

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

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SEPTEMBER 18, 2012

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

PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE-BACK DAY: The Benicia Police Department will once again



partner with the Drug Enforcement Agency for their National "[Prescription Drug Take-Back Day](#)", along with other Solano County agencies on *Saturday, September 29*, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm.

This is your opportunity to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding your home of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs. The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked. This program addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. For more

information contact Community Service Officer Patti Baron at 746.4268. – *Police Department*

SOLANO COUNTY NAMED ONE OF THE 100 BEST COMMUNITIES IN THE U.S.: For the sixth time, Solano County has been named one of the [100 Best Communities for Young People](#) in the U.S. by America's Promise Alliance. Citing a number of programs dedicated to improving outcomes for children and youth in our community, including the Safe Routes to School program and the Benicia Youth Action Coalition, no other community has received this honor six times. Also noted was Solano's strong collaborative and innovative programs including Benicia Rotary's Expanding Experiences event, which brings together local artists, business people, and Liberty High students. – *Economic Development*



UPDATE FROM PUBLIC WORKS: Take a look at what the Public Works Department was working on in August. Did you see them in your neighborhood?

Maintenance – Streets:

- Patch Paving- Buena Vista 10.5 tons, Panorama Drive 5 tons, East D Street 15 tons, Willow Court 4 tons, Lansing Circle 8.5 tons, West 2nd Street 10 tons
- Special Events- Peddler's Fair, Farmers Market
- Legend Painting- Park Road, Industrial Way, Chelsea @ Carlisle
- Curb Painting- 200 blk East L Street, 100 blk Military West (Station 11), 100 blk East B Street, 100 blk First Street
- Storm Drain Repair- McAllister Land Bridge stand pipe install
- Weed Abatement- East 2nd Street, Reservoir Road, Lake Herman Road
- Misc- Trash Can install 200 blk First Street, Harbor Vista fence repair, West 7th vegetation trimming, Labrador Lane retaining wall repair



Maintenance – Collections:

- Customer Service Calls- 700 blk Military East, 1000 blk East 5th, 700 blk West 2nd, 100 blk East N Street, 200 blk West J Street, 900 blk Rose Drive, 100 blk Carlisle Way, Solano Square, 600 blk East K Street, 300 blk East K Street
- Lift Station Cleanings- Park Road, Chelsea @ Panorama, West 8th Street, Egret Court
- Main Cleanings- Calls 805', Scheduled 7,421'
- Closed Circuit Televising- 1000 blk East 5th, 700 Military East, 600 blk East K Street

Maintenance – Water:

- Main Breaks - there was 1 water main break on Tyler Street on the 14" main.
- Service Lines - There were 5 service line leaks, 4 of them were replaced.
- After-hour calls - There were 4 after-hours calls

Special Projects:

The Distribution Crew installed 110' of 10" D.I.P. water main on the 100 block of East D Street. This was to extend the existing 10" water main to tie it into East 2nd Street to improve the circulation of the distribution system, which also improves fire flows and water quality. Once the main was installed, the crew then transferred five 3/4" service lines from the old 4" main to the new 10" main. The last step of the process was to abandon the old 4" steel line that has had multiple leaks. This was accomplished by removing the 4" valve at First & D Streets and end capping the line. The Street Crew also assisted by going behind the Water Distribution Crew and paving all of the asphalt patches and trench line. – *Public Works*



POLICE ESCORT TO SCHOOL FOR LOCAL FAMILY: On August 25, Janice and Carl Webster attended the Benicia Relay for Life event and purchased a raffle ticket at the Benicia PD booth for a chance to win a police escort to school for one lucky family. Their ticket was drawn making them the lucky winners.

