



# Solano County *California*

**SUPERVISOR MONICA BROWN NEWSLETTER**

**August 9, 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

**Draft Plan Bay Area 2050 Blueprint+ &  
Draft Transit 2050+ updates**

**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



We recently took part in a workshop put on by the Bay Area's two regional planning agencies, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG). The workshop focused on the Draft Plan Bay Area 2050+ Blueprint Strategies and the Draft Transit 2050+ Network.

The benefits outlined in the webinar were based on many assumptions by each Agency, of strategies which may or may not come to fruition. There seems to be a lot to gain by the larger, populated counties, such as San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Alameda and Contra Costa. In contrast, there are far less growth predictions or potential improvement strategies for the North Bay Area counties, such as Solano, Napa, Sonoma and Marin. The caveat however is that each county will potentially foot the bill for 35 proposed strategies for improved housing, the economy, transportation and the environment that will benefit the larger populated counties outlined above. Overall costs for the implementation of the assumed strategies are approximately \$1.38 trillion. Is that fair and equitable? Maybe if you live in San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Alameda and Contra Costa counties, but certainly not for the north Bay Area counties. You may want to study the draft proposals and related documents; the links are provided below.

### **What is the Plan Bay Area 2050+ Blueprint?**

The Blueprint is essentially a draft version of the plan, which according to the agencies must be updated every 4 years. It is a foundational framework for a future vision of the Bay Area that includes:

- **Forecasts and Assumptions** about the Bay Area's future (population, jobs, financial needs and revenues, sea level rise, etc.);
- **Strategies** for public investment and policy reform; and
- **Geographies** where future housing and/or job growth can be focused under the plan's Strategies.

The Blueprint is then analyzed through computer-generated models and simulations to measure how successful the strategies are in achieving shared goals for the future, such as housing affordability, reduced greenhouse gas emissions and much more.

### **What is the Draft Transit 2050+ Network?**

It is the result of a first-of-its-kind planning effort for a better Bay Area public transit system and outlines how to make trips faster and more frequent at all times of day and how to connect more communities by bus, train or ferry. Staff from MTC and the region's transit agencies worked closely together to identify a series of improvements and investments that could be made over the next 25 years to keep the Bay Area's transit system operating while expanding it for the future.

The Draft Transit 2050+ Network plan identifies key strategies and investments to advance these priorities. Included in the Draft Network are 6 strategies that aim to enhance the customer experience and increase ridership:

### **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

- Operate and maintain the existing transit network
- Better coordinate fares, signage and more across transit agencies
- Improve the transfer timing at key regional hubs
- Enhance security, safety and cleanliness on transit
- Enhance transit frequency, capacity and reliability
- Expand transit services throughout the region

MTC Staff recently conducted a Needs, Gaps, and Opportunities Assessment focused on near-term transit service needs, followed by an assessment of major capital and operating projects through the Project Performance Assessment, these data-driven analyses were considered in tandem with public and stakeholder feedback to shape the Draft Transit 2050+ Network.

Links to the Plan Bay Area 2050+ Blueprint and further information: <https://planbayarea.org/plan-bay-area-2050-plus-blueprint>

Links to the Draft Transit 2050+ Network: <https://planbayarea.org/news/news-story/draft-transit-2050-network-released>

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD TO OPEN LATER THIS SUMMER – LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD TO THESE AGENCIES!**

## **Pop-up Events Focus on Plan Bay Area 2050+ Blueprint, Future Transit Network**

The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) invite Bay Area residents to help shape the future of the region through 2050 by providing their input at a series of “Pop-Up” events to be held in each of the nine Bay Area’ counties.

MTC and ABAG will host 18 Plan Bay Area 2050+ pop-ups over the next six weeks, with agency staff on hand to hear the public’s thoughts on strategies to meet the Bay Area’s goals for transit recovery, housing affordability, post-pandemic economic growth, and environmental health and sustainability. Public participation is key to the development of Plan Bay Area 2050+. The next edition of the region’s long-range plan for transportation, housing, economic development and environmental resilience is scheduled for adoption by MTC and ABAG late next year.

Conversations will focus on collecting input to inform the development of the Final Blueprint and address identified Draft Blueprint challenges; determining early priorities for implementing Plan Bay Area 2050+; and discussing the new Draft Transit 2050+ Network — which identifies a series of improvements that could be

made over the next 25 years to keep the Bay Area's transit network operating while expanding it for the future.

