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Supervisor Wanda Williams District 3

February 2025

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Dear Neighbor,

Happy Lunar New Year, Valentines Day, and Black History Month,

The month of January was a very busy month. I am adjusting to my new board assignments, committee promotions and the readjustments to my calendar. The board welcomed our newest member, County Supervisor Cassandra James who replaces County Supervisor Erin Hannigan, at our first board meeting for the month. Most importantly, I am paying close attention the President's executive orders because his decisions could affect County services provided to the residents of Solano County. It was a sigh of relief when President Trump rescinded his executive order to halt all federal funding which caused a ripple of confusion and chaos for county and nonprofit agencies. Approximately thirty-five percent of our county budget comes from federal and state funding. We work closely with Federal and state departments to run the county Medicare, Veterans services, housing, Headstart, and health and social services just to name a few. My team and I will remain diligent to stay up to date on how future executive orders may affect our county in a positive or negative way.

Last week I received an email from a constituent informing me of AB303 Battery Energy Safety & Accountability Act which is a new bill presented by Assemblymember Addis (Morro Bay) that introduce legislation to bolster community choice and environmental protection in battery projects. My office is reaching out to Assemblymember Wilson's and State Senator Cabaldon's offices to ask for their support of the bill and the county will invite our state lobbying group to review the bill with the board. Last year the county put in place a moratorium on lithium-ion battery projects to give us time to identify best land placement for the storage facilities. Unfortunately, the current state legislation allowed

battery storage operators to override our decision by bypassing the moratorium and it caused Solano County to lose 45 acres of prime Agricultural lands. We need the ability at the local level to regulate placement of battery storage to keep our communities safe from uncontrollable battery fires.

During the month of February, we will have an art exhibit curated by Suisun City Artist Gail Brydsong. The art exhibit celebrates Black History month and will be on display for the month of February inside the County Administration building located on the first floor and displayed in the window of the foyer of the Board of Supervisors Chambers. Please stop by and enjoy this free exhibit. Brought to you by Supervisor Williams office.

It is an honor to serve as your County Supervisor and I'm looking forward of bringing new initiatives forward in 2025.

Your Public Servant and Steward,



Solano County Supervisor, District 3

**“ Putting People First”**

# Black Women Organized for Political Action recognized by Supervisor Williams during Black History Month



*Supervisor Williams and BOS standing with members of Solano/Napa Chapter Black Women Organized for Political Action*

## Supervisors recognize Black History Month in Solano County

By Todd R. Hansen      Jan 30, 2025 Updated Jan 31, 2025

FAIRFIELD — Supervisor Monica Brown has long editorialized her belief that "Justice for All," as cited in the Pledge of Allegiance, is little more than something for which to strive.

She has added "some day" after the board ends the pledge at the start of each meeting.

This week, a chorus of Black women emphasized "Justice for All," with ascending voices, as the pledge was recited.

Latressa Wilson Alford, the district representative for Supervisor Wanda Williams, said, in a way, it is borne out of Brown's comment, but ripened by today's political environment when many Blacks, and particularly Black women, think the "clock is going backward."

She said many "don't feel like they are heard; feel like they are not seen," Alford said in a phone interview on Wednesday.

"The fight continues," she said.

Alford is also president of the local chapter of Black Women Organized for Political Action, nearly a dozen members of which were part of the board's recognition of February as Black History Month in the county on Tuesday.

"Black History Month seeks to emphasize Black history and its cultural contributions to American life and is designed to recognize and pay tribute to the many contributions of African Americans to the history, society, and culture of the United States of America," the resolution adopted by the board states.

"African Americans were enslaved in this country; however, they did not board slave ships as slaves, they were kings, queens, healers, doctors, scientists, educators, and entrepreneurs throughout the African diaspora ... Black History Month is a time for all Americans to remember the stories, teachings, suffering, and struggles of African Americans who gave a voice to the daily struggles for freedom, equality, diversity, equity, and inclusion," the resolution adds.

