



## CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

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OCTOBER 6, 2015

The *City Manager's Report* from City of Benicia City Manager Brad Kilger is published twice monthly highlighting the activities of the departments of our full-service city. Previous editions are available on the City of Benicia [City Manager's page](#). For additional information on any items in this report, please see [Contact List](#) at the end of this report.

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**WINTER WATERING RESTRICTIONS BEGIN OCTOBER 16:** Automatic sprinklers will be limited to use on one day per week beginning **Friday, October 16**. Specifically, sprinklers will be limited to use on either Saturdays or Sundays (customer choice as to which day), before 8:00 AM or after 7:00 PM.

The restrictions are part of the City of Benicia's Emergency Outdoor Water Restrictions ordinance, which limits the use of automatic sprinklers amid one of the worst droughts in California's history.

**Benicia**  
**Keep Saving Water**

The City of Benicia is offering rebates and free programs to help residents conserve. These include free at-home consultations through the City's WattzOn program that can show residents how to save both water AND energy. More information about WattzOn is available at [BeniciaHomeEfficiency.org](http://BeniciaHomeEfficiency.org). Water-wise tips plus details about rebates are available at [BeniciaSavesWater.org](http://BeniciaSavesWater.org) or by contacting the Water Conservation Team at 707.746.4380 or [water@ci.benicia.ca.us](mailto:water@ci.benicia.ca.us). – *Public Works*

**HOLIDAY CLOSURE:** Benicia City Offices, the Benicia Community Center and the Benicia Public Library will be closed **Monday, October 12** in observance of Columbus Day.



Requests for emergency water and sewer service may be made at the Benicia Police Department, 200 East L Street or 707.745.3411. – *City Manager's Office*

**BENICIA**  
**FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
**Open House**

**Saturday, October 10th**  
**11:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.**  
**Fire Station 11**  
**150 Military West**



**Participants**

- \* CHP
- \* Medic Ambulance
- \* BERT
- \* Fire Volunteers, Reserves,  
and Explorers
- \* Benicia Police
- \* Valero Fire Department
- \* BARC
- \* REACH Air Medical
- \* PG&E
- \* Benicia 911 Dispatchers
- \* United States Coast Guard



**Activities**

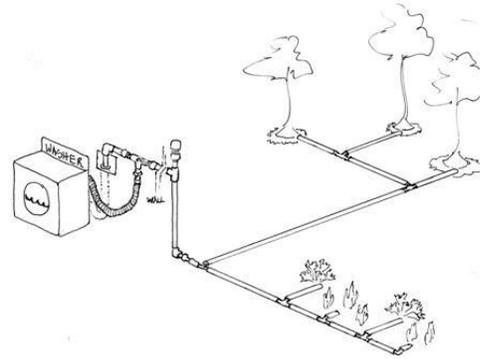
- \* Free Food
- \* Face Painting
- \* First 200 children receive goodie bags
- \* Hands-on Extinguisher Demo
- \* Fire Engine Rides
- \* Rope Rescue Demo
- \* Fire Engine Show & Tell
- \* Coast Guard Boat Tours
- \* Fire Station Tours

**LAUNDRY-TO-LANDSCAPE (L2L) GREYWATER WORKSHOP:** Solano County Water Agency and your local utility have partnered with Greywater Action to provide a FREE “Laundry to Landscape” training workshop. This will be a two part workshop consisting of a lecture portion, Greywater 101, on **Monday, October 12** from 6:00 to 7:30 PM and a hands-on portion on **Saturday, October 17** from 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM. The lecture portion will be held at the Florence Douglas Senior Center, 333 Amador Street, Vallejo and the hands-on portion will be held at the Vallejo People’s Garden, 1055 Azuar Drive, Mare Island. This workshop will be open to all Solano County residents.

Laundry to Landscape (L2L) greywater systems are simple, affordable, and easy to maintain. With your own L2L system, you can irrigate your landscape each time you do laundry, saving you water, time, and resources. Experienced instructors will lead you step-by-step through the design process, tailoring a system to fit your home. This system is legal to install without a permit, just follow 12 basic guidelines you’ll learn about in class.

