



# Solano County *California*

## SUPERVISOR MONICA BROWN NEWSLETTER

June 21, 2024



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### Important Numbers Resources and Dates

#### **District 2 Office**

(707) 784-3031

#### **Clerk of the Board & County Administrator's Office**

(707) 784-6100

#### **Veterans Services**

(707) 784-6590

#### **Health & Social Services**

(707) 784-8400

#### **Assessor/Recorder**

(707) 784-6200

#### **Resource Management**

(707) 784-6765

#### **Registrar of Voters**

(707) 784-6675

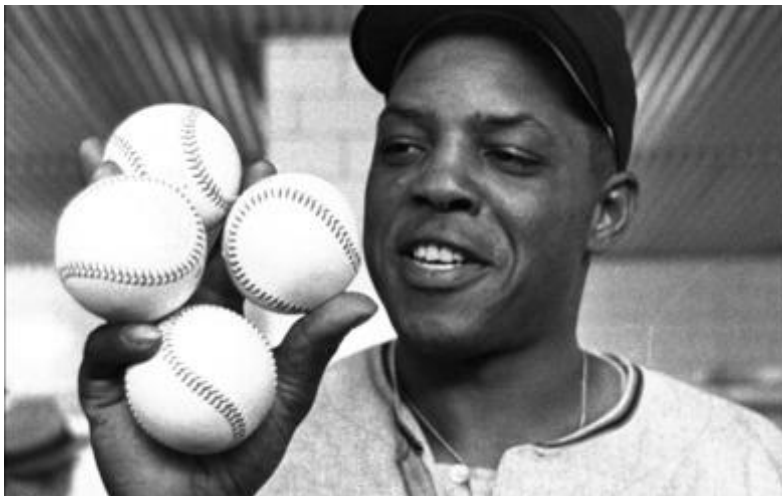
#### **Tax Collector/Treasurer/County Clerk**

(707) 784-7485

#### **Area Agency on Aging**

(707) 784-8960

## In Memoriam



This week's newsletter is dedicated to the greatest baseball player to ever live: Willie Mays

For baseball fans, the news that Willie Mays died was disheartening. Coming the week when the Giants were playing the Cardinals at Rickwood Field, the site where Willie made his

professional debut in the Negro Leagues playing for the Birmingham Black Barons.

He will always be known for "The Catch." What I hope everyone will remember is what he went through in the segregated South. Let us remember equality for all must be fought for daily. Thank you, Mr. Mays, for the memories.

## Registrar of Voters to present Board of Supervisors with results of signature count and next steps for California Forever initiative



At their meeting on **Tuesday, June 25** in the Board Chambers, located at 675 Texas Street in Fairfield, starting at **2 p.m.**, the Registrar of Voters (ROV) will present to the Solano County Board of Supervisors the results of the signature verification process and qualification of the "REZONING OF 17,500 ACRES OF LAND IN EAST SOLANO COUNTY TO ALLOW DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW COMMUNITY" Initiative (also known as "California Forever" or "East Solano Plan") for the November ballot.

As part of the presentation, the Board will receive a certified statement from the ROV that proponents collected enough signatures to qualify the initiative for the ballot.

The Board will consider one of three options pursuant to the California Elections Code section 9118:

(1) adopt the initiative without alteration at the meeting or within 10 days thereafter,

### 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

(2) submit the initiative without alteration to voters by adopting a resolution calling for a special election and combining it with the next regular election on November 5, 2024 or

(3) order an impact report to be presented to the Board within 30 days, at which time the Board may adopt the ordinance without alteration or submit it to the voters at the November 5, 2024 general election.

Because the impacts of the initiative have not yet been analyzed, staff is recommending the Board order the impact report (option 3) to be prepared and presented to them at their meeting on **Tuesday, July 23, 2024**.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

The Solano County Administrator's Office is taking steps to ensure the public has safe and easy access to attend the Board meeting and provide public comment. As part of this process, we ask the public to be mindful of the following considerations, including:

- Seating in the Board Chambers is first-come-first serve. In the event the Board chambers reaches capacity, there will be an overflow area in the County's multipurpose rooms located on the first floor. Signage will direct attendees to the multipurpose room.
- The Board of Supervisors meeting will be livestreamed in the multipurpose rooms. There is a 30-second delay in the livestream broadcast.
- Participants who wish to make a statement as part of public comment must fill out a yellow comment card, available in both the Board chambers and multipurpose room, in advance of speaking. Staff will collect speaker cards and deliver them to the Chair of the Board.
- The Chair of the Board, with support from staff, will call speakers in groups, and direct them to the public comment area. Please note, ADA accommodation will be made for those who need / request it during the meeting.

## **ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS / PUBLIC COMMENT**

Please be mindful of the following considerations as part of public comment, including:

- All public comments must be specific to California Forever and will be heard only during the 2 p.m. session.
- All public comments will be made after the item has been presented to the Board.
- All public comments need to be made in person. There will not be a call-in line.
- Subject to the discretion of the Board Chair, public comments may be limited to 1 minute.

- No signs, posters or noisemakers are permitted in the Board Chambers and multipurpose rooms.

## ATTENDING IN PERSON / WATCH THE MEETING ONLINE

The Board of Supervisors meeting is hosted at the Solano County Administration Center, located at 675 Texas Street in the Board Chambers in Fairfield. In addition to the in-person meeting, the event will be livestreamed starting at 2 p.m. PST on the County's [website](#). This meeting, along with all the previous Board of Supervisors' meetings, can be viewed as part of the County's video [archive](#).

