

## CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

~~~

SEPTEMBER 4, 2012

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

-----

### COMPOST CAN...

- Reduce or eliminate the need for chemical fertilizers.
- Promote higher yields of agricultural crops.
- Facilitate reforestation, wetlands restoration, and habitat revitalization efforts by amending contaminated, compacted, and marginal soils.
- Cost-effectively remediate soils contaminated by hazardous waste.
- Remove solids, oil, grease, and heavy metals from stormwater runoff.
- Capture and destroy 99.6 percent of industrial volatile organic chemicals (VOCs) in contaminated air.
- Provide cost savings of at least 50 percent over conventional soil, water, and air pollution remediation technologies, where applicable ([www.EPA.gov](http://www.EPA.gov)).

On *Thursdays, September 27*, you can enjoy the Farmers Market at 4:00 pm, then join the free composting workshop at 5:00 pm at the Avant Garden, First and D Streets. Valcore Master Gardener, Jane Bogner will lead the workshop. Soilsaver Composters will be on sale for 50% off. For more info and to sign up, contact Marie Knutson with Allied Waster at 925.671.5814. Just a hint: Bring a folding chair for the class and your canvas bag (and used plastic bags for individual items) to the market. – *City Manager's Office*



**Hydraulic Rescue Tools:** The Benicia Fire Department responds to vehicle accidents on

Interstates 680 and 780, the Benicia-Martinez Bridge, and surface streets within the City of Benicia. Hydraulic rescue tools are essential in order to perform extrication operations to free trapped and injured victims of vehicle accidents. Time is critical for trauma patients, so having the proper tools to perform these extrications can truly make the difference between life and death.



On August 21<sup>st</sup>, the Benicia City Council approved the purchase of replacement hydraulic rescue tools. These new tools are significantly more powerful than the old tools, which is important because of the increased strength of materials used in present day automobile manufacturing. For example, the new hydraulic cutters have a maximum cutting force of 228,855 lbs, while the old cutters have a maximum cutting force of 63,400 lbs. Fire Engineer Mike Brown took the lead in fabricating brackets to hold the new equipment (see photo above). – *Fire Department*



**SENIOR FITNESS CLASSES:** Stop by and check out all of the senior fitness classes happening at the Benicia Community Center. Classrooms are filled with music, instruction and lots of SMILING faces. With a wide variety of classes and instruction for all levels, our



amazing groups of participants are filling their days with Tai Chi, Zumba, resistance training, dance, aerobics and more. If you or someone you know is interested in seeing a schedules of weekly classes, please email Jill Wynn, Recreation Supervisor, at [jwynn@ci.benicia.ca.us](mailto:jwynn@ci.benicia.ca.us) or call 707.746.4285. – *Parks & Community Services*



**RELAY FOR LIFE:** Benicia’s fourth Relay for Life was extremely successful. Library staff, Soroptimists International, the “City Haulers”, and other teams participated in the Relay as well as raised money for and awareness of cancer. This year’s Relay raised over \$100,000 to be used in the fight against cancer. - *Library*



**Library Teen Volunteers**

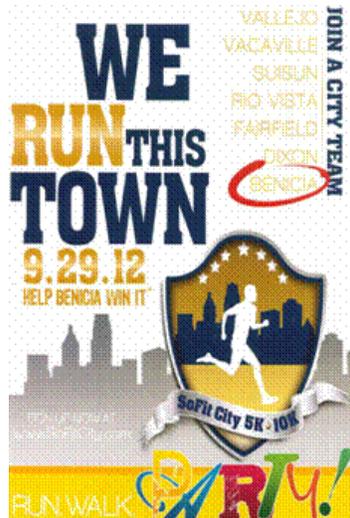
**MORE RELAY:** The Benicia Police Department wants to thank those who helped at the recent American Cancer Society's Relay for Life event:

- Extra special thanks to the Benicia Dispatch Association for all their help with the fundraising efforts and helping Angela Knight make her fabulous cake pops; they were a big hit.
- A big thank you goes to Patti Baron. This event would not be successful without her passion and hard work.