In this workshop you will learn:

- The basics of greywater – what it is and at it is not
- How to design a system for your home and landscape
- How to build a system- you’ll create a “mock-up” of a real system with real greywater parts
- What parts you’ll need for your home
- How much greywater you produce and how many plants you can water
- What soaps and detergents are “greywater friendly”
- What you can and cannot use greywater for
- How to get started



The greywater installation training workshop is free and open to all Solano County residents. Attendance for the hands-on portion of the workshop is limited, so register early. For more information or to register, email Andy Florendo at [aflorendo@scwa2.com](mailto:aflorendo@scwa2.com). – *Public Works*

**PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE-BACK:** Gather your expired and unused medication for the next Take-Back event on **Saturday, October 17**, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM at Benicia Police Department, 250 East L Street. They take prescription medication, supplements, over-the-counter medication and more. Just dump them all in a zip-lock bag and drop them off. Get the details at <http://Recycle.SolanoCounty.com> and help keep unused medication out of our landfills, waterways, and the hands of our youth.



At the September 26 Take-Back event, the Police Department received 200 lbs. of expired and unused drugs from 112 people. Please take advantage of the event, the last one of the year. – *Police Department*

## UPDATE ON CALTRANS I-680 AND I-780 PROJECTS:

### **Interstate 680 - Rehabilitation Project btw Fairfield & Benicia Monday, October 5 until Monday, October 12 –**

Crews are scheduled to pave the shoulders of NB I-680. To ensure worker and public safety, one of the two traffic lanes on NB I-680 btw Fairfield & Benicia will be closed nightly, Monday – Friday from 8:00 PM – 4:00 AM the following mornings. Motorists should drive with caution and watch for some uneven shoulders and sections of roadway as construction continues.

Paving crews are scheduled to complete final paving of SB I-680 at a future date. The project will rehabilitate and repave approx. 13 miles of NB & SB I-680 between Fairfield and Benicia.



Although no full highway closures are scheduled at this time, motorists may experience delays as crews work to repave I-680 with intermittent, overnight, alternating ramp and lane closures. Specific ramp closure and detour signs will be posted. All work is weather permitting. The project will be completed as early as spring 2016.

For additional project information: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist4/680solanorehab> or follow Caltrans on Twitter: <http://twitter.com/CaltransD4>

### **I-780 Connector Ramps from I-80 and I-680 Overnight Intermittent Connector Closures –**

For two consecutive nights, starting October 7, crews will perform lane striping work in preparation of the major pavement repair project on I-780 between Vallejo and Benicia.

**EB I-780 Connector to NB I-680- Closed Overnight:** To ensure worker and public safety, the EB I-780 connector to NB I-680 in Benicia will be closed intermittently. Closures are scheduled **Wednesday, October 7** and **Thursday, October 8** at 9:00 PM until 6:00 AM the following mornings.

**EB I-780 to NB I-680- Detour-Benicia:** Motorists traveling to NB I-680 will be detoured to East 2nd Street, right on East 2nd, then NB on East 2nd, right on Industrial Way, and left to NB I-680.

**I-780/I-80 Interchange-Alternating Overnight Connector Closures-Vallejo:** At the same time, Crews will perform lane striping work at the I-780/I-80 interchange in Vallejo. Caltrans will alternate closures of ramps connecting I-80 with I-780 at various times overnight. Motorists should expect delays and watch for detours.

The major pavement repair project includes overlay and major pavement repair of seven miles of WB and EB I-780 between Benicia and Vallejo.

Although no full highway closures are scheduled, motorists may experience delays as crews work on I-780 with intermittent, overnight, alternating ramp and lane closures. Work is weather permitting. Project will be completed as early as November 2015.



Caltrans appreciates your patience as we work to maintain California's highways. Please #BeWorkZoneAlert – *City Manager's Office*

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS:** On Tuesday, October 6, the Mayor Elizabeth Patterson will proclaimed October 2015 as “Domestic Violence Awareness” Month in Benicia and urged everyone to participate in the Soroptimist International of Benicia Domestic Violence Vigil on **Wednesday, October 14, 2015** from 6:00-6:30 PM in front of the gazebo in City Park, First Street & Military West.

