

October 25, 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

U.S. Social Security

(800) 772-1213

Bridge toll hikes are coming



Drivers who cross the Bay Area's seven state-owned bridges—including the Carquinez and Benicia-Martinez bridges in Solano County—could see a series of annual toll hikes for bridge maintenance lasting into 2030.

These proposed increases are separate from the recent toll hikes for transportation projects that voters approved in 2018 (Regional Measure 3). One-way tolls are currently \$7 and are slated to rise to \$8 in January.

The Bay Area Toll Authority is considering increasing tolls on the region's seven state-owned bridges by 50 cents a year from 2026 through 2030. Toll increases were already set to increase to \$8 for all bridges on Jan. 1, 2025. Under the proposal, on Jan. 1, 2026, tolls would rise to \$8.50. On Jan. 1, 2027, tolls would rise to \$9 for those with FasTrak transponders, \$8.25 for those with license plate accounts, and \$10 for other drivers. On Jan. 1, 2028, tolls would rise to \$9.50 for those with FasTrak transponders, \$9.75 for those with license plate accounts, and \$10.50 for other drivers. On Jan. 1, 2029, tolls would rise to \$10 for those with FasTrak transponders, \$10.25 for those with license plate accounts, and \$11 for other drivers. On Jan. 1, 2030, tolls would rise to \$10.50 for those with FasTrak transponders, \$10.75 for those with license plate accounts, and \$11.50 for other drivers.

The Bay Area Toll Authority has borrowed \$56 million since 2021 to pay for bridge preservation. Borrowing another \$600 million over the next five years would result in having to pay back \$690 million, including interest, according to the report.

Drivers paid a toll of 40 cents on the Carquinez and Benicia-Martinez bridges in the late 1980s, or \$1.04 in today's money. That was before a series of voter-approved increases for transportation projects and authority-approved increases for seismic retrofitting.

People can weigh in on the proposed toll increases during a comment period that begins Monday, Nov. 4 and continues through 5 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 3. They can send comments to info@bayareametro.gov

The toll authority and MTC will host a public webinar from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 13 to present details about the proposed toll hike.

The two agencies will hold a public hearing at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 20 in San Francisco. Members of the public will be able to participate in person or via Zoom.

This was adopted by the Bay Area Toll Authority, so the public does not get to vote on the increases. This is the time to make your voice heard!

Sources: *Barry Eberling, Napa Valley Register*

Michael Cabanatuan, San Francisco Chronicle

Below is the proposed toll increase schedules:

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

	FasTrak	License plate account	Invoice
Jan. 1, 2025	\$8.00	\$8.00	\$8.00
Jan. 1, 2026 (with toll increase)	\$8.50	\$8.50	\$8.50
Jan. 1, 2027	\$9.00	\$9.25	\$10.00
Jan. 1, 2028	\$9.50	\$9.75	\$10.50
Jan. 1, 2029	\$10.00	\$10.25	\$11.00
Jan. 1, 2030	\$10.50	\$10.75	\$11.50

Table: Anna Buchmann / The Chronicle Source: [Bay Area Toll Authority](#)

Information this week

Ride Free to Vote 2024



We're free to vote, SolTrans is Free to Ride. Ride free all day on Tuesday, November 5 on all local and paratransit service

SolTrans, which operates in the cities of Vallejo and Benicia, will offer free rides on all local and paratransit services on **Election Day, Tuesday, November 5**, to help community members access the polls.

Exercising the right to vote is so important, that SolTrans wants to make it as easy as possible to get to the polls. Free rides will be on all local routes for all riders, and paratransit trips will be free for all ADA-eligible persons. Reservations are required for Paratransit service, please follow normal protocol to book a paratransit trip on or before November 1.

To find your Solano County polling place and check your voter status, visit [Solano County Registrar Voters](#). Riders can plan their travel early.

For help planning your trip, customers can plan a trip with SolTrans' [trip planner](#). Be ready to provide the starting address and the address of the polling place you will be traveling to.

Solano County still looking for poll workers



John Gardner, Solano County Assistant Registrar of Voters, has confirmed that the county is still accepting applications for poll workers on Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 5.

There are positions open at the Solano County Registrar of Voters on Election Day/night too.

Those interested should email pollworker@solanocounty.com or visit the [pollworker link](#) directly to apply.

