

**SUPERVISOR MONICA BROWN NEWSLETTER**

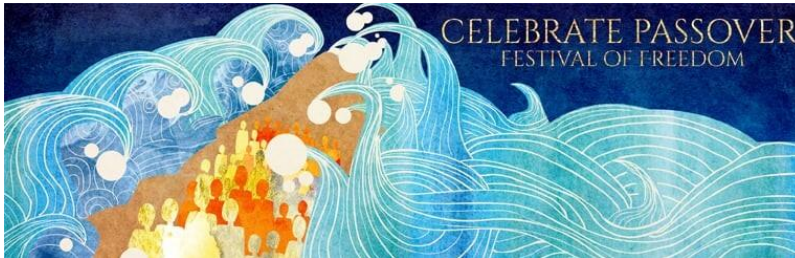
April 18, 2025



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**Pesach (Passover) 2025 is from April 12 – April 20, 2025**



Passover is a major Jewish festival celebrating the anniversary of the Jews exodus from Egyptian slavery more than 3,000 years ago.

The main observances center around a special family home service called the *seder*, which includes a festive meal. After candles have been lit, a 15-step feast is enjoyed, which centers around telling the story of the Exodus. Jews may not eat anything containing grain that has risen. This includes virtually all breads, pastas, cakes and cookies. Prior to the holiday, homes are thoroughly cleaned for Passover and kitchens are purged.

**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**

Passover is celebrated for either 7 or 8 days, depending on family and communal custom. In Israel and for most Reform Jews around the world, Passover is seven days, but for many other Jews, it is 8 days.

Passover is important to Jews, as it celebrates the birth of the nation Israel.

## Information this week

### Thompson, Huffman vow to protect Social Security



U.S. Reps Mike Thompson and Jared Huffman outlined their efforts during a Tuesday roundtable discussion to combat the Trump administration's potential cuts to Social Security.

“Americans worked hard to earn their Social Security and deserve the peace of mind that comes with knowing their benefits are secure,” Thompson, D-St. Helena, said in a statement that out of the Santa Rosa event.

“It’s the most reliable government program that not only ensures people can retire with dignity and people with disability can live as independently as possible but also supports our local economy. Elon Musk’s DOGE and the administration are putting benefits at risk, but I will continue to work to hold them accountable and defend and protect Social Security.”

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

(707) 784-8960

#### 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

## A call to action from the Napa-Solano Area Agency on Aging



From the Napa-Solano Area Agency on Aging:

Last week saw both the House of Representatives and the Senate pass a joint resolution that paves the way for drastic cuts to Medicaid and the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP), both of which are relied upon every day by older adults and people with disabilities. If this resolution becomes law, Medicaid will be cut by at least **\$880 billion** and SNAP by **\$230 billion**. This hurtful policy will be enacted to pay for tax cuts for the very wealthy and corporations.

The good news is that the resolution is only a blueprint for action, not yet a law. We can and should stop any proposed cuts from being put in place. Standing together, older adults in Napa and Solano counties can shout aloud and make it clear that older adults, people with disabilities, caregivers, and families deserve access to vital health and long-term care. Together, we can protect and preserve Medicaid and SNAP to ensure this hurtful policy never becomes law. Are you ready and willing to lend your voice?

**Now is a critical time to contact your lawmakers in Congress and urge them to reject ANY cuts to Medicaid and SNAP. Act today!!**

- Call your Senators (Padilla and Schiff) and Representative (Garamendi or Thompson) and insist they protect Medicaid, SNAP, and other programs on which many older adults rely.

Dial **(202) 224-3121**, follow the verbal instructions and you will be directed to the appropriate legislator.

## Valero Benicia Refinery Announces Intent to Cease Operations in 2026



From a city of Benicia press release:

The city of Benicia was formally notified on Wednesday of Valero Energy Corporation's announcement that its subsidiary, Valero

Refining Company-California, has submitted notice to the California Energy Commission of its intent to idle, restructure, or cease refining operations at the Benicia Refinery by the end of April 2026.

The city will work with Valero to seek clarity around the timeline and scope of the proposed operational changes, while continuing to keep the community informed about any potential economic impacts and challenges this may present for Benicia and its residents.

“This is a moment of significant transition for our city and community,” said Benicia City Manager Mario Giuliani. “However, Benicia has shown time and again that we are resilient. Over the past two years, we’ve faced tough budget challenges and worked hard to strengthen our economic foundation — and we will continue to move forward together.”

Benicia Mayor Steve Young asserts “Valero has long been a part of Benicia’s identity and economy, and today’s news is deeply impactful for our entire community. While this potential transition raises many questions, I want to reassure our residents that the city is committed to transparency, collaboration, and careful planning. We will be working with Valero, regional partners, and state agencies to better understand the path ahead.”

Valero Energy Corporation has owned and operated the Benicia Refinery since 2000. The refinery was originally built for Humble Oil, later called Exxon. Construction of the facility began in 1968 and was completed in 1969.

## Paint Party 2025



The poster for the Spring Paint Party Annual Fundraiser features a central image of a yellow bicycle with a basket of colorful flowers. To the left is a photo of people painting. Text on the poster includes the event name, date, time, location, and details about the ticket price and included items.

**Spring Paint Party**  
Annual Fundraiser

Friday, April 18th  
6 pm to 9 pm  
Moose Lodge #468  
**MOOSE**

Paint your own, size 11x14

6-7 pm - Networking & Appetizers  
7-9 pm - Sip & Paint

\*\$50 per person includes:  
Instruction, materials/supplies,  
appetizers, one glass of wine,  
& one raffle ticket

Prizes, music & no host bar

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

## Fighting for Due Process, Social Security, and American Workers



From Congressman John Garamendi's Office:

President Trump is openly defying a Supreme Court order to bring Kilmar Abrego Garcia home from El Salvador. The Trump Administration has failed to prove Mr. Garcia has committed any crime, and by their own admission, he was **wrongly deported**.

This is not just about one man or one deportation policy – **this is about due process, the rule of law, and the terrifying precedent this sets**. I will continue fighting alongside House Democrats to facilitate Mr. Garcia's return and bring him home immediately.

## Fighting to Protect Your Social Security Benefits

President Trump and Elon Musk are launching an all-out assault on Social Security, making it harder for our seniors and people with disabilities to access benefits. Donald Trump has fired over 7,000 Social Security Administration staff, ended phone services for mobile benefit claims, and terminated at least 45 field office leases across the country. While the Trump-Musk Administration is trying to dismantle Social Security, House Democrats are fighting to protect and expand this vital program.

I was proud to introduce the **Fair COLA for Seniors Act (H.R.716)**, which would require Social Security to calculate a fairer cost-of-living adjustment for seniors to ensure benefits keep pace with rising costs. Every American deserves to retire with dignity.

**If you need help with your Social Security benefits or are having a difficult time reaching the Social Security Administration, my office is here to help at (707) 438-1822 or [CA08.Casework@mail.house.gov](mailto:CA08.Casework@mail.house.gov).**

## Leading the Fight to Strengthen Our Maritime Industry

Last week, I was honored to receive the Maritime Leadership Award from USA Maritime for our shared commitment to rebuilding our maritime power and industry. I have spent over a decade working to revitalize the U.S. maritime industry to strengthen our economy, create good-paying American jobs, and support our national security.

That's why I introduced the SHIPS for America Act ([H.R. 10493](#)), which is the most comprehensive and strategic approach to rebuilding



the U.S. maritime industry. I am proud to be a leader in the fight to empower American shipyards and marine merchants and return American shipyards to their past glory.

## **We Hear You: Amid Growing Social Security Disruption Concerns, Attorney General Bonta Launches New Complaint Page**



From California Attorney General Rob Bonta:

California Attorney General Bonta this week announced the launch of a new [webpage](#) to allow Californians to report any disruptions they've experienced to their Social Security benefits.

“Your social security benefits should not be impacted by President Trump and Elon Musk’s cuts to federal funding and programs,” **said Attorney General Bonta**. “If you experience any disruptions to your social security benefits, I want to know. Please report any disruptions to my office using the form found at [oag.ca.gov/socialsecurity](https://oag.ca.gov/socialsecurity).”