Below is a complete list of the upcoming Plan Bay Area 2050 Pop-Up events:

- Saturday, Aug. 10: 12 to 4 pm Multicultural Festival Williamson Ranch Park, Antioch (Contra Costa County)
- Tuesday, Aug. 13: 2:30 to 6:30 pm Suisun / Fairfield Amtrak Station 177 Main Street, Suisun City (Solano County)
- Saturday, Aug. 17: 8 am to 12 pm Napa Farmers Market city of Napa Parking Lot, 1100 West Street, Napa (Napa County)
- Saturday, Aug. 17: 2 to 5 pm Battle of the Bay Baseball Game Coliseum BART Station, 7200 San Leandro Street, Oakland (Alameda County)
- Tuesday, Aug. 20: 4 to 8 pm Downtown Novato Community Farmers Market Sherman Avenue between Grant and DeLong Avenues, Novato (Marin County)
- Tuesday, Aug. 21: 2 to 6pm El Cerrito del Norte BART Station 6400 Cutting Boulevard, El Cerrito (Contra Costa County)
- Wednesday, Aug. 21: 2:30 to 6:30 pm (to be confirmed) Petaluma Transit Mall Lakeville Street between E. Washington and E. D, Petaluma (Sonoma County)
- Saturday, Aug. 24: 9 am to 1 pm Castro Valley Farmers' Market Castro Valley BART, 21013 Redwood Road, Castro Valley (Alameda County)
- Sunday Aug. 25: 2 to 5 pm Sonoma Sundays on the Plaza Sonoma Plaza, 453 First Street East, Sonoma (Sonoma County)
- Wednesday, Aug. 28: 2:30 to 6:30 pm Millbrae Transit Station 200 North Rollins Road, Millbrae (San Mateo County)
- Thursday, Aug. 29: 5:30 to 8:30 pm (to be confirmed) Downtown San Rafael Summer Market Fourth Street between A and Lootens Streets, San Rafael (Marin County)
- Saturday, Aug. 31: 11 am to 3 pm Dog Days of Summer The Crossing at East Cut, 250 Main Street, San Francisco (San Francisco Co.)
- Saturday, Aug. 31: 2 to 6 pm (to be confirmed) Downtown Shakedown Main Street and Merchant Street, Vacaville (Solano County)
- Sunday, Sept. 1: 9 am to 1 pm Mountain View Farmers' Market Caltrain Station, 600 W. Evelyn Ave., Mountain View (Santa Clara County)
- Tuesday, Sept. 3: 3 to 6 pm Soscol Gateway Transit Center 625 Burnell Street, Napa (Napa County)
- Wednesday, Sept. 4: 2 to 6 pm Balboa Park BART Station 425 Geneva Avenue, San Francisco (San Francisco Co.)
- Saturday, Sept. 7: 9 am to 1 pm (to be confirmed) Coastside Farmers' Market 225 California State Highway 1, Half Moon Bay (San Mateo County)

- Sunday, Sept. 8: 10 am to 2 pm Viva Calle SJ Booth  
location TBA, San José (Santa Clara County)

## Information this week

### **Board of Supervisors seeks community's help identifying centenarians for recognition ceremony**



A Solano County press release:

The Solano County Board of Supervisors needs the community's help in identifying centenarians living in our community for recognition at an upcoming Board of Supervisors

meeting later this fall as part of the 17<sup>th</sup> annual centenarian commemoration celebration.

For the past 16 years, the Solano County Board of Supervisors has recognized and honored centenarians by hosting a celebration for them during a Board of Supervisors meeting. The commemoration serves to capture and share the stories of some of Solano County's oldest residents, while bringing attention to some of the issues facing the senior population.

This year, as part of the commemoration event, the Board will receive a video presentation of Solano County's Centenarians, sharing stories from their amazing lives. The Board has hired a professional videographer who will come to your home (or place of your choosing) to conduct the video interview. Information collected at the interviews will also be included as part of a commemorative yearbook, distributed to all Centenarians shortly after the commemoration event. Centenarians who wish not to conduct an interview are still encouraged to submit information, including a biography and photographs to help tell their life story.

To date the Board has honored more than 225 centenarians in Solano County. Two centenarians reached super-centenarian status, including Marie West in 2011 and Reta Wills in 2021. Super-centenarians are those individuals who have reached the age of 110 years or older, which only occurs at a rate of about 1 in 7 million people.

According to the Boston University School of Medicine, 2022 New England Centenarian Study, out of a population of 336.9 million people, there were approximately 89,739 centenarians living in the United States, or a prevalence of 0.27 percent of the total population. The prevalence of centenarians living in the United States has been increasing over time and nearly doubled in the past 20 years. In addition to genetics, physical activity and social support, scientists liken our ability to prevent and treat diseases like

cancer, pneumonia and stroke to be a strong indicator this trend will likely continue.

