960

U.S. Social Security

(800) 772-1213

SUICIDE PREVENTION

NATIONAL SUICIDE
PREVENTION HOTLINE

800-273-8255

SPANISH LINE

888-628-9454

DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING

800 799 4889

FRIENDSHIP LINE FOR SENIORS

800 971 0016

CRISIS TEX LINE

741741

THE TREVOR PROJECT FOR LGBTQ YOUTH

866-488-7386

TRANS LIFELINE PROVIDING SUPPORT FOR THE TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY

877-565-8860

Caltrans has scheduled a one-night full closure of westbound State Route 37 between SR-29 in Vallejo and SR-121 in Sonoma County for **Saturday night, October 28 between 11pm and 6am.**

Caltrans crew will work on bridge rehabilitation and joint seal replacements work on the Sonoma Creek Bridge on State Route 37. To ensure the safety of workers and motorists, Caltrans will need to close Westbound lanes to safely complete the work. Detours will be set in place.

Westbound SR-37 DETOUR:

Motorists traveling westbound on SR-37 will need to:

- exit right onto northbound SR-29 (Sonoma Blvd) in Vallejo
- continue on NB SR-29 (Broadway) to SR-29/SR-12;
- turn left and continue on SR-12/SR-121 (Carneros Hwy/Fremont Dr);
- turn left on SR-121 (Arnold Dr)
- Turn right back on WB SR-37.

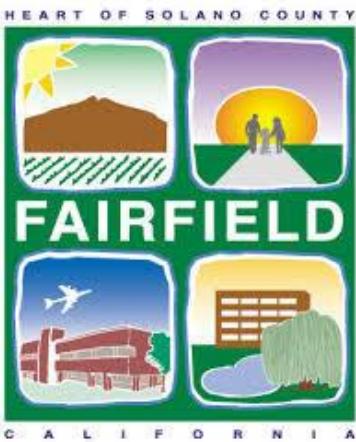
Medicare enrollees can switch coverage now

It's annual open enrollment time again for the 65 million Americans covered by Medicare, the federal health program for older people and some people with disabilities. To read more, click [here](#).

The IRS postpones California tax deadline again. Here's who qualifies and when to file

The Internal Revenue Service is postponing the tax deadline a second time for those affected by last winter's storms in California. To read more, click [here](#).

2023 Veterans Day Parade and Commemoration Ceremony



The city of Fairfield's Parks and Recreation Department is in full swing planning the 2023 Veterans Day Parade in Downtown Fairfield. This year's parade theme is "Saluting America's Veterans" and is sponsored by VW and BMW of Fairfield.

The parade will **begin at 12:30 pm on Saturday, November 11**, with a flyover from our Travis Air Force Base. The route will travel down Kentucky Street to Great Jones then turn up Texas Street to

Washington.

The Commemoration Ceremony and Concert, hosted by Travis Air Force Base and conducted by

The Fairfield/Suisun City American Legion Reams Post 182 will kick off the festivities at 10am inside the Downtown Theatre located at 1035 Texas Street. Admission to both events is free and open to the public.

Those interested in participating in the parade, or have questions regarding the activities, contact Special Events Coordinator, Juan Segura at jsegura@fairfield.ca.gov or (707) 428-7584.

Volunteers are needed from 10am to 2pm to serve as parade pacers and/or parade ambassadors. Contact Program Coordinator Karen Rees at krees@fairfield.ca.gov or (707) 428-7767.

The Little Hoover Commission is hiring

Do you have a passion for research and writing and a desire to improve state government? If so, consider the Little Hoover Commission, which is currently recruiting a project manager to function as a policy researcher, critically analyzing information and developing in-depth reports that reflect the Commission's findings and recommendations to the Governor and Legislature about ways to improve state government - what works, what doesn't, and how to fix it.

The position is eligible for telework with a salary of \$6,061.00 - \$8,334.00 per month, plus benefits.

