

## CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

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AUGUST 19, 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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**IT'S ALMOST TIME TO RELAY:** Benicia [Relay for Life](#) is Saturday & Sunday, **August 24 & 25** at the Benicia High School football field. City Employees will once again have a Relay for Life team raising awareness (and money) to save lives from cancer.

### What is Relay for Life?

Each year, more than 4 million people in over 20 countries take part in this event and raise awareness and much-needed funds to save lives from cancer. Teams walk for 24 hours to remember, celebrate, and fight back against this disease that has affected so many of us.

### How can you help?

- City employees can join a team, cheer the City Employee team on, or better yet come walk with them on August 24 & 25.
- Make a donation. Visit [Relay for Life](#) and donate to the Benicia City Employees team or any team.
- Dedicate a Luminaria Bag to honor/remember/celebrate someone you know. The City Employee team will proudly display your bag in the Luminaria Ceremony at the event. Contact Peggy Mekki at 707.746.4166 for details.



For more information, contact Gina Eleccion at [geleccion@ci.benicia.ca.us](mailto:geleccion@ci.benicia.ca.us) or 707.746.4278. **Help us fight for more birthdays!** – *Community Development*

**CONGRATULATION ARE IN ORDER:** The Parks & Community Services Department is celebrating the retirement of Bob Brown after 26 years of service with the City of Benicia. There will be a retirement luncheon in his honor on **Thursday, August 29** at noon at the Community Center. If you'd like to attend, please contact Ann Dunleavy at 707.746.4282 or [adunleavy@ci.benicia.ca.us](mailto:adunleavy@ci.benicia.ca.us). – *Parks & Community Services*



**PD STAFFS INFORMATION BOOTH AT THE PEDDLER'S FAIRE:** Every year the Benicia Police Department has an information booth at the Benicia Peddler's Fair as well as many other community events. Along with the Police personnel, the Police volunteers were on hand passing out badge stickers and coloring books to the kids and answering many questions from the public.



In other Police Department news, the Benicia Police Department will be participating at [Relay for Life](#) on **August 24-25**. The Benicia Police Officers Association and the Benicia Dispatchers Association are bronze sponsors of this event. – *Police Department*



**FIREFIIGHTERS PROVIDE REFRESHING BREAK AT BENICIA PEDDLER'S FAIR:** On Saturday, August 10, members of the Benicia Firefighters Association, along with members from other area Firefighter Associations, sponsored a booth at the 50<sup>th</sup> annual Benicia Peddler's Fair. The booth provided event attendees with a rest area and the opportunity to enjoy ice cream donated by the local Baskin Robbins. Those who stopped by the booth also had the opportunity to see some of the equipment that is regularly used during emergency incidents and to ask questions about fire safety and the various programs the associations support. – *Fire Department*



**BENICIA YOUTH COMMISSION (BYC) STARTS A NEW YEAR:** Made up of middle school and high school student looking for volunteer and leadership opportunities, the BYC meets twice per month to plan community service activities, Clock Tower dances, and to discuss issues related to Benicia youth. Information on the BYC is available at the Community Center and on line at <http://www.ci.benicia.ca.us/byc>. The first meeting will be **Wednesday, September 4**. – *Parks & Community Services*



**ARTS BENICIA PRESENTS IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS:** *William Harsh and his Printmaking Students* is the latest art exhibition in the Council Chambers, running through October 28.



Through Arts Benicia's printmaking program the artists in this exhibition, all worked under the tutelage of [Bill Harsh](#). Bill had a veritable storehouse of knowledge of the history and practice of printmaking. From the diversity of the work shown here, one can appreciate a sampling of the range of printmaking techniques Bill offered. He taught both relief and intaglio processes: monotypes, etchings, collagraphs, woodblock and a variety of hybrid and experimental ways of transferring images to paper. These artists consistently attended Bill's classes from 2001 until he stopped teaching, shortly before his death in October 2012. While Bill considered himself first a painter, his work often included examples of the printmaking he taught. We are grateful to Bill's wife, Marilyn Bardet and to Chris Meade for generously allowing the exhibition of some of Bill's work.

