

July 7, 2023

SUPERVISOR MONICA BROWN NEWSLETTER



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Information this week

USPS is making changes to your mail, starting July 9

Starting July 9, the price of a Forever Stamp will increase by 3 cents from 63 cents to 66 cents. The increase, according to USPS, is designed to “offset the rise in inflation.” To read more about changes with the USPS, click [here](#).

Highway 37 update



[Follow on Twitter](#)

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

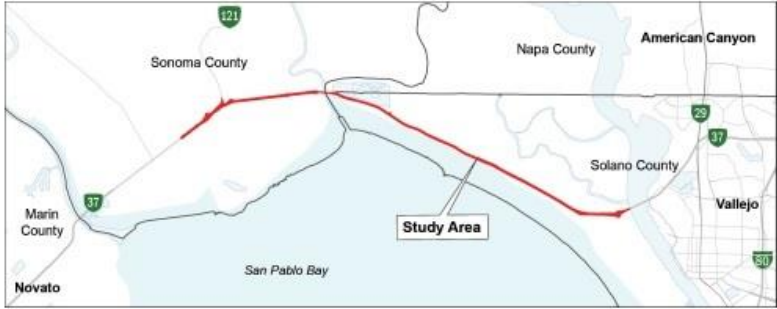
Registrar of Voters

(707) 784-6675

Tax Collector/Treasurer/County Clerk

(707) 784-7485

Area Agency on Aging



The San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board will get an update on Highway 37 during its meeting at **9am on Wednesday July 12** at the Elihu M. Harris Building, First Floor Auditorium, 1515 Clay Street in the City of Oakland.

For those who wish to comment on an agenda item or are presenting to the Board, additional information about participating telephonically or via the remote meeting solution is available by clicking [here](#).

For those who only wish to watch the meeting, the customary webcast remains available at: <https://cal-span.org/>

State Commission approves Highway 37 toll proposal - reminder

As a reminder, in May the California Transportation Commission approved a plan to operate a toll facility on a stretch of Highway 37 between Mare Island in Vallejo and the junction with State Route 121 at Sears Point in Sonoma County.

Toll rates for regular two-axle cars and trucks traveling between Mare Island and Sears Point are expected to be similar to those on the Bay Area's state-owned toll bridges, which will rise to \$8 from the current \$7 in 2025. Tolls on Highway 37 may be collected in both the eastbound and westbound directions, in which case the toll rates would be set at just half those on the state-owned bridges, where tolls are collected only in one direction.

To read more, click [here](#).

Program educators wanted

The Solano Resource Conservation District is hiring program educators for the 23-24 school year.

Solano Resource Conservation District is looking for program educators to join their award-winning education team for the 23-24 school year. Their programming connects over 8,000 students annually, offering a concrete, experiential introduction to their watershed and the life that depends on it. Solano RCD is looking

(707) 784-8960

U.S. Social Security

(800) 772-1213

SUICIDE PREVENTION

NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION HOTLINE

800-273-8255

SPANISH LINE

888-628-9454

DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING

800 799 4889

FRIENDSHIP LINE FOR SENIORS

800 971 0016

CRISIS TEX LINE

741741

THE TREVOR PROJECT FOR LGBTQ YOUTH

866-488-7386

TRANS LIFELINE PROVIDING SUPPORT FOR THE TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY

877-565-8860

for educators that represent the diverse communities of Solano County and are enthusiastic about teaching! Please see attached job description or email education@solanorcd.org for more information.

Submit a cover letter describing your interest in the position and a detailed resume with three professional work references to Caitlyn Morrissey at caitlyn.morrissey@solanorcd.org. Mailed application materials are also accepted. Applications are due on **July 15** and open until positions are filled.

How will raising bridge tolls affect San Francisco Bay Area's economic recovery?

Tolls on San Francisco Bay Area bridges are rising sharply and that could affect the economy of a region still struggling to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. To read more, click [here](#).

Toll violation relief for drivers starting July 1

Bay Area drivers will soon see relief coming their way. Starting July 1, drivers who use express lanes or bridge tolls can get a chance to pay their bill with penalties waived. To read more, click [here](#).

Need a ride to the doctor?

You can now get a ride to and from your doctor visits at no charge. As a Kaiser Permanente Medicare health plan member, you can get a ride to and from your appointments at no cost. Your plan covers up to 24 one-way trips (50 miles per trip) per calendar year.

