

July 26, 2024



### California Forever withdraws proposed ballot measure, will not proceed with election in November



No doubt you have heard this news about California Forever pulling its ballot initiative this week. Here is the official press release from Solano County:

In a letter, (released on Monday, July 22), Mitch Mashburn, District 5 Supervisor and Chair of the Board of Supervisors, stated that California Forever has agreed to withdraw the ballot measure for the East Solano Plan, and will not proceed to the election in November. The decision came after a discussion took place between Chair Mashburn and Jan Sramek, Founder and CEO of California Forever, who said they will now apply for a General Plan and Zoning Amendment and proceed with the normal County process for the negotiation and execution of a development agreement.

THE LETTER ISSUED TODAY BY CHAIR MASHBURN:

“After a discussion between myself and Jan Sramek, the Founder and CEO of California Forever, we have agreed that they will withdraw their measure and not proceed with the election in November. Instead, they will submit an application for a General Plan and Zoning Amendment and proceed with the normal County process which includes preparation of a full Environmental Impact Report and the negotiation and execution of Development Agreement. As part of the normal County process, California Forever will reimburse the County’s costs for this future work, including both staff time and external consultants. As a result, the action for the Board to place this measure on the ballot on tomorrow’s agenda is no longer needed.

I think it signals Jan Sramek’s understanding that while the need for more affordable housing and good paying jobs has merit, the timing



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**Important Numbers Resources and Dates**

**District 2 Office**

(707) 784-3031

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

(707) 784-6100

**Veterans Services**

(707) 784-6590

**Health & Social Services**

(707) 784-8400

**Assessor/Recorder**

(707) 784-6200

**Resource Management**

(707) 784-6765

**Registrar of Voters**

(707) 784-6675

**Tax Collector/Treasurer/County Clerk**

(707) 784-7485

**Area Agency on Aging**

(707) 784-8960

**U.S. Social Security**

(800) 772-1213

has been unrealistic. I want to acknowledge that many Solano residents are excited about Mr. Sramek's optimism about a California that builds again. He is also right that we cannot solve our jobs, housing, and energy challenges if every project takes a decade or more to break ground.

But announcing last year that California Forever would seek a vote on the November 2024 ballot, without a full Environmental Impact Report and a fully negotiated Development Agreement, was a mistake. This politicized the entire project, made it difficult for us and our staff to work with them, and forced everyone in our community to take sides.

Delaying the vote gives everyone a chance to pause and work together, which is what is needed – not a fight between friends throughout the County on both sides of the issue. With the ballot measure off the table, it will be far easier for county staff to work with California Forever. It also creates an opportunity to take a fresh look at the plan and incorporate input from more stakeholders.

We are who we are in Solano County because we do things differently here. We take our time to make informed decisions that are best for the current generation and future generations. We want to make sure that everyone has the opportunity to be heard and get all the information they need before voting on a General Plan change of this size.

As we now have competing reports and studies to consider and reflect on, I'll give Mr. Sramek and his team a challenge. Consider us the 'show-me county.' Use the Environmental Impact Report and Development Agreement process to prove to us how you'll strengthen Travis AFB, how you'll provide water, and how you will solve the transportation challenges. And show us the financial engineering that makes it possible to pay for billions of dollars of infrastructure, without increasing our taxes, and while delivering a net tax surplus to our county.

I'd like to thank Mr. Sramek for recognizing the need of our community for more time and information. As Chair of the Board and the Supervisor who represents the area most impacted, I will seek to form a subcommittee of the Board for this proposal, and I look forward to working with him and his team collaboratively going forward."

## **Monica's remarks about California Forever**

At the last Board of Supervisor's meeting, I let my thoughts be known about the California Forever proposal.

To listen, click [here](#).

### **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

## Congressman John Garamendi's response to California Forever's decision



Today (Monday, July 22), U.S. Representative John Garamendi (D-CA-08) issued the following statement commending Mitch Mashburn, Chair of the Solano County Board of Supervisors, for his recent announcement regarding the California Forever development project. Garamendi serves as the federal representative for much of the service area, and the project raises concerns about the security of Travis Air Force Base, protection of the National Delta

Heritage Area, and a full National Environmental Protection Act Review:

"I applaud California Forever's decision to change course and begin the standard County process for a General Plan and Zoning Amendment. This approach, which includes a full Environmental Impact Report and a negotiated Development Agreement, is a crucial step toward ensuring that any development in our community is sustainable, transparent, and beneficial for all residents.

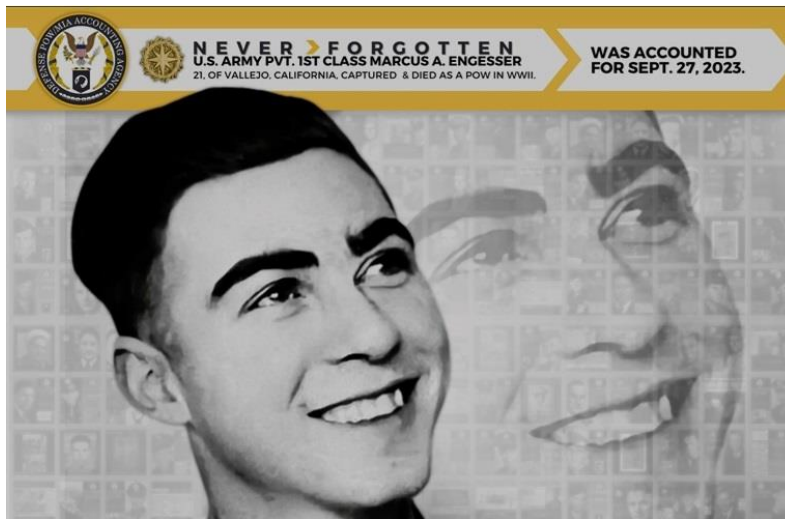
"From the beginning, I have maintained that the proposed project was only a pipe dream, not a true plan. Rushing the process without thorough environmental and community review would have been disastrous for the existing residents of Solano County. Thanks to a required report by the County, we now know the scope of these costs. According to the report, the development would have created a nearly \$200 million annual deficit for the County.

"Today's decision to follow the normal County planning process provides the opportunity to address critical issues such as governing structures for the area, strengthening Travis Air Force Base, providing adequate water resources, solving transportation challenges, and ensuring financial viability for the entire County.

"I thank the Solano County Board of Supervisors for prioritizing the needs and voices of our community. I am committed to supporting the County's efforts and will continue to work with all parties involved to ensure a prosperous and sustainable future for Solano County."

## Information this week

### PFC Marcus A. Engesser comes home



WWII Repatriation/Fallen Soldier/PFC Marcus A. Engesser, U. S. Army, arrived at San Francisco International Airport on Wednesday, July 17, 2024, at 8 p.m.

The cities of Vallejo and Benicia's police and fire departments were part of the procession from SFO to Passalacqua Funeral Chapel in Benicia where approximately 30 residents joined in the procession.

U. S. Army Private First Class Marcus Engesser, age 19, of Vallejo, California, who was captured and died as a prisoner of war during World War II, was accounted for September 27, 2023.

In late 1942, Engesser was a member of Company L, 31<sup>st</sup> Infantry Regiment in the Philippines during World War II, when Japanese forces invaded the Philippine Islands in December. Intense fighting continued until the surrender of the Bataan peninsula on April 9, 1942, and of Corregidor Island on May 6, 1942.

Thousands of U. S. and Filipino service members were captured and interned at POW camps. Engesser was among those reported captured when U. S. forces in Bataan surrendered to the Japanese. They were subjected to the 65-mile Bataan Death March and then held at the Cabanatuan POW camp.

More than 2,500 POWs perished in this camp during the war. According to prison camp and other historical records, Engesser died on September 23, 1942, and was buried along with other deceased prisoners in the local Cabanatuan Camp Cemetery in Common Grave 707.

