



## SUPERVISOR MONICA BROWN NEWSLETTER

March 14, 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

#### **Area Agency on Aging**

(707) 784-8960

## Happy Pi Day!



Pi is an irrational number. This means the quotient (answer) one gets from taking the circumference of a circle and dividing that number by its diameter never repeats in a pattern. Its value is 3.14159 26535 89793 23846...

To celebrate Pi, Buttercup Diner is offering slices of pie for \$3.14.

## Buttercup locations and times



## U.S. Social Security

(800) 772-1213

## SUICIDE PREVENTION

### NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION HOTLINE

800-273-8255

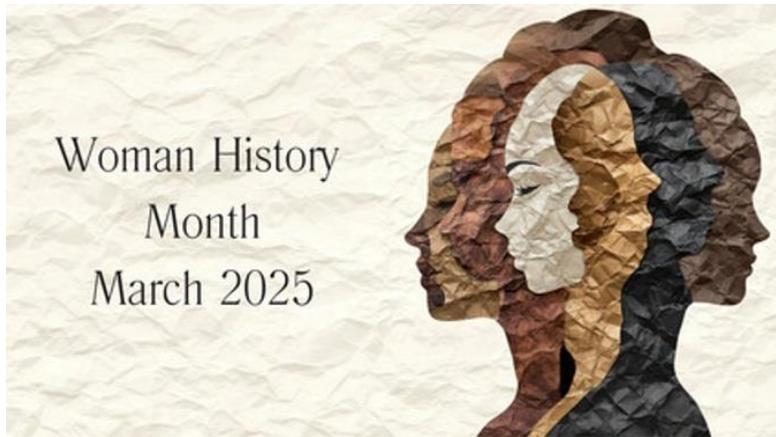
### SPANISH LINE

888-628-9454

### DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING

800 799 4889

## National Women's History Month



### FRIENDSHIP LINE FOR SENIORS

800 971 0016

### CRISIS TEX LINE

741741

### THE TREVOR PROJECT FOR LGBTQ YOUTH

866-488-7386

Women's History Month began as a local celebration in Santa Rosa, California. The Education Task Force of the Sonoma County Commission on the Status of Women planned and executed a "Women's History Week" celebration in 1978. The organizers selected the week of March 8 to correspond with International Women's Day. The movement spread across the country as other communities initiated their own Women's History Week celebrations the following year.

### TRANS LIFELINE PROVIDING SUPPORT FOR THE TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY

877-565-8860

In 1980, a consortium of women's groups and historians led by the National Women's History Project (now the National Women's History Alliance) successfully lobbied for national recognition. In February 1980, President Jimmy Carter issued the first Presidential Proclamation declaring the Week of March 8<sup>th</sup> 1980 as National Women's History Week.

“From the first settlers who came to our shores, from the first American Indian families who befriended them, men and women have worked together to build this nation. Too often the women were unsung and sometimes their contributions went unnoticed. But the achievements, leadership, courage, strength and love of the women who built America was as vital as that of the men whose names we know so well.” (*President Jimmy Carter’s Message*)

Each year, The National Women’s History Alliance selects and publishes the yearly theme. This year, the theme chosen is **“Moving Forward Together! Women Educating & Inspiring Generations.”**

## Enola Gay Tibbits



We honor Enola Gay Tibbits, the mother of military pilot Colonel (later General) Paul Tibbets, who was the pilot of the “Enola Gay”. She asked her son, “why did you name the airplane Enola Gay?” He told her, “I knew the airplane was going to be famous...nobody ever heard the name Enola Gay before that.”

As many of you know, The “Enola Gay” was the notorious Boeing B-29 Superfortress Bomber that was chosen to drop the world’s first atomic bomb on Hiroshima, Japan on August 6<sup>th</sup>, 1945. The crew of the Enola Gay could only guess what the mission might be, but were not told what the weapon in its bomb bay was. Special Mission No. 13 would drop the first “gadget” (military name for the bomb) as ordered in their Mission.



While I do not condone the bombing and related killing of innocent humans, as there is no morality in warfare, I must bring into view

the current Administration's actions, which I also do not condone and vehemently protest.

### **The Latest**

All references to the Enola Gay aircraft that dropped an atomic bomb on Japan during World War II have been flagged for removal in Pentagon documents as the Department of Defense purges references related to diversity, equity and inclusion, or DEI – in this case, presumably because of the word “gay.” Gay is also a female name, as well as a dated descriptive word for “happy, cheery, merry, jolly, lighthearted and jovial”.

The granddaughter of General Tibbets in a recent interview called the Trump administration flagging photos of the plane for removal “shameful”. She was shocked and in disbelief when she first heard photos of her grandfather's aircraft had been flagged by the U.S. Department of Defense, apparently only because its name contained the word “gay”. “It's shameful that a word that harms no one, that means cheerful, could invoke so much hatred.” The information purge also includes removal of language related to social wellness, racial equity and feminism. Thousands of photos, including many of women and minorities in the military, were also flagged for removal.

