



Solano County *California*

SUPERVISOR MONICA BROWN NEWSLETTER

October 11, 2024



[Follow on Twitter](#)



Important Numbers Resources and Dates

District 2 Office

(707) 784-3031

Clerk of the Board & County Administrator's Office

(707) 784-6100

Veterans Services

(707) 784-6590

Health & Social Services

(707) 784-8400

Assessor/Recorder

(707) 784-6200

Resource Management

(707) 784-6765

Registrar of Voters

(707) 784-6675

Tax Collector/Treasurer/County Clerk

(707) 784-7485

Area Agency on Aging

(707) 784-8960

Indigenous Peoples' Day

In observance of Indigenous Peoples' Day, all Solano County libraries will be closed on **Monday, October 14.**



Additionally, all Solano County libraries will open at **11 a.m. on Friday, October 25** for staff training.

Meet the Benicia City Council candidates



In partnership with the League of Women Voters of Solano County, the Benicia Public Library is hosting a meet and learn about candidates for Benicia City Council on **Monday, October 14, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.**

The League will moderate a debate between candidates Christine Gilpin-Hayes, Lionel Largaespada, Trevor Macenski, and Frank Rosenthal. Audience members are encouraged to come with their questions.

Whether you're a first-time voter or a seasoned participant in the

democratic process, these events will provide the information you need to make informed choices at the polls.

The Benicia Public Library is located at 150 E L Street.

Solano County still looking for poll workers



John Gardner, Solano County Assistant Registrar of Voters, has confirmed that the county is still accepting applications for poll workers on Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 5.

There are positions open at the Solano County Registrar of Voters on Election Day/night too.

Those interested should email pollworker@solanocounty.com or visit the [pollworker link](#) directly to apply.

John also said that ballots should be 98%+ delivered on Friday, Oct. 11 – but if someone hasn't received their ballot, they should reach out to the Solano County Registrar of Voters on Tuesday, Oct. 15 as the county administration will be closed on Monday, Oct. 14 in observance of Indigenous Peoples' Day. (closed on Monday). Those seeking more information about their ballot can send an e-mail over the weekend to elections@solanocounty.com and staff can research it.

ALSO -- John confirmed that poll workers will be given a commemorative pin for their service (see above for similar pins).

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

Information this week

Cal Fresh



GET HELP WITH YOUR GROCERY BUDGET

CalFresh is a nutrition program that can help seniors get food every month.

YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR CALFRESH!

Common myths about CalFresh for seniors

- "Other people need CalFresh more than I do."**
CalFresh is available for everyone eligible, including seniors. In fact, special rules help make it easier for seniors to get CalFresh.
- "It's too hard to apply for CalFresh"**
Our friendly Food Bank outreach coordinators will help you find out if you may be eligible and start the application process with you.
- "I own my own house so I won't qualify"**
You can have savings, a house and cars and still get CalFresh.

Jeanette Orta, 925-914-7782
CalFresh Outreach Coordinator Hablo Español

1-925-603-3316
foodbankccs.org/calfresh



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

Cal Water Launches Youth Conservation Program

As part of Cal Water's commitment to being a strong community partner, they have kickoff the [11th annual youth water conservation education program](#).

[Tap Into Learning](#) encourages students in Cal Water service areas to participate in activities around water education and promote the importance in caring for water.



This exciting program includes:

- **Aqua Adventures**, free water—and nature—based field trips for upper elementary classrooms, grades 4-6, in Cal Water service areas. Teachers simply [enter their classroom](#) online for a chance at one of 12 annual field trips.
- **A Splash of Creativity**, an art competition in which students [submit original artwork](#) focused on caring for water. Open to K-12 students with multiple tiers of awards.
- **Water Smart Grants**, offering [\\$100 grants to teachers](#) proposing classroom water projects.
- **H₂Oath**, which enables individual students or classrooms to [commit to pledges](#) and learn more about water conservation. Additional opportunities are available for participating classes

For more information about the program and eligibility requirements visit <https://challenge.calwater.com>. You can read the news release [here](#).

The definitive guide to California college admissions

A data-driven guide to University of California, Cal State and California community college admissions. To read, click [here](#).

Consumer Alert-Commissioner Lara secures important health and safety protections for California consumer



Insurance Commissioner Ricardo Lara thanked Governor Gavin Newsom last week for protecting California consumers through the signing of six bills that he sponsored this legislative session. These new laws focus on improving protections for vulnerable individuals, including women and LGBTQ+ families, disaster survivors, immigrants, and seniors. The laws guarantee insurance coverage for fertility treatments, implement important emergency disaster planning for LGBTQ+ youth, and protect reproductive health care without out-of-pocket expenses for consumers,

among others.

“Protecting consumers is my number one priority,” said Commissioner Lara. “I am using every tool available to protect Californians, especially families, seniors, and those most vulnerable

to abuse or disaster. I am grateful to the many legislators and partners who worked with me to champion these important issues and thank Governor Newsom for signing these bills that ensure the health and safety of Californians.

Expanding access and ensuring anti-discrimination in health and other insurance

[Senate Bill 729](#), authored by Senator Caroline Menjivar, requires insurance coverage for fertility and infertility care under disability insurance policies and large group health plans. This protects Californians' access to in-vitro fertilization (IVF), and updates the definition of infertility to be inclusive of LGBTQ+ family planning experiences, despite any federal action to limit this coverage. This applies to large and small group health care service plan contracts and disability insurance policies issued, amended, or renewed on or after July 1, 2025. For CalPERS, the mandate begins July 1, 2027. SB 729 was co-sponsored with the Alliance for Fertility Preservation, the American Society for Reproductive Medicine, Equality California, Our Family Coalition, and RESOLVE: The National Infertility Association.

[Assembly Bill 2258](#), authored by Assemblymember Rick Chavez Zbur, makes sure that all Californians have access to affordable and preventive health care without out-of-pocket costs. This includes mandatory coverage for critical reproductive health care including contraceptives such as intrauterine device (IUDs), HIV prevention medications like pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) and post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP), and screenings for HIV and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs). AB 2258 was co-sponsored with APLA Health, Equality California, the Los Angeles LGBT Center, and the San Francisco AIDS Foundation.