- The Police Department held two K9 demonstrations that were a big hit. Thanks to Officer Kirk Keffer and Bak for putting on a good show.
- Thanks also to Motor Officer Fred Ayala (who is still trying to clean the red clay dust from his bike) for being out there all day and letting kids take photos on his bike.
- Thanks to the Benicia Police Officers’ Association and the Benicia Dispatchers’ Association for their bronze sponsorships of \$1,000,
- And thanks for all the individual donations, raffle and sale items.

– *Police Department*



**SOFIT CITY FUNDRAISER:**



Ready to get physical for another good cause? Wanna show this county which city is the healthiest? How about supporting the Benicia Public Library (and all of Solano County's libraries) by participating in the SoFit City fundraiser; a 1mile walk, 5K walk/run, and 10K run on *September 29* at Solano Mall in Fairfield? Funds will be donated to our library based on how many Benicia entrants finish the run/walk and also based on how many community members volunteer for the run/walk and participate in local events.

For more information on how you can volunteer or to register for the run, go to [SoFitCity.com](http://SoFitCity.com). Be sure to state that you are for Benicia so that you are included in our count. Let's make a difference for Solano County's libraries and have fun at the same time! - Library

**THANKS FOR A GREAT SUMMER!!**

The Parks & Community Services Department wants to extend a big thank you to the talented group of young people who worked for us this summer. They did an amazing job teaching swim lessons, organizing games and activities and providing a safe environment for the children of our community to laugh and play.



**ADC/K2 Staff Summer 2012**



**Some of the Summer 2012 Swim Staff**

This year we had a staff of 44 recreation leaders and 45 lifeguards. This group of hard working and dedicated young people helped us have one of the best summers ever.

Here are a few examples of the programs and people they impacted:

- Adventures Day Camp: 135 campers per session for 5 session = 675 campers
- K2 (Middle School): 50 campers per session for 5 sessions = 250 campers
- Swim Lesson: Instructed 1,178 participants in our Learn To Swim Program

- Parks & Community Services



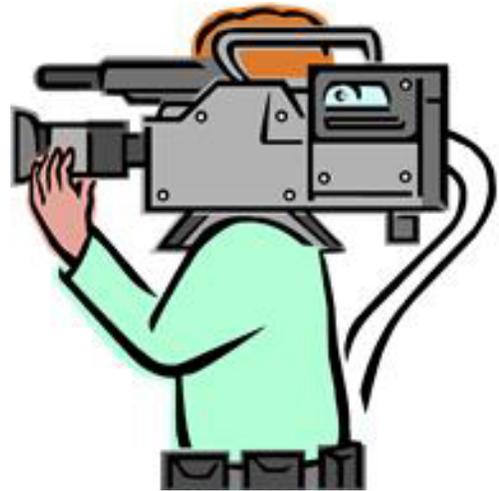
**JOB OPENING:** The City of Benicia has an opening for a part-time [Literacy Specialist](#) who will coordinate and supervise the Benicia Public Library's Adult Literacy and English as a Second Language (ESL) Programs. If you know anyone who might be a great fit for this position, please encourage them to apply online by 5:00 pm on **Friday, September 14.** – *Human Resources*

**CALLING ALL LOCAL VIDEOGRAPHERS:** The City of Benicia has contracted with CGI Communications to develop website features that include community videos. CGI is committed to hiring local videographers for this portion of the project. If you are interested in working as a videographer for this project, please contact CGI Director of Production, Keith Gomez at [kgomez@cgicommunications.com](mailto:kgomez@cgicommunications.com).