Following the war, American Graves Registration Service personnel exhumed those buried at the Cabanatuan cemetery and relocated

the remains to a temporary U. S. military mausoleum near Manila. In 1947, the AGRS examined the remains in an attempt to identify them. Nine sets of remains from Common Grave 707 were identified, but the rest were declared unidentifiable. The unidentified remains were buried at the Manila American Cemetery and Memorial as Unknowns.

In early 2018, the remains associated with Common Grave 707 were disinterred and sent to the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency laboratory for analysis.

To identify Engesser's remains, scientists from DPAA used dental and anthropological analysis, as well as circumstantial evidence. Additionally, scientists from the Armed Forces Medical Examiner System used mitochondrial DNA analysis. Although interred as an Unknown in MACM, Engesser's grave was meticulously cared for over the past 70 years by the American Battle Monuments Commission.

There are about 72,000 soldiers from World War II, about 7,500 from the Korean War, and more than 1,550 from the Vietnam War that are still unaccounted.

PFC Marcus Engesser was the eldest of 7 children. All of his brothers served their country in various branches of the U. S. military. His brother, U. S. Navy Seaman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Phillip E. Engesser, age 18, was killed in the attack on the USS Nashville CL-43 on December 13, 1944, during the Liberation of the Philippines.

PFC Engesser is survived by his sister, Elsie Thompson, age 92, who along with her fallen brothers' nieces and nephews were on the tarmac to meet her brother's flight. He will be buried alongside his family in Vallejo

## **2 men caught on camera putting skimmer on gas pump wanted by Fairfield PD**

Police in Fairfield are looking for two men who were caught on camera placing a skimming device on a gas pump on Saturday. The skimmer, according to police, was placed on the pump at a local business at around 2:55 p.m.

To continue reading, click [here](#).

## State, Regional Agencies Join Forces to Prepare Bay Area for Sea Level Rise, Increased Flooding



A press from the Solano County Regional Collaborative:

From Seven regional and state public agencies have executed a new [memorandum of understanding](#) committing each agency to a joint work program to address increased threats of flooding and sea level rise in the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area region.

The agencies participating in the agreement signed last Friday include the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG); the Bay Area Air Quality Management District; the California State Coastal Conservancy; Caltrans District 4; the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC); the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board; and the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC). The partners' amplified coordination will be guided by the inter-agency [Bay Area Regional Collaborative](#) (BARC). The memorandum is intended to align the partners' efforts, expertise and core functions to deliver priority, multi-benefit projects to reduce flooding risks in vulnerable communities along the San Francisco Bay shoreline.

"The scale of the Bay Area's need for projects to adequately adapt to the threats of flooding and sea level rise is vastly greater than the resources available," explained BARC Chair Jesse Arreguin, who also serves as mayor of Berkeley and as vice president of the ABAG Executive Board. "By working together with a shared purpose, the Bay Area will be in a better position to compete with other metro areas for the limited dollars that are available."

Through coordinating their respective roles and authorities, the partner agencies aim to:

- Speed implementation of adaptation projects to better prepare communities, businesses, infrastructure, and the environment for the expected impact of flooding and sea level rise.
- Increase the Bay Area's ability to compete for state and federal grants.
- Help cities, counties and special districts plan and fund climate adaptation projects.
- Build consensus on project priorities through a strategic, data-driven and equitable approach that incorporates local sea level rise adaptation plans.

- Support multi-jurisdiction partnerships to advance multi-benefit projects at scale.
- Create a cooperative environment in which various agencies and municipalities support each other's goals and support each other's climate adaptation projects.

“We need unprecedented coordination to prioritize flood risk management projects in the places that need them most,” said ABAG Executive Board President and Napa County Supervisor Belia Ramos. “We must accelerate our pace and plan at a scale commensurate with the threat. This MOU is an important step in documenting how the seven agencies will coordinate in support of the cities, counties, special districts, community-based organizations, and private interests that all have critical roles to play in implementing effective projects.”

“There is a funding gap of at least \$110B in green, grey and hybrid solutions to adapt the Bay Area to mid-century sea level rise projections,” noted BCDC Chair Zack Wasserman. “This MOU establishes a structure and process to support coordinated planning, project prioritization, and project delivery to reduce inter-agency and inter-jurisdiction competition for funding.”

California State Coastal Conservancy Executive Officer Amy Hutzler noted that, “Some of the Bay Area region’s most flood-prone areas include under-served communities that lack the resources to plan and build specific flood risk management projects on their own. I’m excited to work with my partner agencies in this coordinated effort to ensure vulnerable communities can implement adaptation projects that make them safer and more resilient to the growing threats of sea level rise, while preserving and enhancing the Bay’s natural resources.”

BARC was created by the state Legislature in 2004 to foster the coordination of the Bay Area’s regional agencies on issues of regional significance. More information may be found on [the BARC website](#)

## **This is not a scam: Social Security needs you to update your account**

You may have received an email recently from the Social Security Administration, telling you that you need to log in to your online Social Security account and update your details. It even includes a helpful link.

Many Social Security scam and phishing emails have made the rounds in recent years, so you may have assumed this was just another one. But as it happens, there is a genuine email landing in inboxes. We checked — and after we did, the Social Security Administration put a press release up on its website to make matters clearer for everyone. To continue reading, click [here](#).

## Biden-Harris Administration Advances Early Wildfire Detection by Expanding Use of Satellites as Part of Investing in America agenda



A press release:

The Biden-Harris administration announced this week that it is taking additional steps to safeguard western communities in the face of increasingly dangerous and intense wildland fires by building advanced wildfire detection capabilities using satellite technology. The

Department of the Interior and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)'s Forest Service have signed an agreement with the Department of Commerce's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to use the NOAA Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite — R series (GOES-R) data to rapidly detect and report wildfire starts. Supported by a \$20 million investment from the President's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law—\$10 million each from Interior and Agriculture— this new agreement will use advanced remote sensing capabilities to improve the speed and accuracy of wildfire detection.

President Biden's Investing in America agenda, through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, is bringing much-needed assistance to communities across the country — deploying innovative tools to tackle wildfires, increasing the resilience of lands facing the threat of wildland fires, and better supporting federal wildland firefighters. The law includes \$5 billion for these Departments over five years to invest in preparedness, fuels management, post-fire restoration, and fire science.

"This collaborative effort demonstrates how the federal government is deploying resources from President Biden's historic Investing in America agenda to improve its emergency response capabilities and address increasingly frequent and extreme climate-driven wildfires," said **Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland**. "By using expanded satellite capacity to pinpoint wildfire ignitions and provide real-time data for wildfire managers, this partnership with NOAA will enable the Interior and Agriculture Departments to respond to wildfires more rapidly and make informed decisions for firefighting operations and public safety."

"This partnership is one of the many ways we are investing in technology to improve firefighter and community safety," said **Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack**. "Wildland firefighting will always require highly skilled individuals working on the ground,



but with more real-time information we can reduce the risks to crews and pilots and improve our response time to the public.”

“Now more than ever, the impacts of climate change are increasing the threat of wildfires across the country and thanks to President Biden’s commitment to investing in America, NOAA has been able to significantly improve fire weather forecasts to keep communities safe,” said **Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo**. “This new partnership, a result of the most ambitious climate agenda in history, will help expand our ability to detect wildfires, improve response times, and keep families in western communities out of harm’s way.”

Use of NOAA’s GOES-R satellite data will enable the Interior and Agriculture Departments to detect wildfires early, provide firefighters a more detailed look at wildfire conditions, allow faster hot spot detection, and provide the ability to track wildfire progression in real time. GOES-R series satellites are frequently capable of detecting wildfires before they are spotted on the ground or reported to 911. The satellites can also be used to pinpoint the exact location of a fire after smoke reports occur. These improved capabilities will support interagency efforts to protect people and communities from increasingly devastating wildfires. GOES-R satellite observations are not only valuable for detecting wildfires but are also critical for observing and monitoring smoke from those fires. The ability to monitor smoke plumes in near real time is particularly useful in directing firefighting efforts from the air. Deploying airplanes and helicopters for wildfire suppression efforts is often hampered by poor visibility.