It is a disgrace that this is happening and a slap in the face of every veteran whose accomplishments, merits and bravery are being erased from the National Archives and Records Administration. I am honoring Enola Gay Tibbets, a mother like myself, who worried with anguish her son's mission and whether she would ever see him again. Her son, Paul, who honored and adored his mother so much that he had his mother's name painted on the famed aircraft he piloted on this infamous mission that is imbedded in our American military history. Just like so many military mothers who have for decades, year after year, have and continue to worry with anguish every time they have had to say goodbye to their children as they dawn the military uniforms and leave their homes.

To find out more about the history and current status of the “Enola Gay”, go here:

<https://www.defense.gov/News/Feature-Stories/Story/article/2279986/the-enola-gays-history-lives-on/>

*(References: Forbes, U.S. Department of Defense, Atomic Heritage Foundation, The Columbus Dispatch)*

## Information this week

### A message from Solano County

Starting March 1, all Solano County email addresses will transition from the current @solanocounty.com to @solanocounty.gov. The shift to .gov domains aligns with state regulations ([Assembly Bill 1637](#)) and ensures communications are

recognized as official and trustworthy. Please be sure to update your contacts and communications accordingly.



### ReCoverCA Program



The California Department of Housing and Community Development has announced that **applications for its 2020 and 2021 ReCoverCA Housing Programs will close on April 15, 2025.**

ReCoverCA's 2020 Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation and Reconstruction (OOR) and 2021 Single-Family Reconstruction (SFR) Programs offer eligible single-family homeowners grants of up to \$500,000 to rebuild homes damaged or destroyed in qualifying 2020 and 2021 disasters.

**Eligible ReCoverCA Housing Program counties are Butte, Fresno, Los Angeles, Napa, Plumas, Santa Cruz, Shasta, Siskiyou, Solano, and Sonoma.**

ReCoverCA 2020 and 2021 Housing Programs are available to eligible homeowners making up to 120% of area median income. Additional information, including eligibility guidelines and resources to help complete the application, are available on the ReCoverCA website: [www.hcd.ca.gov/grants-and-funding/recoverca](http://www.hcd.ca.gov/grants-and-funding/recoverca)

### Consumer tip: Watch out for these job offer scams

Ever received a text about an easy high-paying job you never applied for? If so, you're not alone. These fraudsters promise remote work and big paychecks, but they're really after your money and personal information.

Employment scammers may send you a check after they have "employed" you, supposedly to buy equipment or pay bills. Then,

once you have sent them money, the check will bounce and it will be hard to recover your losses. Some fraudsters pose as real companies, using nearly identical email addresses to deceive you.

Avoid job offers with vague descriptions, upfront payment demands or interviews conducted through messaging apps. If something feels off, research the company's background, double-check email addresses and never send money or personal information without verifying first. If you suspect a job offer from a reputable business is fake, contact the company directly through a verified website or phone number to confirm its legitimacy.

More information at [marincountyda.org](http://marincountyda.org) or 415-473-6495

## Share Your Thoughts on Plan Bay Area 2050+ Implementation Priorities



Following the [adoption of the Plan Bay Area 2050+ Final Blueprint](#) in January 2025, staff from the Metropolitan Transportation

Commission (MTC) and the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) are drafting near-term implementation actions that will advance Plan Bay Area 2050+ strategies (including recommendations from the parallel [Transit 2050+](#) effort) through the year 2030.

These preliminary action ideas are largely compiled from brainstorming sessions held with partners and stakeholders last year and require further refinement between now and this summer. Staff provided an [update to the MTC Policy Advisory Council](#) at their February 2025 meeting laying out a timeline for developing Plan Bay Area 2050+ implementation actions, including opportunities for further engagement.

To that end, we invite you to participate in a comprehensive survey to help propose and prioritize preliminary draft implementation actions for Plan Bay Area 2050+. This survey and associated feedback will inform the Draft Implementation Plan, which will be released for public comment along with the Plan Bay Area 2050+ Draft Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Report this summer. Following public comment, additional feedback will be integrated prior to Final Plan adoption in early 2026.

Your early-stage input will shape the Implementation Plan so that it reflects partner priorities from across the region. Your unique subject matter expertise will be crucial to developing an ambitious yet achievable Implementation Plan so we can effectively advance the long-range plan's vision over the next several years.

## What to Know Before You Take the Survey

The survey offers a “choose-your-own-adventure” approach to providing input on any and all of the four plan elements – Transportation, Housing, Economy and Environment. If you plan to provide input on more than a few strategies, be sure to set aside sufficient time to complete the survey.

To help contextualize the questions in the survey, staff have prepared a short [explainer video](#). Links to relevant reference documents are included to provide further context where appropriate.

### [Complete the Survey.](#)

The survey will remain open until **Monday, March 31**.

## Office Hours

If you have additional comments or questions about Plan Bay Area 2050+ implementation, you can schedule a 30-minute meeting with element-specific MTC/ABAG staff using the links below. We encourage partner agencies and local jurisdictions who are leading or supporting complementary initiatives to use this time to share relevant actions that could inform our work.