## Information this week

### Visit Link21's Online Open House



In June, Link21 hosted two virtual community meetings to share updates on Link21 planning progress prior to an important program milestone to determine which train technology - standard-gauge (Regional Rail) or broad-gauge (BART) - will operate in the new underground train crossing of the San Francisco Bay.

If you didn't get a chance to join one of the virtual community meetings, you can still participate by visiting the Online Open House. This interactive, self-guided online public meeting enables you to learn more about the planning progress through animated maps and engaging Program information.

The Link21 Team is hosting the Online Open House to showcase our recent analysis completed of the different benefits that the train technologies can provide, such as service, mobility, and equity. This important milestone is the first step toward defining a project that will provide riders with enhanced and more reliable train options for traveling throughout the Northern California Megaregion.

The Online Open House will be available through July 19. **Simply visit [Link21OpenHouse.com](https://Link21OpenHouse.com) to participate anytime, 24/7.**

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

## California launches Sun Bucks



Earlier this month, the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) announced the upcoming launch of SUN Bucks in California, a new federal food program designed to ensure that children in families with low incomes have adequate nutrition while school is out for the summer.

“Keeping children healthy is a top priority for California, and I’m grateful to our many federal, state, and local partners for making this program a reality for California children and families,” CDSS Director Kim Johnson said. “California is among the first states in the nation to launch this new food program, which will help ensure families have food on the table during the summer.”

Children who qualify for free or reduced-price school meals through a school meal application or an alternative income form, or who receive CalFresh, CalWORKs, or Medi-Cal, are automatically enrolled.

Most families will not need to take action to receive SUN Bucks. SUN Bucks cards are scheduled to arrive in the mail beginning June 2024 and continue through fall 2024. Eligible families will receive SUN Bucks electronic benefits transfer (EBT) cards that can be used just like CalFresh benefits to purchase groceries.

SUN Bucks will provide \$120 per child, which is equivalent to \$40 per month for the three months schools are typically closed during the summer.

This new program is being implemented in partnership with the California Department of Education (CDE). In addition to SUN Bucks, the Summer Meal Programs provide opportunities for children in need to access meals during the summer months.

Families can locate summer meal sites in their communities using the CA Meals for Kids App or by visiting the Summer Meal Service Sites webpage.

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## Public Hearings

### Housing Element Program Implementation and Upcoming Meetings

Housing! It's a big topic, and one that both the State of California and City of Benicia are serious about.

You may recall that the City's certified Housing Element was shaped by the participation and voice of many Benicians. But did you know that the plan includes many tasks (programs) that the City must complete and report on each year?



**The Benicia Planning Division is hard at work addressing these programs and will explore next steps at a City Council workshop scheduled for June 25 at 6 p.m.**

At the workshop, key programs will be discussed that will drive important decisions over the coming year:

- The approach to rezoning site(s) to allow for feasible development at least 75 lower income units on the west side of town, north of I-780, in support of housing mobility (Program 2.04), and
- The approach to disposition (sale) of three city-owned sites for housing development (Program 1.16).

View the agenda and staff reports beginning on June 19 at [www.ci.benicia.ca.us/agendas](http://www.ci.benicia.ca.us/agendas).

Questions? Email [planning@ci.benicia.ca.us](mailto:planning@ci.benicia.ca.us).

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

### Notice of Hearing Artificial Intelligence and Food Insecurity



On **Thursday, June 27**, the Little Hoover Commission will conduct a public hearing on artificial intelligence and food insecurity **beginning at 10 a.m.**

The meeting will be conducted via Zoom. The virtual meeting will also be accessible to the public at 925 L Street, Suite 175, Sacramento, CA 95814. Members of the public are encouraged to attend in person, or to listen to the hearing by joining

online or by phone. Click the URL to join online: <https://bit.ly/456yXsZ>.

To join via phone, call toll free from the U.S. by dialing (888) 788-0099. The webinar ID is 958 2100 4102. The passcode is 397643. We highly recommend members of the public access the hearing through the Zoom app.

Please visit the Zoom website for [instructions](#) on how to download the Zoom app onto a computer or smartphone.

During the hearing, members of the public may indicate to staff that they wish to make public comment by using the “raise” hand feature in Zoom or sending an email to [littlehoover@lhc.ca.gov](mailto:littlehoover@lhc.ca.gov) with your question and the phone number from which you have joined the hearing.

Public comments will be heard at the end of the hearing and will be limited to three minutes per speaker and to a total of 30 minutes.

The Commission may act on any item listed on the hearing agenda below. Agenda items may be taken out of order to accommodate speakers and to maintain a quorum. The hearing may be cancelled without notice.

If you need reasonable accommodation due to a disability, please contact the Little Hoover Commission at (916) 445-2125 or [LittleHoover@lhc.ca.gov](mailto:LittleHoover@lhc.ca.gov) by Thursday, June 20.

## Vallejo police chief recruitment



The poster features the Vallejo Police Department logo and a scenic background of a waterfront at dusk. It lists three community meetings: an online meeting on June 27, 2024, and two in-person meetings on June 29 and July 25, 2024. It also identifies the host as Bob Hall & Associates and the Vallejo City Manager as Andrew Murray. Contact information for questions is provided at the bottom right.

