

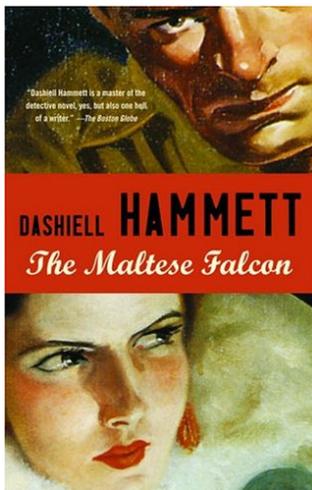
## CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

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FEBRUARY 3, 2014

For additional information on any of the items in this report, please see Contact List at the end of this report.

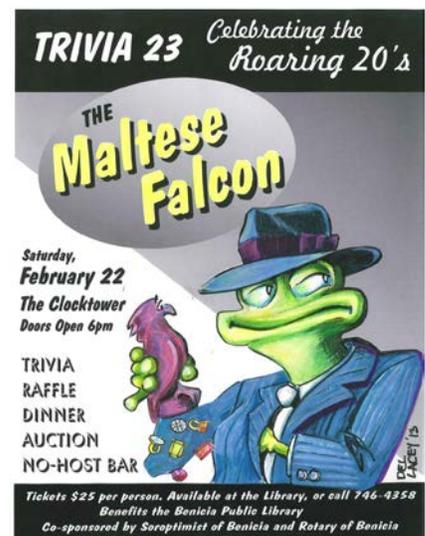
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**BENICIA READS THE MALTESE FALCON:** Join the Benicia Public Library as they encourage the community to gather and celebrate Dashiell Hammett's [The Maltese Falcon](#) at one of the following events or in one of their many book clubs. Many copies of this title are available at the Library for your convenience!



- Fashion Show by Christina Strawbridge of Christina S Fashion Destination at the Library on **Friday, February 7** at 7:00PM
- 48-Hour Film Contest: Open to all ages. Create a film between **Friday, February 14** at 3:00PM and **Sunday, February 16** at 3:00PM ([click here](#) for entry form).
- 48-Hour Film Festival: View contest entries at the Library on **Wednesday, February 19** at 6:00PM.
- Trivia Bee presents "The Maltese Falcon" at the Clocktower, 1189 Washington Street in the Benicia Arsenal on **Saturday, February 22** - doors open at 6:00PM. (Dress

1920's and vie for best costume prizes.) Dinner, silent and live auctions, raffle and the trivia competition. The competition consists of teams from local businesses and community groups answering trivia questions correctly for the honor of being Benicia's "Top Trivia Toads". Team registration information is available to download at: <http://www.benicialibrary.org/support/triviabee>. The Trivia Bee is the signature fundraising event of the Adult Literacy & ESL Program and includes dinner and the Trivia Bee.



All events also appear on the Library's calendar at [www.benicialibrary.org](http://www.benicialibrary.org). - Library

**HIRING NEWS:** The Benicia Police Department is excited to announce the hiring of Connilyn Holloway as the new Family Resource Center (FRC) Coordinator.



Connilyn is the proud mother of three girls. Basketball features prominently in Connilyn's life. Her husband Micheal is the Head Coach for the boys' basketball team at Vanden High School in Fairfield and she played college basketball at Solano Community College in 2005 and 2006 and was an assistant coach from 2010-2012.

Connilyn currently works as a Shelter Advocate for Safequest Solano, a domestic violence and sexual assault agency.

**MORE HIRING NEWS:** The Water Treatment Plant



welcomes its newest member, Ventura Albor. Ventura joined the City on December 3 as an Assistant Water Operator from the Howell Mountain Water District in Santa Rosa. Ventura brings a wealth of small water system experience and is learning the Benicia water treatment system in quick order.

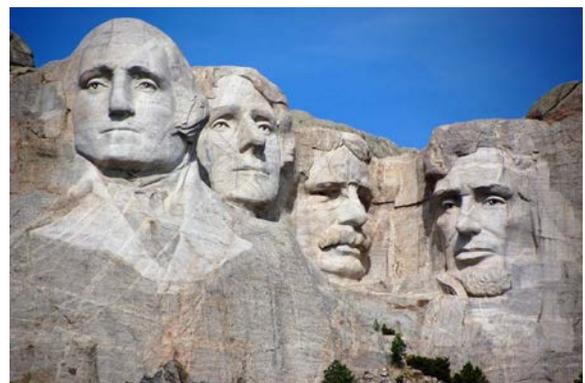


After one year of experience at Benicia, Ventura will be eligible for the California Water Operator T-3 certification, at which time he will be promoted to the position of Water Operator. The Water Treatment Plan is happy to have Ventura working with them, and after a long four years, they are fully-staffed in operations.