[Transportation – Transit](#) (This includes [Transit 2050+](#))

[Transportation – Non-Transit](#)

[Housing](#)

[Economy](#)

[Environment](#)

## Questions

For questions about the survey or implementation, please contact Michael Germeraad at [mgermeraad@bayareametro.gov](mailto:mgermeraad@bayareametro.gov).

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



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 ongoing repairs.

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:

- 1st: 9 p.m. Friday 3/28 - 5 a.m. Monday 3/31
- 2nd: 9 p.m. Friday 4/11 - 5 a.m. Monday 4/14
- 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

### Vallejo budget workshop

A promotional poster for a budget workshop. The top half features a close-up of a hand using a calculator, with a city logo in the upper left. The text 'FY 2025-26 BUDGET COMMUNITY WORKSHOP' is prominently displayed in white and yellow. The bottom half is a light beige background with a calendar icon, the date '22 MARCH, 2025', the time '10:00AM', and the location 'Vallejo Room (below JFK Library)'. A paragraph of text at the bottom invites participation.

FY 2025-26  
**BUDGET  
COMMUNITY  
WORKSHOP**

  
**22 MARCH, 2025**  
10:00AM  
**Vallejo Room  
(below JFK Library)**

Please join our FY 2025-26 Budget Community Workshop! The City Council and City Staff will present Budget data and proposals. Provide your input and help shape Vallejo's future!

The John F. Kennedy Library is located at 505 Santa Clara Street in downtown Vallejo.

# CARE Act Town Hall



## CARE Act Town Hall

The Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Act is a voluntary, community based process designed to help individuals with a primary diagnosis of schizophrenia or psychotic disorder and the individual is not clinically stabilized and engaged in ongoing voluntary treatment. The CARE Act process supports access to treatment, supportive services, and other recovery based services. It aims to improve mental health outcomes while balancing civil rights, public safety, and family involvement through a structured, community-based CARE Agreement or Plan.

### CARE Act Overview

Presentation  
by Nancy M. Callahan, Ph.D.  
I.D.E.A. Consulting

### CARE Act Q&A Panel

The CARE Act panel will cover tools and resources under the CARE Act, the Solano Legal Access Center's Support to Petitioners and Solano County's role in the process.

NAMI Solano County will also share support and education resources available to the community.

Where can I find more information about the CARE Act? Please visit:

<https://NamiSolanoCounty.org/resources/care-act-your-pathway-to-support-care>

Sponsored by



Questions? Contact  
[careact@namisolano.org](mailto:careact@namisolano.org)



NAMI SOLANO COUNTY IS PROUD TO PRESENT  
CARE ACT TOWN HALLS WITH  
SOLANO COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND  
SOLANO LEGAL ACCESS CENTER/  
SELF HELP CENTER



Thursday, March 27  
5:00 – 6:00 pm  
Zoom Link after Registration



Friday, March 28  
3:00 – 4:00 pm  
Zoom Link after Registration



Fairfield: Monday, March 31  
11:00 am – 12:00 pm  
2101 Courage Dr, Multipurpose Rm,  
Fairfield, CA 94533

Free for community

**REGISTER  
NOW!**



To register, click [here](#).

## Glen Cove Community Association Spring meeting



The next Glen Cove Community Association Spring meeting will take place on **Thursday, March 27 at Glen Cove Elementary from 6 to 8 p.m. The school is located at 501 Glen Cove Parkway.**

Safety organizations like IHART will present, and the meeting will include discussion of the proposed new Vista Cove development. A food truck will be present in the school parking lot starting at 5 p.m.

## Community Corner



Want information on how to make some changes around your home? Then "Jumping into Solutions" might be for you.

These series of videos were created by Pat Toth-Smith, Kathy Kerridge, Bart Sullivan, June Mejias plus more.

Switching to electric heaters? Here's everything about electric water heat pumps & electric home heating/cooling units.