Protecting vulnerable Californians

[Senate Bill 990](#), authored by Senator Steve Padilla, updates the State Emergency Plan to include best practices for local government and non-governmental entities to equitably serve LGBTQ+ communities during an emergency or natural disaster. This responds to [data](#) showing that LGBTQ+ people are more likely to become homeless or face negative health impacts after a disaster. SB 990 was co-sponsored with Equality California and the California Legislative LGBTQ+ Caucus. This update is required to occur as soon as possible, but no later than January 1, 2029, and be updated every five years.

[Senate Bill 263](#), authored by Senator Bill Dodd, protects Californians, especially vulnerable seniors, from potential abuse and exploitation by curtailing harmful sales of annuities that are not in the consumer's best interest. Annuities are typically marketed to retirees to provide a guaranteed income stream. California will now adopt the updated NAIC Suitability in Annuity Transactions Model Regulation, creating additional consumer protections to ensure

California's insurance companies and licensed producers who sell annuities are following the highest standards of conduct.

[Assembly Bill 2780](#), authored by Assemblymember Tina McKinnor, protects the safety of newly arrived immigrants by requiring commercial passenger transportation, prior to transporting 10 or more vulnerable passengers, to notify local authorities and follow basic requirements. This important piece of legislation will ensure California has the proper tools and support to welcome migrants in a humane manner and with the dignity and respect that migrants deserve. AB 2780 was co-sponsored by the Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights.

Updating important insurance laws

[Senate Bill 577](#), authored by Senator Melissa Hurtado, helps clarify existing law, deletes obsolete and superseded code sections, and creates new laws agreed to between the Department and stakeholders.

"I am very proud of the work we have done with our legislative partners this year to secure crucial protections for California consumers," added Commissioner Lara. "As we look ahead to next session, I aim to push solutions to help address more insurance-related problems while further expanding consumer protections in partnership with legislators and key stakeholders."

All of these sponsored measures go into effect on January 1, 2025, unless otherwise noted.

California's BEAD Initial Proposal Approved, Unlocking \$1.86 Billion in Last-mile Funding



CALIFORNIA
Public Utilities Commission

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) recently approved California's proposed subgrantee

selection rules contained in the CPUC's Initial Proposal Volume 2, unlocking over \$1.86 billion in Broadband Equity Access and Deployment (BEAD) program funds.

At NTIA's October 4, 2024, press conference, Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information and NTIA Administrator Alan Davidson noted that "California can move their Internet for All efforts from planning to action." Assistant Secretary Davidson congratulated the CPUC for developing a strong proposal outlining how California will connect all residents to high-speed Internet service.

More information is available in NTIA's press release: [Biden-Harris Administration Approves California's "Internet for All" Initial](#)

[Proposal | National Telecommunications and Information Administration \(ntia.gov\).](#)

For general BEAD Program question, contact BEAD@cpuc.ca.gov.

Police investigating another hidden camera found in bushes outside Southern California home

Police in Arcadia have launched an investigation after a camera camouflaged to look like shrubbery was found outside a home.

The camera was discovered Tuesday morning by a homeowner who called police after discovering the device hidden in the bushes in front of their house.

Authorities say if you discover a hidden camera near your home, you should [contact local law enforcement](#) immediately.

Other tips that can prevent you from becoming a victim include:

- Never leave a hidden key outside your home.
- If you spot a suspicious vehicle, write down the license plate and report it.
- Always lock doors and windows when leaving, even for a short time.
- Keep your front porch and exteriors well-lit.
- Keep trees and bushes trimmed so they don't become hiding spots for thieves.
- Install home security cameras and monitor them frequently.
- If you spot a broken window or open door, do not enter the home; call police immediately

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

Legislation to repeal the Windfall Elimination Provision amasses bipartisan support



On September 25, Reps. Garret Graves (R-La.) and Abigail Spanberger (D-Va.) led a discharge petition for the bipartisan Social Security Fairness Act ([H.R. 82](#)) which would repeal the [Windfall](#)

[Elimination Provision](#) (WEP) that impacts the retirement benefits of certain public sector employees. Eliminating the WEP would give public employees access to their full social security benefits, putting

an end to a reduction of benefits for 2.1 million county and state employees.

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

Californians can order free COVID tests again. How to get yours



Updated rapid tests are expected to be able to detect newer variants just as a new COVID variant arrives in California.

Americans can now order another round of free COVID-19 nasal swab tests that will be delivered to homes.

Each household can get four tests through COVIDtests.gov. Already have some at home? Check [here](#) to see if your tests' expiration dates have been extended.

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

Estuary & Ocean Science Center's annual Marine Lab Open House



Celebrate the Estuary & Ocean Science (EOS) Center's annual **Marine Lab Open House**, a day of discovery. You are invited to experience science in action at San Francisco State University's Estuary & Ocean Science Center at the [Romberg Tiburon Campus](#), the only marine lab on the San Francisco Bay.

- Meet San Francisco Bay critters at our touch tanks and exhibits.
- Chat with local marine scientists.
- Listen to the sounds of CA coastal whales and dolphins.
- See how we partner with nature to reduce climate change impacts.

- Grab a bite at the food truck or the Hog Island oyster bar.

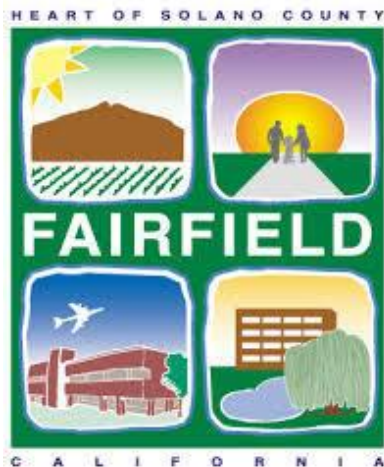
Admission and parking at our Open House are free.

