



SUPERVISOR MONICA BROWN NEWSLETTER

March 24, 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

Solano County joins Bay Area health officials to urge vigilance as measles cases rise in the U.S.



A message from Solano County:

With measles on the rise nationally, and recent cases in neighboring counties, Solano County has joined Health Officers from the counties of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Monterey, Napa, Santa

Clara, Santa Cruz, San Benito, San Francisco, San Mateo, Sonoma and the city of Berkeley in urging everyone to be up to date on measles vaccinations if they are not sure if they got it or if they did not have measles as a child, and to be aware of the signs and symptoms of measles after travel or exposure.

Measles is a highly contagious virus that can cause serious illness and death, and the safe and highly effective measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine offers the best protection against the virus. Protect yourself by making sure each member of your family who is 12 months to 3 years old is vaccinated with one dose of MMR vaccine, and each person who is age 4 or older has gotten two doses of MMR vaccine.

Over 300 measles cases have been reported in the United States as of March 14, 2025. This includes a large outbreak among primarily unvaccinated children in Texas and nearby states. Currently, there have been two deaths. These were the first measles deaths in the United States since 2015.

(707) 784-8960

U.S. Social Security

(800) 772-1213

There are five reported measles cases in California as of March 11, 2025. All five cases were separately reported after international travel, and there is no evidence they are connected to the outbreak in Texas.

SUICIDE PREVENTION

NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION HOTLINE

800-273-8255

“Measles is highly communicable and dangerous to vulnerable children, even adults,” said Dr. Cameron Kaiser, Solano County Deputy Public Health Officer. “Severe cases can result in hospitalization or death, and even children who recover can be at risk of immune or brain complications later in life. It’s not worth the risk. The MMR vaccine is safe, highly effective at preventing measles, and easy to get.”

SPANISH LINE

888-628-9454

How Measles Spreads and Symptoms

DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING

800 799 4889

Measles spreads easily through the air when an infected person breathes, talks, coughs, or sneezes. If an infected person coughs or sneezes, the virus can linger in indoor air for several hours. Symptoms include fever, cough, runny nose, and conjunctivitis (pink eye), followed 2-4 days later by a rash.

FRIENDSHIP LINE FOR SENIORS

800 971 0016

About one in five unvaccinated people in the United States who get measles are hospitalized, and nearly one to three of every 1,000 children who become infected with measles will die from respiratory and neurologic complications, according to [CDC](#). Measles presents the greatest risk to children under five years of age, adults over 20 years of age, those who are pregnant, and people with compromised immune systems.

CRISIS TEX LINE

741741

MMR Vaccine

THE TREVOR PROJECT FOR LGBTQ YOUTH

866-488-7386

The safe and highly effective [MMR vaccine](#) is recommended for children aged 12-15 months, with a second dose administered between ages 4 and 6 years. Children can receive the second dose of MMR vaccine earlier than 4 through 6 years if it is at least 28 days after the first dose. Infants 6-12 months of age can start vaccination early prior to international travel or travel to an outbreak area. Teenagers and adults with no evidence of immunity should be vaccinated right away. Your medical provider can order a simple blood test to check whether you are immune.

TRANS LIFELINE PROVIDING SUPPORT FOR THE TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY

877-565-8860

One dose of the MMR vaccine is 93 percent effective against measles, and two doses are 97 percent effective. Individuals born between 1957 and 1969 are likely to have received only one dose and should consider getting a second dose. The MMR vaccine protects you for life and is widely available at provider offices, clinics, health systems and pharmacies. Vitamin A supplements

such as cod liver oil have not been proven to protect against measles.

Measles and Travel

Home to three major airports, the Bay Area is a hub for international travel and tourism, increasing the potential for exposure to this highly contagious virus. For individuals or families that plan to travel, anyone who is not vaccinated against measles is at increased risk of getting infected.

Plan early before international travel and check your destination and the CDC [Global Measles Travel Health Notice](#) for more travel health advice, including where measles outbreaks have been reported. Parents should consult with their child's health care provider prior to travel. The CDC offers [accelerated vaccination guidelines](#) for children and adults who plan to travel internationally.

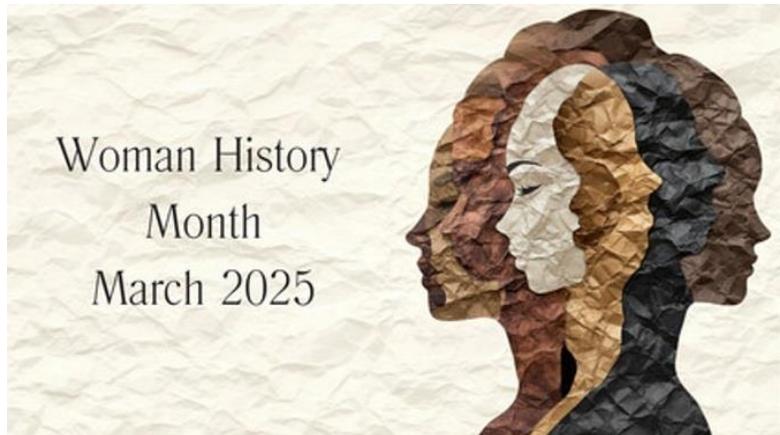
For questions about the MMR vaccine and immunization records, check with your health care provider and access your [digital vaccine record](#).

