



## SUPERVISOR MONICA BROWN NEWSLETTER

May 2, 2025



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### Important Numbers Resources and Dates

#### District 2 Office

(707) 784-3031

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

(707) 784-6100

#### Veterans Services

(707) 784-6590

#### Health & Social Services

(707) 784-8400

#### Assessor/Recorder

(707) 784-6200

#### Resource Management

(707) 784-6765

#### Registrar of Voters

(707) 784-6675

#### Tax Collector/Treasurer/County Clerk

(707) 784-7485

#### Area Agency on Aging

(707) 784-8960

## Information this week

### Submit to the "Ferry There" video contest



From the San Francisco Bay Ferry

Ride. Record. Win!

You're invited to ride along with the San Francisco Bay Ferry while capturing the best of your ferry experience. Show us how you Ferry There—we'll be featuring select video clips onboard our vessels, and on our social media and website pages. This is your chance to become #FerryFamous!

## PRIZES & JUDGING CRITERIA

- Video must respond to one of three creative briefs (This and..., Time well spent, or Ease your way)
- On-ferry footage is preferred—all terminals and routes are welcome
- Submissions in all languages are encouraged!

The creators of the **first 200 eligible submissions** will receive three (3) complimentary round-trip ferry tickets for participating. On

the first day of summer (June 20, 2025), three Grand Prize winners will be directly notified to receive a summer's worth of free ferry rides.

## HOW TO SUBMIT

**Submissions will be collected through May 11 or until 200 videos have been received.** You may submit multiple times, and you will receive three (3) complimentary round-trip ferry tickets per submission. All submissions must include a valid email address and meet listed requirements. By submitting your video(s), you confirm that you have read and understood the contest terms and agree to the outlined [grants of rights](#).

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

## What is the California Conservation Corps?



The California Conservation Corps is a state agency, certified by The Corps Network, enrolling young adults, 18 to 25, for a year of natural resource work and emergency response. Simply stated, the CCC puts youth and the environment together to benefit both.

The young adults of the CCC work hard protecting and restoring California's environment, responding

to disasters, becoming stronger workers, citizens and individuals through their service.

The program provides young adults 18 – 25 years old a year of paid service to the State of California. During their year of service, Corpsmembers work on environmental projects and respond to natural and man-made disasters. Through this work, they gain skills and experience that lead to meaningful careers. We are dedicated to developing our Corpsmembers into citizens with character, credentials, and commitment.

### Educational Opportunities

California Conservation Corps centers offer meaningful educational opportunities. Corpsmembers can earn a high school diploma, take courses through community colleges, and earn thousands of dollars in scholarships that can be used at colleges, trade schools and certification courses.

### 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



### **Specialized Training**

Most of the specialized training in the CCC is connected to the corpsmember work projects and emergency response activities.

This is an incredible program loaded with opportunities for young people who are starting to enter the real world. You can contact them at 800-952-5627 and there is a Solano County office location at 1020 Chadbourne Road in Fairfield, 916-708-8621.

**To transform the direction of your life path, click [here](#).**

## **Governor Newsom announces SUN Bucks Program will provide food to California kids during summer break 2025**

A press release from the Governor's Office:

Governor Gavin Newsom announced this week that California will soon be releasing electronic benefits transfer (EBT) cards for the SUN Bucks food program in summer 2025. California was one of the first states in the nation to launch SUN Bucks in the summer of 2024. In



its first year, nearly \$500 million in food purchases were made and the families and caregivers of more than 4.3 million California children activated their SUN Bucks cards. Over 4 million eligible California children will automatically receive SUN Bucks EBT cards that can be used to purchase groceries starting in June, and each eligible child will receive \$120.

## How SUN Bucks works

Most children who qualify for free or reduced-price meals through a school meal application or Universal Benefits Application, or receive CalFresh, CalWORKs, and/or Medi-Cal benefits (certified at or below 185 percent of the Federal Poverty Level), are automatically enrolled.

Children in foster care, experiencing homelessness or attending Head Start are also categorically eligible and are automatically enrolled. Based on California Department of Social Services (CDSS) and California Department of Education (CDE) data, more than 4 million children will be automatically enrolled this year.

Children who are not determined to be automatically eligible may apply by submitting a school meal application or [Universal Benefits Application](#) to their school or school administrator's office by September 1, 2025, in order to receive SUN Bucks benefits for summer 2025.

SUN Bucks cards for summer 2025 are scheduled to arrive in the mail beginning in June and will continue until mailings are complete. SUN Bucks EBT cards will provide \$120 per child, which is equivalent to \$40 per month for June, July, and August, the three months schools are typically closed.

"We're excited to see SUN Bucks return for the summer of 2025," CDSS Director Jennifer Troia said. "Last year, this program not only helped put food on the table for millions of California families, but it also bolstered local economies where food benefits were spent."

Regardless of when a SUN Bucks EBT card is mailed or received, every card is loaded with the full \$120 per child. Per federal rules, funds must be used within 122 days of the funds being added to the card. Any unused funds on the card will expire after 122 days. Expired benefits cannot be replaced. Visit the [CDSS website for more information](#).

Participation in SUN Bucks will have no bearing on eligibility for CalFresh or any other public benefit program. Children who receive SUN Bucks may still participate in other summer meal options, such as [SUN Meals](#).

## Leading the way to fight hunger

California was the first state to implement a statewide Universal Meals Program for schoolchildren, providing all public TK-12 students access to two free meals per school day. In September, Governor Newsom [signed legislation](#) to increase enrollment in state food assistance programs, reduce youth consumption of processed foods, and increase access to healthy, locally grown food in all California communities.

First Partner Jennifer Siebel Newsom also championed efforts to develop the innovative California Farm to School initiative. California Farm to School works in tandem with universal school meals to ensure California students have access to two free school meals that are locally-sourced, delicious, and nutritious. California also participates in the federal SUN Bucks food program which ensures that children in families with low incomes have adequate nutrition while school is out for the summer.

## About the SUN Bucks program

In December 2022, Congress passed the [Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023](#), which created a new, permanent Summer EBT program for states to provide food benefits to families beginning in 2024. In July 2023, California passed [Assembly Bill 120](#), establishing the CDSS as the lead implementing agency, in partnership with CDE, to maximize Summer EBT program participation for summer 2024. This program is being [rolled-out in many parts of the country](#).

Due to the large number of automatically enrolled children, SUN Bucks EBT card issuances will occur in two stages:

- Stage 1: Automatically enrolled children will begin receiving their cards in early June through July 2025. Cards will be mailed in alphabetical order according to the child's last name.
- Stage 2: Children determined eligible after the start of Stage 1 will begin receiving their cards in September 2025 until mailings are complete.

## We Hear You: Amid Growing Social Security Disruption Concerns, Attorney General Bonta Launches New Complaint Page



From California Attorney General Rob Bonta:

California Attorney General Bonta this week announced the launch of a new [webpage](#) to allow Californians to report any disruptions they've experienced to their Social Security benefits.

"Your social security benefits should not be impacted by President Trump and Elon Musk's cuts to federal funding and programs," **said Attorney General Bonta**. "If you experience any disruptions to your social security benefits, I want to know. Please report any

disruptions to my office using the form found at [oag.ca.gov/socialsecurity](https://oag.ca.gov/socialsecurity).”

Within the last months, chaotic changes and disruptions within the Social Security Administration have caused issues for people trying to access their benefits, including reported website outages, difficulty accessing online accounts, and potential delays in benefits. These issues are largely attributed to changes including a cut to 12% of the Social Security workforce, potential gutting of its phone services, and the closure of field offices. The California Department of Justice is committed to protecting Californians from unlawful actions by the Trump Administration which should not impede access to federal entitlement programs — including social security benefits.

While the California Department of Justice does not represent individuals, this information is vital to ascertaining the impact of federal actions on California and aiding with any potential future action by the state. To file a complaint with the California Department of Justice, please visit [here](#).

People experiencing disruptions to their Social Security benefits or difficulty reaching the Social Security Administration should also contact their Congressional representatives, who may be able to assist.

- Find your [House Representative](#)
- Connect with [Senator Alex Padilla](#)
- Connect with [Senator Adam Schiff](#)

Local legal aid programs may also be able to help. For more information about legal aid resources in your community, please refer to [lawhelpca.org](https://lawhelpca.org).

You may also submit a complaint directly to the [Social Security Administration](#) at or call 1-800-772-1213 to discuss your issue. To report social security fraud, please contact the [Social Security Office of the Inspector General](#).

If you wish to contact the Trump Administration directly, you may do so [here](#)



## 56-Hour Closures scheduled to begin in March for Rio Vista Bridge



From a Caltrans press release:

Caltrans is advising motorists of six scheduled weekend closures of the Rio Vista Bridge (Helen Madere Memorial Bridge) on State Route 12 (SR 12) for ongoing repairs.

This \$27.2 million project is funded through the Bridge Rehabilitation and Replacement Program and will require multiple 56-hour weekend closures for the work to be completed because of the limited width of the bridge to allow for heavy equipment access.

The project is making necessary mechanical repairs, replacing the movable deck span and replacing bridge rails.

During the weekend closures that are scheduled between March and June, the contractor will replace the movable span bridge deck concrete, and 60 steel stringers needed to extend the service life of the bridge.

