

## CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

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December 19, 2016

The City Manager's Report from City of Benicia Interim City Manager Steve Salomon is published twice monthly highlighting the activities of the departments of our full-service city. Previous editions are available on the City of Benicia [City Manager's page](#). For additional information on any items in this report, please see Contact Information at the end of this report.

**MESSAGE FROM INTERIM CITY MANAGER STEVE SALOMON:** Happy Holidays! As my tenure with the City of Benicia winds down, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank staff for their incredible hard work and cooperation. After the departure of the City Manager and Assistant City Manager, staff stepped in without missing a beat and took on the extra duties to keep the City of Benicia running smoothly. The application period for a new City Manager closed on December 9. I expect finalists to be in the interview process in January.

Staff have been working on several projects like the promenade railing replacement, new bocce ball courts, major street resurfacing, safe routes to schools for our elementary schools, First Street sidewalk repair/replacement, wastewater reuse project, and police/fire communications upgrades, to name a few. Many of these projects were as a result of funding generated by Benicia voter's passage of Measure C and many are in the preparation stages. Come springtime, you will see them come to fruition.

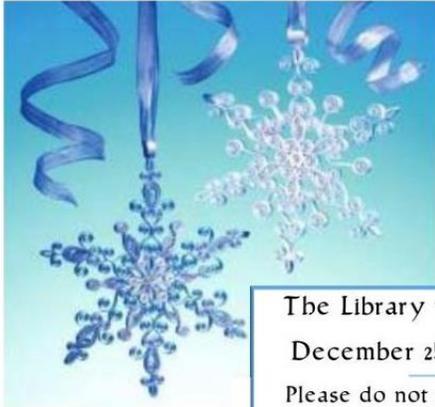
I'm impressed by the extraordinary water conservation efforts of our residents and businesses. Even though the drought has declined, it is not over. Residents and businesses continue to conserve water demonstrating a commitment to make permanent change

through the replacement of landscaping with drought tolerant material and replacing fixtures.

The City of Benicia City Hall and certain offices will be closed beginning December 25, 2016 through January 2, 2017. I wish you happy holiday and a healthy and prosperous new year! –  
*City Manager*



**HOLIDAY CLOSURE:** The City of Benicia City Hall offices, Fire Administrative offices, Library and certain facilities will be closed for business beginning Monday, December 26, 2016 through January 2, 2017, opening for normal business services on Tuesday, January 3rd. The Fire and Police Departments will not be affected by these closures.



**HAPPY  
HOLIDAYS!**

The Library will be closed  
December 25 – January 2  
Please do not return anything  
during this closure.  
No books and media will be due.

The Benicia Public Library will be closed December 25-January 2. Please do not return any items during the closure. If you have a due date during the closure, it is due January 3. No fines will be incurred. Holds that come in that week will be held for an additional week OR you can change the pick-up branch BEFORE they are on the Hold Shelf. Solano County, Dixon, and St. Helena branches will be open during this time.

If you need immediate assistance during the closure or requests for emergency water and sewer service, please contact the Benicia Police Department, 200 East L Street or 707.745.3412. All other phone messages and email correspondence will be returned after the closure. Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays! –  
*City Manager's Office*

**DECEMBER DOLLAR DAYS WITH SOLTRANS:** Getting around on the weekends can be tough, especially with all that holiday traffic! People are home from out of town, everyone's out shopping or spending time with friends and family, and it can be a little stressful as the world gets slightly more chaotic amidst the holiday cheer.



This year, SolTrans wants to help take the edge off by taking over the responsibility of driving at extremely affordable rates. All December long, all local routes will cost just 25 cents for a one-way ticket, and \$1 for a day pass. This offer is valid on all local routes, Monday-Friday, but on the weekends ... it's FREE!

This offer is not valid on Solano Express. For pickup/dropoff times and locations, visit [www.soltransride.com](http://www.soltransride.com) or call 707.648.4666. – *City Manager's Office*

### CURRENT LIBRARY STATISTICS:

- Total November visitors: 16,131
- Record Day of visitors on November 29 with 860 visitors
- November Internet sessions: 2,310
- Wireless Internet Sessions: 2,215
- Library Adult & Teen Facebook views: 13,455

-Library

Extended hours for  
**FINALS WEEK!**

**Monday, December 19 –  
Wednesday, December 21**  
Library stays open until  
10:00 PM.

Drinks in covered cup are okay; but  
**NO FOOD, please!**

**BACKFLOW PREVENTER IMPORTANT TO WATER QUALITY:** Most people probably don't know that the kind of equipment shown in this picture is called a **backflow preventer**. They can commonly be seen in parking lots and next to buildings throughout the City, because most industrial and commercial drinking water customers in Benicia are required to have one as an important protection against contamination of our drinking water system.



