

**SUPERVISOR MONICA BROWN NEWSLETTER**

**November 15, 2024**



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**Information this week**

**Traffic advisory**



**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

Caltrans has scheduled various nighttime lane closures on Eastbound I-80 between Air Base Parkway in Fairfield to Mason Street in Vacaville.

**Crews will be painting permanent lane lines on the highway pavement. The work is scheduled starting Friday, November 15 at 10 p.m. until 8 a.m. the following morning.**

**Following Friday, November 15, additional nights of work are scheduled Monday through Thursday from 9 p.m. until 5 a.m., Fridays 10 p.m. until 8 a.m. and Saturdays 10 p.m. until 9 a.m. the following mornings.**

All work is weather dependent and subject to change. The work is part of the I-80 Solano Express Lanes Project. At least one traffic lane on eastbound I-80 will remain open at all times. Eastbound I-80 lane line painting will be completed by Thanksgiving weekend.

The I-80 Express Lanes project is on-going and is estimated to be completed by Fall 2025. Caltrans urges drivers to follow all construction zone speed limits and to drive with extreme caution as work continues.

To ensure safety, please follow these Caltrans guidelines when traveling:

- **Prepare Your Vehicle:** Make sure brakes, windshield wipers, defroster, heater, and exhaust systems are in good working order. Proper maintenance is essential for safe driving in wet and low-visibility conditions.
- **Check Your Tires:** Verify tire pressure and tread depth for optimal traction on wet surfaces.
- **Use Headlights in Rain:** California law requires headlights during rain to improve visibility for yourself and other drivers.
- **Slow Down and Increase Following Distance:** Wet roads increase stopping distances. Give yourself extra space to stop safely and reduce your speed as conditions dictate.
- **Avoid Sudden Lane Changes:** Limited visibility can make lane markers difficult to see. Keep steady in your lane and avoid abrupt moves to maintain control on slick road.

For up-to-date information on road conditions, including construction zones and weather advisories, please use the Caltrans QuickMap by clicking [here](#).

## **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

## 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.

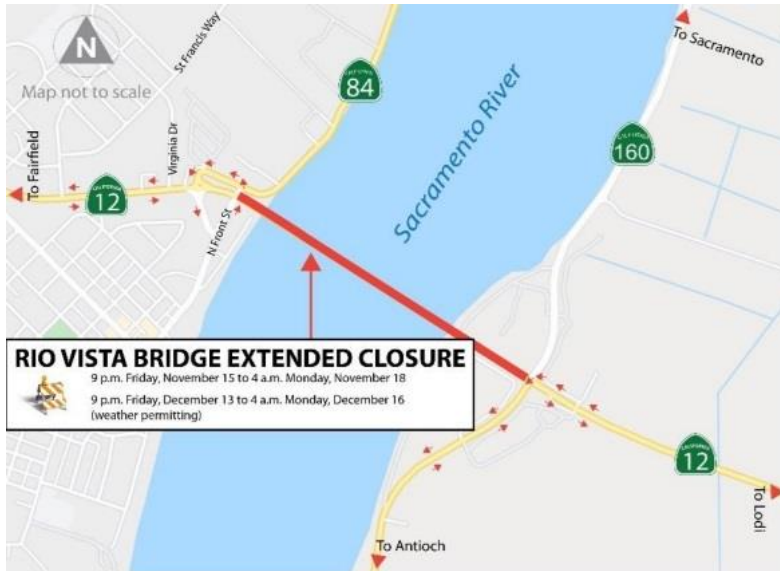
The IRA also caps the cost of insulin for seniors with diabetes at \$35 a month. In California's 8th District, approximately [74,000](#) individuals living with diabetes, and [20,000](#) rely on daily insulin. Medicare beneficiaries who depend on insulin are now saving an average of [\\$320 annually](#)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

## SR-12 Rio Vista Bridge Scheduled for Second 55-Hour closure this weekend



Caltrans is advising motorists of a scheduled closure of the Rio Vista Bridge (Helen Madere Memorial Bridge) on State Route 12 (SR-12) for ongoing repairs.

