



**SUPERVISOR MONICA BROWN NEWSLETTER**

January 26, 2024



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**Information this week**  
**Ballot materials**

**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

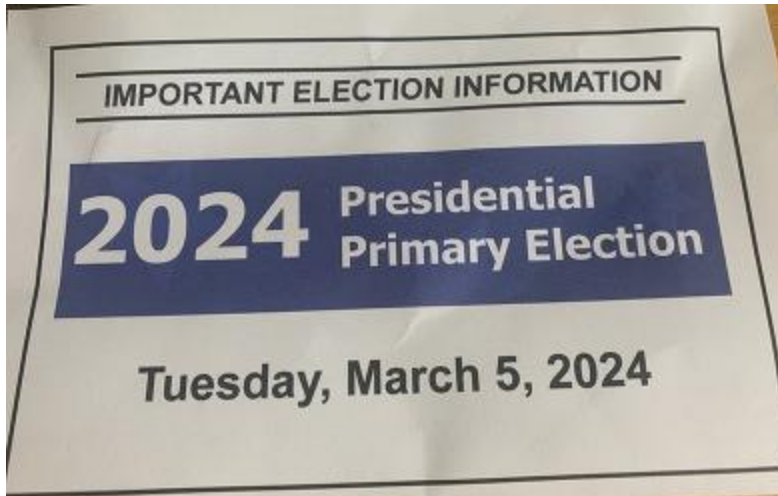
**Registrar of Voters**

(707) 784-6675

**Tax Collector/Treasurer/County Clerk**

(707) 784-7485

**Area Agency on Aging**



Solano County residents should be on the lookout for primary sample ballots and official ballots the first week of February.

"If a voter doesn't receive their ballot by Valentine's Day, they should give us a call!" said John Gardner, assistant registrar of voters with Solano County.

The Solano County Registrar of Voters can be reached at (707) 784-6675.

## **State Senate Candidate Forum**

(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



Join the Benicia High Debate Team at the

# Candidate Forum for State Senate District 3



5:30pm

Friday,  
February 2nd

**Benicia High - PAB room**

1101 Military W, Benicia, CA 94510

Take  
advantage  
of this  
opportunity  
and hear directly  
from the candidates!

Democratic Candidates:  
Christopher Cabaldon,  
Rozzana Verder-Aliga,  
and Jackie Elward

Republican  
Candidates:  
Thom Bogue  
and Jimih Jones



The Benicia High School Debate Team is hosting a candidate forum for the California State Senate District 3 race on **Friday, February 2**, from 5:30 to 7:30pm at **Benicia High School - PAB Room, 1101 Military W.**

This event is an excellent opportunity for Benicia and Senate District 3 residents to meet their next State Senator and learn more about where all the candidates stand on the issues.

For more information,

**MTC to Seek Legislature's Approval to  
Put Bay Area Transportation Measure on  
2026 Ballot**



METROPOLITAN  
TRANSPORTATION  
COMMISSION

The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) has voted to seek state legislation which would enable Bay Area voters to consider a transportation revenue measure as early as

November 2026, the agency announced this week

"The proposed measure aims to advance a climate-friendly Bay Area transportation system that is safe, accessible and convenient for all," officials said in an official announcement. "This includes preserving and enhancing public transit service; making transit faster, safer and easier to use; repairing local streets and roads; and improving mobility and access for all people, including pedestrians, bicyclists and scooter and wheelchair users."

MTC expects any new transportation measure it pursues to generate at least \$1 billion annually. The Commission has not yet identified a revenue source for the proposed measure.

MTC is the transportation planning, financing and coordinating agency for the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area.

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

## Meteorologists Predicting Atmospheric River To Slam California

Next week, around January 30th - February 3rd, confidence is increasing regarding the occurrence of a significant atmospheric river event progressing southward along the West Coast. There is a 60 to 80% probability of above-average precipitation throughout a substantial portion of the West Coast, Southwest, and Intermountain West.