Visit [here](#) for more information.

The Little Hoover Commission, formally known as the Milton Marks "Little Hoover" Commission on California State Government Organization and Economy, is an independent state oversight agency created in 1962. The Commission's mission is to investigate state government operations and policy, and – through reports and

legislative proposals – make recommendations to the Governor and Legislature to promote economy, efficiency and improved service in state operations. In addition, the Commission has a statutory obligation to review and make recommendations on all proposed government reorganization plans.

Public hearings

City of Vallejo Housing Element



The public review draft of the City of Vallejo Housing Element is being released up to October 24 in order for the public to review and provide comments, before it is sent to the California State Department of Housing and Community Development Department for its initial review.

The Planning Commission, the Housing and Community Development Commission and

the City Council will also each hold public meetings to consider this document. The purpose of each public meeting will be to provide an overview of the public review draft of the Housing Element, provide an outline for the review process itself, and to ensure that the public will have an opportunity to provide verbal comments on document. No action will be taken at any of these meetings.

Written comments on the public review draft of Housing Element Update must be submitted prior to the deadline of October 24, 2023, either via email to Margaret.Kavanaugh-Lynch@cityofvallejo.net or in person or by first class mail to:

Margaret Kavanaugh-Lynch, Planning Manager

555 Santa Clara Street, Vallejo CA 94590

The public review draft of the Housing Element may be found in the following locations:

Here on the City's Website <https://www.myvallejo.com/3eu>

Here on the Solano County Collaborative Website: <https://solhousingelements.com/housing-elements/>

And a physical copy of the document is located on the second floor (planning counter) at City Hall, 555 Santa Clara Street, Vallejo, CA 94590 and may be reviewed during regular hours of Monday through Thursday, 9am to 12pm, and 1 to 3pm.

Public Meeting Dates and Locations

City Council: October 24 at 7pm

Each of these meetings are held at City Hall, 555 Santa Clara Street, Vallejo, California. Members of the Public will be able to participate in-person or remotely via Zoom.

A Housing Element is a state required element of a City's General Plan. The Housing Element must be updated every eight years and includes goals, objectives, policies, and implementation programs that address the maintenance, preservation, improvement, and development of housing in city limits. In addition, the Housing Element Update identifies sites appropriate for the development of multifamily housing. The Housing Element Update also includes other amendments necessary to comply with recent changes in State law. Prior to the submittal of the Draft to the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) for their review and comment, a Draft Housing Element has been prepared and now available for a 47 day public review and comment period. It is longer than the 30 day mandated public review period so that the community members will have the ability to share their comments at the City Council meeting on October 24.

Link21 Community Meeting

Link21 will host a virtual community meeting to inform the public about how a new BART or Regional Rail train crossing between Oakland and San Francisco will benefit riders and communities, plus how they differ. Community participation and input in this important Program will help Link21 identify either a BART or Regional Rail crossing recommendation for further study to meet the region's evolving future travel needs.

The community meeting will take place from **6 to 7:30pm, Wednesday, November 1.**

To request American Sign Language and other accommodations, email inquiries@Link21Program.org or call 855-905-Link (5465) at least three days in advance of the meeting date.

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

Link21 is a long-range transportation program sponsored by the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District (BART) and the Capitol Corridor Joint Powers Authority (Capitol Corridor) to transform the train network serving the 21-county Northern California Megaregion, which includes the greater San Francisco Bay Area, the Monterey Bay area, the Sacramento area, and the Northern San Joaquin Valley

Planning Commission to Consider Amendments to the Housing Element of the General Plan

The Benicia Planning Commission will meet on **Thursday, November 2** at City Hall Council Chambers, located at 250 East L Street, Benicia, to consider amendments to the Housing Element of the General Plan.