To schedule a ride for rideshare, taxi, or private transportation service, call 1-877-930-1477 (TTY 711). You can also schedule online at medicaltrip.net or download the MTM Link Member app. To download the app on your device, visit the App Store (Apple) or Google Play (Android) and search for MTM Link Member App.

For wheelchair van or gurney van transportation service, call 1-833-226-6760.

Request your ride at least 3 business days (Monday through Friday) before your appointment. If you have an urgent last-minute appointment, call as soon as you can.

You can get rides for doctor appointments, medical services such as lab or X-ray, and picking up medications or medical equipment.

Public notices

Shelter Report - June Statistics

In the month of June, the Humane Society of the North Bay had 15 dogs and 4 cats adopted. Two dogs and a cat were transferred to adoption-guaranteed partners and 11 dogs were returned to their owners.

Remember, your best opportunity to reunite with your dog or cat, if lost, is to have an up-to-date microchip on your pet. HSNB offers low-cost microchips.

Benicia Lyft rides

The Solano Transportation Authority (STA) will pay a portion of your Lyft rides throughout the City of Benicia, and to Springstown Center in Vallejo. These rides are valid only to specific destinations and between the hours of 6am-9pm for Benicia residents. To qualify you must be an older adult (65+), a veteran, or ADA eligible. If your pickup or drop-off is outside the specified areas, the discount is not valid. More questions? Call the mobility call center: [1-800-535-6883](tel:1-800-535-6883)



Pediatric vaccine resource for families

Solano County Public Health, First 5 Solano, Partnership HealthPlan of California (PHC), Ole Health, La Clinica, Help Me Grow Solano and Child Start have developed and launched a new website for parents and families seeking information about childhood immunizations. The website, www.SolanoVaxFacts.com, serves as a public resource for information on early childhood immunizations, including facts about vaccines, where to get vaccinated, payment assistance, and more. Community members can also download a vaccine schedule that details the timeline for necessary immunizations for children aged two months through 16 years.

NAMI Solano looking for bilingual volunteer



The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Solano is looking for a bilingual, Spanish speaking volunteer for its family programs, to assist with NAMI Family-to-Family facilitator and NAMI Family Support Group facilitator.

Volunteer must have a family member with mental illness and is available to attend trainings.

NAMI is the nation's largest grassroots mental health organization dedicated to building better lives for the millions of Americans affected by mental health conditions, including those living with a mental illness and their loved ones.

Contact Nicollete Morales at nicollete@namisolano.org or at (707) 439-5519.

Storytime at Children's Wonderland

The Solano County Library will offer story time each **Thursday from 11 to 11:45 am** at Children's Wonderland, 360 Glenn Street in the city of Vallejo. This is a free program offered to the community. The program runs through October 26.

Free HIV testing

A colorful poster for free HIV testing. The background is a mix of purple and orange. At the top right, there are logos for Solano Public Health and the County of Solano. In the center, a white circle contains the text "SOLANO PRIDE CENTER" in bold, black, uppercase letters, with "PRIDE" in rainbow colors. Below this, "Free HIV Testing" is written in large, bold, black letters, with "HIV" in red. To the right of "HIV" is a small illustration of a test tube. At the bottom, the text "Solano Pride Center" is in bold, black, uppercase letters, followed by "1234 EMPIRE ST. FAIRFIELD SUITE 1560" in smaller black uppercase letters. Below that, it says "EVERY 1ST AND 3RD TUESDAY OF THE MONTH" and "4:00PM - 7:00PM". The poster is decorated with various icons: a DNA helix, a clipboard with a checkmark, a red ribbon, and two test tubes.

The Solano Pride Center offers free HIV testing every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month from 4 to 7pm, at 1234 Empire Street, Suite 1560, in the City of Fairfield.

National Night Out registrations open

National Night Out is an annual community-building event, promoting police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie in an effort to make neighborhoods safer, better places to live.

The city of Fairfield will host its 40th Annual National Night Out (NNO) on **Tuesday, August 1st, from 5 to 8 pm**. To register your neighborhood, click [here](#).

In Vallejo, registration is now open and available online by visiting www.vpd.net. The Vallejo Police Department will close registration on Monday, July 17.

Fairfield releases water quality report



The City of Fairfield has released its 2022 Consumer Confidence Report, detailing the quality of tap water as it compares to State Water Resources Control Board and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency standards. The report includes details about where Fairfield's water comes from and what it contains.