GOES-R satellites can help guide decisions for deploying flights by providing information on the exact location and drift of smoke from a fire. The smoke detection and monitoring information also enable better air quality forecasts to help safeguard public health. These improvements help equip communities with the information they need to assess risks and develop climate solutions—a key objective of the National Climate Resilience Framework.

Today’s effort supports recommendations by the [Wildland Fire Mitigation and Management Commission](#), which was established through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and charged with making recommendations to improve federal policies related to the mitigation, suppression, and management of wildland fires in the United States. In September 2023, the Commission released a comprehensive [report](#) to Congress outlining 148 recommendations to improve the nation’s relationship with wildfire. This collaboration advances recommendations for expanded use of wildfire detection systems and improved collaboration across organizations and jurisdictions.

# California's insurance commissioner isn't sure when the insurance crisis will end, but he has hope



It's been nearly five years since California's home insurance crisis began, and even Insurance Commissioner Ricardo Lara isn't sure when it will end, but he says there are signs of hope.

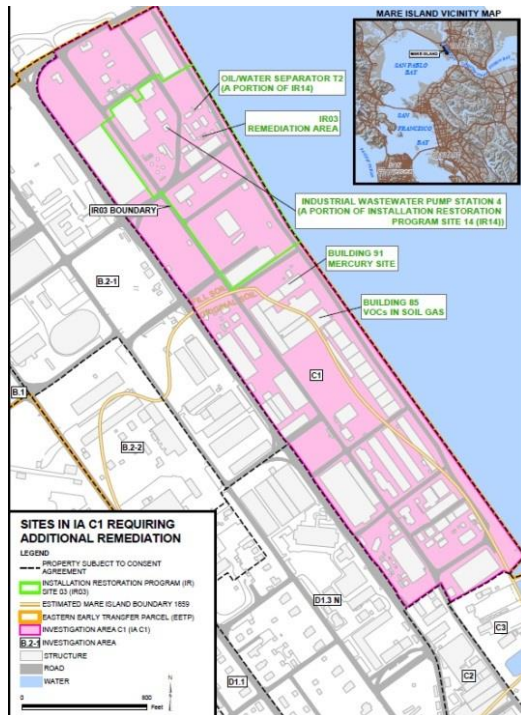
In an interview with the Chronicle, Lara said the state Department of Insurance's efforts to pursue regulations that aim to keep companies in the state and work with industry stakeholders have paid off. But bringing an end to the crisis depends heavily on at least one uncontrollable factor, he said — [wildfires](#).

To continue reading, click [here](#).

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## Public hearings

### Community Update - Mare Island Investigation Area C1



The California Department of Toxic Substances Control encourages the community to review the attached Community

Update for an 83-acre portion of Mare Island in Vallejo, CA 94592 known as [Investigation Area C1](#).

It announces the public comment period from **July 8 – August 6, 2024** for the [draft Remedial Action Plan](#) and [CEQA Initial Study](#).

You are invited to the next Mare Island Restoration Advisory Board meeting to learn about Investigation Area C1 and provide feedback.

## **FSUSD to host informational meeting for prospective board trustee candidates**

This November, the Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District (FSUSD) will have five Board trustee seats open for election in Trustee Areas: 1, 2, 3, 6, and a two-year term for Area 7. To assist prospective candidates, the Fairfield-Suisun Governance Subcommittee will host an informational meeting on **Tuesday, July 30th, from 5 to 7 p.m. at the FSUSD Central Office, 2490 Hilborn Road, Fairfield.**



The informational session, led by current Governance Subcommittee members, is designed to provide a comprehensive overview of the roles, responsibilities, and expectations of a Governing Board Trustee. This session is crucial for those considering running for a seat and will offer insights into the critical aspects of board service.

Topics to be covered include:

Student Achievement and Local Control and Accountability Goals

Collective Governance: Acting as one body, not as seven individuals

The Brown Act: The importance of holding conversations only in public meetings

Board/Superintendent Relationship: Working as a Governance Team

Leadership: Doing your homework, attending meetings, and involvement in schools/events

School Finance: Navigating State and Federal funding

Collective Bargaining: Understanding FSUSD's four employee associations and their representatives

The session will also include a Q&A segment, allowing attendees to engage with current Board members and gain a deeper understanding of what it means to serve on the FSUSD Board.

To qualify as a candidate, individuals must meet several mandated requirements: they must be at least 18 years old, residents of the trustee area, registered voters, and not employed by FSUSD. Although elected by their respective areas, trustees work collectively to provide governance for the entire district, impacting the education of over 20,000 students and supporting more than 2,000 employees.

A map of FSUSD Trustee areas can be found on the district [website \(www.fsusd.org\)](http://www.fsusd.org) under the [Governing Board](#) tab. Residents can visit <https://www.solanocounty.com/depts/rov/> and input their address to determine their trustee area or call the voter registrar's office at (707) 784-6675.

FSUSD encourages all interested individuals to attend the informational meeting on July 30th. Please contact the Superintendent's office at (707) 399-5008 to confirm your attendance so that appropriate seating and materials can be prepared for all attendees.

## Plan Bay Area 2050+ and Transit 2050+ Status Update



### Introducing the Plan Bay Area 2050+ Draft Blueprint and Transit 2050+ Draft Network

Join staff at the Metropolitan Transportation Commission and the Association of Bay Area Governments on **August 6 at 10 a.m.** for [a webinar](#) to learn more about recently released findings from the analysis of the [Plan Bay Area 2050+ Draft Blueprint](#), as well as the [Transit 2050+ Draft Network](#).

### [Webinar: Introducing the Plan Bay Area 2050+ Draft Blueprint and Transit 2050+ Draft Network](#)

**Tuesday, August 6, 10 to 11:30 a.m.** [Join via Zoom](#) Meeting ID: 896 5194 9624 Passcode: 818084 Join via phone: (408) 638-0968.

As the first draft of the Bay Area’s next long-range plan, the Draft Blueprint demonstrates significant progress toward reaching key goals for housing affordability, post-pandemic economic recovery and environmental health and sustainability. The Draft Transit 2050+ Network outlines how to make trips faster and more frequent at all times of day and how to connect more communities by bus, train or ferry.

During the webinar, staff will provide an overview of the key performance and equity findings from the Draft Blueprint analysis, as well as key challenges to address as part of the forthcoming Final Blueprint process — including how to reach the Bay Area’s statutorily-required per capita greenhouse gas emissions reductions target. Staff also will introduce the Draft Transit 2050+ Network and the findings from the assessment of major transportation projects. Finally, staff will provide [a preview of planned public and partner engagement activities over the summer and fall](#), including pop-up public workshops in all nine Bay Area counties.

The presentation will be followed by questions from webinar participants. Registration is not required. For those unable to attend, a video recording of the webinar will be posted to [pba.org/partners](http://pba.org/partners). For questions, please email [info@planbayarea.org](mailto:info@planbayarea.org).

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## Updates from Solano County

### RTSC Smoke / CO Alarm Installation Workday with Benicia Fire Department

**FREE SMOKE ALARM & CARBON MONOXIDE INSTALLATION EVENT**

**JULY 27, 2024**

9:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.

**RANCHO BENICIA MOBILE HOME PARK**  
300 EAST H STREET  
BENICIA, CA 94510

OUR GOAL: TEST EXISTING AND INSTALL NEW SMOKE ALARMS & CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS (AS NEEDED) IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CITY OF BENICIA FIRE DEPARTMENT & COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS FOR RESIDENTS LIVING IN A LOW-INCOME BENICIA MOBILE HOME PARK.