**Vallejo Police Chief Recruitment Community Meetings**

Join Executive Recruiters Bob Hall & Associates and City Manager, Andrew Murray to discuss what you would like to see in Vallejo's next Police Chief. Three opportunities to share your ideas and thoughts will be available on the following dates:

**MEETING #1 (Online)**  
**WHEN:** Thursday, June 27, 2024 - 6:30 pm  
**ZOOM LINK:** <https://bit.ly/VPD-chief>

**MEETING #2 (In-Person)**  
**WHEN:** Saturday, June 29, 2024 - 10:30 am  
**WHERE:** Vallejo City Council Chambers  
555 Santa Clara Street, Vallejo, CA

**MEETING #3 (In-Person)**  
**WHEN:** Thursday, July 25, 2024 - 6:30 pm  
**WHERE:** Vallejo Room - Below JFK Library  
505 Santa Clara Street, Vallejo, CA

**BH**  
Bob Hall & Associates

Hosted By:  
Executive Recruiters,  
Bob Hall & Associates

&  
Vallejo City Manager,  
Andrew Murray

**Questions?**  
P: 707.648.4363  
E: [human\\_resources@cityofvallejo.net](mailto:human_resources@cityofvallejo.net)

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## Updates from around Solano County

### Senate Bill 1379 clears Assembly Public Employment, Retirement Committee and heads to the State Assembly



Senate Bill 1379 clears Assembly Public Employment, Retirement Committee and heads to the State Assembly.

This bill introduced by State Senator Bill Dodd will help address chronic police staffing shortages consistently experienced in Vallejo, by allowing qualified retired Solano County Sheriff's deputies and other retired peace officers to work up to full-time for the Solano County Sheriff's Office. These deputies will provide the additional support needed to patrol a city of 126,000 people.

SB 1379 will allow retired annuitants to exceed the 960-hour annual work hour limit for the next three years. Sen. Dodd said in a press release that, "allowing them to temporarily work more hours while recruitment ramps up for new, permanent officers can save taxpayers money while deterring crime and improving responsiveness."

The Vallejo Police Department (VPD) has become extremely understaffed, prompting the city council to declare and extend a local emergency. The VPD is authorized to have 132 officers and are currently down to 31 officers patrolling the city. On average, there is a two-year recruiting and training timeline for an officer to be ready and assigned to patrol duty.

To all of my newsletter recipients, please be careful when reading articles that inadvertently conflate terminology regarding "retired police officers". The SB 1379 was aimed exclusively to augment VPD staffing through the Solano County Sheriff's Department only.



## Books and Bites



A promotional poster for the 'Books and Bites' event. The title 'BOOKS AND BITES' is prominently displayed in large, colorful letters. 'BOOKS' is in red, 'AND' is in purple, and 'BITES' is in green. To the left of the text are illustrations of books on a shelf and a strawberry with a yellow star. Below the title, it says 'FREE FOOD DISTRIBUTION - BOOKS ABOUT FOOD'. The event dates 'JUNE 5 - AUG 7' and time '5-7 PM' are shown in a red box. The location 'BENICIA LIBRARY WEDNESDAYS 5-7PM' is listed. Contact information includes the phone number '707-690-0945' and websites 'FIFBAYAREA.ORG' and 'BENICIALIBRARY.ORG'. Logos for 'FOOD IS FREE BAY AREA' and 'BENICIA PUBLIC LIBRARY' are also present.

## Juneteenth poem



Jacalyn Eyvonne is the current Co-poet Laureate with the City of Vallejo. Author of "I Am Not An Inconsequential Word - Poetry and Remnants, Venting To Verse-How To Turn Anger Into Poetry," and "The Unyielding Weight of Words, Poems on Reflection, Healing, and Love." A photographer/graphic artist, she melds images with poetry. Her photography has been displayed at venues such as the McCune Rare Art and Books Collection, Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum, and Vacaville Art Gallery. An internationally published poet, her works appear in numerous anthologies worldwide.

[www.JacalynEyvonne.com](http://www.JacalynEyvonne.com)

## Remember Juneteenth

On this day, we rise to remember  
Juneteenth  
Freedom, a period of great hope  
across the embers  
of darkness in American history  
where the road to promises

still unfulfilled,  
remains to be tilled  
Freedom's cry still echoes across  
not only the southern skies  
but throughout this country  
where voting rights and civil rights  
protections from brutality  
and cruelty of racism  
continue to remain an issue  
Yet, Juneteenth is a day to celebrate  
to honor the strength, the resilience  
of those who endured the harsh  
outcomes of the desire to live  
outside of chains and shadows  
We are but a step in our journey  
full equality is still a distant start  
that demands our continued  
fight for justice  
that continues to demand  
our attention  
Celebrate this day with joy and pride  
for the memories of those who fought  
and those who died  
Celebrate, but do not forget  
the battles past, the struggles yet  
Remember Juneteenth!  
But also remember  
that to create change, we must be  
AWAKE to the realities around us

Therefore (Part 2)

### **Don't You Go To Sleep**

When you hear the words  
Stay Woke  
They're mocked and jeered  
but it's a ploy, a decoy  
We must keep our senses  
On high alert, stay ahead of the  
tricksters and the Spider's work  
Schemes are thick with intent  
to sway our dreams  
So hear my whisper, clear and deep  
do not falter, do not weep  
Don't close your eyelids  
Don't fall asleep  
Don't be adrift in the spider's charm  
It's a chance to plunder and do us harm  
It is in our collective essence  
where our stories dwell  
Stay lucid  
Stay woke  
Don't let them steal our voices  
our votes

The erasure of our history  
increase to our despair  
While waiting for you to slumber  
to be ensnared  
Do not falter  
Do not weep  
Don't close your eyes  
Don't you dare go to sleep.  
Crack open the books  
they continue to confiscate  
and let every precious word  
of knowledge ...gestate.  
Be the waking giants and giants  
don't sleep, so do not surrender  
to slumbers deceit  
Let Determination be our battle cry  
where children inherit the freedoms  
that our vows must keep alive  
cause giants not only rise—  
They leap  
So do not waiver—  
Do not weep  
Don't close your eyes.  
Don't you go to sleep.  
Freedom's cry still echoes  
across America's skies  
Remember history  
Remember Tulsa  
Remember Juneteenth

## Call For Artists Region extended

Solano County Transit (SolTrans) is extending its reach beyond Solano County, by now inviting artists from Marin, Sonoma, Napa, Solano, Contra Costa, Alameda, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Yolo, and Sacramento counties to submit their work to help the agency celebrate sustainable transit.