John also said that ballots should be 98%+ delivered on Friday, Oct. 11 – but if someone hasn't received their ballot, they should reach out to the Solano County Registrar of Voters on Tuesday, Oct. 15 as the county administration will be closed on Monday, Oct. 14 in observance of Indigenous Peoples' Day. (closed on Monday). Those seeking more information about their ballot can send an e-mail over the weekend to elections@solanocounty.com and staff can research it.

ALSO -- John confirmed that poll workers will be given a commemorative pin for their service (see above for similar pins).

CA's political watchdog

From Calmatters:

CalMatters looked into California's campaign finance watchdog and how [lengthy investigations can rob voters of information on candidates](#). As a follow-up, data reporter [Jeremia Kimelman](#) and

Stella [explain how they collected and analyzed the data](#) for the story and the challenges they faced.

Calmatters also [added another tool to get more details](#) on cases involving local officials. [Try it out.](#)

Medicare Open Enrollment



Congressman John Garamendi is reminding persons that Medicare Open Enrollment is now underway and runs through December 7.

From Congressman Garamendi:

"In 2022, I proudly voted to pass the Inflation Reduction Act, empowering Medicare the power to negotiate lower prescription drug

prices and reduce healthcare costs for seniors.

As your voice in Congress, I am committed to fighting for universal healthcare and protecting Americans' existing healthcare rights. I'm excited to share the progress we've made to improve our community's access to healthcare.

Thanks to the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), Medicare now has the authority to negotiate lower prescription drug prices. Beginning in January, total out-of-pocket costs for prescription drugs will be capped at \$2,000 annually, ensuring seniors never pay more than that for medications covered under Medicare, including those used to treat cancer and chronic illnesses.

The IRA also caps the cost of insulin for seniors with diabetes at \$35 a month. In California's 8th District, approximately [74,000](#) individuals living with diabetes, and [20,000](#) rely on daily insulin. Medicare beneficiaries who depend on insulin are now saving an average of [\\$320 annually](#) compared to 2020 prices.

In 2010, I voted to pass the Affordable Care Act, which has helped tens of millions of Americans access affordable, high-quality health insurance. As of 2024, about [26,000](#) of my constituents are enrolled in the Affordable Care Act marketplace, a [16%](#) increase since 2020. Thanks to the IRA, the average enrollee will save [\\$2,630](#) in premiums this year. Without the IRA's enhanced subsidies, the average premium would have increased [117%](#), to an average of [\\$4,870](#).

I encourage every senior in our community to take advantage of these new, lower-cost Medicare benefits. It is more important than ever to look at your drug coverage for 2025 during Medicare Open Enrollment and make sure you are enrolled in the Medicare Part D plan that is best for you. Click the button below for more information on Medicare Open Enrollment."

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

Marine Flare collection events in November

Northern California

West Contra Costa County

Oct 16 - Nov 2, 2024, Wed - Sat 9 AM - 4 PM, at 101 Pittsburg Avenue, Richmond, CA 94801

Del Norte County and Humboldt County

November 2, 2024, from 10 AM to 2 PM at 1700 State Street, Crescent City, CA 95531

Marin County

November 3, 2024, from 8 AM to 12 PM at Clipper Yacht Harbor, 310 Harbor Dr, Sausalito, CA 94965

Alameda County

November 3, 2024, By Appointment ONLY. Sign-up for an appointment: www.stopwaste.org/marineflares

The United States Coast Guard (USGC) requires boaters to carry several unexpired visual distress signals on board, day and night. Pyrotechnic marine flares are a common type of distress signal, but they are explosive hazardous waste and contain toxic chemicals, like perchlorate, that pose human health risks. Marine flares only work once and expire 36 to 42 months after the manufacture date.

For safety and environmental reasons, it is essential to manage single-use pyrotechnic marine flares carefully. Residents should never throw flares overboard into the environment or out in household trash. However, California resident boaters do not have access to an ongoing expired marine flare disposal program, and recreational vessels generate about 174,000 pyrotechnic marine flares every year, according to the California Expired Marine Flare Working Group as estimated in 2012.

The above-mentioned events will allow the collection of expired flares.

California Invests Nearly \$4 Billion to Improve Train Corridors, Bridges, Roadways, and Walking and Bicycle Pathways



The California Transportation Commission (CTC) today allocated approximately \$3.8 billion for projects that will continue to refurbish the state's transportation infrastructure, enhance safety and create more options for the traveling public.