TO VOLUNTEER:  
Contact Rebuilding Together Solano County, Elizabeth Hoffman (Executive Director) via email at [ehoffman.rts@gmail.com](mailto:ehoffman.rts@gmail.com) Website: [www.RebuildingTogetherSolanoCounty.org](http://www.RebuildingTogetherSolanoCounty.org). For questions call RTSC at 707.560.9390.

Rebuilding Together Solano County in partnership with the city of Benicia Fire Department, the Callison Foundation, Valero Benicia Refinery, Solano Association of Realtors, Napa Solano Central Labor Council, Solano County Painter's and Tapers Union Local 376, Phillips 66, Women's Council of Realtors and Travis AFB will be installing free smoke alarms and a carbon monoxide detector for residents living at Rancho Benicia Mobile Home Park on **Saturday, July 27 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Rancho Benicia Mobile Home Park is located at 300 East H Street.**

**VOLUNTEERS CAN STILL SIGN UP to help.**

If you are interested in volunteering, please email RTSC at [ehoffman.rtsc@gmail.com](mailto:ehoffman.rtsc@gmail.com) or call (707) 580.9360. RTSC will also be providing written fire and carbon monoxide safety education to residents.

These alarms have a battery life of 10 years, which is now required by California State Law. Since 2009, Rebuilding Together has installed and/or donated more than 4,810 smoke and 2,900 carbon monoxide alarms in low-income mobile home parks.

## **West Nile virus activity detected in Solano County**



A Solano County press release:

The Solano County Department of Health and Social Services, Public Health division, in coordination with the Solano County Mosquito Abatement District (SCMAD) have confirmed

that a mosquito pool tested positive for West Nile virus (WNV) on July 19, 2024, in Rio Vista. As of that date, the California Department of Public Health reports that there are no human cases of WNV.

"This is the first confirmed indication of local West Nile virus activity this year," said Bela T. Matyas, M.D., M.P.H, Solano County Public Health Officer. "So far, we have not received any reported cases of human infection from West Nile virus. This serves as a reminder to our community that risks can be greatly reduced by taking simple precautions."

WNV is transmitted to humans and animals through the bite of an infected mosquito. Mosquitos become infected when they feed on infected birds. People may reduce the risk of contracting mosquito-borne illness by following these guidelines:

## **Dawn and Dusk**

Mosquitoes are most active in the early morning and evening. Residents should avoid being outside at these times. If you are outdoors, wear a long-sleeved shirt and long pants and use insect repellent.

## **Drain Standing Water**

Mosquitoes lay their eggs on standing water. Residents should eliminate all sources of standing water on their property and drain empty flowerpots, buckets, barrels, old car tires, rain gutters and pet bowls. If you have an ornamental pond, contact SCMAD at (707) 437-1116 for a free mosquito fish.

## **DEET and Other Repellents**

Insect repellents help keep mosquitoes from biting. Apply an EPA-registered insect repellent containing DEET, picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus, IR3535 or para-menthane-diol products per the manufacturer's instructions.

## **Doors and Windows**

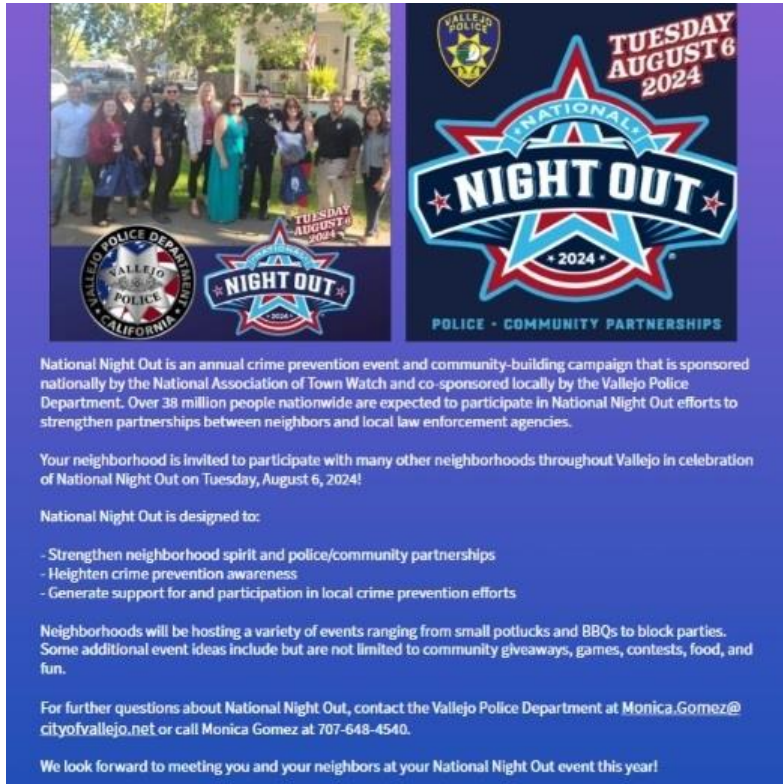
Residents should ensure that their doors and windows have tight-fitting screens to keep mosquitoes out. Repair or replace screens with tears or holes. Most people (about 4 in 5) infected with the West Nile virus will not develop any symptoms. About 1 in 5 will develop mild flu-like symptoms, including fever, headache, body aches, nausea, vomiting and swollen lymph glands. However, about 1 percent (about 1 in 150) of people with WNV infections will develop severe neurological disease. In rare cases, WNV infection can be fatal.

Anyone can be infected with WNV, but people who are 60 years old and older and those with certain medical conditions, like cancer, diabetes, hypertension, kidney disease and people who have received organ transplants, are at greater risk of developing severe illness and complications.

The SCMAD staff is conducting surveillance activities in the affected area to apply appropriate control measures. "We urge residents to remove standing water on their property to aid in our prevention and control efforts," says Miguel Cardenas, Solano County Mosquito Abatement District Manager. "Any unmaintained swimming pools and stagnant water should be reported by calling us at (707) 437-1116."

Residents are encouraged to report dead birds online at [www.WestNile.Ca.Gov](http://www.WestNile.Ca.Gov) or by calling 1-877-WNV-BIRD (1-877-968-2473).

## National Night Out - Vallejo

The poster for National Night Out 2024 in Vallejo features a photograph of a diverse group of people standing together outdoors. To the right of the photo is a large, stylized star logo with 'NATIONAL NIGHT OUT' written across it. Above the star, it says 'TUESDAY AUGUST 6 2024'. Below the star, it says 'POLICE • COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS'. The Vallejo Police Department logo is visible in the bottom left corner of the poster. The background of the poster is a dark blue gradient.

National Night Out is an annual crime prevention event and community-building campaign that is sponsored nationally by the National Association of Town Watch and co-sponsored locally by the Vallejo Police Department. Over 38 million people nationwide are expected to participate in National Night Out efforts to strengthen partnerships between neighbors and local law enforcement agencies.

Your neighborhood is invited to participate with many other neighborhoods throughout Vallejo in celebration of National Night Out on Tuesday, August 6, 2024!

National Night Out is designed to:

- Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police/community partnerships
- Heighten crime prevention awareness
- Generate support for and participation in local crime prevention efforts

Neighborhoods will be hosting a variety of events ranging from small potlucks and BBQs to block parties. Some additional event ideas include but are not limited to community giveaways, games, contests, food, and fun.

For further questions about National Night Out, contact the Vallejo Police Department at [Monica.Gomez@cityofvallejo.net](mailto:Monica.Gomez@cityofvallejo.net) or call Monica Gomez at 707-648-4540.

We look forward to meeting you and your neighbors at your National Night Out event this year!

## National Night Out - Glen Cove

This year, the Glen Cove National Night Out will take place on **Tuesday, August 6, from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Glen Cove Waterfront Park (off Whitesides Dr.).**

Come and meet your neighbors, enjoy food, fun, entertainment, and learn how to keep our neighborhoods safer. Bring your own picnic essentials or food will be available for purchase on site.