Incidents like the recent drinking water emergency in Corpus Christi, Texas, which was caused by a hazardous chemical that entered the drinking water distribution system from an asphalt plant that is owned by Valero and operated by another firm, can be avoided through the proper installation and inspection of backflow prevention devices. There is also an asphalt plant owned and operated by Valero here in Benicia, but the City's backflow prevention program would prevent that type of incident from happening here.

What is backflow? It is when water flows backward through the water supply system. The City's drinking water system is normally maintained at high pressure, and water flows in only one direction into customers' facilities or homes. However, if water pressure is lost in the water distribution system due to a main break, firefighting, or other high water demand, then water can be sucked back into the distribution system piping, which could contaminate the water supply for all water customers. To protect the drinking water system, the City maintains a Cross Connection Control Program, also known as Backflow Prevention.

Most non-residential water services have these devices, which block water from flowing back into the water supply system. As part of the Cross Connection Control Program, they must be tested every year by a certified backflow testing contractor. The City sends a letter each May to customers with backflow devices, requiring them to have their device checked by a third-party certified tester, and to send a copy of the test report to the City. If a customer fails to have their backflow device tested, the City will hire a contractor to test the device, and the customer will be billed and fined for failure to test their device.

All industrial and commercial customers in Benicia have had their devices tested and submitted their backflow test reports for 2016, including Valero's Benicia Asphalt Plant, whose backflow devices were most recently tested on May 19, 2016.

Backflow prevention is one of many programs to ensure the safety and high quality of drinking water in Benicia. Drinking water is treated and filtered at the City's Water Treatment Plant, chlorine disinfection is used to kill bacteria, and a small amount of fluoride is added to promote dental health. State Certified Water Treatment Plant Operators also control the acidity of the water to prevent corrosion of lead and copper from customers' plumbing. All of these programs are checked by regular monitoring and analysis by State Certified Laboratory Technicians and contract laboratories to ensure that the City's water is safe and meets all State and Federal regulations. The most recent Consumer Confidence Report for Benicia's drinking water can be found on the City's website, [click here](#).

If you have any questions about the quality of Benicia's drinking water, please contact [Dan Jackson](#), Water Quality Supervisor, at 707.746.4336. – *Public Works*

## PERSONNEL NEWS:

**City of Benicia Job Opportunities:** The Human Resources Department is accepting applications for the following positions:

[Recreation Leader II - Youth Basketball League](#), full-time, closing 12/22/16

[Principal Planner](#), full-time, closing 01/02/17

[Recreation Leader II](#), full-time, closing 01/02/17

[Family Support Worker](#), part-time, closing 01/03/17

[Police Officer - Lateral \(currently working\)](#), full-time, open continuously

[Reserve Officer \(Volunteer\)](#), part-time, open continuously

To apply, the application and supplemental forms can be filed online at: <http://agency.governmentjobs.com/benicia/default.cfm>. City of Benicia employment

applications may also be obtained from and must be returned to the Human Resources Department at 250 East L Street, Benicia.

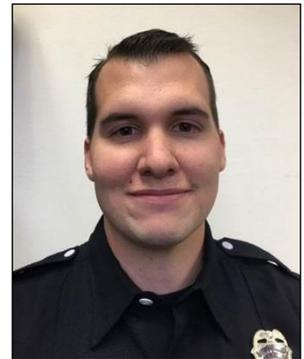


These job opportunities are open to any current City of Benicia employees (full- or part-time) as well as the general public. If you know of someone who may be interested in applying, please let them know. - *Human Resources*

**Welcome to the Fire Department:** Chief Lydon is pleased to welcome their two newest Firefighter Paramedics, Stephen McCord and Razzu Engen. Both started on December 5 and are going through a comprehensive training program.

Stephen McCord is a native of Sacramento, he was a member of the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District in the positions of Fire Cadet, Paramedic, and Fire Recruit. He attended American River College working towards his dream of becoming a firefighter. He was injured and released during his initial trip through the Fire Academy, managing to graduate in 2008. He completed Paramedic School and licensing in 2011.