## **CONTACTING THE COUNTY ABOUT CENTENARIANS**

If you know of a centenarian, please email [Centenarian@SolanoCounty.com](mailto:Centenarian@SolanoCounty.com) and/or call (707) 784-3004 by or before September 4, 2023. Please relay the following information over the phone or in an email to the Supervisor, including (1) name, (2) address, (3) phone number, (4) and best contact email address.

## **Odor issues**

My office has received a number of complaints about a nauseating odor coming from the waterfront sewage treatment plant in south Vallejo.

We are working with various agencies to mitigate this issue. To file an air pollution complaint with the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD), please click [here](#).

The Vallejo Sun also wrote about this issue, feel free to [read this article from last month](#).

## **Amid COVID wave, is it time to mask up?**

The summer COVID surge continues to sweep through the Bay Area, and one Bay Area County is [recommending people mask up](#).

Health officials in Contra Costa County renewed their advice to wear face masks in crowded indoor settings, particularly for those at high risk for severe illness.

Contra Costa County health officer Dr. Ori Tzvieli said the emergence of highly transmissible coronavirus variants have led to a notable increase in infections and emergency room visits throughout the summer. The FLiRT variants, named after the location of their spike protein mutations, [are approximately 20% more transmissible](#) than the JN.1 strain that drove the winter surge.

“Face masks are an effective tool to reduce the spread of the virus, particularly for those who are at risk for serious illness when there is evidence of elevated COVID-19 activity in the community,” Tzvieli said. “This is one of those times. Our health system is not seriously impacted by COVID currently, and our goal is to keep it that way.”

California’s wastewater virus levels remain at a “very high” mark, accompanied by a steady rise in emergency room visits and an increase in test positivity. Experts point to summer travel and

spending more time in air-conditioned spaces for increased COVID transmission.

Some people in the Bay Area are struggling to find COVID tests at drugstores and are [facing difficulties getting vaccinated](#) ahead of the updated fall shots. The summer swell has led to renewed attention on COVID symptoms, precautions and testing. Here's the [latest COVID guidance](#).

[Read more from Aidin Vaziri](#) about the renewed masking guidance.

## Beware of voter registration scam

Constituents across California have been receiving text messages asking them to check their registration and providing links. It's bogus.

The Contra Costa County Clerk-Recorder-Elections Office said Friday that residents should beware of the texting scam.

To continue reading, click [here](#).

## Saying goodbye to Social Security Benefits – The list of retirees losing checks year after year

The SSA provides monthly benefits to more than 70 million beneficiaries, but these **Social Security benefits** could be at risk due to three things they might be unaware of. If you receive Social Security benefits in 2025, you may receive an income increase to offset the effects of inflation. Unfortunately, these benefits are not guaranteed; according to a June 8 NPR article, an average of 70,000 Social Security beneficiaries have their benefits reduced each year. If you qualify for Social Security benefits, learn more about how you could potentially lose your monthly benefits and what to do to avoid being affected.

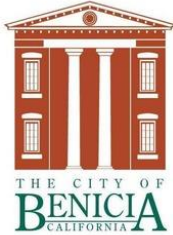
Whether you receive Social Security, Social Security Disability Insurance, [or Supplemental Security Income](#), you may lose your **monthly payments** due to certain occurrences, some of which are beyond your control. In some instances, such as increased income, it may be worth giving up your benefits to earn more money. The type of benefits you receive is very important, as we will discuss below.

To continue reading, click [here](#).

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## Public hearings

### Draft Industrial Health and Safety Ordinance



The draft Industrial Health and Safety Ordinance (IHSO) and supporting documents are now live on [www.EngageBenicia.com](http://www.EngageBenicia.com). Visit the website to read and provide feedback on the documents by **August 17**.

If you would prefer to email comments or suggestions, please send them to Della Olm at [dolm@ci.benicia.ca.us](mailto:dolm@ci.benicia.ca.us).

The IHSO aims to reduce accidental release of hazardous chemicals, improve accident prevention through community and industry participation, improve local air monitoring, and enhance community transparency.

The draft IHSO and supporting documents are the culmination of a significant public engagement process involving Benicia residents, subject matter experts, and community stakeholders. The community is invited to review the draft documents and provide any questions, comments, or suggestions you might have.

To leave a comment, click anywhere on the document and a comment box will appear. You can also view your neighbor's comments, "like" and reply. Document feedback will be analyzed and considered for incorporation into final versions.

If you have any questions, please call (707) 746-4272.

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

### Fairfield Forward 2050: Draft General Plan Update available for public review

The public review period for the Draft General Plan Update, Draft CAP, and DEIR ends on **September 9, at 5 p.m.**



Copies of the draft documents will be available for review at the City of Fairfield Community Development Department (1000 Webster Street, Second Floor, Fairfield, CA 94533), Fairfield Civic Center Library (1150 Kentucky Street, Fairfield, CA 94533), and Fairfield Cordelia Library (5050 Business Center Drive, Fairfield, CA 94533).

