



**SUPERVISOR MONICA BROWN NEWSLETTER**

January 17, 2025



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**Important Numbers Resources and Dates**

**District 2 Office**

(707) 784-3031

**Clerk of the Board & County Administrator's Office**

(707) 784-6100

**Veterans Services**

(707) 784-6590

**Health & Social Services**

(707) 784-8400

**Assessor/Recorder**

(707) 784-6200

**Resource Management**

(707) 784-6765

**Registrar of Voters**

(707) 784-6675

**Tax Collector/Treasurer/County Clerk**

(707) 784-7485

**MLK March and Program - Vallejo**

NAACP VALLEJO BRANCH #1081  
**"I HAVE A DREAM"**  
**MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.**

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

MLK Jr. March new route along Mare Island Parkway

<b>SUN</b> 5:30 PM	<b>1/19</b>	<b>MON</b> 9:00 AM	<b>1/20</b>	<b>INSTALLATION</b> <b>VM</b> <b>VALLEJO</b> <b>MUSEUM</b>
NAACP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE INSTALLATION		MLK JR. DAY MARCH AND PROGRAM		

The MLK Day March and Program is scheduled for **Monday, January 20 at 9 a.m. with a new route starting at Kentucky Street and Mare Island Way ending at the Vallejo Room, on the first Floor of the John F. Kennedy Library in downtown Vallejo, 505 Santa Clara Street.**

## Benicia Community MLK Day Celebration

**On Monday, January 20, Benicia's 6th public observance of Martin Luther King Day will be held at 7 p.m. at Community Congregational UCC, 1305 West 2nd St.**

All who attend will be encouraged to reflect, sing together, and share their particular reasons for honoring Dr. King "in these turbulent days." In this way we will sustain one another with the "power of endurance."

A pick-up choir will get together at 6 p.m. to rehearse "The Storm Is Passing Over." Email [msgast45@gmail.com](mailto:msgast45@gmail.com) to receive a copy of the music.



## Closures for MLK holiday



The Solano County Government Center will be closed in observance of the Martin Luther King holiday on Monday, January 20.

All Solano County Library branches will be closed on Monday, January 20th, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.



## CITY OF VALLEJO HOLIDAY CLOSURE

MONDAY, JANUARY 20, 2025

City offices will be closed in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day  
City Hall will reopen on Tuesday, January 21, 2025, at 9:00 AM

CITY OF VALLEJO  
555 SANTA CLARA STREET  
VALLEJO, CA 94590

FIRE/LIFE SAFETY EMERGENCIES: 911  
MAINTENANCE EMERGENCIES: (707) 648-5235

CITYOFVALLEJO.NET  
FACEBOOK.COM/CITYOFVALLEJO  
INSTAGRAM.COM/CITYOFVALLEJO

### Area Agency on Aging

(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

## Information this week

### State Route 220 J-Mack Ferry Returns to Service Following Inspection and Repairs



From a Caltrans press release:

Caltrans has resumed service on the State Route 220 J-Mack ferry with service to Ryer Island in the Sacramento River Delta.

The J-Mack recently completed its mandated inspection with the U.S. Coast Guard and, following minor repairs and installation of a new cable, is now available to motorists.

For the latest information and schedules, call the Caltrans Ferry Update Line at (510) 622-0120. Motorists can also find additional information by clicking [here](#).

## CHP Senior Volunteer Program



Are you 55 years or older and looking for a meaningful way to give back to your community? The CHP Senior Volunteer Program offers an opportunity to make a difference by assisting your local CHP office in providing vital public services.

Requirements to Apply:

- ✓ Be at least 55 years old
- ✓ Commit to a minimum of 4 hours per week

- ✔ Pass a background check
- ✔ Maintain a good driving record
- ✔ Complete the CHP Senior Volunteer Training Program

This program operates statewide, with positions available at CHP offices near you. Join a team dedicated to serving California’s communities while building connections and supporting public safety.

For more information on our Senior Volunteer Program, and other helpful tips, contact your local CHP office, or visit the CHP website: [CHP Programs & Services](<https://www.chp.ca.gov/Programs-Services>) and apply today!

## Medicare

**CONFUSED ABOUT MEDICARE..**  
**CALL HICAP!**  
 the MEDICARE Health Insurance Counseling & Advocacy Program.

**HICAP** Health Insurance Counseling & Advocacy Program  
 Free Services to Medicare Beneficiaries

Before you consider all the options, sit with a truly unbiased source so you can make more informed decisions.

**SHIP** State Health Insurance Assistance Program  
 Navigating Medicare

California Department of AGING

**TRUSTED SOURCE** for unbiased help as the **TECHNICAL EXPERTS** on Medicare, since 1986

[www.SeniorAdvocacyServices.org/HICAP](http://www.SeniorAdvocacyServices.org/HICAP)

For more information about Medicare, click [here](#). To learn more about Senior Advocacy Services, click [here](#).

Also, to learn more about what’s new for Medicare in 2025, click [here](#).

## Solano Senior Fraud Prevention Center

Solano Public Health’s Older and Disabled Adult Services (ODAS) Bureau encourages residents to check out their resource

[www.SolanoScamCenter.org](http://www.SolanoScamCenter.org) which houses the Solano Senior Fraud Prevention Center, to address financial abuse among seniors. Through the Solano Senior Fraud Prevention Center, seniors and others will be educated so that they will not become a victim. The new website Solano Senior Fraud Prevention Center is on the Network of Care – [www.SolanoCares.org](http://www.SolanoCares.org) site, [www.SolanoScamCenter.org](http://www.SolanoScamCenter.org).



## H5N1 Resources

H5N1 bird flu is widespread in wild birds worldwide and is causing outbreaks in poultry and U.S. dairy cows with currently 66 reported human cases and 1 death in the United States during 2024.

While the current public health risk is low, Solano Public Health is monitoring the situation. For additional resources and updates on the current situation,



visit the [California Department of Public Health's Bird Flu page](#) or the [Center's for Disease Control and Prevention's H5N1 Bird Flu: Current Situation page](#)

## Ensuring Progress Toward California's Master Plan for Aging Goals



From the Little Hoover Commission:

California is almost halfway through its Master Plan for Aging, a comprehensive 10-year blueprint that presents a bold vision for the future of the state's aging population. Last year's Little Hoover Commission review of the initiative provides important insights as California embarks on the next chapter of plan implementation.