Stephen enjoys attending baseball games, especially the San Francisco Giants. One of the bright sides of being let go from the Fire Academy was that he was able to attend Game 5 of the 2014 World Series!



Razzu Engen returns to the Bay Area after spending seven years in New Mexico. Most recently, Razzu was a Firefighter with Los Alamos County, providing protection for the citizens of the county and for the Los Alamos National Laboratory.

Razzu was born in the U.S., but grew up in São Paulo, Brazil, one of the largest cities in the Western Hemisphere. After graduating from high school, Razzu attended Brown University where he earned a Bachelor's Degree in Engineering - Materials Science. Razzu worked in the Bay Area for several years as an engineer.

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During this time, he became interested in windsurfing and backpacking, spending most of his free time either on the water or in the Sierras. Razzu has hiked the length of the Continental Divide Trail through the Rocky Mountains, stretching 2,800 miles from the Canadian border to Mexico. Razzu's first job in EMS was as a ski patroller at Ski Santa Fe where the base elevation is above 10,000 feet.

He is the proud father of two daughters and looks forward to them being able to grow up close to their cousins in Berkeley, Oakland and San Francisco. He is excited to be joining the Benicia Fire Department family, and appreciates to spending some time at sea level for a while.

Please join us in welcoming Stephen and Razzu to the City of Benicia family. – *City Manager*

**TAKE MY TREE, PLEASE:** Just a reminder that you can dispose of your live Christmas tree in the following ways:

**Boy Scouts Christmas Tree Recycling Project** - You can drop off your tree or you can register for pickup of your tree at your home or business. Donations welcome! (\$7.00 suggested).

Drop-off & Pick-up, 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM (Please no trees dropped off after 3:30 PM.)

- Saturday, December 31
- Sunday, January 1
- Monday, January 2
- Saturday, January 7
- Sunday, January 8

Locations are Benicia Community Park (behind Matthew Turner School) or First Baptist Church (on Southampton Rd.). Note: Flocked trees are accepted.

Register for pickup at [www.BeniciaScouts.org](http://www.BeniciaScouts.org) or call the tree recycle hotline, 707.551.4520. Appointments are required for pickup.

**Curbside Pickup** - Flocked, painted, or artificial flocked trees can be collected curbside by Republic Services for \$40 per tree with an appointment scheduled in advance. Tree recycling pickup dates are same as drop-off dates.

**Green Yard Waste** - Important information for placing trees in your green yard waste cart:

- No flocked trees
- Branches must be 3 inches or less in diameter and 3 feet or less in length
- Remove tree stand
- Lid must close
- No plastic bags, lights, ornaments, tinsel, nails, or tree stands.

For questions call Republic Services at 707.747.0608. – *Public Works*



**GET READY BENICIA:** The Benicia Fire Department is excited to offer "Get Ready Benicia", a **FREE** Community Disaster Preparedness course on **Saturday, January 21**. As a department, they work hard to prepare for emergencies, and they want the community to take steps to be prepared, as well. This course provides a great opportunity for Benicia residents to be prepared to survive and cope with a disaster for five to seven days on their own.

In addition to this course, we continue to ask residents, business owners, and those who work in town to register for emergency alerts at [www.AlertBenicia.org](http://www.AlertBenicia.org). This will enable people to get up-to-date emergency information from the City of Benicia. – *Fire Department*



## You're invited to...

# GET READY BENICIA

**Community Disaster Preparedness Course offered for FREE!**

**Saturday, January 21<sup>st</sup>**

**9:30 a.m. - Noon**

**Fire Station 11**

**150 Military West**

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We continue to see natural disasters impact our world, like the Valley Fire, Napa Earthquake, and Hurricane Sandy. If a major disaster were to strike Benicia and the surrounding areas, first responders would be heavily committed to rescue and relief efforts.

**Are you prepared? Is your family prepared?**

In Benicia, we face a multitude of hazards including earthquakes, wildfires, floods, and landslides. To address these public safety risks, a simple and free emergency preparedness program is being offered to all households in the Benicia through the Get Ready Emergency Disaster Preparedness Program. The goal of this program is to prepare households with the skills and information to survive and cope with a disaster for five to seven days. Advanced registration is required. Scheduled classes are subject to cancellation if minimum enrollment is not met.