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

## State Sen. Bill Dodd to host virtual town hall



State Senator Bill Dodd (left) is scheduled to host a virtual town hall meeting on state and federal issues in the year ahead featuring U.S. Senator Laphonza Butler and U.S. Congressman John Garamendi.

**All three will take questions during the town hall which will take place at 6pm, Tuesday, January 30.**

To view the town hall, either go to one of the following:

- <https://sd03.senate.ca.gov>
- <https://www.facebook.com/SenBillDodd>
- <https://www.youtube.com/user/SonomaTV/>

The town hall will be broadcast locally on KSVY 91.3 FM

Email questions to: [townhall@ksvy.org](mailto:townhall@ksvy.org) Call-in questions: (707) 933-9133

## **Vallejo school district releases online survey in search of new superintendent**



The Vallejo City Unified School (VCUSD) District Board of Education is asking for the community's help in selecting the next VCUSD superintendent. Current Superintendent William Spalding announced last month that he will be retiring this June.

To ensure this is a collaborative and inclusive process, the board is providing an anonymous online survey and encourages community participation. This is an opportunity to receive input from students, staff, parents, and community.

**This survey will be open from until February 2.**

Please follow the link below to provide your input. [Take the Survey Now](#)

## **The fastest-growing jobs in the U.S. right now**

On Wednesday, LinkedIn released its annual Jobs on the Rise list highlighting the 25 fastest-growing occupations over the last five years, based on the job titles that saw the most growth on its website between January 2019 and July 2023.

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

## **Southern California vehicle scam making its way to northern part of state, police say**

A vehicle scam that [began](#) in Southern California toward the end of 2023 seems to have made its way to the northern part of the state, according to a Northern California sheriff's office.

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

## California offers additional \$250 million in down payment assistance

California will give out \$250 million in down payment assistance this spring as it relaunches its widely popular program aimed at helping first-time homebuyers.

Last year, the [Dream for All program](#) started with [\\$300 million and it all ran out in just 11 days](#).

To read more, click [here](#)

## Applications Open for Cal Water's College Scholarship Grants



Applications are now being accepted for California Water Service's (Cal Water) [11th annual college scholarship program](#) offering \$80,000 in awards to eligible students in Cal Water's service territory!

Four \$10,000 scholarships will be awarded along with additional scholarships ranging from \$2,500 to \$5,000. Eligible applicants must plan to enroll in a full-time undergraduate study program at an accredited college, university, or vocational-technical school for the 2024-2025 academic year.

**The application period will close on Sunday, March 28.** Winners will be announced in the summer.

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

## Nominate an Outstanding Public High School Teacher

Know of an outstanding teacher who made an impact on your life?



Above & Beyond Teaching is asking former students to nominate a teacher that helped shaped your future. Above & Beyond Teaching will speak with

each student about their former teacher, then talk to the principal, teacher colleagues, school counselors, and multiple additional former students. After this careful process, they then contact the teacher and arrange to meet at their school and observe their classroom teaching.

The organization narrows it down to ten of the best candidates for consideration by our Board of Directors, with a focus on those who teach in the most challenging public-school communities. Five are selected to join the family of Honorees and receive \$10,000 each.

Above & Beyond Teaching celebrates and supports outstanding and inspirational California public high school teachers, especially those working in underserved school communities.

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

## 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](#).

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### 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](http://www.mpasolano.org) to **REGISTER** for this event!



(707) 766-0192  
info@innovativehealths.com  
innovativehealths.com | [aaans.org](http://aaans.org)



INNOVATIVE  
HEALTH  
SOLUTIONS



NAPA/SOLANO  
AREA AGENCY ON AGING

*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](#).



## Notice of Public Availability of Refinery Flare Minimization Plan Annual Updates

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is releasing the 2022 Flare Minimization Plan (FMP) Annual Updates for public review and comment. The five Bay Area refineries prepared these plans subject to [Regulation 12, Rule 12: Flares at Refineries](#).