"Black History Month celebrates the spirit, resilience, and achievements of African Americans in the arts, civil rights, education, entertainment, government, history, law, literature, medicine, military, music, politics, science, sports, and other endeavors ... and while we cannot ignore nor erase the consequences of our country's long and unfortunate history of violence, discrimination, systemic racism, and inequities, including the deprivation of African Americans – we can commit to acknowledging our responsibility for those historic and systematic inequities while working together to create a future that is inclusive and equitable for all."

The 2025 theme for Black History Month is "African Americans and Labor," highlighting the central role that Black people's work has played in shaping the United States, Africa and the diaspora. However, Alford said when people talk about history, they tend to think of old history. She admits there is a great value in that. But she said there are individuals who are still alive who inspire and change things for others.

She noted Hazel Wilson, an education and civil rights advocate in Vallejo, Deborah Dickson, another community activist who sits on the Fair Board; as well as longtime educator Dr. LaTayna Young.

"These are living women who are opening doors for us," Alford said.

BWOPA was founded in 1968. The local chapter was formed by K. Patrice Williams, a Fairfield city councilwoman, in 2017.

Supervisor Williams, the first Black woman to be elected to the board and the second Black woman to serve, presented the group with a proclamation out of her district office recognizing the role Blacks have played in Solano.

Supervisor Cassandra James also participated in the recognition.

## Happy Chinese New Year 2025! - The Lunar Year of the wooden Snake



*Xīnnián kuàilè!* (Happy New Year!)

Chinese New Year, also known as the Spring Festival, is a celebration steeped in tradition and cultural significance. This year, the festivities will usher in the Year of the Snake, beginning on **January 29th** and concluding with the Lantern Festival on February 12th. As the sixth animal in the Chinese zodiac cycle, the Snake symbolizes wisdom, grace, and renewal, offering a time for reflection and strategic growth.

The Year of the Snake encourages embracing patience and thoughtful decision-making, aligning with the creature's reputation for strategic thinking. While the Snake can be enigmatic, it also embodies prosperity and good fortune, making 2025 an auspicious time to pursue long-term goals.

Celebrations and traditions occur globally with family dinners, parades, fireworks, dragon dances and cultural performances, blending ancient customs with modern flair. Communities will emphasize themes of resilience and adaptability—traits synonymous with the Snake—in their celebrations.

## Chinese American Association to Celebrate 29th Annual Lunar New Year Celebration “The Year of the SNAKE” February 8, 2025

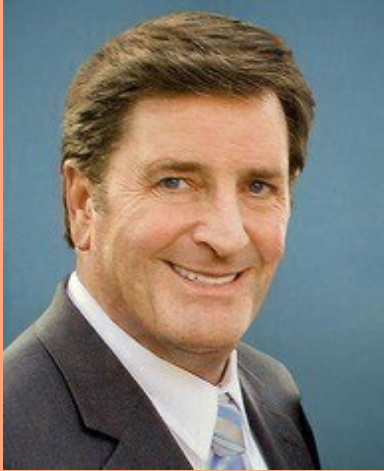
The Chinese American Association of Solano County (CAASC) will celebrate “The Year of the SNAKE” at its 29th Annual Lunar New Year Celebration on February 8, 2025. Each year, the event sells out. The festivities will include an authentic Chinese dinner, the traditional Chinese Lion Dance, cultural performances, a silent auction, raffle prizes, awarding of scholarships and recognition of outstanding contributors and leaders in the community.

The primary purpose of the celebration is to provide scholarships to graduating high school and current community college students from all ethnic backgrounds in Solano County, as our future is directly dependent upon the education of our youth. The Lunar New Year Celebration is CAASC's largest annual fundraising effort. Proceeds from this event directly benefit its scholarship program. Because of support from the community in the last twenty-eight years, 389 outstanding students have received CAASC scholarships totaling in excess of \$285,500.