This \$11.24 million project funded through the Bridge Rehabilitation and Replacement Program will require multiple 55-hour weekend closures for the work to be completed because of the limited width of the bridge to allow for heavy equipment access.

The project is making necessary mechanical repairs and rehabilitating the roadway surface by placing a polyester concrete overlay on the bridge deck. Work also includes replacing bridge rails, repaving bridge approach ramps, and constructing Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant ramps.

During the weekend closure from November 15-18, the contractor will be placing polyester concrete on the bridge deck. Potential strong odors from the overlay are a normal part of the process of the material being used to improve rideability for the bridge deck. These upgrades will improve safety and comply with ADA accessibility requirements to expand access for pedestrians and bicyclists.

The 55-hour weekend bridge closure schedule will lessen total project workdays and help avoid the wait times during peak commute hours during the work week. Motorists could encounter additional travel times of up to two hours using the described detours from Rio Vista to Sacramento County on SR-12 across the Sacramento River.

Please allow for extra travel time to reach your destination, especially for scheduled appointments and work schedules. All work on road construction projects will be suspended on weekends and holidays.

**CLOSURE DATES:**

- **9 p.m. Friday, November 15 to 4 a.m. Monday, November 18**
- **9 p.m. Friday, December 13 to 4 a.m. Monday, December 16**

For up-to-date information on road conditions, including construction zones and weather advisories, please use the Caltrans QuickMap by clicking [here](#).

## **Highway 160 Isleton Bridge Scheduled for Daily Closures**

Caltrans is alerting motorists that beginning next week the Isleton bridge on State Route 160 near the city of Isleton will be closed during daytime hours into the early evening.

The bridge is scheduled for ongoing parts replacements, mechanical and electrical control system upgrades to ensure the safety of the structure.

**BRIDGE WORK SCHEDULE:**

- **November 19, 2024, to June 30, 2025, daily Monday through Saturday from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.**
- **No work scheduled from November 27 - December 1 due to the Thanksgiving holiday.**

**DETOUR:**

- River Road and the Walnut Grove Bridge will be the alternate route.
- No two bridges will be closed at the same time.

Advance signage has been placed at the bridge. Caltrans is advising motorists to use this detour or use Interstate 5 as an alternate route. Motorists should plan accordingly and expect additional travel time.

Current truck restrictions will apply. California legal trucks having a kingpin-to-rear-axle of more than 30 feet are not recommended on State Route 160.

This work is needed to keep the bridge operational and safe for the traveling public. These Delta bridges were originally constructed in the early 1920s and then reconstructed or refurbished in the early 1950s.

For up-to-date information on road conditions, including construction zones and weather advisories, please use the Caltrans QuickMap by clicking [here](#).

## Recording Available: Building Appliance Rules Public Learning Session



The Air District hosted a public learning session on Tuesday, October 22, from 6 PM to 7:30 PM virtually via Zoom regarding adopted amendments to [Rule 9-4: Nitrogen Oxides from Fan Type Residential Central Furnaces](#) and [Rule 9-6: Nitrogen Oxides Emissions from Natural](#)

[Gas-Fired Boilers and Water Heaters](#) (“Building Appliance Rules”). Members of the public attended to learn and ask questions about the Building Appliance Rules.

We are pleased to announce that a recording of this meeting is now available for those who could not attend. You can access the recording via this link:

[Meeting Recording - October 22 Session](#)

### Background

On March 15, 2023, the Air District adopted amendments to [Rule 9-4: Nitrogen Oxides from Fan Type Residential Central Furnaces](#) and [Rule 9-6: Nitrogen Oxides Emissions from Natural Gas-Fired Boilers and Water Heaters](#) that govern point of sale emission standards for small, typically residential and commercial, water and space heating systems. Space and water-heating appliances generate a large portion of nitrogen oxide (NOx) emissions from sources in the Bay Area. NOx is formed during natural gas combustion when ambient nitrogen and oxygen combine at high temperatures. The amendments will substantially reduce NOx emissions from these appliances and therefore secondary particulate matter formation. The implementation of these rule amendments will be a multiyear effort, spanning from 2027 to 2031.