The projects will improve coastal rail lines, freight corridors, bridges, highway interchanges and system enhancements aimed to increase accessibility for multi-modal users.

Nearly \$3.5 billion of today's investment is funded through the landmark federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021 (IIJA). More than 75 percent of that allocation will be sent to approximately 600 local governments and regional transportation authorities to replace bridges, reduce travel times for commuters, address planet-warming pollution, improve highway and rail safety and efficiency and provide new transportation services. Another approximately \$330 million in funding comes from Senate Bill (SB) 1, the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017.

Solano County:

- \$31,130,000 allocation on SR-12 near Suisun City, from Walters Road to Lambie Road, for rehabilitating the roadway, relocating a dike, and upgrading guardrails and crash cushions
- \$1,800,000 allocation on SR-84 near Rio Vista, at Cache Slough Ferry Crossing, for upgrading ferry systems, ramps, and installing traffic counters.

Alameda County: \$40,756,000

Contra Costa County: \$42,147,000

Marin County: \$1,204,000

Santa Clara County: \$770,000

San Francisco County: \$7,952,000

San Mateo County: \$2,195,000

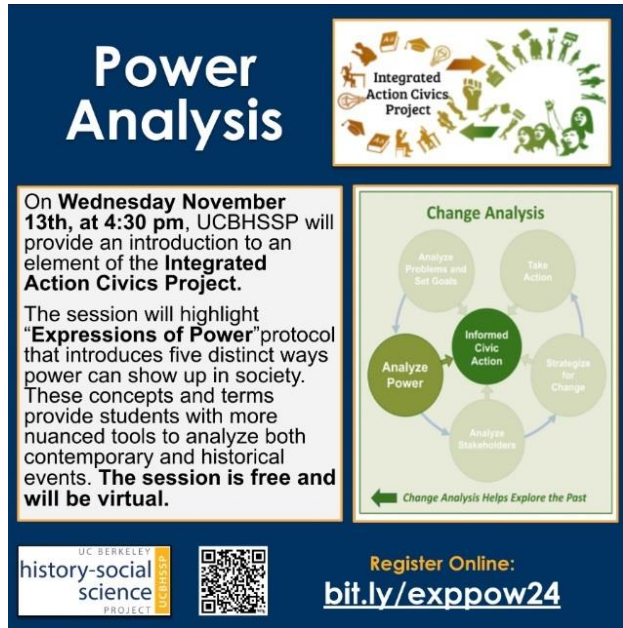
Sonoma County: \$47,783,000

Multiple Counties:

- \$8,256,000 allocation across Alameda and Contra Costa Counties for installing trash capture devices.
- \$2,375,000 allocation across Marin, Sonoma, San Mateo, and Santa Clara Counties, on SR-85, SR-87, US-101, SR-131, SR-237, I-280, and I-880 at various locations at various locations, for installing trash capture devices.

To read the full press release, click [here](#).

Power Analysis



Power Analysis

Integrated Action Civics Project

On **Wednesday November 13th, at 4:30 pm**, UCBHSSP will provide an introduction to an element of the **Integrated Action Civics Project**.

The session will highlight **"Expressions of Power"** protocol that introduces five distinct ways power can show up in society. These concepts and terms provide students with more nuanced tools to analyze both contemporary and historical events. **The session is free and will be virtual.**

Change Analysis

Analyze Problems and Set Goals → Take Action → Strategize for Change → Analyze Stakeholders → Analyze Power → Informed Civic Action → Analyze Problems and Set Goals

Change Analysis Helps Explore the Past

UC BERKELEY history-social science PROJECT

Register Online: bit.ly/exppow24

To register, click [here](https://bit.ly/exppow24).

Public hearings

Green Valley Subdivision public hearing



The Solano County Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, November 5, to consider a time extension request through October 4, 2034 to file the Small Lot Final Map for Major Subdivision Application No. S-21-01 (Wagner), which proposes to divide 27 existing parcels into 322 separate residential parcels and multiple additional parcels for right-of-way, parks and open space,

Village Green, Community Service uses, and stormwater detention areas, near the intersection of Green Valley Road and Mason Road north of the City of Fairfield within the Middle Green Valley Specific Plan area in unincorporated Solano County.