Embracing the theme of sustainability and connectivity within the Bay Area, artists are encouraged to weave narratives that resonate with passengers and onlookers alike, reflecting SolTrans' dedication to advancing a greener transit future.

Artists interested in this public art opportunity are encouraged to submit their entries before **Wednesday, June 24, 2024**. Up to three finalists will be handpicked to craft preliminary designs, with one artist ultimately selected to bring their digital masterpiece to life on a SolTrans all-electric bus.

This marks SolTrans' third Call for Artists in the past decade, following successful collaborations with local art communities, including wrapping the inaugural all-electric bus in 2015, adorning the revamped Operations & Maintenance Facility in Vallejo in 2016, and introducing six art installations at the Vallejo Transit Center in 2021.

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

## Cook the Book

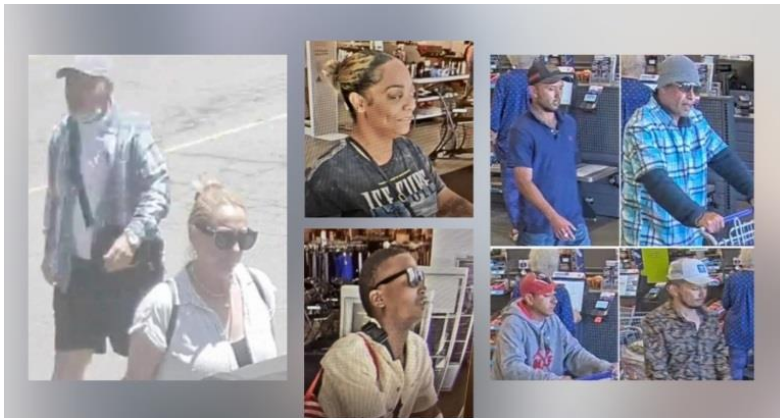
Did you know that the Benicia Public Library has a book club that meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of every month devoted to food? The club is called COOK THE BOOK.



If you enjoy cooking, cookbooks, or taking pictures of food this club is for you. The club meets a 12 p.m. in the Edna Clyne Room inside the Benicia Public Library, 150 E L Street.

Email Patrice for the info: [psartor@ci.benicia.ca.us](mailto:psartor@ci.benicia.ca.us) or call 707-746-4343. Bon appetit.

## Vacaville police seek help identifying eight theft suspects



The Vacaville Police Department recorded several recent theft cases around the city throughout the last week. After obtaining surveillance video footage, police are seeking help from the public in identifying eight suspects related to three separate cases.

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

## 33rd Annual Tomato & Vine Festival



Join the community at the 33rd Annual Tomato & Vine Festival in downtown Fairfield from **11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturday, August 17** and from **11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday, August 18.**

A variety of tomatoes to sample and buy, live music and performances, beer and wine gardens, kid's activities, a car show, and more!

This year's festival will bring back tomato alley, a tomato eating contest, two beer and wine gardens, two stages, ten bands, a car show, and so much more! Premiering this year is a "Salsa & Salsa" class and canning demonstration.

### **Want to be a vendor?**

Contact Juan Segura at (707) 428-7584  
or [jsegura@fairfield.ca.gov](mailto:jsegura@fairfield.ca.gov).

**The vendor deadline is July 22 at 5 p.m.**

## Solano HEALs Prenatal Groups



*Preparing for pregnancy and childbirth with  
a supportive community of Doulas.*

### Who should attend...

Pregnant Black women seeking a supportive environment to safely learn to process their trauma and develop techniques to support their pregnancy journey.

### What to expect...

- A supportive community of pregnant women
- Improved insight into your pregnancy journey and how to empower your experience

Groups will be on Wednesdays,  
from Oct 2nd to Nov 20th  
5-7 p.m. on Zoom



Scan to  
fill out the  
interest form!

*A preliminary information session is required before the group begins.*

www.solanoheals.com | solanoheals@gmail.com



Solano HEALs will be holding prenatal groups specifically for African American families. Who should attend? Pregnant Black women seeking a supportive environment to safely learn to process their trauma and develop techniques to support their pregnancy journey. Groups will be on **Wednesdays from October 2 to November 20 from 5 to 7 p.m. via Zoom**. To fill out the interest form, click [here](#). Contact [solanoheals@gmail.com](mailto:solanoheals@gmail.com) for any questions.

## Solano Library



While computer services, phone lines, and WiFi continue to be unavailable at all Solano County Library locations, the libraries remain open so you

can attend programs and check out items.

The library's 24/7 digital library is also available so you can enjoy eBooks, streaming movies, and more.

Chromebooks are available for in-house library use. Library card required. Please talk to staff if you need assistance printing.

# New California laws go into effect on July 1

Starting July 1, a batch of new laws will take effect in California:

## **Security Deposit**

With housing costs in California, and especially the Bay Area, historically among the highest in the nation, [AB 12](#) will cap a residential renter's security deposit at one month's rent, regardless of whether the property is furnished or not.

Under the law, a landlord who owns no more than two residential rental properties that collectively include no more than four dwelling units can collect up to two months' rent as a security deposit.