Under Regulation 12-12, each FMP Annual Update must include:

- New prevention measures identified during investigations of flaring events that occurred during the period July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022;
- A description of the prevention measures previously taken or currently planned to reduce flare emissions at the refinery;
- Commitment to implement all new feasible prevention measures expeditiously; and
- A 30-day public comment review period

The plan updates are now available for review on the Air District's [Flare Minimization Plans](#) web page.

The deadline to submit public comments regarding the 2022 FMP Annual Updates is **Monday, February 26**.

Comments can be submitted the following ways:

- Mail to BAAQMD–FMP Update Public Comment, 375 Beale Street, Suite 600, San Francisco, CA 94105
- Email to [compliance@baaqmd.gov](mailto:compliance@baaqmd.gov)

**Be sure to identify which refinery, or refineries, your comment is applicable to.**

After consideration of public comments received, the Air District will evaluate each refinery's Flare Minimization Plan Annual Update to determine whether it meets the requirements of Regulation 12-12 and will take final action in accordance with the regulation.

For any additional information, please visit the [Air District website](#) or email [compliance@baaqmd.gov](mailto:compliance@baaqmd.gov)

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## Updates from around Solano County

### Vallejo seeks applicants for citizens academy



The city of Vallejo announced the launch of its first-ever Citizens Academy, an initiative aimed at giving residents insight into city government and its operations. The Vallejo Citizens Academy will be an 11-week interactive educational course, designed to foster civic engagement, enabling participants to make a meaningful impact on our community.

**The academy will begin on March 6. Classes will be held from 6 to 8pm in the Vallejo Room, located below the JFK Library.**

To ensure an interactive and engaging experience, class size will be limited to 25 participants. A nominal fee of \$25 will cover the cost of materials and light dinners provided throughout the duration of the program.

The academy will meet twice a month from March to August 2024

For more information and to submit your application, please visit [www.myvallejo.com/CitizensAcademy](http://www.myvallejo.com/CitizensAcademy) or contact Natalie Peterson at [natalie.peterson@cityofvallejo.net](mailto:natalie.peterson@cityofvallejo.net)

## **Tom Keaney appointed new CEO of fair association**



The Solano County Fair Association board of directors voted unanimously to hire Thomas B. Keaney, Sr. as chief executive officer of the fair association. Keaney previously served as CEO of the Cloverdale Citrus Fair.

"Thomas Keaney, in addition to his experience managing a local fair and fairgrounds, has experience as a business and data analyst in the financial field, paralegal work in real estate, labor law, and intellectual property law," said George Kennedy, president of the Solano County Fair Association in a press release announcing Keaney's hiring.

Kennedy went on to say that Keaney has been "actively involved as a volunteer leader with the Novato Chamber of Commerce, Boy Scouts and 4-H youth organizations and as a volunteer with emergency response and at evacuation shelters for the Kincadee, Glass and Walbridge fires."

Keaney is scheduled to begin his work at the Solano County Fair Association March 1.

## Teen photo contest



  
Solano County  
**LIBRARY**  
solanolibrary.com

**2024 TEEN PHOTO CONTEST**

TEENS AGE 12-18  
FEBRUARY 1- MARCH 8, 2024  
FOR CONTEST DETAILS, SCAN THE CODE BELOW.



Solano County Library's teen photo contest is returning this year!

**It runs from February 1 to March 8.**

Teens between the ages of 12 and 18 are encouraged to submit their photos in one or more of the following categories:

-Album Cover (a photo you think would make a great music album cover)

-Architecture

-Animals

-Food/Drinks

-Landscapes

-Library (pictures of the inside/outside of your favorite library)

-Nature

-People & Portraits

-Special Effects

-Your Choice/Miscellaneous

Ten (10) winning photos (one from each category) will be chosen and posted in the library branches! Also, one grand prize winner will be chosen from the 10 winning photos! The grand prize winner will get one session learning from a professional photographer!