The hearing is limited to the time extension request, and because the original project approval was found to be exempt from additional environmental review under CEQA Guidelines 15168 (c) and no other changes to the project are proposed, no additional CEQA compliance is required.

Any person wishing to review this information may do so at the Solano County Department of Resource Management, Planning Division, County Administration Center, 675 Texas Street, Suite 5500, Fairfield.

The hearing will be held in the Board of Supervisors Chambers, County Administration Center, 1st Floor, 675 Texas Street, Fairfield on Tuesday, November 5, at 9 a.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard.

Staff reports are available by 5 p.m. the Friday prior to the meeting at www.solanocounty.com under Quick Clicks, Board Meetings & Agendas.

Fairfield Forward 2050: Next steps through adoption

The public comment period for Fairfield Forward 2050, consisting of a General Plan Update, Climate Action Plan, and Environmental Impact Report (EIR), closed in September 2024. The Public Drafts remain available on the Fairfield Forward 2050 project website at www.fairfieldforward.com.



Public comments will be published on the project website after Wednesday, October 9. Responses to Draft General Plan Update and Draft Climate Action Plan comments will be provided in future staff reports for the Planning Commission and City Council. Responses to Draft EIR comments will be provided in the Final EIR.

Next steps through adoption are as follows:

- **November 6, 2024:** Special meeting of the Planning Commission to review and make a recommendation to the City Council
- **December 3, 2024:** Regular City Council meeting to vote on the adoption of the Fairfield Forward 2050 project

Please contact Jessie Hernandez, Associate Planner, with any questions at (707) 428-7450 or jhernandez@fairfield.ca.gov.

Notice of Public Availability of 2024 Refinery Flare Minimization Plan Annual Updates



The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) is releasing the 2024 Flare Minimization Plan (FMP) Annual Updates for public review and comment. The five Bay Area refineries prepared these plans subject to [Regulation 12, Rule 12: Flares at Refineries](#).

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

- New prevention measures identified during investigations of flaring events that occurred during the period July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024;
- A description of the prevention measures previously taken or currently planned to reduce flare emissions at the refinery;
- Commitment to implement all new feasible prevention measures expeditiously; and
- A 30-day public comment review period

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

The deadline to submit public comments regarding the 2024 FMP Annual Updates is **November 8**.

Comments can be submitted the following ways:

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

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

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

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

Updates from around Solano County

Benicia Veterans Memorial Hall yard clean up



Do you have some free time this Saturday, October 26? Then the Benicia Veterans Memorial Hall could use your help. **The veterans will hold a clean-up event around the hall starting at 10 a.m.**

Bring your gloves and yard tools to share. The veterans are cutting tree limbs and hedges in the front yard. Some of the Scouts will be there too.

There will be no need to register, just show up.

The hall is located at 1150 1st Street in downtown Benicia.

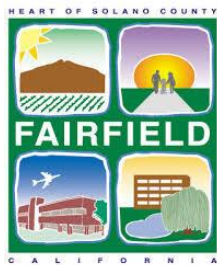
Winters Salmon Festival 2024

Solano County Water Agency, the City of Winters, Solano and Yolo Resource Conservation Districts, as well as partnering local organizations are excited to welcome back the 7th Annual Winters Salmon Festival.

Learn about how partnering organizations worked together to help spawning populations of salmon return to Putah Creek.

To see the Winters Salmon Festival 2024, click [here](#).

City of Fairfield seeks applications for the Landscape Oversight Committee



The city of Fairfield is accepting applications to fill one seat on the Landscape Oversight Committee for District 2. This Committee has a representative from each of the six districts and one at-large representative for a five-year term. The Landscape Oversight Committee application is open until the position is filled. Applicants must be residents of Fairfield. Mayor Moy will appoint the committee members with the approval of the City Council.

The Landscape Oversight Committee provides fiscal oversight and reviews the Public Works Department's landscaping management throughout the city. The committee's primary focus will be improving the effectiveness, transparency, and financial oversight of the 16 Landscaping and Lighting Maintenance Districts. The

Committee will review the annual budgets, projected expenditures, and assessment levels and provide management oversight.

Applications are available at the City Clerk's Office at Fairfield City Hall, 1000 Webster Street, 4th floor. Download the [application](#) or request one by mail or email by contacting Deputy City Clerk Esther Beavers at (707) 428-7402 or cityclerk@fairfield.ca.gov. Completed applications may be submitted via mail, email, or in person.