Please join me in welcoming Connilyn and Ventura to the City of Benicia family. – *City Manager*

**HOLIDAY CLOSURE:** Benicia City Offices, the Benicia Community Center and the Benicia Public Library will be closed Wednesday, **February 12** for Lincoln's Birthday and Monday, **February 17** for President's Day.

Requests for emergency water and sewer service may be made at the Benicia Police Department, 200 East L Street or 707.745.3411. – *City Manager's Office*



**CITY OF BENICIA JOB OPPORTUNITIES:** The Human Resources Department is accepting applications for the following positions:

- [Field Utilities Street Supervisor](#), closing **February 14**
- [Water Quality Supervisor](#), also closing **February 14**
- [Police Officer – Lateral](#), which is 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*



**CITIZENS' ACADEMY:** Learn more about City of Benicia government procedures and decisions that directly affect you by becoming a member of the next Citizens' Government Academy.



The City of Benicia is accepting applications to the Academy, which provides insight into local government. Participants will learn about the wide variety of services provided by the City and about key areas such as planning, finance, public works, and public safety. Participants will also have the opportunity to tour key facilities, talk with City officials, and gain a new perspective on the inner-workings of their local government.

The first session will begin on **March 5, 2014**. Classes are held Wednesday evenings from 6:30 – 8:30 PM, and will run for nine (9) weeks from March 5 through May 7. (Note: No class will be held on April 14.) A registration form can be [downloaded here](#) or picked up at City Hall or the Library.

The Citizens Government Academy is free and available to all residents of the City of Benicia over 16 years of age. Class size is limited. If interested, please call 707.746.4343 or e-mail [dsmikahl@ci.benicia.ca.us](mailto:dsmikahl@ci.benicia.ca.us). – *Library*

**POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT AVAILABLE:** The Benicia Police Department monthly report for December 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*



**BOOK SALE:** Friends of the Library hold their next monthly books sale on **Saturday, February 8**, 10AM-4PM in the basement of the Benicia Public Library, 150 East L Street. There will be a members-only sale on **Thursday, February 6**, 6-8PM. [Click here](#) for more information about the Friends of the Library or an application. – *Library*



**JAMES LEMOS SWIM CENTER RE-OPENED FEBRUARY 1:** In preparation for the February 1 re-opening of the city pool, lifeguards held their first in-service training on Saturday, January 25. Lifeguards spent four hours going over every fundamental skill involved in lifeguarding and first aid; this included CPR, AED, and oxygen training as well as in-water spinal injuries and timed emergency response training. In-services trainings take place every other Saturday during the spring season to keep the lifeguards on top of their skills.



**Pool Hours starting for February 1:**



|                             |                  |                  |
|-----------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Saturday, Sunday & Holidays | Feb 1 – April 4  | 10:00AM - 3:00PM |
| Monday – Friday             | Feb 1 – Feb 23   | 3:30 - 5:30PM    |
| Monday – Friday             | Feb 24 – March 9 | 3:30 - 6:00PM    |

- Parks & Community Services

**WATER TREATMENT PLANT HOSTS BHS INTERN:** Benicia Water Treatment Plant Superintendent Scott Rovenpera is hosting a new Benicia High School intern from their ECH<sub>2</sub>O Academy. Yuri Clark, a senior at BHS, will be participating in a 20-week internship on Wednesday afternoons to learn about Benicia’s water supply, transmission system, water treatment and water quality, and distribution to our customers. Yuri has chosen her term paper as “The Value of Water” and she could not have chosen a more relative topic in today’s water supply conditions. Between the water contamination in West Virginia and the extreme drought in California, her paper will be well-received and identify the true value of safe, potable water. – *Public Works*



## UPDATE ON VACANCY IN BIP:



Good news on the real estate front comes to us from Colliers International, commercial real estate brokers covering Solano, Napa, and parts of Contra Costa counties. Collier's recently released market report touts 2013 as one of the strongest years in recent memory for the industrial market in Solano and Napa counties. The industrial vacancy rate declined 3.7 percentage points for the year to 7.5 percent and sales activity rebounded in the fourth quarter, fueled by investment sales. Office leasing activity in the region remained soft.

Benicia extended its streak to six consecutive quarters of vacancy declines in the fourth quarter of 2013. The vacancy rate declined by .08 percentage points to 9.2 percent. Santa Clara Warehouses was once again a leading contributor for this decline as they leased the 122,000 square foot warehouse at 539 Stone Road in the Benicia Industrial Park. The office vacancy rate in Solano and Napa counties gained positive momentum as vacancy rates declined to 22.1% in the fourth quarter. Locally, the vacancy rate declined again for the fifth consecutive quarter, by 1.7% to 10.0%. Benicia's office vacancy remains much lower at 0.8%.