As part of the amendments, the Air District convened the Implementation Working Group (IWG) between May 2023 through August 2024. The IWG was comprised of over 40 invited stakeholders representing a variety of relevant stakeholder segments. The purpose of the IWG was to provide input to Air District staff’s periodic reports to the Board of Directors on the implementation of the Building Appliances Rules and to provide the Air District staff with insights on the technical readiness of the market and equitable transition to compliant appliances, so as to not unduly burden any income class or professional group. As such, the IWG provided a forum for invited members to discuss

technical and equity aspects of implementing the Building Appliances Rules.

## Public hearings

### Economic Development Strategic Plan: Vallejo's Economy to 2030



Come hear about the vision and goals that will guide Vallejo's growth and prosperity over the next decade. This community-based effort is supported by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

### 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](http://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:

- **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](mailto:jhernandez@fairfield.ca.gov).

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## Updates from around Solano County

### Solano County Board of Supervisors appoints Emery Cowan as H&SS Director



Great news from the Solano County Board of Supervisors! A Solano County press release:

After an extensive nationwide recruitment, the Solano County Board of Supervisors has appointed Emery Cowan as the new director of the Health and Social Services Department. Starting November 16, she will assume leadership over the County's largest and most comprehensive service agency.

Ms. Cowan, who started work with Solano County Health and Social Services (H&SS) in 2017, has served as the Administrator for Adult Services, Deputy Director of Behavioral Health, and most recently the Chief Deputy Behavioral Health Director. She currently oversees the County Mental Health Plan and Drug Medi-Cal waiver program, housing and homelessness programs, CalAIM, Prop 1, the CARE Act, and more than 60 contracts for services in the behavioral and mental health service areas.

"We're excited to have appointed Ms. Cowan to the top leadership role of the County's largest and most complex department," says Mitch Mashburn, District 5 Supervisor and Chair of the Board of Supervisors. "With her leadership, vision and experience managing healthcare focused programs and services, she has a proven ability to make a positive impact on the health and wellness of everyone in Solano County."

As the newly appointed H&SS Director, Ms. Cowan will provide strategic direction and support across all the health and social service program areas the department provides, including behavioral health services, social services, public health, medical services, and administrative services. She will also be responsible



for the oversight of a \$515 million-dollar annual operating budget and more than 1,400 employees working throughout Solano County.

## **ABOUT EMERY COWAN**

As the daughter of Cuban refugees, Emery Cowan is the first Latina appointed as Director of the Solano County H&SS Department. With more than 24 years in leadership positions across the healthcare field, including mental health, substance use and community-based services, she is deeply committed to improving access to care for all, while continuing to promote social justice, recovery, inclusion, and resilience across the healthcare industry.

Ms. Cowan holds a bachelor's degree in psychology and a master's degree in counseling psychology. She is licensed as a Professional Clinical Counselor (LPCC) in California and a Mental Health Counselor in Florida. Ms. Cowan is also the President-Elect of the California Association of LPCCs, where she will take a leadership role in advocating for and supporting licensed professional clinical counselors, including newly licensed professionals in the field.

When she's not at work, she is a proud mother of two creative and smart little girls, who, with her supportive husband, enjoy coming up with new road trips to explore the west coast. While she loves calling California her home, she admits she misses the warm waters of the Caribbean Ocean.

## **Do You Support Daylight Savings Time?**

Do You Support Daylight Savings Time? Congressman John Garamendi wants to know your thoughts on Daylight Savings Time.



Our clocks recently jumped backwards an hour as part of the twice-annual time change that affects most, but not all, Americans. Every November, our clocks rewind by one hour to maximize daylight as winter approaches. November 3rd marked the end of the Daylight Saving Time period that began in March.

Congress first established a standardized system for changing the clocks with the seasons under the Uniform Time Act of 1966 ([P.L.89-387](#)), but this practice remains controversial today.