For MORE INFORMATION

Consider following Solano County Public Health on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/SolanoCountyPH and @SolanoCountyPH.

PS: There is no treatment for measles. That is why the vaccine is important. If you catch measles, all doctors can do is try to make you comfortable. So far, two people have died in 2025. Do not let that be you. - Monica

National Women's History Month



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

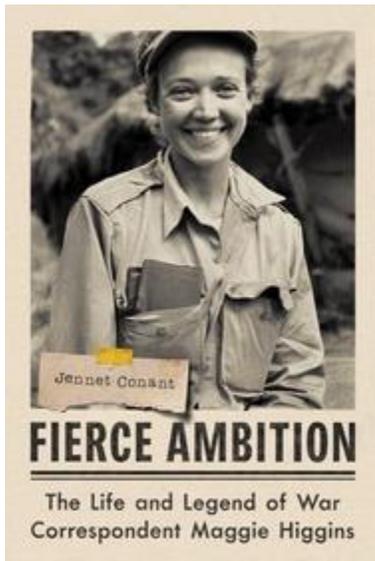
Day. The movement spread across the country as other communities initiated their own Women's History Week celebrations the following year.

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 8th 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.**"

Marguerite (Maggie) Higgins



Just a couple of pages into Jennet Conant's prodigious biography of firebrand Maggie Higgins, "fierce" doesn't begin to describe this woman. She used her wits and feminine artifice to wangle her way into some of the most harrowing stories to emerge from World War II, the Korean War, Vietnam and the Soviet Union.

During the liberation of Dachau concentration camp, barely a week before the fall of Nazi Germany, when the Holocaust's executioners abandoned tens of thousands of emaciated prisoners for dead and beat an ignominious retreat, Maggie, 24 at the time, witnessed the horrific state of rotting corpses of prisoners shot, as camp guards joined other soldiers who were joining the exodus of Nazi soldiers. She wrote in one of the first dispatches for the New York Herald Tribune, as a lone prisoner called out from hiding to confirm it was safe to come out. "Tattered, emaciated men, weeping, yelling and shouting 'Long Live America!' swept toward the gate in a mob. Those who could not walk limped or crawled."

She wrote many sensational accounts of the last days of World War II as the intrepid and fearless California golden girl, who chased the stories of a murderous dictatorship's downfall.



Marguerite Higgins with General McArthur

Her dramatic accounts from the fox holes of U.S. forces battling Soviet-armed North Korean Communists earned her, plus 5 other war correspondents, all men, the 1951 Pulitzer Prize for international reporting. She wanted to be known as the best wartime journalist, not a female journalist. She knew all the important movers and shakers in the military world and the political world. After she was stateside, she was known to have dinner parties with some of the most influential people in this nation, including President Kennedy, Jackie and RFK, numerous times. Jackie enjoyed being in her company socially and always had many grand evenings at Maggie and her husband's home.

She was also buried at Arlington National Cemetery, a rare honor for a civilian. Half of Washington turned out for her funeral. Congressmen, Defense Department officials, beribboned generals and the like. Today, as a sobering result of the President Trump's mandates to remove all DEI references, her name has been removed from the records. Our brave citizens are being disrespected, their contributions and brave acts are being erased from this nation's history. What is it going to take to stop this latest injustice? If Marguerite Higgins had been a loved and respected family member of yours, what would do to correct this erasure of history? If she were a relative of mine, I would raise holy hell!

(excerpt from Biography - Fierce Ambition)

Information this week

How to spot fake ICE agents



There has been many reported impersonations of U.S. Immigration and Custom Enforcement (ICE) agents across California. Last month 2 fake ICE agents wearing doctored tactical vests (as seen in the photo) and body-worn cameras were arrested by the Fresno Police Department for impersonating a police officer in which they were harassing shoppers and businesses.

These criminals have been taking advantage of the fear and uncertainty brought on by the President's

inhumane mass deportation policies, echoed by California Attorney General Rob Bonta.

In California's Central Valley, advocates believe that immigrants are more susceptible to scams and fraud, amid mass deportation fears and who fall prey to false promises of fixing their legal status by notaries and tax preparers who are not immigration attorneys or accredited to provide legal services.

