

## CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

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APRIL 15, 2013

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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**CITY MANAGER APPOINTS NEW FIRE CHIEF:** City Manager Brad Kilger is pleased to announce that he has appointed Jim Lydon as Benicia's new Fire Chief. Jim is currently a Battalion Chief with the City of San Rafael and has over 32 years of service with the San Rafael Fire Department. In addition to his numerous specialized training certificates, Jim has a BS in Fire Administration and will be receiving his MA in Organizational Leadership from Gonzaga University in May. Jim's first day with the City is April 15. Kilger said, "Please join me in welcoming Jim to the City of Benicia."



Kilger continued, "Additionally, I'd like to give a special thank you to Nick Thomas for stepping in and serving as Interim Fire Chief." – *City Manager*

**PUT A POEM IN YOUR POCKET:** April is National Poetry Month...



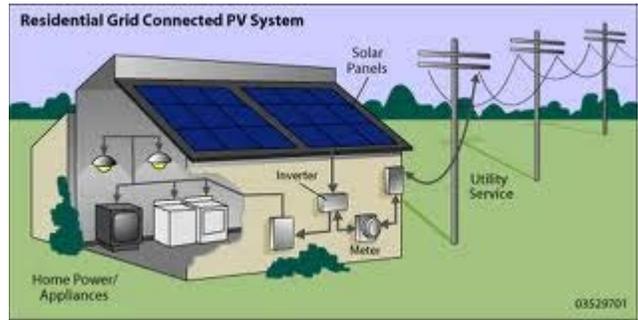
*"You will never be alone with a poet in your pocket. You will never have an idle hour."*

--John Adams

[Poets.org](http://Poets.org) asks you to Put a Poem in Your Pocket on **April 18** to share. If you need help finding one try their website or check out a book of poetry at the Library. We have a variety of books on display! - *Library*

**RESIDENTIAL SOLAR REBATES AVAILABLE:** The City of Benicia is pleased to announce the launch of the [Residential Solar Incentive Program](#). The City recognizes the importance of promoting renewable energy and reducing greenhouse gas emissions while savings our residents money on their energy bills.

To assist residents with installation costs, the City is offering a \$3,000 rebate for solar PV systems that are 1.5kw or greater. Residents can also take advantage of a matching discount of \$0.60/watt up to \$3,000



from three partnering solar installation companies: Diablo Solar Services (Martinez), Ally Electric & Solar (Richmond), and Verengo Solar (Concord).

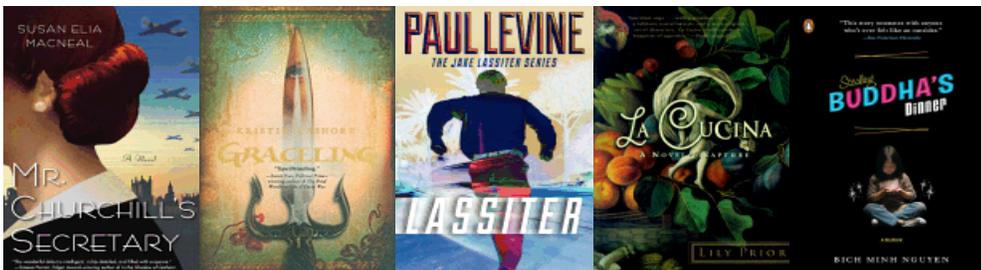
City rebates are available as of April 15, 2013 until funds are expended. Residents may continue to take advantage of solar company discounts after City funds are expended. To see if you qualify and to complete a Rebate Reservation form, please visit the Community Development Department or [click here](#) for a link to the information on the City's website.

Please consider attending the "What's Solar All About?" Workshop on April 25, from 6-7:30PM in the City Council Chambers where you can learn all about the benefits of installing solar and about the rebate program! – *Community Development*

**BOOK CLUB UPDATE:** There are several book clubs available at the Library...

- **Evening Book Club** meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 7:00PM in the Edna Clyne Room. They are currently reading *Mr. Churchill's Secretary* by Susan MacNeal.
- **Kids Books for Adults Book Club** meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 7:00PM in the Edna Clyne Room. They are currently reading *Graceling* by Kristen Cashore.
- **Mystery Book Club** meets on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM in the Dona Benicia Room. They are currently reading *Lassiter* by Paul Levine.
- **Noon Mystery Book Club** meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month at noon in the Dona Benicia Room. They are currently reading *La Cucina: A Novel of Rapture* by Lily Prior.
- **Food for Thought Book Club** meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month at 7:00PM in the Edna Clyne Room. They are currently reading *Stealing Buddha's Diner* by Bich Minh Nguyen.