Within the last months, chaotic changes and disruptions within the Social Security Administration have caused issues for people trying to access their benefits, including reported website outages, difficulty accessing online accounts, and potential delays in benefits. These issues are largely attributed to changes including a cut to 12% of the Social Security workforce, potential gutting of its phone services, and the closure of field offices. The California Department of Justice is committed to protecting Californians from unlawful actions by the Trump Administration which should not impede access to federal entitlement programs — including social security benefits.

While the California Department of Justice does not represent individuals, this information is vital to ascertaining the impact of federal actions on California and aiding with any potential future action by the state. To file a complaint with the California Department of Justice, please visit [here](#).

People experiencing disruptions to their Social Security benefits or difficulty reaching the Social Security Administration should also contact their Congressional representatives, who may be able to assist.

- Find your [House Representative](#)
- Connect with [Senator Alex Padilla](#)

- Connect with [Senator Adam Schiff](#)

Local legal aid programs may also be able to help. For more information about legal aid resources in your community, please refer to [lawhelpca.org](http://lawhelpca.org).

You may also submit a complaint directly to the [Social Security Administration](#) at or call 1-800-772-1213 to discuss your issue. To report social security fraud, please contact the [Social Security Office of the Inspector General](#).

If you wish to contact the Trump Administration directly, you may do so [here](#)

## Solano County accepting applications for new County Administrator



Solano County Administrator Bill Emlen has announced his intent to retire in 2025. The Board of Supervisors has begun looking for his replacement.

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

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

To view other Solano County job opportunities, view below.

## Marie Harrison Environmental Justice Scholarship Open Now

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District, in partnership with the Marie Harrison Community Foundation, is pleased to announce the third year of the Marie Harrison Environmental Justice Scholarship! They've awarded scholarships to 16 students in the first two years of the program and plan to award another 12 students this year.



This \$5,000 scholarship supports college students who demonstrate a passion for improving environmental health and air quality in the overburdened frontline communities of the Bay Area. The Marie Harrison Environmental Justice Scholarship continues the legacy of Marie Harrison, an environmental justice leader and supporter of impacted youth. Ms. Harrison spent decades working to bring environmental health and social justice to the Bayview Hunters Point community in San Francisco. She passed away in May 2019. Her

actions inspired environmental justice communities throughout the Bay Area and California.

For more information about the scholarship, [visit the application form](#). **Applications are due May 30.**

For questions or more information, please contact Daniel Madrigal: [dmadrigal@baaqmd.gov](mailto:dmadrigal@baaqmd.gov)

## Food Bank's Nourish Gala



Get your tickets now to celebrate the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano's 50th golden anniversary.

You'll enjoy dinner, entertainment, amazing silent auction and live auction packages, and a powerful look at how the food you help the Food Bank provide can change lives — plus, plenty of time to roam the multi-level museum, open only to gala attendees.

**The gala will take place at 6 p.m., Saturday, April 26, Blackhawk Museum, 3700 Blackhawk Plaza Circle, Danville, CA 94506.**

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

## 55-hour Closure Scheduled Eastbound Interstate 80 in Yolo County



From a Caltrans press release:



Caltrans is alerting motorists of an upcoming extended ramp closure for the ongoing Yolo Interstate 80 (I-80) Pavement Rehabilitation Project beginning on Friday, April 18.

Continuing construction work will include a closure of the eastbound I-80 connector ramp to eastbound I-80 toward north Sacramento and Roseville to construct approach slabs. Caltrans urges motorists to plan for additional travel time and to expect delays.

#### **SCHEDULED CLOSURE AND LOCATION:**

- **9 p.m. Friday, April 18 to 4 a.m. Monday, April 21**
- Eastbound I-80 connector from the Yolo Causeway to eastbound I-80 toward north Sacramento and Roseville and the Enterprise Boulevard on-ramp to eastbound I-80.

#### **DETOUR:**

- From west of the City of Davis to the Sacramento International Airport (SMF), use eastbound I-80 to State Route 113 (SR 113) north to Main Street (EXIT 37) to the southbound Interstate 5 on-ramp and continue to SMF.
- From Yolo County to north Sacramento and Roseville, continue eastbound on I-80 to eastbound U.S. Highway 50 (US 50). Take north I-5 Redding (EXIT 4A) and continue north to the eastbound I-80 Reno (EXIT 522).

The work zone is from the Yolo Causeway through West Sacramento on I-80 and US 50. The speed limit has been reduced to 55 miles per hour 24/7 for the safety of workers and motorists. Work is scheduled to begin as listed but subject to change due to traffic incidents, weather conditions, availability of equipment and/or materials, and construction-related issues.

## **56-Hour Closures scheduled to begin in March for Rio Vista Bridge**



ongoing repairs.

From a Caltrans press release:

Caltrans is advising motorists of six scheduled weekend closures of the Rio Vista Bridge (Helen Madere Memorial Bridge) on State Route 12 (SR 12) for

This \$27.2 million project is funded through the Bridge Rehabilitation and Replacement Program and will require multiple 56-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, replacing the movable deck span and replacing bridge rails.

During the weekend closures that are scheduled between March and June, the contractor will replace the movable span bridge deck concrete, and 60 steel stringers needed to extend the service life of the bridge.

Due to the limited width of the existing bridge deck, 56-hour weekend bridge closures are necessary to facilitate safe access to the work for contractor and Caltrans personnel.

The 56-hour weekend bridge closure schedule will lessen total project workdays and help avoid the wait times at peak commute hours during the week.

Motorists could encounter additional travel times of up to two hours using 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.

**CLOSURE DATES:**

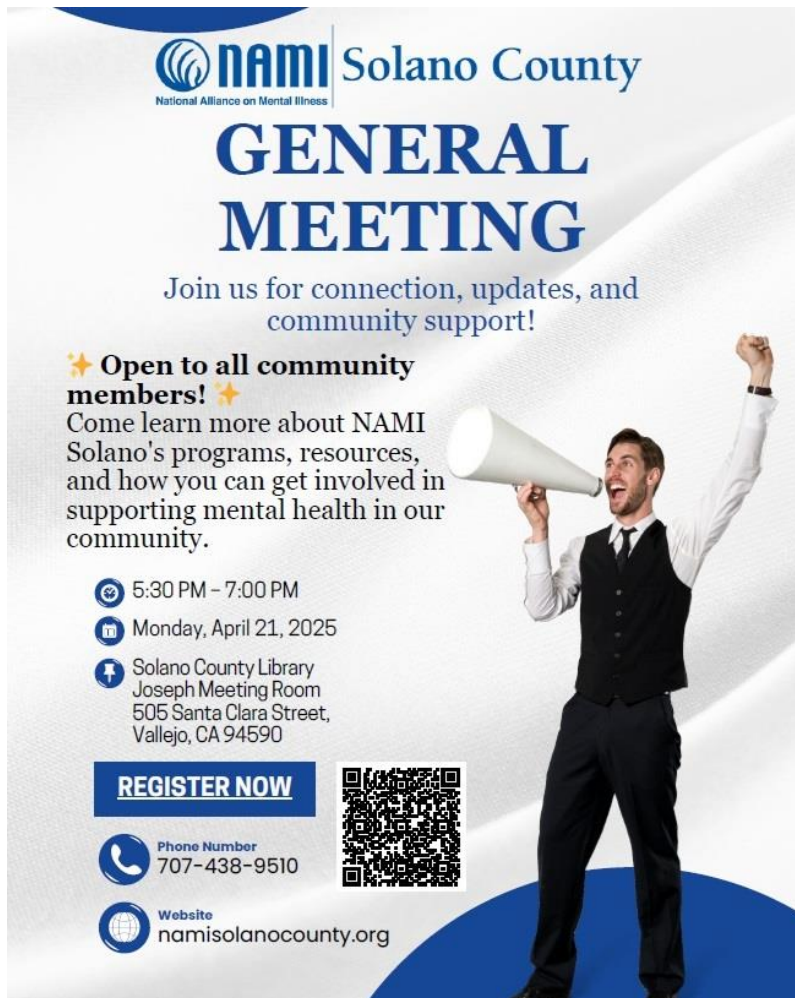
- 3rd: 9 p.m. Friday 4/25 - 5 a.m. Monday 4/28
- 4th: 9 p.m. Friday 5/09 - 5 a.m. Monday 5/12
- 5th: 9 p.m. Friday 6/06 - 5 a.m. Monday 6/09
- 6th: 9 p.m. Friday 6/20 - 5 a.m. Monday 6/23

Schedules are subject to change due to weather conditions, equipment or material availability, or other unexpected events.