State leaders have made [important progress](#) in key areas. More than 30,000 direct care workers received stipends and incentives for training. The state also made gains in ensuring inclusive and equitable policies, another key goal. The state surveyed older LGBTQIA+ adults, developed an Equity Score data tool, and created [older adult demographic profiles](#) for each of California's 58 counties.

Later this month, the 2025 annual report of the Master Plan will be released and with it, a new set of initiatives to guide work over the next two years. This builds on more than 200 implementing initiatives the state has launched since 2021.

As the Commission noted in [Early Implementation of California's Master Plan for Aging](#), a report released in January of 2024, the scope of the Master Plan is ambitious. But many of the initiatives thus far—half of those marked active during our study—focused on researching or communicating information rather than delivering results.

The Commission also found that tracking progress on these initiatives was difficult. For one, the [online tool](#) used to publicly show what work has been completed was challenging to navigate and the status of specific initiatives was unclear.

Nor did the state have short- or long-term aspirational goals and timeframes for completion—making it hard to gauge what work has been accomplished under the Master Plan and to drive future progress.

Additionally, the Commission found that the state's lack of clearly defined and formalized leadership roles and responsibilities is risking success in implementation. This is especially true if the next administration does not share the same enthusiasm as the current one.

California cannot afford to jeopardize its efforts to assist its rapidly aging population, [one-fourth](#) of which will be 65 or older by 2060. To strengthen the forward momentum of the Master Plan effort, the Commission urged the state to:

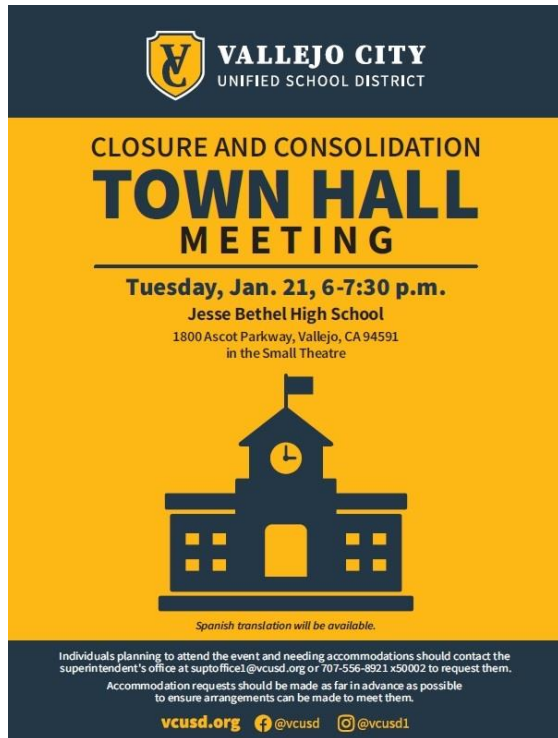
- Emphasize direct benefits to Californians by prioritizing support for programs or policies that deliver results.
- Improve transparency by updating the [Implementation Tracker](#) to show what work is underway, what has been accomplished, what has been merged or modified, and what has stopped.
- Establish a roadmap for implementation marked by specific, measurable metrics and timeframes for completion to achieve meaningful change within the Master Plan's goal areas.
- Ensure strong leadership throughout the entirety of the effort by clarifying and codifying key roles and responsibilities.
- Extract deeper insights to inform future planning and promote accountability by merging administrative datasets.

To read the Commission's full report on Master Plan for Aging implementation and find more information about the Commission's work on the subject, click [here](#)

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## Public hearings

### VCUSD to Host Town Hall Meeting on School Consolidation



From a Vallejo City Unified School District press release:

The Vallejo City Unified School District (VCUSD) invites families, staff, and community members to a town hall meeting to discuss potential school closures and consolidation. **The meeting will occur on Tuesday, January**

**21, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the Jesse Bethel High School Small Theatre, 1800 Ascot Parkway.**

This town hall provides an opportunity to learn more about the proposals and share feedback directly with district leadership. We encourage everyone to attend and engage in this critical conversation about the future of our schools.

Superintendent Rubén Aurelio and district leaders will present the factors driving the consolidation proposals, including enrollment trends, budget constraints, and long-term planning for academic success. Following the presentation, attendees can ask questions and provide feedback in a structured setting.

“These decisions are never easy, and we are committed to ensuring that our community is informed and involved throughout this process,” said Superintendent Rubén Aurelio. “We value every voice and want to hear from as many stakeholders as possible before making final decisions.”

The meeting will be conducted in English and Spanish to accommodate our diverse community. Translation services will also be available at the session to ensure inclusivity.

Feedback from these meetings will be critical in shaping the district’s next steps. For those unable to attend in person, a meeting summary and a feedback form will be available on the district’s website shortly after each session.

Individuals planning to attend the event and needing accommodations should contact the superintendent’s office at [suptoffice1@vcusd.org](mailto:suptoffice1@vcusd.org) or (707) 556-8921 x50002 to request them. Accommodation requests should be made as far in advance as possible to ensure arrangements can be made to meet them.

For more information or questions about the town hall meetings, contact VCUSD at [communicationsoffice@vcusd.org](mailto:communicationsoffice@vcusd.org) or click [here](#).

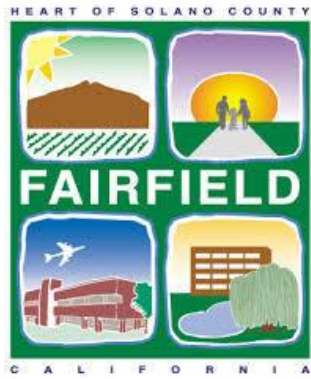
## **Vallejo City Council meeting on city departments**

The Vallejo City Council will host a special meeting on **Tuesday, January 21 at 6 p.m.** to receive presentations on the functions of each city department.



The meeting will be held inside the Vallejo City Hall Council Chambers, 555 Santa Clara Street and online. For more information, and/or to view the agenda, click [here](#).