Remote attendance to the hearing will also be open to the public via Zoom. The agenda will be published the afternoon of October 26. Please view the agenda for meeting ID and password: www.ci.benicia.ca.us/agendas

Faster Freeways – Exploring the Potential of Pricing

The Metropolitan Transportation Commission will conduct a [public webinar](#) as part of the [Next Generation Bay Area Freeways Study](#), which seeks to better understand the feasibility of all-lane tolling on freeways with robust parallel transit in 2035.

The webinar will present two future scenarios of the Bay Area – one with freeway pricing, and one without. Participants will then weigh in on the tradeoffs between those two scenarios and provide feedback on potential pricing strategies and complementary strategies that could be funded with freeway toll revenue.

Webinar Information There will be two opportunities to attend the virtual event live. Both presentations will be the same, so participants need only attend one webinar.

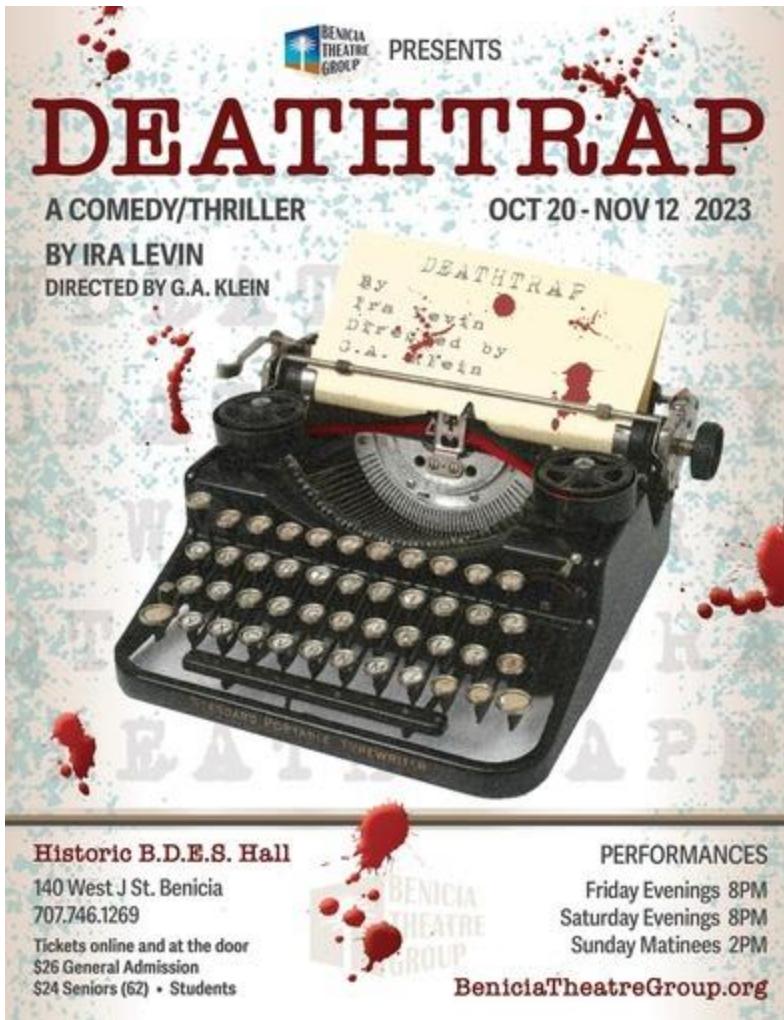
- **Webinar #1** Tuesday, November 7 from 12 to 1:30pm. [Participate on Zoom](#) Webinar ID: 824 4356 6350 Passcode: 075326 Phone: (408) 638-0968
- **Webinar #2** Wednesday, November 8 from 5 to 6:30pm. [Participate on Zoom](#) Webinar ID: 872 8030 7682 Passcode: 930760 Phone: (408) 638-0968

No registration is required in order to attend. Public input will be used to further refine the study's analysis before a final recommendation is presented to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission in 2024.

For those who cannot attend live, a video recording will be posted to www.mtc.ca.gov/FasterFreeways. Feedback and questions can be submitted by emailing info@bayareametro.gov.