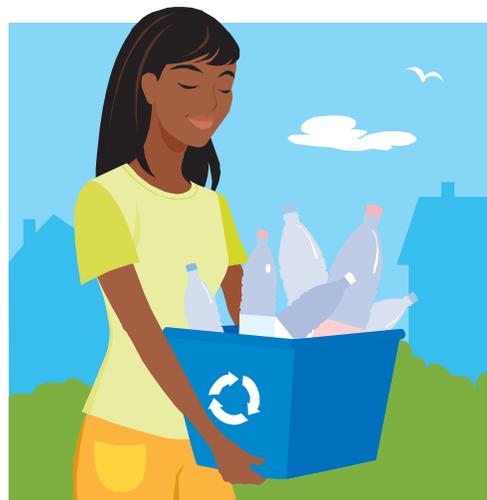
On the morning of September 6, Benicia Police Officers and other police personnel arrived at the Webster residence. Arrangements had been made to take their 5-year old grandsons Nash Rubins and his 8-year old brother Nolan to Mary Farmar Elementary. As luck would have it, September 6 was Nash’s birthday. School Resource Officer Sam Peterson, Officer John McFadden, Officer Sergio Cruz, Traffic Officer Mark Simonson and Police Administrative Secretary Kelly Botello arrived in front of the Webster residence with police lights flashing. Nash was allowed to sit on Officer Simonson’s police motorcycle for photos and everyone wished him a Happy Birthday. The group then convoyed to Starbucks in the Southampton Shopping Center where the boys were treated to a cup of hot chocolate before continuing on to school. Arriving in front of Mary Farmar with the blue and red police lights flashing, Nash and Nolan were dropped off as many of their fellow students, parents and teachers watched with excitement. This was a birthday Nash will never forget. – *Police Department*

***R*EMINDER: GET READY FOR BENICIA’S FIRST REUSE DAY: Allied Waste**

Services, in cooperation with the City of Benicia and Pacific Rim Recycling, are organizing the first reuse curbside pickup day in Benicia this ***Friday, September 21***. Appointments are limited for this one-day event. This service will be offered twice a month.

Only the following items will be collected:

Clothing, accessories and shoes, garden supplies and metal garden umbrellas, dishware, housewares and textiles, bicycles (working or not), bicycle parts, and school supplies.



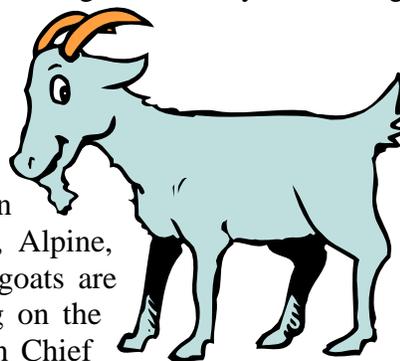
Please call Allied Waster customer service at (707) 747-0608 to be on the pickup schedule or if you have questions. Place items at the curb before 7:00 am, but not the night before. No mattresses, large appliances, garbage, e-waste or hazardous waste, cribs or car seats. Call customer service for help with these items. - *City Manager’s Office*



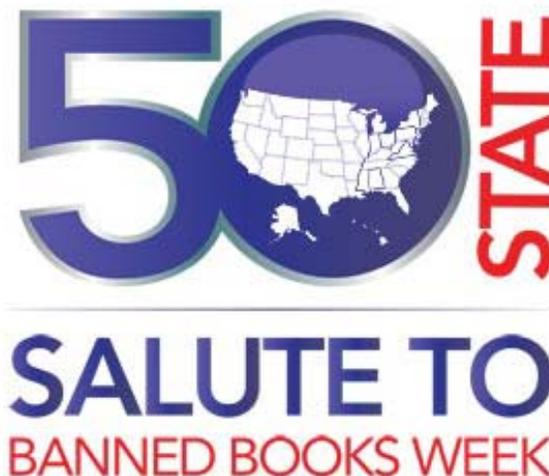
REMINDER: COMPOST TRAINING: During the Farmers Market on **Thursday, September 27**, Valcore Master Gardener Jane Bogner will lead a composting workshop at Avant Garden, First and D Streets, starting at 5:00 pm. Soilsaver Composters will be on sale for 50% off. For more information and to sign up contact Allied Waste's Marie Knutson at 925.671.5814. – *City Manager's Office*

GOATS RETURNING TO BENICIA: Starting the end of September, the goats will be returning to Benicia for vegetation management. The Benicia Fire Department has contracted with [Goats R Us](#) for approximately 10 years to help with our fuel management program. The owners of Goats R Us will move the herds throughout the city for as long as needed (approximately 3 or 4 months).