## Fairfield City Council Retreat



The Fairfield City Council will hold their council retreat special meetings next weekend to provide direction on the organization's goals and key projects that will guide the budget and employee activities. The meetings will be held in person only and the public is encouraged to come and participate.

The retreat schedule is as follows:

### **Council Retreat Day 1**

**Friday, January 24: 5 to 8 p.m.**

**Police Training Facility, 1717 Rex Clift Lane, Fairfield**

### **Council Retreat Day 2**

**Saturday, January 25: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

**Police Training Facility, 1717 Rex Clift Lane, Fairfield**

For more information, call the City of Fairfield at (707) 428-7400. The agenda will be posted January 22 or 23 at [fairfield.ca.gov/councilagendas](http://fairfield.ca.gov/councilagendas).

## Vallejo monitor

### Vallejo Community Session

#### The Vallejo Police Department Evaluator Team

In Person Meeting | Monday, January 27, 2025

**DATE:** January 27, 2025

**LOCATION:**

Vallejo Room - City Hall  
555 Santa Clara Street

**TIME:** 6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

**DURATION:** 1.5 hours

The session will be accessible to Spanish and Tagalog speakers.

If you have any questions, contact the Evaluator Team [contact@vallejomonitor.com](mailto:contact@vallejomonitor.com)

**Vallejo Community Members:**

Please come meet the Vallejo Evaluation Team overseeing the implementation of the reforms under the Agreement between the City of Vallejo and the California Department of Justice.

We invite the Vallejo community to participate in a listening session to share their perspectives regarding the Vallejo Police Department (VPD). We would also like to hear about your experiences with VPD and the outcomes you would like to see under the reform work.

The Vallejo Evaluation Team will speak about the specific requirements of the Evaluator under the Agreement and the Year One focus for implementation of the agreed-upon reforms.

This session will be in person, and a summary of notes will be posted on our website. You can find a summary of our last session here:

<https://www.vallejomonitor.com/community-voices>



JENSEN HUGHES

The Vallejo Evaluator oversees the implementation of the Settlement Agreement (Agreement) entered into by the California Department of Justice



(CALDOJ), the Vallejo Police Department (VPD) and the City of Vallejo (City) (the Parties) on April 8, 2024. The Agreement contains a series of police reform measures that the City and VPD will implement.

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

## State Route 37 Sears Point to Mare Island Improvement Project



State Route 37 is an important regional connection linking the north, east and west SF Bay Region following along the northern shore of San Pablo Bay. This 21-mile-long roadway from US 101 to I-80 connects job markets and housing within Marin, Sonoma, Napa and Solano counties.

The future of the State Route 37 Corridor requires finding solutions to traffic congestion, periodic flooding, and rising sea levels. But it will also require balancing transportation needs with protecting and enhancing sensitive marshland habitats. Planning a long-term solution presents an opportunity to provide bicycle, pedestrian, transit, and carpool options for all travelers, and enhance the quality of life for residents and build stronger local and regional economy for all. Caltrans is working with its [partner agencies](#), The Metropolitan Transportation Commission and the four North Bay County Transportation Agencies to develop a more resilient corridor.

- [Draft Supplemental Environmental Document \(PDF\)](#) is now available for review.
  - **Public Comment Period: Through February 3, 2025.** Comments may be submitted via the following methods:
    - Email to [stateroute37@dot.ca.gov](mailto:stateroute37@dot.ca.gov)
    - Postal Mail addressed to:  
Caltrans District 4  
ATTN: Skylar Nguyen, Senior Environmental Scientist  
P.O. Box 23660, MS: 8B, Oakland, CA 94623-0660

To view the SR 37 Projects Visual Library, click [here](#). Below is a rendering of the proposed tolling Gantry East of the Tubbs Island Trailhead Road Intersection Looking East.



## Updates from around Solano County

### In Memoriam



Longtime journalist and former Benicia Herald, and Vallejo Times-Herald reporter Jessica York died last week after a four-year battle with neuroendocrine cancer less than two weeks shy of her 44th birthday, it was announced.

At the time of her death, Jessica was a reporter with the Santa Cruz Sentinel. She joined the Sentinel in 2014 after writing for the Alameda Journal from 2006 to 2007, then becoming a full-time reporter at the Benicia Herald from 2007 to 2008. From there, she joined the staff of the Vallejo Times-Herald where

she covered local politics.

[Article](#) about Jessica's passing.

Vallejo Times-Herald City Editor Thomas Gase wrote about Jessica's passing: "[Jessica York always enjoyed the journey](#)"

## Wildfires can happen anytime - be prepared!

**KNOW YOUR ZONE** **BE PREPARED FOR EMERGENCIES**

Disasters can strike at any time. To be prepared follow the steps below:

- Find your zone at [protect.genasys.com](https://protect.genasys.com)
- Enter your address into the research bar
- Find your zone in the pop-up window and **write it down** and post somewhere easy to find

**FAIRFIELD.CA.GOV/PREPARE**

## Wildfires Can Happen Anytime – Be Prepared!

The recent tragic fires in Southern California are a sobering reminder of the importance of emergency preparedness.

The Know Your Zone campaign was launched to help residents learn their emergency evacuation zones. Disasters like wildfires, earthquakes, and floods can strike at any moment, and knowing your zone could save precious time during an emergency.

### What You Can Do:

1. Determine your evacuation zone by visiting [www.fairfield.ca.gov/zone](http://www.fairfield.ca.gov/zone)
2. Write it down and post it in an easy-to-find location.
3. Stay alert for emergency notifications from local authorities.
4. In an emergency, officials will use these zones to issue alerts and updates. Be proactive and stay informed.

You can pick up a free Know Your Zone card at the Council Chamber, City Hall lobby, or request one from the City Manager's Office.

For more information, visit [www.fairfield.ca.gov/prepare](http://www.fairfield.ca.gov/prepare). Let's work together to stay safe!

## Water Supply Economic Report



To read an economic impact analysis of potential changes to Berryessa water supply, click [here](#).

## Free Digital Literacy Classes



From the city of Fairfield:

Four class series with eight hours of training = Computer Skills and a free laptop to keep!

