

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

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JUNE 17, 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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**BPD THE FITTEST IN THE LAND:** *SoFit Magazine's* June edition has an article featuring Benicia Police Department's fitness program, [The Fittest in the Land](#). Chief Bidou says, "I think our fitness program demonstrates our commitment to our employees and helps us meet the expectations of our community. I believe the cascading and ancillary effects of our fitness program have contributed to many of our organizational successes." [Click here](#) to see the complete article and photos. – *Police Department*



**HISTORIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION FUNDRAISER:** In celebration of the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Benicia Public Library building, a fundraiser benefiting the Benicia Library



Foundation will be held at the home of Scott and Christina Strawbridge on **June 21**. The Strawbridges live in what was once the Benicia Public Library at 144 East G Street.

The reception will start at 5:30PM and will feature speaker Martha Ann Francisca Vallejo-McGettigan, the great-great granddaughter of Dona Francisca Vallejo. Tickets

include appetizers and one glass of wine for \$40/person or \$70/couple in advance or %50 at the door. Contact [Helaine Bowles](#) at 707.746.4358 for more information or to buy your tickets. – *Library*

**INLAND RESCUE SWIMMER TRAINING:** One of Benicia’s most beautiful resources is its

waterfront and the many activities that take place there. The waterfront, however, presents certain challenges for the Fire Department as first responders. In order to address those challenges, a crew of nine Benicia Firefighters participated in a two-day (June 11-12) Advanced Inland Rescue Swimmer course given by Sierra Rescue.



Part one of this training began in June 2012 when 11 department members attended the Beginning Inland Rescue Swimmer course. Both courses are aimed at rescuing in an inland open water environment such as lakes, ponds and waterways like the straits. The Firefighters worked on improving their readiness by enhancing their skills in swimming, boat based open water search techniques, recovery of submerged victims, towing and managing combative and unconscious victims.

In order to achieve the Fire Department’s goal of enhancing its ability to provide rescue services within Benicia’s waterway, various equipment needs have been identified. These needs include suits, swimmer adjuncts, PFD’s and a vessel. The Department is committed to finding funding sources in order to improve its water rescue abilities and responsiveness. – *Fire Department*

**I**N-SERVICE WEEK AT THE JAMES LEMOS SWIM CENTER: The City of Benicia Lifeguards kicked off the first week of summer with their annual In-Service Week training.



The three-day training focused on skill practice, conditioning and team building. Training topics included: in-water rescue work, CPR, oxygen administration, AED, spinal care, first aid, emergency response scenarios, swimming lessons and customer service. The guards are placed in teams that compete in skill based challenges throughout the week. The goal is to provide the guards with quality and challenging training while motivating them for the summer and encouraging team work. – *Parks & Community Services*

**B**UILDING CLUB: For ages 5-12, the Building Club is held every Thursday in the Dona Benicia Room at the Benicia Public Library from 4:00 - 5:00PM. We're not allowed to publicize the type of building blocks we'll use (and which we'll provide - please don't bring your own!), but here's a little verse about the program:



**L**ike to play with blocks and  
**E**ngineer cars and buildings?  
**G**et in on the action! Build with us  
**O**n Thursdays, 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.  
- *Library*

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

- **Estenson Electrical Enterprises, Inc.** - 5458 Gateway Plaza, owners: Brent and Monica Estenson
- **Nancy Lee** - 831 First Street (station rental only), owner: Nancy Lee
- **Tanya Illiff** - 435 First Street (station rental only), owner: Tanya Illiff
- **The Runhouse** - 523 First Street, owners: Michael Potter and Nate Wheeler
- **Genevieve Dace, Inc. dba Revitalize Skincare and Laser** - 1387 East Second Street, owner: Genevieve Dace
- **Pups N Purrz** - 422 First Street, new owner: James Long
- **Solano Property Management** - 285 East H Street, owners: Steve Spencer and Bev Dorsett
- **Urban Notions** - 611 First Street, owner: Jeanne Steinmann

- *Economic Development*



**TAILS N' TALES:** Especially for kids going into 1st through 5th grades, participants will have a chance to read to a dog every Thursday at 2:30PM in the Dona Benicia Room at the Benicia Public Library. Sign-ups recommended; the list for each Thursday opens up at 2 pm. Up to seven children can read to the dog in a given day; if no one comes for ten minutes, the dog goes home. - *Library*