3150 Paradise Drive, Tiburon CA 94920

Sponsored by The Barbara & Richard Rosenberg Institute for Marine Biology & Environmental Science

Public hearings

Fire Prevention Town Hall on October 12 at Nelda Mundy Elementary School



The public is invited to a Fire Prevention Town Hall on **Saturday, October 12, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., at Nelda Mundy Elementary School at 570 Vintage Valley Drive,** hosted by Fairfield Fire Marshal Steven Conti.

Topics of discussion will include: wildfire/defensible space, evacuation procedures (Know Your Zone), how to protect life and property, residential sprinkler systems, smoke detectors, and fire

extinguishers.

For more information, email sconti@fairfield.ca.gov.

Public-philanthropic partnerships



On **Thursday, Oct. 17**, the Little Hoover Commission will conduct a public hearing on public-philanthropic partnerships beginning at **10 a.m.** The hearing is open to the public and will be held in the auditorium at 1220 N Street, Sacramento, CA, 95814 and via Zoom.

Members of the public can attend the hearing in person or listen to the hearing by joining online or by phone. Click the URL to join online: <https://bit.ly/3BzMWwB>. To join via phone, call toll-free from the U.S. by dialing (888) 788-0099. The webinar ID is 976 9187 3122. The passcode is 887945. We

highly recommend members of the public access the hearing through the Zoom app. Please visit the Zoom website for [instructions](#) on how to download the Zoom app onto a computer or smartphone.

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

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

Building Appliance Rules Public Learning Session



The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is hosting a public learning session on **Tuesday, October 22, from 6 to 7:30 p.m.** virtually via Zoom regarding adopted amendments to [Rule 9-4: Nitrogen Oxides from Fan Type Residential Central Furnaces](#) and [Rule 9-6: Nitrogen](#)

[Oxides Emissions from Natural Gas-Fired Boilers and Water Heaters](#) (“Building Appliance Rules”). Members of the public are invited to attend to learn and ask questions about the Building Appliance Rules.

To register to attend, please use the following [link](#), where a meeting agenda will be available 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

On March 15, 2023, the Air District adopted amendments to [Rule 9-4: Nitrogen Oxides from Fan Type Residential Central Furnaces](#) and [Rule 9-6: Nitrogen Oxides Emissions from Natural Gas-Fired Boilers and Water Heaters](#) that govern point of sale emission standards for small, typically residential and commercial, water and space heating systems. Space and water-heating appliances generate a large portion of nitrogen oxide (NO_x) emissions from sources in the Bay Area. NO_x is formed during natural gas combustion when ambient nitrogen and oxygen combine at high temperatures. The amendments will substantially reduce NO_x emissions from these appliances and therefore secondary particulate matter formation. The implementation of these rule amendments will be a multiyear effort, spanning from 2027 to 2031.

As part of the amendments, the Air District convened the Implementation Working Group (IWG) between May 2023 through August 2024. The IWG was comprised of over 40 invited

stakeholders representing a variety of relevant stakeholder segments. The purpose of the IWG was to provide input to Air District staff's periodic reports to the Board of Directors on the implementation of the Building Appliances Rules and to provide the Air District staff with insights on the technical readiness of the market and equitable transition to compliant appliances, so as to not unduly burden any income class or professional group. As such, the IWG provided a forum for invited members to discuss technical and equity aspects of implementing the Building Appliances Rules.

Fairfield Forward 2050: Next steps through adoption

The public comment period for Fairfield Forward 2050, consisting of a General Plan Update, Climate Action Plan, and Environmental Impact Report (EIR), closed in September 2024. The Public Drafts remain available on the Fairfield Forward 2050 project website



at www.fairfieldforward.com.

Public comments will be published on the project website after Wednesday, October 9. Responses to Draft General Plan Update and Draft Climate Action Plan comments will be provided in future staff reports for the Planning Commission and City Council. Responses to Draft EIR comments will be provided in the Final EIR.

Next steps through adoption are as follows:

- **November 6, 2024:** Special meeting of the Planning Commission to review and make a recommendation to the City Council
- **December 3, 2024:** Regular City Council meeting to vote on the adoption of the Fairfield Forward 2050 project

Please contact Jessie Hernandez, Associate Planner, with any questions at (707) 428-7450 or jhernandez@fairfield.ca.gov.

Notice of Public Availability of 2024 Refinery Flare Minimization Plan Annual Updates

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) is releasing the 2024 Flare Minimization Plan (FMP) Annual Updates for public review and comment. The five Bay Area refineries prepared these plans subject to [Regulation 12, Rule 12: Flares at Refineries](#).



Under Regulation 12-12, each FMP Annual Update must include:

- New prevention measures identified during investigations of flaring events that occurred during the period July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024;
- A description of the prevention measures previously taken or currently planned to reduce flare emissions at the refinery;
- Commitment to implement all new feasible prevention measures expeditiously; and
- A 30-day public comment review period

The plan updates are now available for review on the Air District's [Flare Minimization Plans](#) web page.

The deadline to submit public comments regarding the 2024 FMP Annual Updates is **November 8**.

Comments can be submitted the following ways:

- Mail to BAAQMD–FMP Update Public Comment, 375 Beale Street, Suite 600, San Francisco, CA 94105
- Email to compliance@baaqmd.gov

Be sure to identify which refinery, or refineries, your comment is applicable to.

After consideration of public comments received, the Air District will evaluate each refinery's Flare Minimization Plan Annual Update to determine whether it meets the requirements of Regulation 12-12 and will take final action in accordance with the regulation.

For any additional information, please visit the [Air District website](#) or email compliance@baaqmd.gov.

Updates from around Solano County

Applications are being accepted for members on the Tripartite Advisory Board



The Tripartite Advisory Board (TAB) consists of representatives from the public-sector, low-income sector, and private sector in Solano County working on addressing homelessness in the area. The TAB provides community expertise and guide the CAP Solano JPA by

making recommendations on CSBG funding. The TAB also advises the CAP Solano JPA on long-term strategic planning, identifying local priorities and needs, and encouraging funding for what Solano County needs most.

The TAB meets quarterly in person, with additional meetings as needed.

If you are interested in applying, please complete an application [here](#). If you would like more information, please reach out to Megan Richards at merichards@solanocounty.com.