**Mondays and Wednesdays, 1/27, 1/29, 2/3, and 2/5: 3 to 5 p.m. inside the Fairfield Community Center, Lakeside, Suite B. 1000 Kentucky Street, Fairfield.**

Participants will learn how to:

- Create & use an email account
- Safely search the internet
- Use Google Suite and other tools
- Sign up for low-cost internet plans
- And more!

To register, click [here](#).

For more information, call (707) 419-6165 or email SolanoConnected@techexchange.org

## Winged Migration Expo hosted by Vallejo Flood and Wastewater District



Join the Vallejo Flood and Wastewater District on February 1 and 2 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. for their Winged Migration Expo and support the community through knowledge preservation of the Pacific Flyway in California and celebrate its birds within the natural world.

This free event will involve interactive kids' activities, speakers and experts, wing-themed art and vendors, and live or virtual tours of the island.

The location is building 34 on Nimitz Ave, Vallejo, CA 94592. For more information, visit the website [here](#).

## Exclusively Black prenatal groups hosted by Solano HEALS



*Preparing for pregnancy and childbirth with a supportive community of Doulas.*

### Who should attend...

Pregnant Black women living in Solano County who are seeking a supportive environment to learn how to process their trauma and develop techniques to support their pregnancy journey.

### What to expect...

- A supportive community of pregnant women with Doula led curriculum.
- Improved insight into your pregnancy journey and how to empower your birthing experience.

Groups are **free!**  
Wednesdays - Feb 5th to Mar 26th  
from 5-7 p.m.



Scan to fill out the interest form!

### Free Giveaways!

Participants who complete program aspects will have the chance to receive giveaways!

- Pack N' Play Portable Playard
- New Parent Kit from First 5 Solano
- Handmade Blanket
- Produce from Park It Market

*Attendance at a virtual preliminary information session is required before the group begins. Virtual session will be on Thursday, January 30th from 5-6 p.m.*

www.solanoheals.com | solanoheals@gmail.com



Starting February 5, 2025, Solano HEALS is providing an 8-week session to pregnant Black women living in Solano County who are seeking a supportive environment to learn how to process their trauma and develop techniques to support their pregnancy journey.

Participants can expect doula led curriculum, improved insight into your pregnancy journey, and free giveaways. Interest form available [here](#).

## Effective Black Parenting classes

The Solano County Office of Education is proud to offer the Effective Black Parenting Training Classes, specifically designed for parents of color.

This 8-week course is aimed at promoting family pride and cohesion, helping families set meaningful goals for their children, and identifying the necessary steps to achieve those goals. Through this interactive training, parents will gain valuable tools to strengthen their role in their children's lives and ensure their success.

**The course time will be 5 to 6 p.m. central standard time (CST) and will be conducted primarily online, with in-person meetings every other Thursday.**

Participants will also have the opportunity to celebrate their achievements at a closing graduation ceremony on February 28th, 2025.

To register, click [here](#).

## Rosie the Riveter



A press release from the Office of Congressman John Garamendi

This week, Representative John Garamendi (D-CA-08), along with Representatives Mark DeSaulnier (D-CA-10), Jared Huffman (D-CA-02), Kevin Mullin (D-CA-15), Debbie Dingell (D-MI-06), and Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA-01) and joined by over 80 of their colleagues, introduced bipartisan legislation which would create a commemorative coin to honor the millions of women who

supported the Home Front during World War II. This year marks the 25th anniversary of the Rosie the Riveter/ WWII Home Front National Historical Park in Richmond, CA.

The “Rosie the Riveter Commemorative Coin Act” will design a series of commemorative coins meant to capture the great diversity of the WWII Home Front workforce. The surcharges from the sale of these coins will support the maintenance and repair of the Rosie the Riveter WWII Home Front National Historical Park, and educational and commemorative programming.

“This bill is a key step honoring millions of women for selflessly supporting the wartime effort during World War II,” **said Rep. Garamendi**. “I’m proud that as the first bill I introduced this Congress, the Rosie the Riveter Commemorative Coin Act is a testament to our community’s own Rosie the Riveter National Historical Park, where Rosies at the Kaiser Shipyards in Richmond helped



produce more than 700 vessels during World War II. These commemorative coins will serve to remind us of the dedication of these women as they made countless contributions to their country while spearheading women's empowerment for decades to come."

"As the executive director of Rosie the Riveter Trust, the official philanthropic partner of Rosie the Riveter/WWII Home Front National Historical Park, I am deeply inspired by the bipartisan efforts to honor the enduring legacy of the Rosies. These women shaped the outcome of World War II and laid the foundation for today's workforce diversity and equity. This recognition ensures their contributions remain a beacon for future generations, embodying resilience, unity, and progress," **said Sarah Pritchard, Executive Director of Rosie the Riveter Trust.**

Between 1940 and 1945, the percentage of women in the workforce jumped from 27% to nearly 37%. By the end of the war, nearly one out of every four married women worked outside the home. As riveters, welders, and other laborers, this diverse women workforce played an integral part in meeting the ever-growing war-effort demand for materials in factories, shipyards, and farms, as well as for support services in schools and hospitals.

On April 10th, 2024, Congress awarded the Congressional Gold Medal to Rosie the Riveter in honor of every woman who supported American war efforts during World War II.

The full text of the "Rosie the Riveter Commemorative Coin Act" is available [here](#).

## Solano County Water Agency accepting entries for Water Awareness Video Contest



15TH ANNUAL SOLANO COUNTY WATER AGENCY  
**WATER AWARENESS VIDEO CONTEST**

THIS YEAR'S THEME:  
**The Water Cycle:  
Why we need to  
Think Outside the Sink**

FOR 6TH - 12TH GRADE STUDENTS

CASH PRIZES AWARDED FOR OVERALL WINNERS & SPONSORING TEACHERS

Create a one-minute public service announcement video explaining how we can all work together to conserve water on a broad scale.  
We encourage students to think about ALL the different ways people, industries, and institutions use water.

LEARN MORE 

OR VISIT [WWW.SCWA2.COM](http://WWW.SCWA2.COM)

Submissions open	Contest deadline
January 6, 2025	March 18, 2025



The Solano County Water Agency is now accepting entries from Solano County students in grades 6 through 12 and their sponsoring teachers for the Water Agency's 15th annual video contest. Winning entries will receive up to \$1,500.