The city is not responsible for lost or misdirected applications.

Fairfield seeks applicants for the Community Development Block Grant Advisory Committee

The city of Fairfield is accepting applications for the CDBG Advisory Committee. Meetings are held when necessary. Five seats will be available to fill an unexpired term of January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2028. Applicants must be residents of the city of Fairfield and registered voters. The mayor will appoint the committee member with the approval of the City Council.



CDBG funding is awarded to projects that principally benefit low- and moderate-income residents. CDBG Advisory Committee applicants residing in CDBG target areas, which include downtown, low- and moderate-income census tracts, or in the Neighborhood Revitalization areas, will be given preference for appointment to the CDBG Advisory Committee.

The CDBG Advisory Committee participates in community meetings and public hearings during the development of the City's 5-Year Consolidated Plan and Annual Action plan update, reviews applications for CDBG funding, receives testimony from applicants, makes annual CDBG allocation recommendations to the City Council and reviews the annual performance and evaluation report detailing the City's progress toward accomplishing the goals set forth in the plan. The application deadline is 5:00 p.m., Friday, November 22, 2024.

Applications are available at the City Clerk's Office at Fairfield City Hall, 1000 Webster Street, 4th floor. Download the application [here](#), or request one by mail or email by contacting the Deputy City Clerk, Esther Beavers, at (707) 428-7402 or cityclerk@fairfield.ca.gov. Completed applications may be submitted via mail, email, or in person.

The city is not responsible for lost or misdirected applications.

Youth Basketball League



Time is running out to register for the Youth Basketball League! Registration closes November 1. The League is for kids in kindergarten - 8th grade. The season starts off with a clinic that takes place in early to mid-December at the City Gym. The clinic is usually held on a Saturday.

Starting in January and going through February, each team in the 1st-8th grade divisions will receive one slot of practice time (1 hour) and will play one game each week (practice is mid-week, games are on

Saturdays).

Games are played at the Benicia Community Center and the City Gym, depending on age and ability.

If you would like to coach or want more information about the program, call the Community Services Department at (707) 746-4285.

To register as a coach or to register a youth, click [here](#).

Volunteer for the Veterans Day Parade on November 11



Even beauty queens need help! You can come to their rescue by volunteering as a stager or pacer for the Veterans Day Parade on Monday, November 11! Stagers will assist with getting entries ready and pacers will help with entry timing down Texas Street.

You can sign up by clicking [here](#). This is also a great way to get community hours for school!

Dia de los Muertos - Vallejo



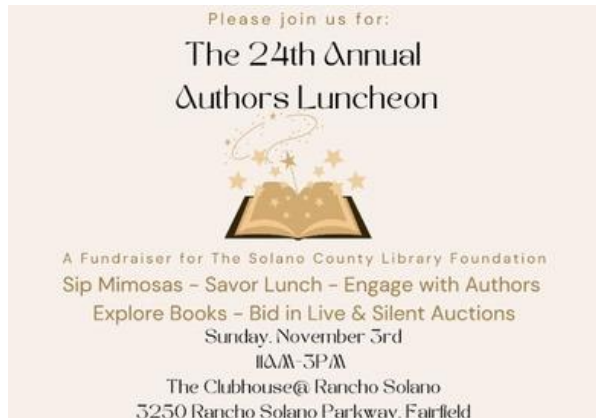
Dia de los Muertos - Fairfield



The city of Fairfield is partnering with the Sullivan Language Immersion Academy and Solano Community College to bring you the Dia de los Muertos Event on **Saturday, November 2, from 12 to 4 p.m., at the Sullivan Language Immersion Academy, 2195 Union Avenue.**

Join for a vibrant celebration where we honor and remember loved ones with colorful altars, lively music, and delicious traditional foods.

24th Annual Authors Luncheon



Join the Solano County Library Foundation for their annual Authors Luncheon, a fundraiser benefiting the Solano County Library Foundation. This event features engaging author talks, a delightful lunch, mimosas, book exploration, and exciting live and silent auctions. By supporting this event, you help fund vital programs that promote literacy and education throughout Solano County.

To purchase tickets and/or or to view the speakers list, click [here](#).