Applications are due October 31.

2024 Write On! magazine



Solano County Library has released the new edition of the Write On! magazine.

This year's Write On! magazine features the winning poems and short stories from the 2023 Teen Writing Contest and the winning photos from the 2024 Teen Photo Contest.

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

Sprout Film Festival 2024



The Arc-Solano's annual fundraiser returns for its 6th year on **Sunday, October 13 from 1 to 4:30 p.m.** This event focuses exclusively on films celebrating the diverse lives and creativity of

people with developmental disabilities. Once again, the fundraiser will be at the beautiful **Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum, 734 Marin Street in downtown Vallejo**. The films will be screened in the lovely Hall of History along with a silent auction, no-host bar, and appetizers.

What can you expect from this event? Comedy! Drama! Documentary! Poetry! Music Video! We have it all!

Funds raised from the Sprout Film Festival are used towards Arc-Solano's mission, which is to promote the greatest personal growth, community understanding, and full participation of people with developmental disabilities and their families through support, education, and advocacy.

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

Vallejo City Manager Andrew Murray gives statement on sideshows



Vallejo City Manager Andrew Murray issues statement on illegal sideshows taking place in Vallejo. To read his statement, click [here](#).

Preventing suicides survey



Solano County wants to improve strategies for **preventing suicides**.

El Condado de Solano quiere fortalecer nuestras estrategias de **prevencion al suicidio**.



Questions? ¿Preguntas?
Contact / Contacto:
srcoordination@solanocounty.com

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

Valero, oil shipper Amports to pay \$3.3 million after unusual S.F. Bay pollution case is settled

The Valero oil company and Amports, owner of terminals that ship oil products, have agreed to pay \$3.3 million to settle a lawsuit by the environmental group SF Baykeeper, which said the companies had discharged petroleum coke pollutants into bay waters outside Valero's refinery in Benicia.

The settlement, [approved Monday by a federal judge](#), includes \$2.38 million to be paid to the nonprofit Rose Foundation for Communities and the Environment, which will distribute it to local groups for projects related to water quality. The rest will go to SF Baykeeper for costs related to the lawsuit that it filed in March 2022.

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

Vallejo seeking assistant city manager applicants



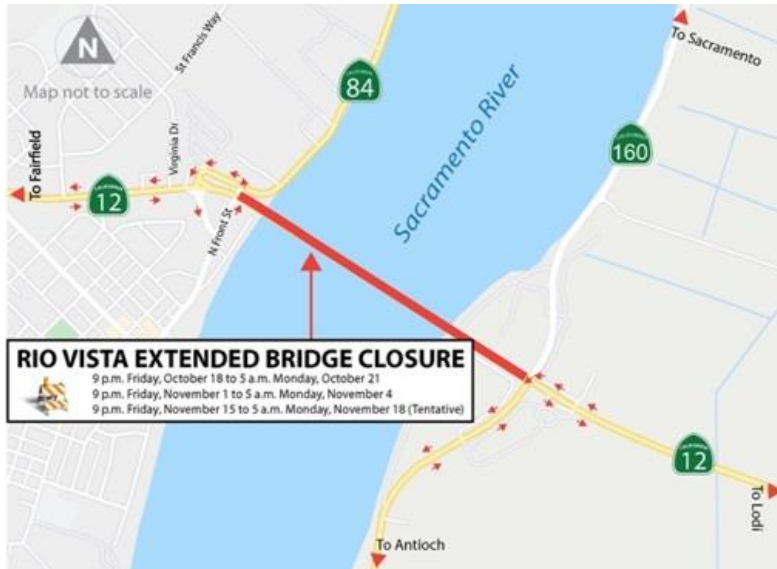
The city of Vallejo is looking to hire an assistant city manager. For information about this position, please review the hiring brochure, which can be found [here](#).

The salary for this position is \$198,582 - \$241,379.

This position is open until filled with a first review of resumes on Friday, November 1. To be considered for this opportunity, please email a cover letter and a detailed resume to apply@bobhallandassociates.com

For any questions regarding this position or the recruitment process, please contact Joe Gorton at (707)628-6846.

Rio Vista Bridge Scheduled for Multiple 55-Hour Closures



Caltrans is advising motorists of a scheduled closure of the Rio Vista Bridge (Helen Madere Memorial Bridge) on State Route 12 (SR-12) just east of the City of Rio Vista due to a paving project.

The \$11.24 million project through the Bridge Rehabilitation and Replacement Program will require multiple 55-hour weekend closures for the work to be completed.

The project will make necessary bridge repairs and updates by rehabilitating the roadway surface, placing polyester concrete overlay on the bridge deck, replacing bridge rails, installing bridge approach slabs, and constructing Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant switchback ramps.

These upgrades will improve motorist and non-vehicular bridge users' safety, restore bridge deck integrity, comply with ADA accessibility requirements and expand access for pedestrians and non-motor vehicles, and improve the overall ride quality.

The 55-hour weekend bridge closure schedule will lessen total project workdays and help avoid the wait times during peak commute hours during the work week.

Motorists could encounter additional travel times of up to two hours using the described detours (see maps provided) from Rio Vista to Sacramento County on SR-12 across the Sacramento River. Please allow for extra travel time to reach your destination, especially for scheduled appointments and work schedules.

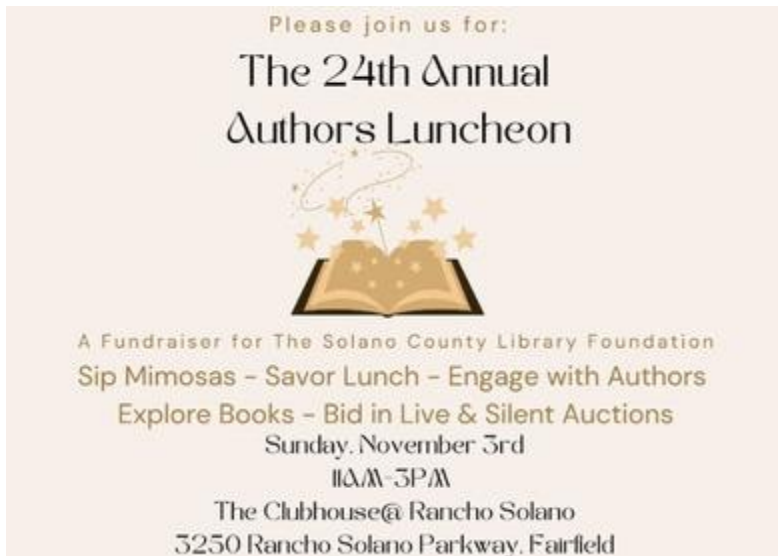
All work on road construction projects will be suspended on weekends and holidays. Schedules are subject to change due to

weather conditions, equipment or material availability, or other unexpected events.