For more information, please contact the CAASC Office (707) 451-0130 ext. 20

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## Congressman Garamendi Hosts Townhall



Dear Friend,

Please join me for a live Telephone Town Hall **this Wednesday, February 5th, at 6 p.m. PT**, to discuss Trump and Musk's latest unconstitutional actions and the work I am doing to support my constituents. The event is free, and every resident of California's 8th Congressional District is invited to participate. You can sign up below:

[Click to open in a separate window](#)

## Undersheriff DeWall sends letter to BOS answering questions about immigration enforcement in Solano County

Solano County Undersheriff Brad DeWall responded to questions from members of BOS concerning immigration enforcement following the Trump Administration's immigration orders. Undersheriff DeWall emphasized that the "Sheriff's Office has always enforced, and will continue to enforce, laws fairly and equally, regardless of immigration status. If a crime is committed, our community can expect the Sheriff's Office to provide the same level of service and resources, irrespective of immigration status."

The letter continued: "Regarding immigration enforcement, the Sheriff's Office will continue to adhere to California Senate Bill 54 (2017), also known as the California Values Act. This law prohibits law enforcement from investigating, detaining, reporting, or arresting individuals solely for immigration enforcement purposes. However, we will continue to cooperate with all law enforcement agencies—local, state, and federal—on cases involving violent individuals, regardless of their immigration status. Our focus is not on immigration status; it is on public safety."

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**FUN FACTS: Can you guess the answer?**



- **Who is the unincorporated area of Solano County known as Cordelia named after?**
- **Hint: Not the legendary Queen Cordelia, the tragic heroine in Shakespeare's King Lear (1606),**
- **(Answer given at end of e-newsletter).**

## BOS awaits passage of Battery Energy Safety & Accountability Act in Assembly

Last Tuesday (1/28/2025), The Solano Board of Supervisors discussed concerns about proposed battery storage facilities in Solano County, and a bill introduced in the Assembly that prohibits battery storage plant operators from bypassing local land use controls. Currently, battery storage operators can apply directly to the California Energy Commission for the necessary approvals to build and operate a plant. This bill would re-strengthen the Board's ability to establish and enforce local requirements on such projects that may be pursued in Solano County. The legislation would place local land use and safety decisions in approving any battery storage facility - like environmental setback requirements for sensitive areas, including schools, hospitals, and natural habitats - at the direction of local Board, not a state agency.

The legislation, Assembly Bill 303, was introduced by Assemblymember Dawn Addis (**D-Morro Bay**) following the horrific fire at the Vistra Battery Energy Storage System at the Moss Landing Power Plant in Monterey County. The battery storage facility, it was reported, is the world's largest facility. The fire forced 1200 area residents to evacuate and released smoke plumes that could pose a health threat to humans and wildlife. The incident knocked out 2 per cent of California's energy storage capacity, which the state relies on as part of its transition to use more renewable power and less fossil fuels.





# FIELD TRIP DOCENTS WANTED

2/15/25 9am -12pm  
Rush Ranch Nature Center  
3521 Grizzly Island Rd.  
Suisun City, CA 94585

[volunteer@solanolandtrust.org](mailto:volunteer@solanolandtrust.org)

*Land connects us all – protecting it today, saving it for tomorrow*



# Solano County Library Black History Month Events - Fairfield and Suisun



## Leap into the World of Black Superheroes!

**Fairfield Cordelia Library  
Saturday, February 8, 2:30PM-3:30PM**

In honor of Black History Month this February, we're hosting a celebration of Black superheroes with a scavenger hunt, Superhero BINGO, and other activities. Free books and comics while supplies last. For ages 5 – 14.

## Celebrate Black History Month with Afternoon Book Club!

**Fairfield Civic Center Library  
Thursday, February 13, 3PM-4PM**

FEBRUARY ASSIGNED READING is *Buses Are a Comin': Memoir of a Freedom Writer*. "An exploration of the cost of boarding the bus of change to move America forward written by a Civil Rights pioneer."