Due to the limited width of the existing bridge deck, 56-hour weekend bridge closures are necessary to facilitate safe access to the work for contractor and Caltrans personnel.

The 56-hour weekend bridge closure schedule will lessen total project workdays and help avoid the wait times at peak commute hours during the week.

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

### **CLOSURE DATES:**

- 9 p.m. Friday 5/09 - 5 a.m. Monday 5/12

- 9 p.m. Friday 6/06 - 5 a.m. Monday 6/09
- 9 p.m. Friday 6/20 - 5 a.m. Monday 6/23

Schedules are subject to change due to weather conditions, equipment or material availability, or other unexpected events.

Caltrans District 3 is responsible for maintaining and operating 4,385 lane miles in 11 Sacramento Valley and Northern Sierra counties. Caltrans reminds motorists to “Be Work Zone Alert” and slow in construction zones for the safety of travelers and crews performing these improvements.

## Interstate 80 Scheduled for Multiple Closures in Yolo County

From a Caltrans press release:

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

The mainline between I-80/US-50 connector ramp to Reed Avenue will be reduced to two lanes after the end of a 55-hour closure from May 12 through May 21.

Construction work will include a full closure of eastbound (EB) I-80 after crossing the EB I-80 Yolo Causeway from Davis going towards Reed Avenue in West Sacramento. Caltrans urges motorists to plan for additional travel time, to expect delays and use the designated detour route. (see maps)

Ongoing pavement replacement and striping work will continue for the EB direction of I-80 and US 50 in West Sacramento.

### SCHEDULED CLOSURE #4:

- Eastbound (EB) I-80 connector ramp to EB Reed Avenue, westbound (WB) US50 connector ramp to EB I-80, Enterprise on-ramp to EB I-80 and EB I-80 to Reed Avenue off-ramp
  - **55-hour full closure** - From 9 p.m. Friday, May 9 through 4 a.m. Monday, May 12
  - **Nightly full closures** - From 9 p.m. to 4 a.m. Monday, 5/12 to Sunday, 5/18 and 11 p.m. – 4 a.m. Monday, May 19 to Wednesday, May 21

### DETOUR:

- EB I-80 traffic will be detoured to EB US-50 to Sacramento over the Sacramento River to northbound I-5 to Redding (EXIT 4A), to east I-80 to Reno (EXIT 522).



- From WB US-50, take the Enterprise Boulevard off-ramp (EXIT 81) and stay left, continue onto Enterprise to Industrial Avenue (left turn at light) continue Industrial to Harbor Boulevard (left at light) for EB US-50 to Sacramento (EXIT 82), continue over Sacramento River to northbound I-5 to Redding (EXIT 4A), to eastbound I-80 to Reno (EXIT 522).

#### **SCHEDULED CLOSURE #2:**

- Reed Avenue loop on-ramp to EB I-80 closed
- **72-hour full closure** from 5 a.m. Monday, May 12 through 5 a.m. Thursday, May 21

#### **DETOUR FOR CLOSURE #2:**

- From Reed Avenue, continue west on Reed, (left turn at signal) take westbound I-80 to the San Francisco on-ramp, to EB US-50 to Sacramento (EXIT 82), continue over the Sacramento River to northbound I-5 to Redding (EXIT 4A), to east I-80 to Reno (EXIT 522).

The work zone is from the Yolo Causeway through West Sacramento on I-80 and US 50. The speed limit has been reduced to 55 miles per hour 24/7 for the safety of workers and motorists. Work is scheduled to begin as listed but subject to change due to traffic incidents, weather conditions, availability of equipment and/or materials, and construction-related issues.

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

This \$280 million project includes \$47 million from Senate Bill (SB 1), the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017. SB 1 provides \$5 billion in transportation funding annually, shared equally between state and local agencies. Road projects progress through construction phases more quickly based on the availability of SB 1 funds, including projects partially funded by SB 1.

To view the latest news and information on state and federal infrastructure investments, visit [RebuildingCA.ca.gov](https://RebuildingCA.ca.gov), which contains data on state and federal funding.

## Air District Soliciting Applications for Community Advisory Council Seats



The Air District is soliciting applications for thirteen seats on its Community Advisory Council (CAC). The thirteen open seats represent: Alameda County, Contra Costa County, San Francisco County, San Mateo County, Santa Clara County, and Solano County, as well as

at-large and youth seats.

In November 2021, the Board of Directors approved the formation of the Air District's inaugural CAC, consisting of 17 community members from across the Bay Area. The Board created the CAC in response to community input and to support an equity-forward policy agenda. The CAC provides guidance to the Board of Directors on programs and policies that impact all communities, including overburdened communities.

The CAC reflects the diversity of the Bay Area and lived experiences in communities heavily impacted by air pollution. The CAC is composed of individuals with diverse skill sets and a range of relevant knowledge and technical expertise. This includes, but is not limited to, individuals who reflect the diverse demographics of the Bay Area and/or have been or are impacted by air pollution, as well as individuals who utilize community-centered approaches and have expertise and knowledge on air quality issues.

The CAC meets bi-monthly in person and members are expected to:

- Review materials for CAC meetings and participate during the meetings;
- Attend required trainings;
- Join at least one ad hoc committee every year, except CAC leadership;
- Perform all other duties as prescribed by the Charter, including following Civility expectations.

Council Members are compensated \$500 for attending the bi-monthly CAC meetings and \$75 per hour for other meetings.

First time applicants, please complete this [application](#) ([Arabic](#), [Chinese](#), [Spanish](#), [Tagalog](#), and [Vietnamese](#)). Current CAC members interested in reapplying, please contact CAC staff.

For more information on the work of the CAC, selection criteria and background documents, visit the [CAC web page](#).

For questions, please contact the Air District at [communityadvisorycouncil@baaqmd.gov](mailto:communityadvisorycouncil@baaqmd.gov). The application closes on June 1, at midnight

## **Get a text about unpaid California tolls? Here's what DMV says you should do**

Have you recently received a text message demanding that you pay toll fees?

The California Department of Motor Vehicles is warning residents to leave those messages unread to avoid becoming victims of a widespread scam.

These fraudulent texts generally try to impersonate the toll service in each state. For example, if you live in California, the text will likely mention the DMV or FastTrak, California's electronic toll collection.

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

## **Women Have Served in Combat Roles for a Decade. The Pentagon is Reopening the Debate**

In Army Ranger school, Emelie Vanasse once sat under a poncho in the pouring rain and shivered so hard her entire body cramped up. She strapped on a rucksack that weighed more than 100 pounds and climbed a mountain. Deep in the middle of the woods, she hallucinated a donut shop.

When [Capt. Kristen Griest and 1st Lt. Shaye Haver became the first women to make it through Ranger training](#) in 2015, Vanasse had taped their pictures above her desk.

"I'm next," she told herself then. "It's gonna be me."

Less than two years later, she woke up at three a.m., shaved her head—one-quarter inch all around—and drove to Camp Rogers, Georgia, to endure 62 days of crawling through the mud, rappelling down mountainsides, and leading fellow soldiers in training raids and ambushes while hungry and sleep-deprived. She graduated with another woman as the fourth and fifth female Rangers in the Army's 249-year history.

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

## SNAP impact

It is important to recognize that SNAP not only feeds hungry people but contributes greatly to the economy across the nation and local economies. [See how SNAP positively impacts your Congressional District according to the National Grocers Association.](#)

## Federal Cuts Gut Food Banks as They Face Record Demand

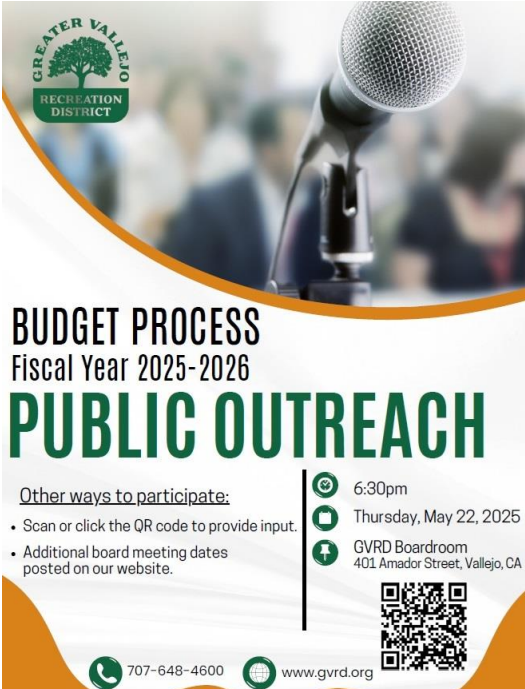
Food bank shortages caused by high demand and cuts to federal aid programs have some residents of a small community that straddles Idaho and Nevada growing their own food to get by.

For those living in Duck Valley, a reservation of about 1,000 people that is [home to the Shoshone-Paiute Tribes](#), there's just one grocery store where prices are too high for many to afford, said Brandy Bull Chief, local director of a federal food distribution program for tribes. The next-closest grocery stores are more than 100 miles away in Mountain Home, Idaho, and Elko, Nevada. And the local food bank's troubles are mirrored by many nationwide, squeezed between growing need and shrinking aid.