CLOSURE DATES:

- 9 p.m. Friday, October 18 to 5 a.m. Monday, October 21
- 9 p.m. Friday, November 1 to 5 a.m. Monday, November 4
- 9 p.m. Friday, November 15 to 5 a.m. Monday, November 18 (Tentative)

24th Annual Authors Luncheon



Join the Solano County Library Foundation for their annual Authors Luncheon, a fundraiser benefiting the Solano County Library Foundation. This event features engaging author talks, a delightful lunch, mimosas, book exploration, and exciting live and silent auctions. By supporting this event, you help fund vital programs that promote literacy and education throughout Solano County.

To purchase tickets and/or or to view the speakers list, click [here](#).

SolTrans' Call for Artists: Miro Salazar



After an extensive search, SolTrans has selected local artist Miro Salazar to design a unique piece of art for one of their new electric buses, spotlighting both the bus itself and their overall green initiative.

Miro isn't new to the SolTrans family—his work was featured on one of the

original electric buses in 2016. Now, he's back with the exciting opportunity to craft a brand-new design for yet another electric bus!

Over the past two decades, he's created several large-scale murals that have become beloved fixtures in the community. Born in Manila, Philippines, Miro studied graphic arts in college before immigrating to Cleveland, Ohio in 1976, where he experienced snow for the first time. After nine years in the advertising world, he made a life-changing decision to move to Vallejo in 1986—drawn to the Bay Area's mild winters, temperate summers, and the opportunity for a new chapter.

Since then, Vallejo has been home to Miro and his family, and he's never looked back. Though he's now retired, Miro's passion for art remains strong. He continues to create, contributing to local projects and events, all while maintaining his own artistic endeavors. His unique blend of cultural heritage, professional experience, and deep love for the Vallejo community is what makes his work so impactful.

"We're thrilled to continue our collaboration with Miro and celebrate the intersection of art and sustainability with this electric bus," said Beth Kranda, SolTrans Executive Director. "This project not only highlights our commitment to greener, cleaner transit for the future, but it also serves as a moving canvas—a mobile public art piece that shares these important initiatives with the community. It's a reminder that innovation, environmental responsibility, and creativity can all come together to enhance the spaces we live in."

This fall, the newly wrapped electric bus, adorned with Miro's artwork, will hit the streets of Benicia and Vallejo. Detailed route maps and schedules can be found on the SolTrans website, SolTrans.org.

Columbus Parkway Project update



The Columbus Parkway/Rose Drive Improvement Project is progressing on schedule, with an anticipated completion in early November. The temporary traffic control devices have been

reconfigured to allow construction to continue to the next phase. Please continue to use caution when driving through this area. Slow down!

For updates on the Columbus Parkway/Rose Drive Improvement Project or any other ongoing capital improvement projects in the city of Benicia, click [here](#).

Immunization Clinics in Solano County

Solano Public Health will be hosting immunization clinics in Solano County throughout the month of October.



To find dates and times, please visit the [County website](#) for more information.

Solano County jobs

Solano County is looking to hire for the following positions. If you, or someone you know, are interested in learning more about any of the positions below, please check out our [Job Opportunities](#).

Positions
Health Services Program Manager (Senior)
Human Resources Information System/Process Analyst I
<i>Current Solano County Human Resources employees are invited to apply for this promotional opportunity</i>
Legal Procedures Clerk (Entry)

GVRD pumpkins



Come to Children's Wonderland in the city of Vallejo all month long to pick pumpkins, make your way through the hay maze and have more fall fun. **Open daily from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.**, closed on Tuesdays.

Children's Wonderland is located at 360 Glenn Street.

Egg-tober



Give your kiddos a hide-and-seek adventure to celebrate Halloween. The city of Benicia will hide 30 candy-filled Halloween eggs in your front yard.

One delivery per address - Benicia addresses only. *Peanut free candy can be requested at time of purchase. If you want to hide the eggs on your own, you can request to have them left at your front door in a Halloween bag. Additional special requests for hiding places can be added at the time of purchase.

Time of delivery will be 2 to 4 p.m.; limit of 10 deliveries per day.

Delivery Dates: 10/29, 10/30, 10/31

I know times are hard, but, if possible, please donate what you can. The cost is \$30 dollars per family. However, if you can afford 10 dollars, the Benicia Parks and Community services will make it work.

Make the check-out to the City of Benicia, 250 East L. St. Benicia, Ca 94510

If you have more questions email: kkerr@ci.benicia.ca.us

Please send your check by Oct. 15.

HAPPY HALLOWEEN - Monica

Witching Wine Walk



On **Saturday, October 19 from 1 to 5 p.m.**, hundreds of thirsty ghouls descend downtown Benicia on a witchy Fall afternoon to taste over a dozen wines offered at more than 30 First Street boutiques and galleries. Costumes welcome!

Advance tickets are \$35 each and \$65 for two. Day-of event tickets are \$40. Ticket price includes up to 15 tastes and a souvenir wine glass. Participants must be age 21 and over.

Tickets can be purchased in person at Benicia Main Street, 90 First Street, or online [here](#).