Caltrans District 3 is responsible for maintaining and operating 4,385 lane miles in 11 Sacramento Valley and Northern Sierra counties. Caltrans reminds motorists to “Be Work Zone Alert” and slow in construction zones for the safety of travelers and crews performing these improvements.

## Public meetings

### NAMI general meeting



**NAMI** Solano County  
National Alliance on Mental Illness

# GENERAL MEETING

Join us for connection, updates, and community support!

★ **Open to all community members!** ★


Come learn more about NAMI Solano's programs, resources, and how you can get involved in supporting mental health in our community.

- 🕒 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM
- 📅 Monday, April 21, 2025
- 📍 Solano County Library  
Joseph Meeting Room  
505 Santa Clara Street,  
Vallejo, CA 94590

**REGISTER NOW**

📞 Phone Number  
707-438-9510

🌐 Website  
namisolano.org



To register, click [here](#).

## County staff to brief Board of Supervisors on Collinsville Water-Dependent Industrial Area and proposed shipbuilding project concept; discuss next steps

From a Solano County press release:

At their meeting on Tuesday, April 22, **starting at 2 p.m.** in the Board Chambers, located at 675 Texas Street, Fairfield, County staff will present a background report to the Solano County Board of Supervisors on the Collinsville Water-Dependent Industrial Area and the current



allowable uses under the County's General Plan. This area has recently gained attention as a potential site for a shipbuilding project, discussed in media reports and by various cities and regional entities, and put forward by the proponents of the East Solano Plan (California Forever), who own the land under discussion.

As part of the presentation, the Board will receive an overview of the area's history, allowable uses under the General Plan, and relevant policies and zoning regulations. The Board will be asked to encourage the property owners and project proponents to engage directly with the County to discuss the proposal in detail and identify the steps required to ensure compliance with the General Plan. Additionally, the Board will have the opportunity to provide direction to staff on next steps, including outreach to local cities, emphasizing the County's jurisdictional responsibilities in the Collinsville area.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

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

- Seating in the Board Chambers is first-come-first served and there will be designated queuing location outside the 675 Texas campus. In the event the Board chambers reach capacity, there will be an overflow area in the County Event Center, located at 601 Texas Street in Fairfield, adjacent to the County building. Staff will assist attendees to the room and back to the Board chambers if they wish to make public comment.
- The Board of Supervisors meeting will be livestreamed in the County Event Center. The public should note that there is a 30-second delay in the livestream broadcast.
- Participants who wish to make a statement as part of public comment must fill out a yellow comment card, available in both the Board chambers and County Event Center, in advance of speaking. Staff will collect speaker cards and deliver them to the Chair of the Board.
- The Chair of the Board, with support from staff, will call speakers in groups, and direct them to the public comment area. Please note, ADA accommodation will be made for those who need / request it during the meeting.

## **ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS / PUBLIC COMMENT**

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

- All public comments that relate to Collinsville Water Dependent Industrial Area will be heard only during the 2 p.m. session.

- All public comments will be made after the item has been presented to the Board.
- All public comments need to be made in person. There will not be a call-in line.
- Subject to the discretion of the Board Chair, public comments may be limited to 1 minute.
- No signs, posters or noisemakers are permitted in the Board Chambers and multipurpose rooms.

## **ATTENDING IN PERSON / WATCH THE MEETING ONLINE**

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

## **Little Hoover**



**On Wednesday, April 23 and Thursday, April 24**, the Little Hoover Commission will conduct hearings on the Governor's Proposed Government Reorganization Plan dividing the Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency in two, creating a California Housing and Homelessness Agency and a California Business and Consumer Services Agency. The hearings will begin at 9:30 am and are open to the public. They will be held in the

Auditorium at 707 3rd Street in West Sacramento, and via Zoom. Members of the public can attend the hearings in person or listen to the hearing by joining online or by phone:

### **Day One (Wednesday, April 23)**

- To join online: <https://bit.ly/3EmosZF>
- To join via phone: (888) 788-0099
- Webinar ID: 926 9864 5283
- Passcode: 921760

### **Day Two (Thursday, April 24)**

- To join online: <https://bit.ly/42sKwJY>
- To join via phone: (888) 788-0099
- Webinar ID: 959 1589 1991
- Passcode: 455231



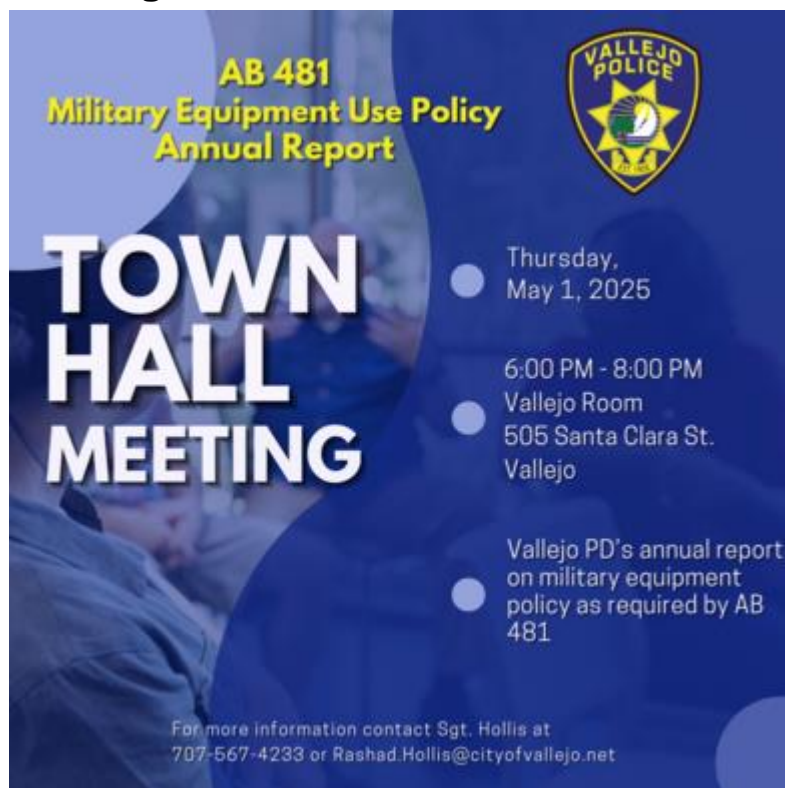
We highly recommend members of the public attend in-person or access the hearing through the Zoom app. Please visit the Zoom website for [instructions](#) on how to download the Zoom app onto a computer or smartphone.

Public comment periods will be held during each public hearing. Speakers will be limited to three minutes each, and the total public comment period will be limited to one hour per day. Remote attendees may indicate to staff that they wish to make public comment by using the “raise” hand feature in Zoom or sending an email to [littlehoover@lhc.ca.gov](mailto:littlehoover@lhc.ca.gov) with your question and the phone number from which you have joined the hearing.


Agenda items may be taken out of order to accommodate speakers and to maintain a quorum. The hearings may be canceled without notice.

The Little Hoover Commission is America's only permanent, independent citizens commission working to improve state government. A nonpartisan oversight agency created in 1962, the Commission includes 13 Commissioners appointed by the Governor and legislative leaders. The Commission's mission is to investigate state operations and promote efficiency, economy and improved service.

## Vallejo PD to host community town hall meeting



**AB 481  
Military Equipment Use Policy  
Annual Report**



**TOWN  
HALL  
MEETING**

- Thursday,  
May 1, 2025
- 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM  
Vallejo Room  
505 Santa Clara St.  
Vallejo
- Vallejo PD's annual report  
on military equipment  
policy as required by AB  
481

For more information contact Sgt. Hollis at  
707-567-4233 or [Rashad.Hollis@cityofvallejo.net](mailto:Rashad.Hollis@cityofvallejo.net)

The Vallejo Police Department (VPD) is inviting the community to attend an upcoming Community Town Hall meeting on **Thursday, May 1, from 6 to 8 p.m.** The meeting will be held at the **Vallejo Room located at 505 Santa Clara Street, Vallejo, CA 94590.**

VPD will present its annual report on our Assembly Bill (AB) 481 - Military Equipment Use Police. Vallejo residents and stakeholders are encouraged to attend this upcoming town hall meeting. If you are not able to attend this meeting, you will be able to view the recorded meeting the following day on our website, [Vallejopd.net](http://Vallejopd.net).

