

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

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APRIL 2, 2012

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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**TREE REGULATIONS:** Trees beautify our city. They also create shade, produce oxygen and remove carbon dioxide. Incorrect pruning includes tipping the branch or topping the tree, causing:

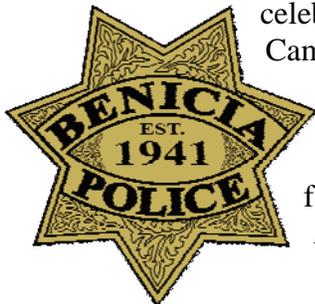
- Unsafe sprouts
- Dangerously tall branching
- Branch weakening & decay

Pruning and removal of trees may require a permit. Check the [City's website](#) or call 746.4285 for more information. – *Parks & Community Services*



**SHALLOW POCKETS PUBLICITY:** “How do you get the word out about the good work that your organization is doing? How do you locate volunteers and raise funds?” The Benicia Arts and Culture Commission presented a program to local non-profit organizations on March 28 at which a group of experienced panelists, moderated by Commissioner Judie Donaldson, shared their insight into innovative and useful publicity ideas with a focus on shallow pockets. Local non-profit organizations were given the opportunity to publicize upcoming events and/or planned activities. To receive information or be placed on the mailing list for the next workshop, please contact Helaine Bowles at [hbowles@ci.benicia.ca.us](mailto:hbowles@ci.benicia.ca.us) or Commission Chair Elaine Eisner at [elaineeisner@comcast.net](mailto:elaineeisner@comcast.net).  
- *Library*

**BENICIA POLICE DEPARTMENT CELEBRATION:** On April 2, the Police Department celebrated the hiring of Officer MarJonne Roberson, Officer Jenna Cameron, and Dispatcher Ondria Perino. In addition, the Department swore in two new Explorers, Aaron Lee and Jackson McNutt and celebrated the promotion of Lieutenant Frank Hartig and Sergeant James Laughter. The ceremony was followed by a reception for family and friends. Welcome and congratulations! – *Police Department*



**ROTARY’S ANNUAL FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR AWARDS:** On March 16, the Rotary Clubs



of Solano County hosted their annual Night of Honors Award Banquet. This event is used to recognize and thank firefighters for outstanding performance and dedicated service. Receiving recognition from the Benicia Fire Department were Fire Captain K.C. Smith and Reserve Firefighter Matt Murphy.

Captain Smith was recognized for his role in the remodel of Fire Station 12. K.C. served

as the Fire Department Project Coordinator throughout the months-long project. He worked with city staff and outside contractors to ensure the remodel was done on time, on budget and of high quality.

Reserve Firefighter Matt Murphy was recognized for his exemplary performance as a member of the Benicia Fire Department Reserve Firefighter Division. Matt completed 654 hours working as a Reserve Firefighter, completed his Firefighter 1 Academy (graduating at the top of his class), and completed his Para-medical internship and passed the Para-medical National Registry examination. Congratulations to Captain K.C. Smith and Reserve Firefighter Matt Murphy! – *Fire Department*



**LIBRARY SYSTEMS UPDATE:** The Benicia Public Library has collaborated for years through



the NorthNet and North Bay Cooperative Library Systems to purchase databases and exchange materials. Most of the arrangements for delivery of materials from library to library was paid for with funding received from the State Library. With the loss of state funding to support these programs, the NorthNet Library system and local libraries have needed to look at alternative ways to meet our customer needs. A transition team has been working hard to present solutions or options to member libraries that are relevant, affordable and effective. We hope to continue moving towards a cost-effective, sustainable method for delivery of materials and access to databases in the near future. - *Library*

**JOB AND CAREER ACCELERATOR:** Are you looking for a job? Try the Job & Career Accelerator. This database can be used to find jobs and explore occupations. It provides a resume and cover letter builder, interview essentials and check lists. You can store your resumes, job searches, test requirements, and occupation matches. To use, register for a free account. - *Library*



**MONTHLY SENIOR LUNCHEON:** The Benicia Parks & Community Services Department



and the Benicia Senior Center host a senior luncheon every other month. Local restaurants cater a delicious warm meal to the participants (meal costs are approximately \$10.00 per event). This month Randy Ramos of Concept Catering outdid himself with a hearty Irish meal to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. Sixty seniors were treated to corned beef, red potatoes, cabbage, carrots, rolls, salad and dessert. Everyone in attendance thoroughly enjoyed their meal. On top of the meal, it's a great social event for

seniors to sit and visit with neighbors and friends. City of Benicia employees volunteer their lunch hour and serve all of the participants.

Our next lunch will be in May, when we will celebrate Cinco de Mayo with a delicious Mexican lunch catered by our friends at Sandoval's Mexican Restaurant.

If you are a senior interested in attending please feel free to contact the Benicia Senior Center, 707.745-1202. If your business would like to donate a little something for the raffle, please contact Jill Wynn, Recreation Supervisor at [jwynn@ci.benicia.ca.us](mailto:jwynn@ci.benicia.ca.us) or 746.4282. – *Parks & Community Services*

**LAYWERS IN THE LIBRARY:** This popular program continues to be offered by the Library the first Thursday of each month. Free 20-minute meetings with attorneys start at 6:00 pm, signups start at 5:00 pm and are on a first come, first served basis. Additional resources are available on the [Library's website](#). - *Library*



**LIBRARY SALES TAX MEASURE:** As June 5 draws nearer, volunteers in support of Measure L have started to walk the streets of Benicia, providing information to local residents. Measure L is a continuation of an already established 1/8-penny sales tax dedicated to library funding. The original ordinance was passed in 1998 as Measure B, and the funds have been used for more than 13 years for additional hours at the library, including evening and Sunday hours, as well as to buy more materials, to enhance technology, and to add more services for children and teens.