In your e-mail please include the following:

- a link to an example of your work
- a brief background of your experience
- a list of equipment
- contact information

Please put "Benicia Shoot Application" in the subject line. You must be available for 6 hours/day on Thursday, September 27 and Friday, September 28 for the shoot. Applicants are to contact Keith Gomez by **Monday, September 10** to be considered. – *Economic Development*



**MOONLIGHT FILM CONTEST FOR YOUTH:** Looking for a way to wrap up summer? Work alone or with a group of friends to create an original film that shows what kind of artist you really are. Entry forms are available at the Benicia Public Library or on the [Library's website](#) to download. Here are some of the guidelines:

- Films may be **no more than 20 minutes**
- Content must be suitable for most ages
- Key members of your crew must be between 12 and 22 years of age
- Films will be accepted in **DVD** format only
- **DEADLINE: Sunday, September 9 at 5:00 pm**



The film judging will take place by a panel of 3 teens and 3 adults. The winners will be announced at the **12<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MOONLIGHT FILM FESTIVAL** on **Saturday, September 22 at 5:00pm.** - *Library*

**TINY TOTS PRE-SCHOOL YEAR 2012-2013:** Tiny Tots Pre-School for 2012-13 has started and once again all of our classes are full with a waitlist. We have been so fortunate to have the same teachers and aids for 18 - 22 years (Janice Welgan, Jill Lowell, and Debbie Hoppe – since 1990, and Debra Rossi – since 1994). They have taught hundreds of



**Debbie Hoppe & Debra Rossi**

children and families over the years. They are one of the main reasons for the success of our Tiny Tots program and we are very lucky to have them on our team.



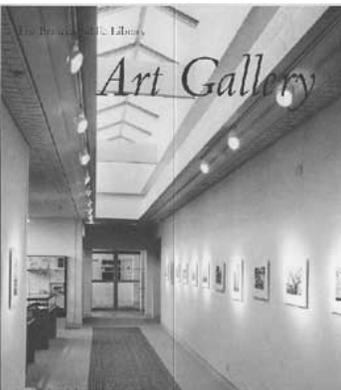
**Janice Welgan**



**Jill Lowell**

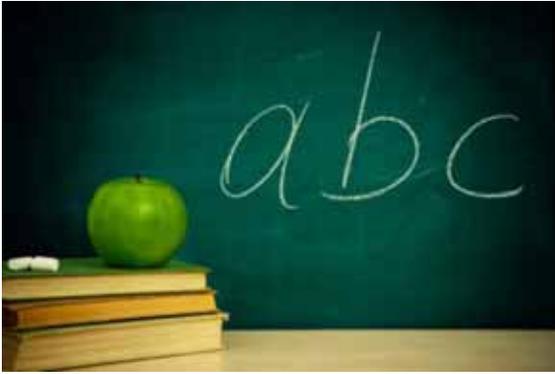
Our students are enjoying the new pre-school classroom at the Benicia Community Center. They fill the halls with their laughter, song, games and crafts. – *Parks & Community Services*

**LAWYERS IN THE LIBRARY:** Are you in need of legal advice? Talk to a lawyer on **Thursday, September 6** (and every upcoming first Thursday of the month) from 6:00-8:00 pm in the Doña Benicia Room at the Benicia Public Library. Sign-ups begin at 5:00 pm in the Art Gallery hallway on a first-come, first-served basis for fifteen available slots. Volunteer attorneys are available for a consultation of up to 20 minute. While you wait, visit the [Lawyer in the Library](#) webpage with links to resources. – *Library*



**ART GALLERY EXHIBIT APPLICATIONS FOR 2013:** If you or someone you know is interested in exhibiting at the [Marilyn Citron O'Rourke Gallery](#) at the Benicia Public Library, applications are being accepted through **September 1**. New projects will be selected in the fall for exhibition in 2013. Good luck to all our talented applicants! - *Library*

**INTERNATIONAL LITERACY DAY - SEPTEMBER 8:** The theme of International Literacy Day 2012 is Literacy and Peace. This theme was adopted by the United Nations Literacy Decade (UNLD) to demonstrate the multiple uses and value that literacy brings to people.



Literacy contributes to peace as it brings people closer to attaining individual freedoms and better understanding the world, as well as preventing or resolving conflict. The connection between literacy

and peace can be seen by the fact that in unstable democracies or in conflict-affected countries it is harder to establish or sustain a literate environment.

For over 40 years now, UNESCO has been celebrating International Literacy Day by reminding the international community that literacy is a human right and the foundation of all learning.

The Benicia Public Library have a special literacy exhibit all month, so come by to test your 'literacy skills'. – *Library*

~~~

### **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**