## **Right to Repair**

[Senate Bill 244](#) seeks to protect consumers who purchase electronic devices and appliances that cost more than \$50. The law will require manufacturers to provide owners with product tools, parts or instructions to repair a device.

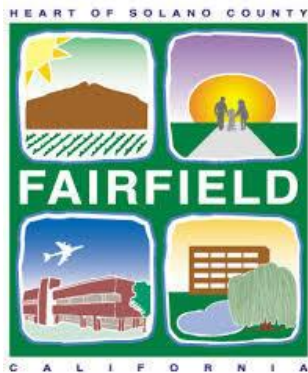
California will become the third state after Minnesota and New York to enact a right to repair law.

## **Junk Fees Transparency**

[SB 478](#) seeks to make hidden charges illegal, banning businesses from the practice of "bait and switch advertising." It will require all mandatory fees or charges to be stated up front, prohibiting undisclosed fees to be added at the end of transactions, like those often seen in the purchase of concert and sporting tickets and short term lodging.

To read the other laws, click [here](#).

## Fairfield unveils new utility billing system August 21



The Fairfield Municipal Water Utility is transitioning to a new online customer portal, *MyFMU* by SilverBlaze, on August 21. This new portal will replace the current online billing platform and is designed to significantly enhance user experience and will be accessible on desktop and mobile devices.

The *MyFMU* portal will offer several new features including:

- Enhanced autopay
- Access to payment history
- Detailed water usage history

Once the *MyFMU* portal is launched customers will need to re-register using the same account number.

Please be advised that the City will no longer absorb credit card fees. For customers registering for autopay and paying with a credit or debit card, a fee of \$2.95 per payment will be charged by the credit card processor. Payments made via ACH, check, or cash will not incur additional fees.

For more information, please visit our website at [www.fairfield.ca.gov/myfmu](http://www.fairfield.ca.gov/myfmu). For questions call a Customer Service Representative at (707) 428-7346.

## Fairfield PD Hosts 2nd Annual Police Youth Academy



Registration is open for Fairfield's 2nd Annual Police Youth Academy. This is a free program for Fairfield-Suisun Unified and Travis Unified School Districts, and Fairfield home-schooled students, ages 12-17, who have an interest in law enforcement.

This unique opportunity provides students with a greater understanding of the inner workings of the Police Department, as well as procedures, as taught by law enforcement professionals. Students will spend a week gaining insight into the jobs offered through at the Police Department, the skill set needed to perform these jobs, and will have the opportunity to engage with their peers



through team building, communication, and critical thinking exercises.

For more information, click [here](#). Only 25 students will be accepted!

## **Glen Cove Community is now a FireWise Community**

The Glen Cove Community has now achieved FireWise USA® designation. [FireWise USA®](#) is a national program that encourages neighborhoods to work toward fire safety and provides recognition for those who maintain their community's fire safety measures. **Some insurers even offer discounts for homes in Firewise communities.**

Volunteers from the GCCA will be available at your local Safeway to help answer your questions about what this new designation means for Glen Cove residents, on the following dates:

**Friday, June 28, 4 to 7 p.m.**

**Saturday, June 29, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

**@ Safeway, 122 Robles Way, Vallejo**

## **Vallejo Fire Department urges residents to refrain from using illegal fireworks**

Information from the Vallejo Fire Department:

As summer begins, the Vallejo Fire Department has already experienced an uptick in vegetation fire responses. With warming weather, the risk and severity of fires continue to increase.



The Vallejo Fire Department reminds residents that all fireworks are strictly prohibited within city limits, including the unincorporated areas. While it is widely known that illegal fireworks are inherently dangerous, they pose an even greater risk brought on by drought conditions and increasing temperatures.

The city requests that citizens report the use of illegal fireworks via [SeeClickFix](#). Reports will be reviewed, and warnings or administrative citations will be issued where possible. The Fire Department will use these reports to identify high-use areas. Firefighters and Prevention staff will patrol these areas and engage with neighbors to provide an education focused approach to

reducing illegal fireworks activity leading up to the 4th of July holiday. Informational door hangers will also be distributed.

The Fire Department aims to reduce the local threat of vegetation fires by limiting those caused by illegal fireworks. This strategy relies on outreach, education, and an increased presence of firefighters.

Effective immediately, firefighters will patrol neighborhoods at various times of the day to discourage and deter illegal fireworks use. On weekends, residents may see firefighters knocking on doors and handing out educational materials to further discourage the use of illegal fireworks.

“We need to work together as a community. Reporting illegal fireworks on [SeeClickFix](#) allows us to better allocate our resources and focus on areas with fireworks activity,” Fire Chief Drayton states. “The Fire Department will use these reports to identify high-use areas for on-duty patrols by Firefighters and Prevention staff.”

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

## The Art of the ReStore

When you think of ReStore merchandise offerings, fine art is probably not the first thing that comes to mind. But we are endlessly awed by the constant stream of art donations our store receives, from simple pieces to spectacular art of significant value.

Wall art dominates these donations, featuring home décor prints, framed photography, original paintings, works by talented local artists, not to mention masterworks such as signed Chagall lithographs with authentication provenance.

Art is displayed throughout your Fairfield ReStore, but be sure to visit our fine art gallery corner dedicated to exceptional objects d’art. Styles of modern to traditional offer something to captivate everyone. Don’t miss the opportunity to grace your home with artwork treasures at incredibly affordable prices!