City Attorney and Soroptimist member Heather McLaughlin notes that the Mayor's Proclamation highlights the following:

*We have already had 53 domestic violence cases reported to the Benicia Police Department this year.*

*We choose this day because the Homecoming Parade is later that evening. We hope it helps raise awareness among and about teens and domestic violence. According to a [USA Today](#) article dated March 2, 2015, “Twenty-one percent of high school girls have been physically or sexually assaulted by someone they dated -- a figure twice as high as previously estimated, a new study shows. Ten percent of high school boys also report having been physically or sexually assaulted by a dating partner, about the same rate reported in earlier surveys, according to a study led by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention published today in JAMA*

*Pediatrics. Authors of the new report note that the CDC has changed the way it phrases its questions about teen dating violence, leading more students to report assaults.”*



You are invited wear purple, if you have it, and join City staff, Soroptimist members and members of the community when they Stand Against Domestic Violence.  
– *City Attorney's Office*

**SOLANO COUNTY HOME FIRE CAMPAIGN:** Rebuilding Together Solano County, the American Red Cross and its partners have launched an initiative that aims to reduce deaths and injuries caused by home fires by 25% in five years with the Home Fire Preparedness Campaign. On **Saturday, October 24**, from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, they will be canvassing neighborhood in Benicia, Fairfield, and Vallejo to install FREE smoke alarms and create fire escape plans with residents. The goal is to install up to 1,000 smoke alarms in the homes of low-income residents of Vallejo, Benicia, and Fairfield.



They are asking you to get involved! Your support of this event is needed to assist the partners in the goal of a safe home via the Safe Home Campaign.

[Click here](#) for more information. If you'd like to volunteer to help, [click here](#). – Fire Department

**SENIOR SPEAKER SERIES CONTINUES:** The next event in the 2015 Senior Speaker Series is set for **Thursday, October 15** at 10:30 AM, in the Dona Benicia Room at Benicia Public Library. *Flex Your Brain and Improve Your Memory!* is the topic. Learn games and activities to strengthen your memory with Kristen Einberger, author of *Strengthen Your Mind*.

Brain researchers have only recently learned about the plasticity of the brain. What is plasticity? It means “being shaped or molded.” It means that we have some influence over our brains! Come join this session to learn from a specialist who helps people with activities to stimulate the brain.



Mark your calendar for the planned speakers for the rest of 2015:

**November 19** *A Reverse Mortgage? What Can It Do? Could It Be Right for You?*  
-Jeremy Forcier, Principal, The Jeremy Forcier Home Loan Group

**December 17** *Want to Eliminate Stress in Your Life? Start Here*  
-Melanie Clark, Retired Marriage and Family Therapist

The Senior Speaker Series is sponsored by the Carquinez Village Project and Benicia Public Library and are free to attend. Each meeting features a speaker on a topic of interest to older adults – *Library*



**SCARECROWS AT CITY HALL:** Benicia Main Street’s 8th annual Scarecrow Contest has begun. Now through Halloween, businesses on First Street and throughout Benicia will show off imaginatively created scarecrows, including City Hall. A directory of the more than 130 scarecrows and participating businesses is listed on [Benicia Main Street’s website](#) and available at all participating locations.

Three mystery judges will pick 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in Best Scarecrow. The public is invited to vote on “People’s Choice” by picking up a ballot at participating businesses, Benicia Main Street, or during the Thursday night Farmers



Market. Voting ends **Monday, October 19**; selected winners from the mystery judges and “People’s Choice” will be announced shortly thereafter.



Pictured (l-r) are just some of the City Hall entries: “Minions” by the Human Resources Department, “Olaf” by the City Manager’s/City Clerk’s Office, and “Zombie Lady Justice” by the City Attorney’s Office. The directory of participants is available here: [page 1](#) and [page 2](#). – *Economic Development*



**GALLERY EXHIBIT:** The next exhibition in the Marilyn Citron O’Rourke Gallery at Benicia Public Library is “Light/Dark” Paintings in Acrylic & Oil by Bay Area Studio Artists.

Among the works on display is *Robin: A Spark in the Dark*, a large-scale portrait of Robin Williams, made up of 24-10 x 10 inch canvases, each painted by a different artist.

A reception for the artists will be held on Sunday, November 15, 2:00 – 4:00 PM. The exhibition runs **October 12 - November 18**. – *Library*

**LYNCH CANYON RAPTOR WALK:** Please join Solano Open Space on **Saturday, October 17** at 9:00 AM for a walk at Lynch Canyon. The walk will focus on raptors in the area. Light morning snacks and beverages will be provided.



Lynch Canyon is defined by its steeply rolling hills, blanketed with grasslands and accented with groves of buckeyes and evergreen oaks. Lynch Creek drains this enclosed watershed and flows into Suisun Marsh. Grasslands, oak groves, riparian woodlands, and wetland meadows provide shelter and forage for deer, fox, bobcat, waterfowl, and many raptors. The 900-foot ridges offer panoramic views extending from the Coast Ranges to San Francisco Bay and across the Delta to the Sierra Nevada.