This year's theme is The Water Cycle: Why We Need to Think Outside the Sink. The contest is challenging students to explore the need for Solano County residents to think globally and act locally in order to conserve water.

Students should create a one-minute public service announcement video explaining how we can all work together to conserve water on a broad scale. In their PSAs, we encourage students to think about all the different ways people, industries, and institutions use water, and to offer creative conservation steps for individuals and our society at-large to take.

This year, the Solano County Water Agency will award prizes of \$1,500 to the first-place video, \$1,000 to the second-place video, and \$500 to the third-place video. Additionally, the winning entry from each school with ten or more submissions will be awarded a \$100 gift card. The three teachers who generate the most student participation in the contest will each win a \$200 gift card.

Entries will be judged by a panel of water efficiency experts and community leaders for content, accuracy, and response to the assigned theme; entertainment value and originality; videography, style and organization; and audio/sound quality.

Complete information about the 2025 video contest, water conservation information, samples of past winning videos, and the 2025 entry packet is available by clicking [here](#).

Entries can be submitted through e-mail to [Education@solanorcd.org](mailto:Education@solanorcd.org), via Google Drive using the form found on the contest website, or on a USB flash drive via US mail or delivered in person to the Solano Resource Conservation District office in Dixon.

Release forms and entry forms must accompany video submissions in order for them to be considered.

**All entries and paperwork must be received by Tuesday, March 18, at 5 p.m.**

Contact Shea Kinser at Solano Resource Conservation District at [shea.kinser@solanorcd.org](mailto:shea.kinser@solanorcd.org) with questions or for more information.

# "Stripped for Parts" Documentary Film Event



**"Stripped for Parts" Documentary Film Screening Event on Thursday, January 30 at CSU Maritime Campus, Rizza Auditorium. 200 Maritime Academy Drive.**

"Stripped for Parts: American Journalism on the Brink" is the story of one secretive hedge fund that is plundering America's newspapers and the journalists who are fighting back.

Investigative reporter Julie Reynolds, *Denver Post* editorialist Chuck Plunkett and a handful of others, backed by the NewsGuild union, go toe-to-toe with the faceless Alden Global Capital in a battle to save and rebuild local journalism across America. Who will control the future of America's news ecosystem: Wall Street billionaires concerned only with profit, or those who see journalism as an essential public service and the lifeblood of our democracy?

## **Order of Events:**

4 to 5 p.m.: reception

5 to 6:30 p.m.: documentary screening

6:30 to 7:30 p.m.: Q&A with filmmaker Rick Goldsmith

**Hyperlink for the Registration form:** <https://forms.office.com/r/EXRpJEpXfc>

**Documentary site and trailer:** <https://strippedforpartsfilm.com>

## Benicia Chamber of Commerce 78th Annual Installation Dinner and Business Awards



The Benicia Chamber of Commerce will host its 78th Annual Installation Dinner & Business of the Year Awards. This year's dinner is hosted by the Chair of the Board, and the 2025 Directors.

Cocktail hour will begin at 6 p.m. followed by dinner and program at 7 p.m. Tickets must be purchased in advance due to assigned seating. No tickets will be sold at the door.

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

## Benicia's Third Annual State of the City

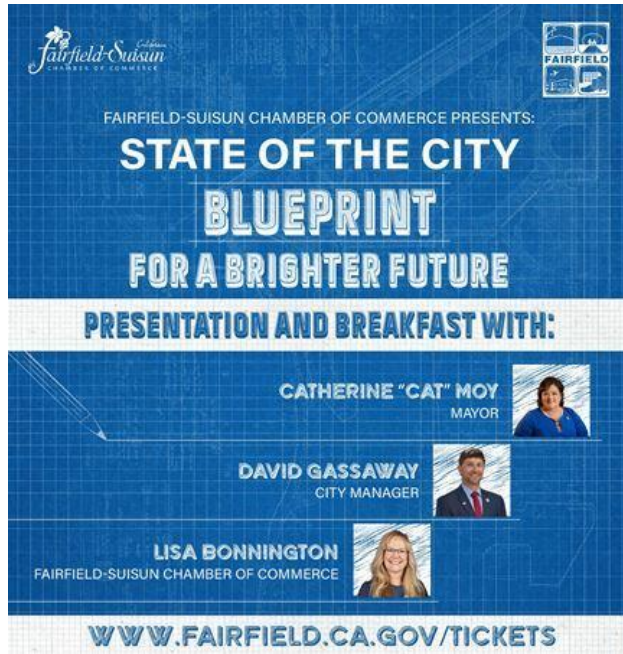


**On February 11, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.**, the city of Benicia and the Benicia Chamber of Commerce will host the Third Annual State of the City, presented by Mayor Steve Young and City Manager Mario Giuliani.

**The event will be held at the Benicia Clock Tower, 1189 Washington Street.**

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

## State of the City Event to unveil “Blueprint for a Brighter Future” on February 20



The Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with the city of Fairfield, invites the community to the State of the City Event, "Blueprint for a Brighter Future," on **February 20 from 8 to 10 a.m.** at the Hilton Garden Inn, 2200 The Courtyard in Fairfield.

Mayor Catherine "Cat" Moy, City Manager David Gassaway, and Chamber President Lisa Bonnington will host the event, which will include breakfast, a State of the City presentation, and a panel with local business and sector leaders. Discussions will focus on key topics such as Fairfield's economic climate, commerce, growth, manufacturing, workforce development, and real estate trends.

Registration is now open for attendees at \$55 per person. Space is limited, so interested individuals are encouraged to secure their spots now.

Don't miss this unique opportunity to gain a broader perspective of the city of Fairfield's achievements and future endeavors.

For tickets and reservations, click [here](http://www.fairfield.ca.gov/tickets).



## Bay Area's Vallejo is getting its first 'diverging diamond' traffic interchange. Here's how it works



Normally, the thrill of visiting the Bay Area's Six Flags Discovery Kingdom involves the twists and turns of roller coasters with alluring names like Medusa, Boomerang and Sidewinder Safari.