A huge problem is that culturally, Latino countries have "Notarios Publicos", who are highly trained legal professionals, similar to attorneys, who provide legal advice to the public and also draft legal documents. A spokesperson from the Consulate of Mexico in Fresno, said that it is challenging to educate undocumented immigrants on the differences between notaries in the U.S. and a notario publico in Mexico because they do not have the same legal capacities.

In the U.S., notaries are state-commissioned officials with very narrow witnessing duties, with much less discretion. As a result, and to prey upon the fearful immigrants, many unethical individuals exploit the confusion over these different roles to take financial advantage of fearful and unsuspecting immigrants.

Central Valley Immigrant Integration Collaborative, which is a nonprofit, has an immigration legal services directory that includes a list of nonprofit community organizations that offer a broad range of immigration-related services in the Central Valley. It can be found at: <https://cviic.org/immigration-services-directory/>

The California Attorney General's Office listed tips on how to avoid scams. They are:

- Don't give money or personal information to anyone who calls, texts, or emails you claiming that there is a problem with your immigration matter. Immigration officers will never ask for

money or financial information and will not typically call to warn immigrants that they are going to be detained or arrested.

- Never sign anything until you understand what you are signing. Do not agree to anything that is not put in writing and in a language you understand.
- Never hire an immigration consultant or a notary. Only hire lawyers, accredited representatives and recognized organizations who can give you legal advice or represent you in immigration court. Immigration consultants – who may call themselves immigration experts, notaries, notaries public, or paralegals CANNOT DO SO.
- Never sign an immigration form that includes incorrect information or blank forms.

(Reference: *The Fresno Bee*)

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.

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.

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

AT&T Customer Notification & Resources



AT&T has begun sending a [letter](#) to their traditional landline customers in California.

This letter is part of a series of notifications related to an ongoing California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) proceeding - [Rulemaking 24-06-12](#). The letter aims to inform customers about the proceeding process, upcoming Public Participation Hearings (PPH), and how to participate.

Other providers are sending notices to their traditional landline customers as well, as the proceeding is not specific to AT&T.

For AT&T customers who received the letter and would like to ask questions, the company has a dedicated support team they can contact at Networkmodernizationquestions@att.com

Live camera feed for Paintersville and Isleton now available

From a Caltrans press release:

Caltrans would like to inform residents and businesses in the surrounding areas of the Delta that Caltrans was able to install live camera feeds on both the Paintersville and Isleton bridges over the weekend and today.

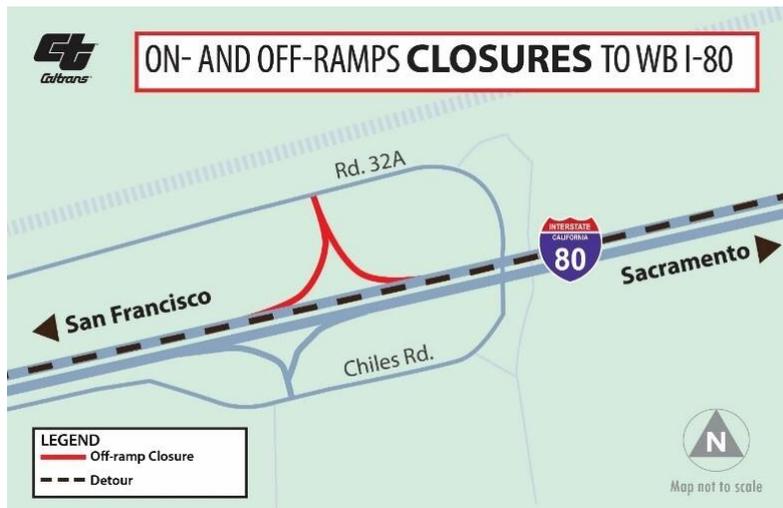
The Isleton feeds are already available and Paintersville will update tomorrow on the video page but is already up on QuickMap with still shots of the bridge.

These are the two options to watch the bridges live video feed:

Live camera videos: <https://cwwp2.dot.ca.gov/vm/iframeemap.htm>

QuickMap website: <https://quickmap.dot.ca.gov/> or downloading the free QuickMap app from the [App Store](#) or [Google Play](#).

Yolo County Westbound Interstate 80 ramps scheduled for closure



Caltrans is alerting motorists of an upcoming closure for the ongoing Yolo Interstate 80 (I-80) and U.S. Highway 50 (US 50) Pavement Rehabilitation Project.

The Chiles Road on- and off ramps for westbound I-80 will be closed for an extended period to complete pavement and striping work for both ramps.

Caltrans urges motorists to plan for additional travel time.

CLOSURE:

- Chiles Road on-ramp (County Road 32A) to westbound I 80 from 9 p.m. Tuesday, 3/25 through 5 a.m. Wednesday, 4/9 (15 days)
- Chiles Road off-ramp (EXIT 78) from westbound I 80 from 9 p.m. Friday, 3/28 through 5 a.m. Monday, 4/7 (10 days)

DETOUR:

- Westbound I 80 motorists can use Mace Boulevard (EXIT 75) as an alternate entrance and exit for I 80 (see maps)

The work zone is from just 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.