Goats R Us is a family owned and operated grazing company. Their livestock are utilized primarily for fuel mitigation and star thistle eradication, although they have also gained quite a reputation for brush reduction projects. The herd is a melting pot of breeds: Angora, Alpine, Spanish, Boer, Pygmy, La Mancha, and Nubian. The goats are separated into several herds of various sizes, depending on the scope of work. Questions may be directed to Division Chief Nicolas Thomas. – *Fire Department*



UPCOMING BANNED BOOK WEEK AT THE LIBRARY: [Banned Books Week](#) is an annual event celebrating the freedom to read. Typically held during the last week of September (**September 30 – October 6, 2012**), it highlights the value of free and open access to information. Banned Books Week brings together the entire book community - librarians, booksellers, publishers, journalists, teachers, and readers of all types - in shared support of the freedom to seek and to express ideas, even those some consider unorthodox or unpopular.



By focusing on efforts across the country to remove or restrict access to books, Banned Books Week draws national attention to the harms of censorship. Check out the [frequently challenged books](#) section to explore the issues and controversies around book challenges and book banning, then [download free e-books](#) from the Library's website.–
Library

NATIONAL FIRE PREVENTION WEEK: This year's [National Fire Prevention Week](#) is **October 7 – 13**. Fire Prevention Week was established to commemorate the Great Chicago Fire, the tragic 1871 conflagration that killed more than 250 people, left 100,000 homeless, destroyed more than 17,400 structures and burned more than 2,000 acres.

During National Fire Prevention Week, attention is focused on promoting fire safety and prevention. To that end, the Benicia Fire Department will be hosting an Open House on **Saturday, October 6** from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm at Station 11, 150 Military West. Activities at the Open House will include:

- A meet and greet with firefighters
- Fire station tours
- Games and favors for children
- Rides on an antique fire truck



The Benicia Fire Department invites you to join them at the Open House and help make this worthwhile event a success. The Fire Department would also like to thank Valero Refinery for their donation of a robotic talking fire hydrant. The robot will be appreciated at many Open Houses to come along with making appearances at the Benicia Fire Museum. Tom Clausen of the Benicia Volunteer Firemen's Association was pleased to accept the donation from Joseph Bateman, Fire Chief, Valero Refinery Fire Department. – *Fire Department*

FREE JAZZ AT THE LIBRARY! The [Dave Rocha Jazz Group](#) has performed in major cities throughout the United States including New York's The Jazz Emporium, Seattle's Jazz Alley, Jack's in Glendale (Los Angeles area), and San Francisco's Jazz at Pears. Thanks to our sponsors - the [Friends of the Benicia Public Library](#) and the [San Francisco Friends of Chamber Music](#), the Dave Rocha Jazz Group will perform at the Library on **Sunday, Sept. 30** at 3:00 pm in the Dona Benicia Room. Stop by and enjoy free Sunday afternoon jazz. - *Library*