But soon, getting to and from the Vallejo amusement park will include some thrills of its own, taking vehicles through a "diverging diamond" — a new type of traffic interchange that will be the first of its kind in the Bay Area and only the second in California.

To continue reading, click [here](#). Image courtesy of Caltrans.

## Fairfield seeks applicants for the CDBG Advisory Committee



The city of Fairfield is accepting applications for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Advisory Committee. Meetings are held when necessary.

Five seats will be available to fill an unexpired term of January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2028. Applicants must be residents of the city of Fairfield and registered voters. The mayor will appoint the committee member with the approval of the City Council.

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

The CDBG Advisory Committee participates in community meetings and public hearings during the development of the City's 5-Year Consolidated Plan and Annual Action plan update, reviews applications for CDBG funding, receives testimony from applicants, makes annual CDBG allocation

recommendations to the City Council and reviews the annual performance and evaluation report detailing the City's progress toward accomplishing the goals set forth in the plan. The recruitment process is ongoing until positions are filled.

Applications are available at the City Clerk's Office at Fairfield City Hall, 1000 Webster Street, 4th floor.

[Download the application](#), or request one by mail or email by contacting Deputy City Clerk Esther Beavers at (707) 428-7402 or [cityclerk@fairfield.ca.gov](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

## Ekphrastic - Fairfield

*Suzanne Bruce, Fairfield Poet Laureate Emerita  
and the Fairfield-Suisun City Visual Arts Association  
invite you to write a poem to an art piece*

**Exhibit: Show Me Your Color**



**Spotlight Artist: Dennis Ariza**

**Exhibit dates: January 8 through February 23, 2025**  
Solano Town Center Gallery:  
1350 Travis Blvd #D-8 (inside the Town Center Mall)

**Art Reception and Poetry Reading:**  
*Saturday, January 18, 2025*  
*Art Reception- 3:00-6:00pm*  
*Poetry Reading- 5:00-6:00pm*

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

Or online, beginning January 7<sup>th</sup>:  
[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, January 16<sup>th</sup>- 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

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

# Solano Reads 2025



Join the Solano County Library for a fun and rewarding year of reading as part of its **Read-a-Thon** challenge! Here's how you can get involved:

## 1. Beginning January 2, Sign Up at Your Local Library

Head to your nearest library to register for the challenge. Friendly library staff will be happy to help you get started.

## 2. Pick Up Your Gameboard

Once registered, you'll receive a special **gameboard** filled with reading prompts. The gameboard is designed with different **mile markers**, each with a unique reading challenge to inspire and guide your reading journey throughout the year.

## 3. Read and Track Your Progress

For each **mile marker**, choose and complete **one reading prompt** from the list. You can read books, listen to audiobooks, or explore other reading materials based on each prompt. Track your progress on your gameboard as you go!

## 4. Complete the Challenge

Once you've finished reading from every mile marker, **visit your library** to collect your exclusive **Solano Reads medal** as a token of your achievement. You've earned it!

## 5. Online Registration and Tracking

Prefer to sign up and track your progress online? No problem! You can register for the challenge [HERE](#) on the library website and keep track of your readings digitally. Simply log in and update your progress as you go along!

## Who Can Participate?

This challenge is designed for **adults and teens**, but **all ages are welcome** to join the fun. Whether you're reading on your own or as part of a family,

everyone can enjoy the Read-a-Thon! **The program runs from January 2, 2025- December 31, 2025.**

## January events at JFK Library



The John F. Kennedy Public Library is hosting the [following events](#) in January. The library is located at 505 Santa Clara Street in downtown Vallejo.

## City of Fairfield's Parks and Recreation Department hiring

A blue poster with white text and a photo of staff. The text reads: "We're Hiring! Join the Parks & Recreation Team and #DeliverAwesome to our community! Recreation Specialists, Preschool Instructors, Facility Attendants, Activity Specialists, Swim Instructors, Lifeguards and MORE! Apply Today at www.fairfield.ca.gov/jobs". A QR code is in the bottom left, and the "PARKS & RECREATION fairfield CALIFORNIA" logo is in the bottom right. A small note at the bottom left states: "Please Note: Positions are part-time, year-round, non-benefited, and limited to working no more than 1,000 hours in a fiscal year (July 1-June 30). Candidates must be available to work a varied schedule to meet program needs, including weekdays, weekends, and holidays as needed."/>

**We're Hiring!**  
Join the Parks & Recreation Team and #DeliverAwesome to our community!

Recreation Specialists   Preschool Instructors  
Facility Attendants   Activity Specialists  
Swim Instructors   Lifeguards  
and MORE!

Please Note: Positions are part-time, year-round, non-benefited, and limited to working no more than 1,000 hours in a fiscal year (July 1-June 30). Candidates must be available to work a varied schedule to meet program needs, including weekdays, weekends, and holidays as needed.

Apply Today at [www.fairfield.ca.gov/jobs](http://www.fairfield.ca.gov/jobs)

PARKS & RECREATION  
fairfield  
CALIFORNIA

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

## 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.

## January calendar for Benicia Veterans Memorial Hall



The January calendar of events for Benicia Veterans Memorial Hall:

**January 17:** Hamburgers by The American Legion

22 VFW AND Aux meeting is 1900 hours; Judy's Hot dogs

24 Hamburgers by The American Legion Aux

31 Sons of The American Legion

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

## Solano County jobs

Positions	Job Posting Opened
Process Server	01/10/2025
Social Services Supervisor	01/10/2025
Veterinary Technician (Registered)	01/16/2025

NOTE: To be considered for the recruitment(s) listed above you must submit an application by the date indicated in the job announcement. The new eligible list(s) resulting from the above recruitment(s) may replace an existing eligible list; therefore, interested candidates are encouraged to apply for the current recruitment.

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

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



## Vallejo announces Interim Fire Chief



From a city of Vallejo press release:

Vallejo City Manager Andrew Murray has announced that Arthur Gonzales will serve as Interim Fire Chief. Murray thanked former Interim Fire Chief Frank Drayton for his excellent service. Drayton, a former Fire Chief and retired annuitant, was eligible to serve as Vallejo's Interim Fire Chief for a limited period of time. The recruitment process to select a new permanent Fire Chief will commence soon.