The extended lane closures will help to minimize the duration of the work and improve workers' safety.

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, 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.

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 yellow and white. 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.

Hearing on California Electricity Costs (Part 2) and Business Meeting



On Thursday, March 27, the Little Hoover Commission will conduct a virtual public hearing on California electricity costs at 10 a.m., followed by a virtual business meeting.

Both events will be conducted via Zoom and will also be accessible at 925 L Street, Suite 175, Sacramento, CA 95814.

No Commissioners will be present at this location. The following Commissioners will attend the hearing remotely: Pedro Nava, Anthony Cannella, Dion Aroner, David Beier, Senator Christopher Cabaldon, Assemblymember Phillip Chen, Gil Garcetti, José Atilio Hernández, Jason Johnson, Senator Roger Niello, Gayle Miller, Assemblymember Liz Ortega, and Janna Sidley.

Members of the public can attend the events in person or listen to the events by joining online or by phone. Click the URL to join online: <https://bit.ly/3FkPtq8>. To join via phone, call toll-free from the U.S. by dialing (888) 788-0099. The webinar ID is 955-1716-3786. The passcode is 014479. We highly recommend members of the public access the events through the Zoom app. Please visit the Zoom website for instructions on how to download the Zoom app onto a computer or smartphone.

Public comments will be heard at the end of the public hearing, and at the beginning of the business meeting, and will be limited to three minutes per speaker and to a total of 30 minutes. Remote attendees may indicate to staff that they wish to make public comment by using the “raise” hand feature in Zoom or sending an email to littlehoover@lhc.ca.gov with your question and the phone number from which you have joined the event.

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

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

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@namisolanocounty.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.

Meeting Materials: March 6th State Route 37 Policy Committee

Interested in reviewing the March 6th State Route 37 Policy Committee meeting? Then you are in luck as the committee is providing presentations, the meeting recording, and resources for public review.

Policy Committee

- March 6 SR37 Policy Committee Agenda packet:

<https://scta.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/SR37-Policy-Committee-Agenda-Packet-03.06.2025.pdf>

- Program Report No. 3 (March 2025):

This report covers activities from November 2024 to February 2025. <https://scta.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/5.1-Resilient-SR37-Program-Report-No.3-3-2025.pdf>

- Item 5.2: Sears Point to Mare Island

Presentation: https://scta.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/5.2-SR-37-SP-to-MI_20250306_revised.pdf

- Item 5.3: Novato Creek Bridge Replacement Project

Presentation: <https://scta.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/5.3-Novato-Creek-Br-replacement-Project---update-rev2.pdf> Handouts:

- Assembly Bill 697 (Wilson)

https://scta.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/AB-697_99_I_bill.pdf

- AB 697 Fact Sheet

<https://scta.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/Fact-Sheet.AB-697.2.20.25.pdf>

- Meeting Recording:

We had two computers running the audio and video separately in this location. Due to how Zoom follows the audio when recording, the link below is more audio-dominant. The presentations are shared, audio is relatively clear, however the discussion does not show video. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k_ws_Lrv-Tk Additional Resources:

- [STA SR 37 Express Bus/Traffic Demand Management Plan](#)

- [NVTA Travel Behavior and Transit Feasibility Report](#)
- [SMART Passenger Rail Service Novato to Suisun City Feasibility Study \(CA State Rail Plan\)](#)
- [Final Comprehensive Multimodal Corridor Plan](#)
 - [Program Report No. 2 \(November 2024\)](#)
 - [Program Report No. 1 \(June 2024\)](#)
 - [Previous SR 37 Policy Committee meetings](#)

The next State Route 37 Policy Committee meeting will be on May 1, location TBD. Please visit <https://scta.ca.gov/projects/highway37/> for additional information.

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.



On the fence about solar panels and solar battery storage? This episode talks about the benefits of going solar at a time when gas prices keep rising, severe weather events cause more energy black outs and reducing our carbon footprint is vital for the future.

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

JFK Library March Events Calendar



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

Library Presents: Lessons from the Lynching Museum



The Benicia Public Library invites the community to a powerful and thought-provoking program, Lessons from the Lynching Museum on **Wednesday, March 26 from 6:30 to 8 p.m., Benicia Public Library - Dona Benicia Room 150 East L Street.**

Originally scheduled as part of the Library's Black History Month series, this presentation by Mary Waters explores the historical, cultural, and economic forces that gave rise to the era of lynching and its lasting impact on racial justice in America. Through a compelling blend of slides and narration, Waters will examine how loopholes in post-Civil War amendments led to new forms of racial oppression, how law-and-order politics vilified the Civil Rights Movement, and how these forces contributed to mass incarceration, often referred to as the War on Drugs—or the War on Blacks.