As you may know, the "Sunshine Protection Act" ([H.R.1279](#)) is a bipartisan bill that would make Daylight Saving Time the new permanent standard time. As my Congressional colleagues and I consider this bill, I want to know your thoughts on this issue.

What do you think about Daylight Saving Time? To answer, click [here](#).

## **Solano Public Health receives grant funding for car seat safety education program**



A Solano County press release:

The Solano Department of Health and Social Services, Public Health division, is pleased to announce receipt of a \$145,310 grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) to expand its life saving child passenger safety efforts in Solano County.

“The OTS grant will help strengthen the great work that we’re currently doing in helping Solano children be safe while being transported in a vehicle,” said Tracy Nachand, Supervising Health Education Specialist with Solano Public Health. “The program will so raise public awareness of the dangers about children being left in hot cars unattended, among other safety concerns.”

The increased funding from the OTS will support vital program services offered by the Solano Car Seat Connection Program, which works closely with parents and caregivers on teaching proper car seat use and safe installation. Grant funds will support car seat safety classes, individual car seat inspection appointments and community-wide car seat checkup events.

According to the CDC in 2022, 599 children 12 years and younger were killed in motor vehicle crashes in the United States, a 6 percent decrease from 2021, but remains far too high. Of the children who were killed in a crash, more than one in three (35 percent) were found unrestrained in the vehicle. The National Highway Traffic and Safety Administration has found that the proper use of car seats reduces the risk of fatal injury for infants by 71 percent and 54 percent for toddlers, respectively. California law requires that children need to utilize a child safety seat or booster until they are at least eight years old, or they are four feet nine inches tall.

Since 1998, more than 960 children have died from vehicular heatstroke—an average of 37 per year—and 53 percent of incidents involved a parent or caregiver forgetting the child was in the vehicle, according to the National Safety Council. Even on mild or cloudy days, temperatures inside vehicles can reach life-threatening levels. Leaving windows slightly open is not enough to prevent life threatening heatstroke. Children should never be left unattended or be able to get inside a vehicle.

The Solano Car Seat Connection Program currently offers virtual car seat safety classes in both live and self-guided formats in English and in Spanish. The classes educate parents and

caregivers on current car seat safety laws in California, such as keeping children under the age of two in a rear-facing car seat unless they weigh 40 pounds or more or are 40 inches or taller in height.

The Solano Car Seat Connection Program also supports the Solano community with individualized car seat inspection appointments conducted by Certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians. All the program's services are provided in both English and Spanish.

For information on the Solano Car Seat Connection, please visit [www.vibesolano.com](http://www.vibesolano.com) and [www.vibesolano.com/classes](http://www.vibesolano.com/classes).

## City of Fairfield seeks applications for the Golf Advisory Board



The city of Fairfield is accepting applications to fill two expired seats on the Golf Advisory Board with a term of January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2028. Mayor Moy will appoint the board members with the approval of the City Council.

The Golf Advisory Board is a seven-member board that advises on promoting and developing golf for all ages in the community at Paradise Valley and Rancho Solano golf courses. The board is scheduled to meet quarterly on the first Thursday of February, May, August, and November at 4 p.m. at the Dunnell Nature Center. All applicants must be residents of the city of Fairfield and active participants at Rancho Solano Golf Course and/or Paradise Valley Golf Course. **The application deadline is 5 p.m., Thursday, December 19.**

Applications are available at the City Clerk's Office at Fairfield City Hall, 1000 Webster Street, 4<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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.

# Openings on Boards and Commissions in the city of Benicia



Looking to get involved in local government?

The city of Benicia is seeking volunteers to serve on its Boards and Commissions. Board and Commission Members may advise on important policy matters, provide recommendations, and help improve city services.

We will have the following number of vacancies and terms available for Benicia residents, that will start in January/February of 2025.