Please send your comments, including your name, to Jessie Hernandez at 1000 Webster Street, Second Floor, Fairfield, CA 94533 or [jhernandez@fairfield.ca.gov](mailto:jhernandez@fairfield.ca.gov) by the deadline.



Fairfield Forward 2050 consists of a General Plan Update, Climate Action Plan, and Environmental Impact Report (EIR). If adopted, the General Plan Update would guide future land use decisions in the City of Fairfield, providing a long-term vision for the future and, through its policies and implementing actions, indicating how that vision would be achieved over the next 25 years. The Climate Action Plan (CAP) would address the community's greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) and demonstrate how the City will comply with State GHG emission reduction targets.

The Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) analyzes how adopting and implementing the goals, policies, actions, and projected buildout of the Fairfield Forward 2050 project. An EIR is intended to inform decision-makers and the general public of the potential significant environmental impacts of a proposed project. The proposed project will result in unavoidable significant impacts with regards to agricultural resources, mineral resources, and transportation.

Visit [www.fairfieldforward.com](http://www.fairfieldforward.com) for more information.

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## Updates from Solano County

### Lunch with the Supervisor



On Thursday, August 15, Supervisor Monica Brown will be having lunch at Benicia's Senior Center, 1201 East 2nd Street.

Lunch with the Supervisor will take place at 11:30 a.m.

The lunch is part of the new Congregate Meals Program hosted by Innovative Health Solutions.

## Congregate meal program



Enhancing the health and well-being of Solano County Older Adults and Adults with Disabilities through nourishing meals, connection, and community engagement.

*new* & EXCITING

# CONGREGATE MEALS PROGRAM

**Come for nutritious meals, friendship, and fun!**

- Yummy lunches, completely re-imagined with YOU in mind!
- Engaging conversation and social opportunities
- Guest speakers—Help us choose the topics!

Voluntary contributions are accepted, but not required. Come as often as you like!

**Meal Reservations are Required**  
Please email us, or call this new phone number to make your lunch reservation.

**(707) 684-4376** ← Lunch Service Begins JULY 1ST, 2024  
info@innovativehealths.com

Visit our website for more information:  
innovativehealths.com/congregate-meals-program

  INNOVATIVE HEALTH SOLUTIONS 

### LOCATIONS & HOURS

**BENICIA SENIOR CENTER**  
1201 E 2nd St., Benicia  
Mon-Fri | Lunch @ 11:30 AM

**FAIRFIELD ADULT RECREATION CENTER**  
1200 Civic Center Dr., Fairfield  
Mon-Thur | Lunch @ 11:30 AM

**FLORENCE DOUGLAS CENTER**  
333 Amador, Vallejo  
Mon-Fri | Lunch @ 11:30 AM

**MCBRIDE SENIOR CENTER**  
91 Town Square, Vacaville  
Mon-Fri | Lunch @ 11:00 AM

**RIO VISTA SENIOR CENTER**  
25 Main St., Rio Vista  
Mon-Fri | Lunch @ 11:50 AM

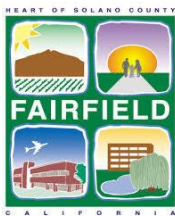
**JOSEPH NELSON COMMUNITY CENTER**  
611 Dr., Suisun  
Mon-Fri | Lunch @ 11:30 AM

**DIXON SENIOR MULTI-USE CENTER**  
201 S 5th St., Dixon | Coming Soon!

**FILIPINO COMMUNITY CENTER**  
Vallejo | Coming Soon!

To view the menu, click [here](#).

## No Online Utility Payments August 13 - 20



The Fairfield Municipal Water Utility is transitioning to a new online customer portal, MyFMU by SilverBlaze, on August 21.

During the system transition period, online payments will NOT be allowed August 13 – 20.

This includes satellite payment locations and J.A.C.K payment kiosks. Those who wish to make a payment during this time will need to pay by cash, check, or money order at the front counter. Checks may also be mailed.

This new portal 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. 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, click [here](#).

## Community Survey for city of Vallejo police chief candidate



The graphic features the City of Vallejo logo at the top left. The main title is "Vallejo Police Chief Recruitment Community Meetings Survey". Below the title, it says: "We hope you enjoyed listening and discussing with Executive Recruiters Bob Hall & Associates and City Manager, Andrew Murray about what you would like to see in Vallejo's next Police Chief." It then asks: "Share your thoughts and help shape the future of our community." and "Use the link or QR code to participate in the Vallejo Police Chief Recruitment feedback survey." The URL <https://cityofvallejo.co/3XM9PpZ> is provided. At the bottom, there is a QR code and contact information: "Questions? P: 707.648.4363 E: human.resources@cityofvallejo.net". The background of the graphic shows a waterfront scene at sunset.