Find more good books at the Benicia Public Library using BookLetters newsletter e-mails conveniently delivery right to your home or office. [Click here](#) to sign up. - *Library*



**CITY HAULERS ENTHUSIASTICALLY RUN FOR EDUCATION:** A City of Benicia team of runners, fondly referred to as the City Haulers, participated in the 6<sup>th</sup> annual Run for Education on the morning of April 14. The 1K, 5K, and 10K run is a fundraiser for the [Benicia Education Foundation](#).



City employees running this year were Mike Roberts, Colleen Williams, Brad Kilger and Drake Valentine, (not shown in photo) Carrie Wenslawski, Ashley Howe and Andrew Bidou. Not only did they help support a good cause but the City Haulers won the award for Most Enthusiastic Team! A big thanks go to our Youth Commission volunteers. - *City Manager's Office*

**BENICIA POLICE HOSTS ANNUAL PUBLIC SAFETY DISPATCHERS' LUNCHEON:** On April 9, Benicia Police Department Public Safety Dispatchers hosted the Napa Solano Dispatch Association's annual awards luncheon. The purpose of the luncheon is to recognize Public Safety Dispatchers in Solano and Napa County during the week of National Public Safety Telecommunicator's Week. This year, the National Public Safety Telecommunicator's Week is April 14 - 20. The BPD Public Safety Dispatchers will be recognized at the City Council meeting on April 16.

The luncheon was attended by members of the Vallejo PD, Fairfield PD, Vacaville PD, Suisun City PD, Dixon PD, Rio Vista PD, Solano County Sheriff's Department, Medic Ambulance, Napa PD, Napa County Sheriff's Office, St. Helena PD and Calistoga PD. Many of the agencies presented their "Dispatcher of the Year" awards and other awards at the luncheon.



Chief Andrew Bidou presented Dispatch Lead Tiffany Sylvester with a "Dispatcher of the Year" medal for being selected as the departments Dispatcher of the Year for 2012. Tiffany was nominated by her peers and several police officers. On July 14, 2012 Tiffany was training a new Dispatcher when an officer stopped a vehicle that was reported stolen. After a short vehicle pursuit, the vehicle came to a stop and the driver drew a weapon and fired several shots at the officer. As the officer fired back and relayed this information to the Dispatcher, Tiffany immediately took over the police radio and began dispatching in a calm and professional manner. The suspect drove away and another short pursuit ensued. The suspect was able to abandon the vehicle and flee on foot. Tiffany continued to dispatch for several hours, monitoring radio traffic from several perimeters and updates from not only local officers, but officers from responding agencies that had responded to the shots fired call. Ultimately the suspect was captured the next day. After this incident, the Sergeant working that day, the Officer involved in the shooting incident, and the Dispatch Trainee commended Tiffany on her calm demeanor and professional dispatching skills during this emotionally charged event.

Nine-0-Seven Grill catered the event and there were many raffle prizes won by the attendees. Jeff Toynbee from the Benicia Fire Department was the MC for this event. - *Police Department*

**BENICIA POLICE HOST 4<sup>TH</sup> CITIZEN'S ACADEMY:** On April 4, the 4<sup>th</sup> Citizen's Academy began at Benicia Police Department for the eighteen citizens who signed up. The first session gave the citizen students the opportunity to tour the police facility, meet the Chief of Police and learn about what it takes to become a Benicia Police Officer.



Officer Fred Ayala and Corporal Mark Menesini are the Academy Facilitators. All the classes will be instructed by members of the Benicia Police Department. The Academy will take place every Thursday evening from 6:30-9:30 PM with two Saturday classes. The students will learn about Criminal Law, Patrol Procedures, Traffic Stops, Defensive Tactics, Narcotics, K-9's, SWAT, Dispatch, School Resource, Investigations and CSI. They will spend one full Saturday at the range learning to shoot the weapons the BPD are issued, and another Saturday putting the skills they have learned to the test in mock scenarios. The Academy is open to all Benicia residents. Graduation is scheduled for May 30<sup>th</sup> at the City Council Chambers. – *Police Department*

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- consolidated list of yours or your family's library loans and holds, and
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**UPDATE FROM PUBLIC WORKS:** Take a look at what the Public Works Department was up to in March. See if they were in your neighborhood.