**THE BENEFITS:**

- Prepared citizens means reduced injuries and illnesses due to a disaster
- A reduction to the over-burdened emergency first-responders
- A reduction to the over-burdened hospitals and urgent care centers
- A reduction in the financial burden the city will bear due to disaster
- A stronger community: people helping each other
- Gain the necessary information to protect your family during a disaster



**To Register:**

**Email: [FireDept@ci.benicia.ca.us](mailto:FireDept@ci.benicia.ca.us)**

**or**

**Call: 707-746-4275**





**AUTOMATED METERING PROJECT:** The City of Benicia's automated metering project involves the installation of highly accurate, state-of-the-art metering technology for residential and commercial water customers alike. New automated meters will be installed throughout the City beginning February 2017 and take approximately six months to complete.

An automated meter consists of a low-powered communication device that's attached to your new water meter. The automated meter transmits hourly water usage information to the City's Customer Service Center – over a secure communication network.

In conjunction with the automated meter installations, the City will also offer Water Smart, a new water conservation and budgeting tool for customers. The Customer Portal is a free online water usage analyzer tool that enables customers to see their water usage anytime during the billing cycle. After registering and providing up-to-date contact information, the customer can elect to receive water alerts via a text message, e-mail, or phone call. Notifications are provided if the customer's water usage indicates a potential leak or abnormal usage.

The following are Frequently Asked Questions on the topic:

**Q: How does the automated meter system work?**

A: The City will deploy the Neptune N Sight System, using a wireless fixed network system that has three components:

- *Meter Transmission Unit (MTU):* This radio unit is connected to each automated water meter and collects the customers meter reading each hour. Every six hours, it sends its information to a Data Collection Unit (DCU).
- *Data Collection Unit (DCU):* A total of 26 Data Collectors will be located throughout the city on city owned facilities and City-owned poles. The DCUs collect the hourly meter readings from the MTU and transmit the meter readings to the City's meter reading database.
- *City Metering Database:* The City's billing system will use this information to calculate the amount of water used and create bills. The data collected daily in the meter reading database will be made available to Customers through the Customer Web Portal.

**Q: Why do I need a new water meter?**

A: Most of the current water meters in Benicia are not operating at 100 percent. They are old, some very old, and have exceeded their functional life and need to be replaced. As meters age, their accuracy begins to decline, resulting in unaccounted for water loss that exceeds industry and regulatory standards. The new meter will accurately reflect your water usage.

**Q: What does installation of a new automated meter involve?**

A: A door hanger will be left 72 hours before the scheduled replacement. If your meter is running, the installer will do a courtesy knock on the door, explain the work to be performed and inform you that your water service will be briefly interrupted. The installation should take approximately 15-20 minutes. Follow up action is generally not required.

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**Q: When will the automated meter be installed on my home/business?**

A: The City will upgrade nearly 10,000 water meters with a new automated meter. This includes all residential and business customers. Installations will start in February 2017 and run through August 2017. The installation schedule is currently being refined and will be posted on the City's webpage. Once completed, customers can visit the City's website to see approximately when installs are scheduled in your neighborhood.

**Q. Do Automated Meter emit dangerous levels of radio frequency?**

A. Automated meters do not emit dangerous levels of RF. In fact, RF emissions from an automated meter fall far below federal limits. The RF exposure a person might encounter from an automated meter in a typical household setting can be of significantly less strength than the RF signals they are exposed to from common electronic devices found within the home, such as a cell phones, microwave ovens, baby monitors, Wi-Fi networks, and radio and television broadcasts. All equipment operates in compliance with state and federal communication standards.

For questions on the new water meters and installation, please contact [Christian Di Renzo](#), Assistant Public Works Director, at 707.746.4240. – *Public Works*

**PHOTO CONTEST ENDING:** The 2016 [Visit Benicia Photo Contest](#) ends on December 31. All valid entries will be judged at a January meeting of the City of Benicia Tourism Committee. Winners will be announced shortly thereafter.

Photos highlighting the beauty, fun, adventure, history and charm of Benicia will be judged in four categories: Scenic/fun, Shopping/dining, Arts, and History. Prizes will be awarded in Downtown Dollars. There is a first place and second place prize in each category and an overall Grand Prize. Photos must be taken in and around Benicia and should be at least 2MB in size but do not have to have been taken in 2016. Additional rules and details are available at [www.VisitBenicia.org/content/photo-contest](http://www.VisitBenicia.org/content/photo-contest). Some entries are available for viewing on [Instagram](#). For questions or comments, contact [Teri Davena](#) at 707.746.4202. – *Economic Development*



**E**CO AWARD WINNERS PRESENTED TO CITY COUNCIL: The City of Benicia and Republic Services presented the 2nd annual Eco Awards at the City Council meeting on November 1. The winners were chosen for promoting sustainability through conscientious business practices.