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

## Public meetings

### GVRD seeks public input



The poster features a microphone in the foreground and a blurred crowd in the background. The Greater Vallejo Recreation District logo is in the top left corner. The text reads: 'BUDGET PROCESS Fiscal Year 2025-2026 PUBLIC OUTREACH'. Below this, it lists 'Other ways to participate:' with two bullet points: 'Scan or click the QR code to provide input.' and 'Additional board meeting dates posted on our website.' To the right, it specifies the meeting time as '6:30pm' on 'Thursday, May 22, 2025' at the 'GVRD Boardroom, 401 Amador Street, Vallejo, CA'. A QR code is located at the bottom right. At the very bottom, contact information is provided: a phone icon with '707-648-4600' and a globe icon with 'www.gvrd.org'.

**GREATER VALLEJO RECREATION DISTRICT**

**BUDGET PROCESS**  
Fiscal Year 2025-2026  
**PUBLIC OUTREACH**

Other ways to participate:

- Scan or click the QR code to provide input.
- Additional board meeting dates posted on our website.

6:30pm  
Thursday, May 22, 2025  
GVRD Boardroom  
401 Amador Street, Vallejo, CA

707-648-4600  
www.gvrd.org

## Community Corner

### Solano County to Celebrate Bike to Wherever Days in May



The Solano Transportation Authority invites Solano County to join the Bay Area in celebrating Bike to Wherever Days this May. Pledge to ride and sign up for the collective 30,000-mile Bay Area Bike Challenge celebrating 31 years of Bike to Workday to win prizes. This year, Solano

Mobility's Employer Commuter Program is partnering with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), 511, and Amazon to feature:

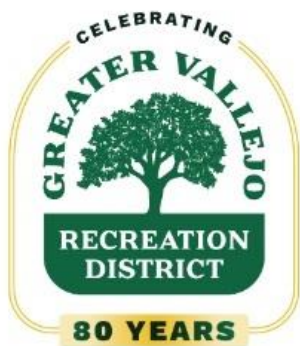
- Bay Area Bike Challenge Kick Off on May 1
- A Community Bike Ride in Vallejo on May 4
- Bike to School Day on May 7
- The 31st Annual Bike to Workday on May 15

The Bay Area Bike to Workday (BTWD) began in 1994 as a celebration of bicycles as a fun and healthy way to get to work, as well as an opportunity for those who don't usually bike commute to try it out. After 2020, as fewer people were biking to work during the pandemic, the event expanded into Bike to Wherever Days for the whole month of May, encouraging riders to choose their bicycle for more of their transportation needs. Now, Bay Area Bike to Wherever Days and Bike to Workday reflect the new hybrid model of work and life. May is also a time to advocate for improved bicycle infrastructure and safety across the region.

During the month of May, no matter where you need to go, you're encouraged to bike to run errands, visit friends and family, ride recreationally, and commute to work or school. Commit to riding by signing the Pledge and show off your pride by taking the Bay Area Bike Challenge. Be sure to come out to one of the events on Bay Area Bike to Workday on Thursday, May 15, to celebrate bicycling and to get your 2025 BTWD commemorative bag. Everyone on two wheels is welcome.

Visit <https://solanomobility.org/btwd2025/> for more information.

## GVRD annual report



To view the GVRD's 2023-24 annual report, click [here](#).

The Greater Vallejo Recreation District (GVRD) is an independent special district, a separate government agency from the City of Vallejo, that provides parks and recreation programs for children, families, and seniors in Vallejo.

GVRD was established on July 14, 1944, and its operations are governed by California's [Public Resources Code §5780 et seq.](#)

GVRD operates primarily by means of locally-controlled funding and also receives revenue from fees for services, park entrances, programs, and facility rentals. Grants and park dedication permit fees assist in the provision of new park development projects and ongoing maintenance.

GVRD manages 407 acres of public park space including 20 neighborhood parks, 10 community parks, 6 special-purpose parks, an Olympic-size swimming pool, and 4 community centers. GVRD maintains over 1,000 acres of public land and offers programs that benefit over 120,000 Vallejo residents of all ages each year.

## Phone Service Alert - Solano County Library

From the Solano County Library system:

Due to scheduled county phone system maintenance, the Solano County Library's phone number (1-866-572-7587) will be unavailable from Saturday, May 3 to Sunday, May 4. We apologize for the inconvenience and appreciate your understanding.

## John F. Kennedy Library events in May



The John F. Kennedy Library events for May can be found [here](#).

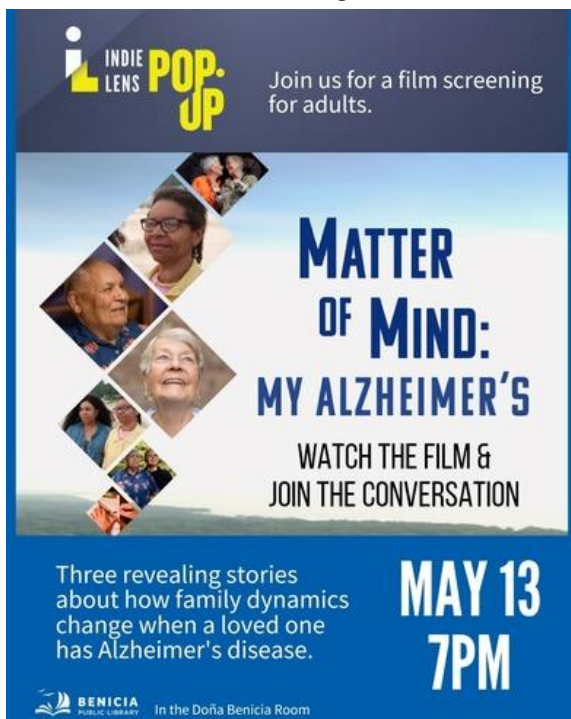


## Free Comic Book Day



This is a free event where each library branch will be giving out free comics to kids and teens! It is sure to be a lot of fun! To view library hours and locations, click [here](#).

## Matter of Mind: My Alzheimer's



## Teen snack and study session



Solano County  
LIBRARY

Web: [solanolib.org](http://solanolib.org)  
Phone: 866-972-7557  
Facebook: solanolib.org

### TEEN SNACK & STUDY SESSION

Chill out at the library while you study for finals.



Teens are invited to come to the Fairfield Civic Center Library to study for their finals and enjoy some yummy snacks.

SATURDAY, MAY 17

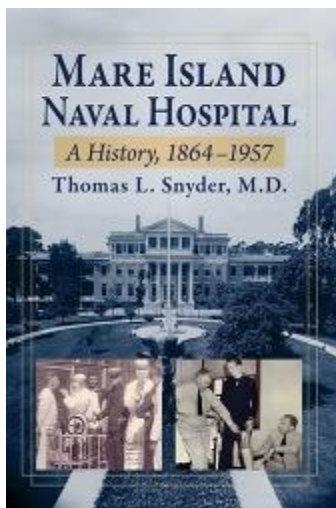
12:30PM - 4:30PM

FAIRFIELD CIVIC CENTER LIBRARY

For more information visit [solanolib.org/events](http://solanolib.org/events)

The Fairfield Civic Center Library is located at 1150 Kentucky Street.

## Speaker Series: Dr. Tom Snyder – Mare Island Naval Hospital (1864–1957)



The Mare Island Historic Park Foundation's Speaker Series continues on Saturday, May 17 at 3 p.m. with author Dr. Tom Snyder, who wrote *Mare Island Naval Hospital (1864–1957)*.

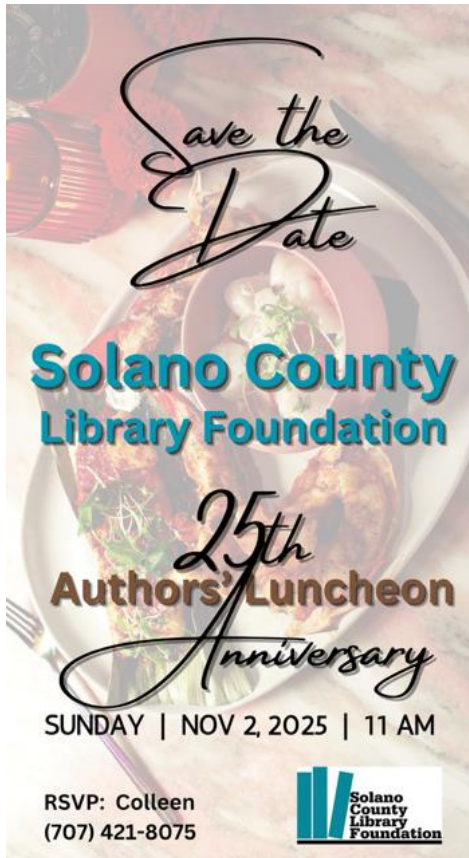
Dr. Tom Snyder is a retired Navy Captain, and urological surgeon. Dive into the fascinating history of the Navy's first West Coast hospital—from its Civil War roots to its pivotal role in WWII and beyond.

The event will take place at St. Peter's Chapel, 1181 Walnut Avenue on Mare Island in the city of Vallejo.

Tickets are \$15 advance and \$20 at the door. Special member pricing available. Members, email [admin@mihpf.org](mailto:admin@mihpf.org) for your exclusive discount code before purchasing!

