



June 23, 2023

SUPERVISOR MONICA BROWN NEWSLETTER



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Weeds

Please cut your weeds!! I am sure you have seen the photos of the fires in Canada. Please cut your weeds!

Information this week

Interstate 80/State Route 29 Bridge Replacement Project

Caltrans has scheduled nightly lane closures along eastbound and westbound I-80 between the Carquinez Bridge Toll Plaza & Magazine Street in Vallejo. Both Eastbound and Westbound will have various lanes closed **starting Friday night, June 23**. This work will allow crews to finish pavement work on the highway. Crews will be working on eastbound and westbound I-80 between the Carquinez Bridge Toll Plaza and Magazine Street during the following:
 Friday, June 23 to Saturday, June 24, 2023



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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

- Eastbound I-80 from The Carquinez Bridge Toll Plaza to Magazine Street Overcrossing
Various Lanes closed from 10pm Friday, June 23 to 7am on Saturday, June 24
- Westbound I-80 from Magazine Street Overcrossing to the Carquinez Bridge Toll Plaza.
Various Lanes closed from 9am Friday, June 23 to 7am on Saturday, June 24

(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

Department of Technology releases public survey on internet use and adoption

The California Department of Technology has released their public survey on internet use and adoption. This information will inform California's State Digital Equity Plan and help California design solutions to ensure that all California residents have access to high quality and affordable internet service, devices, skills training, and digital support. The survey is available in 14 languages: English, Spanish, Mandarin, Cantonese, Vietnamese, Tagalog, Korean, Armenian, Persian/Farsi, Arabic, Russian, Japanese, Punjabi, and Khmer. It is a 10-15 minute survey.

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

New area code joins 530 region



The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) has acted to ensure that telephone numbers continue to be available to meet the demand in the geographic region served by the 530 area code by approving a second area code (called an overlay) that will provide additional numbering

resources while minimizing customer inconvenience. The new area code to overlay the 530 area codes is 837.

The 530 area code is projected to run out of available prefixes (the first three numbers after the area code in a telephone number) during the third quarter of 2025. The CPUC approved the request of the North American Numbering Plan Administrator, the neutral third-party area code relief planner for California, for an area code overlay. No existing customers will be required to change their area code or specific telephone number. The new overlay area code of 837 will be available for new telephone number assignments in the same region

as the 530 area code upon exhaust of available prefixes in the existing 530 area code.

The 530 area code covers most of the northeastern portion of California, including all or portions of Alpine, Butte, Colusa, El Dorado, Glenn, Humboldt, Lassen, Modoc, Mono, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Shasta, Sierra, Siskiyou, Solano, Sutter, Tehama, Trinity, Yolo, and Yuba counties. It serves cities and communities including but not limited to Chico, Davis, El Dorado Hills, Oroville, Paradise, Placerville, Red Bluff, Redding, South Lake Tahoe, Truckee, Woodland, and Yuba City, as well as unincorporated areas.

State to launch BenefitsCal.com self-service website in Solano County

The Solano County Department of Health and Social Services, Employment and Eligibility division, announced that on **Monday, July 3**, the State of California will launch the new BenefitsCal.com website in Solano County, giving customers who apply for and receive CalFresh, CalWORKs and Medi-Cal services, access to these benefits in a single online platform.

The state will begin migrating Solano County customers to the BenefitsCal.com platform starting on Thursday, June 29 at 2pm. During the transition, Solano County Employment and Eligibility (E&E) customers will not be able to access their accounts until the website launches on July 3 at 8am.

In advance of the planned outage, Solano County E&E staff is encouraging all customers act now so they are not (or minimally) impacted during the transition, including submitting any incomplete applications, outstanding reports and required verifications as soon as possible. During the cutover window, E&E staff will not have access to process benefit transactions.

Solano County E&E offices will remain open during the transition to BenefitsCal.com, but services will be limited. Customers can visit and/or call a County E&E office with questions, including at 275 Beck Ave. in Fairfield, (707) 553-5000; 365 Tuolumne Street in Vallejo, (707) 784-8050; and 1119 E. Monte Vista Ave. in Vacaville, (707) 469-4500, all between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday – Friday. More information can also be found on the County website at <https://www.SolanoCounty.com/Depts/HSS/ESS>.