***Solano-Napa Habitat for Humanity ReStore*** is located at 104 Commerce Court, Fairfield. (707) 863-0692

Store Hours: Tuesday - Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

[Click Here for Donation Pick-up Requests](#)

## 2024 Summer Reading Challenge



**Registration:** June 1 – July 31, 2024

**Who Can Join:** All ages

### **How It Works:**

**Readers:** Track reading minutes on a gameboard.

**Non-readers:** Track fun activities on a gameboard.

### **Prizes:**

**Children:** Free book at registration; second book, tote bag, and Sacramento River Cats ticket after completing the gameboard.

**Teens:** Free book, tote bag, and Sacramento River Cats ticket after completing the gameboard.

**Adults:** Enamel pin, tote bag, and Sacramento River Cats ticket after completing the gameboard.

### **Extras:**

Automatic entry into weekly drawings for Oakland A's, San Francisco Giants tickets, and ferry passes.

Prizes must be picked up at a Solano County Library branch (no mail delivery).

For more information about events at the various library locations, click [here](#).

## Cooling Centers



As summer temperatures begin to soar, community members are reminded that each Solano County library location is a cooling center.

For hours and locations of Solano County libraries, click [here](#).

## Arts Benicia



This the last weekend to visit **Solano Water Stories: Artists Voices**, an exhibition funded by the **California Creative Corps**, a program of the **California Arts Council**, as part of a larger grant project titled Stewarding our Resources: Solano Artists Create, Collaborate, and Educate. The project is engaging artists in creating original material to be used to educate Californians about water conservation and climate mitigation. The exhibition will feature commissioned works by thirteen Solano County artists who draw upon their diverse community experiences to explore and communicate the grant themes through artwork. The exhibition through this Sunday, June 23, at **The Temple Art Lofts, at 707 Marin Street (at Virginia St.), in Vallejo**. Arts Benicia's exhibition is in conjunction with **Brush Strokes for Earth**, an exhibition presented by **The Vallejo Center for the Arts**, also a CCC Grant recipient. Gallery hours at the Temple Art Lofts are Saturday and Sunday, 12 to 4 pm.

In addition, **I. We, They. Celebrations of Gender**, juried by **Thea Quiray Tagle**, is an exhibition featuring works of all media, will run until July 21. We are also pleased to show work by Solano Community College art students in **Fresh Perspectives: Artwork from Solano Community College**. The exhibition will run during the same period as I. We. They. Celebrations of Gender and is located in the upstairs galleries.

**Finally, mark your calendars for our exhibition closing event on Sunday, July 21, from 4 to 6 pm, An Afternoon of Wine Tasting with Vino Noceto.**

Please visit <https://artsbenicia.org> to purchase your tickets. All proceeds benefit Arts Benicia.

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>

Inquiries? Email [info@artsbenicia.org](mailto:info@artsbenicia.org) or visit <http://artsbenicia.org>

## June calendar for Benicia Veterans Memorial Hall

**June 21:** American Legion cooking hamburgers  
22  
23: Coast Guard Auxiliary birthday  
24: Kevin & Patty Monday Specials, by signup;  
25  
26  
27: PTSD Awareness Day  
28: Sons of The American Legion cooking hamburgers  
29: 5th Annual Rib Cookoff hosted by Sons of The American Legion

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

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## Upcoming events in Solano County

### Open Mare Island Self-Guided Tour



Join the Mare Island Historic Park Foundation for its second Open Mare Island, featuring self-guided walking/driving tours of historic Mare Island, Docents will be stationed at four locations to present

the area and answer questions, including St. Peter's Chapel and the Naval Cemetery.

The tour will take place on Sunday, June 23, from noon to 2 p.m., and start at the Quarters Coffee House, 1015 Walnut Avenue, on Mare Island.

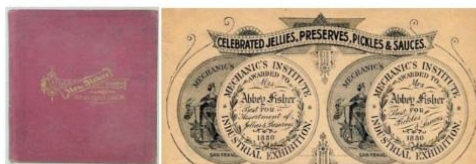
For more information, click [here](#).

## What Mrs. Fisher knows about Old Southern Cooking

*-You are cordially invited!*

### *What Mrs. Fisher Knows about Old Southern Cooking*

**Sunday June 23, 2-4pm**



Bay area culinary historian, Robert Brower, Esq will give a presentation detailing the life and work of Mrs. Abby Fisher who in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century became the first black female self-published author in San Francisco. The McCune Collection has an original first-edition copy of Abby Fisher's 1881 cookbook. McCune visitors will also be treated to a culinary delight prepared using one of Abby Fisher's recipes.

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

*~Finger food & light refreshments will be served~*

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

## Elder Abuse Awareness Forum: Addressing Mental Health & Financial Crimes



In honor of **World Elder Abuse Awareness Day**, recognized annually in June, [Empowered Aging](#) invites Solano community seniors to a powerful interactive educational event. This half-day program features top experts in elder abuse prevention, mental health, and victim rights, providing timely and topical information for

community members and high-quality, ongoing education for professionals working with older adults.

Older adults will walk away with actionable strategies and tactics to help protect themselves from abuse and a list of essential resources should they ever become victims of crime. Industry pros can join us for an excellent opportunity to hear from experts in aging, elder justice, mental health, law enforcement, and long-term care.

**The event will run from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Wednesday, June 26.**

**Registration is required, and space is limited! To register, click [here](#).**

## Fair housing workshop



The graphic is an invitation for a fair housing workshop. It features logos for Independent Living Resources of Solano & Contra Costa Counties and the Agency & Disability Resource Connection in Solano County. The main text reads 'YOU ARE INVITED TO OUR FAIR HOUSING WORKSHOP!'. Below this, it states that Independent Living Resources will discuss fair housing. A small image of a multi-story apartment building is shown. The event details are listed on a scroll: 'Legal Services of Northern California', 'When: Thursday June 27th 2024', 'Time: 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm', and 'Location: 490 Chadbourne Rd, At the Daily Desk located on the second floor'. At the bottom, it asks for an RSVP by June 24th at 707-435-8174 EXT 105 and provides the address and website.