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

## Save the date for special Authors Luncheon



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

## SolTrans PAC Openings

SolTrans, the public transportation agency serving Benicia and Vallejo, is seeking three Benicia members for its Public Advisory Committee (PAC). The PAC consists of nine members of the public with demonstrated expertise or a



special interest in transit issues, who reside within the boundaries of the agencies they represent. Each Member Agency (the City of Benicia, the Solano Transportation Authority, and the City of Vallejo) appoints three public members to serve on this committee.

The PAC meets quarterly or as needed and provides input to the SolTrans Board on service and fare adjustments, short-range transit plans, and SolTrans' annual work plan.

Email completed applications to Kristine Peterson  
at [kpeterson@ci.benicia.ca.us](mailto:kpeterson@ci.benicia.ca.us)

If you have any problems accessing, completing, or printing the application online, please call the City Clerk's Office at (707) 746-4200 or email Kristine Peterson and an application will be sent to you.

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

## Benicia library and Kanopy



Cozy up, fam! Browse and stream Benicia Public Library's collection of movies, TV shows, and documentaries on Kanopy – all subscription free with your library card. Get started here: <https://www.kanopy.com/en/benicia/>

## Mermaid University



This fun, instructor-led class will teach you to swim with a mono-fin and tail elegantly through the water. Learn the skills and techniques to maneuver beneath the water like a mermaid. Participants must pass our swim test to be able to continue with the course.

**The course will run from June 8 to June 29, at Allan Witt Park, 1741 W Texas Street in downtown Fairfield. To enroll, click [here](#).**

## Updates from around Solano County

### A message from Supervisor Brown



Everyone: The fear is that our private information might be in the hands of the DODGE Guy and his team. Please go online and download, print etc., all your Social Security information. It might be deleted? Changed? And you will not have any back up.

I plan to do mine this weekend.

Stay Safe, Monica

### **State Route 37/Fairgrounds Drive Interchange - Vallejo Construction Shifts into Gear - May 2025 Watch for Traffic Lane Shifts/Overnight Ramp Closures**

From a Solano Transportation Authority press release:

The Solano Transportation Authority (STA), in close coordination with its transportation partner, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), has started construction work on the new State Route 37 (SR 37)/Fairgrounds Drive Interchange Project in Vallejo. The interchange improvement project will enhance motorist safety and improve bicycle and pedestrian access with construction of a new divergent diamond interchange. This is the first-ever divergent diamond interchange (DDI) constructed in the Bay Area and only the second-ever constructed on a major highway in California.

### **What to Expect During Initial Construction Work**

Construction at SR 37 and Fairgrounds Drive recently started construction in April 2025. The site is near the Six Flags Discovery Kingdom Theme Park and the Solano County Fairgrounds. Major public impacts to SR 37 and Fairgrounds Drive are scheduled to start in May 2025. In the coming weeks, motorists will begin to see lane traffic shifts, overnight ramp closures, tree removal, signage installation, and various temporary lane closures.

The following construction-related activities are set to happen starting in May 2025.

- Motorists on Fairgrounds Drive at SR 37 should watch for temporary traffic lane shifts.
- Eastbound on and off ramps at SR 37/Fairgrounds Drive will be closed overnight with detours. Closures are scheduled from 10:00 PM until 5:00 AM.
- The westbound off-ramp from SR 37 to Fairgrounds Drive will be



closed nightly from 11:00 PM – 5:00 AM.

- The SolTrans bus stop at the on-ramp to Westbound SR 37 will be temporarily relocated a few feet away.

Motorists should drive with caution in construction zones and expect travel delays. All work is weather dependent.

For general questions, please email our project team at: SR37-FairgroundsPIO@portal3.pbid.com.

STA and Caltrans will provide additional project details as soon as information becomes available.

For more information about the project and to view a video explaining the DDI design, please visit <https://sta.ca.gov/project/redwood-parkway-fairgrounds-dr-improvement-project/>.

STA and Caltrans thank the motoring public for its patience and understanding as we work to improve and maintain our state's highways.

## **Announcing the Winners of the 2025 Solano County Water Agency Water Awareness Video Contest**



This week, the Solano County Water Agency and Solano Resource Conservation District announce the winners of the 15th annual Water Awareness Video Contest.

The Solano County Water Agency's annual video contest sought original videos that reflect the theme The Water Cycle: Why We Need to Think Outside the Sink. Students in grades 6 through 12 were encouraged to create a one-minute public service announcement to educate the public and their peers about the importance of water conservation.

This year's three grand prize winners are:

- FIRST PLACE:** "Water Awareness Stop Motion" by Eleanor Charette of Rodriguez High School in Fairfield who will receive \$1,500, split 50/50 between student and sponsoring teacher, Lynn Larsen.

- SECOND PLACE:** "Save Life" by Arabella Baker of Vanden High School in Fairfield who will receive \$1,000, split 50/50 between student and sponsoring teacher, Michael Clarkston.

- THIRD PLACE:** "A Thirst for Justice" by Joshua Balacy & Noah Willard of Suisun Valley K-8 School in Fairfield who will receive



\$500, split 50/50 between the students and sponsoring teacher, Renee Cabrera.

Videos were submitted by middle and high school students from 8 different Solano County schools, sponsored by 16 different teachers.

The judging panel for the final round included a team of regional water efficiency experts, plus Assemblymember Lori Wilson of California's 11th district. Selections were based on entertainment value and originality, videography, style and organization, audio/sound, and video content and accuracy.

In addition to the three grand prize winners, the makers of the top-scoring video from all schools with 10 or more contest participants earned a \$100 gift card (grand prize winners were not eligible).

- “Save the Water” by Kamryn Babcock & Elsa Keller (Renee Cabrera, teacher) of Suisun Valley K-8 School in Fairfield.

- “Be a Good Human, Save Water” by Garrett Hagberg (Katy Green, teacher) of Vanden High School in Fairfield.

Finally, Honorable Mention prizes of a \$100 gift card were awarded to:

- “Breaking News! Water Waster on the Scene!” by Abbey George, Reese Goepp, Rylinn LaPore, and Ellie McGinty of Suisun Valley K-8 School in Fairfield.

- “SAVE WATER!!” by Aizen Worrell of Rodriguez High School in Fairfield.

A gift card valued at \$200 was also awarded to the teacher with the highest contest participation. This award goes to Renee Cabrera of Suisun Valley K-8 School in Fairfield.

All of the top scoring videos can be viewed on the Solano Saves Water YouTube channel at <http://tinyurl.com/scwavideo>.

For tips on using water efficiently, visit <https://www.scwa2.com/>

This will be the final year of the Solano County Water Awareness Video Contest. For many years, this contest has empowered students to become mindful environmental stewards by creating impactful videos that bring critical water issues to the forefront of community consciousness. These creative projects not only educate the wider public but also deepen the students' understanding of their role in water conservation.

While the video contest is ending due to reduced submissions, the Solano County Water Agency is redirecting these valuable resources to bolster K-12 water education through field trips at the Dunnell Nature Center in Fairfield, ensuring continued and

expanded engagement with our younger generations on this essential topic

## Join the city of Fairfield's Measure P Oversight Committee



From the city of Fairfield:

The city of Fairfield is now accepting applications to fill three open seats on the Measure P Oversight Committee. Each appointment is for a term running July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2030.

This is your opportunity to be a part of a vital advisory group that helps ensure the responsible use of public funds

collected through Measure P, a local transaction and use tax.

The Measure P Oversight Committee is a five-member advisory board that plays a vital role in promoting fiscal transparency for the City of Fairfield.

### What They Do

Monitor revenues collected from the Measure P transactions and use tax

Report on the use of Measure P funds

Ensure transparency and oversight of all revenue generated by Measure P

Review the annual independent audit and other necessary City financial reports to help inform the City Council

### Who Can Apply

To be eligible, applicants must:

**Residency:** Applicants must reside within the city limits of Fairfield. Residency may be verified annually by the City Clerk's Office through voter registration records or utility bills.

**Taxpayer Status:** Applicants must be taxpayers within the City of Fairfield.

## How to Apply

Applications are available at:

[Online](#)

Fairfield City Hall – 4th Floor  
City Clerk's Office  
1000 Webster Street, Fairfield, CA

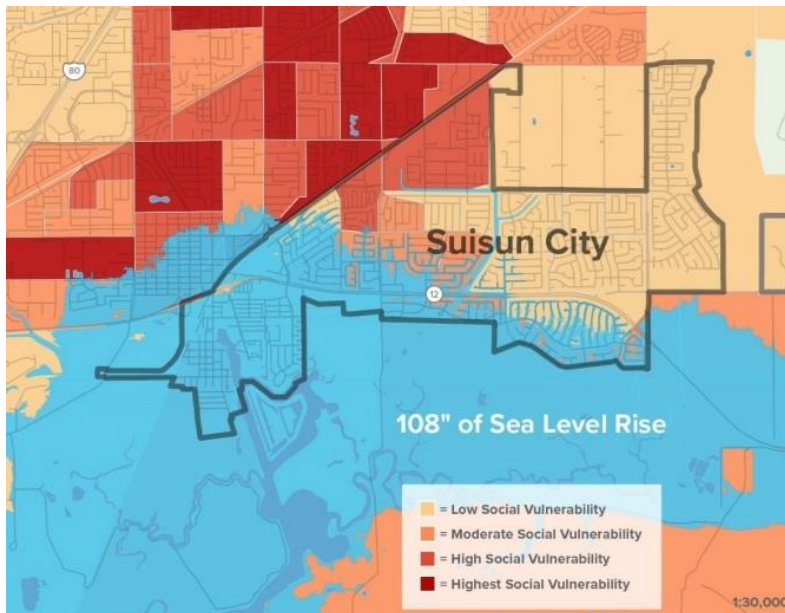
Or request one by:

Email: [cityclerk@fairfield.ca.gov](mailto:cityclerk@fairfield.ca.gov)

Phone: (707) 428-7402

**Application Deadline: Friday, July 11, at 5 p.m.**

## Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Assessment



From the city of Fairfield:

The Fairfield-Suisun Sewer District recently solicited proposals from consulting firms to conduct a Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Assessment and develop an Adaptation Plan for the Solano Bayshore region.