Stolen data

The Associated Press is reporting that the personal information of about 769,000 retired California employees and other beneficiaries — including Social Security numbers — was among data stolen by

Russian cybercriminals in the breach of a popular file-transfer application. 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 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.

Public notices

RCRC Launches Seventh Annual Rural County Photo Contest

The Rural County Representatives of California has launched the 7th Annual Rural County Photo Contest. The contest invites individuals to submit their photographs capturing life in rural California and showcasing the beautiful scenery, activities, communities, history, and charm of RCRC's 40 member counties.

The first prize winner will receive a \$300 gift card, the winning photograph will be featured during the September RCRC Board of Directors Meeting and in related print, online, and social media presentations.

Photo entries (limit 3) should be sent to photocontest@rcrcnet.org and must include:



- Location where the photo was taken, including the county in which it was taken; and
- Photographer's full name and email address.

All entries must be received by **11:59 p.m. on June 30th**. Visit www.rcrcnet.org/photo-contest for details & [official contest rules](#).

How do you feel about e-bikes at Rockville?

The City of Fairfield staff and the Rockville Citizen Advisory Committee have created a survey to gauge park visitors' views on the use of electric bikes (e-bikes) in Rockville Park. The survey will only be open through **June 30**. To participate, click [here](#).

California's e-bike incentive project

The California State Legislature has allocated \$10 million for California Air Resource Board to create an Electric Bicycle Incentive Project. The goal is to encourage adoption of electric bicycles as a replacement for in-town motor vehicle trips by helping low-income Californians afford to purchase e-bikes. For more information, click [here](#).

Link21 virtual community meeting

Have questions about train service in the Bay Area? Link21 will be hosting a virtual community meeting from **5:30 to 7pm, Tuesday, June 27**.

Input now will help Link21 understand service improvements that will best meet the needs of the diverse community. Train network service improvements will allow more people to conveniently travel around the Megaregion. This meeting is available in English, Spanish, and Cantonese. To request American Sign Language and other accommodations, email inquiries@Link21Program.org or call 855-905-Link (5465) between one and five days in advance of the meeting date.

Link21 is a long-range transportation program sponsored by the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District (BART) and the Capitol Corridor Joint Powers Authority (Capitol Corridor) to transform the train network serving the 21-county Northern California Megaregion, which includes the greater San Francisco Bay Area, the Monterey Bay area, the Sacramento area, and the Northern San Joaquin Valley.

To register, click [here](#).

“I Love My County Because...” art contest

In an effort to bolster civic education and educate communities on the role of county government, the National Association of Counties (NACo) is launching the 2023 “I Love My County Because...” art contest.

NACo and county leaders are spreading the word about county roles and responsibilities, which are often unknown or misunderstood. By inviting children and young adults K-12 to create artwork for the 2024 “Counties Matter” calendar, NACo hopes to raise awareness about programs and services that impact people’s lives every day.

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

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.

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.

Updates from around Solano County

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.

Summer Youth Employment Program

The Workforce Development Board of Solano County is offering a five-week paid work experience program **starting July 5th**. Work experience will be focused on Climate Transition projects in the Fairfield, Suisun and Vallejo region concentrating on water, land, restoration, sustainable agriculture, and climate education. For more information, contact Matt Moon-Bailey at mmoonbailey@solanowdb.org.

Upcoming events in Solano County

Summer movies and food trucks

Bring your family and friends to the movies this summer.

The Summer Movies and Food Trucks event series has expanded into three different parks this year:

Laurel

Creek Park on June 23

(Space Jam -1996);

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.



Astronomy Nights return to Rush Ranch



By day, Rush Ranch is a great place to see marsh and grassland ecotones, fascinating plants, and active wildlife. By night, it's a great place to behold the universe. The event will be held on **Friday, June 23 from 8:30 to 11pm.**

For this month's event, the topic will be "Hazards from space that will affect the Earth." Jon Pannier brings out a variety of special telescopes and helps stargazers interpret what is above. People from all over visit for this unique opportunity to enjoy the land after sunset and

experience the wonders above in the company of a lively crowd.

To register, click [here](#)

Humane Society birthday celebration

You're cordially invited to join in celebrating the Humane Society of the North Bay's birthday this **Saturday, June 24th, from 12 to 3pm**. This free, family-friendly event promises an unforgettable day of fun and excitement!