**Maintenance – Streets:**

- **Paving-** Dorset Way sink hole repair (20 sq/ft), 550 East G Street sink hole repair (16 sq/ft), Gloria Way patch pave (75 sq/ft), Waste Water Treatment Plant patch pave (30 sq/ft).
- **Weed Abatement-** Carolina Drive pedestrian path, Chelsea Hills Drive, Cambridge Drive, East 2nd Street, Claverie Way
- **Crackseal-** Lake Herman Road shoulder, WTP to East 2<sup>nd</sup>
- **Sidewalk Repair-**1300 West K Street (replaced 20 sq/ft), 600 First Street (replaced 30 sq/ft), 1300 West L Street curb repair, Stephen Court curb repair, 100 West H Street joint sidewalk removal
- **Potholes-** Southampton Road (3), West G Street @ West 2nd Street (1), East 2nd Street @ Industrial Way (2), Park Road (2), East 2nd Street @ Riverhill Drive (2)
- **Miscellaneous Street Activities-** Chelsea Hills Drive clear mud from sidewalk near park, Lake Herman Road replaced damaged overside storm drain, future overlay profiles East K Street, Park Road, Southampton Road, Eaton Court open space removed trash and nuisance structure

**Maintenance – Sewer:**

- **Main Repairs-** 700 East J Street, D.P. Quandt Lane
- **Customer Service Calls-** 1700 Helene Court, 100 El Bonita Way, 2000 East 3rd Street, 300 West K Street, 800 West 6th Street
- **Closed Circuit Televising-** Quandt Lane, Adams Street, 1700 Helene Way, 800 West 6th Street, 300 West K Street
- **Lift Station Cleanings-** Park Road, Teal Court, Industrial Way, B.I. Station
- **City Wide Main Cleanings-** Service Calls 1,226', Scheduled 8,452'

**Water Quality:**

- In the month of March, the Laboratory Technicians analyzed samples for the drinking water and wastewater treatment plants. In total, 381 samples were entered in the laboratory database, many of which have multiple tests run on an individual sample. The monthly bioassay, a 96-hour survival test of minnows in treated wastewater, resulted in a 97.5% survival rate. All compliance reports were submitted on time.
- The Water Quality Technician completed weekly drinking water distribution system monitoring, all of which yielded normal results.
- The Wastewater Technician inspected businesses and worked with the building department to improve communication between them.



### **Wastewater Treatment Plant (February and March):**

- Staff recently started the replacement of all of the sample lines that are used in the disinfection system. This is a large undertaking and is expected to take around a month to finish. Along with changing the lines there will also be some pump replacement and new electrical wires pulled for the new pumps.
- Staff recently completed the Wrap-around Project. This project will allow Staff to bring back around effluent flow that would not be compliant with the Plant's Permit. This will help in avoiding most problems with meeting discharge Permit requirements. The cost of doing this in-house with Staff was approximately \$35,000. Cost to have outside contract to engineer and build would have estimated to cost of around \$150,000.

### **WWTP Plant Maintenance:**

- Staff performed 88 preventive maintenance task and 13 corrective maintenance task

### **WWTP Plant Performance;**

- The Plant processed 75.2(Feb)/81.9(Mar) million gallons of raw wastewater with no Permit exceedances.
- Nutrient pollution removal; BOD = 97% TSS = 98%

- *Public Works*

**BENICIA POLICE PROVIDE ESCORT TO MATTHEW TURNER ELEMENTARY:** On the morning of April 9, Benicia Police School Resource Officers Will Patterson and Sam Peterson, along with Motor Officer Mark Simonson, Corporal Mark Menesini, Officer John McFadden and Officer Sergio Cruz provided Matthew Turner Elementary School 4th grade student PJ Morgan and his little brother Jacob (who is in Kindergarten) a ride to school from their home. The ride is the result of Iona and Peter Morgan being the recipients of a raffle prize during a school fundraiser. Upon arrival at Matthew Turner, both boys were a “big hit” at the school. Several times a year, Benicia schools ask permission of the Police Department to auction off an event like this, and many times, the auction item is a very popular item bid on by many of the parents and grandparents hoping to give their kids a special moment. – *Police*



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Available for free on Library computers and at home through the Library's website, Cypress Resume is a great resource if you are writing your first resume or if this is the first time you are applying for a specific type of job.

Cypress Resume gives you many job specific statements to showcase your strengths, talents and skills and allows you to download, edit, publish, save and update your information. This resource is also available with a Spanish option. Take a look! – *Library*

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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**

**[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**