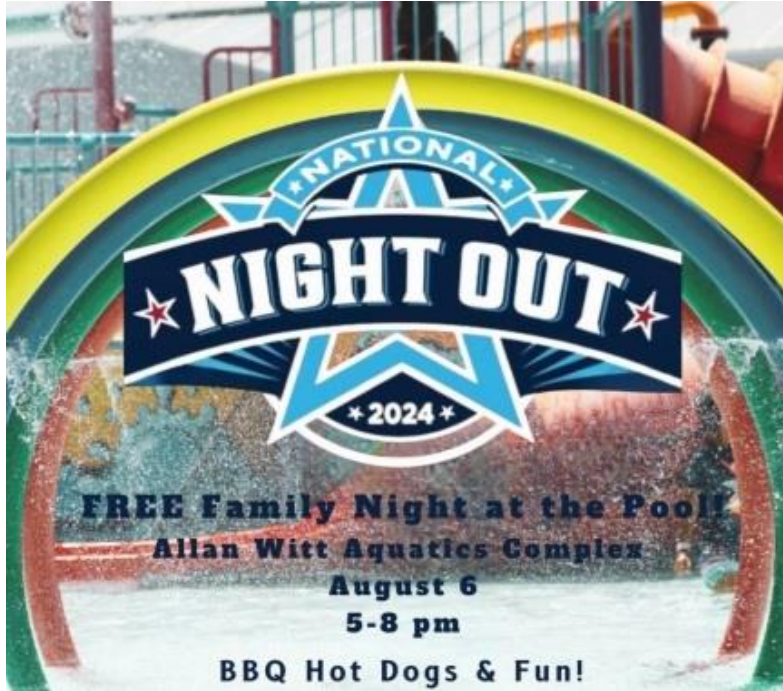
Individual communities throughout Glen Cove may also be hosting events. Please [contact your local development representative](#) to find out if a block party is planned for your neighborhood.

National Night Out (NNO) is an annual community-building campaign that promotes neighborhood camaraderie and public safety. NNO seeks to enhance the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while *bringing back a true sense of community*. Furthermore, it provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances.

Glen Cove Community Association is co-sponsoring this event. For more information, please contact Elissa Stewart at [eshanksstewart@yahoo.com](mailto:eshanksstewart@yahoo.com). Glen Cove advertisers and residents with a business may set up a free information table.



## National Night Out - Fairfield



The city of Fairfield Parks & Recreation Department will host its 2024 National Night Out event on **Tuesday, August 6, from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Allan Witt Aquatics Complex located at 1741 W. Texas Street.**

National Night Out is a time for neighbors to get together and connect with each other. Come celebrate with the Parks and Recreation Department as we party at the pool!

You bring bathing suits and towels, and the city will provide hot dogs, chips, and beverages. All families are welcome at this free event!

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

## National Night Out - Green Valley

The Solano County Sheriff's Office cordially invites residents of the unincorporated areas of Green Valley, Suisun Valley and Tolenas to a National Night Out Celebration **Tuesday, August 6 from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Russo Farm Stand located on 4075 Green Valley Road.**

Food will be provided along with emergency vehicles, a petting zoo, bounce house and more. Plus, there is a limited number of picnic tables, so feel free to bring a camping chair to partake in the fun.

# Draft Industrial Health and Safety Ordinance



The draft Industrial Health and Safety Ordinance (IHSO) and supporting documents are now live on [www.EngageBenicia.com](http://www.EngageBenicia.com). Visit the website to read and provide feedback on the documents by **August 17**.

If you would prefer to email comments or suggestions, please send them to Della Olm at [dolm@ci.benicia.ca.us](mailto:dolm@ci.benicia.ca.us).

The IHSO aims to reduce accidental release of hazardous chemicals, improve accident prevention through community and industry participation, improve local air monitoring, and enhance community transparency.

The draft IHSO and supporting documents are the culmination of a significant public engagement process involving Benicia residents, subject matter experts, and community stakeholders. We invite you to review the draft documents and provide any questions, comments, or suggestions you might have.

To leave a comment, click anywhere on the document and a comment box will appear. You can also view your neighbor's comments, "like" and reply. Document feedback will be analyzed and considered for incorporation into final versions.

If you have any questions, please call (707) 746-4272.

For more information, and/or to leave a comment, click [here](#).

## GVRD's 80th Anniversary celebration



## Peacocks & Poems Anthology

"Peacocks & Poems: A fusion of poetry, art, and music" book celebration will take place **from 2 to 4 p.m., Sunday, August 25** at **Mangels Vineyards, 4529 Suisun Valley Road, Fairfield.**

This will not be a poetry reading, but rather a celebration of these expressive collaborations. Even if you are not in the anthology, the community is invited to come and enjoy this gathering of creative voices.

## Adventure Awaits Teachers Attending the Solano Water Institute



Before they return to the classroom for the beginning of another school year, teachers will join the Solano Resource Conservation District and local experts for three days of professional development in unique outdoor settings throughout Solano County. The training will enhance teachers' knowledge of our local water resources and open spaces, while providing them with curriculum and activities they can take back into their classrooms.

Participants will spend the first day of the training at Rush Ranch Open Space and Grizzly Ranch, hiking and learning about the ecology of the Suisun Marsh from experts from the Suisun Resource Conservation District and the National Estuarine Research Reserve. Brian Brown, California's Project WET coordinator, will lead teachers through activities focused on water resources that can be adapted for all ages in the classroom, and Jennifer Leonard will discuss Solano County Office of Education's initiatives on environmental literacy.

The next day, teachers will take a boat tour of Lake Berryessa and hear from an expert panel on Solano County's water resources. And then the third day of the training will take more time to walk teachers through aspects of the Project WET curriculum and allow for time to collaborate on lessons to take back into their classrooms.

The training's place-based focus allows teachers to give local relevance to their lessons about water and conservation.

Participants will receive a \$400 stipend upon completion of the program and teachers can claim up to 27 hours of continuing education credit. Teachers will come back together in October for a workshop day when they share how they've applied the training's content in their classrooms.

**Teachers interested in joining our waitlist for the Solano Water Institute in 2025, should email Shea Kinser, Education Program Manager, at [shea.kinser@solanorcd.org](mailto:shea.kinser@solanorcd.org).**

The Solano Water Institute for Teachers is funded by the Solano County Orderly Growth Committee, with support from the California Department of Water Resources and the School Water Education Program (Solano County Water Agency; Fairfield-Suisun Sewer District; Cities of Vacaville, Fairfield, Suisun City, Vallejo, Dixon, and Benicia). The workshop is hosted by Solano RCD with support from Brian Brown, Project WET Coordinator for California. For more information, please visit <https://www.solanorcd.org/projects-and-programs/education/educator-workshops.html> or email [education@solanorcd.org](mailto:education@solanorcd.org).

**PHOTO CAPTION:** The second day of the 2023 boat tour. The training includes a boat tour of Lake Berryessa.

## Restoration of public computer services at Solano libraries



Good news!

Public computer services (computers and WiFi) have been restored at all

library locations.

For library locations, and/or about the services offered by the Solano library system, click [here](#).

## NAMI de Familia a Familia Course

NAMI Solano County is hosting their first NAMI De Familia a Familia course in Solano County. This course provides knowledge and support to families in our community as they navigate the complexities of having a loved one struggling with their mental health.



Wherever you are on this journey, whether at the beginning or years later, we believe this class can support and help you. This class will be offered virtually and completely in Spanish!

**Classes begin on Friday, August 2 via Zoom and will meet every Friday from 8:30 to 11 a.m. for 8 weeks.**

To register, click [here](#).

## Job announcement for Environmental Program Educator



Solano Resource Conservation District is looking for program educators to join their award-winning education team for the 24-25 school year. SRCD's programming

connects with 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 the [job description](#) or email [education@solanorcd.org](mailto:education@solanorcd.org) for more information.