Fairfield's drinking water is sourced from Lake Berryessa and the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and is treated at the City's two water treatment plants – Waterman and North Bay Regional. Based on a series of tests, the quality of Fairfield's drinking water exceeds almost all industry standards.

The public can view the 2022 Consumer Confidence Report on the website by visiting www.fairfield.ca.gov/2022waterreport. To have a report mailed to your home, please call (707) 437-5387.

What are the Possibilities for Benicia's North Side?



The North Study Area visioning process is a City-led effort resulting from an agreement with the property owner, including full cost recovery, to receive public comment and evaluate potential future use scenarios for the 527-acre parcel located near Lake Herman Road and East Second Street.

Informed by public comment, the City has evaluated key issues related to twelve topics in *The North Study Area Visioning Process Issues and Options* report, which is now available online at www.ci.benicia.ca.us/northstudyarea. Topics addressed in the report include land uses, fiscal sustainability, housing and traffic/circulation.

Moving forward, several alternative scenarios will be prepared for further analysis and public discussion. These scenarios will explore different ways to address many of the issues discussed in the report and identified in the questionnaire responses. The City's land economist, EPS (Economic and Planning Systems), will analyze the financial feasibility and fiscal impact of the scenarios. The scenarios and accompanying analysis will be available to the public for review in early Fall 2023.

Click [here](#) to view the report and [here](#) to view the compiled attachments.

For further information visit www.ci.benicia.ca.us/northstudyarea. You can also contact the City about this project at northstudyarea@ci.benicia.ca.us or (707) 746-4324.

Solano Water Institute for teachers

Local teachers are invited to join an all-day field trip excursion as part of the upcoming Solano Water Institute (SI). This unique teacher opportunity was created by Solano Resource Conservation District to provide teachers with research-proven strategies and resources for water education. SI is a 4-day professional development experience that will enhance teachers' understanding of Solano County's water resources and guide them on field trip-based workshops in our county's open spaces.

Field trips take place on August 2 at 8am at Rush Ranch Open Space and on August 3 at Lake Berryessa. Participants will gather at 7:45am Markley Cove's Lake Berryessa Boat and Jet Ski Rental. Each day includes lunch, snacks, and cold drinks. The days will conclude at 3:30pm.

Participant requirements include K-12 teachers and/or educators; attend 3 days (7h/day) of training (snacks and lunch included); attend a single day post-training recap and present on how training was integrated into your curriculum

To reserve your spot on the tour, please email Shea Kinser at shea.kinser@solanorcd.org by Monday, July 24. For more information about the Solano Water Institute, click [here](#).

Updates from around Solano County

Story time at Loma Vista Farm in July



The Solano County Library will host story time at Loma Vista Farm in the City of Vallejo **every Tuesday in the month of July**. The reading begins at **10am**. The farm is located at 150 Rainier Avenue. Come for a story time, and crafts, and then enjoy the farm.

Summer reading program

Starting Thursday, June 1, come to any Solano County library branch to sign up and get your summer reading challenge pamphlet. The pamphlet is full of reading challenges like "Read a book that teaches a skill" or "read a book that is recommended by a friend." There are 10 challenges in the pamphlet in total.

Decide how many of the challenges in the pamphlet you think you can complete by July 31st. You can do one challenge, 2 challenges

or all 10! It is up to you! Once you complete your challenges, come back to the Solano County Library branch you originally signed up at by July 31st to get your prize.

The prize for kids (ages 0-12) is a brand new free book of their choice (off the book cart) at the library while the teens (ages 13-18) get to order any book they want from Amazon that does not exceed \$15. The library will order it for them!

Adults who complete the program will get a custom enamel pin. Not only that, but all who are signed up for the program will also be entered into weekly drawings for additional prizes! The weekly raffle drawings will be for Oakland A's and SF Giants tickets.

"Stop & Shop" at the Fairfield PAL Student Food Pantry this summer

Local students may visit the food pantry every **Tuesday between 5 to 7pm** to pick up free pantry items to take home. A Fairfield PAL membership is not required to visit the pantry. Choose from fruits and veggies, pancakes, mac and cheese, cereals, soups, peanut butter and jelly and more. Fairfield, Suisun, and Travis teens ages 13 to 18 are able to participate. The food pantry is located at 2256 North Texas Street.

Cops & Kids Softball and Baseball Camp

This summer Fairfield police has partnered with the City's Parks & Recreation Department for the first-ever, two day, Cops & Kids Softball and Baseball Camp. On **July 12 girls ages 8-11** are welcome to attend Softball Camp and on **July 13 both girls and boys ages 8-11** are invited to join Baseball Camp.