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

## JFK Library March Events Calendar



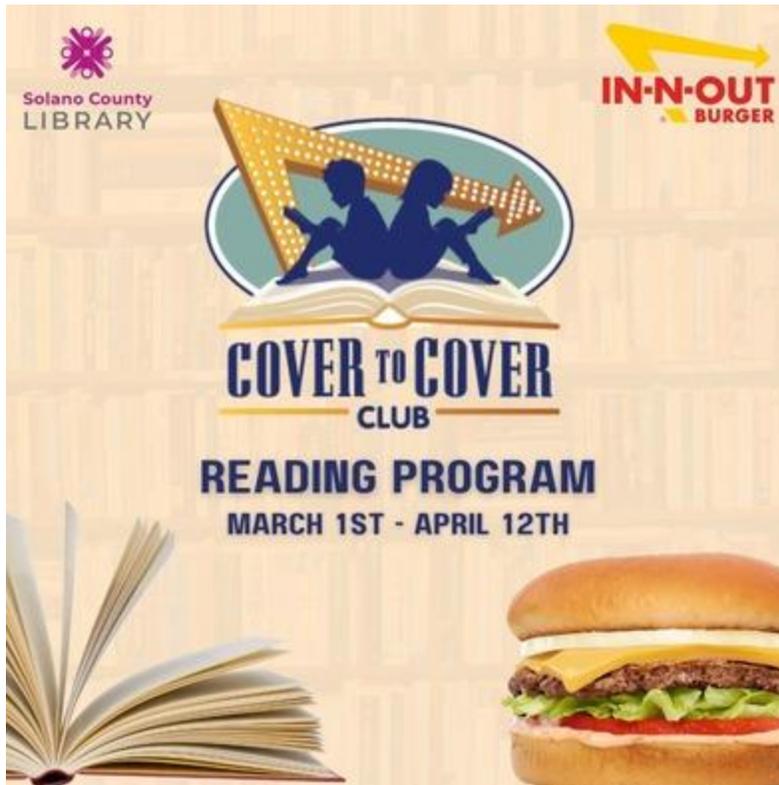
JFK Library March Events Calendar can be found [here](#).

## Puzzle & Board Game Exchange



The last swap was so good the Benicia Public Library is doing it again! They will be hosting a Puzzle & Board Game Exchange on **Saturday, March 29, from 2 to 4 p.m. at the library, located at 150 E L Street**. If you have puzzles and/or games to donate but can't make the event, the library will accept those kinds of donations starting March 23.

## Solano County reading program



It's back! Stop by your local Solano County Library and sign up for In-N-Out's Cover to Cover Reading program. Kids ages 4-12 can earn one hamburger or cheeseburger for every 5 books or 300 pages they read! Each child may earn up to 3 burgers during the program.

## Updates from around Solano County

### Share your stories with Congressman Garamendi



This week, I attended Congressman Garamendi's latest updates. He is appalled at the actions of the President's administration in the dismantling of our government's departments and agencies.

He wants to hear your personal stories. If you are a government worker who has lost your job by DOGE's unjust firings and demands, or you have had your Social Security or Medicaid payments interrupted, or any other negative impact

experienced because of the new administration policy changes, please go to the link below to share your stories with him:

<https://garamendi.house.gov/contact>

## **Westbound I-80 Express Lane Opens as Temporary HOV Lane Ahead of Formal Launch in Late 2025**



From a Caltrans press release:

The future westbound Interstate 80 (I-80) express lane running between Vacaville and Fairfield is now temporarily open to High-Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) traffic as of Saturday, March 8.

Roadway construction on the new express lane is ongoing and electronics and hardware for collecting tolls are still being installed. In the meantime, this lane is available to vehicles with two or more people on board weekdays from 5:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. During non-weekday commute hours, the lane is open to all motorists.

The new temporary HOV lane runs on westbound I-80 from the Interstate 505 interchange in Vacaville to Airbase Parkway in Fairfield.

As work is still in progress, Caltrans asks motorists to be mindful of their speed for the safety of our workers. Caltrans and its transportation partners expect to formally launch the completed express lane by late 2025. At that time, motorists using the new traffic lane will be charged as appropriate.

## Extended 79-hour closure for Eastbound U.S. Highway 50 in Yolo County postponed due to weather



From a Caltrans press release:

Caltrans is alerting motorists that this weekend's extended connector closure for the ongoing Yolo Interstate 80 (I-80) and U.S. Highway 50 (US-50) Pavement Rehabilitation Project has been postponed because of the weather forecast for rain and cold temperatures. The work has not been rescheduled.

### YOLO I-80 to US-50 CLOSURE:

- Postponed

### YOLO CAUSEWAY BICYCLE PATH CLOSURE:

- 8 p.m. Monday, March 17 through 6 a.m. Tuesday, March 18 (weather permitting)

The work zone is west of the Yolo Causeway along I-80 and US-50 in West Sacramento. 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 is subject to change due to traffic incidents, weather conditions, availability of equipment and/or materials, and construction-related issues.

This \$280 million project includes \$47 million from Senate Bill (SB 1), the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017. SB 1 provides \$5 billion in transportation funding annually, shared equally between state and local agencies. Road projects progress through construction phases more quickly based on the availability of SB 1 funds, including projects partially funded by SB 1. To view the latest news and information on state and federal infrastructure investments, visit [RebuildingCA.ca.gov](http://RebuildingCA.ca.gov), which contains data on state and federal funding.

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.

# Solano County Housing Survey

To take the survey in [English](#); to take the survey in [Spanish](#).

## Notice of Funding Available from Special Events Sponsorship Program (SESP)

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. **Applications close Sunday, March 23**, apply [here](#). To learn more about the funding opportunity click [here](#).

## Suisun Marsh Watershed Education Program Reaches Nearly 1,700 Students in its 17th Year



From a Solano Resource Conservation District press release:

The Solano Resource Conservation District (SRCD) finished its seventeenth year of the Suisun Marsh Watershed Education Program last week. This year, they reached 1,698 Solano County sixth-grade students from 13 schools across the county. Solano RCD hosted 26 field trips at Rush Ranch Open Space, a Solano Land Trust property, where students explored the Suisun Marsh and learned how to be good stewards of this unique ecosystem.