This important initiative is supported by grants from the Office of Planning and Research and the Ocean Protection Council. The primary objective is to evaluate the potential impacts of sea level rise on critical infrastructure, natural resources, and local communities, and to create a comprehensive plan outlining strategies to reduce and manage these risks.

Following interviews with three qualified firms, AECOM (Architecture, Engineering, Construction, Operations & Management) was selected to lead and facilitate the project. As the project progresses, the city of Fairfield will play a supportive role by offering input and assistance to the Fairfield-Suisun Sewer District and other partners.

This collaboration will help ensure that the project goals are achieved and that the resulting strategies align with the city's interests. Ultimately, Fairfield's participation will contribute to shaping an adaptation plan that strengthens community resilience and enhances the region's ability to respond effectively to the challenges posed by sea level rise.

## **Solano County celebrates May is Mental Health Month 2025 with several free community events**



From a Solano County press release:

The Solano County Department of Health and Social Services, Behavioral Health division, is recognizing May 2025 as Mental Health Month, a time to raise

awareness about mental wellness, build community support, and connect residents to valuable resources. This year's theme, "Navigating Mental Health Together," focuses on promoting healing through shared experiences.

"Too many people suffer in silence and face mental health challenges alone", said Eugene Durrah, Mental Health Services Manager over the Behavioral Health Services Act, or Prop1, in Solano County Behavioral Health. "This May, we invite all Solano County residents to come together, connect, and navigate mental health as a community."

Throughout May, Solano County Behavioral Health invites the community to participate in a variety of free events aimed at promoting mental health, including:

**NAMI Walks 5K** - Join the Solano County team at William Land Park in Sacramento to raise awareness and show support for mental health. **Saturday, May 3, from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m., located at 1950 Sutterville Road in Sacramento.**

**Mental Health Month Radio and Podcast Launch** - Tune in to local radio stations and streaming platforms for inspiring personal mental health stories shared by Solano residents. Ozcat Radio Interview, **Tuesday, May 6, 10 to 11 a.m. by listening on radio station 89.5 FM and the Solano Connex Podcast, Thursday,**

**May 8, 15, 22, and 29, starting at 12 p.m.** Listen on Spotify @SolanoConnex.

**SCBH Resource Fair** – Get free resources, learn about Mental Health Services, and connect with community providers on **Friday May 9 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., located at 601 Texas Street in Fairfield.**

**Generations of Strength Summit** - Attend this special event to explore the impact of generational trauma on **Wednesday, May 14 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., located at 601 Texas Street in Fairfield.** Register by emailing [TStacy@ChoiceInAging.org](mailto:TStacy@ChoiceInAging.org).

**Crescent Moon Center** – Join us for a mindfulness and wellness morning with healing activities and mental health resources on **Saturday, May 17 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at 3521 Grizzly Island Road in Suisun City.**

**Healing Through Stories** – Come together with community members sharing personal journeys of resilience and recovery in a safe, supportive space on **Thursday, May 22 from 2 to 3 p.m., located at 505 Santa Clara Street in Vallejo.**

**Inside Out 2** – Join us for a free screening of Inside Out 2 followed by a family friendly mental health discussion on **Thursday, May 29 from 5:15 to 7:30 p.m. Doors open at 4:45 p.m., located at 601 Texas Street in Fairfield.**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION** For more information for on any of these events, please contact [wru@solanocounty.gov](mailto:wru@solanocounty.gov) or visit our event page: [Solano County - Awareness Events](#).

## **ABOUT SOLANO COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**

Solano County Behavioral Health assists over 6,000 children, youth and adults each year who are experiencing a psychiatric crisis, addiction, or who have significant mental and emotional disabilities. [Visit our website](#) and on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#) (@SolanoCountyBH)

## **ADRC Solano ipad program**



Do you live in Solano County and are you or someone you know under critical care Dialysis or End of life and low income and do not have a device to stay connected to loved ones?

If so, you may qualify for our I-Pad program, call our ADRC

Group today to find out if you qualify at (707) 200-7116.

## I-80 Vacaville/Fairfield Ramp Repaving and Sidewalk Improvements started



From a Caltrans press release:

Caltrans is starting construction on a major new project on I-80 in Solano County.



The work will repave and enhance all the onramp and exit ramps on eastbound and westbound I-80 between Vacaville and Fairfield. This includes 14 ramps on the main route between the Bay Area and Sacramento.

The work will also upgrade several sidewalks near these onramps and exit ramps to meet current Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards.

Construction is scheduled to start Monday, April 28 and be tentatively completed by Summer 2026.

For worker and public safety, during construction, Caltrans will need to alternate overnight onramp and exit ramp closures.

Starting the week of Monday, April 28, until further notice, Caltrans will begin work by scheduling overnight closures of the eastbound and westbound I-80 Leisure Town Road onramp and exit ramps. The closures of these ramps are scheduled from 8:00 PM until 4:00 AM the following mornings Monday through Fridays.

During the overnight ramp closures, motorists should be aware, expect delays and watch for various detour signs directing them in the immediate area.

As work at I-80 and Leisure Town Road is completed, Caltrans will begin work on the other I-80 on-ramp and exit ramps starting at Leisure Town in Vacaville and progressing, ramp by ramp from Vacaville westward towards Fairfield. Work and corresponding overnight closures will include the following ramps listed below. Work on each ramp will take approximately 2 weeks. Caltrans will make announcements as soon as new information is available.

### Vacaville Onramps and I-80 Exit Ramps

- Leisure Town Road
- East Monte Vista Avenue
- Alamo Drive
- Allison Drive

### Fairfield Onramps and I-80 Exit Ramps



- Waterman Boulevard / Airbase Parkway
- Rockville Road/ Oliver Road
- Manuel Campos Parkway

This new I-80 ramp and sidewalk project work in Vacaville/Fairfield will be completed at the same time as work on the separate I-80 Solano Express Lanes Project continues. For the latest on that separate I-80 Solano Express Lanes Project go to; <https://quickmap.dot.ca.gov/>

## Solano County Volunteers Participate in the 2025 Earth Day Cleanup



Vallejo volunteer at Blue Rock Springs Creek in Vallejo



Benicia Litter Pickers at 9th Street



Fairfield Lower Ledgewood Creek volunteers

From a Solano Resource Conservation District press release:

Despite a chilly morning with cloud cover and scattered rain, 212 dedicated volunteers came together across Solano County to make a significant difference at the annual Earth Day Cleanup.

Volunteers spanned 11 sites and covered 8 miles across the county, working tirelessly to remove 3,603 pounds of trash and another 135 pounds of recyclables. This year marks the 11th anniversary of the county-wide event and brings the total amount of trash and recyclables collected over the years to a remarkable 63,381 pounds.

The cleanup effort showcased the multiplying effect of community collaboration. Marianne Butler, Solano RCD Education Director, noted the inspiring scene: "Downtown Vacaville's Earth Day cleanup was made powerful by the collective effort of groups from the Academy of the 21st Century Learning, Target, Amazon, and many others." She related witnessing the immediate impact when Gabe A., a young man born and raised in Vacaville, saw the volunteers on the Ulatis Creek bank and didn't hesitate to put down his coffee, register, and join them, sharing that he'd been waiting for this chance. "That's the true spirit of Earth Day," Ms. Butler said. "Let's make more of these moments happen, together."

Emma Mendiola hosted the Vacaville site and has been the site captain for over a decade. This year, as in years past, she handed out Lara bars to all participants, with thanks to the Sierra Club of Solano County and Sprouts Farmers Market for making them available.

Jose, a Vallejo resident, waded right in to collect trash in a storm drain outfall. He has previously volunteered for cleanup events in Solano County (as evidenced by a Coastal Cleanup Day shirt) and was glad to participate again for this year's Earth Day event. He was happy to utilize a burlap sack from Moschetti Artisan Coffee Roaster in Vallejo for his collection, who donates the sacks to help minimize waste from the event.

The event drew volunteers with a variety of motivations. Marsha, an enthusiastic volunteer at the Grizzly Island Road site hosted by Solano Land Trust, even makes her own trash pick-up sticks to use. She shared, "I have wanted to do a clean-up with a team or group! I was always so busy, was never able to do it and usually clean up when I go fishing. I have never joined an Earth Day team or event before!"