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

## Click to edit this heading.



Mychal Threets, Supervising Librarian, Joan Parker, Librarian, and Rali Garcia, Librarian, recently were selected as recipients of the

(Solano County) Tri-City NAACP Unsung Hero Award for their unwavering dedication to fostering the love of learning, exploration, and literature in Solano County residents.

Mychal, Joan, and Rali will be recognized for their achievements at the Tri-City NAACP Gala on February 3 at the Paradise Valley Golf Course. The gala's theme: "Inspiring the Next Generation and Nurturing Young Black Leaders for a Brighter Future."

Joan is the children's librarian at the Fairfield Civic Center Library and does extensive outreach and programs in the community, such as organizing the Library's weekly Storytime at the Mall, hosting Yoga In the Park and coordinating the Library's presence at the City of Fairfield's Fourth of July parade.

Rali recently was promoted to Librarian, serving all ages at the Dixon Library. Rali previously worked as a Library Associate at the Suisun City Library where she established community collaborations and partnerships, such as the monthly book club, Books n' Brews, held at the True Symmetry Brewing Company (Suisun City).

Mychal has been featured nationally for his love of the Solano County Library system.

## Virtual Effective Black Parenting Class

Effective Black Parenting is a nationally acclaimed, culturally relevant program for parents and caregivers of African American children. Designed with the guidance and direction of African American parenting scholars, the program fosters: effective family communication, healthy African American identity, extended family values, child growth and development, and positive self-esteem.

Winter 2024 virtual sessions are from **February 6 to March 28 on Tuesday/Thursday from 6 to 7:30pm**. Class fee is \$20, grants and scholarships are available.

To register, click [here](#).

## Habitat career opportunities



The Solano-Napa Habitat for Humanity is currently hiring for several positions, including a Community Outreach Coordinator (formerly known as the Volunteer Coordinator).

This position is responsible for the outreach, recruitment and coordination of all volunteers/volunteer groups. This is a full-time, hourly, benefitted position.

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

## Sandbags Available for pick-up



Fairfield residents may pick up sandbags Monday through Thursday at the Public Works Corporation Yard, 420 Gregory Street from 7:30am to 3:30pm. Sand is available at two locations: the corner of Pittman and Cordelia Roads and the southeast corner of Allan Witt Park off Woolner Avenue. Both locations have a 10-bag limit and are "self-serve" so

bring a shovel.

Sandbags should be filled only half full as smaller bags pack tighter and are easier to handle. Overfilled bags are unstable when stacked and can leave gaps that allow water to flow through.

To report localized flooding, please contact the Public Works Operations Division, during normal business hours. For after hours,

please call the Police Department at (707) 428-7300. For more information and winter readiness tips, visit [www.fairfield.ca.gov/storm](http://www.fairfield.ca.gov/storm).

## **2024 Veteran Safe at Home Kit**

In sponsorship with Kaiser Permanente, Phillips 66, Valero Benicia Refinery, Wells Fargo, and Home Depot, Rebuilding Together Solano County (RTSC) announced a special distribution of Disaster Safe At Home Kits dedicated for veterans, active military, and other military families in Solano County.

In addition, RTSC will have a raffle for grocery gift cards, raised garden boxes and garden hoses. RTSC's Disaster Safe At Home Kit includes: an Earthquake 4-1 Tool (gas turnoff, water turnoff, prybar and glass breaker), LED Lantern / Cell Phone Charger (solar / hand-crank), a fire blanket, Kaiser Permanente fleece blanket, plug-in night lights, emergency blanket, glow sticks, face shield, safety glasses, work gloves, emergency whistle, hand sanitizer, hand soap, face masks, a set of trash bags and emergency information.

Each kit is valued at \$225.00.