## Community Corner

### Falcon Flyer



**Falcon Flyer**

# Ride Free

**FREE BUS RIDES FOR STUDENTS VALID ON THE NEW FALCON FLYER TEST-PILOT VANPOOL**

**What is the Falcon Flyer?**  
The Falcon Flyer is a free intercampus shuttle service for Solano Community College students, staff, and faculty traveling between the Fairfield, Vacaville, and Vallejo/ATEC campuses.

**How to ride:**

- Scan the QR code below to sign up with SCC Share Mobility (or visit [scc.sharemobility.com](http://scc.sharemobility.com))
- Log in to your account, and under *Profile*, you'll find your QR code boarding pass
- Show your QR Code pass when boarding the bus.

**REAL-TIME ROUTE TRACKING**

Vacaville → Fairfield



Vallejo/ATEC → Fairfield



**Create your SCC Share Mobility rider account today!**

**Questions?** [solanocollege.org/falconflyer](http://solanocollege.org/falconflyer)

The Falcon Flyer is a partnership between:





Route	First Departure (to Fairfield Campus)	Last Departure (from Fairfield Campus)
Morning Route	7:30 AM	10:45 AM
Afternoon Route	2:30 PM	5:45 PM

Questions? [solanocollege.org/falconflyer](http://solanocollege.org/falconflyer)

## JFK Library April Events Calendar



JFK Library April Events Calendar can be found [here](#).

## Youth & Adolescent Mental Health Seminar



The Benicia Public Library is located at 150 East L Street.

## Books & Blankets



**FREE FAMILY FUN**  
**Books & Blankets**

**Saturday, April 26**  
**10am-12pm**  
**@ City Park**

You bring the blankets, we'll bring... BOOKS, MUSIC, MAGIC, FOOD, MORE!!!

**City Park**  
First Street @ Military East  
(1149 1st Street)

**BENICIA READS** is a partnership between Benicia Unified School District & the City of Benicia



**Sponsors:**



Mark your calendars for the upcoming Books & Blankets event at the **City Park in downtown Benicia! On Saturday, April 26, from 10 a.m. to noon**, you'll find books, music, a magician, food, and more, all free for the whole family! The library is a proud sponsor for this event, where all you need to bring is a blanket.

## Our Best to You

The Benicia Poet Laureate Program celebrates National Poetry Month with:

# Our Best to You

**APRIL 27**  
**2-4PM**

Come listen to the favorite poems of many local poets laureate! Come read your own favorite (3 minute maximum).



In the Doña Benicia Room. Luscious treats will be served! Door prizes will be given out!



Hosted by Katrina Monroe, Benicia Poet Laureate

The Benicia Public Library is located 150 East L Street.

## Free Comic Book Day



This is a free event where each library branch will be giving out free comics to kids and teens! It is sure to be a lot of fun! To view library hours and locations, click [here](#).

## Updates from around Solano County

### District Enters Second Phase of School Closure and Consolidation



From a VCUSD press release:

At its April 16 study session, the Vallejo City Unified School District Board of Education opened discussion on phase two of the district's school closure and consolidation plan. Based on the Board's guidance, District staff were directed to:

Convene a new 7-11 Committee to evaluate any campuses that might be designated as surplus;

Compile a comprehensive list of potential school closures for inclusion in an Equity Impact Analysis (EIA); and

Launch the EIA to assess how closures affect students, families, and communities district-wide.



Phase two underscores the district's pledge to provide high-quality instruction while strengthening its fiscal position amid declining enrollment and fewer resources.

This work follows the decision to close Mare Island Health and Fitness Academy and Loma Vista Environmental Science Academy after the 2024-25 school year, and to relocate Vallejo Charter School to the Mare Island campus in 2025-26. In addition, the Board recently approved \$12.8 million in budget reductions and \$7.4 million in staffing reductions for 2025-26 to address ongoing financial challenges.

Further, the Board committed to identifying \$16.5 million combined reduction or revenue enhancements for the 2026-27 school year.

### **7-11 Committee**

The 7-11 committee will play a crucial role in this process. It is named after the requirement that it has between seven and eleven members. The committee evaluates the district's real property assets, including the potential closure and consolidation of specific school sites. This evaluation will focus on schools identified based on criteria such as enrollment numbers, proximity to other schools, and facility conditions.

Key responsibilities of the 7-11 committee include:

Reviewing School Enrollment Data: Assessing current and projected enrollment figures to identify surplus school sites.

Engaging the Community: Ensuring that the broader community's perspectives are heard and considered in decision-making.

Recommending Actions: Making informed recommendations to the VCUSD Board of Education on the best use of the district's real property assets, including possible closures, consolidations, and repurposing of facilities.

A call for applications will be shared on our website in the coming weeks.

### **List of Schools Shared for EIA Report**

The Board directed staff to include the following campuses in the EIA: Cooper, Federal Terrace, Highland, Lincoln, Pennycook, and Steffan Manor Elementary Schools; Jesse Bethel and Vallejo High Schools; the John Finney Education Complex; and the Vallejo Adult School at Al Berenguer Educational Center. Being named in the EIA does not mean a school is targeted for closure; it simply indicates that each site could be affected by potential closures or consolidations and therefore must be evaluated.

California Assembly Bill 1912 requires school districts in financial distress to conduct an equity impact analysis when considering school closures or consolidations to guard against discrimination and ensure community input.

The EIA, completed by an independent contractor, will assess how a proposed closure or consolidation might disproportionately affect different student groups (e.g., racial, ethnic, socioeconomic, and disability status).

“The process of school closures is difficult, as we know,” VCUSD Superintendent Rubén Aurelio said. “However, we must keep our entire district’s best interests in mind. By consolidating resources and prioritizing key programs, we will continue to offer a robust, forward-looking education that meets the needs of our community.”

Over recent years, enrollment has declined, and financial resources have become increasingly stretched. A proactive approach now prevents more significant impacts later.

Through thoughtful consolidation, the following will benefit and improve:

Students will benefit from improved learning environments, including magnet or specialized programs.

Educators and staff will benefit from enhanced professional opportunities and resource support.

Families will see improved facilities and a district prepared for future demographic shifts.

Stakeholder engagement remains central to the district’s strategy. The Board encourages all parents, guardians, staff, and community members to stay informed by visiting our [closure and consolidation website](#). Comments and questions are welcome on the district website, which provides an ongoing forum for feedback and updates.

The VCUSD Board of Education has committed to making school closure and consolidation decisions by December 2025 to comply with Board commitments and budgetary mandates.

# Hypertension in the Black Community Webinar Hosted by Kaiser Permanente

Kaiser Permanente Napa-Solano presents:




## Hypertension in the Black Community

Microsoft Teams | Tuesday, May 6 | 6 to 7 p.m. PDT



In this webinar, we will:

- Explore the impacts of racism and toxic stress on health
- Discuss effective lifestyle changes that can lower blood pressure
- Learn about common herbal treatments
- Promote home blood pressure monitoring
- Learn about effective prescription medications to augment lifestyle changes

 **Tues, May 6, 2025**  
 **6-7 PM**  
 **Microsoft Teams**



Scan the QR  
Code to  
Register!

We recommend joining on a PC or laptop. If you're joining on a smartphone device, please download the Microsoft Teams app.

This webinar is open to everyone. You do not need to be a Kaiser Permanente member to attend.