## August Congregate Meals Menu

Earlier this year, a new vendor was selected to take over the congregate meal program at the area senior and community centers: Innovative Health Solutions.

To see the August Congregate Meals Menu, click [here](#).

For more information or to sign up for the **Congregate Meals Program**, click [here](#).

## Upcoming clinics with Solano Public Health's Immunization Program



Immunizations are available at several locations in Solano County. In August, Solano Public Health will provide Tdap for 10+ years and kindergarten vaccines for children ages 4 to 6 years old (DTap-IPV and MMRV) in Vacaville and Fairfield.

For dates and locations, visit the [Immunization Program website](#).

# Community Survey for city of Vallejo police chief candidate



**Vallejo Police Chief Recruitment Community Meetings Survey**

We hope you enjoyed listening and discussing with Executive Recruiters Bob Hall & Associates and City Manager, Andrew Murray about what you would like to see in Vallejo's next Police Chief.

Share your thoughts and help shape the future of our community.

Use the link or QR code to participate in the Vallejo Police Chief Recruitment feedback survey.

Your input matters! <https://cityofvallejo.co/3XM9PpZ>



**Questions?**  
P: 707.648.4363  
E: [human\\_resources@cityofvallejo.net](mailto:human_resources@cityofvallejo.net)

To access the survey, click [here](https://cityofvallejo.co/3XM9PpZ).

# Diabetic patients sought



**REQUEST FOR RESEARCH PARTICIPANTS**

**Are you newly diagnosed with type 2 diabetes (T2D) within the last 6-9 months?**  
**Your experience matters!**

We are conducting a research study to gain insights into the emotional responses and challenges faced by individuals navigating life living with type 2 diabetes. Your participation will contribute to understanding the unique journey of managing this condition.

**Who we're looking for:**

- Individuals with diagnosed T2D within the past 6-9 months
- Must be fluent in English
- Individuals who are willing to share personal experiences and perspectives
- If selected, willing to share journal entries at least 2 times a week for 3 months regarding experience in living with T2D.

**How to Participate:**

Please contact Dr. Clipper Young, PharmD ([cyoung6@touro.edu](mailto:cyoung6@touro.edu)) for questions.



**TOURO UNIVERSITY CALIFORNIA**

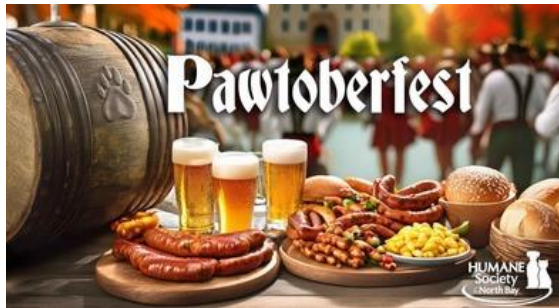
Touro University California is conducting a research study to gain insights into the emotional responses and challenges faced by individuals navigating life living with type 2 diabetes.

Participation will contribute to understanding the unique journey of managing this condition.

Individuals with diagnosed T2D within the past 6-9 months who are willing to share personal experiences and perspectives. If selected, willing to share journal entries at least 2 times a week for 3 months regarding experience in living with T2D.

Compensation up to \$400.

## **Donate Items to Humane Society of the North Bay's Pawtoberfest Live and On-line Auctions**



The upcoming Pawtoberfest will benefit the Humane Society of the North Bay (HSNB), now in its fourth decade of helping homeless and abandoned animals in our community

Last year, HSNB saved the lives of more than 500 dogs and cats through adoptions, working in partnership with shelter and rescue colleagues around the Bay Area, and returning lost pets to their families.

As a private nonprofit, the HSNB depends on generous people like you to continue this life-saving work.

Consider donating items, such as:

- Airline miles, a vacation rental, or timeshare
- Theatre, game, or other event tickets
- Wine or a wine-tasting experience
- Fun experiences such as a sailboat or fishing trip on your boat
- Sought-after electronics (headphones, earbuds, televisions, game consoles)



- Certificate for your professional service (taxes, hair, photography)
- Designer purses or jewelry
- Gift certificates to stores or restaurants
- Gift baskets or items we can group in a gift basket (no item is too small; we can be creative)
- You can also help by asking a business to donate an item, gift card, service, etc.

The HSNB can only accept new, unused items unless it is a collectable with appropriate certification. It is requested that all items be donated by September 1st.

If your item donation is valued at \$500 or more, or you make a monetary donation of \$500 or more, the HSNB will be glad to honor your generosity as a sponsor of Pawtoberfest.

Please request a sponsor form from [donate@hsnb.org](mailto:donate@hsnb.org) if you are interested in becoming a sponsor.

Your contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. We are a non-profit, 501(c)3 animal shelter. Our tax ID is 94-3041601.

You can fill out our Auction Donation Form at [this link](#).

## **Math for the Trades Apprenticeship Preparation Class**

Do you know anyone interested in a career that offers a living wage, on-the-job paid training, paid health benefits, and a secure pension plan? Then applying to one of the many Construction Apprenticeship Programs in the area might be a good fit.

The minimum qualifications for most apprenticeship programs include being at least 18 years old, a high school diploma, reliable transportation, and passing a basic math test.

For some people, the inability to pass the math test is a stumbling block in gaining access to these apprenticeship programs. The Vallejo Adult School, in partnership with CTWI, The Construction Trades Workforce Initiative, offers a unique math class designed specifically to help those interested in passing an Apprenticeship Entrance exam.

In a low stress environment, the class helps students master fractions, decimals, percentages, basic algebra, and basic geometry problems that they will encounter on the Apprenticeship Entrance exams.

**This free class is offered Monday and Wednesday evenings from 6 to 9:15 p.m., at the Vallejo Adult School, 436 Del Sur St, Vallejo, 707-556-8850.**

**Online registration is open at <https://www.vcusd.org/vrec>. Fall classes begin August 19.**

The Construction Trades Test Prep class prepares students for the following trades:

Electrical workers

Elevator Constructors

Heat and Frost Insulators

Ironworkers, Laborers

Operating Engineers

Painters

Plumbers

Pipefitters

Sheet Metal Workers

Sprinkler Fitters

Stationary Engineers

Teamsters

# Visions of the Wild

**VISIONS OF THE WILD**

**A CALL FOR CONTRIBUTORS AND ARTISTS**

**Call for Contributors:** Communal photography project at The Temple Art Lofts Gallery in downtown Vallejo as part of the ninth annual Visions of the Wild festival, September 13-14, 2024.

The theme of this year's festival is Re-Generation, which celebrates our communal resilience, renewal, and restoration.

As part of the festival, we are planning a community photography project and are seeking Solano County contributors.

Have you seen changes to the natural beauty of Solano County? Has your family lived in Vallejo or other parts of Solano County for generations? We are looking for members of the community to contribute "then and now" photos. These photos should illustrate how an element of nature has changed, for better or worse, over several decades. "Then and now" photos will be displayed in an exhibition as part of the Visions of the Wild festival.

**Example 1:** Maybe you are living in a house that has been in your family for many years and you have a photo of your grandparents in the backyard with a young tree they planted, and now today that same tree has grown and shades your house. Take a photo of yourself replicating your grandparents' photo, and then share both the old and new photos with us.

**Example 2:** Maybe you grew up in an area that now looks very different, and you have photographs from when you were young that you can replicate to show how it's changed. A path on your walk to school, a place your family would picnic, or a building that's been replaced by a natural park.

**Example 3:** Maybe you don't have personal photos from decades past but are interested in the history of Solano County. There are many historical photographs in the Vallejo Naval & Historical Museum, for example. You can replicate a historical photo that depicts how the nature of the area has changed over time.

Please email your photography contributions in a .jpeg format to [info@visionsofthewild.org](mailto:info@visionsofthewild.org) by July 31.