Updates from around Solano County

DEATHTRAP



Tickets are on sale now for Benicia Theatre Group's production of *DEATHTRAP*, which opens this Friday, October 20.

The play follows renowned playwright Sidney Bruhl, who is struggling to overcome a dry spell in his writing career. When he receives a brilliant script from a young aspiring playwright, Clifford Anderson, Sidney sees an opportunity to revive his own career. However, as the story unfolds, dark secrets and sinister intentions come to light. Written by Ira Levin in 1978, *DEATHTRAP* will be directed by Gregg Klein, in his second production with the Benicia Theatre Group.

Performances will be held at 8pm on Friday, October 20 to Sunday, November 12 on Friday and Saturday nights, along with Sunday matinees at the historic B.D.E.S. Portuguese Hall of

Benicia, located at 140 W J St in Benicia, California. Note: this venue is not wheelchair accessible.

Tickets can be purchased online at <https://beniciatg.booktix.net> or by calling (707) 746-1269. Tickets are \$26 each; a \$2 discount is offered for both students and seniors.

Arts Benicia



Arts Benicia has a new exhibition this month, **Shadow**, juried by Renny Pritikin. Each of the approximately 75 artworks in this show utilize shadow in a prominent way. The exhibition runs through **October 29**.

In December, Arts Benicia will host Holiday Spirits on Friday, **December 15, 5:30 to 7:30 pm** at the Arts Benicia Gallery. Arts Benicia will be hosting a Bourbon, Brandy, and Cognac tasting, served with light hors d'oeuvres. Music will be provided by the Happy Jazz Duo. The event, a fundraiser to support Arts Benicia, will also feature a raffle of holiday gift packages. Finally, there is an upcoming special event in November for the sale of Mark Untener's exquisite ceramic artwork. Be one of the first to select a one-of-a-kind plate, bowl, cup, or other pottery item from a collection of his works donated to Arts Benicia by the family of this late artist. The sale will be open to members **Thursday, November 2 and Friday-Sunday, November 3-5** to everyone from **1 to 5 pm**, at the Arts Benicia Gallery.

The Arts Benicia Gallery is located at 1 Commandant's Lane, Benicia, in the Commanding Officer's Quarters, in the historic Benicia Arsenal. Gallery hours are Thursday through Sunday, 1 to 5 pm. Visitors are invited to walk throughout the historic mansion built in 1860, an important and interesting part of our town's history. For more information visit <https://artsbenicia.org>

Arts Benicia also offers art classes for adults and youth, many of which are open to beginners. For full listings, please visit <https://artsbenicia.org/adult-classes> and <https://artsbenicia.org/youth-art-classes>

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

Upcoming events in Solano County

Vallejo to celebrate Earl "E-40" Stevens

The city of Vallejo will honor Earl "E-40" Stevens on from **10am to noon, Saturday, October 21** to celebrate his life and legacy as a hip-hop icon, entrepreneur, philanthropist and Vallejo ambassador.

Vallejo officials will unveil E-40's honorary street sign designation, provide him with a key to the city and deliver a proclamation reading, which will take place at the intersection of Magazine Street and Del Sur. Magazine Street will be closed from Laurel to Hollywood during the event.

E-40 has cemented his legacy as one of the all-time great musicians, having amassed several multiplatinum and gold studio albums, collaborations and hit singles. As a solo artist, E-40 holds the record for most solo album entries on the Billboard 200 charts by a hip-hop artist (32).

Lori Frank Memorial Health Fair



The Solano County District Attorney's Office in collaboration with the Solano County Office of Family Violence Prevention, will host the Lori Frank Memorial Health Fair on **Saturday, October 21 on the Annex Lawn at 604 Empire Street in Fairfield from 10am to 2pm.**

Everyone is welcome to attend this free family event, established to promote healthy living in Solano County. The event includes more than 40 local vendors and boasts a wide variety of activities for people of all ages, including free flu shots, health screenings, free dental exams, tasty treats, music, pumpkin patch, arts and crafts, local nonprofit service providers, health and wellness business vendors, and there will be a Halloween costume contest! Don't forget to dress up! Also, there will be live performers from the Bliss Dance Company and the Rodriguez High School Cheer team.