## Upcoming vaccination clinic

Solano Public Health is hosting vaccination clinics for Tdap (10+ years) in Fairfield and kindergarten vaccines (4-6 years) in Vacaville. For more information, click [here](#).

- Monday, August 12 from 1 to 3 p.m. at David Weir Preparatory Academy, 1975 Pennsylvania Ave., Fairfield

## Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser for Benicia Cub Scouts



The Kiwanis Club of Benicia will host a Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser in support of Benicia Cub Scouts 7108!

**The entire Benicia community is invited to join the dinner on Saturday, August 24, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. at Saint Paul Church, located at the corner of East J and First Street.**

To ensure the success of this event, you are encouraged to spread the word and invite everyone you know.

Visit [Kiwaniis4Cubs.org](http://Kiwaniis4Cubs.org) to reserve your seat and show your support for the Benicia Cub Scouts.

Last year's Spaghetti Feed was crucial in covering the costs of reserving Camp Herms for the Cub Scouts' Father's Day Weekend Cub-O-Rama. Thanks to the community's generosity, nearly 100 young scouts enjoyed a variety of activities at no cost.

Additionally, the Cub Scouts organized a campout at Camp Herms, where over 100 participants enjoyed camping, dinner, live performances, dessert, and breakfast for just \$5.00 per person.

Your participation in this Spaghetti Fundraiser will make a significant impact on the lives of the children in our community who are part of Cub Scouts. The Scouting program provides invaluable adventure and leadership opportunities, helping young boys and girls develop skills that will shape them into future leaders and boost their confidence.

The Cub Scouts will also be creating exciting raffle baskets for the event, offering participants the chance to win fantastic prizes.

## Speaker Series: Future of Transit in Solano County

The poster is for a speaker series event. At the top, it says 'Soiano' in a large font, followed by 'SPEAKER SERIES: FUTURE OF TRANSIT IN SOLANO COUNTY' and the date 'September 5th, 2024 | 12:00PM - 1:30PM'. Below this is a photograph of a ferry boat on the water. To the right of the photo is a logo for 'KAISER PERMANENTE' with the text 'SPONSORED BY:'. At the bottom, there are three circular headshots of speakers with their names and titles listed below them.

**Soiano**  
SPEAKER SERIES:  
**FUTURE OF TRANSIT IN SOLANO COUNTY**  
September 5th, 2024 | 12:00PM - 1:30PM

SPONSORED BY:  
**KAISER PERMANENTE**

**Seamus Murphy**  
*Executive Director*  
Water Emergency  
Transportation

**Phil Pierce**  
*Senior Public Policy Manager*  
Zoox

**Matt Schrap**  
*CEO*  
Harbor Trucking  
Association

To register, and/or for more information, click [here](#).

## Upcoming in-person Healthy Solano Collaborative meeting

**The quarterly Healthy Solano Collaborative meeting will take place on Thursday, August 22 from 12 to 1:30 p.m. It will be held in person at the Partnership HealthPlan Office, Napa Solano Conference Room 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, 4665 Business Center Drive, Fairfield.**

During this meeting, there will be presentations from Solano HEALs, the Health Education Council, and a data call out for the Solano Community Health Assessment.

Light lunch will be served, and free professional headshots are available.

To view the agenda, click [here](#).

# Coastal Cleanup Day 2024



Saturday, September 21 will mark the 40th anniversary of California Coastal Cleanup Day.

The city of Benicia will celebrate Cleanup Day on Saturday, September 21, at Alvarez Ninth Street Park.

To check cleanup locations, and/or for more information, click [here](#).

## Job announcement for Environmental Program Educator

Solano Resource Conservation District is looking for program educators to join their award-winning education team for the 24-25 school year. SRCD's programming connects with over 8,000 students annually, offering a concrete, experiential introduction to their watershed and the life that depends on it.



Solano RCD is looking for educators that represent the diverse communities of Solano County and are enthusiastic about teaching!

Please see the [job description](#) or email [education@solanorcd.org](mailto:education@solanorcd.org) for more information.

## Commercial driver's license training

Napa Valley College's Career Education & Workforce Development is offering free commercial driver's license training. Join them for the 8-day pre-apprenticeship training program in transportation, distribution, and logistics as an entryway in a long-term career in commercial trucking.

You will receive CDL permit preparation, OSHA 10-hour General Industry Safety and Health certification, Forklift/COVID-19 Safety training, and hands-on forklift training.