NEW - Community Services Commission:

- 7 vacancies total
- 4 vacancies with terms ending July 31, 2028
- 3 vacancies with terms ending July 31, 2026

NEW - Local Tax Oversight Board

- 4 vacancies total:
- 2 vacancies with terms ending July 31, 2028
- 2 vacancies with terms ending July 31, 2026

Arts and Culture Commission:

- 2 vacancies total
- 1 vacancy with term ending July 31, 2028
- 1 vacancy with term ending July 31, 2025

Community Sustainability Commission:

- 2 vacancies total
- 1 vacancy with term ending July 31, 2027
- 1 vacancy with term ending July 31, 2026

Historic Preservation Review Commission

- 3 vacancies total
- 1 vacancy with term ending July 31, 2025
- 2 vacancies with terms ending July 31, 2028

Applications are due by Monday, November 11, 2024, at 11:59 p.m.

Interviews will be conducted on Monday November 18, 2024, from 5pm-8:30pm, with an alternative date of Monday, November 25, 2024, from 5 to 8:30 p.m.

To apply, click [here](#).

Contact Kristine Peterson at [kpeterson@ci.benicia.ca.us](mailto:kpeterson@ci.benicia.ca.us) or (707) 746-4228 with any questions or to obtain an application.

## Juried Art Show Poetry Reading - December 7



Fairfield Poet Laureate, Suzanne Bruce, will host two more events before her tenure ends. For the first event, she is partnering with the Fairfield-Suisun City Visual Arts Association (FSVAA) to invite poets to write poems to art pieces selected for the 61st Annual Nor-Cal Regional Juried Art Show.

Participants can visit the gallery in person at Solano Town Center or online at [www.fvaa-arts.org](http://www.fvaa-arts.org). **The exhibit will run from November 15, 2024, through January 4, 2025, and the Poetry Reading will be held on Saturday, December 7.**

## Culture Celebrations - December 21, 2024



The second event is a Culture Celebrations Poetry Open Mic on **Saturday, December 21, 1 to 3 p.m., Fairfield Cordelia Library**. Attendees will also be able to meet the next Fairfield Poet Laureate, Michael J. Wyly, who begins his term in January 2025.

For more information on both of these events, click [here](#).

## City of Vacaville Seeks Community Feedback on its Public Engagement Practices

The city of Vacaville is analyzing its current outreach methods to identify best practices and areas of improvement. The city invites the community to participate in this process and share feedback in a [short survey](#) by **Sunday, November 17**.



The survey aims to gain insight into how the community currently receives information from the city.

“One of the goals in the City of Vacaville Strategic Plan is to promote community engagement and increase equity and inclusion. Analyzing our current practices is an important step in developing a comprehensive engagement plan, and we want to make sure your voice is heard early on in the process,” said Assistant City Manager George Anne Meggers-Smith. “Your input is essential in helping Vacaville promote community dialogue and engagement. We encourage all of you to participate in this survey so we can make sure we are doing our part to best serve you.”

The short 3-minute survey consists of a series of brief questions designed to gather feedback on the outreach channels the community prefers and how informed they feel about things going on in Vacaville. The feedback received through this survey will help shape the goals, objectives and strategies in the future [Community Engagement Strategy and Communications Plan](#).

As part of this ongoing effort to enhance the City’s communications, the city plans to conduct additional surveys in the future to gather more targeted feedback.

The survey is available now at [CityofVacaville.gov/Survey](http://CityofVacaville.gov/Survey).

For any questions, contact Joanna Leal, Public Relations Manager, [Joanna.Leal@CityofVacaville.com](mailto:Joanna.Leal@CityofVacaville.com)

## Mare Island Causeway repairs



### BRIDGE LIFT REPAIRS

The City of Vallejo will be repairing a lift issue on Mare Island Bridge starting the week of November 18th. This work will affect vehicular traffic as most of the effort will be in adjusting the lift.

The contractor will start work at 9am to allow for most of the morning traffic to drive through without much delay. Work on the bridge will take place from 9 am-5 pm.

Please plan ahead and we hope to have repairs finished within four days. Thank you for your patience as we improve Mare Island Bridge!