(l-r) Mayor Elizabeth Patterson, Marie Knutson (Republic Services), Tania Courtney (Food Services Director, Benicia High School), Brianna Kleinschmidt (Principal, Benicia High School), and Jasmin Powell (Dunlop Manufacturing)

Dunlop Manufacturing, maker of electronic music effects and one of Benicia's largest employers invested in facility improvements that helped improve efficiency, including a modification of their existing air compressor system, installing water efficient fixtures for their bathrooms and in their glass cutting process. They improved recycling to cut trash by 50% and separately recycled over 6,000 lbs. of guitar wire in two years. They were one of the first businesses to participate in the City of Benicia Business Resource Incentive Program (BRIP) with their second project saving the city 15,000 gallons of water per year.

Bay Area Coffee has a twenty million pound annual capacity for roasting beans. They substantially decreased their trash by recycling. They donate coffee husks as cage bedding, and in 2015-16, gave over 11,000 burlap bags to the community, including the Oakland Zoo, where they were stuffed and used as toys for the tigers.

Benicia High School has a well-kept campus with ample opportunity to recycle, partly due to Chuck Schauer, Custodial Services. The school's main kitchen, run by Food Services Director Tania Courtney, provides food for other Benicia schools. They were the first account in Benicia to add a food waste account. They also have a community garden with a rain water catchment system, and a student-built structure from green building materials managed by the Ech2O Academy students.

The winners were given trophies made of recycled glass, hand-blown by David Lindsay of Lindsay Art Glass, Benicia. The trophy bases are stone countertop samples donated from Remodel Me, Martinez and the Certificates of Appreciation were signed by Mayor Patterson. – *Community Development*

**M**AKING IT BETTER IN OUR COMMUNITY: On Wednesday, December 7, Chief Upson,



Officer Hayes and Officer Woods read the special book "Making it Better in Our Community" by Andre Lewis at the Benicia Public Library. Mr. Lewis is a Benicia resident who also made a special appearance during the book reading. – *Police Department*

**CRAB FEED SCHEDULED:** It's crab season again! Benicia Public Service Employees Association (City of Benicia) and Soroptimist International of Benicia are hosting a CRAB FEED fundraiser on **Saturday, January 28**, at the historic BDES Hall, 140 West J Street. Doors open at 6:00 PM. No-host cocktails 6:00-7:00 PM. Dinner will be served at 7:00 PM.



Tickets are \$50 and include salad, pasta, garlic bread and crab. To purchase, call Ed at 707.746.4229 or 479.0059. – *Public Works*

**BENICIA PD RECOGNITION:** Benicia Police Department has recognized two men who were wounded when stepping up for the safety of others.

Doug Everhart and Jeff Ainsworth, who are best friends, were injured in a shooting at Bottom of the Fifth bar recently as they were enjoying themselves with friends and family.



Mr. Everhart and Mr. Ainsworth stepped in and confronted the suspect when they realized that there was an armed man inside the bar. While the police department certainly doesn't want anyone to get hurt intervening in situations such as this, they recognize Mr. Everhart's and Mr. Ainsworth's effort and instinct to protect the rest of the bystanders. For that, the Police Department thanks them. Chief Upson presented them with the Chief's Coins.

The suspect, Daniel Lopez, 33, a Vallejo transient, was arrested within days and fortunately Mr. Everhart and Mr. Ainsworth are recovering from their injuries. – *Police Department*



**COAT DRIVE:** Benicia Public Library is hosting a Coat Drive through **January 12**. They are accepting gently used and clean coats and jackets along with warm hats, gloves, mittens and scarves. Items can be dropped off at the Library, 150 East L Street. - *Library*

**UPDATE FROM THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:** Here is a look at what the Public Works Department was up to in November.

**Wastewater Treatment Plant - Projects:**

During the month of November, a number of preventative, and corrective maintenance tasks were completed. WWTP staff began work to demolish an unused concrete structure to make room for an \$807,000 project to run all new wires and conduit to the control centers in the back end of the WWTP.