Halloween Block Party



Mare Island Company is bringing back the Mare Island Halloween Block Party for its second year on **Saturday, October 26 from 4 to 8 p.m.** This free event will be held at the historic Walnut Avenue on Mare Island. Events include:

- Over 15 food trucks to satisfy your cravings
- Our pumpkin patch where you can decorate your own spooky creations
- Plenty of opportunities for trick-or-treating
- Tesla car displays for you to check out (Halloween inspired of course)
- A selection of wine, beer, and mocktails to enjoy
- Music by DJ Turn Up to keep you dancing
- Costume contests for families, kiddos, and your furry four-legged friends

To RSVP, click [here](#).

Moonlight Masquerade



Get ready for a spellbinding night of fun and mystery at Benicia's ultimate Halloween event, 'Moonlight Masquerade'! The iconic

Benicia Clock Tower comes alive with a thrilling experience for an amazing cause. Enjoy elegant, pater-passed hors d'oeuvres, sip cocktails and mingle with zombies while basking in the spooky glow of a black-lit dance floor.

Monster hits served hot by DJ Jessie Ray, authentic tarot readings, costume contest, and festival vibes from Vallejo artist Stan Clark's Astro Botanical sculptures. Come dressed to impress and prepare for a night to remember. This is a 21+ event you don't want to miss!

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

Trunk or Treat at Solano Community College



SOLANO
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**TRUNK OR TREAT
FALL FEST SALE &
POP UP SHOPS**

Save the Date! Get ready for a spooktacular day at the Fall Fest Sale & Pop-Up Shops!

Join the SCC Entrepreneur Club at Solano College on **Thursday, October 31** from **11 AM to 7 PM** for a fun-filled day the whole family will enjoy!

What's in store?

- Shop local vendors for unique fall gifts
- Safe trick-or-treating
- Bounce house fun

And more exciting activities!

... Plus, learn about Solano College's awesome programs & entrepreneurial students.

All proceeds benefit the SCC Entrepreneur Club!

Where?
Solano College, Parking Lot 2, 4000 Suisun Valley Rd, Fairfield

FREE ADMISSION - Register or secure your vendor table [HERE](#)

Mark your calendars and bring your friends for an unforgettable fall celebration!

To secure a vendor table, click [here](#).

Halloween Spooktacular Event downtown October 31



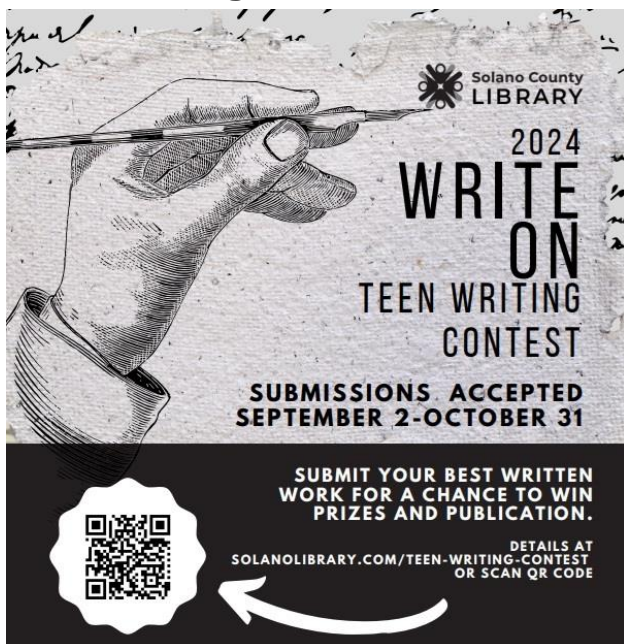
This year's Halloween Spooktacular event promises festive fun and ghoulishly good times! Put on your costume and bring the family downtown on **Thursday, October 31 from 3 to 6 p.m.**, for an afternoon filled with candy, creativity, and community spirit.

Fairfield's vibrant downtown will undergo a fun and spooky transformation where kids can enjoy:

- Trick-or-Treating – Visit participating businesses for delicious treats and delightful surprises.
- Kids' Crafts – Make spooky crafts, decorate pumpkins, and create Halloween-themed art projects.

Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity to celebrate Halloween with your family and neighbors. Check in at the corner of Jefferson and Texas Streets when you arrive!

Teen Writing contest



This year the library is looking for Solano County teens between the ages of 12 and 18 to submit their best short stories and poems! Those who win will each get a \$25 gift card and have their work published in the library's Write On Magazine which comes out every fall!

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

October Events at Fairfield PAL Teen Center

Join the Fairfield PAL Teen Center for free events throughout the month of October! Events include Boxing/ Kajukenbo, Soroptimist Girls Circle, video games, sewing, and much more. sKREAMz Haunted Attractings is also hosting the Blood Harvest haunted house every Friday and Saturday in October.

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

Volunteer for the Veterans Day Parade on November 11



Even beauty queens need help! You can come to their rescue by volunteering as a stager or pacer for the Veterans Day Parade on Monday, November 11! Stagers will assist with getting entries ready and pacers will help with entry timing down Texas Street.

You can sign up by clicking [here](#). This is also a great way to get community hours for school!

Free Mandated Reporting & Community Supporting for volunteers

Volunteers in programs like Girl Scouts, Boys & Girls Clubs, and other activity-based youth groups are invited to join for a free mandated reporter training.

This session complies with AB 506 and fulfills the state requirement for volunteers working with children. To register for your spot, click [here](#). Location is still TBD, but it will take place on **Tuesday, November 19 from 6 to 8:30 p.m.**

Local Marines to celebrate Corps' 249th birthday

The Solano County Marine Corps League Charles 'Bud' Hallam Detachment No. 1486 is inviting the community to celebrate the U.S. Marine Corps' 249 birthday on **Nov. 16**.

The event, 5:30 p.m. to midnight, will be held at the Sunrise Banquet Hall and Event Center, 620 Orange Drive, in Vacaville.

Tickets are \$140 each and include a complementary cocktail hour, dinner, dancing, and a photo booth.

For more information or to purchase tickets, click [here](#).