Fairfield PD personnel will lead the two free sessions. Check-in is from 8 to 8:20am each day, and camp ends promptly at 1pm with pickup by 1:30pm. Lunch is provided on both days. Players are encouraged to bring their own equipment, and registration is required.

To register for the softball camp, click [here](#). To register for the baseball camp, click [here](#).

Safe Routes to School survey



What are your concerns about your child's safety traveling to and from school?

Solano County wants to encourage more students to safely ride their bikes or walk to school. Walking or riding a bike to school is great for the

environment and for our children's health but some kids and even their parents, don't feel safe on certain streets and roads.

Using this interactive map, please take a moment to point out locations where you think improvements should be made. Your insights will help update the Safe Routes to School Plan!

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

Cell and Gene Therapy certificates

At the end of Fall semester 2022, Solano Community College awarded its first set of Cell and Gene Therapy certificates – the first certificate of its type in the United States. Much of this curriculum came out of a grant from the National Institute for Innovation in the Manufacture of Biopharmaceuticals. The college continues to share this curriculum with other colleges from every region in the United States. The courses within this certificate program impart students with the skills and knowledge required to pursue synthetic biology, stem cell manipulation and algae biotechnology.

For more information about Solano Community College's biotechnology program, click [here](#).

Upcoming events in Solano County

Humane Society and beer garden

Come join the Humane Society of the North Bay for a party from **12 to 4pm, Saturday, July 8**, at Lucca Bar & Grill, 439 1st Street, Benicia. There will be music, delicious food and drink, great raffle items and a 50/50 raffle. All to benefit the cats and dogs at HSNB.

Lucca Bar & Grill will donate a portion of their receipts from the Beer Garden only.

Vallejo Police Department to host a town hall meeting on recent shooting



Officer Involved Shooting (OIS)

TOWN HALL MEETING

Wednesday, July 12, 2023
4:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Elmer Cave Language Academy
770 Tregaskis Ave.
Vallejo, CA 94591

This meeting is to address the Officer Involved Shooting (OIS) that occurred on June 26, 2023

This town hall meeting will be recorded and made available to the public at <https://www.cityofvallejo.net>

For more information contact Sgt. Hollis at 707-567-4233 or Rashad.Hollis@cityofvallejo.net

The Vallejo Police Department will host a Community Town Hall meeting on Wednesday, July 12 from 4 to 6pm at Elmer Cave Language Academy, located at 770 Tregaskis Ave.

The department will address the officer-involved shooting that occurred on June 26, 2023. Vallejo residents and stakeholders are encouraged to attend this meeting

Summer movies and food trucks



Summer MOVIES & FOOD TRUCKS FREE

Food Trucks serving at 6:30pm
Movie begins 15 minutes after sundown

JUNE 23	SPACE JAM 1996 LAUREL CREEK PARK
JULY 28	DC LEAGUE OF SUPER-PETS ROLLING HILLS PARK
AUG 25	MINIONS: THE RISE OF GRU MANKAS NEIGHBORHOOD PARK

707-438-1622
communityevents@fairfield.ca.gov
www.fairfield.ca.gov/events

Bring your family and friends to the movies this summer. The Summer Movies and Food Trucks event series has expanded: Rolling Hills Park on July 28 (DC League of Super-Pets); and Mankas Neighborhood Park on August 25, (Minions: Rise of Gru). Bring a blanket and chairs and enjoy a night out in the park! Food trucks begin serving at 6:30pm. For details

visit www.fairfield.ca.gov/events.

Summer crafts for teens

Calling all Vallejo teens to make popsicle keychains at **3pm, Thursday, July 13** inside the John F. Kennedy library, 505 Santa Clara Street in the city of Vallejo. All supplies will be provided.

Free community health worker training

Touro University California, Aliados Health and the Northern California Center for Well-Being are providing a free community health worker training program for Solano County that will take place from **July 10 through August 16**.

The training will be a total of 80 hours and participants who meet eligibility requirements will receive \$1750 for completing the core training program. For more information, contact (707) 285-2964 or evmartinez@aliadoshealth.org.

Country Night at the Ranch

Come to Rush Ranch for our second annual Country Night at the Ranch from **4 to 7pm, Saturday July 29**.

Local country luminaries Locked-N-Loaded play all-time classics and contemporary favorites with slick musicianship and plenty of heart.