The annual maintenance task to do a full condition assessment of the sludge digester system mixing pumps was performed. This is a job that involves completely breaking down the pumps to assess their physical condition, and also checking the electrical and control wires to the pumps. We began the process of tracing out the control wires for our thickened waste activated sludge pumping system, so that we can add to it for better control of the system.

One of our operators found one morning that one of the primary sedimentation basins wasn't working properly. By the end of that same day, treatment plant staff had drained and cleaned the sedimentation basin and repaired the damaged equipment. The Benicia Wastewater Treatment Plant continues to perform wonderfully, and staff are able



to respond quickly to problems at the WWTP.

**Wastewater Treatment Plant - Maintenance:** Wastewater Treatment Plant personnel successfully completed 87 preventative maintenance work orders, and 10 corrective maintenance work orders. The work orders are tracked in a computer maintenance management system that allows the WWTP staff to be more proactive and spend less time working overtime, which saves the rate payers money.



**WWTP Plant Performance:** The Wastewater Treatment Plant processed 55.24 million gallons of wastewater last month with no exceedances of the discharge permit. Nutrient pollution removal was 99% for BOD (Biochemical Oxygen Demand), and 99% for TSS (Total Suspended Solids). This information was determined by Water Quality Laboratory personnel performing 1,168 analyses on 287 samples, using 47 different test methods. The bioassay test passed with a 100% survival rate. This information is transmitted electronically to the State Water Resources Control Board through the California Integrated Water Quality System and available at [www.waterboards.ca.gov/ciwas](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/ciwas). – Public Works

## **LARGE FAMILY DAY CARE PERMIT IS NOW AVAILABLE OVER THE COUNTER:**



In order to make it easier for Large Family Day Care homes (for 9-14 children) to operate, the City of Benicia has a new expedited process and lower fee. The process consists of an administrative permit, and the new lower fee is \$150. As long as you meet the requirements, the permit is approved over-the-counter!

[Click here](#) to find the application form with requirements. If you have any questions, please call the Community Development Department at

707.746.4280 or email them at [comdev@ci.benicia.ca.us](mailto:comdev@ci.benicia.ca.us). - *Community Development*

**FIRE DEPARTMENT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:** Interested in being a part of the proud history that is the Benicia Fire Department? They are always looking for enthusiastic, qualified volunteers. Check out their Reserve, Phoenix, and LSU programs. Click the links for more information, then if you would like even more information or have questions, email [firedept@ci.benicia.ca.us](mailto:firedept@ci.benicia.ca.us). Thank you for your interest in our Benicia Fire Department Volunteer Programs! – *Fire Department*



### **Reserve Firefighter**

Participate in education, training, and experiences that will assist them in pursuing careers as professional firefighters.

### **Phoenix**

Phoenix Volunteer Firefighters provide support to the Fire Department both at emergency incidents and during routine activities. Members of the Phoenix Group shall render volunteer firefighting or other emergency duties upon occasions, when in the opinion of the Fire Chief or any designated officer(s), such augmentation to the Benicia Fire Department is essential to Public Welfare and Safety. This support is in the form of emergency operations consistent with the Volunteer Firefighter's position, as well as other duties as assigned.

### **Logistical Support Unit (LSU)**

Logistical Support Unit (LSU) members provide logistical support to the fire department both at emergency incidents and routine activities. Members may render non-fire-fighting or other emergency support duties upon occasions. This support is in the form of personnel rehabilitation, breathing air bottle (SCBA) exchange, Incident Command support, and other duties as assigned. This may include activities such as staffing the front desk at the headquarters station to provide a formal presence at the station during times of emergency or high demand. Participation in Benicia Volunteer Firemen, Inc. is required.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT:** The Benicia Police Department monthly report for **October 2016** is now available. It contains a monthly wrap-up of Community Services, Professional Development, Statistics, and Interesting Case Summaries. [Click here](#) to read more. – *Police Department*



**WINTER STORM PREPAREDNESS:** The Time to prepare is now! Recent winter storms are a reminder to be as prepared as possible. We ask that property owners and residents check to make sure that all drains on your property are clear, sump pumps are functional, and that leaves and other debris are removed.



Make sure to sign up for Alert Benicia at [www.AlertBenicia.org](http://www.AlertBenicia.org) to receive emergency/disaster communications from the City of Benicia, including police and fire.