Jane S., a volunteer at the Industrial Pond site in Dixon, expressed her commitment to the community, stating, "I love being able to help my community be a cleaner and healthier place."

Common finds during the cleanup included discarded recyclable glass and aluminum beverage containers, food wrappers, cigarette butts, and single-use plastics.

The Earth Day Cleanup is one of three annual county-wide cleanup efforts coordinated by Solano County agencies and cities in partnership with Solano Resource Conservation District. Having consistent annual events like the Earth Day Cleanup is important as these ongoing efforts provide opportunities for each generation to

contribute to a cleaner environment, ensuring that trash is removed before it can pollute local waterways and ultimately reach the ocean.

People who missed this opportunity or who loved it and want to come back for more can join us at Lake Solano for World Environment Day taking place on June 7th. The family-friendly event not only focuses on cleaning up the shoreline of a major water source for our county, Lake Berryessa, but also includes fun activities for volunteers such as planting grass plugs and forbs and making seed packets to attract pollinators to their gardens. Lunch and cold drinks will be available to all registered volunteers, who will also receive a commemorative t-shirt. In addition, there will be guided kayak tours of Lake Solano and the opportunity to meet Bilgee the Bilge Pad, the protector of Lake Berryessa, who will encourage volunteers and pose for pictures. Learn more about these cleanups at [cleanupsolano.org](http://cleanupsolano.org).

The 2025 Solano County Earth Day Cleanup is sponsored by Solano County Department of Resource Management with additional support provided by the Sierra Club Solano Group, Sprouts Farmers Market in Vacaville, Solano Volunteers-CVNL, 95.3 KUIC, Grizzly Waters Kayaking, and the California Coastal Commission.

Cleanup partners include Solano County Parks, Fairfield-Suisun Sewer District, Vallejo Watershed Alliance, Vallejo Flood and Wastewater District, City of Benicia, City of Dixon, City of Vacaville, Solano Land Trust, and volunteer site leaders.

Photos courtesy of the SRCD.

# Solano Comprehensive Transportation Plan



The Solano Transportation Authority invites Solano County residents and commuters to participate in an important survey that will gather community input to identify needs, challenges, and potential transportation improvements.

The Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) is the primary long-range planning document for Solano County designed to create a safe, equitable, and sustainable multi-modal transportation system that meets the diverse mobility needs and sustainability goals of our communities. The plan will serve as a roadmap for the Solano Transportation Authority to guide transportation investments over the next 30 years, including active transportation (walking and biking), roadways and highways, public transit, equity, and land use.

A key element of updating the CTP is collaborating with members of the public to create a shared vision for a transportation system that is safe, equitable, sustainable, and meets the needs of Solano residents. Your input will play a crucial role in shaping transportation decisions in Solano County for the next 30 years.

To take the survey online, click [here](#). Survey participants may be eligible to receive a reward.

## Summer Nights, Live Vibes: Fairfield Summer Music Series Kicks Off June 6



From the city of Fairfield:

The city of Fairfield is excited to announce the return of the Fairfield Summer Music Series, kicking off Friday, June 6, and running through September 5. The free concert series will feature live music, food trucks, and family fun at parks throughout the city on select **Friday evenings from 6 to 8 p.m.**

This year's opening concert features local favorite 2nd Planet at Vintage Green Valley Park. Guests are encouraged to bring lawn chairs, blankets, and the whole family to enjoy an evening of great music in a relaxed outdoor setting.

2025 Summer Music Series Lineup:

- June 6 – *Vintage Green Valley Park* – 2nd Planet
- June 20 – *Rolling Hills Park* – Papa Joe and the New Deal
- July 18 – *Veterans Park* – Git With It
- August 1 – *Lee Bell Park* – Los Cochinos
- August 15 – *Woodcreek Park* – Top Shelf Classics
- September 5 – *Gary Falati Park* – Hey Jude

Each concert will feature live musical performances and food available for purchase from local food trucks. Admission is free and open to all ages.

Mark your calendars, gather your friends, and come out to celebrate summer with music in Fairfield's beautiful neighborhood parks.

For the full schedule and more information, click [here](#).

## **Lunch Buddies Bistory (Congregate Meal program)**

Something exciting is simmering in Solano County, and it's more than just a meal. This May, community dining gets a bold refresh, inviting older adults to rediscover lunchtime as a highlight of the day. With delicious food, lively company, and a growing menu of engaging activities, this isn't just about eating—it's about living well, together.

Across seven local community centers, the dining experience is being reimagined as a vibrant social hub—a place where laughter is served alongside hearty, nutritious meals. Diners can now look forward to themed celebrations, interactive programs like line dancing and Bingocize, and the kind of atmosphere that turns strangers into friends.

Picture this: cheerful tables set with placemats and tablecloths, plates filled with balanced, home-style meals served family-style, and the room buzzing with conversations, games, and smiles. This welcoming environment blends the comfort of home with the joy of shared community.

“This evolution is about so much more than food,” says Dr. Norma Lisenko, Founder and CEO of Innovative Health Solutions. “We’re creating a space for connection, for joy, for people to feel seen, supported, and energized. We want diners to walk away not just full but fulfilled.”

The newly energized dining experience is designed for adults aged 60 and over, with no cost required to join. Voluntary contributions are welcome, and every diner becomes part of something bigger: a movement toward joy, health, and human connection.

For more information or to RSVP, contact Hana Shirriel-Hammond at (707) 684-4376 or [hanashirriel@innovativehealths.com](mailto:hanashirriel@innovativehealths.com).

Innovative Health Solutions is dedicated to connecting public and private organizations to create collective policy, system, and environmental community changes.





**Join Us!**  
**BENICIA SENIOR CENTER**  
 1201 E 2nd St., Benicia  
 Friday, May 16th  
 11:00 am – 1:00 pm  
 Enjoy Raffles, Showcase of Programs,  
 Meal Samples, and a Sweet Treat!

Please RSVP with the # of friends attending, and  
 if you'd like to reserve a full lunch (11 am-12 pm)  
 Text or Call: (707) 684-4376  
 Email: [info@innovativehealths.com](mailto:info@innovativehealths.com)



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SOLUTIONS



AREA AGENCY ON AGING

A BIG *thank you*  
 to our wonderful  
 clientele who  
 voted for the  
 new name.

We think it perfectly  
 embodies our purpose,  
 and the experience you'll  
 have at your local  
*Lunch Buddies Bistro...*

Nutritious meals,  
 friendship, *and fun!*

Visit our website  
 for more information  
 about this program  
 and qualifications  
 to participate.  
[innovativehealths.com/  
 congregate-meals-program](http://innovativehealths.com/congregate-meals-program)



**Join Us!**  
**FAIRFIELD ADULT  
 RECREATION CENTER**  
 1200 Civic Center Dr., Fairfield  
 Wednesday, May 21st  
 11:00 am – 1:00 pm  
 Enjoy Raffles, Showcase of Programs,  
 Meal Samples, and a Sweet Treat!

Please RSVP with the # of friends attending, and  
 if you'd like to reserve a full lunch (11 am-12 pm)  
 Text or Call: (707) 684-4376  
 Email: [info@innovativehealths.com](mailto:info@innovativehealths.com)



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Nutritious meals,  
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Visit our website  
 for more information  
 about this program  
 and qualifications  
 to participate.  
[innovativehealths.com/  
 congregate-meals-program](http://innovativehealths.com/congregate-meals-program)





Enhancing the health and well-being of Solano County Older Adults through nourishing meals, connection, and community engagement.

*new* & EXCITING

# CONGREGATE MEALS PROGRAM



**Come for nutritious meals, friendship, and fun!**

- Yummy lunches, completely re-imagined with *YOU* in mind!
- Engaging conversation and social opportunities
- Guest speakers—Help us choose the topics!

Voluntary contributions are accepted, but not required. Come as often as you like!

**Meal Reservations are Required two days in advance.**

To make a meal reservation, you can:

- Go to one of the sites from 11-1 pm
- Call or text (707) 684-4376
- Email [info@innovativehealths.com](mailto:info@innovativehealths.com)

Visit our website for more information:  
[innovativehealths.com/congregate-meals-program](http://innovativehealths.com/congregate-meals-program)



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SOLUTIONS



## LOCATIONS & HOURS

**BENICIA SENIOR CENTER**  
1201 E 2nd St., Benicia  
Mon-Fri | Lunch @ 11:30 AM

**FAIRFIELD ADULT RECREATION CENTER**  
1200 Civic Center Dr., Fairfield  
Mon-Thur | Lunch @ 11:30 AM

**FLORENCE DOUGLAS CENTER**  
333 Amador, Vallejo  
Mon-Fri | Lunch @ 11:30 AM

**MCBRIDE SENIOR CENTER**  
91 Town Square, Vacaville  
Mon-Fri | Lunch @ 11:30 AM

**RIO VISTA SENIOR CENTER**  
25 Main St., Rio Vista  
Mon-Fri | Lunch @ 11:50 AM

**JOSEPH NELSON COMMUNITY CENTER**  
611 Dr., Suisun  
Mon-Fri | Lunch @ 11:30 AM

**DIXON SENIOR MULTI-USE CENTER**  
201 S 5th St., Dixon  
Tues & Thur | Lunch @ 11:30 AM

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

To reserve a warm meal at any of the seven (7) sites, clients can:

1. Call or text: 707 | 684-4376
2. Email the general email: [info@innovativehealths.com](mailto:info@innovativehealths.com)
3. Go to one of the sites and reserve onsite with an IHS site host

Reservations are required at least two (2) days in advance. If you have a large group (4+) attending, please give at least one (1) week notice.