Tickets are on sale today, and 100% of raffle sale proceeds support Solano Land Trust. For more information or to buy tickets, click [here](#).



NAMI Solano County Speaker Series

NAMI, the National Alliance on Mental Illness, the nation's largest grassroots mental health organization, continues to host a speaker series.

Christine Eichhorn, Chair-NAMI Service Members, Veterans, and Families Council; Homefront Coordinator – NAMI Santa Clara will speak on NAMI Homefront and Our Military Community to understand the needs of those in the military community.

The event will be on **Monday July 31 from 6:30 to 7:30pm** via [Zoom](#). Meeting ID: 814 0228 2987 Passcode: 498897

Backpack giveaway August 5!

The Fairfield Community Services Foundation is hosting its annual free backpack and food giveaway event on **August 5 from 10am to 12pm** at Bethel Community Church at 600 E. Tabor Ave. Volunteers are needed to fill the food bags for the event on August 4 at 8:30am at Bethel Community Church. Please contact Sean Quinn (Fairfield Community Services Foundation) at xsquinn@aol.com if interested!

ARC Open House

"Take a Walk" in the ARC, Adult Recreation Center, on **Thursday August 10, 10am to 3pm** at 1200 Harry Price Drive. The ARC is hosting a free open house event to showcase the wide range of fun activities available for individuals age 50 and older. Live entertainment will be featured, and you'll have the opportunity to attend educational lectures from senior resource organizations. Light refreshments will be available, and boxed lunches will be available to purchase for \$10. For more information, click [here](#).

Tomato & Vine Festival returns

Get ready to celebrate the Annual Tomato & Vine Festival organized by the City of Fairfield's Parks & Recreation Department on **Saturday, August 19th from 11am to 7 pm and Sunday, August 20 from 11am to 5pm.**

One of the highlights of the festival is the incredible variety of tomatoes for purchase. With over 20 different varieties, tomato enthusiasts will be in paradise. Additionally, you'll have an opportunity to sample various tomatoes from 12 to 4 pm and those with a competitive spirit will enjoy the tomato eating contest on Saturday. On Sunday car enthusiasts can enjoy a captivating car show and stunning collection of vehicles.

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

Events I attended this week



Supervisor Brown prepares to participate in the City of Vallejo's July 4th Parade. Photo by Seth Brown.

Saturday, July 1, I spent the day at the Benicia Veteran Hall as they sponsored a BBQ rib cook-off. It was such fun. Lots of friends to talk to, air conditioning, Diet Coke and water. The ribs were excellent. One pays 30 dollars and receives 6 ribs and then vote for the best one. The atmosphere was one of happiness and enjoyment.

Monday night, July 3, was the Benicia Torchlight Parade. I rode in a Mustang and made new friends. A big thank you to the Bielka-Vescovi family for driving and providing the car. The parade was a lot of fun. The crowd was having a delightful time.

Tuesday morning was the Vallejo 4th of July parade. The morning's weather was sweater weather. Many, many people attended the parade. They saw horses, kids dancing and the puppets from Napa to name a few participants. The parade always represents what makes Vallejo great, the diversity of the emotion of America.

Thursday, July 6, was a luncheon celebration of the retirement of Assistant Chief Donna Robinson from Solano County Probation. I was honored to be on the invitation list. The highlight was the video made honoring Ms. Robinson. As I write this, I am still smiling. Mr. Martinez, nice job as the MC.

Looking for a job? Consider these links

If you or someone you know is looking for a job, please consider a career with Solano County. Click [HERE](#) to access the website and follow on Facebook [@SolanoCountyJobs](#). Please also consider these other employment resources, including:

[STATE OF CALIFORNIA](#)

[CITY OF BENICIA](#)

[CITY OF FAIRFIELD](#)

[CITY OF VALLEJO](#)

[SOLANO COMMUNITY COLLEGE](#)

[BENICIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT](#)

[FAIRFIELD-SUISUN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT](#)

[VALLEJO SCHOOL DISTRICT](#)

[POST OFFICE](#)

[GREATER VALLEJO RECREATION DISTRICT](#)

[YOUTH JOBS CORPS](#)

[CALIFORNIA CONSERVATION CORPS](#)

[SOLANO RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT](#)

[FAIRFIELD-SUISUN SEWER DISTRICT](#)

Newsletter photo

Supervisor Brown celebrates the Benicia Torchlight Parade on Monday July 3, 2023 with the Vescovi family. Photo by the Vescovi family.



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.