Please see our [Winter Storm Preparedness](#) page on the City of Benicia website. You'll find info on current local weather conditions, where to fill sand bags, storm drain maintenance, traffic & road conditions, emergency alert info, flood zone info, info on flood insurance, and what to do after a flood.

Check out these handy publications:  
[Flood Preparation Flyer 12-17-2015](#)

[Benicia El-Nino Booklet 2-5-2016](#)  
-*Fire Department*

**WHAT'S NEW AT THE MARILYN CITRON O'ROURKE GALLERY?**  
The Art of Nagui: Oil on Canvas by Nagui Achamaliah is on exhibit **December 4 - January 7**. Coming **January 14 - February 15** is Mixed Media.

The gallery is at the Benicia Public Library, 150 East L Street. Admission is FREE. – *Library*



**POST-HOLIDAY TECH HELP:** Do you have a new phone or tablet that you would like to learn how to download e-books, audio books or e-magazines on? Stop by the Benicia Public Library every Thursday in January from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM for free help. - *Library*

**QUICK-THINKING OFFICER SAVES LIFE:** On Thursday, December 8, while on patrol, Officer Maniego came across a driver, who was standing on the side of the road. The driver, who was alone, was outside of her vehicle waiving her arms trying to get the officer's attention.

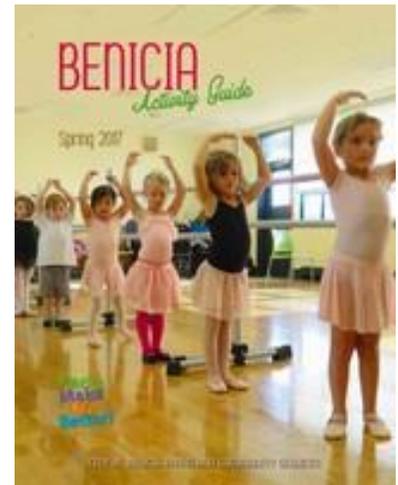
Realizing that the driver was choking, Officer Maniego quickly applied the Heimlich maneuver and was able to clear her airway. Khadija Jaddour was very thankful for Officer Maniego's quick actions. We are proud of Officer Maniego's calm response to a frightening situation that resulted in a happy ending. – *Police Department*



**NEXT BERT TRAINING SET:** The next training class for the Benicia Emergency Response Team (BERT) starts February 6. Don't miss your chance to become a trained member of the team to help in an earthquake or other disaster with this FREE 6-week class. [Click here](#) for more details or call 707.746.4275. – *Fire Department*

**SPRING ACTIVITY GUIDE:** The [Spring 2017 Benicia Activity Guide](#) have been mailed to Benicia homes. Registration for spring classes is now OPEN! In the guide, you'll find information on Parks & Community Services' classes, programs and rentals. Also, find information on the city parks, the library, tree permitting and a message from the City Manager's Office.

Registration for January through May classes is now open - stop by the Community Center to register for classes or check out the new online registration process by clicking on the "Register Now" link at [www.ci.benicia.ca.us/pcs](http://www.ci.benicia.ca.us/pcs). Jo Nash's Little Ones Tap and Ballet Class is featured on the cover. – *Parks & Community Services*



**GIVE THE GIFT OF READING:** Benicia Public Library invites you to learn how to become a Literacy Tutor or refer an adult who needs help to learn to read or improve their reading skills. Contact the Adult Literacy Office for more information 707.746.4341 or go to [www.BeniciaLibrary.org/Literacy](http://www.BeniciaLibrary.org/Literacy). – *Library*



~ CONTACT INFORMATION ~

The City Manager's Report from City of Benicia Interim City Manager Steve Salomon is published twice monthly. Email your questions or comments to [edev@ci.benicia.ca.us](mailto:edev@ci.benicia.ca.us). For additional information on any of the items in this report, please contact one of the following departments:

[City Manager](#): 707.746.4200

[City Attorney](#): 707.746.4216

[Administrative Services](#) (Finance, Human Resources, I.T): 707.746.4200

[City Clerk](#): 707.746.4200

[Community Development](#): 707.746.4280

[Economic Development](#): 707.746.4202

[Fire Department](#): 707.746.4275

[Library](#): 707.746.4343

[Parks & Community Services](#): 707.746.4285

[Police Department](#): 707.746.4265

[Public Works](#): 707.746.4240