This presentation was inspired by Waters' visit to the National Memorial for Peace and Justice in Montgomery, Alabama. Also known as the Lynching Museum, this six-acre memorial is the first comprehensive site dedicated to over 4,400 victims of racial terror lynching. Through sculpture, art, and design, the memorial honors the legacy of Black Americans who endured slavery, segregation, and racial violence.

Participants will view images from the memorial and gain a deeper understanding of our nation's troubled history, from enslavement to Jim Crow to the Civil Rights Movement and beyond.

Following the 75-minute presentation, attendees are encouraged to join a discussion on how we can challenge systemic racism and support Black progress.

Enhance Your Scenarios with Fiction Writing Tools



On Saturday, March 29, from 1 to 4 p.m., Benicia Literary Arts will sponsor "Enhance Your Scenarios with Fiction Writing Tools," a hands-on workshop offered by noted fiction writer and creativity coach, Beth Barany!

Writers will learn to hone their craft with friendly, practical advice in this class to be held in the **Undercroft Room at St. Paul's Church, 120 East J Street, in**

Benicia.

This workshop will help you bring your characters alive through action, dialogue, inner thoughts and feelings. When you discover how to craft scenarios that feel authentic and engaging, you will write in a way that is personally meaningful to your readers.

Targeted activities will teach you how to create dynamic scenes that keep readers turning pages.

To register, click [here](#).

Note that Benicia Literary Arts members receive a \$10 discount off the regular \$45 price. Classroom space is limited, so sign up today!

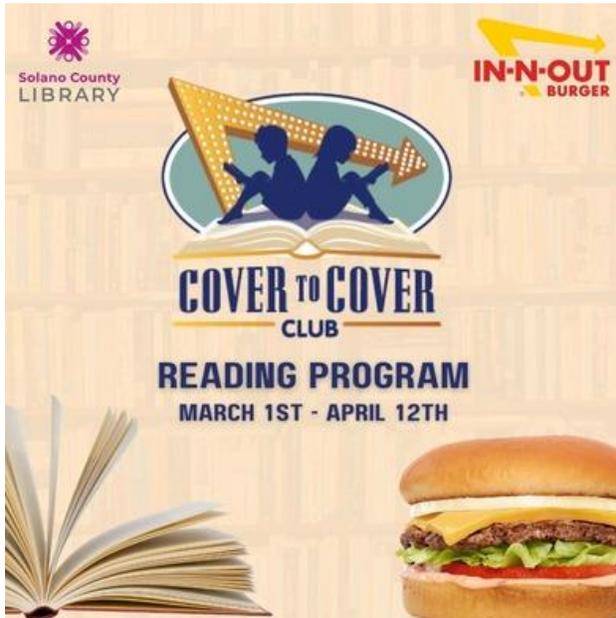
Beth Barany (<https://writersfunzone.com/blog/>) is an Oakland-based, award-winning novelist, international writing teacher, podcaster, and certified creativity coach for writers. She has also written books to help writers, including Plan Your Novel Like a Pro, co-written with her husband, thriller writer Ezra Barany.

Puzzle & Board Game Exchange



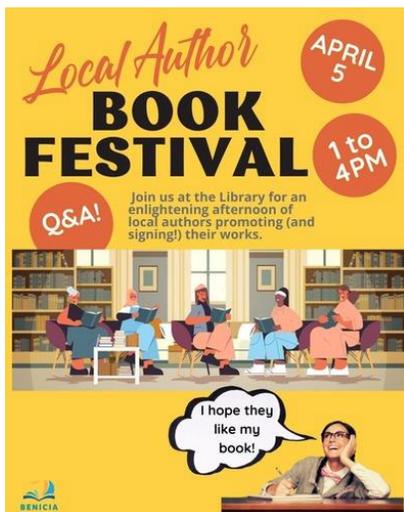
The last swap was so good the Benicia Public Library is doing it again! They will be hosting a Puzzle & Board Game Exchange on **Saturday, March 29, from 2 to 4 p.m. at the library, located at 150 E L Street.** If you have puzzles and/or games to donate but can't make the event, the library will accept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

Book Festival



Did you know that Benicia boasts some local authors? Or that you could borrow many of their titles from the Benicia Public Library? Most exciting of all, did you know that more than 40 (!!) of them will be at the library for the first Local Author Book Festival? Now you do. See you **Saturday, April 5, from 1 to 4 p.m. 150 East L Street.**

30th Annual Library Literacy Celebration

A vertical poster with a white arched background on a dark green floral pattern. The text is in gold and black. It features the title '30th Anniversary Literacy Celebration' and the tagline 'Celebrating the Past, Inspiring the Future'. The event details include the date 'Saturday, May 3, 2025' and time '11AM - 1:30PM' at the 'County Events Center'. It also includes contact information for Solano County Library.