The giveaway will take place from **10am to 2pm, Saturday, February 10, at the Benicia Veterans Building, 1150 First Street.**

All veteran/military households receiving a Disaster Safe At Home Kit are required to provide the following:

1. Driver's License - showing Solano County address
  2. Military ID / VA Card or DD-214 Discharge Documentation
- NOTE: Each household (i.e. address) is allowed only 1 Safe At Home Kit per year.

For further information contact Elizabeth Hoffman, Rebuilding Together Solano County via e-mail: [Ehoffman.rtsc@gmail.com](mailto:Ehoffman.rtsc@gmail.com) or (707) 580-9360.

## **Red Top Road widening project**



From the city of Fairfield:

The wet weather has slowed construction progress over the past two weeks. The developer has installed straw wattles, construction fencing, and applied best management practices to handle stormwater runoff within the project area.

Over the MLK holiday weekend, a break-in occurred at the Red Top Road Water Pump station currently under construction. The developer and staff are in the process of assessing the damage and figuring out next steps. This incident will have a significant impact on the overall schedule as several components of the pump station have substantial lead time for fabrication and delivery.

In addition to roadway construction, Public Works' crews responded to requests for pothole repairs on Red Top Road outside the boundary of the current project. Staff will continue to monitor the existing condition of the road and make repairs as needed.

To learn more about the project, click [here](#).

**Solano County Residents get involved with STA Advisory Committees**



The Solano Transportation Authority (STA) is currently seeking to fill various open positions on its Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC), the Pedestrian Advisory Committee (PAC), and Paratransit Coordinating Council (PCC).

The BAC and PAC advise the STA on the development of bicycle and pedestrian facilities as an active mode of transportation in Solano County. To accomplish this, committee members assist the STA to develop countywide transportation plans and projects and provide funding recommendations for active transportation projects.

The PCC works on countywide senior and disabled transit issues as required by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and makes recommendations on transit and paratransit funding, claims and coordination.

The openings include:

Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC)

- City of Dixon

Pedestrian Advisory Committee (PAC)

- City of Suisun City
- County of Solano
- Member-at-Large (Solano Community College)

Paratransit Coordinating Council (PCC)

- Public Agency – Education member

For more information on the [BAC Open Positions, click here](#); [click here for more information on the PAC Open Positions](#), and [here for information on PCC Open Positions](#)

## **Developmental Disability and Neurodiversity Conference**

Join healthcare providers, caregivers and families across Solano County and the region for Special Care Services first annual Developmental Disability and Neurodiversity Conference on April 5 and 6 at the Solano County Events Center, 601 Texas Street in downtown Fairfield.

Up to 7.5 Continuing Education Units are available for physicians, nurses, mental health professionals, BCBAs and psychologists.



For more information, agenda and to register, click [here](#).

## **Workforce Development Board offering free pre-apprenticeship training program**

The Solano Workforce Development Board will be offering a free six-week pre-apprenticeship training program starting in February.

The program, for young adults between the ages of 18-24, aims to help them to complete all the training they need for an introductory trades position.

**This free pre-apprenticeship training will be offered Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Feb. 12 to March 22 at the Vallejo Adult School.**

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

## **Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention—Round 5 Funding Survey**

Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention (HHAP) Round 5 is a \$1 billion grant that provides local jurisdictions, including federally recognized tribal governments, with flexible funding to continue efforts to improve regional and systems coordination to prevent and end homelessness in their communities.

Solano County is encouraging feedback about how they can better address homelessness and ensure equity in services and housing.

To complete the survey, click [here](#).

## **Solano LAFCO seeks Letters of Interest and Applications for the Alternate Public Member position**



**Solano Local Agency Formation Commission**  
675 Texas St. Ste. 6700 • Fairfield, California 94533  
(707) 439-3897 • FAX: (707) 438-1788

The Solano LAFCO seeks Letters of Interest and Applications for the Alternate Public Member position with the deadline set for **5pm, Thursday, February 8**. The Alternate Public Member represents the point of view of the general public. The Individual must be a resident of Solano County; may not be an officer or employee of the County or a city in Solano County.