**Celebrate Black History Month with the Film, "Fences"  
Fairfield Civic Center Library  
Saturday, February 15, 2PM-4:30PM**

Denzel Washington's directorial debut-an adaptation of August Wilson's Pulitzer Prize-winning play, "Fences". A Black father tries to raise his family in the 1950s-while coming to terms with his life.

**Afternoon Adventures: Cosmos & Black History Month  
Suisun City Library  
Thursday, February 27, 3:30PM-5:30PM**

In celebration of Black History Month explore the contributions of Black Americans to astronomy and astrophysics! Test your knowledge by charting the stars or engineering a paper rocket. For kids, tweens, and teens.

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**Solano County Library Suisun City Branch Valentine's Arts and Crafts Day**



The Solano County Library Suisun City Branch presents Passive Valentine's Craft Day for kids and tweens.

**Tuesday, February 11**  
**All day**

The library is located at 601 Pintail Dr. in Suisun City

## Job Opportunities with Solano County



### **Administrative Assistant to Executive/Senior Management (Administrative Secretary)**

The **Administrative Secretary** performs a variety of complex administrative duties in support of a department head, assistant department head, division manager, or other senior-level manager. You may be responsible for a variety of sensitive and/or complex administrative matters using independent judgment in applying established practices and procedures; responding to requests for information from board members, supervisory staff or public; on-going or re-occurring projects, supervising the work of clerical support staff, and/or secretarial work which require the application of specialized knowledge (such as document preparation and processing procedures). If you, or someone you know, are interested in learning more about amazing career opportunities, please check out our [Job Opportunities](#).

If you have any questions, please contact [recruitment@solanocounty.com](mailto:recruitment@solanocounty.com).

**JOIN THE HISPANIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR A RIBBON CUTTING**

We're thrilled to invite you to celebrate the **Grand Opening of Punch with Purpose** with a special **Ribbon Cutting Ceremony!** Let's come together as a community to support this amazing new business.

**Date:** Friday, February 7th  
**Time:** Ribbon Cutting at 5:30p PM  
**Location:** Solano Town Center  
1350 Travis Blvd, Suite 1535-B  
Fairfield, Ca 94533

Delicious smoothies  
Networking and community building

Let's show our support for **Punch with Purpose** and their efforts to give back to the community. See you there!



# STUDENT SOLUTIONS FORUM



*Join us for a discussion about safer internet practices and community resources to prevent and support those impacted by targeted cyberbullying.*



SATURDAY

**FEB 22  
2 TO 5 PM**

734 Marin St., Vallejo, CA  
**Vallejo Naval & Historical  
Museum**

North Bay Regional Center

aveanna healthcare

# Winter RESOURCE FAIR

Join Us For A Day Of Information!

Connect with vendors and resources that offer social recreational activities within the community!

**SOCIAL RECREATION**

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28**  
**10:30AM – 1:00PM**

**JOSEPH A NELSON COMMUNITY CENTER**  
**611 VILLAGE DRIVE,**  
**SUISUN CITY, CA 94585**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**  
[WWW.NBRC.NET](http://WWW.NBRC.NET)   [DEIB@NBRC.NET](mailto:DEIB@NBRC.NET)

**EVENT SPONSORS**

   
RECREATION, PARKS, & MARINA DEPARTMENT

## Rockville Park Temporarily Closed

Due to the complete saturation of the soil and anticipated 2+ inches of precipitation over the next three days, Rockville Park and the local Open Spaces will be closed starting at sunset on Monday, February 3, and reopening on Saturday morning, February 8.

The park has many areas of ponding water, and the additional rain will cause unsafe road and trail conditions. This closure aligns with other nearby regional parks and Solano County Open Spaces.

For more information, contact Gary Sponsler at (707) 428-7416.

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## Answers to This Month's Fun Fact:

Captain Robert H. Waterman laid out the townsite of Fairfield, which he named after his hometown in Connecticut. A clipper ship captain, sailed around the world five times before settling in Suisun Valley with his wife, Cordelia (for whom Cordelia is named).

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For More Information, please contact me:

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