From Sacramento: Take I-80 west through Fairfield; take the Red Top Road off-ramp and turn left at the stop onto Red Top Rd.; go under I-80, turn right onto McGary Road, continue 1.7 miles and turn right back under I-80 on Lynch Road to Park.

From San Francisco: Take I-80 east toward Sacramento; take exit #36 American Canyon Road; at stop turn right, then take immediate left onto McGary Road; go 1.7 miles turn left on Lynch Road to Park.

Please RSVP to Matt Walsh at [mwalsh@solanocounty.com](mailto:mwalsh@solanocounty.com) or 707.784.3168 by Wednesday, October 14, 2015, so that we can be sure we have enough snacks to accommodate everyone. Friends and family are welcome! – *City Manager's Office*

**FIRST STREET SIDEWALK CLEANING UNDERWAY:** The City of Benicia is pleased to announce that it has contracted with Reliance Cleaning Systems to clean the sidewalks on the entire length of First Street. Started on Monday, September 28, Reliance is cleaning two blocks each weekday between 6:30 - 11:00 AM. Notification to First Street businesses that have outdoor dining is being made in person one day prior to their block being cleaned.



*Photo courtesy of Candi Swanson*

This is the first time in over 8 years, every block on First Street will be cleaned. In past years, only a four or five blocks were washed each year. The City is sensitive to the current drought, however the condition of the sidewalk warranted action. Therefore, all water used to clean the sidewalk will be recaptured and used to irrigate landscaping material. The sidewalk cleaning project is anticipated to be completed on October 30.

For more information please contact the Office of Economic Development at 707.746.4289. – *Economic Development*

**FIRE DEPARTMENT SUPPORTS BREAST CANCER AWARENESS:** October is upon us again and you are invited to join Benicia Fire Department in helping to support and celebrate



"Breast Cancer Awareness" Month. They encourage you to Care Enough to Wear Pink! You will again see your local firefighters supporting breast cancer by trading in their normal duty t-shirts for pink t-shirts throughout October. This year's t-shirt is a new and exciting design with a blue base emblazoned with Pink artwork.

If you are interested in getting your own and joining in the cause, they are available for purchase at Station 11 (150 Military East). Stop in and see Stacy Hatfield during normal business hours, Monday-Friday.

The t-shirts are \$20.00 each with two styles available, the regular crew neck and a ladies "V" neck. If paying by check, please make it payable to "BFA".

Get them while supplies last. All proceeds will be donated to the "Pink Heals" Pink Fire Engine of Solano County!

Thanks everyone for all of your support and caring for the cause. – *Fire Department*

## **P**ERSONNEL NEWS:

**City of Benicia Job Opportunities:** The Human Resources Department is accepting applications for the following positions:

- [Recreation Leader II](#), part-time, open continuously
- [Recreation Supervisor](#), full-time, open continuously
- [Police Officer - Lateral \(Currently Working\)](#), full-time, open continuously
- [Police Officer - Academy / Non-Lateral](#), full-time, open continuously

To apply, the application and supplemental forms can be filed online at: <http://agency.governmentjobs.com/benicia/default.cfm>. City of Benicia employment

applications may also be obtained from and must be returned to the Human Resources Department at 250 East L Street, Benicia.

These job opportunities are open to any current City of Benicia employees (full or part time) as well as the general public. If you know of someone who may be interested in applying, please let them know. - *Human Resources*



**A Fond Farewell:** Eliot Palmer, Recreation Supervisor for Benicia Parks & Community Service Department has decided leave to pursue other interests. He was hired as a Recreation Coordinator in the fall of 2008 and was recently promoted to Recreation Supervisor. You may have seen Eliot's friendly face at the James Lemos Swim Center, sports fields, the City Gym or Benicia Community Center. Eliot started working for the Parks & Community Services Department as a lifeguard in 2002 and continued to work in various part-time positions until he joined the department full time in 2008. He always has a smile on his face and a passion for sports. His contributions to the Parks & Community Services Department have been significant and have touched the lives of hundreds of people within the community. Eliot is the type of person that will be a success in anything he decides to do. We wish him well in his future endeavors. – Parks & Community Services



**New to the Fire Department:** Chief Jim Lydon is pleased to announce the latest additions to the Benicia Fire Department. Three new Paramedic/Firefighters started on October 1.