Lease activity also included the lease of 180Ksq/ft at 5001 Industrial Way to Saxco International, LLC and 30,976sq/ft at 537 Stone Road to Pacific Insulation Co. – *Economic Development*

**BPD SEEKS EXPLORERS:** The Benicia Police Department is seeking applicants for the Police Explorer Program. Police Explorers learn about and are involved in law enforcement operations. As an Explorer you will participate in the following:

- Traffic Control
- Fingerprinting
- Search & Rescue Activities
- Police Ride-Along
- Crime Prevention
- Community Activities
- Crime Scene Investigations
- Patrol Procedures
- CPR/First Aid Training
- Range Shooting and Training
- Special Events



This is a good way to see if a career in law enforcement might be for you. The requirements are: 14 - 20 years of age, graduated from Middle School, must be enrolled in school and maintain a 2.0 GPA or better, no criminal record, able to work well with others, and have a willingness to learn.

For further information, contact Sgt. Roger Yokoi at 707.746.4333, ext. 110 or [ryokoi@ci.benicia.ca.us](mailto:ryokoi@ci.benicia.ca.us). – *Police Department*

## CERTIFICATION AND DEGREE TESTS AND EXAMS UPDATE:

[LearningExpress Library](#) is a comprehensive, interactive online learning platform of practice tests and tutorial course series designed to help residents succeed on academic or licensing tests that may be required for various certifications or degrees. The user will get immediate scoring, complete answer explanations, and an individualized analysis of results. All you need to do to use this database is to create an account: your user name must be your email address and your password must be six (6) characters long. LearningExpress has a new and improved platform. If your current user name is not your email address, you will need to register again. See staff at the Library's Customer Services Desk for more assistance. –

*Library*



**P**LAYING WITH HEART: Four years ago, the Parks & Community Services Department added the Adaptive Basketball Division to our successful youth basketball program. The division consists of children who are developmentally disabled and mentally challenged. On Saturdays, the players practice drills for the first 25 minutes, then play a game for the last 30 minutes. The kids in this division set a great example for how children should play youth sports; they are happy to be there playing with their friends and celebrate their success together! The Adaptive Division plays on Saturdays at 1:00PM at the Benicia Community Center. If you want to cheer and be inspired by some amazing kids, please stop by and check it out!

Special thanks to the talented and caring coaches and volunteers: Coach Steve Saari - our wonderful parent volunteer, Lexi Saitz - BHS girls Varsity basketball player, weekly volunteer and huge help, Taylor Grisham - referee and coaching help, Jenn Peters – Team MOM, help to staff and instrumental in starting the league and getting the word out, and Recreation Coordinator Eliot Palmer, who always goes above and beyond to ensure all our youth basketball players and coaches have a great experience. –  
*Parks & Community Services*



**ARTS BENICIA PRESENTS IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS:** The art of [Nancy Freeman](#) is the latest Arts Benicia Presents art exhibition in the Council Chambers.

Nancy Freeman caught the art bug early and spent much of her Redwood City childhood coloring, drawing, and painting. After attending art school, she set out to make art her career. Nancy found work in advertising and textbook illustration. Influenced by Wayne Thiebaud's fabric art she started creating stitched applique collages and entered her work in Bay Area art fairs and galleries. Nancy's more recent work is focused on mosaics and acrylic painting.



The exhibition will be in the Council Chambers through **April 28** and is available for viewing during business hours. – *City Manager's Office*

**IN SUPPORT OF COMMUNITY MEMBERS:** The Benicia Fire Department escorted “Christine” to a local church in support of a young woman battling ovarian cancer. “Christine” is a pink fire engine from the Solano Chapter of Guardian of The Ribbon -- Pink Heals.



Leslie Nuss, a Benicia resident, was diagnosed with cancer in late 2012 and has been a true fighter since receiving the diagnosis. Surrounded by family, friends, supporters and firefighters dressed in pink, Leslie added her name to the engine, which is covered by signatures of others who have been touched by cancer.



Annually, Benicia Firefighters sell pink t-shirts during October raising money for local cancer charities. The Benicia Firefighters donated this year's earnings to the Pink Heals program. In support and appreciation of the donation, Christine (the Pink fire engine) visited Leslie, letting her know she is loved and not alone in her fight. – *Fire Department*

**INCOME TAX FORMS AVAILABLE:** It's Tax Time again, and the Library can help you get the forms you need for the **April 15** due date! Tax forms should arrive at the Library by mid-February and will be available to the public as soon as they are received. Go to the Library site's [Taxes webpage](#) for links to order forms, print out forms, or find links on the public internet computers to print out forms.



If there is a form you are not able to locate, ask at the Library's Customer Service Desk and they can either make a copy from the IRS or State website or it might be available to be photocopied from the Library's tax binder. Forms from past years are kept in binders in the Reference Section of the Library and can be photocopied for your convenience.