**SUMMER VIDEO GAMES:** Come on in to the Benicia Public Library this summer and play XBOX 360, Playstation and Wii with others who like to play video games every Monday and Tuesday, 2:30-4:40PM in the Dona Benicia Room. For ages 8-19 years. - *Library*



**CONGRATULATIONS TO TINY TOTS PRE SCHOOL GRADUATES:** Our Tiny Tots Preschool students celebrated the end of the 2012/2013 school year last week and the children entering Kindergarten in the fall graduated from our program. Parents, family and friends were invited to join the classes during the graduations ceremonies. The teachers presented the children with their diplomas and hats and the children were entertained afterwards by Kelly the Clown and songs from Carol Ann. Our four preschool teachers have been teaching for us for more than 18 years and have contributed to the lives of so many of our Benicia Youth. – *Parks & Community Services*



**SUMMER READING PROGRAM BEGINS:** Summer Reading for kids and teens has started. This is an excuse to celebrate that reading is fun because kids and teens get prizes for reading. This year's theme for kids is "How many stars in the sky?" Children may count the amount of time they read or the number of books read – the important thing is that they read in the summer!



Each child who participates can receive up to three prizes:

- a coupon for Carl's Jr. in June,
- a free book in July,
- a prize from our prize box in August.

Sign up any time the Library is open and enjoy the large number of [special events](#) for younger and older children from June 18 - July 31. There will be no events on July 2nd and 3rd, so people can enjoy the Fourth of July holiday without missing any events at the Library. - *Library*

**SOLANO COUNTY JOINT WILDLAND FIRE TRAINING EXERCISE:** The Benicia Fire Department, in collaboration with representatives from Vacaville City, Suisun District, Cordelia, Solano County OES and CAL Fire, participated in a joint training exercise on June 14 at the Lake Herman Recreation Area.



The exercise was tailored around a simulated wildland fire off of Sky Valley Road, which would involve multiple agencies as well as multiple jurisdictions.

Cal Fire provided an update, and gave an overview of its capabilities within the Lake Napa Unit. The participating agencies also worked on communications, incident organization, the ordering of resources and logistics coordination. – *Fire Department*

**POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT PUBLISHED:** The Benicia Police Department has published their annual report for 2012. Entitled [Everyday Heroes](#), the report highlight employee recognition, personnel updates, professional development, significant cases, specialized programs, statistics, and more.

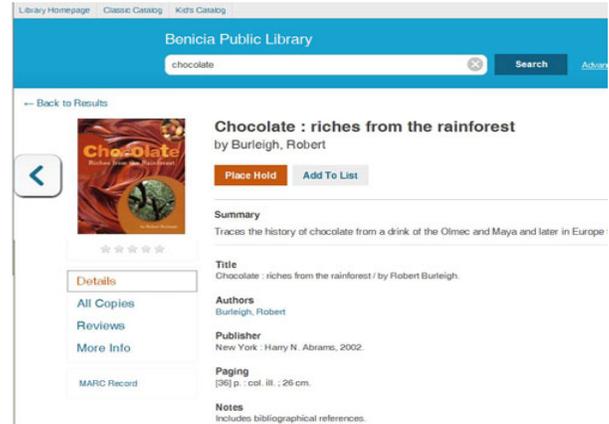


PD Monthly Reports are also available. The latest reports for April and May contain a monthly wrap-up of Community Service, Professional Development, Statistics, and an Interesting Case Summary. [Click here](#) to read them. – *Police Department*

**BENICIA PUBLIC LIBRARY SIGN:** For 20 years, the Benicia Public Library sign has indicated whether the Library was open or closed. Over the years, the sign has started to deteriorate, so in celebration of the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary at 150 East L Street, the Library sign will be refurbished. Look for the new sign after July 1. - *Library*



**VISUAL CATALOG UPGRADED:** The Benicia Public Library's [Visual Catalog](#) has been upgraded with a new and improved interface. Note the large Place Hold and Add to List buttons. You can rate the book by clicking on the stars below the picture of the item and log in to write a review. Click on All Copies to see the libraries who own copies. – *Library*



**FLAG DAY AND THE RETIREMENT OF OLD AMERICAN FLAGS:** On Flag Day, June 14, Benicia Fire Department crews stood by at the Benicia Veteran's Memorial Hall to observe and supervise as Veterans of Foreign Wars and Benicia Boy Scouts helped retire old and tattered American flags.



Flag Day is celebrated annually on June 14 in commemoration of the adoption of the America flag in 1777. Approximately 200 to 300 flags are accumulated each year and then are disposed of properly by burning. – *Fire Department*

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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