For more information, contact Ivan Castillo Barragan at (707) 563-149- or [ivan.castillo@napavalley.edu](mailto:ivan.castillo@napavalley.edu).

## Arts Benica



The galleries will reopen on August 17 for **A Stitch in Time: Contemporary Textile & Fiber Art** exhibition. Juried by Aimee Le Duc, and sponsored in part by Happy Life Pottery, this exhibition is sure to surprise,

enlighten and inspire you with the wide range of techniques, materials, and concepts.

The opening reception will take place on Saturday, August 17, from 4 to 6 p.m., and on Family Art Day on Sunday, September 29, 1 to 3 p.m. These events are free and take place at the Commanding Officer's Quarters at 1 Commandant's Lane.

Be sure to mark your calendar and buy your tickets now for the upcoming **Champagne, Chocolate, and Blues** event, on Sunday, October 6, 4 to 6 p.m., <https://artsbenicia.org/champagne-chocolate-blues-2024/>

Arts Benicia is featuring tastings of sparkling wines and crémant from Terrie Patterson-Boisset Collection, Champagne, Cava, non-alcoholic sparklers, and delicious chocolate treats, with music by Alvon, Ambassador of the Blues.

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 p.m. 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. With your sponsorship support, we can continue to offer an engaging, diverse array of programs at low or no cost to our community. To find out more about sponsoring an Arts Benicia exhibition or program, please get in touch by emailing us at [info@artsbenicia.org](mailto:info@artsbenicia.org) or visiting <https://artsbenicia.org/sponsorship/>

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

## **August calendar for Benicia Veterans Memorial Hall**

The August calendar of events for Benicia Veterans Memorial Hall:

**August 9:** Hamburgers by American Legion Aux, Kevin and Patty

**10** Paddler's Fair 7am-5pm, B street to J street, see more in local listings

**13** Boys Under the Hood meeting, Hot dogs;

**14** AMERICAN LEGION / AUX meet at 1800 hours, Judy's Hot dogs

**16** Hamburgers by VFW

**20** House commission meeting 1830 hrs.

**21** SONS AMERICAN LEGION meet at 1900 hours; Judy's Hot dogs;

**23** Hamburgers by VFW AUX

**30** American Legion cooking hamburgers Chris

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

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## Upcoming events in Solano County

### Summer movies & food trucks



Join the city of Fairfield at Ridgeview Neighborhood Park at 4910 Silver Creek Road on August 9 for Summer Movies & Food Trucks!

Honey, I Shrunk the Kids (35-year Anniversary) begins 15 minutes after sundown. Tacos and Pupusas, Taste of Tuscany, and Kona Ice will be on site for food purchase at 6 p.m.

Bring your blankets and lawn chairs and get comfortable! First Step Basketball will be at the event with demonstrations highlighting various sports they offer through Parks & Rec and Fun on the Run will be there with games and crafts for the kids.

This event series gives neighboring communities the opportunity to engage with one another in a park right in their backyard.

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

## End of Summer Movie Night



Join the city of Benicia at City Park for a free showing of Ghostbusters: Frozen Empire. Bring pillows, blankets, or low back/low profile chairs, then sit back and enjoy an evening of family entertainment.

Food and beverages are welcome, so pack some movie snacks.  
The movie begins at dusk - come early to get a spot.

No smoking, alcohol, or pets are permitted in the park. And please,  
don't forget to clean up after the movie!

Benicia City Park is located at 1150 1st Street.

## Benicia Peddlers Fair



**BeniciaPeddlersFair.org**

The fair offers connoisseurs and new collectors alike an opportunity to purchase items that include period furniture, decorative antiques, vintage textiles and fashion, pottery, porcelain, pink and blue depression glass, paintings, prints, jewelry, clocks, watches, treen and much, much more.

**The fair will take place on Saturday, August 10 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., along First Street in downtown Benicia.**

For more information, click [here](http://BeniciaPeddlersFair.org).