Kyle Tallet was born in San Francisco – raised in Hawaii – lived in Concord where he played football, wrestled and swam at Concord High School. He has his Bachelor's degree in business/marketing from Chico State, a degree in Fire Science from Butte College and has completed EMT basic certification. Kyle was a firefighter/paramedic for Rodeo Hercules Fire District since July 2014 and worked part-time as a Paramedic for AMR in Contra Costa County.

Since college Kyle has always been a part of community outreach programs, a habit developed in college when his rugby team helped develop a youth rugby program to help the community of Chico get more involved. In doing so the team was able to help youth find a passion and help them develop core values that they may

apply in life to help them down their road to success. Outside of work Kyle's passion is hiking, fishing and scuba diving.

Justin Stein was born in Concord and raised in Benicia. He graduated from Benicia High School in 2009 and earned a Bachelor's degree in exercise biology from UC Davis where he worked as a Student Resident Firefighter for the UC Davis Fire Department. He received his paramedic certification from UCLA Daniel Freeman Paramedic School.



Justin already has a long history with the Benicia Fire Department. He began as an Explorer at the age of 16 and continued to volunteer until 2011 when he was hired as a Benicia Volunteer Reserve Firefighter. Justin was chosen as the 2012 Reserve Firefighter of the Year. He is excited to serve his hometown community as a career Firefighter.

Kyle Williams was born in Vallejo and raised in Vacaville. He attended Sierra College and graduated with a Bachelor's degree from California State University Sacramento where he played on the Sac State ice hockey team. Goal driven, Kyle earned three Associate degrees from Sierra College, and his Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Sacramento State.



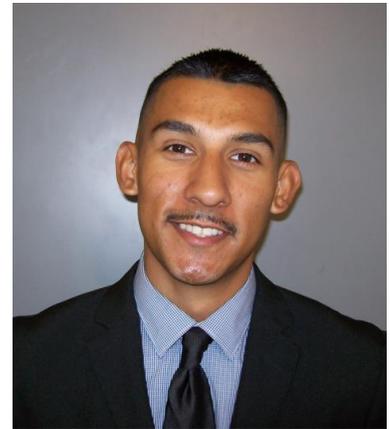
Kyle played football for his high school all four years and has played ice hockey for the last sixteen years. He has played competitive ice hockey all over the United States and Canada since the age of 10.

Kyle has always had a passion for helping others and giving back to the community, and this is why he has pursued the career he is in now. He is looking forward to serving the community of Benicia through the Benicia Fire Department.

**New to the Police Department:** Chief Erik Upson is pleased to announce the hiring of Alex Maravilla as a Police Officer for the Benicia Police Department.

Alex is a graduate of Salesian High School. While in high school, Alex was a Police Explorer for the City of Richmond and the City of Hercules and played multiple sports.

After high school, he worked in loss prevention while attending college and was hired as a Police Cadet in Richmond, then attended the extended Police Academy while working full time. Alex excelled in physical fitness, scenario testing and ethics. After graduation, Alex was hired as a Police Officer by the Suisun City Police Department in 2013, where became the Cadet Advisor. He is currently working towards his Bachelor's degree.



Law Enforcement is a family business for the Maravillas. Both his parents work in law enforcement and his younger sister was recently hired by the Fairfield Police Department.

Please join me in wishing Eliot well and in welcoming Kyle, Justin, Kyle and Alex to the City of Benicia family. – *City Manager*

## **L**IBRARY STATISTICS FOR AUGUST:

- Total August visitors: **19,456**
- Record day of visitors on August 31 with **981** visitors
- August Internet sessions: **3,542**
- August wireless Internet sessions: **1,778**
- August Benicia Public Library Facebook views: **492**
- August Teen Zone Benicia Facebook views: **319**

- *Library*



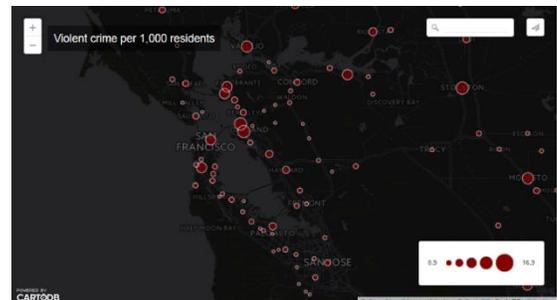
**BENICIA FILM FESTIVAL:** The 2nd Annual Benicia Film Festival was held over Labor Day Weekend. This event is sponsored by the Benicia Arts and Culture Commission's Film Festival Committee. The three day event was a huge success with over 400 people attending during the weekend. Friday night was a sold out event at the Commanding Officers' Quarters, Saturday was at the Hayley Horn Auditorium at the High School and Sunday was at the Majestic Theatre downtown. Over 30 films were shown. The committee is already working on the 3rd Annual Film Festival for 2016. - *Library*



**MAPPING CALIFORNIA'S VIOLENT CRIME RATE:** In a September 29 article on SFGate.com, crime [fell across the Bay Area between 2013 and 2014](#), according to [FBI data](#) recently released, mirroring state and national trends that have continued for the past couple of decades.