## Benicia Public Library Winter Coat Drive



As we continue to enjoy the sun and warm temperatures, it's hard to think that cold and wet weather is just around the corner. We all know that winter is coming! This year the Benicia Public Library will begin its annual coat drive early so that winterwear can be distributed to those in need before they need it.

The drive began quietly last week and now is in full swing. Please bring clean, gently used or new coats, outerwear, and other winter gear to the **library (150 E L Street) during open hours any time between now and December 18.**

Donated items are picked up and redistributed through our partnership with Catholic Charities.

# Winter Shelter at BayNorth Church of Christ



BayNorth Church of Christ will be providing a winter shelter for city of Fairfield residents who are unhoused.

The winter shelter will operate each night **through March 31, 2025**. **The intake process will be from 6:30 to 8 pm and the shelter exit time will be 6 am each morning. Those needing shelter are allowed to line up starting at 6 pm.**

The winter shelter will be filled on a first come, first served basis each night with a limited capacity of ten. Individuals needing shelter must be able to independently manage activities of daily living and agree to comply with program guidelines. There will be limited space for personal belongings.

**The winter shelter address is 2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, and the phone number is (707) 260-9794.**

**FAST will provide free bus rides to the winter shelter on FAST route 3 from 6 to 7 pm Monday-Friday.** Those who need a ride will need to board the bus at the Fairfield Transportation Center and let the driver know they are going to the winter shelter. Exit the bus at Solano Town Center, make a left on Pennsylvania Ave. and walk one block to Bay North Church of Christ.



## International Games Month

**INTERNATIONAL GAMES MONTH**  
at the Fairfield Civic Center Library

**GAMING TIME FOR TEENS**  
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15 • 3:00 - 5:00 PM

**VIDEO GAMING AFTERNOON  
FOR KIDS 10 AND UNDER**  
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20 • 3:00 - 5:00 PM

**ALL ABILITIES BOARD GAME DAY**  
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21 • 1:00 - 3:30 PM

**DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS MEET AND GREET**  
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7 • 1:30 - 4:30 PM

**BOARD GAME SWAP**  
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7  
1:30 - 3:30 PM FOR THOSE WITH  
VOUCHERS  
3:30 - 4:30 PM WITHOUT VOUCHERS

VISIT [SOLANOLIBRARY.COM/EVENTS](http://SOLANOLIBRARY.COM/EVENTS) FOR MORE INFORMATION.

 **Solano County  
LIBRARY** Web: [solanolibrary.com](http://solanolibrary.com)  
Phone: 1-866-572-7587  
f @ solanolibrary

## Humane Society of the North Bay



Many of you will have heard that the annual Meyer cookware sale starts today.

The company has been a great supporter of Humane Society of the North Bay in previous sales with a generous match of up to \$15,000 for donations made to the shelter during the sale.

This year, however, they're partnering with another charity, a scholarship for chefs, which is more in line with the Meyer company mission.

The HSNB is asking their supporters, who would have normally supported us through the Meyer sale, to instead send your support to the Giving Tuesday Campaign.

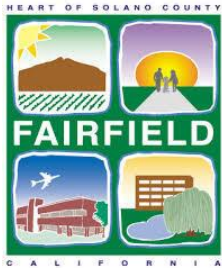
Please donate online, mail a check, or bring cash or checks directly to the shelter. No contribution is too small! Please indicate you are making your donation to support the HSNB Giving Tuesday Campaign.

The address is 1121 Sonoma Blvd., Vallejo, CA, 94590, and online donations can be made through this link:

<https://donatenow.networkforgood.org/hsnb>

The HSNB is also seeking matching donors for their Giving Tuesday Campaign. If anyone would like to match a donation of any amount, please let the HSNB know by emailing [donate@hsnb.org](mailto:donate@hsnb.org)

## City of Fairfield unveils Public Works Strategic Plan



The city of Fairfield is excited to announce the completion of its first-ever Public Works Strategic Plan, a comprehensive blueprint designed to improve infrastructure, enhance services, and promote sustainability for residents and businesses. This plan, created through a year-long effort that included public input, stakeholder collaboration, and analysis of city needs, provides a strategic direction for the Public Works Department for the next five

years.