The goal of the program is to help students better understand their watershed and how to protect it, using the unique outdoor laboratory of the Suisun Marsh as a focal point. Participants learn about the importance of the marsh ecosystem and the benefits it provides through three classroom lessons taught by Solano RCD staff and a field trip at Rush Ranch. Further, students explore the impact of human activities on the marsh and discuss how they can help lessen that impact.

Classroom lessons include an examination of a 3-D model of a watershed and topographic maps to illustrate how pollution in runoff can affect local bodies of water, such as the Suisun Marsh and the Sacramento River. Students gain an appreciation of the fact that preventing pollution in our local waterways is connected to efforts globally to prevent pollution in oceans. Another focus of the classroom lessons is helping students understand how they can be stewards of their water resources and prepare for drought in California. Students this year reported back after the program that they have a greater appreciation for water – including where their drinking water comes from and the importance of conserving it.

The highlight of the program is always the field trip out to Rush Ranch Open Space near Suisun City. One Solano County teacher noted that the program is “able to mix a science lesson with fun.”

The curriculum includes hands-on activities that meet California's Next Generation Science Standards. Students collect data from water tests that is submitted to a team at the National Estuarine Research Reserve, and they learn how to identify plants in the grassland and wetland habitats. The program also incorporates elements of the BEETLES curriculum, a program of the Lawrence Hall of Science at the University of California, Berkeley, which focuses on student-centered learning practices for outdoor settings.

"I just love seeing the kids out there, and I enjoy introducing students to something that's new in a safe and supportive environment," said Stephanie Stock, Assistant Program Manager at Solano RCD. She noted that many students want to come back to Rush Ranch with their families after they participate in the program, illustrating the positive impact the experience has on them.

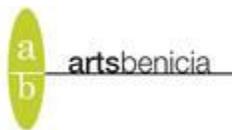
Solano RCD's field trips provide much needed time in the outdoors for young people. Many students appreciate the peaceful atmosphere at the Suisun Marsh, further inspiring them to protect this important place here in Solano County.

This program is made possible with funding from the Solano County Water Agency, Solano County Department of Resource Management, Fairfield-Suisun Sewer District, Vallejo Flood and Wastewater District, Vacaville Public Education Foundation, and the Solano County Orderly Growth Committee.

It is uncertain at this time if programs will be funded at the same level next year, meaning fewer students will have the unique opportunity provided by the Suisun Marsh Watershed Education Program. Solano RCD needs your help to continue taking students out to the Suisun Marsh. To learn how you can support our programs, email [education@solanorcd.org](mailto:education@solanorcd.org).

Photo caption: Educator with students at the plant station. Photo: SRCD.

## Arts Benicia



On March 22, Arts Benicia will open their bi-annual exhibition Next Generation where they will showcase the creative endeavors of the youth of the community, from Kindergarten through High School.

Please join for an Opening Reception of the exhibition on **Sunday, March 30, from 1 to 3 p.m. and for Family Art Day on Sunday, April 27, 1 to 3 p.m.** Arts Benicia is committed to the next generation of artists stems from their belief that the arts enhance the quality of life in the community and enrich us as individuals. Thank you for also supporting access to arts education for the youth in our community.

On Thursday, March 6, Arts Benicia celebrated the opening of the newest Arts Benicia Presents venue, Compass Real Estate at 615 First Street, Benicia. The inaugural exhibition features the exquisite artwork of Paula Boas, longtime artist member of Arts Benicia. **The exhibition is on view at Compass until May 29.**

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/>

## Free Career Fair: 2025 NorCal Hiring Event



Connect with top employers and explore exciting career opportunities at the 2025 NorCal Career Fair, on **Thursday, April 10 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Solano Community College, 4000 Suisun Valley Road, 1400 Building, in the city of Fairfield.**

Join the Workforce Development Board of Solano County and Solano Community College for a day of networking and hiring. This free event is your chance to find your next career move. Register [here](#).

# Fairfield-Suisun City Visual Arts Association 9th Annual Student Art Show



and  
**Fairfield Poet Laureate Emerita, Suzanne Bruce**



invite students to write poems inspired by art from the  
**9<sup>th</sup> Annual Student Art Show**

## *Students*

Want to express your voice through poetry  
written in response to student art?  
Please join us for this ekphrastic experience!