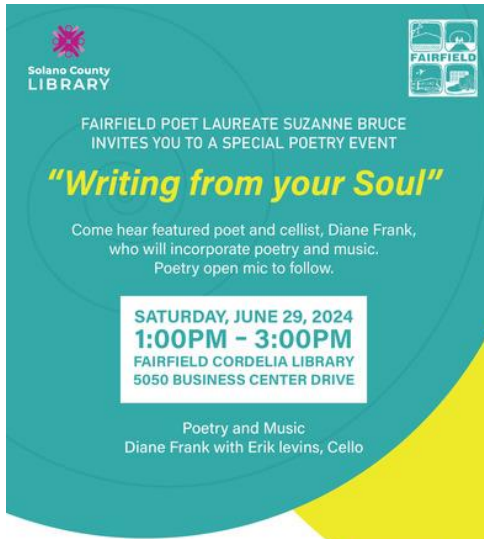
Independent Living Resources  
will discuss fair housing.

Legal Services of Northern California.  
When: Thursday June 27<sup>th</sup> 2024  
Time: 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm  
Location: 490 Chadbourne Rd,  
At the Daily Desk located on the second floor.

**Please RSVP By June 24<sup>th</sup> at: 707-435-8174 EXT 105**

490 CHADBOURNE RD  
FAIRFIELD, CA 94534  
AT THE DAILY DESK  
[WWW.INDEPENDENTLIVINGRESOURCES.ORG](http://WWW.INDEPENDENTLIVINGRESOURCES.ORG)

# Writing from your Soul



Solano County LIBRARY

FAIRFIELD POET LAUREATE SUZANNE BRUCE INVITES YOU TO A SPECIAL POETRY EVENT

## "Writing from your Soul"

Come hear featured poet and cellist, Diane Frank, who will incorporate poetry and music. Poetry open mic to follow.

**SATURDAY, JUNE 29, 2024**  
**1:00PM - 3:00PM**  
FAIRFIELD CORDELIA LIBRARY  
5050 BUSINESS CENTER DRIVE

Poetry and Music  
Diane Frank with Erik levins, Cello

Diane Frank is author of eight books of poems, two novels, and a photo memoir of her 400 mile trek in the Nepal Himalayas. "While Listening to the Enigma Variations: New and Selected Poems" won the 2022 Next Generation Indie Book Award for Poetry. Diane and Erik play cello in the Golden Gate Symphony. She collaborated with Matt Americh to create an orchestral suite based on her poem, "Tree of Life."



# Hike and Write



Fairfield Poet Laureate, Suzanne Bruce, is partnering with Solano Land Trust to bring you the Fourth

## Hike & Write Event

Sunday, June 30, 2024  
~~Sunday, June 2, 2024~~

1-4 pm  
~~9am - 12:00 noon~~

3100 Lynch Canyon Rd

Parking \$5

The hiking level is medium and will be about 2 miles. A docent will be leading us, sharing history and stories. Bring pen and paper. Bring water and snacks. Wear appropriate clothing and comfortable walking shoes.

Please email Suzanne at [fairfieldpoetlaureate@gmail.com](mailto:fairfieldpoetlaureate@gmail.com) by Thursday, May 30th if you are coming, we need to have a headcount!

Due to an illness, the original Hike and Write event for June 2 was rescheduled to June 30.

The hiking level is **medium** and will be about 2 miles. A docent will be leading the group, sharing history and stories. **Bring pen, paper, water and snacks. Wear appropriate clothing and comfortable walking shoes.**



Please email Suzanne at [fairfieldpoetlaureate@gmail.com](mailto:fairfieldpoetlaureate@gmail.com) by **Thursday, June 27** if you are coming. A headcount is needed.

Please let Suzanne know if you are able to come, even if you were on the list for June 2.

**The Hike & Write will take place from 9 a.m. to noon, Sunday, June 30, Lynch Canyon, 3100 Lynch Canyon Road.**

## **Just Jazz: Concert Celebration of Recovery and Restoration**

NAMI Solano kick-off our [NAMIWalks Solano 2024](#) with a Special Celebration of the Recovery and Restoration achieved through the Solano County Diversion Program. They will celebrate the clients on this journey and the various organizations who continue to develop and support the "Help not Handcuffs" model adopted to support our community.

Diversion programs for individuals with serious mental illness (SMI) play a crucial role in promoting recovery and improving health outcomes. These programs are designed to divert individuals away from the criminal justice system and towards mental health treatment and support services. The value of a Diversion Program for individuals with serious mental illness is significant, encompassing improved mental health outcomes, reduced recidivism, community integration, cost-effectiveness, individualized holistic care and public safety.

These programs align with a recovery-oriented approach, emphasizing the importance of providing comprehensive support to individuals with mental health conditions to help them lead meaningful and fulfilling lives.

NAMI Solano County has supported these important initiatives with our time, passion and community commitments. Support, Education and Advocacy is vital to Nami's Mission and the Diversion Program has been a valued resource making a positive impact in the lives of our community.