San Francisco, Oakland, Richmond, Berkeley and Antioch saw notable year-to-year dips in violent crime, which includes murder, non-negligent manslaughter, rape, aggravated assault and robbery. Violent crime in East Palo Alto — which ranked as the third most dangerous city in the Bay Area in 2013, according to the FBI — dropped nearly 65 percent.

The trend line wasn't negative in all Bay Area cities. Pacifica and Martinez each experienced a nearly 36 percent increase in violent crimes.



The [interactive map](#) of the Bay Area featured in the article shows Benicia as nothing more than a pinpoint, thanks to the work of the Benicia Police Department and our citizens who report suspicious activity instead of ignoring it, making Benicia a great place to live and work. – *Economic Development*

**So Fit City RESULTS:** The regional walk/run race, So Fit City, was held in Fairfield on September 26. Each city competes with neighboring city teams for the greatest number of runners and the distinction of ‘Fittest City’ in the region. Over 500 men, women and children representing all the cities in Solano County participated.



A race-within-a-race is the Mayor’s Challenge, giving points for each elected official participating. Benicia was represented by Mayor Elizabeth Patterson, Vice Mayor Mark Hughes, Council Members Tom Campbell and Alan Schwartzman, and City Manager Brad Kilger. No results yet on which city won the Mayor’s Challenge but Campbell and Kilger placed in the 5K Race:

- #23 Tom Campbell 0:27:15
- #25 Brad Kilger 0:27:21

Kilger is most proud of besting Vallejo’s City Manager, Daniel Keen who came in at #32.

Next year’s race will be held on Saturday, October 1. More info is available at [www.SoFitCity.com](http://www.SoFitCity.com). – *City Manager’s Office*

**FARMERS MARKET APPEARANCE:** The Benicia Fire Department attended the October 1 Farmers Market, passing out free flashlights, promoting the **October 10** Open House, and engaging our citizens in conversation. They appreciated everyone that stopped by to say hello. – *Fire Department*



**UPDATE FROM THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:** Here is a look at what the Public Works Department was up to this past month. Were they in your neighborhood?

**Maintenance - Sewer:**

- **Customer Service Calls** - 800 West Sixth Street, 400 Viewmont Street, 800 Rose Drive, Ridge Circle, 800 Military East, 300 West J Street, 200 Dundee Way, Wingfield Way.
- **City Wide Cleanings** - Service calls 1,964 Feet, scheduled cleanings 10,151 Feet and top-down cleanings 7,862 Feet. Total sewer lines cleaned 19,977 feet or 3.8 miles.
- **Closed Circuit Televising** - Viewmont Street, 800 Rose Drive, Alley 500 East I Street, Ridge Circle, 200 Dundee Way.
- **Lift Station Cleanings** - Panorama Drive, East B Street, West Eighth Street, and East Seventh Street were the 4 stations receiving cleaning in August. Four of the city's 23 stations are cleaned each month on a rotational basis.
- **Repairs and Improvements** - 80 feet of six-inch sewer main was replaced in the alley south of the 500 block of East I Street. The existing clay main was suffering from broken joints and was replaced with plastic bell and spigot gasket-jointed pipe to prevent further damage from root intrusion. In another August repair, a cleanout was replaced at the public right-of-way on the 800 block of Rose Drive. The cleanout riser at this location had become dislodged from its lateral fitting. The problem was observed during a routine cleaning of the sewer main.