LAFCO is a five-member commission comprised of two members of the Board of Supervisors, two Mayors from cities within Solano County, and a Public Member. There is an alternate for each

category who serves and votes in place of regular members if they are absent or disqualified from participating due to a conflict of interest. The Alternate Public Member is appointed and serves at the pleasure of the regular members of the Commission.

LAFCO is charged with preserving agricultural land and open space, providing for orderly boundaries and efficient municipal services, and discouraging urban sprawl.

The commission will meet the second Monday of February, April, June, August, October, and December in the Board of Supervisor's Chambers at 10am at 675 Texas Street in Fairfield. Members receive a stipend of \$100/meeting up to two meetings per month.

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

## **Scholarships for college grads working on a teaching credential**

The California Retired Teachers Association, Division 24, is offering scholarships to encourage college graduates from Solano County who are planning to teach locally but needing to complete work for a valid state teaching credential.

The C. Shirley Michel Scholarships are available for Solano County residents who have baccalaureate degrees, are currently enrolled in an accredited credential program, and who plan to teach — or are teaching — in Solano County.

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

## **NAMI Peer-to-Peer**

NAMI Peer-to-Peer is a free, eight-session educational program for adults with mental health conditions who are looking to better understand themselves and their recovery. Taught by trained leaders with lived experience, this program includes activities, discussions and informative videos.

**Class starts Thursday, February 8 at 6 to 8pm via Zoom and ends Thursday, March 28.** Must be 18 years of age or older. Space is limited. To join, use this [registration link](#). For questions, contact Tara at [tara@namisolanocounty.org](mailto:tara@namisolanocounty.org).

## **Translation Services for Non-profits in Solano County**

## **Translation Assistance from the Solano-Napa SBDC**

*Available at no-charge to  
Solano County non-profits*

-  **Verbal interpretation**  
Client meetings, employer to employee conversations
  
-  **Document translation**  
Reports, marketing materials, employee handbooks

Request translation  
assistance at  
[solanonapasbdc.org/  
business-translation-services](http://solanonapasbdc.org/business-translation-services)  
or call 707-646-1071




Made possible with Solano  
County ARPA funding




Translation assistance is now available at no charge to Solano County non-profits, including verbal interpretation and document translation.

To request translation assistance, click [here](#) or call (707) 646-1071.


## **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 MOREC 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 MOREC 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 7<sup>th</sup> 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>

## Upcoming events in Solano County

### 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 **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

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](mailto:info@artsbenicia.org)

## **Community Outdoor Wellness Sessions beginning Saturday**

Join the new Napa ParkRx program, Community Outdoor Wellness Sessions / Vamonos Afuera Con Amor y Sonrisas, **for their kick-off event on Saturday, January 27 from 9:30am to 12:30pm during which the health fair will focus on engaging activities.**

There will be exercise classes such as Zumba, Stretching and Strengthening, nutrition demonstrations, group bike rides with the bike coalition, nature-based activities with the resource conservation district, mobile clinic services from Adventist Health and more! For more information, click [here](#).

## **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.

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

## Probability 2

You are cordially invited to Probability 2, an interactive exhibit of sound sculptures at the NY2CA Gallery, 617 1st Street in Benicia. **The exhibit runs from February 1 through March 17, Thursday to Sunday, noon to 5 pm.**

Probability 2 is a new exhibition of interactive sound sculptures made collaboratively by visual artists Bodil Fox and Larnie Fox. The exhibition will be on display at NY2CA Gallery and combines materials favored by Bodil (copper, concrete, wire, felt, mixed media surface treatment) with those favored by Larnie (bamboo, plywood, recycled materials, motors).

The exhibition will be anchored by a performative installation covering the main walls with self-playing and playable wall-mounted amplified sound sculptures.

