



Solano County *California*

SUPERVISOR MONICA BROWN NEWSLETTER

January 12, 2024



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Marting Luther King holiday

Just a reminder, Solano County, along with the libraries, will be closed in observance of the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday on Monday, January 15.

MLK Jr. Legacy Grove Ceremony

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



Come help Plant a Tree at the city of Vallejo's Legacy Grove Ceremony in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday.

The ceremony will be from 9am to noon, Sunday January 14 behind City Hall, near back parking lot, 555 Santa Clara Street.

Snacks will be provided. Please wear closed-toe shoes and bring your own water bottle. Join the City of Vallejo, along with CALFIRE, Solano County Volunteers, Student Conservation Association, and other partners to plant a tree and leave your legacy.

We Walk with Martin: Profiles in Unity



(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

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.

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 "1000 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." A calendar icon shows the date "01. 15. 2024". The event details are: "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." "12:00 pm | The program will conclude." At the bottom left is a silhouette of a group of people marching with flags. At the bottom right is a circular portrait of Martin Luther King Jr. in a suit and tie. Social media icons for Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn, and YouTube are at the bottom left, with 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.

Information this week

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](#).

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 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.

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).

Survey of LGBTQIA+ Older Adults in California

The California Department of Aging (CDA) is supporting research partners and a statewide coalition of LGBTQIA+ community-based organizations to design and launch California's first statewide survey documenting the needs, hopes and priorities of mid-life and older LGBTQIA+ residents across the state.

For more information, or to take the survey, click [here](#).

Public hearings

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](#).

Final Draft Land Use Scenario, fiscal, and feasibility analysis reports are now available



The final draft land use scenarios, fiscal and feasibility analysis reports for the North Study Area in the city of Benicia visioning process are now available at www.ci.benicia.ca.us/northstudyarea.

These documents were developed through the public engagement effort that occurred in 2022-2023. The visioning process is on hold due to uncertainties around property control. However, the release of this information may help to illuminate economic and fiscal outcomes related to various types land development scenarios.

Updates from around Solano County

Betty Moreno



My condolences to Betty Moreno who died last month. She was a VFW Auxiliary member and a longtime member of the Benicia Veterans memorial Hall.

On Saturday, December 23, 2023, Betty Jean Moreno was called home to be with the lord. At age 96, Betty peacefully passed away surrounded by her family. Vallejo was her beloved home, where she resided for 60 years. She was preceded in death by her husband of 48 years, Saul Moreno, as well as her father, Arch Paul Dodson and mother Lois McGlothern, brothers, Paul Dodson and Bobby Dodson, sister Patsy Evans, and long-time partner Charlie Travers. Betty is survived by her three daughters: Lisa (Rick) Williams, Lori (Michael) Lehman, and Gina (Jon) Meleski, brother William R. Dodson, sisters Joberta Lehman and Paula Stevenson,

grandchildren, great-grandchildren, sisters-in-law, and several nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers please send donations to: VFW AUXILIARY 1150 1st street Benicia, CA 94510 Attention: Michele Hevener.

Viewing is from 4 to 7pm, Friday, January 12 -at Colonial Chapels, 1000 Redwood Street in Vallejo. The funeral is scheduled for 11am, Saturday, January 13 at Colonial Chapels, 1000 Redwood Street in Vallejo.

Wild Thing



Fairfield Poet Laureate Suzanne Bruce in collaboration with the Fairfield-Suisun City Visual Arts Association invites you to write a poem to an art piece from the exhibit of Wild Thing.

Exhibition dates are from January 10 to February 17 with an art reception and poetry reading from 4 to 6pm, Saturday, January 27.

The exhibit is at the Solano Town Center Gallery, 1350 Travis Blvd., #D-8, Fairfield (inside the Solano Town Center Mall). Art can be seen at the Gallery from 11am to 6pm on Wednesday to Sunday

Upcoming Touro-Solano Public Health Mobile Vaccine Clinics in January 2024



FREE FLU SHOTS, TDAP AND COVID-19* VACCINES IN SOLANO, CA
 *For 19+ years uninsured individuals