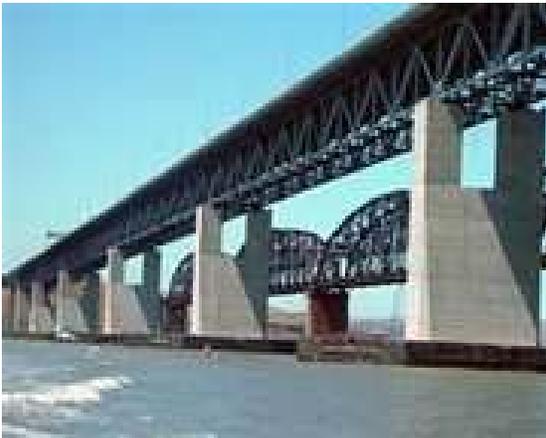


STUDENT RIDE TO SCHOOL: On September 13, Engine Company 12A, led by Fire



Company 12A, led by Fire Captain Carl Lusted, had the unique privilege of driving student Isabella Everett to school. Isabella's parents, Brent and Desiree Everett, won the ride to school by purchasing a raffle ticket in support of Benicia Relay for Life. Before beginning the ride to school Isabella, her sister Brianna, her aunt and mom took photographs with E12A crew members Lusted, Fire Engineer Jeff Toynbee and Firefighter Medic Gerardo Preciado.

Photo courtesy of the BeniciaPatch. – *Fire Department*



ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION: A celebration of the 50th anniversary of the construction of the Benicia-Martinez Bridge is being coordinated by Caltrans, City of Benicia, City of Martinez, CCTA, STA and MTC. The event is scheduled for **Monday, September 24** at 10:30 a.m. at the Vista Point overlook in Benicia. The public is invited to join in the celebration. - *Public Works/City Manager's Office*

VALERO REFINERY TRAINING: Fire Chief Joseph Bateman of the Valero Refinery Fire Department delivered a three hours training session to personnel from Benicia, Cordelia and Vallejo Fire Departments on the basics of oil refineries and orientations to Valero firefighting equipment and techniques. The training occurred over three days, on August 27, September 5 and 6. Benicia Fire extends a big thank you to Chief Bateman and his staff for offering this valuable training. – *Fire Department*



GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION: You are invited to the Grand Opening Celebration for four businesses at 425 Military East on *Sunday, September 23* from 1:00 – 4:00 pm. Stop by and welcome:

- Vallejos Taekwondo Academy
- Bada Bing Salon
- Cardio Kickboxing with Jennifer
- The Benicia Yoga House

Donations for [Foster a Dream](#) and [Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano](#) will be collected. Stop by and enjoy refreshments, view demonstrations, and maybe win a raffle prize. – *Economic Development*

Grand Opening

Vallejos Taekwondo Academy
Bada Bing Salon
Cardio Kickboxing with Jennifer
The Benicia Yoga House

KICKBOXING
with Jennifer

FOSTER a Dream
Help fight Hunger all-year-round by donating nonperishable goods

FOOD BANK
of Contra Costa & Solano

What: Grand Opening Celebration
Grand Opening Celebration of 4 Benicia Businesses
-Mix and Mingle over appetizers and refreshments
-Demonstrations throughout the day
-Raffle (up to \$200 value in prizes from each business)

We also will be collecting Donations for:

When: Sunday, September 23rd 2012
1:00pm to 4:00pm

Where: 425 Military East Benicia, CA

Benicia Police Department

Invites you to join us in celebrating the promotions and swearing in of:

Lieutenant Scott Przekurat

Sergeant Damiean Sylvester



Officer Kenyatta Nathaniel

Officer Greg Fernandez

Public Safety Dispatcher Erin Jensen



Wednesday, October 3, 2012

3:30 PM

Benicia City Hall - Council Chambers
250 East L Street



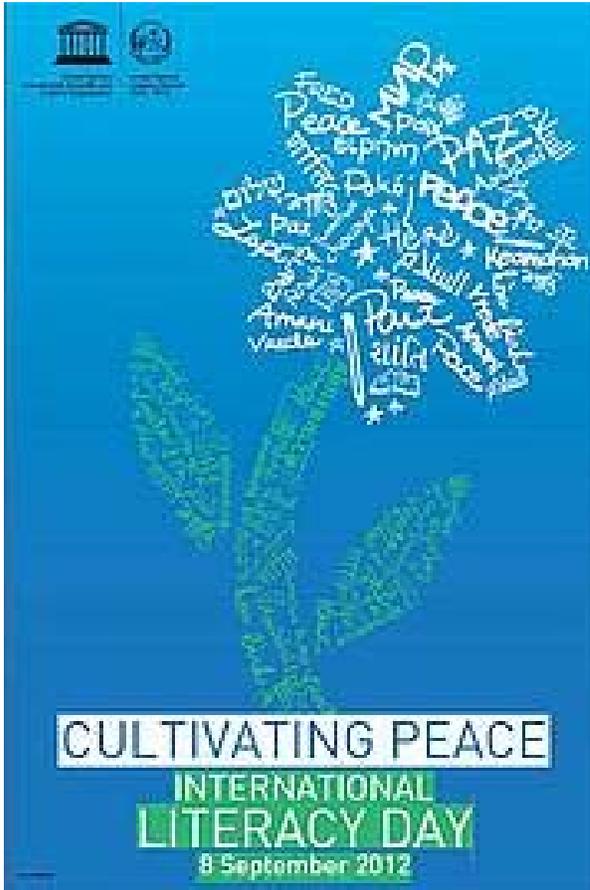
Reception Immediately Following

For More Information Contact Administrative Secretary Kelly Botello at 707-746-4265

PROMOTION AND SWEARING-IN CEREMONY: The Benicia Police Department invites you to join them in celebrating the promotional appointments of Lieutenant Scott Przekurat and Sgt. Damiean Sylvester, and the swearing in of Officers Kenyatta Nathaniel, Officer Greg Fernandez and Dispatcher Erin Jensen on *Wednesday, October 3* at 3:30 pm in the Council Chambers at City Hall. There will be a reception immediately follow. – *Police Department*

SEPTEMBER AT THE LIBRARY: September is a busy month for the Library, as we celebrate [National Library Card Month](#), salute [Banned Books Week](#), and honor [Talk like a Pirate Day](#); however, one of the most important focus this month relates to Literacy.

September 8 was [International Literacy Day](#), and at the September 4 Benicia City Council meeting, Mayor Elizabeth Patterson presented the Library with a proclamation in recognition of International Literacy Day. Benicia's Public Library Director, Diane Smikahl, recognized the UNESCO theme of International Literacy Day, "Literacy and Peace." This theme was adopted for 2012 because "Literacy contributes to peace as it brings people closer to attaining individual freedoms and better understanding of the world, as well as preventing or resolving conflict".



During the month of September, the Library invites you to take a look at their Literacy Information Table. Included is the history of the California Library Literacy Services, services of the Adult Literacy and ESL Program, and a Library Scavenger Hunt. Also, find highlighted works by our learners that explain what the program means to them, as well as a "Literacy Skills Test" and "Learning Styles Questionnaire." - *Library*

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

- Vallee Construction - 5360 Gateway Plaza Drive
- Peachwillow Cabinets - 340 West Channel Road #B
- Jimenez & Vallejo LLC dba: Rosie's Cafe (new ownership) - 3001 Bayshore Road #1

- *Economic Development*



BENICIA RECOGNIZED FOR SUSTAINABILITY ACCOMPLISHMENTS: The Institute for Local Government and the Statewide Energy Efficiency Collaborative have honored the City of Benicia's sustainability accomplishments as a part of its participation in a statewide sustainability and climate change recognition program, the Beacon Award: Local Leadership toward Solving Climate Change.



The City of Benicia was recognized for its leadership in developing energy savings programs that increase energy efficiency, save money,

promote sustainability and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. For example, Benicia's Renewable Energy and Conservation Project will generate up to 40 percent of the energy needs of the city's facilities by installing solar power at City operation sites. The project is expected to save Benicia at least \$85,000 per year over the next 25 years, which will be used to fund additional energy generation or conservation projects.



Additional projects Benicia is being recognized for include:

- Benicia's Home Energy Program providing home energy and water savings assessments.
- Benicia worked with The Energy Alliance Association, funded with support by Pacific Gas and Electric Company, on its Energy Savers Program.
- Benicia funded Oakland based nonprofit GRID Alternatives, to identify five low-income homeowners and install solar photovoltaic systems.

Read more about the award [here](#). – *Community 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**

**[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**