An Opening Reception will take place on **Friday, August 30**, 7:00-9:00PM in the City Hall Courtyard. – *City Manager's Office*

**FIRE INVESTIGATION UNDERWAY:** On August 16, just after 6:00PM, Benicia Firefighters responded to multiple 911 calls reporting a grass fire on the hill behind 649 East Industrial Way. Upon arrival, fire units found and quickly extinguished approximately two acres of burning grass and shrubs. This photo was taken of Benicia firefighters performing an investigation into the cause of the fire. Benicia Firefighters Mike Brown, Scott Hansen, and Jed Matcham are all certified fire investigators and are members of the Solano County Fire Investigation Unit. – *Fire Department*

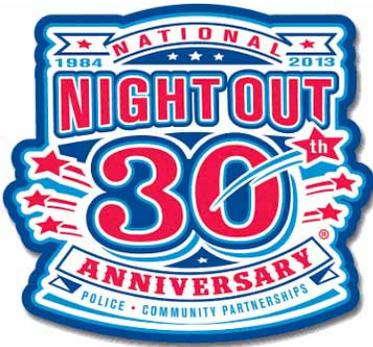


**POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT AVAILABLE:** The Benicia Police Department monthly report for July is available. It contains a monthly wrap-up of Community Services, Professional Development, Statistics, and Interesting Case Summaries. [Click here](#) to read more. – *Police Department*

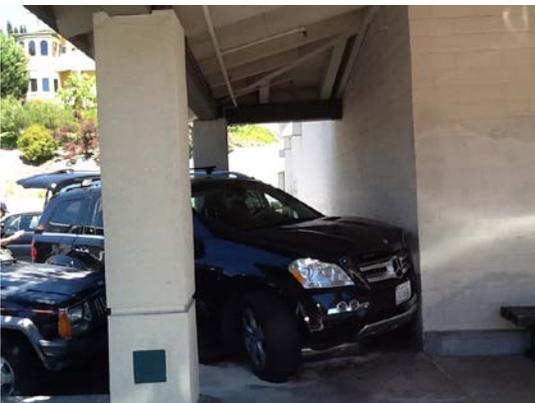
**NATIONAL NIGHT OUT IN BENICIA:** The Benicia Police Department celebrated the 30th annual National Night Out on August 6. Benicia joined forces with thousands of other communities across the country in promoting cooperative, police-community crime prevention efforts.

This year, seven local groups participated:

- Vecino Drive
- 400 block of Panorama Drive
- Cooper Drive and Byron Court
- Cooper Drive and Bigler Court
- Shannon and Tamara Courts
- Buena Vista
- 400 block of East K Street. The East K Street location celebrated their 18th year of participation.



Each location celebrated with pot luck BBQ's, children's activities and lots of camaraderie. In addition to the Police Department, the Benicia Fire Department was well represented along with BERT members, members of the City Council, and the City Manager who caravanned and visited each of the locations. – *Police Department*



**NEAR MISS:** On August 15, Benicia Fire and Police Department personnel responded to a reported vehicle accident at the Safeway grocery store on Military West. Upon arrival, a vehicle was located wedged against the Safeway building. Although this incident certainly had the potential to result in significant injury to pedestrians or the vehicle's passengers, there were no injuries associated with this incident. – *Fire Department*

**TINY TOTS PRE-SCHOOL FAREWELL:** Janice Welgan, one of our four Tiny Tots teachers has decided to retire after 25 years of teaching for the Parks & Community Services Department. We have been so lucky to have such a talented & wonderful teacher. Janice has influenced the lives of hundreds of children in Benicia during her twenty-five years with the Parks & Community Services Department. Janice and her husband will be retiring to Boise, Idaho, having purchased a beautiful home there to be close to their family. While we are sad to see our longtime friend and colleague leave, we are very excited for Janice to begin this new chapter in her life. – *Parks & Community Services*



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

- **Got Plate Lunch** — 1034 First Street, owner: Youngmin Jamie Bigornia
- **Gilbert L. Wergowske, M.D** — 560 First Street, Suite C-105, owners: Gilbert and Rita Wergowske
- **Jessica Burke Photography** — 940 Tyler Street #6C, owner: Jessica Burke
- **Dave's Barber Shop & Shaving Parlor** — 333 First Street Suite C, owner: David Vallejos
- **Southwest Transportation Systems Inc, DBA Alamillo Transport** — 325 West Channel Road, owners: Joe Alamillo and Larry Alamillo
- **Alamillo Rebar Inc** — 325 West Channel Road, owners: Larry Alamillo and Brett Alamillo

- *Economic Development*



**BADGE PINNING CEREMONY|:** On August 16, the Benicia Fire Department hosted a badge pinning ceremony for two Firefighter Paramedics who were recently promoted to the position of Engineer. In front of family and friends, Carl Littorno and Vince Parga were recognized for their appointments. Both Carl and Vince joined the department in late 2009 and were among several participants in the recruitment process that began in late May. The selection process included a written exam, two practical phases, and finally, interviews with the Fire Chief. Congratulations Carl and Vince! – *Fire Department*



Engineer Littorno

Engineer Parga

## SO FIT CITY CHALLENGE: On Saturday, September 28, Solano County cities will



come together to determine which city is the fittest at the 5K/10K/Family Fun Run at Solano Town Center (1350 Travis Blvd.). Races begin at 8:00AM. **Register here** or on site starting at 6:00AM. Metals and prizes will be awarded to 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place finishers in each category.