Exhibit will be at the Solano Town Center Gallery  
March 19 – April 13, 2025

***Reception and Award Gala: March 29, 3:00- 6:00pm***

***Poetry Reading: April 5, 4:00- 6:00pm***

Solano Town Center Gallery  
1350 Travis Blvd, Fairfield  
(inside the Mall- 2<sup>nd</sup> floor- #D-8)  
Open Wed thru Sun, 11am to 6pm

Art may be viewed at the Gallery or online beginning March 19th  
<https://fvaa-arts.org>

Please have students send poems to Suzanne Bruce at  
[fairfieldpoetlaureate.emerita@gmail.com](mailto:fairfieldpoetlaureate.emerita@gmail.com)  
by April 3<sup>rd</sup>- 5:00pm.  
\*For questions, also email Suzanne

## Nebraska Street improvements



### PEDESTRIAN & TRAFFIC SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS ON NEBRASKA ST. AND AMADOR ST. FRONTING VALLEJO HIGH SCHOOL

**WORK TO BEGIN MARCH 24 & END APRIL 4**

#### **City Maintenance will be installing the following:**

1. 'Speed Humps Ahead' signs at both ends of Nebraska Street.
2. Three sets of speed cushions along Nebraska Street.
3. Three sets of 'State Law Yield To Pedestrians Within Crosswalk' signs on the centerline of each existing yellow ladder crosswalk.

This serves as the initial step to calm traffic on Nebraska Street. Please pass the word to parents, staff, and the surrounding neighborhood.

During the installation of the traffic calming devices, temporary control will be in place and for the public traveling through to expect delays.

## Solano Gleaning Initiative



Do you have an abundance of fruit still on your trees? Don't let that citrus fruit go to waste.

Contact the Solano Gleaning Initiative and let their volunteers glean your tree.

Solano Gleaning Initiative sends out teams of volunteers throughout the county to pick trees, share the harvest with the homeowner and distribute the excess to those in need.

For more information or to sign up, visit: <https://fifbayarea.org/gleaning>

## Solano Water Institute for teachers – Summer 2025



This field-trip-based workshop highlights the preservation of Solano County open spaces and the region's complex water resources, while providing first-

hand experiential learning that teachers can share with their students back in the classroom.

July 28: Rush Ranch Nature Center, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

July 29: Lake Berryessa Tour, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

July 30: Dunnell Nature Center, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For more information, contact Marianne Butler at [marianne.butler@solanorcd.org](mailto:marianne.butler@solanorcd.org)

## High School Scholarship hosted by La Raza Lawyers Association of Solano County

La Raza Lawyers Association of Solano County has been in existence for the past twenty-four years.

This year marks the 22nd annual high school scholarship award application. The scholarship application is open to all seniors of Latino/Hispanic ancestry graduating from any Solano County public high school, including continuation school.

The scholarship program is designed to provide professional encouragement and public recognition to high school seniors of Latino/Hispanic heritage entering higher education.

The deadline to apply is Friday, April 18 at 5 p.m. To apply, click [here](#).

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



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

## 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](#)**

## **Save the Date: Earth Day Cleanup**



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>

# 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).

## 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.

For inquiries or to apply, please contact [WRU@solanocounty.gov](mailto:WRU@solanocounty.gov). **Don't wait—the application deadline is April 11.**

## CalAIM Grant Program Hosted by Partnership HealthPlan

Utilizing CalAIM Incentive Payment Program (IPP) funding, Partnership has developed 2025-2026 CalAIM grants to invest in Enhanced Care Management (ECM) and Community Supports (CS) providers.

Grants are open until Friday, May 16 to all ECM and CS providers in Partnership's 24 counties. Apply [here](#).

## Solano Community College Intercampus Vanpool Pilot Program to Launch in Coordination with STA



Adopted by the STA Board at the February 2025 Board Meeting, the Solano Community College Intercampus Vanpool Pilot Program is a partnership between Solano Community College (SCC) and the STA and is set to launch on April 14, 2025.

In November of 2024, the Solano Community College District (SCCD) asked STA to partner in piloting an Intercampus Vanpool Program to connect the Vacaville, Fairfield, and Vallejo campuses. Providing intercampus transportation is a critical need and one of

the major initiatives of the college's three-year Student Equity and Achievement Plan. This initiative will assist students with transportation challenges, allowing them to stay engaged and graduate in a timely manner by providing access to courses at campuses. In addition, the vanpool will facilitate student access to essential resources and participation in extra-curricular activities across campuses.

The pilot program will run Monday through Friday and have two 8-passenger vans with wheelchair accessibility that will make a roundtrip from the Vacaville and Vallejo campuses to the Fairfield campus. First and last van pickup times will be posted, and throughout the day, SCC students will be able to access a dashboard to determine van location and plan their rides.

The initial pilot program will continue to run until June 30, 2026.

## 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

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.

FOR 6TH - 12TH GRADE STUDENTS

CASH PRIZES AWARDED FOR OVERALL WINNERS & SPONSORING TEACHERS

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.

## 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.

## March calendar for Benicia Veterans Memorial Hall



The March calendar of events for Benicia Veterans Memorial Hall:

**March 14:** VFW Hamburgers

15 Crab Feed; American Legion will celebrate its 102nd birthday

17 St. Patrick's Day

18 House commission meeting 1830 hrs.

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

21 Hamburgers by VFW Aux ; Rosie the Riveter Day

23 Military World Games March 23-30, 2025 SWITZERLAND

25 National Medal of Honor Day

28 Hamburgers by The American Legion

29 National Vietnam War Veterans Day

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

## Upcoming events in Solano County

### Lake Solano volunteer planting event



If you are interested in joining us at one of the volunteer events, please reserve your spot by RSVPing Katherine Holmes

at [katherine.holmes@solanorcd.org](mailto:katherine.holmes@solanorcd.org). Once you RSVP, you will receive additional information, including a map to the planting site.