**Maintenance – Streets/Water:**

- **Water Distribution Crew** - Water leak repairs for August: Removed leaking 2” service and capped corporation stop at East 2nd Street at Rankin Drive. Completed 8” main repair 400 Gallagher. Replaced 12” Gate valve 900 Bayshore Road. Replaced 12” valve and tee at Jackson Street/Amports parking lot. Repaired 8” hydrant main 4000 East Second Street. Replaced service line 300 Sunrise Court, 400 Hawthorne, 500 East 5th Street, 300 Sunrise Court, (2) 400 East I Street, 300 Marina Place, 400 Marina Place, 700 West I Street. Repaired 8” main Wingfield Way. Excavated for 27”/24” water main repair Park Road. Replaced leaking washer on meter 400 Solano Drive. Completed monthly meter reading and scheduled turnoffs.
- **Street Crew** - Cleared open drainage behind St. Augustine home. Cleared headwall at 600 West K Street. Set up for Special Event-Peddler’s Fair, BYSL Parade. Lined trash cans on First Street and staged barricades for Peddler’s Fair. Trimmed trees on West Military walk-over bridge. Skim patch paved Vista Grande and La Prenda. Patch paved water leak repair Columbia Circle, 4800 East 2nd Street, 400 Gallagher, 900 Bayshore Road, 200 James Court and 200 Essex Way. Weed abatement at west side of East 2nd Street from Tenny’s to Rose Drive. Cleaned up detritus on Adams Street below Jefferson Street. Worked on citywide pothole repair list. Trash collection on Lake Herman Road and Reservoir Road. Washed down East Third Street walkway under the tunnel.

### **Wastewater Treatment Plant:**

**Projects for August** – In August, Staff started and finished working on the Plant's internal recycle dual screening system. This will allow the Plant to continuously run seal water and odor scrubber water with the Plant's effluent. Before we would have to shut the



system down and run on City water while we do the cleaning process and the cleaning process could take several hours. Now we can switch and stay on line during the cleaning process. This system saves the City's water supply 25,000 to 30,000 gallons of potable water a day.



Staff also reinstalled a blower and modified the piping system to keep the flow aerated from the RBC's channel to our RBC's secondary clarifiers. This will help with odors when we have to run the RBC system.



### **Wastewater Treatment Plant - Maintenance:**

Staff performed eighty, preventive maintenance task as well as closing out four corrective maintenance work orders.

### **WWTP Plant Performance:**

The Plant processed 64.01 million gallons of raw wastewater with no Permit exceedances.

- Nutrient pollution removal; Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD) = 99. %
- Total Suspended Solids (TSS) = 99. %
- The Effluent Acute Bioassy testing had a 95 % Survival rate.
- *Public Works*

**ARTS & ECONOMIC PROSPERITY:** Every day, more than 100,000 nonprofit arts and culture organizations act as economic drivers - creating an industry that supports jobs, generates government revenue, and is the cornerstone of our tourism industry. The Americans for the Arts will study the key role played by the nonprofit arts and culture industry, and their audiences, in strengthening our nation's economy through communities of broad geographic diversity, ranging in size from small rural to large urban, including emerging as well as established arts communities.



The City of Benicia will be participating in the next survey, starting in calendar year 2016, and hopes to enlist the assistance of all local non-profit organizations with activities or events related to art and culture.

Produced every five years, Arts and Economic Prosperity is the largest, most comprehensive study conducted in the United States to measure the economic impact of nonprofit arts and culture organizations and their audiences. It quantifies the vital role of arts and cultural activity in strengthening local communities and the national economy, and provides specific and reliable data on the industry's impact on jobs and government revenue.

The most recent study, published in 2012 and based on fiscal year 2010 data, demonstrated that spending by nonprofit arts and cultural organization and their audiences generated \$135 billion in economic activity annually, supporting 4.1million jobs and generating \$22.3 billion in federal, state and local government revenue.

For their fifth national impact study, Americans for the Arts will collaborate with more than 200 local and statewide partners—including local arts agencies, state arts agencies, community foundations, economic development agencies, and chambers of commerce – to survey more than 30,000 nonprofit arts and culture organizations located in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

By completing the Americans for the Arts survey, arts and cultural organizations will gain access to analytical reports, information insights, and educational resources that help them interpret and use data more effectively to advance their cultural missions.

All local non-profit arts and culture organizations are invited to attend an informational meeting on **Thursday, October 22** at 6:00 PM at Benicia Public Library.

Data collection for AEP 5 will run through calendar year 2016. Americans for the Arts will produce a national economic impact report, a set of national advocacy tools, and state and local analysis in June 2017. More information is available at [AmericansForTheArts.org](http://AmericansForTheArts.org) or contact Library Director Diane Smikahl at [dsmikahl@ci.benicia.ca.us](mailto:dsmikahl@ci.benicia.ca.us) or 707.746.4313. – *Library*

**FINANCIAL SOFTWARE UPDATE:** On July 7, 2015, the Benicia City Council approved the contract with Tyler Munis for the replacement of the City financial software, Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP). The contract with Tyler will replace three existing contracts currently supporting multiple, incompatible financial modules, Sunguard/Bi-Tech (accounting and payroll), Harris (utility billing), and Accela (permitting and licensing). The implementation project will take approximately 24-36 months to fully convert from the old software to the new Munis software. This centralize system can interface with most if not all of the other



software utilized by City staff. For example, MUNIS will eliminate the need for Excel spreadsheets to supplement other software staff uses. MUNIS has incorporated these functions in their software to improve the efficiency of City staff.