**30th Anniversary
Literacy
Celebration**

Celebrating the Past, Inspiring the Future

Solano County Library Literacy Services invites you to help celebrate the achievements and efforts of literacy students, and to recognize literacy tutors and volunteers for their dedication to their community.

Saturday, May 3, 2025 | 11AM - 1:30PM

County Events Center
601 Texas Street, Fairfield, CA 94533
Map and directions attached

Seating is limited and lunch will be provided.
Please RSVP for you and your guests by April 18, 2025
Literacy@SolanoCounty.com or 707-784-1526

 Solano County LIBRARY

Web: solanolib.org
Phone: 1-866-872-7687
Facebook: [solanolib.org](https://www.facebook.com/solanolib.org)

Updates from around Solano County

Homeacres Home Rehab Program



The Homeacres Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Program aims to improve housing conditions, safety, code compliance, and revitalize the community. Solano County is offering financial assistance to help eligible homeowners repair and improve their homes.

Is Your Home in Need of Repairs?..

We understand that keeping up with repairs can be tough, especially for those on a tight budget. That's why Solano County is excited to introduce a program that helps homeowners like you make essential home repairs and improvements.

Financial Assistance

- Low-Interest Loans for up to \$80,000 with a 30-year term and a unique deferred payment option. Make NO monthly payments throughout the entire loan period!
- Emergency Repair Grants: Only offered in limited cases.
- Funds are limited and will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis.

Eligibility

- Must be the homeowner and live on the property needing repairs.
- Open to low-to moderate-income residents of **unincorporated** Homeacres Neighborhood (see map on reverse)

Approved Use of Funds

- Health & safety repairs & upgrades
- Roof repair or replacement
- Foundation repair (cracks, uneven floors)
- Electrical repairs, heat-pumps, solar installation
- Window upgrades & attic insulation

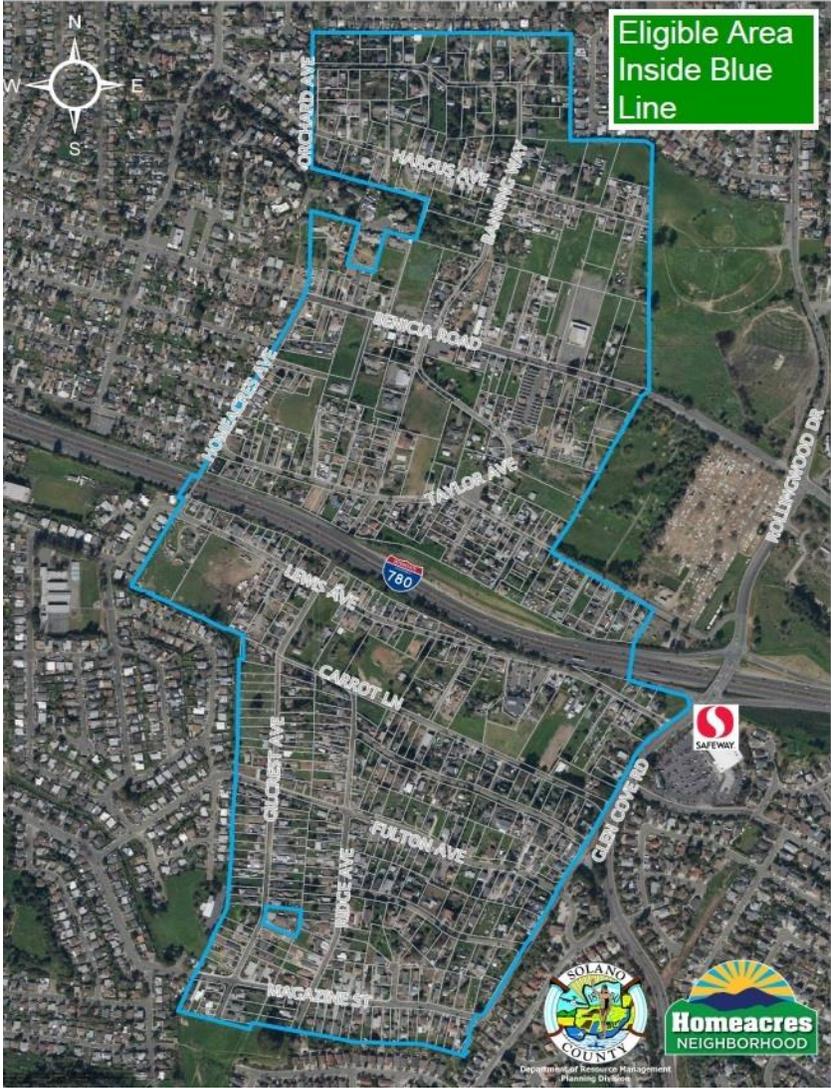
Application and Information



Department of Resource Management
675 Texas Street,
Suite 5500 Fairfield, CA 94533

(707) 784-6765
SolanoCounty.com/Homeacres
HomeRehab@SolanoCounty.com

Please Review the Application Guidelines Carefully to Determine Your Eligibility.