October calendar for Benicia Veterans Memorial Hall

The October calendar of events for Benicia Veterans Memorial Hall:

October 11: Hamburgers by Sons of The American Legion

14 Patty and Kevin cooking Monday dinners for your enjoyment

15 House commission meeting 1830 hrs

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

18 Hamburgers by American Legion Aux, Kevin and Patty

21 Patty and Kevin cooking Monday dinners for your enjoyment

25 Hamburgers by VFW;

28 Patty and Kevin cooking Monday dinners for your enjoyment

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

Upcoming events in Solano County

Benicia Reads Hosts First Street Story Stroll



On Saturday, October 12 from 10 a.m. to noon, families with children of all ages are invited to pick up an activity guide at St. Paul's Square (corner of First Street and J Street) and take a "Story Stroll" around First Street!

Families will be treated to stories and poems in multiple locations between J Street and First Street Green. They can also hunt for literary clues and pick up coloring sheets. Other giveaways include a children's book to take home to add to the family library. The Benicia Kiwanis Club will provide snacks. The entire event is free.

Benicia Reads is a joint initiative of the Benicia Unified School District and the city of Benicia. In its third year, the objective of this program is to build a culture of literacy and a love of reading and books by engaging everyone in becoming a community that reads and supports early literacy. Parents, grandparents, older siblings, and everyone who is part of the Benicia community can play a vital role in the literacy development of our children. This event is an excellent way to learn more about simple things you can do to help.

Lori Frank Memorial Health Fair

The Solano County District Attorney's Office in collaboration with the Solano County Office of Family Violence Prevention, will host the Lori Frank Memorial Health Fair on **Saturday, October 12 on the Annex Lawn at 604 Empire Street in Fairfield from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**



Everyone is welcome to attend this free family event, established to promote healthy living in Solano County. The event includes more than 40 local vendors and boasts a wide variety of activities for people of all ages, including free flu shots, tasty treats, music, pumpkin patch, arts and crafts, local nonprofit service providers, and health and

wellness business vendors. Also, we are proud to announce that we will have live music from "Galaxy Rock Band Ensemble" from the "Unites States Air Force Band of the Golden West."

"We hope that you join us again this year as we celebrate our great community partnerships and healthy living throughout Solano County," said Solano County District Attorney Krishna Abrams. "With so many family-friendly activities to choose from, there will be something for everyone."

For more information about activities please call (707) 784-6800.

Benicia Fire Department Open House



The Benicia Fire Department Open House is on **Saturday, October 12 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.** at Fire Station 11, 150 Military West. This is a free event and is open to all.

There will be fire station tours, fire extinguisher demonstrations, fire prevention information, Hands-Only CPR training, face painting, a jump house, food, and all kinds of emergency response vehicles and equipment for kids to tour.

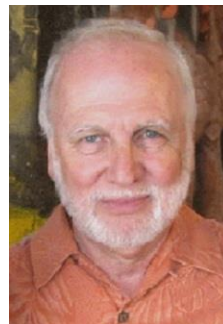
For more information call (707) 746-4275.

Poet Laureate Suzanne Bruce presents David Alpaugh

David Alpaugh will be Poet Laureate Suzanne Bruce's featured reader in October! **The event will take place from 1 to 3 p.m., Saturday, October 12 inside the Fairfield Civic Center Library, 1150 Kentucky Street.**

After his reading, there will be an Open Mic.

David is a graduate of Rutgers University and the University of California, Berkeley, David teaches poetry for the UC Berkeley Extension



and at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute's Cal State East Bay Campus. A popular performer of his own poetry, he hosted monthly poetry readings in the SF Bay area for fifteen years and has been a finalist for Poet Laureate of California.

5th annual Family Fall Fest

The 5th annual Family Fall Fest will be held at City Park for a day filled with fun activities for the whole family. From pumpkin decorating to a pop-up pumpkin patch with Mau & Associates, there's something for everyone to enjoy. Don't miss out on the delicious food trucks and live music performances throughout the day.

Bring your friends and family for a day of laughter and memories. Come in costume to trick or treat with the seasonal craft vendors, pick out holiday gifts and enjoy free entertainment on stage, including a photobooth and DJ Beetlejuice, presented by State Farm Stephanie Scanlan. Benicia cheerleaders will be performing along with other special guests! TBG Productions

The fest will be held on **Sunday, October 13 from 12 to 5 p.m. inside City Park, 150 Military W, in the city of Benicia.**

Career Fair



CAREER FAIR
Fall Edition

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
OF SOLANO COUNTY
is a proud partner of
America's JobCenter
of California™

A RECRUITMENT EVENT TAILORED
TO SHOWCASE QUALITY TALENT
AND QUALITY JOBS.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17
10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
at
Workforce Development Board
500 Chadbourne Road, Suite A
Fairfield, CA 94534

JOB SEEKERS:
Register NOW, upload your
resume and gain early
access to available jobs!



EMPLOYERS INTERESTED IN HOSTING A BOOTH
contact: Sonja Rockwell-Jackson
srockwell-jackson@solanowdb.org or (707) 863-3509

The WDB is an EO/AA/ADA Employer/Program. TDD Relay #1-800-735-2922
Auxiliary Aids and Services are available upon sufficient notice to individuals with disabilities.

NAMIWalks Solano - Walk for Mental Health



NAMIWalks Solano - Walk for Mental Health, scheduled for Saturday, October 19, from 9 to 11 a.m. at Lagoon Valley Park, Vacaville.

The purpose of the event is to walk to promote mental health awareness and to reduce stigma; to raise funds for NAMI Solano's free, top-rated mental health programs; and to build community and let people know they are not alone.

To register, click [here](#).

H.O.P.E Resource Fair



The city of Fairfield Homeless Services Division is hosting a Homeless Outreach Partnership Event (HOPE) on **Friday, October 25 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**, at **BayNorth Church of Christ, 2100 Pennsylvania Avenue in Fairfield**. Volunteers are needed to assist at the event.

Homeless Services is currently accepting vendor applications from service providers that can assist with housing, prevention, and support services for the unhoused. Any vendor interested can request a vendor application from Mellisa Scott at mscott@fairfield.ca.gov. The deadline to apply is October 15, 2024. If you need further information or would like to volunteer, please call (707) 428-7679.

Resources available: Food, Medi-Cal, Cal-Fresh services, mobile showers, bike raffle, and more!