"Our community deserves a resilient, efficient, and forward-thinking Public Works strategy," said David Gassaway, City Manager. "This strategic plan not only identifies the City's immediate priorities but also establishes a long-term roadmap for infrastructure improvements that support a growing and sustainable Fairfield."

Key objectives of the Public Works Strategic Plan include: Enhanced Infrastructure, Sustainable Practices, Community Engagement, Innovation and Efficiency, and more.

The city invites the public to review the Public Works Strategic Plan at [www.fairfield.ca.gov/strategic](http://www.fairfield.ca.gov/strategic).

# Solano County jobs

**Week of November 11, 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
Collections Officer
College Intern-Graduate Level (Juris Doctorate - J.D. only) (Law Clerk)
Communications Technician (Senior)
Librarian

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

## Arts Benicia

Arts Benicia will host the following event later this month:



**Family Art Day: Sunday, November 17, 1 to 3 p.m.**

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](mailto:info@artsbenicia.org) or visiting <https://artsbenicia.org/sponsorship/>

## November calendar for Benicia Veterans Memorial Hall



The November calendar of events for Benicia Veterans Memorial Hall:

**November 15:** Hamburgers by Sons of The American Legion

19 House commission meeting  
1830 hrs

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

22 Hamburgers by American Legion Aux, Kevin and Patty

28 **Thanksgiving Day**

29 Hamburgers by VFW

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

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## Upcoming events in Solano County Benicia Historic City cemetery clean up



**CEMETERY CLEAN-UP**

Benicians adopting Benicia

Join us for a day of community camaraderie and environmental stewardship at our Benicia Historic City Cemetery Clean-Up!

ALL VOLUNTEERS WELCOME

**SATURDAY  
NOVEMBER  
16TH**  
8am - 2:00pm  
AT CITY CEMETERY  
150 Riverhill Dr  
Benicia, CA 94510

Scan QR code for more information and to SIGN UP!

OR Contact:  
Kristine Passalacqua (707) 373-4329

## Puzzle Exchange



Love puzzles? Have extras you've already completed? Join the Solano County Library for the Puzzle Exchange on **Saturday, November 16 - ALL DAY** at the **Vallejo Springstowne Library**, located at **1003 Oakwood Avenue**. The library will be open from **9 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

How to Participate: bring in a puzzle you no longer need (no missing pieces/parts or stains/damage) and exchange it for another puzzle that someone else brought! Take as many puzzles as you bring!

## Dog daze



The city of Fairfield Parks & Recreation Department will host Dog Daze at the Cordelia Dog Park on **Saturday, November 16, from 10 a.m. until noon**. The park is located at **1300 Gold Hill Road**.

Dogs in sweaters. Need we say more! Put your pup's best fall wear on and come out to the park for our Fall Sweater Contest! Dogs and humans are encouraged to dress festive as we stay warm in our season's best sweaters! Categories include most festive, funniest, and most 'twinningest' sweaters. Treats will be available for all furry friends in attendance.

This event is free and open to the public (weather permitting). For more information, visit our website at [www.fairfield.ca.gov/events](http://www.fairfield.ca.gov/events).

## Solano County Future Fair



### *Crafting a Vision for Solano*

Join us for an interactive community event to learn, share feedback, and make your voice heard on a collective vision for Solano County!

FREE ✦ FOOD ✦ DRINKS ✦ MUSIC  
✦ COMMUNITY ✦ WORKSHOPS

**SATURDAY,  
NOVEMBER 16  
3 - 5 P.M.**

RIVERBANK LLC  
332 GEORGIA STREET  
VALLEJO, CA 94590



Scan to join



## 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](#).

## Holiday fundraiser

Please join us for our  
**HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE**  
*A non-profit fundraiser*  
at the Benicia Veteran's Memorial Hall  
**Saturday, November 23rd** 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
HOLIDAY DECOR, ART, APPAREL,  
CRAFTS, TOYS, TREATS AND MORE!  
There's something special about a  
**CRAFT FAIR**  
Vendor Space \$50.00  
Contact Kevin at 925-457-2915  
Benicia Veteran's Memorial Hall  
1150 First Street, Benicia, CA 94510

## Wreath making workshop for teens

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

### HOLIDAY WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP FOR TEENS



Learn how to create a beautiful holiday wreath using unique materials.