## Wine and Chocolate Walk



Stroll First Street in downtown Benicia with your sweetheart tasting fine wine and chocolate pairings inside downtown shops. **The walk is 1 to 5pm, Saturday, February 3.**

Tickets are \$35 advance for a single ticket and \$65 advance for pair of tickets. Day of event all tickets are \$40—no price break on buying a pair of tickets. Ticket price includes 15 tastes. Participants must be age 21 and over. Check-in starts at 12:30pm at Benicia Main Street, 90 First Street. Map of tasting locations and wristband will be provided per ticket holder at check-in.

Tickets are limited and can be purchased at Benicia Main Street, 90 First Street, or online [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](#).

## **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](#).

## Meet the Doula Night

Join Solano HEALs and Doula Doula as they host a workshop where Partnership HealthPlan with discuss doula enrollment. This is a wonderful opportunity for pregnant families and the community to connect with local doulas.

**The event is from 5:30 to 7:30pm, Thursday, February 15, Fairfield Cordelia Library, 5050 Business Center Drive, Fairfield.**

To register, click [here](#).

## Teen Poetry Reading

**SOLANO COUNTY LIBRARY TEEN POETRY CONTEST POETRY READING**

THE TEEN LIBRARIAN ELIZABETH BELL AND FAIRFIELD POET LAUREATE SUZANNE BRUCE ARE HOSTING A POETRY READING FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS OF THE SOLANO COUNTY TEEN POETRY CONTEST. PLEASE COME AND HEAR THESE STUDENTS READ THEIR POEMS!

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM** **FAIRFIELD CIVIC CENTER LIBRARY 1150 KENTUCKY STREET**

A RECEPTION WILL FOLLOW THE READING. ALL POEMS WERE HUNG AT THE CIVIC CENTER LIBRARY ON DECEMBER 28, 2023, AND WILL BE DISPLAYED THROUGH THE END OF JANUARY, 2024.

Solano County LIBRARY

Teen Librarian Elizabeth Bell and Fairfield Poet Laureate Suzanne Bruce are hosting a teen poetry reading **from 1 to 4pm, Saturday, February 17, at the Fairfield Civic Center Library, 1150 Kentucky Street.**

There will be introductions of the winners from a recent teen poetry contest, then all students will read their entries. A reception will follow the reading.

Please come and support these teens! It is important they know their voices are heard!

## 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)

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



CASA of Solano County, a 501c3 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](#).

## Trash Mob

# TRASH MOB

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2024  
ALLAN WITT PARK, 1741 W. TEXAS STREET



The city of Fairfield is looking for volunteers to help with its next Trash Mob on **Saturday, February 24, from 9 to 11 am, at Allan Witt Park, 1741 W. Texas Street.**

Snacks and water and all supplies will be provided, and Public Works will be on hand to collect the full trash bags.

Contact Karen Rees to register at [krees@fairfield.ca.gov](mailto:krees@fairfield.ca.gov) or call (707) 428-7767. Volunteers must complete a waiver form. For those under age 18, a parent or guardian signature is required. This is a great way for students to earn community service hours for school!

## 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](mailto:Mnqsims@gmail.com) or call (707) 319-7489.

The event will take place from **10am to noon, Saturday, February 24, 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.

## **Birth Justice Solano 2024: Addressing Racial Disparities in Birth Outcomes**

Join the Birth Justice Solano 2024 Event in Vallejo on Sunday, February 25, where experts, doulas, nurses and public health administrators will come together for an informative and supportive event from **10am to 3pm, Sunday, February 25, at Touro University, 105 Owen Drive on Mare Island in Vallejo.**

Let's address the racial disparities in birth outcomes and work towards a healthier future for all!

To register for the event, click [here](#). If you are Interested in being a vendor, click [here](#).