The SRCD ask that children aged 16 and under work closely with a parent or guardian. All necessary tools and work gloves, as well as snacks, will be provided.

## Free compost giveaway

Attention Benicia Gardeners!

# Free Compost Giveaway\*

Saturday, March 15, 2025  
from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Alvarez Ninth Street Park  
in Benicia

Appointments are required.  
For instructions and to sign up go to:  
[RepublicServices.com/BeniciaCA](https://RepublicServices.com/BeniciaCA)

\*Please bring driver's license with Benicia address.  
Event is for Benicia residents only.



### What to Do to Collect Your Compost

Customers will fill their own containers. Limited staff will be on hand to assist those who need help. 5-gallon buckets work best. (Limit is 40 gallons or eight 5-gallon buckets per household.)

#### Suggestions:

1. Bring a shovel, containers and gloves
2. Wear closed-toe shoes
3. Bring 5-gallon buckets or other strong containers that you can lift yourself. No Bags or truck beds.



printed on  
recycled paper

Questions? Contact: [MKMorgan@RepublicServices.com](mailto:MKMorgan@RepublicServices.com)



Sustainability in Action

## E-waste event at the Solano County Fairgrounds

**Free E-Waste Collection  
Fundraiser  
March 15  
9am - 1pm  
SOLANO COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS**

## Music at the Chapel: A Celebration of St. Patrick's Day



Enjoy a festive St. Patrick's Day celebration at this concert by Irish singer Robert Scott! Robert will perform a wide array of traditional Irish tunes. After the concert, you can enjoy a delicious Mare Island Brew in our beer garden on the lawn of the Chapel. Great fun for everyone!

The event will take place from 3 to 4 p.m., Sunday, March 16, inside

St. Peter's Chapel, 1181 Walnut Avenue on Mare Island in the city of Vallejo.

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

## Wildfire Preparedness Presentation



The fires in Southern California this past January have many people wondering how to better prepare for wildfire. Join on **Thursday, March 20 at 10:30 a.m. at the Benicia Public Library, 150 E L**

**Street** for a presentation by Benicia Firefighters on how to harden your home and be better prepared in case wildfire strikes.

This talk is the latest in the monthly speaker's series held on the third Thursday of every month at 10:30 a.m. at the Benicia Public Library, sponsored by Carquinez Village and the Benicia Public Library. This program is free and open to the public. Coffee and donuts are provided before the meeting, first come first served.

For more information about this program, contact [pat.plant@gmail.com](mailto:pat.plant@gmail.com).

## Third Annual Nowruz Persian New Year Celebration



Spring is just around the corner and for many cultures that means a time of celebration!

Nowruz (also spelled Norooz, Nawruz, or Newroz) is the Persian New Year, celebrated on the spring equinox, marking the first day of spring and symbolizing renewal, rebirth, and the triumph of light over darkness.

This tradition has been celebrated in many countries including Iran, Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Turkey, Central Asia, and parts of the Middle East, the Balkans, and South Asia for over 3,000 years!

Locally, it has been celebrated at the Benicia Public Library for three years!

Join on **Friday, March 21, 6 to 7:30 p.m.** for the Third Annual Nowruz Persian New Year Celebration inside the Benicia Library, 150 E L Street.

Starting after the library closes for regular services, the community is invited to celebrate with sweets, music, poetry, dance, and more! The Library will also host a Haft-Seen Table display through April 3rd. This symbolic table, set with items all starting with the Persian letter "S", each representing prosperity, health, and renewal, provides an additional way to learn more about this fascinating holiday celebrated around the world and in Benicia.

## Dog Daze



Join the city of Fairfield's Parks and Recreation for a tail-wagging good time at the Doggie Photo Booth on **Saturday, March 22 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Allan Witt Dog Park!**

There will be free treats, fun activities, and a photo op that's guaranteed to make your pup Instagram-famous. Whether they're a diva dog or a shy snuggler, we've got the perfect setup for their moment in the spotlight.

The park is located at 1741 W. Texas Street.

## Girls on the Rise

The poster features a light pink background with floral illustrations in the corners. At the top, the title "GIRLS ON THE RISE" is written in a purple, serif font. Below the title, the event details are listed: "Saturday, March 22, 2025", "10am - 2pm", "Solano County Event Center 601 Texas Street", and "Fairfield, CA". A circular logo in the center contains a scale of justice, with the text "GIRLS ON THE RISE" around the top and "FIND YOUR PLACE IN THE LEGAL FIELD" around the bottom. The date "03 / 22" is on the left and "20 25" is on the right. To the right of the logo is a QR code with a "SCAN ME" button above it and a "REGISTER NOW +" button below it. The bottom section of the poster contains three lines of text: "Meet women leaders who have chosen careers in Law, STEM, Business, and as First Responders", "Learn about their paths to success and how you can achieve it", and "Get an exclusive opportunity to tour a courtroom".