FREE BUS RIDE for attendees: Take Bus Route 3 at the Fairfield Transportation Center and let the driver know you are attending the HOPE Event. Exit at Solano Town Center, make a left on Pennsylvania Street and walk 1 block to BayNorth Church of Christ.

Fall into ARTumn

Dennis Ariza of Fairfield-Arts
along with Fairfield Poet Laureate Suzanne Bruce
invite you to:

“Fall into ARTumn”



Friday, October 25, 2024
4:00 -7:00pm

Fairfield Arts- #StudiotoGallery
710 Jackson Street
Fairfield

There will be art, snacks, drinks, music
And of course there will be....Poetry!

Poets can check out the art on September 24th
www.fairfield-arts.com

No need to send your poem ahead of time; just bring a copy
Poetry reading will begin at 5:00pm

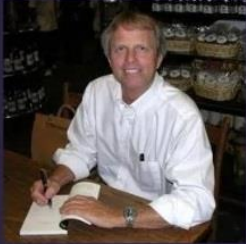
Speaker Series: Haunted Mare Island

Mare Island Historic Park Foundation
presents

Speaker Series: Haunted Mare Island

With Guest Speaker:
Jeff Dwyer, Paranormal Investigator

Saturday, October 26, 2024 @ 3pm
St. Peter's Chapel, Mare Island



Tickets:
Members make sure to apply your code to receive your discounts
Advanced Tickets - \$15
At the Door - \$20
All proceeds benefit the Foundation
BUY TICKETS HERE: <https://square.link/u/cyIQEavs>

Unlock the mysteries of Mare Island's paranormal past with the Mare Island Historic Park Foundation next Speaker Series event on **Saturday, October 26 at 3 p.m.** The speaker will be Jeffrey Dwyer, Ph.D., a professional paranormal investigator and acclaimed author.

Dr. Dwyer's talk, "Haunted Mare Island," delves into the eerie and intriguing phenomena that have been reported by visitors and residents alike. With a focus on haunted places within the San Francisco Bay area and several locations on Mare Island itself, Dr. Dwyer brings a wealth of expertise and firsthand experiences to the table.

Having graced over 100 radio programs and made multiple TV appearances on channels like Discovery and Travel, Dr. Dwyer is not only a seasoned investigator but also an accomplished public speaker.

Prepare to be captivated as he shares his insights, stories, and perhaps a spine-chilling tale or two from his adventures in the world of the supernatural. Don't miss this thrilling opportunity to delve into the unknown at the Mare Island Historic Park Foundation's Speaker Series!

The event will be held at St. Peter's Chapel, 1181 Walnut Avenue on Mare Island.

To purchase a ticket, click [here](#).

American Legion Poker Tournament

"United We Stand"
Poker Tournament

Vacaville Veterans Hall
549 Merchant St. Vacaville, CA 95688
October 26, 2024 @ 5 PM

\$75 to play Must be 21 to play Free Beer & Food
Food service from 4 - 5pm

Visa Gift Cards (5)
Top Prize \$500 GC \$70 Early Bird by 10/15
\$25 Rebuys

Purchase your Tickets Here.
Scan the QR Code or text 707-365-8384

Dia de los Muertos - Vallejo



Dia de los Muertos - Fairfield



The city of Fairfield is partnering with the Sullivan Language Immersion Academy and Solano Community College to bring you the Dia de los Muertos Event on **Saturday, November 2, from 12 to 4 p.m.**, at the **Sullivan Language Immersion Academy, 2195 Union Avenue.**

Join for a vibrant celebration where we honor and remember loved ones with colorful altars, lively music, and delicious traditional foods.

Magical Glass: A Hands-on Workshop Exploring Stained Glass



This fun, interactive children's workshop will start by studying the historic Tiffany-stained glass windows followed by time to explore St. Peter's Chapel on Mare Island. Everyone will then make their own tissue paper-stained glass window!

The workshop will take place from 10 to 11:30 a.m., Saturday, November 9, at St. Peter's Chapel, 1181 Walnut Avenue, Mare Island in the city of Vallejo.

To reserve a spot, click [here](#).

Open Mare Island Self-Guided Tour

OPEN
Mare Island

MIHPF Presents
Free Self-Guided Tour of Mare Island
Sunday, Nov. 17 | 12 noon - 2 pm

- 5 Docent Stations
- SolTrans Shuttle Bus to all Stations
- Free Coffee @ The Quarters
- See inside St. Peter's Chapel

Pick up your map at:
The Quarters Coffee House

Join the Mare Island Historic Park Foundation (MIHPF) and Mare Island Co. for Open Mare Island which features self-guided walking tours of historic Mare Island.

A SolTrans shuttle bus will be available to help you move from docent-staffed stations, including St. Peter's Chapel, the Old Hospital, and the Naval Cemetery. This is a free event!

The open house will take place from noon to 2 p.m., Sunday, November 17, at 1015 Walnut Avenue on Mare Island in the city of Vallejo.

To reserve a spot, click [here](#).

Events I attended this week

Saturday, October 5, I was invited to attend a first birthday party for a one-year-old. When your own children are in college and working, you forget how small pre-school children are. Many family members were in attendance. It reminded me why these events, as well as holidays, are important to give all of us a chance to socialize to keep family and friends together.

Saturday night was a history lesson. The Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum hosted the Filipino American History Month program titled Struggle and Resistance. The event featured a traditional Filipino dinner and 3 speakers who shared their personal stories growing up in Vallejo. I enjoyed hearing the stories and seeing the pictures of Vallejo from the 1920's.

Sunday, October 6, the Glen Cove Association had a gathering at the park. HOT does not describe the weather on Sunday. At least there was a breeze. Many people attended and nice to say HI! to folks. Several sail boats were on the water. It was a nice Sunday afternoon in the shade.

I then drove to Benicia to the home of Arts Benicia located at 1 Commandant's Lane. The fund raiser was titled Champagne Chocolate and Blues. Since I had just arrived after being outdoors for a while, I stay long enough to say HI! and get more water.

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

Glen Cove residents enjoying a meet and greet. Photo: Bill Yuen



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.