For more information about activities please call (707) 784-7889.

Harvest festival



Loma Vista Farm Harvest Festival

**Saturday,
October 21st, 2023
11am to 3pm**

Loma Vista Farm
150 Rainier Avenue
Vallejo, California
(707) 556-8765
lomavistafarm.org

PUMPKIN PATCH

Oct 7: Come see us at the
Vallejo Waterfront Weekend
Oct 14: 10am-2pm at the Farm
Oct 21: During the Harvest Festival 11am-3pm
Oct 28: 10am-2pm at the Farm
While supplies last!



FREE Admission & Parking
Some activities have a small fee

Entertainment/Activities
Animal Feeding – Limited time only!
Train Rides
Plant Sales

Bring a picnic & come by to see
the progress on our multi-project
development plan.

In partnership with Vallejo City Unified School District



The community is invited to participate in Loma Vista Farm's 2023 Annual Harvest Festival and Pumpkin Sale from **11am to 3pm, on Saturday, October 21**, at Loma Vista Farm, 150 Rainier Avenue in the city of Vallejo.

Admission to the festival and fun for the whole family is free. Prices for the individual activities vary.

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

History Talks

History Talks returns to The Museum of History Benicia on **Saturday, October 21** with a presentation by author and local historian Cecelia Peña.

As a 5th generation Peña family member, Cecelia will share her research and her unique perspective on the success of this early California family who settled in the Vacaville area in 1841. Cecelia's

work on the empowerment of the Peña family through education and land ownership will be the topic of her talk at the monthly History Talks program at the Museum of History Benicia Arsenal Gallery.

The program begins at **11:30am on Saturday October 21** at the Arsenal Gallery 2060 Camel Road in Benicia. The program is included with museum admission.

Community meeting



The flyer is dark blue with white and green text. It features the City of Vallejo logo at the top right. The main title "COMMUNITY MEETING" is in large, bold, white letters. Below it, a green hexagon contains a photo of a building with a blue roof. To the left of the photo is a green play button icon. Text on the left includes a calendar icon followed by "OCTOBER 23, 2023 6-8 PM", a location pin icon followed by "Glen Cove Elementary School 501 Glen Cove Pkwy Vallejo, CA 94591", and a green arrow pointing right followed by "PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE CITY OF VALLEJO'S DISTRICTS 3 AND 6 COMMUNITY MEETING-Topics will focus on paired Districts but all community members welcome! City Staff will provide the latest information and hear your input on hot topics such as: Public Safety/Crime, Weed Abatement/Fire Hazards, Blight, Economic Development, and Measure P/Street Maintenance." At the bottom, there is a small "Vallejo Weekly" watermark and a teal footer bar with white text: "IF YOU HAVE TOPICS YOU'D LIKE ADDRESSED AT FUTURE COMMUNITY MEETINGS FOR PAIRED DISTRICTS 4 AND 5, AND 1 AND 2, PLEASE EMAIL OUR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT MANAGER AT SHARON.LUND@CITYOFVALLEJO.NET".

The city of Vallejo will hold a community meeting on **Monday, October 23, from 6 to 8pm**, at the Glen Cove Elementary School, 501 Glen Cove Parkway to discuss multiple issues impacting Districts 3 and 6. Topics will range between public safety, crime, weed abatement and others.