## New Traffic Pattern for Southbound West 7th Street Traffic at Military West



From the city of Benicia:

**On Monday, April 21** there will be a new traffic pattern for southbound traffic on West 7th Street at Military West. Vehicles traveling southbound on West 7th Street will be able to turn left (eastbound) onto Military West from either the right or left lane. Thru traffic on West 7th Street will now be from the right lane. Vehicles must be in the right lane to continue onto West 7th Street and to access the businesses on the south side of the intersection. Line extensions (dashed white lines) will be added in the intersection to guide the left turning traffic. Do not cross these dashed lines within the intersection.

Please use caution and slow down when navigating this intersection. The purpose of these improvements is to increase southbound vehicle volume, thus reducing phase durations and wait times at this traffic signal.

Please direct questions to the City of Benicia Public Works Department at [pw@ci.benicia.ca.us](mailto:pw@ci.benicia.ca.us)

## Benicia Police Department PersonSafe Program



From the city of Benicia:

If you have a person in your household that has unique needs or an elderly person with cognitive impairments, you are encouraged you to take part in Benicia Police Department's PersonSafe Program. The Program was developed in response to requests from families of people with Dementia, Alzheimer's,

Autism, and other differing abilities.

Knowing in advance about unique needs of individuals in the home can help emergency personnel be prepared to serve you better.


A registration form for the Program can be downloaded at <https://www.ci.benicia.ca.us/PersonSafeAlert>.

Current photos are also helpful and may be attached to the application. The information you provide on the form will allow the program to create a confidential file associated with the address that can be referenced ONLY by emergency personnel if there is a request to respond to an incident or emergency at your home.


Please complete and send the form and photo to [Police@ci.benicia.ca.us](mailto:Police@ci.benicia.ca.us)

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

## Spring 2025 Vaccine Clinics Hosted by Solano Public Health

**FREE VACCINES IN SOLANO, CA**  
First come, first served. While supplies last.  
\*Eligibility requirements may apply.

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

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

These free events target low-income and/or uninsured residents in Solano County. Now is the time for families to get their students vaccines required for school. Flu levels are still high! It's not too late



– everyone 6 months and older should get the updated flu vaccine to prevent serious illness and hospitalization.

## Solano County accepting applications for new County Administrator

Solano County Administrator Bill Emlen has announced his intent to retire in 2025. The Board of Supervisors has begun looking for his replacement.

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

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

To view other Solano County job opportunities, view below.



Positions	Job Posting Opened
Business Systems Analyst (Senior) – Law & Justice	04/30/2025
Human Resources Analyst (Journey/Senior)	05/02/2025
Information Technology Analyst (Principal) – Software Engineer	04/29/2025
Latent Print Examiner II	04/25/2025

NOTE: To be considered for the recruitment(s) listed above you must submit an application by the date indicated in the job announcement. The new eligible list(s) resulting from the above recruitment(s) may replace an existing eligible list; therefore, interested candidates are encouraged to apply for the current recruitment.

If you have any questions regarding the recruitments listed above, please contact the assigned HR Analyst listed in the job posting.

For general inquiries, please contact [recruitment@solanocounty.gov](mailto:recruitment@solanocounty.gov).

If you, or someone you know, are interested in learning more about any of the positions above or other career opportunities, please check out the county's [Job Opportunities](#)

## May calendar at the Benicia Veterans Memorial Hall

The May calendar of events for Benicia Veterans Memorial Hall, can be found [here](#).

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



## Annual Glen Cove Garage Sale



**The Annual Glen Cove Garage Sale will take place on Saturday, May 31.**

Before you spring clean, consider participating in the annual Community Garage Sale. More than 60 homes have participated in the past, why not you? Free maps of participating homes will be handed out 8 to 11 a.m. at the Glen Cove Center. You must be a GCCA member to be listed on the map. [E-mail info@glencovevallejo.com to sign up for the garage sale!](mailto:info@glencovevallejo.com)

## Upcoming events in Solano County

### The Great Vallejo Race



It's almost time for one of the oldest and most storied races of the year! Don't miss out on the 2025 Great Vallejo Race on May 3rd & 4th!

**The first warning is set for noon on Saturday, May 3 and 10:25 a.m. on Sunday, May 4.**

There are divisions for every type of boat and racer here in San Francisco Bay, and plenty of room at Vallejo Yacht Club to hold everyone for the always fun after-race party.

This year, awesome local brews, live music, and a taco bar will be waiting for you post-race after you've spent the afternoon racing up to the finish line in the Napa River!

There's nothing quite like the sight of 100 spinnakers racing up San Pablo Bay and we don't want you to miss being a part of it!

For more information: <https://yra.org/vallejorace/>

## HAM Radio Class



Benicia's Amateur Radio Club, sponsored by Benicia Fire Department, is offering a Ham Radio License class on **Saturday, May 3 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Benicia Senior Center, 1205 East Second Street.**

Ham radio operators are licensed operators who communicate with each other on specific radio frequencies, experimenting with various technologies and modes of communication. Hams can transmit voice, digital signals, images, and even Morse code, allowing for communication across distances, including internationally and even via satellites.

No preparation or prior study is required to register for the class. This class is open to beginners or licensed techs who want to upgrade their license. There is a \$35 registration fee. Registration in advance is strongly encouraged.

If you have questions, email [HamRadioClass@BeniciaARC.com](mailto:HamRadioClass@BeniciaARC.com) or call (707) 742-3227. To register, click [here](#).

## Junk in the Trunk





Clean out your garage and make some extra cash at Junk in the Trunk on **Saturday, May 3 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Laurel Creek Community Park, 2986 Guld Drive.**

Seller spots: \$30 (2 spaces) | \$55 (3 spaces). Reserve your space now, by clicking [here](#).

## Next Trash Mob in Cordelia



From a city of Fairfield press release:

The city of Fairfield is seeking volunteers to help with the next quarterly Trash Mob in Cordelia.

Trash Mobs allow you to connect with your local community and foster relationships built on positive changes, while helping to clean up our parks, streams, and neighborhoods which benefit our community. And students can earn community service hours for school!

### Key Details:

Location: **AM / PM Store at 105 Lopes Road in Cordelia**

Date and Time: **Saturday, May 3, from 9 to 11 a.m.**

Please dress for the weather and wear comfortable shoes (NO CROCS) and long pants. Snacks, water, and all supplies will be provided. Public Works will be onsite to collect the full trash bags.

Contact Karen Rees to register at [krees@fairfield.ca.gov](mailto:krees@fairfield.ca.gov) or call (707) 428-7767. Volunteers must complete a waiver form. For those under age 18, a parent or guardian signature is required.

# California native plant sale



The Solano County chapter of the California Native Plant Society ([the Willis Linn Jepson Chapter](https://www.cnps.org/chapters/jepson)) is having a native plant sale on Saturday, **May 3 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 1400 East 2nd Street in the city of Benicia.**

Growing plants native to our local area promotes biodiversity and helps restore California's rich, natural beauty. Native plants:

- provide nectar for local pollinators like butterflies and bees
- are host plants for caterpillars, which are then crucial food for baby birds
- offer seeds and berries for adult birds to eat
- serve as shelter for small animals
- help heal our soil
- need less water than other plants, and
- some are even fire resistant

Anyone can grow native plants - even without a yard or garden. Many of them do very well in containers on a stoop or balcony!

All plants are grown at our nursery in Vallejo (which always needs more volunteers!), and proceeds help fund the nursery and other chapter activities that promote California native plants.

Visit <https://www.cnps.org/chapters/jepson> or email [contact@jepson.cnps.org](mailto:contact@jepson.cnps.org) with questions.

## Wildfire Community Preparedness Day 2025



2025

# WILDFIRE COMMUNITY PREPAREDNESS DAY

JOIN US FOR A DAY OF  
FAMILY-FUN ACTIVITIES  
AND LEARN HOW TO BE  
WILDFIRE READY!

**SATURDAY, MAY 3, 2025  
10 AM - 2 PM**

**EVENT HIGHLIGHTS:**

- INTERACTIVE ACTIVITIES FOR FRIENDS AND FAMILY
- FIRE EXTINGUISHER DEMONSTRATIONS
- RAFFLE PRIZES
- MEET YOUR LOCAL FIRE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT PARTNERS
- EMERGENCY VEHICLE DISPLAY
- LEARN ABOUT REDUCING THE RISK OF WILDFIRE FROM LOCAL FIRE RESOURCES

 **LOCATION**  
SOLANO MALL  
1350 TRAVIS BLVD.  
FAIRFIELD, CA 94533



## STEAM Discovery Festival



# STEAM

Science Technology Engineering Arts Mathematics

## Discovery Festival

May 3, 2025 10am-4pm Solano Community College  
4000 Suisun Valley Road, Fairfield

<https://www.steamdiscoveryfestival.com/>



Attend Volunteer Exhibit Sponsor

**FREE Admission** Brought to you by our sponsors



<https://www.steamdiscoveryfestival.com>



## Peña Adobe Historical Society Celebrates Hispanic Heritage



Experience the dancers of [Son Dé Metztlí](#) Grupo Folklórico! Founded by Karina Barragan in Vallejo, Son Dé Metztlí strives to preserve Mexican culture, customs & traditions through ballet folklórico dance. Instructor Gabriela Rodríguez's students include dancers from ages 5 years to young adults.