Interim Fire Chief Arthur Gonzales is a Vallejo native. Gonzales graduated from Hogan High in 1997. He started with the Vallejo Fire department in 1995 as a Vallejo Fire Explorer and took part in the first Firefighter Trainee Program in 2000.

The Vallejo Fire Department hired Gonzales in January 2001 as a full-time Paramedic Firefighter. He was promoted to Captain in February of 2014, then promoted to Battalion Chief in December of 2022 and most recently held the position of Interim Deputy Chief since April of 2024.

Interim Fire Chief Gonzales says, "The vision of the Vallejo fire department will remain the same: The Vallejo Fire Department will be a progressive organization that provides leadership and high-quality safety to the community we serve. I look forward to building upon the progress we have made as an organization in this interim role."

## Special Events Sponsorship Program



From a city of Vallejo press release:

The Special Events Sponsorship Program (SESP) offers financial assistance to support large-scale special events in the city of Vallejo. The program aims to foster successful high-impact community events.

These events include festivals, parades, and community celebrations that require the services of the Police Department, Fire Department, and/or the Public Works Division on the day(s) of the event.

SESP awards are made once a year through a competitive application and review process.

The SESP awards are meant to partially offset the cost of city services by providing financial support for events. Event producers may request up to 25% of the anticipated total event budget or 100% of the anticipated cost of city services, whichever is higher. Award amounts may be less than the amount requested.

The program is not intended to support events where the primary purpose is fundraising for a cause. To be considered for sponsorship, event organizers must meet all eligibility criteria and apply to the program.

**Eligibility Criteria:**

- Have a principal place of business, as well as an address, in Vallejo.
- Proof of 501(c)3 nonprofit status, IRS Letter of Determination
- In good standing with the California Secretary of State, Active Status
- Registered with the CA Attorney General office, Current Status
- Proof of General Liability Insurance, including SAMS coverage when working with minors
- Current Vallejo Business License
- The event must occur in Vallejo no later than December 31, 2026.

The final amount allocated for the sponsorship program will be announced following the adoption of the City's 2025-26 budget in June 2025.

**Resources:**

**Application Link:**

[https://cityofvallejo.formstack.com/forms/sesp\\_grant\\_application](https://cityofvallejo.formstack.com/forms/sesp_grant_application)

**Applicants Q&A Calls:**

January 29, 2025, at 2:00pm-

**Join Zoom Meeting**

You are invited to attend the Special Event Sponsorship Program Funding Call.

This call aims to answer questions related to the proposal application and the 2025-26 Grant Cycle timeline.

**Time:**

January 29, 2 p.m. Pacific Time (US and Canada)

<https://cityofvallejo.zoom.us/j/84577252708?pwd=bB90h3SAq9wMdHEiTmxrPLv46VeaVq.1>

**Meeting ID:**

845 7725 2708

**Passcode:**

268305

**Administration**

The Vallejo City Manager’s Office administers the Special Event Sponsorship Program. All applications received on time will be reviewed by a committee composed by 3 members of the community and 2 staff members. For detailed information regarding the program, including eligibility, fund use restrictions, evaluation criteria, application instructions

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## Upcoming events in Solano County

### Human trafficking awareness walk

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**#SOLANOIT HAPPENS HERE**

Let's talk about  
**JANUARY IS HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH**

**JANUARY 18TH 2025 AWARENESS WALK**

**START AT 8.30 AM | 580 TEXAS ST, FAIRFIELD, CA 94533**

Stand with us as we walk to raise awareness and support the fight against human trafficking. Hosted by the Solano Anti-Trafficking Coalition, Nature of Sound, the Matt Garcia Foundation, and the Solano Recovery Project, with support from VEST, this event unites the community in a powerful statement against modern slavery.

Survivor Storytelling | Innovative projects | Community driven

CONTACT US AT  
CONTACT@NATUREOFSOUND.ORG  
OR CALL (707) 392-1205

## Get The Rush! at Rush Ranch



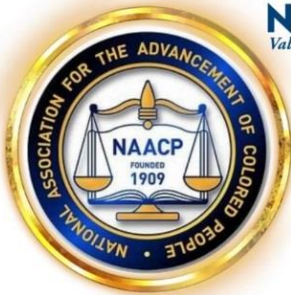
Rush Ranch Open Space is located at 3521 Grizzly Island Road, Suisun City, CA 94585.

Registration for the marsh walk and special lecture is recommended. To register, click [here](#).

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

## NAACP Vallejo Branch Installation

You're cordially invited  
January 19, 2025  
5:30 PM



**NAACP**  
Vallejo Branch

**2025-2026 Executive Committee Installation**

VALLEJO NAVAL AND HISTORICAL MUSEUM  
734 MARIN STREET  
VALLEJO, CA 94590

**Zoom ID: 828 8414 6451 Passcode: 041964**

## Family Justice Center Solano Hosts Open House



Family Justice Center Solano is excited to welcome the community to an **Open House** at its new location, **604 Empire Street, Fairfield, CA 94533**, on January 23. This event will provide an opportunity for community members, partners, and stakeholders to tour the facility and learn more about the essential services Family Justice Center Solano provides to survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, elder abuse, and human trafficking.

The event will feature guided tours, a welcome program, and opportunities to meet the dedicated professionals and partner organizations that make the Center a vital resource for Solano County.

### Event Schedule:

**4 p.m. – Tours Begin**

**4:30 to 5 p.m. – Welcome & Program**

**5 to 6 p.m. – Tours Continue**

“We are thrilled to open our doors to the community and showcase how we are working together to provide hope, healing, and justice for survivors,” said Susun Kim, Executive Director. “This Open House is an opportunity to connect, learn, and collaborate in our mission to support individuals and families in need.”

Light refreshments will be provided.

For more information about the event or the services provided by Family Justice Center Solano, click [here](#) or contact Mayra Sanchez at (707) 784-7635.

## Anime film showing





**On Saturday, January 25**, the Fairfield Civic Center Library will be showing the immensely popular 2016 fantasy anime film "Your Name" from **2 to 4 p.m.** The library is located at **1150 Kentucky Street**.

This film is best suited for teens and adults. Popcorn and water will be provided as well!