Everybody that crosses the finish line in the SOFITCITY Regional Championship will count as 1pt towards their respective city total. The city with the largest point total takes the 2013 Fittest City Trophy home presented by Kaiser Permanente. There will also be a Mayors Cup Challenge pitting city leaders against each other for points. Points are awarded for Mayors, Vice Mayors, City Managers, City Council Members, and Planning Commission members crossing the finish line.



In addition, there will be an Armed Services Challenge for Armed Service personnel and a First Responders Challenge for law enforcement and fire protection personnel. In these performance-based challenges, finishing times will be compared and ranked for top men and women finishers in each category of the 5K and 10K.

Proceeds go to non-profit organizations and the Solano County Library Foundation and will be distributed according to the number of people from a given city that

cross the finish line. [Click here](#) for more information. – *City Manager's Office*

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

### Maintenance – Streets:

#### June

- **Paving-** Marina Place alley, West 3<sup>rd</sup> Street at H Street alley, 500-800 Oxford Way (25 tons total)
- **Crack Seal-** East 7<sup>th</sup> near I Street
- **Weed Abatement-** Lake Herman Road and Dam site
- **Concrete-** 100 blk East H Street, 2400 East 2<sup>nd</sup> Street
- **Miscellaneous-** Farmers Market set-up, debris removal 1500 East 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, legend painting California Court, tree trimming East 4<sup>th</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Streets, spilled paint clean up Cambridge Drive at Hastings Drive

## July

- **Paving**- Oxford Way, Warwick Drive, Havenhill Drive, East E Street
- **Weed Abatement**- East L Street, East 4<sup>th</sup> Street
- **Storm Drain Maintenance**- East 5<sup>th</sup> Street alley at G Street
- **Special Events**- Torch Light Parade, 4th of July, Waterfront Festival, Holy Ghost Parade, Farmers Market
- **Potholes**- 900 First Street, Buena Terra, West 7<sup>th</sup> Street, West 5<sup>th</sup> Street
- **Legend & Curb Painting**- Viewmont Avenue, East 5<sup>th</sup> Street, East 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, S Street, El Bonito, Hillcrest Avenue, Rose Drive, Sweetbrier, Solano Way, Hastings Drive, Kearney, Drolette Way, Military West, Goettel Court, Corrigan Court, Mary Farmer Way, West 10<sup>th</sup> Street, West 13<sup>th</sup> Street, Church Street, West 9<sup>th</sup> Street, West K Street, Southampton Road, East L Street, East K Street
- **Signs**- El Bonito Way, Hillcrest Avenue, Vista Grande, Linda Vista, La Prenda, East 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Olive Branch Court, West 9<sup>th</sup> Street, West K Street, East K Street, Adams Street, East 2nd Street
- **Miscellaneous**- Trash pick-up Reservoir Road

## **Maintenance – Sewer:**

### June

- **Repairs**- Francisca Court, Willow Glen Park, Del Centro Avenue, 500 blk East G Street alley
- **Customer Service Calls**- 1100 blk Military West, Bayshore Road, 4700 Park Road, 900 blk East 5th Street, La Cruz Avenue
- **Closed Circuit Televising**- West 2nd Street, Stone Road, Francisca Court, Del Centro Avenue, East 5th Street
- **Lift Station Cleanings** - Parkway Plaza, East B Street, Corp Yard
- **City Wide Line Cleanings**- Service calls 3,650', Scheduled 14,50, water distribution log, service line breaks, two hydrant breaks, daily service calls and USA', monthly meter reads