Spring 2025 Vaccine Clinics Hosted by Solano Public Health



FREE VACCINES IN SOLANO, CA

First come, first served. While supplies last.



*Eligibility requirements may apply.

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




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

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

Vallejo Fire Department addresses CAL FIRE's new Fire Hazard Severity Zones



From a Vallejo Fire Department press release:

The city of Vallejo and Vallejo Fire Department are working together to inform the community about CAL FIRE's updated Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZ) and the potential impacts on local residents and businesses. These newly designated

zones, developed by the California Department of Forestry and Fire

Protection (CAL FIRE), identify areas at elevated risk for wildfires and are an essential tool in wildfire preparedness and mitigation efforts.

The updated Fire Hazard Severity Zones reflect the latest scientific data and fire behavior modeling, considering factors such as vegetation, topography, and climate conditions. These zones play a critical role in guiding community safety measures, fire prevention efforts, and building codes to enhance resilience against wildfires.

“The safety of Vallejo residents is our top priority,” said Interim Fire Chief Arthur Gonzales. “By understanding these new Fire Hazard Severity Zones, we can take proactive steps to reduce fire risk and better prepare for potential wildfire threats.”

Fortunately, Vallejo has only a few areas designated within the moderate severity zones, with no areas classified as high or very high fire hazard severity. This means that the city's current defensible space will not be changed, and no changes will be required to existing building codes. While some precautions remain necessary, Vallejo is at lower wildfire risk compared to other parts of the state.

Residents and business owners are encouraged to review the updated Fire Hazard Severity Zone maps available on CAL FIRE's website: [Cal Fire Statewide Fire Hazard Severity Zones](#).

Additionally, the city of Vallejo has published a page focused specifically on the updated hazard maps specific to our area: [Vallejo Local Responsibility Area Fire Hazard Maps](#). By familiarizing themselves with their property's designation, community members can take necessary precautions such as defensible space improvements, home hardening, and emergency preparedness planning.

“The City of Vallejo is committed to supporting our residents in navigating these updates and implementing best practices for wildfire safety,” said City Manager Andrew Murray. “We encourage everyone to stay informed and take advantage of available resources to protect their homes and families.”

The Vallejo Fire Department and City of Vallejo urge residents to participate in upcoming community meetings and preparedness workshops to learn more about the FHSZ updates and how they can enhance their fire resilience.

Public comments addressing the updated local responsibility area fire hazard maps can be submitted via the [Vallejo Local Responsibility Area Fire Hazard Map](#) page.

Bike Bell Program at Rockville Park



A message from the city of Fairfield:

In a trial program to improve safety at Rockville Hills Regional Park, the city of Fairfield has installed a Borrow-A-Bell kiosk at the park's main entrance. The new kiosk will encourage mountain bikers to use the bells to enhance safety and enjoyment for all trail users.

The use of bells alerts all park users of an approaching cyclist, especially at or near blind corners and can help prevent accidents. The idea is simple, take a bell from the kiosk, attach it to the bike with its Velcro strips, use it while riding in the park, and return it to the kiosk when leaving.

The bike bell program has been used with great success in other nearby cities and regional parks including East Bay Regional Parks, Crockett Hills Regional Park, and Skyline Wilderness Park in Napa.

The city of Fairfield wants to improve overall safety and encourage courtesy and sharing of the trails by all users.

Rodriguez High's Vet Science Team Excels During CDE Season



Congrats to the Rodriguez High School's Veterinary Science team!

From the Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District:

Rodriguez High School's Veterinary Science team is racking up the wins at regional competitions this spring.

The Veterinary Science team is in its third year at Rodriguez. Vet Science is part of the high school's Future Farmers of America (FFA) program, an intracurricular student organization for those interested in agriculture and leadership. The team competes at Field Day events throughout the region, which give students the opportunity to test their knowledge and skills against other teams from across the state.

The team's track record this spring includes a first-place overall finish at the Golden State Field Day at Santa Rosa Junior College, fourth place at Chico State Field Day, and a third-place Practicum win at Arbuckle Field Day. At Golden State, team members Halie Becker-Floresca got first place individually, Laci Claire Siruno got second place individually, and Jazelle Camacho got fifth place individually.

"I am so proud of this team and what they've accomplished this year," said teacher and team coach Mrs. Taylor Prestousa. "They've been very serious about showing what Rodriguez High is made of, and you can tell! I can't wait to see how they'll do at State Finals."