**The event will take place on Saturday, May 3 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Peña Adobe Regional Park, 4699 Peña Adobe Road Left of Lagoon Valley Park entrance Vacaville.**

Joining the day's activities is Francisco Pulido of Rancho El Zapotillo in Dixon, performing his roping skills! Francisco is from Rancho El Zapotillo in Dixon, California and has been roping for 40 years. Meet Francisco and his horse Brownie!

Listen to El Mariachi Los Jaguares de Willis Jepson, the only academic mariachi ensemble in Solano County! Featuring violins, viola, trumpets, guitarrón, vihuela, and guitar, Mariachi Los Jaguares presents an energetic setlist of traditional Mexican music and other styles to delight everyone! Led by local musicians and educators Sergio Cabada and Justin Au, the musicians of Mariachi Los Jaguares are extremely dedicated and talented 7th and 8th grade students at Willis Jepson Middle School in Vacaville.

Join Historical Society docents for tours of the Peña Adobe, Museum and grounds, make a corn husk doll and meet Darlene Peña Coombs, a 5th generation descendent of the Peña family!

Come join us at Peña Adobe, bring a picnic lunch to enjoy under towering trees at this historic park as we commemorate how Latino and Hispanic communities have influenced and contributed to American society.

This event is free! There is no charge for admission to the park, adobe or museum.

For questions call (707) 447-0518 or e-mail at [penaadobe@gmail.com](mailto:penaadobe@gmail.com).

## Gracie's 25th Anniversary celebration

Gracie's is turning 25 and it's time to celebrate big! Join them for an evening full of BBQ, beer, music, and community as we mark a major milestone for Gracie's Family BBQ in the heart of Vallejo.

This celebration is all about YOU – the community that's supported us every step of the way.



What to Expect: BBQ fresh off the smoker from Gracie's, cold craft beer from Vallejo Brewing Company, live music from the talented youth & adults at School of Rock, raffles & prizes, family-friendly vibes, good people, and great times.

**The event will take place from 3:30 to 8 p.m., May 3, at 1801 Sonoma Blvd. in downtown Vallejo.**

## Cinco de Mayo on the Suisun Waterfront



**The 3rd Annual Cinco De Mayo in Suisun City on the Waterfront returns from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sunday, May 4.**

There will be live entertainment, delicious cultural food, train rides for the kids and vendors to shop from. Come and enjoy the cultural experience and be in community.



# Hypertension in the Black Community Webinar Hosted by Kaiser Permanente

Kaiser Permanente Napa-Solano presents:

## Hypertension in the Black Community

Microsoft Teams | Tuesday, May 6 | 6 to 7 p.m. PDT



In this webinar, we will:

- Explore the impacts of racism and toxic stress on health
- Discuss effective lifestyle changes that can lower blood pressure
- Learn about common herbal treatments
- Promote home blood pressure monitoring
- Learn about effective prescription medications to augment lifestyle changes

**Tues, May 6, 2025**  
**6-7 PM**  
**Microsoft Teams**



Scan the QR Code to Register!

We recommend joining on a PC or laptop. If you're joining on a smartphone device, please download the Microsoft Teams app.

This webinar is open to everyone. You do not need to be a Kaiser Permanente member to attend.

**SPEAKERS**

**Tanisha Silas-Young, MD**  
OB/GYN Physician  
Assistant Physician in Chief - Equity, Inclusion and Diversity

**Fatimatou Bah, MD, MPH**  
Adult & Family Medicine Physician  
Public Health Expert

**Johnny Eguizabal, MD**  
Adult & Family Medicine Physician  
Assistant Physician in Chief - Outpatient Quality

**Sarah Jones, MD**  
Adult & Family Medicine Physician  
Lifestyle Medicine Specialist

**Bianca Padilla**  
Health Education Program Supervisor

**Brian Douglas, MS**  
Clinical Health Educator

 **KAISER PERMANENTE.**

During this webinar a panel of Kaiser Permanente physicians and staff will discuss blood pressure in the black community, including effective lifestyle changes, common herbal treatments, home blood pressure monitoring, and more. Join the virtual webinar on **Tuesday, May 6 from 6 to 7 p.m. via Microsoft Teams**, register [here](#).

## Behavioral Health Resource Fair



Mark your calendars! Solano County Behavioral Health is hosting a Resource Fair on **Friday, May 9, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 601 Texas Street, Fairfield.**

This outdoor event will bring together a variety of organizations

that are eager to share valuable resources and support with the community. We invite local organizations to participate—it's a great opportunity to connect with the public and showcase your services.

## Maykers Market



From the city of Fairfield:

The city of Fairfield continues to support the local and small businesses by bringing the community together with a spring edition of Maykers Market - Mother's Day Special Edition.

**Come join on May 10, from 12 to 5 p.m. in Downtown Fairfield!** This event will showcase downtown businesses and feature a vendor market pop-up with local artisans, crafts, baked goods, and more!

Contact [vendors.fairfieldsuisun@gmail.com](mailto:vendors.fairfieldsuisun@gmail.com) for more information.



## “Everybody Loves Line Dancing” Hosted by Innovative Health Solutions



**3RD ANNUAL LINE DANCING Party**

**SATURDAY  
MAY 10 | 1–6 PM**

**BENICIA HIGH SCHOOL**  
1101 Military W | Benicia, CA

- Dinner & Dancing
- Bring Cash...*Win* Raffle Prizes!

10 tickets for \$10 | 25 tickets for \$20

For more information, visit our website at:  
[innovativehealth.com/everybody-loves-line-dancing-party](http://innovativehealth.com/everybody-loves-line-dancing-party)

**A Community Event  
Presented By**

**INNOVATIVE  
HEALTH  
SOLUTIONS**

**EVENT  
tickets**

SINGLE...\$30  
COUPLE...\$50  
RESERVE A TABLE OF 8...\$200  
PAY AT THE DOOR...\$35

Please make your payment  
through the Venmo link above.

Contact our help line if you need  
assistance purchasing tickets:  
(707) 684-4376

**EVERYBODY LOVES  
LINE  
DANCING**

All proceeds will go towards offering  
free line dancing classes in our community.

Line dancing is perfect for all skill levels, and no partner is required. Enjoy an evening filled with music, fun, and community spirit—all proceeds will go towards providing free line dancing classes in our community.

**This party is happening Saturday, May 10 from 1 to 6 p.m. at Benicia High School (1101 Military W, Benicia).**

For more information visit [here](#). To make a payment, visit Venmo [here](#).

## City of Fairfield to celebrate grand opening of all-inclusive playground at Allan Witt Community Park



From a city of Fairfield press release:

The city of Fairfield, in partnership with the Parks & Recreation Department, invites the community to join the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the newly renovated all-inclusive playground at Allan Witt Community Park. The event marks the grand opening of this exciting new space designed to be accessible and fun for children of all abilities.

### Key Details:

- **Location:** Allan Witt Community Park, 1741 W. Texas St., Fairfield
- **Date and Time:** Monday, May 12, 2025, from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

### Event Highlights:

- Ribbon-cutting ceremony with city officials
- Music, refreshments, and family-friendly entertainment
- Interactive games and activities for all ages, hosted by the Parks & Recreation Department's Fun on the Run truck

The transformation of Allan Witt Community Park includes a variety of new features such as custom play structures, accessible paths, and inclusive play equipment like a sensory dome, swings for all

abilities, and sign language and braille panels. This new playground offers a welcoming and fun environment for all children to enjoy.

For more information visit [fairfield.ca.gov/allanwitt](https://fairfield.ca.gov/allanwitt).

## Bay Area Butterfly Festival



Monarch butterflies play a crucial role in regulating our ecosystems and pollinating plants — including the crops we rely on for food. One out of every three bites of food we eat is thanks to pollinators like the Monarch butterfly. Without pollinators, our entire food web could unravel.

After two years of counts averaging 116,000 Western Monarch butterflies, only 5,407 of these orange-and-black beauties were counted in their winter groves during the most recent winter. (Data from Xerces Society.) This population count shows a heartbreaking decline of 95% for Monarchs, who are dying off due to pesticides and habitat loss.

You can learn more about Monarchs and how to support them at the Bay Area Butterfly Festival on **Sunday, June 1 at the Mare Island Promenade in Vallejo from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.** There will be fun for the entire family, with interactive stations, presentations, music, vendors, arts and crafts, food & drinks, and more!

The festival is a low-to-no-waste event and will highlight the importance of sustainability.

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

## 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

Ferry terminal along the Vallejo Waterfront. Photo: John Glidden



First elected in 2016, Monica represents District 2 on the Solano County Board of Supervisors. District 2 encompasses the city of Benicia, the portion of Vallejo south of Georgia Street, Mare Island, Cordelia, Green Valley and a portion of Fairfield.