### July

- **Repairs**- 300 blk of East N Street
- **Customer Service Calls**- 300 East O Street, 800 East 5<sup>th</sup> Street, 300 Lori Drive, Park Road, Pointe Benicia Way, 700 Military East, 500 East G Street alley, 600 Hillcrest Avenue, 300 East N Street, 600 East K Street, 200 East O Street
- **Closed Circuit Televising**- 300 East N Street, 500 East G Street alley, East 6<sup>th</sup> Street at G Street
- **Lift Station Cleanings**- Park Road, Waste Water Treatment Plant basins
- **City Wide Main Cleanings**- Service Calls 2,300', Scheduled 8,135'

## **Water:**

- The Water Division has been treating and distributing drinking water to 28,000 Benicia citizens, and there has been a little excitement along the way. On June 18, a wildfire swept from East Channel Road, across the property of Discovery Builders, and right over the southeast portion of the WTP. With winds gusting up to 35 mph, Benicia Fire and many mutual aid partners (Vallejo, Cordelia, Valero, Cal-Fire) managed to extinguish this grain fire by the time it reached Lake Herman Road. The Water Plant survived and the flames not only burned out weeds around the sludge lagoons, it also exposed air release valves on DBI's

property and along the Lake Herman section of the City's 36" raw water transmission line.

- On July 25 Benicia Police coordinated a regional SWAT exercise at the WTP, whereby SWAT teams from Vallejo, Napa, and Fairfield set up a training exercise using the real stuff. Staff tried to ignore all the law enforcement personnel on site, but was outnumbered 10 to 1!



- In late July, the new operators' console was installed in preparation for the Security Surveillance Improvement Project underway. Following the events of 9/11, the City hired a security consultant to determine the needs of the Water Division to protect its staff and assets. With the addition of the photovoltaic arrays at the three pump stations, cameras will be mounted overseeing the solar farms. The console provides enough space to include the WTP's Supervisory Control & Data Acquisition (SCADA) system, the security surveillance system, and the system controls from the large control panels.



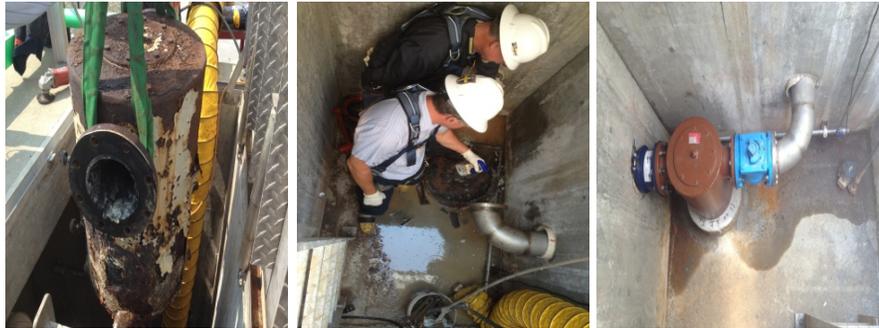
- Scott Rovanager, Superintendent, has been organizing and presenting at the two Water Education Seminars for the CA-NV-AWWA Section. The WES in Oakland on July 24 had over 100 attendees and Scott presented five PowerPoint presentations on water quality, drinking water regulations, and enhanced water treatment techniques. The WES in Orange on August 14 had 600 attendees and Scott presented three talks on regulations and system water quality.

### Wastewater Treatment Plant Projects:

- Staff has installed a new eleven hundred gallon sodium hypochlorite tank (chlorine bleach) for the newly reconditioned odor scrubber system. Staff also dismantled the old tank and it was disposed of properly.



- Staff replaced four water traps in the Methane gas production line that were worn out and were in need of changing.



- Staff replaced and re-plumbed in an air dryer for one of our main compressors.
- Doing this work in-house has saved the City tens of thousands of dollars in installation cost and disposal cost.



### WWTP Plant Maintenance:

- Staff performed 66 preventive maintenance task and six corrective maintenance task.

### WWTP Plant Performance:

- The Plant processed 67.6 million gallons of raw wastewater with no Permit exceedances.
- Nutrient pollution removal; BOD = 98.8% TSS = 99.0%

### **Laboratory:**

- We are pleased to welcome recent Benicia High School graduate, Ellen Lucchesi, as a Lab Aide during the summer. Ellen participated in BHS ECH<sub>2</sub>O Academy during her senior year, and one of the requirements was to intern in a private-sector company. She chose the WTP as her internship and spent 2-hours every Wednesday afternoon from October through June learning about the Benicia Water System. In recognizing this achievement, and due to the shortage of lab staff in the Water Quality Division, Ellen was offered a summer job to help out in the laboratory at both the WWTP and the WTP.



- *Public Works*

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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**