### SPEAKERS



#### Tanisha Silas-Young, MD

*OB/GYN Physician  
Assistant Physician in Chief  
Equity, Inclusion and Diversity*



#### Fatimatou Bah, MD, MPH

*Adult & Family Medicine Physician  
Public Health Expert*



#### Johnny Eguizabal, MD

*Adult & Family Medicine Physician  
Assistant Physician in Chief  
Outpatient Quality*



#### Sarah Jones, MD

*Adult & Family Medicine Physician  
Lifestyle Medicine Specialist*



#### Bianca Padilla

*Health Education Program Supervisor*



#### Brian Douglas, MS

*Clinical Health Educator*



During this webinar a panel of Kaiser Permanente physicians and staff will discuss blood pressure in the black community, including effective lifestyle changes, common herbal treatments, home blood pressure monitoring, and more. Join the virtual webinar on **Tuesday, May 6 from 6 to 7 p.m. via Microsoft Teams, register [here](#).**

## “Everybody Loves Line Dancing” Hosted by Innovative Health Solutions

**3RD ANNUAL LINE DANCING Party**

A Community Event Presented By  
**INNOVATIVE HEALTH SOLUTIONS**

**SATURDAY MAY 10 | 1-6 PM**

**BENICIA HIGH SCHOOL**  
1101 Military W | Benicia, CA

- Dinner & Dancing
- Bring Cash...Win Raffle Prizes!  
10 tickets for \$10 | 25 tickets for \$20

For more information, visit our website at:  
[innovativehealth.com/everybody-loves-line-dancing-party](http://innovativehealth.com/everybody-loves-line-dancing-party)

**EVENT tickets**

- SINGLE...\$30
- COUPLE...\$50
- RESERVE A TABLE OF 8...\$200
- PAY AT THE DOOR...\$35

Please make your payment through the Venmo link above.

Contact our help line if you need assistance purchasing tickets:  
(707) 684-4376

**EVERYBODY LOVES LINE DANCING**

All proceeds will go towards offering free line dancing classes in our community.

Line dancing is perfect for all skill levels, and no partner is required. Enjoy an evening filled with music, fun, and community spirit—all proceeds will go towards providing free line dancing classes in our community.

**This party is happening Saturday, May 10 from 1 to 6 p.m. at Benicia High School (1101 Military W, Benicia).**

For more information visit [here](#). To make a payment, visit Venmo [here](#).

## City of Fairfield to celebrate grand opening of all-inclusive playground at Allan Witt Community Park



From a city of Fairfield press release:

The city of Fairfield, in partnership with the Parks & Recreation Department, invites the community to join the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the newly renovated all-inclusive playground at Allan Witt Community Park. The event marks the grand opening of this exciting new space designed to be accessible and fun for children of all abilities.

Key Details:

- **Location:** Allan Witt Community Park, 1741 W. Texas St., Fairfield
- **Date and Time:** Monday, May 12, 2025, from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Event Highlights:

- Ribbon-cutting ceremony with city officials



- Music, refreshments, and family-friendly entertainment
- Interactive games and activities for all ages, hosted by the Parks & Recreation Department's Fun on the Run truck

The transformation of Allan Witt Community Park includes a variety of new features such as custom play structures, accessible paths, and inclusive play equipment like a sensory dome, swings for all abilities, and sign language and braille panels. This new playground offers a welcoming and fun environment for all children to enjoy.

For more information visit [fairfield.ca.gov/allanwitt](http://fairfield.ca.gov/allanwitt).

## Congregate Meal program



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

*new & EXCITING*  
**CONGREGATE MEALS PROGRAM**

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

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

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

**Meal Reservations are Required two days in advance.**

To make a meal reservation, you can:

- Go to one of the sites from 11-1 pm
- Call or text (707) 684-4376
- Email [info@innovativehealths.com](mailto:info@innovativehealths.com)

Visit our website for more information:  
[innovativehealths.com/congregate-meals-program](http://innovativehealths.com/congregate-meals-program)

**LOCATIONS & HOURS**

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

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

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

**MCCBRIDE SENIOR CENTER**  
91 Town Square, Vacaville  
Mon-Fri | Lunch @ 11:30 AM

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

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

**DEKOH SENIOR MULTI-USE CENTER**  
201 S 5th St., Dixon  
Tues & Thur | Lunch @ 11:30 AM

INNOVATIVE HEALTH SOLUTIONS  
HEAL MONEY ON AGRIS

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

To reserve a warm meal at any of the seven (7) sites, clients can:

1. Call or text: 707 | 684-4376
2. Email the general email: [info@innovativehealths.com](mailto:info@innovativehealths.com)
3. Go to one of the sites and reserve onsite with an IHS site host

Reservations are required at least two (2) days in advance. If you have a large group (4+) attending, please give at least one (1) week notice.

# Spring 2025 Vaccine Clinics Hosted by Solano Public Health



## FREE VACCINES IN SOLANO, CA

First come, first served. While supplies last.



\*Eligibility requirements may apply.

Date	Time	Location	Vaccines
Thursday, March 27, 2025	4:00 PM – 6:00 PM	Grange Middle School (Gymnasium) 1975 Blossom Ave, Fairfield, CA 94533	Flu 6 months+ Tdap* 10 years+ COVID-19* 6 months+
Thursday, April 24, 2025	4:00 PM – 6:00 PM	Grange Middle School (Gymnasium) 1975 Blossom Ave, Fairfield, CA 94533	Flu 6 months+ Tdap* 10 years+ COVID-19* 6 months+
Thursday, May 15, 2025	4:00 PM – 6:00 PM	Grange Middle School (Gymnasium) 1975 Blossom Ave, Fairfield, CA 94533	Flu 6 months+ Tdap* 10 years+ COVID-19* 6 months+
Thursday, May 22, 2025	2:00 PM – 5:00 PM	Solano County Health & Social Services Multipurpose Room 2101 Courage Dr, Fairfield, CA 94533	Kindergarten Vaccines* Flu 6 months+ Tdap* 10 years+ COVID-19* 6 months+
Thursday, May 29, 2025	2:00 PM – 5:00 PM	Solano County Public Health Multipurpose Room 2109 355 Tuolumne St, 2nd Floor Vallejo, CA 94590	Kindergarten Vaccines* Flu 6 months+ Tdap* 10 years+ COVID-19* 6 months+







<https://www.solanovaxfacts.com>
 Facebook: @Solano Public Health

These free events target low-income and/or uninsured residents in Solano County. Now is the time for families to get their students vaccines required for school. Flu levels are still high! It's not too late – everyone 6 months and older should get the updated flu vaccine to prevent serious illness and hospitalization.

## Benicia Farmers Market returns April 24



The Benicia Certified Farmers Market will return for its 33rd Season on April 24

Located on First Street between B and D Streets, the seasonal market offers farm fresh produce along with arts and crafts vendors, specialty foods, baked goods, and numerous gourmet food vendors. Children can enjoy activities like face painting and the inflatable bounce house on the First Street Green (weather permitting).

**Market hours run from 4 to 8 p.m. (April-August) and 4 to 7p.m. (September-October).**

Interested in selling at the market in 2025? [Applications are now available](#)

## **La Raza Lawyers Association of Solano 2025 High School Scholarship Dinner**



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

## Annual Glen Cove Garage Sale



The Annual Glen Cove Garage Sale will take place on Saturday, May 31.

Before you spring clean, consider participating in the annual Community Garage Sale. More than 60 homes have participated in the past, why not you? Free maps of participating homes will be handed out 8 to 11 a.m. at the Glen Cove Center. You must be a GCCA member to be listed on the map. *E-mail [info@glencovevallejo.com](mailto:info@glencovevallejo.com) to sign up for the garage sale!*

## Special offer for Solano County

### SPECIAL OFFER FOR - SOLANO COUNTY -



We have a special offer to help **households with children ages 0-5** get fully furnished! Your clients can receive essential furniture—delivered **FREE** to your client's home in Solano County.

Thanks to a grant from First 5, we're offering this incredible deal:

- Service fee waived**
- Free delivery**
- Limited time offer!**

For more details or to apply, email us at:  
[services@makeithomebayarea.org](mailto:services@makeithomebayarea.org)



Make It Home Bay Area offering to help households with Children ages 0-5 get fully furnished! Your clients can receive essential furniture - delivered free to your client's home in Solano County.

Service fee waived, free delivery, limited time offer!