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Thursday, January 11, 2024	4:30-6:30 PM	Hogan Middle School 850 Rosewood Ave, Vallejo, CA 94591 <i>inside the gymnasium</i>
Saturday, January 20, 2024	11 AM-2 PM	"Healing our Future" Seminar Solano County Events Center 601 Texas St. Fairfield, CA 94533 <i>Blood Pressure/ Blood Sugar Screenings will also be offered!</i>
Sunday, January 21, 2024	10 AM-4 PM	St. Catherine of Siena Church 3450 Tennessee St, Vallejo, CA 94591 <i>Inside the Parish Life Center Building Blood Pressure/ Blood Sugar Screenings will also be offered by the MOBEC team: 10am-2pm</i>
Wednesday, January 24, 2024	10 AM-12 PM	Florence Douglas Senior Center 333 Amador St, Vallejo, CA 94590 <i>Blood Pressure/ Blood Sugar Screenings will also be offered by the MOBEC team!</i>
Thursday, November 17, 2024	4:30-6:30 PM	Vallejo High School 840 Nebraska St. Vallejo, CA 94590 <i>inside the Finney MPR</i>



All Touro-Solano Public Health Clinics are now Walk-ins for everyone 3 years and over. The clinics are offering free of charge:

- Part of the vaccine requirements for 7th Grade
- Tdap Vaccine for 10+ years
- Influenza Vaccine for 3+ years
- No-cost COVID-19 vaccine. **2023-2024 Formula for adults** without health insurance **and adults whose** insurance does not cover all vaccine costs.

If you have health insurance (Medi-Cal, Medicare Part B, Medicare Part D, Private Insurance). Visit your primary care doctor or local pharmacy for COVID-19 vaccine availability. Other vaccine clinics can be found by visiting the following sites: <http://vaccines.gov/> and <https://MyTurn.Ca.Gov>

US Navy Blue Angels to headline Wings Over Solano at Travis Air Force Base

Although the skies may be cloudy and wet right now, Travis Air Force Base is planning for the return of Wings Over Solano, featuring the United States Navy's Blue Angels.

The show is scheduled to take place over two days on March 16 and March 17 on the Travis Air Force Base flight line.

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

Computer skills



NO COST!!!

- 3-WEEK CLASS
- OPEN TO ADULTS
(no children please)

BASIC COMPUTER SKILLS CLASSES

Topics:

- Basic Computer
- Internet Basics
- Using Email

Where: 500 Chadbourne Rd,
Fairfield CA 94534

When: Tuesdays & Thursdays

Time: 3:30pm - 5:00pm

For more info contact:
Sheryl Cutler
707.863.3598
scutler@solanowdb.org

America's **JobCenter**
of California

The WDB is an EO/AA/ADA Employer/Program. TDD Relay #1-800-0735-2922. Auxiliary Aids and Services are available upon sufficient notice to individuals with disabilities.

The Solano Workforce Development Board and America's Job Center California are partnering to provide basic computer skills classes that will review basic computer, internet basics and using email.

The classes will take place from 3:30 to 5pm, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 500 Chadbourne Road in Fairfield.

For more information, contact Sheryl Cutler at (707) 863-3598 or at scutler@solanowdb.org.

Red Top Road Widening Project Update



The cold, wet weather has slowed construction activities on Red Top Road. As weather allows, the developer Discovery Builders and its contractors, are scheduled to install concrete center medians this week.

There are approximately 1,500 linear feet of center median and work is anticipated to continue through next week. Once constructed, the new center median will channel traffic and allow eastbound left turns at Valerian and Havenhill drives. The rain has also caused some erosion control impacts so Public Works will work with the developer to remedy these issues by installing stormwater best management practices, e.g., fiber rolls, sediment check dams, etc.

Lopes Road Raw Water Transmission Line MOU



The Benicia City Council approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the cities of Fairfield and Benicia for cost-sharing of the Lopes Road raw water transmission line.

The MOU between the two cities was approved at the city council meeting held on Tuesday, December 19, 2023. Benicia will

collaborate with Fairfield on the reconstruction project. Both cities experienced damage in the same location and have a shared need to repair the hillside slope, Lopes Road, and reconstruct both cities' pipelines. Public Works staff continues to work on the emergency repair.

They are committed to delivering safe water to the community and look forward to the ongoing partnership with Fairfield.

Rosey program



ROSEY 
Connecting to What Matters

The **Rosey Tablet Program** by Meals on Wheels of Solano County is designed to connect seniors to their friends, families, and communities through technology.

If you or someone you know:

- Live Alone or Feel Isolated
- Aren't Very Comfortable with Technology
- Want to Connect to Your Family, Friends, and Community, you will love this program!

Rosey is safe, simple, and fun to use!

[Who Qualifies?](#) Solano County Seniors Age 60+ or Permanently Disabled Adult

Rosey tablets are your all-in-one companions and have many features, including:

ENTERTAINMENT	WELLNESS	CONNECTION
Games	Medication Reminders	Email & Text Messaging
Videos	Exercises/Routines	Video Calling
News	Health & Wellness Check-ins	Photo Album
Website Browsing	Alerts	Calendar Reminders

And so much more! All set up, monitored, and supported by Meals on Wheels of Solano County.