## Setting the Bar on Filipino Food

*~You are cordially invited to a special presentation:*

### ***Setting the Bar on Filipino Food***

**Sunday January 26, 2-4pm**



Since 2009 Chef Roline Casper has promoted Filipino culture at her Vacaville restaurant, *Roline's Uniquely Filipino*, home of the original Halo Halo Bar®, Baonnista® gourmet sandwiches, and authentic Kamayan feasts. Roline graduated valedictorian from the Napa Valley Cooking School, and in 2020 released her first book, *The Easy Filipino Cookbook: 100 Classics Made Simple*. Chef Roline will share with us how the dishes she creates are inspired by her childhood, her travels, and those she has met along the way.

**~The McCune Collection~  
Lower-level of JFK Library Bldg  
505 Santa Clara Street, Vallejo CA**

*~Filipino food & light refreshments will be served~*

Enter through the sliding doors from the parking lot behind City Hall  
Details & map: [www.mccunecollection.org/about](http://www.mccunecollection.org/about)

**Roline's**  
**SET THE BAR™**

# Solano County Public Defender Clean Slate Day 2025

**SOLANO COUNTY  
PUBLIC DEFENDER**

**CLEAN  
SLATE  
DAY 2025**

**WHEN**  
January 29, 2025  
9am – 3pm

**WHERE**  
County Events Center  
601 Texas St. Fairfield, CA 94533

**LIMITED SLOTS! REGISTER EARLY!**

**CLEAR YOUR CRIMINAL RECORD!**



**REQUIREMENTS:**

Must not be in violation, on probation, parole, or mandatory supervision

**EVENT HIGHLIGHTS:**

- Clear your felony and misdemeanor convictions
- Clear your juvenile record
- Seal your arrest that did not result in a conviction

**SCAN WITH YOUR  
PHONE TO REGISTER**



**OR VISIT:**

<https://forms.office.com/g/cr6LqnK7g>

For more info:  
FreshStart@SolanoCounty.com  
(707) 784-6700

To apply, click [here](#).

## Benicia Chamber Workshop with Michael Welch

Michael Welch from Wealth Enhancement Group will present on "Options for Small Business Retirement"

The Workshop will be held in the Benicia Chamber of Commerce Boardroom from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Wednesday, January 29. The Benicia Chamber of Commerce is located at 601 First St. Ste. 100.



This event is free for chamber members and \$25 for non-members.

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

## Black History Month Documentary



Join the Solano County Library for a screening of the documentary "100 Years from Mississippi".

This film is (1hr) and rated NR. Open to all ages, but children must be accompanied by an adult. Popcorn and water will be provided.

The showing will take place from 1:15 to 2:15 p.m., Saturday, February 1 at the Suisun City Library, 601 Pintail Drive.

## Teen Writing Contest poetry reading

A poster for a poetry reading event. At the top is the Solano County Library logo and contact information: "Solano County LIBRARY", "www.solanolibrary.com", "phone: (916) 673-2397", and "facebook.com/solanolibrary". The main title is "TEEN WRITING CONTEST POETRY READING" in blue. Below that, it says: "Join Fairfield Civic Center Library and Suzanne Bruce, Fairfield Poet Laureate Emerita for a chance to hear teens read their poems that were entered into the 2024 Teen Writing Contest." In the center is a circular photograph of a young woman with long dark hair, wearing a white shirt, looking down at a notebook she is holding. At the bottom, the event details are listed: "FAIRFIELD CIVIC CENTER LIBRARY" and "SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1 1:00 - 2:30 PM". At the very bottom, it says: "For more information visit solanolibrary.com/events".

## Women in Construction

LEVELING THE FIELD: Recruiting Women In Construction

NOR CAL CARPENTERS TRAINING

TRADESWOMEN inc

FOCUS

NOR CAL CARPENTERS UNION

ALL are welcome to attend

**WOMEN IN CONSTRUCTION CAREER EVENT**  
 RSVP BY MARCH 9<sup>TH</sup>, 2025

Fairfield Training Center  
 800 CHADBOURNE RD.  
 FAIRFIELD, CA. 94534  
 (707) 339.2880

**FRIDAY MARCH 21<sup>ST</sup>, 2025**  
 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

- CARPENTERS
- ACOUSTICAL INSTALLERS
- DRYWALL/LATHERS
- INSTALL FLOOR LAYERS
- INSULATORS
- MILLMEN & CABINET MAKERS
- MODULAR SYSTEMS INSTALLER
- PILE DRIVERS
- SCAFFOLD ERECTORS
- MILLWRIGHTS

TANK TOPS, SHORTS, CUT-OFF PANTS AND OPEN TOE SHOES NOT PERMITTED TO PARTICIPATE IN HANDS-ON EXERCISES

Fairfield Training Center is offering the Women in Construction career event happening on **Friday, March 21 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in-person at the Fairfield Training Center located at 800 Chadbourne Rd., Fairfield, CA 94534.**

All people are welcome to attend and must pre-register by Sunday, March 9<sup>th</sup> [here](#).

## Events I attended this week

**Tuesday, January 14,** I attended the public meeting for Highway 37. The meeting was held at the Vallejo Room at the JFK Library. The intent for the meeting was for the public to review and comment about the Draft SEIR.

I used the time along with others to comment on the placement of the tolls. Why is no one coming from the Marin County side paying tolls. [The Napa newspaper had a good article concerning this meeting](#). I was also quoted [here](#).

The Tolay Creek Bridge is going to be replaced. The cost to do the bridge and some other work is 500 million dollars. The bridge is just temporary. The other work concerns the Environment such as the Strip Marsh East. The audience watched a short video.

**Wednesday, January 15,** I attended the men's and women's basketball games at Solano Community College. One of my colleagues has a family member that plays for Napa. The games were exciting. It is free to attend the

games. Baseball and softball will be starting soon. Come by and watch a game. The players are our community members. Let them know you care.

**Thursday, January 16**, I attended the Benicia Planning Commission meeting. The topic was housing, and I wanted to hear the discussion.

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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

Sunset behind the former Mare Island Naval Shipyard in the city of Vallejo.  
Photo: John Glidden



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.