Kids will be thrilled with a wide range of activities, games and entertainment. And if you've been dreaming of finding a furry companion, this is your chance! Meet the adorable adoptable dogs and perhaps find your perfect match. The celebration will be held at City Park, 425 Alabama Street in the city of Vallejo.

Free virtual Narcan training

Touro University California's Drug Safe Solano Program is offering a free virtual Narcan training on **Saturday, June 24 from 1 to 2pm**. Come learn about opioids, the epidemic as it relates to Solano County, how to identify an overdose and how to save a life. Participants will receive a Certificate of Completion and a Narcan unit. To register, click [here](#).

Summer craft events for teens

Calling all Vallejo teens. There will be several craft events over the summer including making little gnomes out of fimo clay, at **3pm, Saturday, June 24**.

The next events include making kindness rocks at 3pm, Thursday, June 29 and popsicle keychains at 3pm, Thursday, July 13.

All events to take place at the John F. Kennedy library, 505 Santa Clara Street in the city of Vallejo. All supplies will be provided.

Poetry at the Clocktower

Plan now to attend a festive and uplifting historic event at Benicia's Clocktower at **3pm, Sunday, June 25th** at 1189 Washington Street.

Benicians and friends will gather to celebrate our homeplace, to tell its story and join in song. This free event sponsored by the Benicia Public Library will feature California's Poet Laureate Lee Herrick, and outgoing Poet Laureate, Mary Susan Gast.

Visual artwork portraying life in Benicia will be on display, along with ZipOdes "94510" by Benicia residents. A super highlight will be the premier showing of "Benicia Our Home," a film portraying scenes of Benicia accompanied by over 200 Benicians in song.

Arts Benicia

Arts Benicia continues to host the exhibition, Reimagining History, juried by Sandow Birk. The diverse artworks in this show represent each participating artist's perspective, reimagining or reinterpreting an event, a historical idea, or a person. You can see the exhibition through **June 25**.



Starting June 26th, the EcoArt Camp for Youth, for incoming 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th graders, uses hands-on art-making activities as an educational tool to encourage creative expression while gaining awareness of environmental sustainability and natural resources, and the potential of re-use. More information is on our website at <https://artsbenicia.org/ecoartcamp2023>.

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 pm. Visitors are invited to walk throughout the historic mansion built in 1860, an important and interesting part of our town's history. For more information visit <https://artsbenicia.org>

Arts Benicia also offers art classes for adults, many of which are open to beginners. As summer provides more free time for fun and creativity, consider checking out the new classes listed on our website. Over the next few weeks, we will offer mixed media assemblage, portrait painting in pastels, printmaking, and a plein air painting class. There's much more each month, so for our full listings, please visit <https://artsbenicia.org/adult-classes>

First 5 Center

Calling all Solano County families with children from 0 through 5 years old. Join the Vallejo First 5 Center for some free family-friendly Fun in the Sun! There will be splashing and laughing with sensory water activities, along with refreshing popsicles and connecting with some great resources in the community. The event will be from **1 to 2:30pm, Tuesday June 27**. The event will be held at 3375 Sonoma Boulevard #10 in the city of Vallejo. Call (707) 373-2130 to RSVP.

Teen Anime Café



Web: solanolibrary.com
Phone: 1-866-572-7587
Facebook, Instagram, Twitter icons: [solanolibrary](#)

TEEN ANIME CAFE



Join us for a fun-filled afternoon to watch anime, eat Japanese snacks, read manga and make some new friends.

FAIRFIELD CIVIC CENTER LIBRARY

TUESDAY, JUNE 27
4:15 PM

For more information visit solanolibrary.com/events

The Solano County Library will host a Teen Anime Cafe on **Tuesday, June 27th at 4:15pm**, at the Fairfield Civic Center Library, 1150 Kentucky Street.

Teens who attend will get the chance to watch anime from the anime streaming service Crunchyroll while also eating Japanese snacks and reading manga!

Summer barbecue

Ready for summer? Come out with your friends to enjoy the sun at a barbeque offered by the Greater Vallejo Recreation District. Lunch and refreshments will be provided along with tons of games and music from **11am to 1:30pm, Wednesday, June 28** at Blue Rock Springs Park, 650 Columbus Parkway. Register at GVRD.org.