**The event will take place from 2 to 5 p.m., Saturday, July 13, at 407 Capitol Street, in downtown Vallejo.**

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

# 3rd Annual "Country Night at Rush Ranch"

★ JOIN SOLANO LAND TRUST FOR OUR ★

## COUNTRY NIGHT AT RUSH RANCH

FEATURING

**LOCKED-N-LOADED**

**MYRIAH MONET AND THE LITTLE FRIDAYS**

**SAT. JULY 20, 2024 ★ 3:30 TO 7:30 PM**

**Rush Ranch Open Space**

**3521 Grizzly Island Rd. Suisun City, CA**



Food Trucks  
★  
Local Wine & Beer  
★  
Line Dancing  
★  
Dessert Auction & Raffle  
★  
Proceeds go to  
Solano Land Trust

Tickets \$35 ★ [solanolandtrust.org/country-concert](https://solanolandtrust.org/country-concert)



Thank you to our  
generous sponsors:



Join the Solano Land Trust for a concert in the park at its 3rd Annual "Country Night at Rush Ranch" **which will take place from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m., Saturday, July 20.**

### Local Entertainment by:

- Opening Band MYRIAH MONET AND THE LITTLE FRIDAYS
- and Headliner LOCKED-N-LOADED

There will be a silent auction (including a signed Guitar by LOCKED-N-LOADED) along with food trucks by Buckhorn Grill and Di Filippo Wood Fired Pizza

### Local Artisan Vendors:

- Brazelton Farms
- OK Corral
- Rush Ranch Outfitters Shop
- Laura Ann Designs Hand-made Jewelry

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor for the evening or donate a raffle item, please reach out to [Laura@solanolandtrust.org](mailto:Laura@solanolandtrust.org)

**Day of Event:** Please make sure you dress appropriately for the weather. The event will be under the eucalyptus trees there will be

shade and sunshine. Bring your own chair, blanket, sunscreen, etc. Entrance will open at 3 p.m.

**Ticket Details:**

- \*Ticket Details: Ticket sales end 24 hours prior to the event.
- \*Tickets are transferable and nonrefundable

**Beverage Details:** Wine & Beer will be available for purchase, no outside alcohol is allowed \*No coolers allowed.

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

## Speakers Series: USS Langley



The Mare Island Historic Park Foundation will host Dr. David Winkler, renowned naval historian and retired Commander of the U.S. Navy, for a captivating discussion on his latest book, "America's First Aircraft Carrier: USS Langley," published by the Naval Institute Press.

**The event will take place at 3 p.m. on Sunday, July 28, at St. Peter's Chapel, 1181 Walnut Avenue on Mare Island.**

Dr. David Winkler brings a wealth of knowledge from his extensive career as a naval historian. With over 25 years as the staff historian at the Naval Historical Foundation and roles with the National Maritime Historical Society and Naval War College, his contributions to naval history are profound. Dr. Winkler's academic background includes a Ph.D. in history from American University and numerous publications, including "Cold War at Sea" and "Amirs, Admirals, and Desert Sailors."

Tickets are limited! Purchase your tickets today.

- Advanced Tickets: \$15
- MIHPF members receive a \$5 discount
- Tickets at the door: \$20

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

## Mare Island Founders Day 2024



Step back in time and join the Mare Island Historic Park Foundation for a blast from the past! Celebrate 170 years of Mare Island's history at the Founders Day extravaganza.

**On Sunday, September 15, from 1 to 4 p.m.**, immerse yourself in family fun, live music, silent auctions, and more. Entry is free, with paid activities for all ages. Don't miss this nostalgic celebration! Remember to bring your own chair for a comfortable day of festivities!

The festival will take place at the Admiral's Mansion, 1065 Walnut Avenue on Mare Island.

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

## Saturday in the Park



Help Play 4 All Park raise funds to kickstart their Phase Two Expansion!

Let's get the ball field, dog park and park trail built!

Tickets are now available online - Buy individual tickets or reserve a table for eight. We also have three levels of sponsorships available. You can sign up online to donate items for our raffle and silent auction.

Play4All Park was built from the ground up by the community - they rely on your generous support to make this amazing park even better!

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

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## Events I attended this week

**Saturday, June 15**, I attended four Juneteenth events. My first was Vallejo. I was asked to give a 2-minute speech. I reminded the audience that without the effort of Barbara Kondylis the lovely green area at the waterfront would be condos. I ended my thoughts with a quote from John Lewis: "You must never, ever give out. We must keep the faith because we are one people. We are brother and sister. We all live in the same house: The American house."

My second stop was in Benicia. There was music, children reading the book: **A Kids Book About Juneteenth** by Garrison Hayes, to the audience. Yes, I bought a copy.

My third stop was Suisun. I walked around shopping at the vendors. I bought four pairs of earrings and enjoyed the music.

Last event was at Allen Witt Park in the city of Fairfield. I spent time talking with friends and meeting Ron Turner's sister who rides in the Sheriff's posse. She is a wonderful horse person.

On my way home, I saw a giant plume of smoke coming from Suisun Parkway/ Abernathy Road next to the Green Valley Tractor, Inc. PLEASE CUT YOUR WEEDS. On Saturday at least 10 fire vehicles arrived to put out the fire. Water must be brought in. It appears the poor beehives did not make it. As I write this today Friday the 21, the weeds still have not been cut. Hearing the crackle of the fire consuming the weeds brought back the PTSD many of us still experience with the smoke and fire. Please be considerate. Think of others.

**Wednesday, June 19**, I went to the Benicia library to help with distributing the food. The food is available from 5 to 7 p.m. at the library every Wednesday up to Aug. 5<sup>th</sup>. This is an extra site to help families this summer. I plan to attend every Wednesday. I hope to see you.

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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

Ferry terminal along the Vallejo Waterfront. 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.