**Please Include:**

- Your name
- The approximate dates of both photos
- The approximate location where the photos were taken.
- Any related story that might add context for both photos.

Please call or text Robin Gross at (707) 853-5655 with any questions, comments, or concerns.

**31 JULY DEADLINE DATE**

## Public invited to comment on environmental assessment for proposed Scotts Valley Casino and Tribal Housing Project development in Vallejo

A Solano County press release:

The U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is now accepting public comments on the environmental impact assessment for the Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians proposal for a Casino and Tribal Housing Project located in Vallejo.



The BIA issued an Environmental Assessment of the Scotts Valley Casino and Tribal Housing Fee-to-Trust Project on July 8 – initiating a 30-day public review period – analyzing the potential impacts that could result from the development of a gaming facility, including an eight-story casino with restaurants, bars, and a ballroom for events. In addition to a casino, the proposed project

would also include the construction of 24 single-family residences, a tribal administration building, parking garage and a 45-acre biological preserve area on a 160-acre property located within and adjacent to the City of Vallejo boundary in Solano County, near the intersection of Interstate 80 and Highway 37. The casino facility would be open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

The public is invited to analyze the potential environmental consequences of the Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians Casino and Tribal Housing Project, including any potential issues, concerns and alternatives that have not yet been raised during the BIA's review of the proposal, which includes transferring a 160-acre property into federal trust status for the benefit of the Tribe for gaming purposes.

After receiving feedback from the public on its environmental assessment, the BIA will decide whether to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement to further analyze the effects of the proposed development or proceed on the basis of lesser environmental analysis. The federal actions necessary to implement the Proposed Project trigger the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). For this Environmental Assessment, the BIA will serve as the Lead Agency for compliance with NEPA.

## **ACCESSING THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REPORT**

Visit <https://www.ScottsValleyCasinoEA.com> and click on "Environmental Assessment" at the top of the page. The Environmental Assessment, including all appendices, can be downloaded as PDF documents. An electronic version of the documents that are compliant with Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 can be provided upon request to Chad Broussard, Environmental Protection Specialist, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Pacific Region, at (916) 978-6165 or by email at [chad.broussard@bia.gov](mailto:chad.broussard@bia.gov).

## **HOW TO SUBMIT PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Comments on the Environmental Assessment must be mailed or hand-delivered to one of the following contacts by or before August 7, 2024, including:

### By Postal Mail:

Mail Amy Dutschke, Regional Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Pacific Regional Office, at 2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2820, Sacramento, CA 95825. Include your name, return address, and the caption: "EA Comments, Scotts Valley Casino and Tribal Housing Project," on the first page of written comments.

### By Electronic Mail:

Email Chad Broussard, Environmental Protection Specialist, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Pacific Region, at [chad.broussard@bia.gov](mailto:chad.broussard@bia.gov). Use "EA Comments, Scotts Valley Casino and Tribal Housing Project" as the subject of your email.

### **VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARING**

A virtual public hearing will be held on July 23, 2024, starting at 6 p.m., PST, and will run until the last public comment is received. The public can register to attend the public hearing by clicking this [LINK](#) and/or visiting the <https://www.ScottsValleyCasinoEA.com> website.

### **COUNTY INVOLVEMENT**

It should be noted that Solano County does not have regulatory jurisdiction or decision-making authority over whether a casino opens on land the federal government has taken into trust for gaming for a tribe.

## **Fairfield seeking new Poet Laureate**

The city of Fairfield is accepting applications for a poet laureate. Fairfield's Poet Laureate Program is a person selected to serve as a public advocate for the appreciation and advancement of the literary arts, particularly poetry in the city of Fairfield. The term is 2024 through to 2026.



The Poet Laureate is called upon to create and read poetry at civic events such as public ceremonies and dedications. This person will act as a resource on the topic of poetry should the city or Fairfield City Council need that expertise. This person will also have the opportunity to conduct poetry workshops or staged readings.

You may download the application for Poet Laureate [here](#).

**The deadline for applications is 5:00 p.m., Thursday, August 1.**

Download the Planning Commission Application or Poet Laureate Application by clicking on the links above or request one by mail or email by contacting the City Clerk's Office at (707) 428-7402, or [cityclerk@fairfield.ca.gov](mailto:cityclerk@fairfield.ca.gov).

Completed applications may be submitted via mail or email.

Mail or In-person: City Clerk's Office, 1000 Webster Street, 4th Floor, Fairfield, CA 94533

## Upcoming events in Solano County

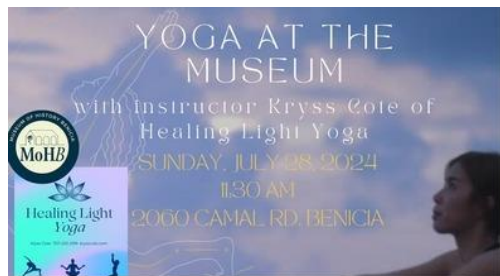
### Benicia Waterfront Festival



The popular summer event is back with a splash! Benicia celebrates its picturesque waterfront locale with two days of live music, microbrew tastings, arts & crafts marketplace, delectable gourmet foods, and kids' activity area.

The festival will take place 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday July 27 and Sunday, July 28.

### Yoga at the Museum event



Yoga at the Museum continues this month with instructor Kryss Cote of Healing Light Yoga. Kryss is a Reiki Master/Teacher and 200hr Yoga Instructor. She has been leading individuals to deepen their connection with themselves for over 15 years.

**The event will take place on Sunday, July 28 at 11:30 a.m.**

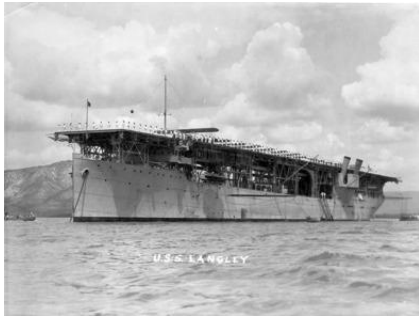
Reiki healing and yoga alignment are fundamental in connecting our mind, body, and spirit to bring about deep-rooted healing.

Tickets are \$25.00 each and includes admission into the Museum of History Benicia, which is located at 2060 Camel Road. To purchase tickets, click [here](#).

For more information or to schedule classes with Kryss outside of this event, call or text (707) 225-2199 or go to [krysscote@gmail.com](mailto:krysscote@gmail.com) for more information.

For more information on this event or any events at the Museum please contact the MoHB Office at (707) 745-5435 or email [info@mohbenicia.org](mailto:info@mohbenicia.org)

## **Speakers Series: USS Langley**



The Mare Island Historic Park Foundation will host Dr. David Winkler, renowned naval historian and retired Commander of the U.S. Navy, for a captivating discussion on his latest book, "America's First Aircraft Carrier: USS Langley," published by the Naval Institute Press.

**The event will take place at 3 p.m. on Sunday, July 28, at St. Peter's Chapel, 1181 Walnut Avenue on Mare Island.**

Dr. David Winkler brings a wealth of knowledge from his extensive career as a naval historian. With over 25 years as the staff historian at the Naval Historical Foundation and roles with the National Maritime Historical Society and Naval War College, his contributions to naval history are profound. Dr. Winkler's academic background includes a Ph.D. in history from American University

and numerous publications, including "Cold War at Sea" and "Amirs, Admirals, and Desert Sailors."

Tickets are limited! Purchase your tickets today.