If interested, please reach out to our
Program Coordinator

707-806-0164 info@mowsc.org

www.mealsonwheelssolano.org/rosey

 MEALS WHEELS SOLANO COUNTY



Meals on Wheels of Solano County is dedicated to ensuring the safety, health, and well-being of seniors by providing services to help them live nourished lives with independence and dignity. 

The Rosey Tablet Program by Meals on Wheels of Solano County is designed to connect seniors to their friends, families, and communities through technology. If you or someone you know: Live alone or feel isolated, aren't very comfortable with technology, want to connect to your family, friends, and community, you will love this program!

Solano County seniors age 60+ or permanently disabled adults qualify.

For more information, click [here](#) or call (707) 806-0164.

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.

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

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.

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.

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)

Benicia Veterans Memorial Hall

The VFW POST 3928 and Auxiliary, AMERICAN LEGION POST 101 and Auxiliary, and SONS of the LEGION Auxiliary offer the following:

FROM THE GRILL: Food serving days will be limited to days as put out on text messages, watch for texts on what nights are having dinners; "Join the text" information for weekly updates.

The Benicia Veterans Memorial Hall is located at 1150 First Street.

Monday- Open night

Tuesday- Open night, second Tuesday of the month hot dogs with Boys Under the Hood

Wednesday- Hot Dogs

Thursday- Oren's Nacho Bar

Fridays- Burgers by the volunteers from each group for rest of the year; Donations are requested to support this. Be kind to those cooking as they are volunteers trying to make you happy! Don't be a ruddy pooddy!

Spencer's House Karaoke – Hosted by Oren (schedule related)1900hrs.

Saturday, Sunday whatever comes our way

ALL EVENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Volunteer(s) always welcome to cook on a day or help out, contact Donna to setup date and time. We'll help you with your ideas as possible.

If you have an idea for an event, GREAT, but bring to the table your whole plan for the event, what is it for, when, how to do it, etc. present it to the House Commission.

January 12: American Legion Auxiliary doing burgers (Gary, Chris and friends)

13

14

15 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

16 Veterans House Commission meeting

17 SONS AMERICAN LEGION meet at 1900 hours; Hot dogs;18

19 VFW burgers by Shawn

20

21

22

23

24

25 VFW Auxiliary burgers by Michelle & Deb

26

27 Day of Remembrance will be observed including the crews of Apollo 1 and space shuttles Challenger and Columbia.

28

29

30

31

Upcoming events in Solano County

Vallejo Project's Unity Garden Tree workshop

Vallejo Project's Unity Garden volunteers are looking for community members interested in assisting with replanting trees, finishing up a drip irrigation system, and preparing the garden's annual vegetable plot for the upcoming Spring season.

This public, hands-on garden workday will help to improve the soil and trees in the garden's orchard area, part of the demonstration food forest at the Transformation Village in Vallejo. This is a great opportunity to learn about permaculture, food forests, earthworks, and other local gardening projects. Lunch will be provided.

The event is from 10am to 3pm, Saturday, January 13, at the Vallejo Project Unity Garden, 2160 Sacramento Street.

To register, click [here](#).

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 Opportunités
- 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

Teen anime cafe



Solano County
LIBRARY

Web: solanolibrary.com

Phone: 1-866-572-7587

   : solanolibrary.com

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.**

Sports Gym Opens Jan. 19



You're invited to join the Greater Vallejo Recreation District for a ribbon cutting at our newly acquired and updated GVRD Sports Gym! In addition to the ceremony, refreshments will be served and there will be a swag giveaway for the first 50 guests. There will be free open gym pickleball in the evening from 6 to 8pm.

The GVRD Sports Gym ribbon cutting will be from **4 to 5pm, Friday, January 19**, 501 Starr Ave., in the gymnasium.

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.

Arts Benicia



Join Arts Benicia Gallery for their annual Arts Benicia members-only Community Art Exhibition! An exhibition in which the wealth of talent of their regional member artists, ranging from those with limited experience to master artists, is shared. The exhibition runs

from **January 20 through February 25**, and will feature over 150 works. Gallery Hours for the exhibition: Thursday to Sunday, 1 to 5 pm. The Arts Benicia Gallery is located at 1 Commandant's Lane

The opening reception for **Art of a Community 2024** will take place on **Saturday, January 20, from 4 to 6pm**. Music for the opening reception will be provided by **Jim Kovalcik** who has been playing professionally since he was 16 with over 50 years performing in many different places and musical settings.