Applications are being accepted for members on the Tripartite Advisory Board

The Tripartite Advisory Board (TAB) consists of representatives from the public-sector, low-income sector, and private sector in Solano County working on addressing homelessness in the area. The TAB provides community expertise and guide the CAP Solano JPA by making recommendations on CSBG funding. The TAB also advises the CAP Solano JPA on long-term strategic planning, identifying local priorities and needs, and encouraging funding for what Solano County needs most.



The TAB meets quarterly in person, with additional meetings as needed.

If you are interested in applying, please complete an application [here](#). If you would like more information, please reach out to Megan Richards at merichards@solanocounty.com.

Applications are due October 31.

Arts Benicia

On Saturday, October 26 Arts Benicia will open *Animalia*, the last exhibition of 2024, with a public reception from 4 to 6 p.m. Juried by Isabella Kirkland, the exhibition features artists' diverse representations of the animal world.



Join for the following events:

Arts Benicia Member & Artists' Preview: Thursday, October 24, 6 - 7:00 pm

Public Opening Reception: Saturday, October 26, 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Family Art Day: Sunday, November 17, 1 - 3 pm

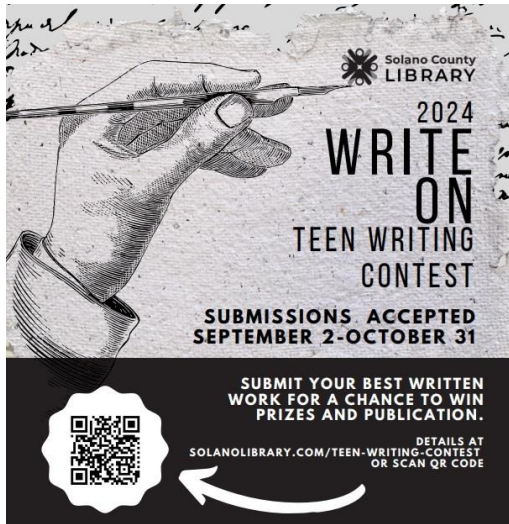
Mark your calendar for the opening of the Holiday Marketplace in the Gallery on Friday, November 1. And on Saturday, November 2, be sure to join for the next *Art Talks and Timely Conversations* presentation **Estate Planning for Artists: Ensuring Your Legacy**, from 2 to 4 pm in the Gallery. There will be a dynamic group of panelists for this important program, visit [ArtsBenicia.org/events](https://artsbenicia.org/events) for registration and tickets.

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 Benicia'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 the Arts Benicia website. For 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 Arts Benicia programs. With your sponsorship support, they can continue to offer an engaging, diverse array of programs at low or no cost to the community. To find out more about sponsoring an Arts Benicia exhibition or program, please get in touch by emailing info@artsbenicia.org or visiting <https://artsbenicia.org/sponsorship/>

Teen Writing contest



This year the library is looking for Solano County teens between the ages of 12 and 18 to submit their best short stories and poems! Those who win will each get a \$25 gift card and have their work published in the library's Write On Magazine which comes out every fall!

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

October calendar for Benicia Veterans Memorial Hall

The October calendar of events for Benicia Veterans Memorial Hall:

October 25: Hamburgers by VFW;

28 Patty and Kevin cooking Monday dinners for your enjoyment

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

Solano County jobs

Week of October 21, 2024

If you, or someone you know, are interested in learning more about any of the positions below or our other amazing career opportunities, please check out our [Job Opportunities](#).

Positions
Office Assistant II
Office Assistant III

If you have any questions, please contact recruitment@solanocounty.com.

To check out the Solano County job opportunities, click [here](#).

Upcoming events in Solano County

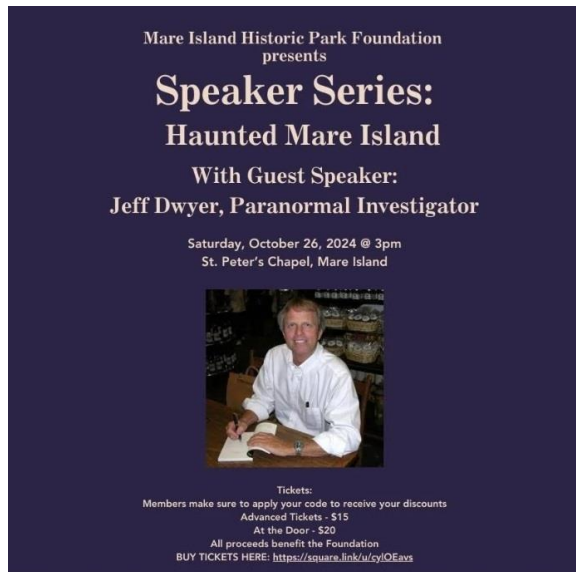
Floating Pumpkin Patch at Allan Witt

The city of Fairfield's Parks & Recreation Department will host its annual Bobbing for Pumpkins event, which will take place on **Saturday, October 26 from 12 to 3 p.m. at the Allan Witt Aquatics Complex, 1741 W Texas Street, Fairfield.**