## Green Waste event



**FREE RESIDENTIAL GREEN WASTE DISPOSAL EVENT**  
FOR RESIDENTS IN UNINCORPORATED SOLANO COUNTY

**SOLANO FireSafe COUNCIL**

**DON'T FORGET!**

**DATES**

**SATURDAY**  
August 3, 2024  
August 10, 2024  
8am - 12pm

**Materials that will NOT be accepted:**  
Anything over 3 inches in diameter, dirt, rock, palm fronds, oleanders, root balls, large tree trunks/stumps

**Dispose of all your landscape trimmings, including branches, grass, leaves, vines, plants, weeds, small quantities of fruit attached to branches.**

**LOCATIONS**

- Vacaville Fire Protection District, Station 67  
4135 Cantelow Rd, Vacaville, CA 95688
- Falls Elementary School  
1634 Rockville Rd, Fairfield, CA 94534
- Montezuma Fire Protection District, Station 52  
2151 Collinsville Rd, Birds Landing, CA 94585
- Suisun Fire Protection District, Station 32  
4965 Clayton Rd, Fairfield, CA 94534
- Recology Vallejo (for East Vallejo FPD)  
2021 Broadway, Vallejo, CA 94589

**QUESTIONS?**

EMAIL: Wildfire@SolanoCounty.com

## GVRD's 80th Anniversary celebration



**CELEBRATING GREATER VALLEJO RECREATION DISTRICT 80 YEARS**

**GREATER VALLEJO RECREATION DISTRICT PRESENTS:**

**GVRD'S 80TH ANNIVERSARY Celebration!**

**Sat, Aug 10, 2024**

**LIVE MUSIC | FOOD TRUCKS**

**KIDS ZONE | RETAIL VENDORS | RAFFLE**

**BLUE ROCK SPRINGS PARK, VALLEJO, CA**

**FREE EVENT & PARKING**

**FOREVERLAND**

**FOREVERLAND BAND - 3:00-5:00 PM**

**THE PURPLE ONES - 6:00-8:00 PM**

**THE PURPLE ONES**

**FREE EVENT & PARKING | (707) 648-4600 | RECREATION@GVRD.ORG**

## Art of Community art exhibit



The Artiszen gallery is collaborating with Mare Island Art Studios (MIAS) to present the Art of Community Art Exhibit!

This exhibition celebrates the diverse artistic talents within the Vallejo community and will unfold over three consecutive weekends, each offering its own unique flavor. Embracing the old school Artiszen 'Art of Community' style, they aim to bring the community together and celebrate that magical "Vallejo Art Renaissance" that began 10 years ago, while looking forward to a future filled with even more community art!

This month-long exhibit will showcase the incredible talents of local artists and celebrate our vibrant community. Here's what you can expect:

### Dates of Show/Open Gallery Times

**Weekends Aug 10- Sep 1, 2024**

**Saturdays 12 to 5 p.m. and Sundays 12 to 4 p.m.**

August 10: Opening Artist's Reception, featuring both familiar artists from Artiszen's past shows and exciting new talents as well as refreshments

August 17: Fashion Market and Upcycle Fashion Show showcasing local talent and sustainable fashions on the runway; vendors offering fun vintage/steampunk/homemade clothes, accessories, and jewelry; as well as delicious food, refreshing drinks, and a selection of beer and wine

August 24: Celebration Day, an extravaganza of live music, delectable food, and crafted cocktails.

In addition, a month-long community art project featuring a “CommuniTree” will run concurrently, inviting community members to decorate and inscribe messages on it. The goal is to transform this into a permanent and dynamic outdoor installation at the Mare Island Art Studios.

## Compost giveaway

Save the date, there will be a free compost giveaway on **Saturday, August 17 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Alvarez Ninth Street Park in the city of Benicia.**



- Bring your own containers.
- No bags please.
- For Benicia Residents only and by appointment to reduce waiting time.

To sign up, 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.

## Speaker Series: Telesforo Trinidad and Filipinos in the US Navy



**Join in for an insightful afternoon at Mare Island Historic Park Foundation's Speaker Series on Sunday, August 18 at 3 p.m. in St. Peter's Chapel.**

The distinguished speaker, Cecilia I. Gaerlan, is the proud daughter of a Bataan Death March survivor, who will present Telesforo Trinidad and Filipinos in the US Navy.

Vallejo's population is over 20% Filipino, and a significant reason for that is the United States Navy. On January 15, 1921, aboard USS San Diego (ACR-6) Fireman Second Class Telesforo Trinidad heroically rescued two shipmates following boiler explosions in two firerooms. At great risk to his life and suffering from severe burns to his face, he lived up to the military ethos to "leave no man behind." Trinidad is the only Asian American during peacetime to ever receive the Medal of Honor for heroism above and beyond the call of duty.

Ms. Cecilia I. Gaerlan is the founder and executive director of the Bataan Legacy Historical Society and was a founding member of the campaign that resulted in the naming of the first U.S. Navy ship after a Filipino American sailor, the USS Telesforo Trinidad (DDG-139). Her organization also changed the California Department of Education's 11th-grade history curriculum to include a discussion of the Philippines in World War II. She also sits on the Board of Trustees of the Hornet Sea, Air and Space Museum.

Don't miss this opportunity to learn about Telesforo Trinidad and Filipinos in the US Navy.

To purchase tickets, and/or for more information, click [here](#).