For more details or to apply,  
email: [services@makeithomebayarea.org](mailto:services@makeithomebayarea.org)

## California native plant sale

Spring 2025

# CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SALE

On-site Sale & Online Order Pickup\*

Saturday, May 3, 2025

10 am to 2 pm

1400 East Second Street, Benicia

\*Pickup may also be available in Fairfield

Online Ordering

April 21-27

Sales open April 19-20 for CNPS members

For more information:



[www.cnps.org/chapters/jepson](http://www.cnps.org/chapters/jepson)



CALIFORNIA  
NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

WILLIS LINN JEPSON CHAPTER  
Email: [contact@jepson.cnps.org](mailto:contact@jepson.cnps.org)



The Solano County chapter of the California Native Plant Society ([the Willis Linn Jepson Chapter](#)) is having a native plant sale on Saturday, **May 3 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 1400 East 2nd Street in the city of Benicia.**

Growing plants native to our local area promotes biodiversity and helps restore California's rich, natural beauty. Native plants:

- provide nectar for local pollinators like butterflies and bees
- are host plants for caterpillars, which are then crucial food for baby birds
- offer seeds and berries for adult birds to eat
- serve as shelter for small animals



- help heal our soil
- need less water than other plants, and
- some are even fire resistant

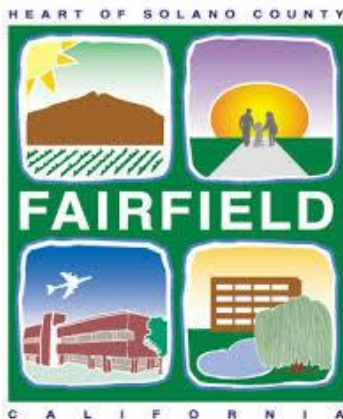
Anyone can grow native plants - even without a yard or garden. Many of them do very well in containers on a stoop or balcony!

All plants are grown at our nursery in Vallejo (which always needs more volunteers!), and proceeds help fund the nursery and other chapter activities that promote California native plants.

You can pre-order plants from our chapter website April 21-27, or shop in-person on May 3 with the opportunity to get gardening advice from chapter members. A list of species available during the pre-order sale will be posted on our website soon.

Visit <https://www.cnps.org/chapters/jepson> or email [contact@jepson.cnps.org](mailto:contact@jepson.cnps.org) with questions.

## Fairfield seeks consultants to support the implementation for Fairfield Forward 2050



From the city of Fairfield:

Fairfield is now accepting Requests for Proposals (RFP) for the first phase of implementing Fairfield Forward 2050, which includes the City's General Plan Update (General Plan), Housing Element, and Climate Action Plan (CAP). This RFP invites qualified consultants to submit proposals that align with the city's goals and policies while meeting state-mandated deadlines.

Consultants are encouraged to propose customized scopes of work that demonstrate their capacity to advance multiple priorities simultaneously. Don't miss your chance to help shape the future of Fairfield and support the city's vision for a sustainable and thriving community!

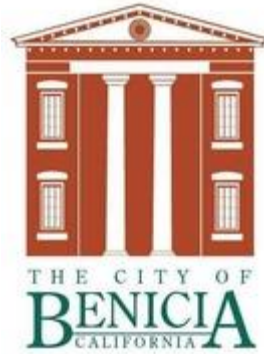
**Proposals must be received by 5 p.m., Wednesday, April 30 at Fairfield City Hall, 1000 Webster Street, Second Floor, Fairfield, CA 94533** or via email to Senior Planner Jessie Hernandez at [jhernandez@fairfield.ca.gov](mailto:jhernandez@fairfield.ca.gov).

View and download the full RFP at [www.fairfield.ca.gov/gp](http://www.fairfield.ca.gov/gp)

## Benicia board vacancies

The following Boards and Commissions currently have vacancies:

- [Arts and Culture Commission](#)
- [Board of Library Trustees](#)
- [Building Board of Appeals](#)
- [Community Services Commission](#)
- [Community Sustainability Commission](#)
  - **Special Vacancy:** One (1) student term, student with junior or senior standing who resides in Benicia
- [Economic Development Board](#)
- [Historic Preservation Review Commission](#)
- [Housing Authority](#)
- [Industrial Safety Citizen Oversight Commission](#)
- [Open Government Commission](#)
- [Planning Commission](#)



Information on meeting days and times is available [here](#). **Applications open on Monday, April 7 are due by Monday, May 12, at 4 p.m.**

Any citizen interested in serving on any City Commission or Board is encouraged to file an application with the City Clerk's Office by filling out the application and supplemental application for the board or commission of interest.

Applications are available through the links or may be obtained from the City Clerk's Office at City Hall at 250 East L Street. You may also request the application forms by calling the City Manager's Office at (707) 746-4228.

## First 5 Solano Community Responsive Mini Grants now available



**First 5 Solano Community Responsive Mini Grants are now open for activities occurring July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026.**

First 5 Solano has now created a more flexible way to fund your event(s) or activity(ies). Grants will provide \$500-\$5,000 based on your needs and proposed ideas. First 5 Solano Mini Grants can fund things such as:

- **Community Engagement Events:** For one-time events or activities, Community Responsive Mini Grants can provide up to \$500 per event to connect with parents, caregivers and/or providers to increase awareness about a topic or resource

available in the community. Examples: Community baby shower or early literacy lap read.

- Professional Development Opportunity: For Professional Development Opportunities, such as hosting or attending conferences or training, Community Responsive Mini Grants can provide up to \$3,000 per event, to strengthen the skills of Solano County providers for children ages 0-5. Professional Development Opportunities may be one-time (such as a one-day training) or over a time-period (such as a weekly training over 6 weeks). Examples: Lactation Education Certification training or Trauma Informed Care conference.
- Material and Equipment Purchase: Community Responsive Mini Grants can be used to support the purchase of equipment or materials up to \$5,000 to provide assistance for specific activities or services to children ages 0-5 and their families. Materials or equipment may be used for purposes including, but not limited to education, keeping children and families safe, make space appropriate for young children, etc. Examples: Purchase of new curriculum or purchase of furniture to create age-appropriate space in an office. (Please note: First 5 Solano follows best practices on limiting on the use of digital devices for young children and will not approve requests for screen-based learning, including tablets or computers.)
- Time-Limited Program: Community Responsive Mini Grants can be used to support Time-Limited Programs for up to \$5,000. Time-Limited Programs must be time-limited in nature and need to establish how many children, families or providers will be served, and what the intended outcome will be. Examples: A 6-week art class for children and grandparents focusing on Latino culture or a 10-week parent leadership training.

**The application period will close at 4 p.m. on April 28, 2025.**

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

## **2025 Veteran Home Rehab Applications deadline on April 30**



From a Rebuilding Together Solano County press release:

Rebuilding Together Solano County provides our home rehabilitation services to veteran and surviving spouses of veterans, seniors and

disabled homeowners residing in Solano County. Our goal is to provide a safe and healthy living environment for low-income veteran homeowners and community facilities.

**Our services are provided free to qualified and selected homeowners.** Do you know of someone, or do you qualify yourself for our home rehabilitation program?

**How to apply:**

1. Complete Veteran / Military 2025 Homeowner Application
2. By 04/30/25 Mail the completed Application and all supporting documentation to RTSC, PO Box 5996, Vallejo, CA 94591.

Contact Rebuilding Together Solano County  
at: [Ehoffman.rtsc@gmail.com](mailto:Ehoffman.rtsc@gmail.com) for further information.

**Qualifications Required:**

- One or more household members must qualify as Military (Active, honorably discharged, retired or a surviving spouse of military)
- Own and live in a single family residence located within Solano County. Home to be stick-built;
- The following items must be paid current:
  - 1) Mortgage(s)
  - 2) Property Taxes
  - 3) Homeowner's Insurance;
- Potential homeowners cannot own other property or units unless located on the property of the primary residence;
- Household Income must fall below the low-income guidelines for Solano County (less than 80% of Area Median Income for 2024-2025)

1 Person	2 Person	3 Person	4 Person	5 Person	6 Person
\$70,450	\$80,500	\$90,550	\$100,650	\$108,700	\$116,750

For further details, visit [www.RebuildingTogetherSolanoCounty.org](http://www.RebuildingTogetherSolanoCounty.org).

## Rodriguez High School 2004 and 2005 reunions



### RODRIGUEZ HIGH SCHOOL CLASSES OF 2004 + 2005 20 YEAR REUNION

FRIDAY, JUNE 20, 2025 AT 6PM  
VILLAGE 360, SUISUN VALLEY, CA

\$70/PERSON MARCH 1ST-APRIL 30TH  
\$80/PERSON MAY 1ST-JUNE 20TH

Come join in for a night of reminiscing and catching up with old friends as the Rodriguez High School classes of 2004 and 2005 celebrate their 20-year reunions! Enjoy great music from a DJ, heavy hors d'oeuvres, and a no-host bar to keep the celebration going!