Are you looking for a new, exciting way to find this year's pumpkin? Swim for it at a floating pumpkin patch! There will be decorations available for embellishing your pumpkin, games, and more! All persons entering the facility for this special event must pay the \$15 admission fee.

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

Speaker Series: Haunted Mare Island



Unlock the mysteries of Mare Island's paranormal past with the Mare Island Historic Park Foundation next Speaker Series event on **Saturday, October 26 at 3 p.m.** The speaker will be Jeffrey Dwyer, Ph.D., a professional paranormal investigator and acclaimed author.

Dr. Dwyer's talk, "Haunted Mare Island," delves into the eerie and intriguing phenomena that have been reported by visitors and residents alike. With a focus on haunted places within the San Francisco Bay area and several locations on Mare Island itself, Dr. Dwyer brings a wealth of expertise and firsthand experiences to the table.

Having graced over 100 radio programs and made multiple TV appearances on channels like Discovery and Travel, Dr. Dwyer is not only a seasoned investigator but also an accomplished public speaker.

Prepare to be captivated as he shares his insights, stories, and perhaps a spine-chilling tale or two from his adventures in the world of the supernatural. Don't miss this thrilling opportunity to delve into the unknown at the Mare Island Historic Park Foundation's Speaker Series!

The event will be held at St. Peter's Chapel, 1181 Walnut Avenue on Mare Island.

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

Halloween Block Party



Mare Island Company is bringing back the Mare Island Halloween Block Party for its second year on **Saturday, October 26 from 4 to 8 p.m.** This free event will be held at the historic Walnut Avenue on Mare Island. Events include:

- Over 15 food trucks to satisfy your cravings

- Our pumpkin patch where you can decorate your own spooky creations
- Plenty of opportunities for trick-or-treating
- Tesla car displays for you to check out (Halloween inspired of course)
- A selection of wine, beer, and mocktails to enjoy
- Music by DJ Turn Up to keep you dancing
- Costume contests for families, kiddos, and your furry four-legged friends

To RSVP, click [here](#).

Moonlight Masquerade



Get ready for a spellbinding night of fun and mystery at Benicia's ultimate Halloween event, 'Moonlight Masquerade!' The iconic Benicia Clock Tower comes alive with a thrilling experience for an amazing cause. Enjoy elegant, pater-passed hors d'oeuvres, sip cocktails and mingle with zombies while basking in the spooky glow of a black-lit dance floor.

Monster hits served hot by DJ Jessie Ray, authentic tarot readings, costume contest, and festival vibes from Vallejo artist Stan Clark's

Astro Botanical sculptures. Come dressed to impress and prepare for a night to remember. This is a 21+ event you don't want to miss!

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

Trunk or Treat at Solano Community College



To secure a vendor table, click [here](#).

Halloween Spooktacular Event downtown



This year's Halloween Spooktacular event promises festive fun and ghoulishly good times! Put on your costume and bring the family downtown on **Thursday, October 31 from 3 to 6 p.m.**, for an afternoon filled with candy, creativity, and community spirit.

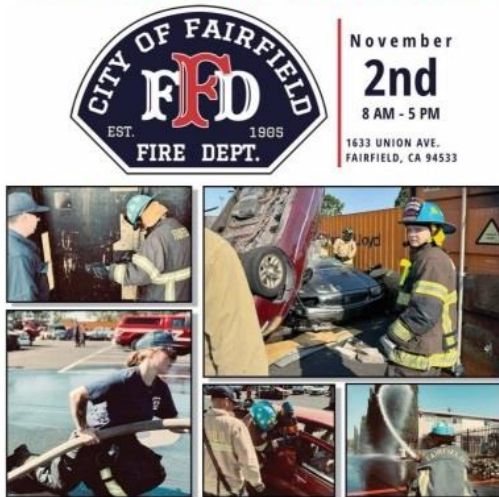
Fairfield's vibrant downtown will undergo a fun and spooky transformation where kids can enjoy:

- Trick-or-Treating – Visit participating businesses for delicious treats and delightful surprises.
- Kids' Crafts – Make spooky crafts, decorate pumpkins, and create Halloween-themed art projects.

Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity to celebrate Halloween with your family and neighbors. Check in at the corner of Jefferson and Texas Streets when you arrive!

Citizen's Youth Fire Academy

CITIZEN'S YOUTH FIRE ACADEMY



Join the city of Fairfield Fire Department for a free day of training at the Fairfield Fire Department training tower on Friday, November 2, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 1633 Union Avenue.

The event is open to high school students looking to learn more about the fire service. Breakfast and lunch will be provided.

To sign up email: sheilamc@fsusd.org. Email bdombroski@fairfield.ca.gov for more fire department related information.

Magical Glass: A Hands-on Workshop Exploring Stained Glass



This fun, interactive children's workshop will start by studying the historic Tiffany-stained glass windows followed by time to explore St. Peter's Chapel on Mare Island. Everyone will then make their own tissue paper-stained glass window!

The workshop will take place from 10 to 11:30 a.m., Saturday, November 9, at St. Peter's Chapel, 1181 Walnut Avenue, Mare Island in the city of Vallejo.

To reserve a spot, click [here](#).

Poetry Reading and Open Mic

FAIRFIELD POET LAUREATE SUZANNE BRUCE
INVITES YOU TO AN EVENT

Thankful for Poetry

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2024 | 1:00PM - 3:00PM
FAIRFIELD CIVIC CENTER LIBRARY - 1150 KENTUCKY STREET, FAIRFIELD

Jackie Berger
Jacqueline Berger's fifth book of poetry, *Left at the Ruin* (Terrapin Books) was published in August. Previous books include *The Gift That Arrives Broken*, *Autumn House*, and *Things That Burn*. She is a professor emerita at Notre Dame de Namur University, Belmont, California and has recently relocated to the Central Coast. Learn more at www.jacquelineberger.com

Lenore Weiss
Lenore serves as the Associate Creative Nonfiction (CNF) Editor for the *Mud Season Review* and lives in Oakland, California. Her environmental novel *Pulp into Paper* was published this year on Earth Day as was a new poetry collection, *Video Game Painters*. Learn more at www.lenoreweiss.com

OPEN MIC TO FOLLOW

WWW.FAIRFIELD.CA.GOV/POET

Solano County LIBRARY

Open Mare Island Self-Guided Tour



Join the Mare Island Historic Park Foundation (MIHPF) and Mare Island Co. for Open Mare Island which features self-guided walking tours of historic Mare Island.

A SolTrans shuttle bus will be available to help you move from docent-staffed stations, including St. Peter's Chapel, the Old Hospital, and the Naval Cemetery. This is a free event!

The open house will take place from noon to 2 p.m., Sunday, November 17, at 1015 Walnut Avenue on Mare Island in the city of Vallejo.

To reserve a spot, click [here](#).

Events I attended this week

Wednesday, October 23, I was invited to attend Congressman John Garamendi's 2024 Women of the Year Awards held at the Benicia Veteran's Hall.

The women are nominated by their peers. They are being recognized for their roles in improving the lives of everyone in their communities.

This year's ceremony was extra special to me, as there was great news by Patti Garamendi that the Congressman's health is improving.

Congratulations to the Class of 2024!

Looking for a job? Consider these links

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

[STATE OF CALIFORNIA](#)
[CITY OF BENICIA](#)
[CITY OF FAIRFIELD](#)
[CITY OF VALLEJO](#)
[SOLANO COMMUNITY COLLEGE](#)
[BENICIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT](#)
[FAIRFIELD-SUISUN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT](#)
[VALLEJO SCHOOL DISTRICT](#)
[POST OFFICE](#)
[GREATER VALLEJO RECREATION DISTRICT](#)
[YOUTH JOBS CORPS](#)
[CALIFORNIA CONSERVATION CORPS](#)
[SOLANO RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT](#)
[FAIRFIELD-SUISUN SEWER DISTRICT](#)

Newsletter photo

A golden eagle flying around the home of Marvin and Jeri of Hermits Roost, CA.



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.