For more info, free tax help in English or en Español, and links to forms, go to the [TAXES webpage](#) on the Benicia Public Library website. – *Library*

**BENICIA SENIOR CENTER LUNCHEON:** The Benicia Seniors celebrated Valentine's Day at their luncheon Wednesday, January 22, catered by Venticello's and Palermo's. They prepared a delicious Italian lunch with lasagna, vegetables, salad & French bread. City staff and the Parks & Community Services team helped in the kitchen and served as well.

This month, we'd like to give a special thanks to the businesses who donated gifts and raffle prizes to the luncheon.



Benicia Main Street was very generously made individual bags of See's Candy for each person attending the luncheon. Our seniors loved leaving with a special Valentine's Day treat. In addition, Sailor Jack's, Lucca's Bar & Grill, and Kinder's Meats Deli & BBQ generously donated gift cards to apply towards a meal at their restaurants.

Recreation Coordinator, Lindsay Dion, transformed the dining hall with an assortment of Valentine's decorations making the seniors feel special the minute they arrived.

Thanks to all who made the day so special for our wonderful senior citizens. – *Parks & Community Services*

**UPDATE FROM PUBLIC WORKS:** Take a look at what the Public Works Department was up to in November and December. Were they in your neighborhood?

### November

#### Maintenance – Sewer:

- **Customer Service Calls-** 100 El Bonito, 3700 Park Road, 1300 West L Street, Harbor Way, 200 East K Street, 900 West K Street, Plaza De Oro, 100 East N Street, 600 East K Street alley, 900 Palace Court, 400 West J Street, Wingfield Way, 400 East K Street, 200 Military East, 200 Eaton Court
- **Closed Circuit Televising-** 3700 Park Road, 1300 West L Street, 900 West K Street, 600 East K Street, Wingfield Way, 400 East K Street, 200 Eaton Court
- **Lift Station Cleanings-** Park Road (2), Panorama (Barn), Fleetside (1,2,3)
- **Repairs-** 1300 West L Street, Wingfield Way, 200 Eaton Court, 900 West K Street
- **City Wide Line Cleanings-** Customer Service Calls 1,254', Monthly Cleaning 8,264'

### December

#### Maintenance – Sewer:

- **Customer Service Calls-** 600 East K Street, 300 East K Street, 700 West I Street, 200 Hillcrest, 200 West I Street, 300 East N Street, 100 East I Street, 400 East H Street alley, 400 East J Street, 2100 Via Alta, 100 East G Street, 400 East I Street, 800 West 8th Street, 100 East F Street, 400 East K Street, 200 West M Street
- **Closed Circuit Televising-** 300 East K Street, 200 West I Street, 400 East J Street, 2100 Via Alta, 800 West 8th, 200 West M Street, 700 West I Street
- **Lift Station Cleanings-** Park Road, East B Street, West 13th Street, 2400 East 2nd Street
- **Repairs-** Bayshore Road (Force Main)
- **City Wide Line Cleanings-** Customer Service Calls 1,665', Monthly Cleaning 6,485'

- Public Works



**Parks  
Make  
Life  
Better!**

**Benicia Parks  
& Community  
Services**

**BENICIA HOSTS CPRS ROUND TABLE:** Benicia hosted a California Park & Recreation Society (CPRS) Round Table at the Community Center on Thursday, January 16 to brainstorm Youth & Teen Summer programming. Approximately, 64 people attend from 32 cities/agencies, some traveling from as far as El Dorado Hills and Patterson, meeting from 10:00AM-1:00PM covering programs, camps, field trips, events, volunteer programs and more. Participants paid \$5 to attend and left with lots of new ideas and connections in the industry. Special thanks to Recreation Supervisors Ashley Howe and Jill Wynn for planning the event and facilitating the discussions. – *Parks & Community Services*

**S**AFARI EBOOKS AVAILABLE: [Safari Books Online](#) (books you can read on your computer) is an electronic reference library for programmers and IT professionals and is now available through the Library's Visual Catalog or Classic Catalog. Type in the subject and add eBook to the Keyword search in the [SNAP Catalog](#) and click on the link at the bottom of the item record. You will need your library card to read these eBooks at



home. Type in your library card number with no spaces and click on the Log in button. (This may not work in Internet Explorer or Apple's Safari.) The books are not downloadable but you can read them on your computer or tablet. – *Library*

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#### Contact Information

The City Manager's Report from City of Benicia City Manager Brad Kilger is published semi-monthly. For additional information on any of the items in this report, please contact one of the following departments:

[City Manager/Human Resources/Economic Development/I.T.:](#) 707.746.4200

[City Attorney:](#) 707.746.4216

[Community Development:](#) 707.746.4280

[Finance Department:](#) 707.746.4225

[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