Don't miss this opportunity to reconnect with familiar faces and celebrate the good times we shared back in the day. Letterman jackets and Rodriguez gear are encouraged!

Class of 2006 and staff are invited as well! Letterman jackets and Rodriguez gear are encouraged!

Take advantage of the early bird pricing by purchasing your ticket(s) by May 1 at \$70 per person. After that date, tickets will be \$80 per person. Hosted by your 2004 & 2005 ASB & Class Officers.

To purchase tickets, click [here](#). For more information, follow the Instagram page: rhs\_20year\_reunion\_0405

## NAMIWalks Solano



From a NAMIWalks press release:

NAMIWalks will take place at **10:30 a.m., Saturday, September 20, 2025, at the Vallejo Waterfront.**

You are NAMIWalks. And so is your family member or friend. Or a future friend, for that matter. Each one of you can proudly wear the 2025 participant T-shirt that says I am NAMIWalks and a smile that says We are NAMIWalks. "We," the first two letters in welcome. No matter where you're coming from, where you're going, or what you're up to before and after the event. No matter your background, if you care about moving the needle of mental wellness here in our community and beyond, you are welcome. Join the joy today. Why wait? The need is now, after all. The more money we raise, the more

people NAMI can help. Through our free, top-rated programs, our life-saving support, education, and guidance and the power to turn up the volume on advocacy and awareness.

Together, we have the strength to lift hope itself — through our commitment, unity and laughter leading up to, and of course on, Walk Day.

Registration is live, so let NAMIWalks begin in your life.

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

## Public CPR & AED course

In Person Class

### CPR & AED COURSE

April 25, 2025 or June 18, 2025  
9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Benicia Fire Department  
150 Military West

Cost: \$75  
Fee includes AHA certification card



REGISTER NOW: [WWW.CI.BENICIA.CA.US/RECGUIDE](http://WWW.CI.BENICIA.CA.US/RECGUIDE)

The Benicia Fire Department is offering American Heart Association (AHA) HeartSaver CPR & AED courses on **April 25 and June 18 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Fire Station 11, 150 Military West.**

The fee is \$75, and it includes your AHA CPR certification card and workbook.

There are limited spots available, register today. This course is an instructor-led course that teaches adult and child CPR and AED use, infant CPR, and how to relieve choking in adults, children, and infants. Upon successful completion of the course, students receive a course completion card, valid for two years. If needed, please contact your employer prior to enrollment to ensure that you are selecting the correct course.

To register, click [here](#).



## April showers

Suzanne Bruce, Fairfield Poet Laureate Emerita  
and



invite you to write a poem to an art piece

### Exhibit: April Showers



**Exhibit dates:** April 16 – May 25, 2025

Solano Town Center Gallery:  
1350 Travis Blvd #D-8 (inside the Town Center Mall)

#### **Art Reception and Poetry Reading:**

Saturday, April 26, 2025- 4:00-6:00pm

Art can be seen at the Gallery  
Wednesday through Sunday 11:00am – 6:00pm (recommended)

Or online, beginning April 16th  
[www.fvaa-arts.org](http://www.fvaa-arts.org) click on Gallery

Please send your poem, **42 lines or less**  
to Suzanne: [fairfieldpoetlaureate.emerita@gmail.com](mailto:fairfieldpoetlaureate.emerita@gmail.com)  
by **Thursday, April 24th- 5:00pm**

Send preferably in a word doc. No picture of art necessary  
Do put the name of the art and artist's name with your poem

## Arts Benicia



On March 30, Arts Benicia celebrated the opening of their bi-annual exhibition Next Generation, a most extraordinary display of the creative endeavors of the youth of our community, from Kindergarten through High

School.

The reception, which brought 500 hundred persons to the gallery that afternoon, was an amazing experience for each child or teen to see their work on the wall of the gallery, and to share their sense of pride and artistic identity with family and friends.

"We never cease to enjoy watching these young artists bloom with the promise of creativity and curiosity about the arts," the group said in a press release. "We invite you to visit the gallery during April and experience their work and share in our joy."

Arts Benicia would also like to remind the community about their upcoming **Family Art Day on Sunday, April 27, 1 to 3 p.m.** Family Art Day is an opportunity for youth and families to explore and think about art and make art together. The annual showcase of Arts Benicia members' art follows in late May. Arts Benicia is looking forward to another celebration of regional talent and creativity in Art of a Community.

The Arts Benicia Gallery is located at 1 Commandant's Lane, Benicia, in the Commanding Officer's Quarters, in the historic Benicia Arsenal.

Gallery hours are Thursday through Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m. Visitors are invited to walk throughout the historic mansion built in 1860, an important and interesting part of the town's history. For more information visit <https://artsbenicia.org>

Arts Benicia also offers art classes for adults and youth, many of which are open to beginners. Consider checking out the new classes listed on the Arts Benicia website. For full listings, please visit <https://artsbenicia.org/adult-classes>.

Interested in sponsoring a program with Arts Benicia? The support of local businesses and donors is essential to the quality and reach of the 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/>

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

The April calendar of events for Benicia Veterans Memorial Hall, can be found [here](#).

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



## Upcoming events in Solano County

### Will you be Fairfield's next BBQ Master?



Will you be Fairfield's next BBQ Master at the Blues, Brews & BBQ Cook-Off on **Saturday, April 19, 12 to 4 p.m.**?

Enter the chicken or rib categories, or both! One fee covers all entries. Rib entries will automatically be entered in the People's Choice category and juried judging will be based on Kansas City Barbecue Society rules.

Purchasing a VIP ticket will get you a plateful of saucy, flavorful contestant BBQ ribs, two adult beverages (21 and over), and the chance to vote on the best ribs! VIP's will also enjoy prime shaded seats near the band and a luxury restroom.

VIP tickets sold out last year, so get yours early by clicking [here](#).

## Earth Day: Benicia



Save the date for the annual Earth Day Cleanup Event on **Saturday, April 26, from 8 to 11 a.m.** Meet at the 9<sup>th</sup> Street Park to pick up supplies.

From there, you are free to choose your favorite beach, park, or neighborhood to collect litter. Return to location to have your litter weighed and disposed of.

Bags, buckets, gloves, and a limited supply of litter grabbers will be available, but feel free to bring your own. **All participants are required to sign a waiver.** Forms will be available at the event or feel free to print one and bring with you to save time.

For more information, visit: <https://www.ci.benicia.ca.us/stormwater>

## Earth Day: Vallejo



*April 26: Earth Day Heroes Needed!*



### **What?**

Help us celebrate **Earth Day** and enhance one of Vallejo's beautiful waterways! Join us at Blue Rock Springs Creek from **9 to 11:30 a.m.** for a cleanup throughout the creek corridor.

Park for free at the Wardlaw Dog Park lot, then follow the path behind the dog park and cross the bridge. Wear comfortable clothes, sturdy shoes, hat, sunscreen, and gloves. It's a family-friendly event (if you are under 18, you must be accompanied by an adult). We'll provide tools, buckets, water and refreshments. For questions or to RSVP, email [Info@VallejoWatershedAlliance.org](mailto:Info@VallejoWatershedAlliance.org) or call (707) 652-7812. We hope to see you there!

### **Where?**

Blue Rock Springs Creek (park at Wardlaw Dog Park and cross bridge behind park.)  
1805 Ascott Parkway

### **Earth Daze Festival**

Saturday, April 26, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the 300 Block of Virginia Street in downtown Vallejo. Visit [TheEverWonder.org](http://TheEverWonder.org) for more information.

### **Thanks to our Partners**



Vallejo Watershed Alliance  
707-652-7812  
[Info@VallejoWatershedAlliance.org](mailto:Info@VallejoWatershedAlliance.org)  
[VallejoWatershedAlliance.org](http://VallejoWatershedAlliance.org)



## Garden Tour Hosted by Sustainable Solano

The poster features a central text area on a light green background, surrounded by circular images of various gardens and food forests. The text includes the event title, date, time, location, a QR code, and registration information. At the bottom, it lists the organizing group and a sponsor.

9th Annual  
Demonstration Food Forest  
**Garden Tour**

Learn simple techniques that you can apply to your own yard to create an ecosystem using water wisely

**Saturday, April 26**  
**9 AM - 4 PM**  
**Benicia & Vallejo**



Tour demonstration food forests, pollinator and community gardens in Benicia and Vallejo!