Free doula training available

In an effort to improve health disparities for Black women and their babies, Divine Birthright and Solano HEALS (Health Equity for African American/Black Lives) are partnering with First 5 Solano and Aliados Health to host a free (16 hour) exclusively Black doula training and certification for Solano County residents.

Cohort 1 begins **July 1**. Doula training includes: childbirth education, anatomy of pregnancy, comfort measures, lactation support, adult and infant CPR and so much more! All applicants must be at least 18 years old with a valid driver's license or state-issued ID to be considered. Please send all inquiries to solanoheals@gmail.com by June 23.

Buffalo Soldiers

On July 1, the Buffalo Soldiers will be at Pena Adobe Park in Vacaville.

The mounted volunteers of Solano County Sheriff's Posse and their horses will join the Buffalo Soldiers. This event is free. The time is **11am to 2pm**. Come and speak with the Buffalo Soldiers who will be dressed in period uniforms. Pena Adobe Park is location at 4699 Pena Adobe Road.

Rib cook-off



Start your 4th of July weekend by attending the Benicia Veteran's Cook-off. The Sons of the American Legion, Squadron 101, will host its 4th annual Rib Cook-off, starting at **12:45pm, Saturday, July 1**. For \$30, participants will get six ribs and side dishes. Proceeds benefit veterans and veteran programs in Benicia and Solano County. The event will be held at the Benicia Veterans Memorial Hall, 1150 1st St.

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

Events I attended this week



Friday, June 16, I attended the celebration of the retirement of Admiral Cropper, the President of Cal Maritime. President Cropper was honored by Congressman John Garamendi and State Senator Bill Dodd. In several years, the university will have a new training ship for the cadets, thank you Congressman Garamendi. It was fun to talk to friends and enjoy the music with the view of the water as the party was held under a tent on the quad.

Saturday, June 17, my first event was the ground-breaking ceremony for the Pacific Flyway Center located in the Suisun Marsh. The 845-acre wetland preserve is in the open space you see as you drive on 680 between 1-80 and Lake Herman Road. Please visit the website: www.pacificflywaycenter.org The educational opportunities are endless as well as a family outing for all to enjoy. I look forward to a "WALK IN THE MARSH". I do want to give a shout to the MC, Veronica. Veronica, I loved your fun facts. Fairfield Mayor Catherine Moy took the above photo of me at the ground-breaking.

My afternoon was spent in Vallejo. Vallejo for years has had a Juneteenth celebration. This year holding the event on the Barbara Kondylis Waterfront Green, made it extra special for me. I saw a lot of friends. The music, dancing, food trucks, and vendors with great weather, made the mid- afternoon fly by.

Sunday, June 18, The Benicia Juneteenth celebration was held in the afternoon at the Veteran Center. I love earrings and bought 4 pairs of earrings and 3 books from the vendors. Great music and food. Saw lots of friends here. Hotdogs were being sold and the weather was great, so of course I bought one. Just an excellent day.

Monday, June 19, I attended the Juneteenth Flag Raising in Benicia held at 9:30 am. Several people talked about the significance of the day. At 1:30, there was a celebration of the Benicia library being at the East L Street location for 30 years. For me, it was another history lesson. The history of what it took to get the library built. There were 5 former head librarians, the former mayor from 30 years ago, even the architect was in attendance. A delightful afternoon with 2 kinds of cake. Yes, I had a sample of both. Who can resist chocolate and vanilla with strawberries?

Thursday, June 22, I attended the PG&E Open House night at the Green Valley Country Club. PG&E is putting utilities lines underground. This undergrounding project is in the Green Valley area and neighboring communities. PG&E plans to bury approximately 30 miles of power lines. If you were unable to attend and have questions call Butch Harris at 408-391-0657 or email butch.harris@pge.com Many people attended over the 2-hour event. I saw many friends and yes, a former student who works at the club. See below photo taken by Carol Kalamaras.



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

If April showers bring May flowers, what do May flowers bring: Fall Pumpkins. I took a picture of the land being prepared for pumpkins. Use info at [Erickson Ranch | Home Grown - Hand Made](#) and put in your request for the products they make and sell. I love apple butter. Their ranch is 2482 Cordelia Rd. Please look at their webpage for the dates and times they are open. Please support our local businesses. It is a nice family activity. Many of our young people do not know where our food comes from.



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.