Stride and Ride at Rancho Solano Golf Course

The city of Fairfield Parks and Recreation Department will host its next “Stride & Ride” event, which will take place at the Rancho Solano Golf Course on **Tuesday, October 24, from 12 to 6pm.**

Get your exercise on the 2.4-mile walking-only course located on the back nine holes or take advantage of the 2.66-mile biking-only course on the front nine holes. Visit one of Fairfield’s beautiful public golf courses while it is closed for regular play. The event will take place at the Rancho Solano Golf Course, 3250 Rancho Solano Parkway. Admission is free and open to all ages! No pets, only service animals permitted.

To register for the event, click [here](#).

For more information, contact Recreation Coordinator, Kalie Cambra at (707) 428-7652 or communityevents@fairfield.ca.gov

Valerie White Memorial Bench celebration

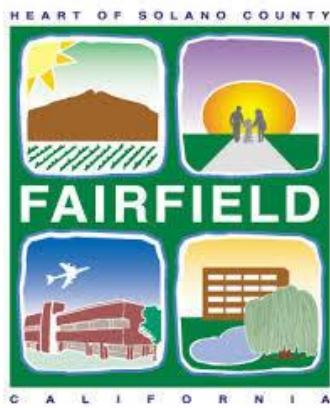


There will be a Memorial Bench celebration at **3:30pm, Thursday, October 26** at Tolena Elementary School in Fairfield.

Ms. White was my daughter's teacher at Tolena when Alicia was in the Gate program. Without Ms. White's caring and nurturing,

Alicia's experience would not have been the best. If you knew Ms. White, please attend the memorial bench celebration. The family would enjoy seeing you and hearing the stories. - Monica

Fairfield to host Halloween Spooktacular



Take a stroll through the city of Fairfield's Downtown for special tricks and treats! Boos and ghouls of all ages are invited to trick-or-treat their way through downtown. Specially marked downtown businesses will be handing out candy, and there will also be a selfie station and kids crafts available at Three Restaurant's patio at 721 Texas Street.

Come enjoy a family-friendly haunting of downtown **from 3 to 6pm, Tuesday, October 31.**

Contact Keisha Mamaril at kmamaril@fairfield.ca.gov for more information.

Shop Small Business Saturday

The city of Fairfield is partnering with Boss Con to celebrate Small Business Saturday with a vendor market pop-up downtown on **November 25 from 12 to 5pm**. The downtown offers a variety of unique shops, food, and activities to enjoy and the pop-up will add even more to the fun, festive atmosphere.

Plan on checking off all of the items on your holiday list while supporting small businesses on Shop Small Saturday!

For more information, contact Keisha Mamaril at kmamaril@fairfield.ca.gov.

Events I attended this week

Friday, October 13, I attended the Rally for Israel at Chabad Vacaville. Many people around the county attended. I was honored to be chosen by the Rabbi as one of the speakers. Evil can be defeated with goodness. Please do a kind deed a day. Let us stand united.

Saturday, October 14, I sponsored a youth group at the county building. Jan, a student from Rodriguez High School, ran the program. She organized everything. The group is:

CASC, which stands for the California Association of Student Councils, is a student-and-run 501(c)(3) non-profit organization created in 1947 by the California Department of Association. The purpose of CASC is to change the future for the better by developing skilled, ethical, and sensitive leaders, providing leadership development and platforms for advocacy throughout California and across the world.

The students broke up into 4 groups. The groups wrote ideas that they hope will become policy. The ideas covered Financial Literacy; Substance abuse; Mental Health; and School resources. Each group had two to three people to summarize their findings in front of a panel. I was so impressed with everyone who participated. Long day for all of us but I have hope that the future will be better.

I then raced to empty bowls, a fund raiser for the Food Bank.

Tuesday, October 17, I attended the Benicia City Council meeting. The main discussion was the sales tax. What can the residents of Benicia do to help their city?

Thursday, October 19, I attended the Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District governing board meeting. I hope that the residents from the Fairfield-Suisun area watch the school board meetings. The board only has one scheduled meeting a month.

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

Historic Red Man's Hall in downtown Vallejo. Built in 1925, the building is the home of the Samoset Tribe No. 22. Photo: John Glidden.



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