During each contest, students sit for a 50-question exam, or practicum, about veterinary topics, and take an ID quiz where they must identify over 120 different animals, veterinary equipment, and parasites. Lastly, students must perform physical tasks in front of a judge demonstrating

veterinary skills such as removing sutures, administering injections, or preparing equipment packs for surgery.

"Being on the team has been a highlight of my high school life," Jazelle Camacho, a junior, said. "Vet science has taught me incredible things that I can use long term."

After competing at UC Davis on March 8, the team will head to the FFA State Judging Finals at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo in May.

Share your stories with Congressman Garamendi



Last 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>

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](#).

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



Fairfield-Suisun City
Visual Arts Association

and

Fairfield Poet Laureate Emerita, Suzanne Bruce



invite students to write poems inspired by art from the
9th 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- 2nd 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
by April 3rd- 5:00pm.
*For questions, also email Suzanne

Ekphrastic*

LET YOUR WORDS EMBRACE ART!

An Ekphrastic Event and Opportunity for Poets and Prose Writers

Featuring the Art of Nanette Wylde

Co-hosted by Benicia Literary Arts and the Benicia Poet Laureate

Saturday, April 19, 2025 from 5:30 to 7pm
at NY2CA Gallery, 617 First Street, Benicia

Poets and short prose writers --
here's how to have a "Wylde" time!

1) **Visit the NY2CA Gallery:** Starting Thursday, March 20, and continuing Thursdays through Sundays, noon - 5pm, until 5pm on Thursday, April 17, 2025. Poets and writers of short prose (400 words or fewer) can visit the NY2CA Gallery at **617 First Street in Benicia** and seek their inspiration.

2) **Complete the form** in the Gallery with your name, email address, and the title of the art you selected to write to.

3) **The deadline to submit** your written ekphrastic prose or poetic inspiration is **noon on Friday, April 18, 2025**. Remember, the maximum length is 400 words or fewer. **Send your finished work in pdf** to Becky Bishop White, beckydabish@gmail.com, by noon on Friday, April 18.

4) **Then Celebrate! Come to the NY2CA Gallery** at 5:30pm on Saturday, April 19, 2025 and participate in the reading!

Questions? Contact Becky Bishop White: beckydabish@gmail.com

Note: If you can't make it to the gallery to view the art, photos will be posted online. Email Becky for the link after March 21.



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 or visiting <https://artsbenicia.org/sponsorship/>

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.

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 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.

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](#)

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](#).

March calendar for Benicia Veterans Memorial Hall



The March calendar of events for Benicia Veterans Memorial Hall:

March 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.

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.

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

Upcoming events in Solano County 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



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!

03 / 22 20 25
GIRLS ON THE RISE
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

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](#).

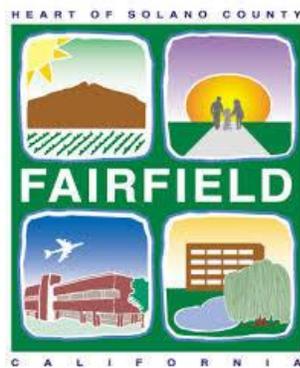
Free Career Fair: 2025 NorCal Hiring Event



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](#).

Spring Egg-Dive-Aganza



Join the city of Fairfield on **Saturday, April 12 from 12 to 3 p.m. at the Allan Witt Aquatics Complex (1741 W Texas St, Fairfield)** for an egg hunt like never before!

Instead of searching on land, you'll be diving in to find eggs in the pool! Enjoy fun games, exciting prizes, and a special visit from Ms. Allie and Mr. Gator!

All attendees must register, and the event is \$15 per person. 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](#).

Will you be Fairfield's next BBQ Master?



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

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

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

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

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 9th 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>

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. **Don't wait—the application deadline is April 11.**

Events I attended this week

Saturday night, March 15, I attended the Crab Feed held by the Veterans at the Benicia Veterans Hall. I had a wonderful time. I made new friends, laughed with others and did not win anything this time.

Sunday, March 16, I had lunch with one of my retired teacher friends and his family. We ate at Provisions in Vallejo. Then I went to St. Peter's Chapel for a nice afternoon of Irish music. A perfect Sunday

Wednesday, March 19, Congressman John Garamendi had his second Town Hall in two weeks on Zoom. Thank you, John for having a great staff that can set up the links for all of us to participate. I did like the second, Wednesday format better. Everyone who spoke were respectful of the time limit. I will speak for me. I am terrified of what might happen. For example, Canada, a friend, NATO, and Ukraine. Lack of Medical, and food for families, being dismissed from a government job by lying about people, and the list goes on. Keep reminding us that we do have power. Contact our friends in other states for example. Remember **united** we stand and divided we **fall**.

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
Medical Assistant	03/18/2025

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.

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

Newsletter photo

A Vallejo sunset. 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.