- Advanced Tickets: \$15
- MIHPF members receive a \$5 discount
- Tickets at the door: \$20

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

## Vallejo Career Fair



The poster for the Vallejo Career Fair features the Workforce Development Board of Solano County logo at the top left. A dark blue banner at the top right states "FEATURING OVER 30 BUSINESSES ACTIVELY HIRING". The main title "VALLEJO CAREER FAIR" is prominently displayed in white on a dark blue background, accompanied by a photograph of three people in professional attire. Below the title, the event is scheduled for "AUGUST 1, 2024" from "10:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M." at "SOLANO COMMUNITY COLLEGE, 545 COLUMBUS PARKWAY, VALLEJO, CA". The Solano Community College logo is shown. To the right, it lists "America's Job Center of California" and provides contact information for employers: "EMPLOYERS INTERESTED IN HOSTING A BOOTH contact: Jesus Becerra jbecerra@solanowdb.org (707) 649-4713". A dark blue box at the bottom left contains "JOB SEEKER REGISTRATION: Register NOW, upload your resume and gain early access to available jobs!" with a QR code. The bottom of the poster includes the website "LEARN MORE ABOUT US AT SOLANOEMPLOYMENT.ORG" and a small disclaimer: "The WDB is an EOI/AA/ADA Employer/Program. TDD Relay #1-800-735-2922. Auxiliary Aids and Services are available upon sufficient notice to individuals with disabilities."

## Art of Community art exhibit



The Artiszen gallery is collaborating with Mare Island Art Studios (MIAS) to present the Art of Community Art Exhibit!

This exhibition celebrates the diverse artistic talents within the Vallejo community and will unfold over three consecutive weekends, each offering its own unique flavor. Embracing the old



school Artiszen 'Art of Community' style, they aim to bring the community together and celebrate that magical "Vallejo Art Renaissance" that began 10 years ago, while looking forward to a future filled with even more community art!

This month-long exhibit will showcase the incredible talents of local artists and celebrate our vibrant community. Here's what you can expect:

### **Dates of Show/Open Gallery Times**

**Weekends Aug 10- Sep 1, 2024**

**Saturdays 12 to 5 p.m. and Sundays 12 to 4 p.m.**

August 10: Opening Artist's Reception, featuring both familiar artists from Artiszen's past shows and exciting new talents as well as refreshments

August 17: Fashion Market and Upcycle Fashion Show showcasing local talent and sustainable fashions on the runway; vendors offering fun vintage/steampunk/homemade clothes, accessories, and jewelry; as well as delicious food, refreshing drinks, and a selection of beer and wine

August 24: Celebration Day, an extravaganza of live music, delectable food, and crafted cocktails.

In addition, a month-long community art project featuring a "CommuniTree" will run concurrently, inviting community members to decorate and inscribe messages on it. The goal is to transform this into a permanent and dynamic outdoor installation at the Mare Island Art Studios.

## **Compost giveaway**

Save the date, there will be a free compost giveaway on **Saturday, August 17 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Alvarez Ninth Street Park in the city of Benicia.**



- Bring your own containers.
- No bags please.
- For Benicia Residents only and by appointment to reduce waiting time.

To sign up, click [here](#).

## 33rd Annual Tomato & Vine Festival



Join the community at the 33rd Annual Tomato & Vine Festival in downtown Fairfield from **11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturday, August 17** and from **11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday, August 18.**

A variety of tomatoes to sample and buy, live music and performances, beer and wine gardens, kid's activities, a car show, and more!

This year's festival will bring back tomato alley, a tomato eating contest, two beer and wine gardens, two stages, ten bands, a car show, and so much more! Premiering this year is a "Salsa & Salsa" class and canning demonstration.

### Trash mob

The next city of Fairfield Trash Mob is scheduled on **Saturday, August 24, from 9 to 11 a.m., across from AM/PM at 105 Lopes Road.**

Contact Karen Rees at [krees@fairfield.ca.gov](mailto:krees@fairfield.ca.gov) or call (707) 428-7767 to sign up. Students can earn community service hours for school!



## Fairfield-Suisun City Visual Arts Association

Poet Laureate Suzanne Bruce and the Fairfield-Suisun Visual Arts Association invite you to write a poem to an art piece from the exhibit

# Open Show

September 11 - October 26  
Membership Show!

Solano Town Center Gallery  
1350 Travis Blvd., #D-8, Fairfield, CA  
(inside the Solano Town Center Mall)

Art can be seen at the Gallery:  
Wednesday - Sunday  
Sept 10 11 am - 6 pm  
Or at fvaa-arts.org

Send your poem in a word doc or pdf with 42 lines or less, with picture of art above the poem by September 18 - 5 pm  
fairfieldpoetlaureate@gmail.com

Art Reception and Poetry Reading  
September 20  
5:30 - 7:30pm

## Mare Island Founders Day 2024

MARE ISLAND HISTORIC PARK FOUNDATION

# Founders Day Festival

September 15, 2024

Admiral's Mansion, 1065 Walnut Ave

Music, food, silent auction, and fun for the kids!

**FREE ENTRY**

Step back in time and join the Mare Island Historic Park Foundation for a blast from the past! Celebrate 170 years of Mare Island's history at the Founders Day extravaganza.

**On Sunday, September 15, from 1 to 4 p.m.**, immerse yourself in family fun, live music, silent auctions, and more. Entry is free, with paid activities for all ages. Don't miss this nostalgic celebration! Remember to bring your own chair for a comfortable day of festivities!

The festival will take place at the Admiral's Mansion, 1065 Walnut Avenue on Mare Island.

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

## Vest's Empowerment Walk/Stroll-A-Thon

Join VEST and the Wellness Center at Solano Community College for the first Annual 2024 Empowerment Walk/Stroll Against Domestic Violence.

This event is part of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, dedicated to raising awareness and supporting survivors of intimate partner violence.

**It will take place from 10 a.m. to noon, Saturday, October 5 at Solano Community College, 4000 Suisun Valley Road, in Fairfield.**

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## Events I attended this week

**Friday, July 19,** I attended the Youth Academy Ceremony held at the Claybank Detention Facility. There were 30 students aging in range from (as it looked to me) second grade to 7<sup>th</sup> grade. The students spent one week getting a taste of what the sheriff does. Everything from the Coroner's office to Emergency Services to Investigations to the Animal Shelter. This is the second year of the program. I was very amused when the adults said 30 students were a lot. I am sure teachers reading that sentence are as tickled as I am. I hope to be invited back next year.

**Saturday, July 20,** I attended the Filipino live Concert event (Emerge) at the Empress Theater in Vallejo. The singers ranged from Jay R to Alisah Bonaobra. A good time was had by everyone.

**Monday, July 22,** I was invited to ground breaking ceremonial Allen Witt Park to celebrate the all-inclusive Playground equipment for our special needs kids, so they can play with their friends. I look forward to trying out the equipment.

**Friday, July 26,** I attended the Vallejo City Unified School District Summer Commencement program. The event was held at Franklin Middle School's Auditorium. 38 students now have their high school diploma. As someone who taught summer school for 36 years, I am glad these ceremonies are held at the end of summer school. A big THANK YOU to everyone who works during the summer for our students to get the credits, they needed to achieve their diploma. Go forward CLASS OF 2024. You did it.

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## Looking for a job? Consider these links

If you or someone you know is looking for a job, please consider a career with Solano County. Click [HERE](#) to access the website and

follow on Facebook [@SolanoCountyJobs](#). Please also consider these other employment resources, including:

[STATE OF CALIFORNIA](#)

[CITY OF BENICIA](#)

[CITY OF FAIRFIELD](#)

[CITY OF VALLEJO](#)

[SOLANO COMMUNITY COLLEGE](#)

[BENICIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT](#)

[FAIRFIELD-SUISUN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT](#)

[VALLEJO SCHOOL DISTRICT](#)

[POST OFFICE](#)

[GREATER VALLEJO RECREATION DISTRICT](#)

[YOUTH JOBS CORPS](#)

[CALIFORNIA CONSERVATION CORPS](#)

[SOLANO RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT](#)

[FAIRFIELD-SUISUN SEWER DISTRICT](#)

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## Newsletter photo

From Monica: I took this picture of a vessel unloading in the city of Benicia from the Capital Corridor train coming back from an A's game.



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.