## **Open House**



A promotional poster for the MOHB Open House. The background features a photograph of a building with a fountain and flowers. Two green banners with the word "FREE" in white are positioned at the top corners. The text "MOHB OPEN HOUSE" is prominently displayed in white, with "2060 CAMEL RD. BENICIA" below it. At the bottom, the date and time "FEBRUARY 29, 2024 5:00 - 8:00PM" are written in green. The website "www.mohbenicia.org" and phone number "707-745-5435" are at the very bottom. The MoHB logo, which includes a house icon and the text "MUSEUM OF HISTORY BENICIA MoHB", is centered in a circular frame. Two circular inset images show museum exhibits: one with colorful gloves and another with a historical medical instrument.

**FREE**

**MOHB**

**OPEN HOUSE**

**2060 CAMEL RD. BENICIA**

**MUSEUM OF HISTORY BENICIA**

**MoHB**

**FEBRUARY 29, 2024**

**5:00 - 8:00PM**

[www.mohbenicia.org](http://www.mohbenicia.org) 707-745-5435

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**



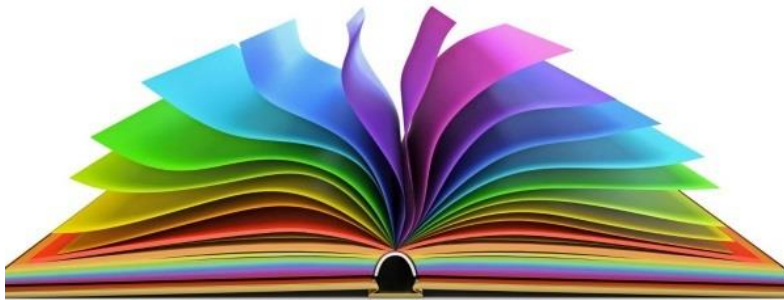
Web: [solanolibrary.com](http://solanolibrary.com)  
Phone: 1-866-572-7587  
Facebook, Instagram, Twitter icons followed by [solanolibrary](https://www.facebook.com/solanolibrary)

## 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](mailto:friendsofSCWG@gmail.com). To register, click [here](#).

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## Events I attended this week

**Friday, January 19**, I attended the ribbon cutting ceremony in the Franklin Middle School Gym, which GVRD (Greater Vallejo Recreation District) refurbished. The gym floor was fresh and clean. Painting of the gym will be forthcoming. I am looking forward to the fields being updated. This project is an example of cooperation between the school district and GVRD. A vibrant use of this school will bring life to the community. I am excited at the possibilities for the community.

On Friday night, I attend the Benicia Chamber of Commerce's installation of officers held at the Clock Tower. I enjoyed making new friends. A good time was had by all. The food was good.

**Sunday night, January 21**, I was invited by President Michelle, who is the Post Benicia President, to attend a dinner at the Benicia Veteran's Hall held by the VFW Auxiliary. I was introduced to District Auxiliary President Angela Prill. President Prill brought up the National President Auxiliary Carla Martinez who was visiting the area. The conversation was interesting as the National President is concerned with the mental health issues of our veteran's and families. This concerned is felt by many of us. The food was wonderful.

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## Looking for a job? Consider these links

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

[STATE OF CALIFORNIA](#)

[CITY OF BENICIA](#)

[CITY OF FAIRFIELD](#)

[CITY OF VALLEJO](#)

[SOLANO COMMUNITY COLLEGE](#)

[BENICIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT](#)

[FAIRFIELD-SUISUN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT](#)

[VALLEJO SCHOOL DISTRICT](#)

[POST OFFICE](#)

[GREATER VALLEJO RECREATION DISTRICT](#)

[YOUTH JOBS CORPS](#)

[CALIFORNIA CONSERVATION CORPS](#)

[SOLANO RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT](#)

[FAIRFIELD-SUISUN SEWER DISTRICT](#)

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## Newsletter photo



Vallejo Waterfront. Photo: John Glidden

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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.