Registration required.

Register online starting November 1st through the library website.

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3RD**

**4:00-5:30PM**

**FAIRFIELD CIVIC CENTER LIBRARY**

For more information, visit [solanolibrary.com/events](http://solanolibrary.com/events)

## Tree lighting



**The annual holiday tree lighting will take place on Friday, December 6, at 6 p.m. in downtown Fairfield. The Christmas tree will stand at the corner of Texas and Jefferson Streets and will be lit by Mayor Catherine Moy at 6:30 p.m.**

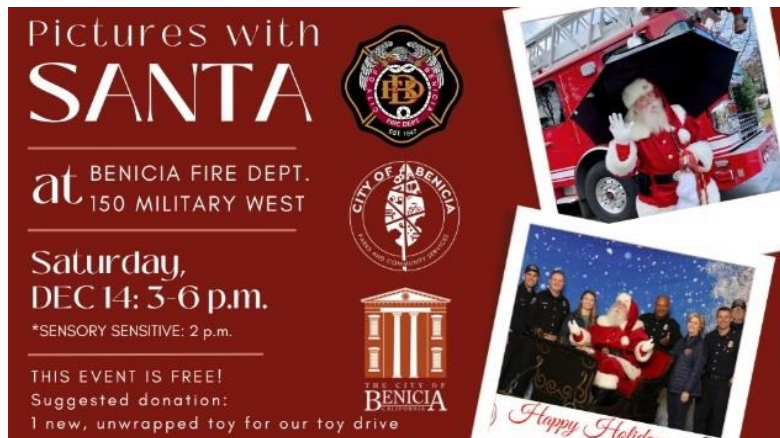
Activities following the tree lighting will be located along Texas Street, between Union Avenue and Madison Street, and will include musical performances, fun activities, a trackless train, hot cocoa, photos with Santa, and the Grinch Who DJ'd Christmas.

All are welcome to stroll the downtown and get into the holiday spirit! There will be carolers and merchant displays and open houses.

Visit [here](#) for more information or contact Special Events Coordinator, Juan Segura, at [jsegura@fairfield.ca.gov](mailto:jsegura@fairfield.ca.gov) or (707) 428-7584 with any questions.



## Pictures with Santa!



Benicia Fire and Benicia Community Services Departments are excited to welcome Santa Claus! Join them as Santa takes time out of his busy December schedule to **stop by Fire Station 11 on Saturday, December 14 from 3 to 6 p.m. Fire Station 11 is located at 150 Military West.**

This event is free and open to the public. There is a suggested donation of a toy for the toy drive. All toys must be new and unwrapped. There is also a private session for sensory sensitive children from 2 to 2:30 p.m. No need to RSVP.

If you have questions, call (707) 746-4275 or email Della Olm at [dolm@ci.benicia.ca.us](mailto:dolm@ci.benicia.ca.us).

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## Events I attended this week

**Monday, November 11**, was Veterans Day 2024. I spent the morning at Mare Island in the city of Vallejo. At 9 a.m., the ceremony began with the rain coming down hard; the wind just added to the cold. Speeches were given honoring our men and woman who have served. After drying off in the car, I drove to the Benicia Veteran's Hall for their ceremony and lunch.

**Thursday morning, November 14**, students, parents, and teachers, walked from a park to school to remember Ruby Bridges. The event I attended was the one held at Robert Semple. Ruby was the first African American child to attend the formerly whites-only school (Frantz elementary) in Louisiana during the desegregation crisis on Nov. 14, 1960. She was 6 years and was escorted by US Marshals. Walking to school is to honor Ruby's special day in history.

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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

Supervisor Brown at the Benicia Veteran's Hall for their Veterans' Day ceremony and lunch held on Monday, November 11, 2024.



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.