Register for this free event at  
[www.SustainableSolano.org/events](http://www.SustainableSolano.org/events)  
\$15 Suggested Donation

Tour graciously supported by  
magic cabinet

Are you interested in growing your own food or want to replace your lawn with a more sustainable landscape? **The garden tour starts at 9 a.m. at Avant Garden in Benicia on Saturday, April 26.**

**Attendees can pick up maps of participating gardens and visit Benicia gardens from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Vallejo gardens from 1 to 4 p.m. (there will be an opportunity to pick up maps at Vallejo People's Garden from noon to 1 p.m. for those who can only attend in the afternoon).**

The tour is self-guided, and you can visit gardens at your own pace.

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



## Fairfield Police teams with DEA for National Prescription Drug Take Back Day



From a city of Fairfield press release:

**On Saturday, April 26, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**, the Fairfield Police Department and Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) will host the National Prescription Drug Take Back Day **at 1000 Webster Street**. On that day, the DEA and its partners will collect tablets, capsules, patches, and other solid forms of prescription drugs anonymously from approximately 5,000 locations nationwide.

For more than a decade, the event has helped Americans easily rid their homes of unneeded, old, unwanted, or expired medications that too often become a gateway to addiction. Since its inception, Take Back Day has removed 19.2 million pounds (9,600 tons) of medication from circulation.

Collection sites will not accept syringes, sharps, and illicit drugs. Liquid products, such as cough syrup, should remain sealed in their original container with the cap tightly sealed to prevent leakage.

For more information or to find a collection site near you, click [here](#).

## Solano County American Indian Symposium



Join for a captivating Solano Symposium with special guests delving into American Indian topics on history, healing and sustainability organized by Partnership Healthplan of California.

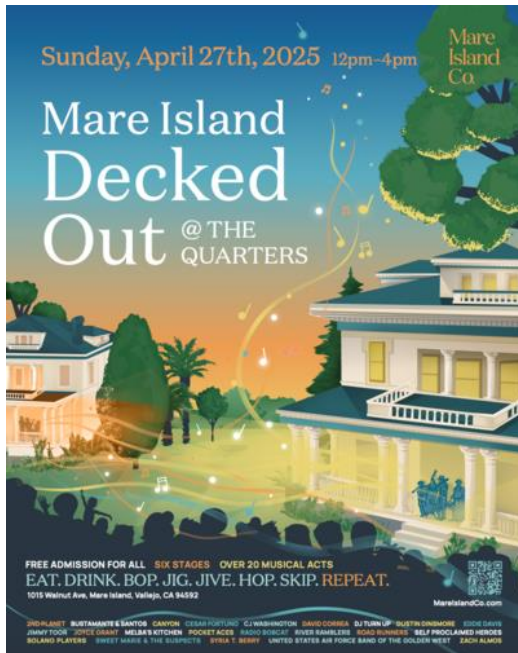
The Solano County American Indian Symposium is tailored to engage with the indigenous community through panel discussions and presentations.



Partnership HealthPlan of California is a non-profit community-based health care organization that contracts with the state to administer Medi-Cal benefits through local care providers to ensure Medi-Cal recipients have access to high-quality comprehensive cost-effective health care.

The symposium will take place from **8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sunday, April 27, at Touro University California at 1310 Club Drive on Mare Island in the city of Vallejo.**

## Mare Island Decked Out at The Quarters



## Bunco

Delta Xi Chapter  
of  
Delta Kappa Gamma  
Presents a Fundraiser for our Chapter Projects

### Bunco for Books



Tuesday, April 29, 2025  
5 pm social hour/dinner Bunco starts at 6 pm  
**Tickets are \$30.00**

Solano Event Center  
601 Texas St., Fairfield

Ticket includes: Salad Supper, Dessert and a Glass of Wine/tea/coffee

Silent Auction/Raffle Sales for gift baskets or gifts

Mark your calendars now. Invite friends to join the fun.

Call Dorothy Smart(707-688-5945), Gayle Korn (707-480-75710, with questions

## Homeless Outreach Partnership Event on April 30

HOMELESS.OUTREACH.PARTNERSHIP.ENGAGEMENT

# H.O.P.E.

RESOURCE FAIR



From the city of Fairfield:

The Homeless Services Division is hosting a Homeless Outreach Partnership Event (HOPE) on **Wednesday, April 30, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at Liberty Church, (2641 N Texas St.) in Fairfield.**

Volunteers are needed to assist at the event. Resources available for the unhoused will include food, Medi-Cal, Cal-Fresh services, mobile showers, and more! Attendees may also ride the bus to the event for free on April 30. Simply board the Route 3 bus and let the driver know you are attending the HOPE event.

Homeless Services is looking for service providers that can assist with housing, prevention, and support services for the unhoused at the event and are now accepting vendor applications.

For more information or if you would like to volunteer, please call (707) 428-7679.

## Junk in the Trunk



Clean out your garage and make some extra cash at Junk in the Trunk on **Saturday, May 3 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Laurel Creek Community Park, 2986 Guld Drive.**

Seller spots: \$30 (2 spaces) | \$55 (3 spaces). Reserve your space now, by clicking [here](#).

## Next Trash Mob is May 3 in Cordelia



From a city of Fairfield press release:

The city of Fairfield is seeking volunteers to help with the next quarterly Trash Mob in Cordelia.

Trash Mobs allow you to connect with your local community and foster relationships built on positive changes, while helping to clean up our parks, streams, and neighborhoods which benefit our community. And students can earn community service hours for school!

### Key Details:

**Location:** AM / PM Store at 105 Lopes Road in Cordelia

**Date and Time:** Saturday, May 3, from 9 to 11 a.m.

Please dress for the weather and wear comfortable shoes (NO CROCS) and long pants. Snacks, water, and all supplies will be provided. Public Works will be onsite to collect the full trash bags.

Contact Karen Rees to register at [krees@fairfield.ca.gov](mailto:krees@fairfield.ca.gov) or call (707) 428-7767. Volunteers must complete a waiver form. For those under age 18, a parent or guardian signature is required.

## Behavioral Health Resource Fair



Mark your calendars! Solano County Behavioral Health is hosting a Resource Fair on **Friday, May 9, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 601 Texas Street, Fairfield.**

This outdoor event will bring together a variety of organizations that are eager to share valuable resources and support with the community. We invite local organizations to participate—it's a great opportunity to connect with the public and showcase your services.

## Maykers Market



From the city of Fairfield:

The city of Fairfield continues to support the local and small businesses by bringing the community together with a spring edition of Maykers Market - Mother's Day Special Edition.

**Come join on May 10, from 12 to 5 p.m. in Downtown Fairfield!** This event will showcase downtown businesses and feature a vendor market pop-up with local artisans, crafts, baked goods, and more!

Contact [vendors.fairfieldsuisun@gmail.com](mailto:vendors.fairfieldsuisun@gmail.com) for more information.

## Events I attended this week

**Sunday, April 13**, I attended the Mare Island Historic Park Foundation Speaker Series “The Magic of the Organ.” I learn so much about organs. St. Peter’s Chapel pipe organ has been maintained by Schoenstein & Co. (A Benicia company). A wonderful PowerPoint was shown. Several folks played the organ. The presentation was video. Watch it if you can.

**Tuesday, April 15**, I attended the Fairfield City Council meeting. Ana Petero, currently on the governing board of the Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District, was honored for starting the Clean the Streets (Pick up trash) program. Many volunteers were honored as at least 50 streets are cleaned. I also attended to support Marianne Butler and the SRCD (Solano Resource Conservation District). Ms. Butler showed pictures of students who are learning about the environment. Students look at insects in the water. What does that tell us about the water? Is it healthy?

Carquinez Village- asked me to be a guest speaker for their monthly Speaker’s Series held on Thursday morning, April 17. Topics ranged from Social Security, status of Medicare, Federal Budget, water issues in the county. It was fun to see friends and realize we are all in this upside-down world together. Let’s hope there is not a recession. inflation, and everyone receives their social security checks on time.

## 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

Genius Girl statue in downtown Vallejo. Photo: John Glidden

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First elected in 2016, Monica represents District 2 on the Solano County Board of Supervisors. District 2 encompasses the city of Benicia, the portion of Vallejo south of Georgia Street, Mare Island, Cordelia, Green Valley and a portion of Fairfield.