In addition, Arts Benicia also has special events related to the exhibition located at the Arts Benicia Gallery: **Ekphrastic Poetry Event**, Sunday, February 18, 2 to 4 pm and **Family Art Day**, Sunday, February 4, 1 to 3 pm.

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. Consider checking out the new classes listed on our website. For our full listings, please visit <https://artsbenicia.org/adult-classes> and <https://artsbenicia.org/youth-art-classes>

Interested in sponsoring a program with Arts Benicia? The support of local businesses and donors is essential to the quality and reach of our programs. To find out more about sponsoring an Arts Benicia exhibition or program, please get in touch by emailing info@artsbenicia.org

Speakers Series: "Old 84"



Join historian and journalist Brendan Riley as he describes another Mare Island legacy. The Navy's first land-based prison was built on Mare Island in 1868, and that prison soon became infamous throughout the fleet. The Navy was in transition from a time when ship's officers punished errant sailors by flogging them with a "cat o' nine tails." Following an 1850 congressional ban on flogging, the Navy experimented with alternative punishments, but it soon became clear a land-based prison system was needed.

The event will take place from 3 to 4:30pm, Sunday, January 21 inside St. Peter's Chapel, 1181 Walnut Ave, Mare Island, Vallejo.

To buy a ticket, click [here](#).

Tobacco Free Solano 2023 Celebration



**TOBACCO FREE SOLANO PRESENTS
CELEBRATION OF 2023**

FEBRUARY 7TH 2024 | 5PM - 7PM PST

***IN PERSON OR VIRTUAL**

Solano County Health and Social Services
Multipurpose Center
2101 Courage Drive
Fairfield, CA 94533

RSVP HERE:

 [https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86089979424?
pwd=Cs3TmRDT4DB6BSYbrorZwci4rwT6wn.1](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86089979424?pwd=Cs3TmRDT4DB6BSYbrorZwci4rwT6wn.1)



Tobacco Free Solano will host its celebration of 2023 from **5 to 7pm**, **on Wednesday, February 7** at the Solano County Health and Social Services Multipurpose Center, 2101 Courage Drive in the city of Fairfield.

To register, click [here](#).

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.

Open House



Join the Museum of History, Benicia (MoHB) for a free evening at the Museum. Come out for a fun night of exhibits, surprises for the whole family, learn about the museum, how it operates, and volunteer opportunities, membership and so much more.

The open house will take place from 5 to 8pm, Thursday, February 29, at 2060 Camel Road in Benicia.

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

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



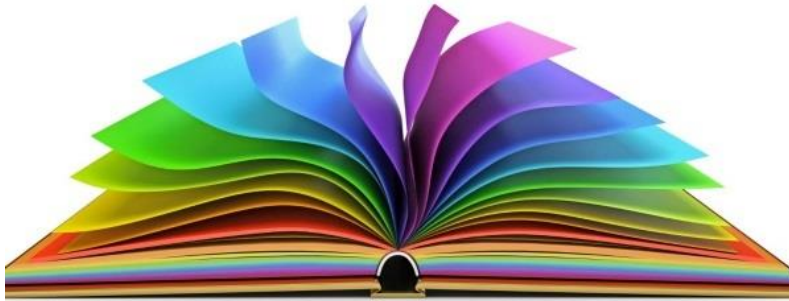
Web: solanolibrary.com
Phone: 1-866-572-7587
Facebook, Instagram, Twitter icons followed by: [solanolibrary](https://www.facebook.com/solanolibrary)

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

Birth Justice



The Solano Commission for Women and Girls and the Friends of the Commission for Women and Girls will host the third annual Birth Justice Solano event on February 25.

As a 501c3 non-profit organization and fiscal agent in support of the SCWG, the Friends are instrumental in facilitating this vital educational and outreach opportunity, funded in part by a grant from the California Commission on the Status of Women. Birth Justice Solano 2024 aims to shed light on the critical issue of disparities in maternal health outcomes, with a particular focus on women of color in Solano County and beyond.

Recent statistics underscore the urgency of our mission. Black and brown women face alarming maternal mortality rates, with black women being more than three times as likely to die from pregnancy-related causes than their white counterparts. In Solano County, these disparities persist, highlighting the need for immediate attention and action. Birth Justice is not just an event; it is a response to a critical healthcare challenge that demands our collective commitment.

The event is from 10am to 3pm, Sunday, February 25 at Touro University, Lander Hall, 105 Owen Drive on Mare Island in the city of Vallejo.

For more information or to express your interest, please reach out friendsofSCWG@gmail.com. To register, click [here](#).

Solano Community College crab and shrimp feed

SOLANO COMMUNITY COLLEGE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

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.

Wellcome 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](#).

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

New business in downtown Vallejo. 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.