**GIRLS ON THE RISE**

Saturday, March 22, 2025  
10am - 2pm

Solano County Event Center 601  
Texas Street  
Fairfield, CA

For young women ages 15 - 25  
Parents and Guardians  
welcome!

**GIRLS ON THE RISE**  
03 / 22 20 25  
FIND YOUR PLACE IN THE LEGAL FIELD

SCAN ME

REGISTER NOW +

Meet women leaders who have  
chosen careers in Law, STEM,  
Business, and as First Responders

Learn about their paths to success  
and how you can achieve it

Get an exclusive opportunity to  
tour a courtroom

On **Saturday, March 22**, from **10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**, the Solano County Event Center will host Girls on the Rise, an inspiring in-person event designed to empower young women (ages 15–25) to explore exciting career paths in Law, STEM, Business, and First Responder professions. **The Solano County Event Center is located at 601 Texas Street in downtown Fairfield.**

This unique event brings together influential women leaders, hands-on experiences, and thought-provoking discussions to help attendees uncover the limitless possibilities awaiting them in their professional journeys. Whether you're a high school student, recent graduate, or someone curious about these dynamic fields, Girls on the Rise is your gateway to inspiration and discovery.

### Event Highlights:

1. **Connect with Trailblazers:** Engage with accomplished women leaders who will share their stories, offer career

guidance, and inspire the next generation of changemakers.

2. **Gain Valuable Insights:** Learn about diverse career opportunities through interactive discussions and actionable advice tailored to help you succeed.
3. **Step Inside the Legal World:** Experience a courtroom tour to gain a firsthand understanding of the legal system and how it shapes our communities.

This second annual event is proudly supported by the Solano Superior Court, the Solano County Bar Association, and the Solano Commission for Women and Girls.

**To Register, scan the QR code above.**

For more information, contact Julie Hilt at (707) 290-0955 or [SCBA@SolanoBar.org](mailto:SCBA@SolanoBar.org)

## Sourcing Local Food in Benicia



Join Stephanie Jordan, Local Food Program Manager at Sustainable Solano, for an evening learning about Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) and how you can get fresh produce, fish, meat, eggs (and more) for you

and your family each week.

Stephanie will give a brief tour and overview of Benicia's CSA site, discuss the economic and environmental impacts of buying local, and then showcase that week's produce in a cooking demonstration and tasting.

The event will take place on Wednesday, April 2 from 6 to 7:30 p.m., inside Heritage Presbyterian Church, 1400 East Second Street in downtown Benicia.

To register, click [here](#).

## Speaker Series: The Magic of the Organ



Join the Mare Island Historic Park Foundation in "All Things Organ" and surround yourselves in the resonant and inspiring sounds of the beautiful St. Peter's Chapel Pipe Organ, the fourth pipe organ

installed in 1966. The chapel organ is carefully and expertly

maintained by the internationally famous Schoenstein & Co. (Est. 1877), organ builders, of Benicia.

Presenters include the world-renowned Jack Bethards, Chairman and Tonal Advisor for Schoenstein & Co., and Bret Barner, a skilled chapel organist, who frequently showcases his expertise and artistry through organ performances during special chapel events. This event will bring together the rich history of the Chapel organ accompanied by musical demonstrations that showcase its sublime sound. The occasion will highlight the organ's evolution over time, from its inception to its present-day operation, and feature performances that exhibit its remarkable tonal capabilities. By combining historical context with live music, the event promises to be a unique and enriching experience, allowing attendees to appreciate the Chapel organ's beauty and significance.

**The event will take place on Sunday, April 13, from 4 to 5 p.m., at St. Peter's Chapel, 1181 Walnut Avenue on Mare Island in the city of Vallejo.**

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

## 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](#)

## Solano County jobs

Positions	Job Posting Opened
Accountant-Auditor I	03/11/2025
Assistant Director of Resource Management – Permitting, Development, Conservation & Sustainability	03/12/2025
Building Maintenance Assistant	03/10/2025
Groundskeeper	03/10/2025
Hazardous Materials Specialist (Entry/Journey) DOQ	03/12/2025
Information Technology Analyst IV (Business Intelligence Report Developer)	03/11/2025
Legal Secretary	03/07/2025
Legal Secretary (Entry)	03/07/2025
Park Aide (Extra-Help)	03/12/2025

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 regarding the recruitments listed above, please contact the assigned HR Analyst listed in the job posting.

For general inquiries, please contact [recruitment@solanocounty.gov](mailto:recruitment@solanocounty.gov).

If you, or someone you know, are interested in learning more about the Solano County career opportunities, review the [Job Opportunities](#).

## Newsletter photo

The full moon seen from the city of Vallejo on March 13, 2025.  
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.