## Trash mob

The next city of Fairfield Trash Mob is scheduled on **Saturday, August 24, from 9 to 11 a.m., across from AM/PM at 105 Lopes Road.**

Contact Karen Rees at [krees@fairfield.ca.gov](mailto:krees@fairfield.ca.gov) or call (707) 428-7767 to sign up. Students can earn community service hours for school!



## Library Celebrates 60th Anniversary of Freedom Summer



The Benicia Public Library will present a special program about the 1964 Freedom Summer at **2 p.m., on Saturday, August 24 at the Benicia Public Library.**

Freedom Summer 1964 was a pivotal moment in the Civil Rights Movement, where hundreds of volunteers, primarily college students, traveled to Mississippi to register African American voters, establish Freedom Schools, and challenge the systemic racism that had long pervaded the region. This summer of activism played a crucial role in advancing civil rights and social justice in the United States.

The event will be emceed by Alice Fried of the Solano County League of Women Voters and will include former Benicia Poet Laureate Mary Susan Gast (2020-2023), who participated in Freedom Summer as a college student, will share "Gifts from Freedom Summer –1964" followed by a character interpretation of Fannie Lou Hamer. Hamer, who rose from humble beginnings in the Mississippi Delta to become one of the most important, passionate, and powerful voices of the civil and voting rights movements and a leader in the efforts for greater economic opportunities for African Americans, will be brought to life by local performer and activist Linda Youngblood Wright.

The event will also include refreshments and an opportunity for Q&A about Freedom Summer 1964 and continued efforts to protect voting rights across our country. Join in as the community remembers, reflects, and recommit to the ideals of justice, equality, and freedom for all.

The Benicia Public Library is located at 150 E L Street. For more information about the library, click [here](#).

## **Peacocks & Poems Anthology**

*"Peacocks & Poems: A fusion of poetry, art, and music"* book celebration will take place **from 2 to 4 p.m., Sunday, August 25 at Mangels Vineyards, 4529 Suisun Valley Road, Fairfield.**

This will not be a poetry reading, but rather a celebration of these expressive collaborations. Even if you are not in the anthology, the

community is invited to come and enjoy this gathering of creative voices.

## Fairfield-Suisun City Visual Arts Association

Poet Laureate Suzanne Bruce and the Fairfield-Suisun Visual Arts Association invite you to write a poem to an art piece from the exhibit

# Open Show

September 11 - October 26  
Membership Show!

Solano Town Center Gallery  
1350 Travis Blvd., #D-8, Fairfield, CA  
(inside the Solano Town Center Mall)

Art can be seen at the Gallery:  
Wednesday- Sunday  
Sept 10 11 am - 6 pm  
Or at fvaa-arts.org

Send your poem in a word doc or pdf with 42 lines or less, with picture of art above the poem by September 18 - 5 pm  
fairfieldpoetlaureate@gmail.com

Art Reception and Poetry Reading  
September 20  
5:30 - 7:30pm

## Mare Island Founders Day 2024

MARE ISLAND HISTORIC PARK FOUNDATION

# Founders Day Festival

September 15, 2024

Admiral's Mansion, 1065 Walnut Ave

Music, food, silent auction, and fun for the kids!

FREE ENTRY

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](#).



## Vest's Empowerment Walk/Stroll-A-Thon

Join VEST and the Wellness Center at Solano Community College for the first Annual 2024 Empowerment Walk/Stroll Against Domestic Violence.

This event is part of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, dedicated to raising awareness and supporting survivors of intimate partner violence.

**It will take place from 10 a.m. to noon, Saturday, October 5 at Solano Community College, 4000 Suisun Valley Road, in Fairfield.**

## Glen Cove summer shindig



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## Events I attended this week

**Tuesday night, Aug. 6,** was National Night Out. I went to the Ranch in Cordelia. Since it was 5 p.m., many people were getting home from work. Just enjoyed the shade and the music. My second stop was Glen Cove waterfront park. It is always a nice view of the water. My third stop was Constance's house in Benicia. Saw friends and enjoyed the breeze. I always make my last stop to see one of my former students from Green Valley. She is starting her 4<sup>th</sup> year teaching in the Fall. There is always a party atmosphere, which is a nice way to end the evening.

Thank you to all who put on this event year after year.

**Wednesday, Aug. 7,** was the last day to host the food bank at the Benicia library. Since school starts next week (Please slow down when driving around the schools) the California Universal Meals

program will be back to feed students at school. I want to thank the staff at the Benicia library for hosting the program and the folks from Food is Free who supplied the food and helped distribute the items. It was a pleasure to work with all of 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

Genius Girl statue in downtown Vallejo. 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.