For more information on this measure, visit the [Library's website](#). - *Library*

**ART EXHIBITION AT THE LIBRARY:** An art exhibition inspired by Solano County's nature will be displayed at the Benicia Public Library beginning Sunday through May 6. The exhibition, *Seeing Solano II: Solano Land Trust through the Eyes of Artists*, is the second in a series of exhibits by 16 artists whose art has been inspired by [Solano Land Trust](#) lands. The art displayed will also be available for purchase, and the artists will be in attendance at the opening reception on Sunday, April 8 from 2:00 to 5:00 pm. The reception is free and open to the public. – *Library*

**(MOBILE COMMAND) MC-1 VISITS BENICIA FIRE:** On March 26, Benicia Fire and Benicia Police personnel participated in a refresher/orientation to [Mobile Command-1](#) operations. MC-1 is a Solano County Office of Emergency Services resource and is available free of cost to all emergency response agencies operating in Solano County. MC-1 offers enhanced communications capabilities including satellite telephone, Internet access, computers, printers, conference tables, and a climate controlled location for field command to operate. – *Fire Department*



**FIRST TUESDAY POETRY:** Come read your poetry or your favorites from someone else and listen to others at the First Tuesday Poetry Reading where adult read poetry from 6:30 – 9:00 pm on the first Tuesday of the month in the Library’s Dona Benicia Room. Light refreshments will be served. For up-to-date information on other poetry events go to [www.bencialibrary.org/poet](http://www.bencialibrary.org/poet) - *Library*

**NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK IS COMING!** Along with libraries through the United States, the Benicia Public Library will celebrate [National Library Week](#) the week of April 8 – 14. Check the [Library website](#) for more information on the celebration. - *Library*



**DON'T LET GOOD FOOD GO TO WASTE!**

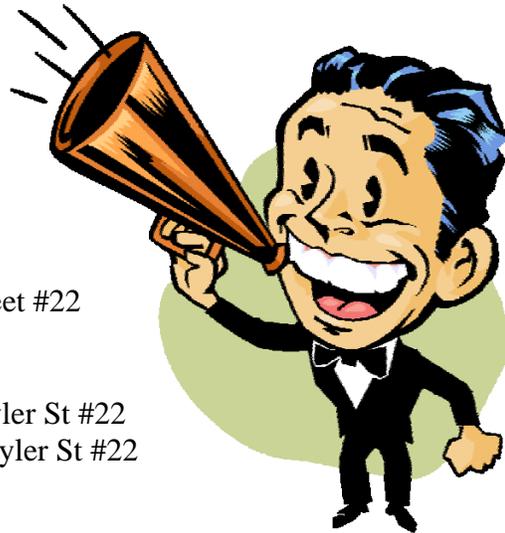
Harvest Benicia is a project of Healthy Cooking for Kids and Girl Scout Troop 20304 whereby local volunteers will harvest your extra produce and donate it to schools, churches, and local shelters. Email [harvest.Benicia@gmail.com](mailto:harvest.Benicia@gmail.com) to offer fruit or vegetables or to volunteer. Partnering organizations are the Benicia Unified School District, St. Paul’s Episcopal Church Food Program, and the Benicia Community Action Council. – *City Manager’s Office*

**EARTH DAY AWARENESS:** On April 21, the Library will host an Earth Day Awareness program, which will include a screening of the film Green Fire: Aldo Leopold and A Land Ethic for Our Time. The free program is open to the public. To RSVP visit [www.solanolandtrust.org](http://www.solanolandtrust.org) or contact [Solano Land Trust](http://Solano Land Trust) at 432-0150, extension 200 or email [volunteer@solanolandtrust.org](mailto:volunteer@solanolandtrust.org). - Library



**NEW BUSINESSES:** The following are new businesses or businesses in new locations. Please stop by and make them feel welcome:

- **Zen Spa** - 435 First Street
  - **A Lily of Gold Day Spa** - 2006 Columbus Parkway
  - **T-Mun LLC** - 390 Military East
  - **Pioneer Express Inc** - 5302 Gateway Plaza Drive
  - **Sprankle's Village Deli** -  
82 Solano Square
  - **Benicia Massage** -  
810 Southampton Road
  - **Plan-It Interactive** -  
150 West Industrial Way
  - **Roberto Scherillo's Fine Jewelry**  
560 First Street #B110
  - **Ory Fitness** - 2038 Columbus Parkway
  - **Peg Jackson Photography** - 940 Tyler Street #22
  - **Heritage Garment Preservation** -  
4592 East 2nd Street
  - **Studio 22 Arts & Jewelry Design** - 940 Tyler St #22
  - **Michael Van Auken Photography** - 940 Tyler St #22
- *Economic Development*



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CONTACT INFORMATION

The City Manager's Report from City of Benicia City Manager Brad Kilger is published before each City Council meeting on the first and third Tuesday of the month. 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

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 & Community Development: 707.746.4240 or 746.4280