To facilitate the process, staff sought expertise of a Project Manager to assist the City in meeting ERP budgets, schedules, work plans, and performance requirements. Steven Carmichael has over 30 years of government Finance and IT experience; and he has implemented MUNIS at several other cities. During the next few weeks, Steven will be meeting with each department to discuss the new software implementation and training schedule with department staff. In addition, Steven is working with the ERP Project Team to prepare the City for the upcoming conversion.

To keep both City staff and residents informed of the progress of the ERP Implementation, Steven and the ERP Project Team will be posting regular updates on the City Manager's report. – *Finance*

## **YOUTH BASKETBALL SIGN-UPS:** Registration for Youth Basketball is **October 1 -**

**November 13.** The league has divisions ranging from Kindergarten to 8th grade, as well as an Adaptive Division.

To kick-off the season, there will be a Player's Clinic on **December 12** hosted by the Benicia High School Girls Basketball Team. Practices and games will start the week of January 9. The basketball league takes pride in being a purely recreational



league geared toward all children of all abilities. The focus is on teaching the basic fundamentals while maintaining a low stress and fun environment for the players. Don't miss out on this great opportunity for an active and fun activity during the winter. – *Parks & Community Services*

**WATER CONSERVATION HELP AVAILABLE:** Take a look at these rebates and services available to residents and businesses in Benicia:

**Residential Rebates and Services:**

\$150 WASHING MACHINE REBATE

Apply at: [SolanoSavesWater.org/rebates](http://SolanoSavesWater.org/rebates)

TURF REPLACEMENT REBATES

Pre-inspection required prior to removal of lawn.

Program Contact: Solano County Water Agency (SCWA) 707.455.1113 or email [solanocash4grass@scwa2.com](mailto:solanocash4grass@scwa2.com).

Program is currently suspended until further funding is acquired.

Contact SCWA to be placed on a notification list when the program resumes.



BENICIA HOME EFFICIENCY PROGRAM

Sign up for a FREE Home Water and Energy Use Survey

To sign up or get more information please go to [BeniciaHomeEfficiency.org](http://BeniciaHomeEfficiency.org) or call 800.314.5997

SMART IRRIGATION CONTROLLER REBATES

Up to 50% of the cost of the controller. Requires pre-inspection.

Program Contact: SCWA, 800.366.6995

**Commercial Rebates and Services:**

BUSINESS AND COMMERCIAL WATER USE SURVEYS

Available for inside and outside water use. For more information, visit:

[SolanoSavesWater.org/Commercial-Rebates/](http://SolanoSavesWater.org/Commercial-Rebates/)

TURF REPLACEMENT REBATES

Pre-inspection required prior to removal of lawn. Call Solano Water Agency at 707.455.1113 or email [solanocash4grass@SCWA2.com](mailto:solanocash4grass@SCWA2.com)

Program is currently suspended until further funding is acquired.

Contact SCWA to be placed on a notification list when the program resumes.

COMMERCIAL WATER SAVINGS INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Businesses are given a 50% rebate of expenditures, excluding labor, on a pre-approved basis up to \$5,000 for water conservation projects. Program contact: Cristina Goulart at 707.523.1010.

For more information, visit: [SolanoSavesWater.org/Commercial-Rebates/](http://SolanoSavesWater.org/Commercial-Rebates/)

BENICIA BUSINESS RESOURCE INCENTIVE PROGRAM

This program provides no cost assessments and reimbursement to business owners in the Benicia Industrial Park to assist them in reducing waste, fuel, water, and energy use.

For more information, visit: [BeniciaBusiness.com/Business-Resource-Incentive-Program](http://BeniciaBusiness.com/Business-Resource-Incentive-Program)

- *Public Works*

**DEMONSTRATION GARDEN TAKES SHAPE:** Rebuilding Together Solano County, the City of Benicia, Solano County Water Agency, and Valero Benicia Refinery partnered to create the recently completed Water Demonstration Garden in the park on East Second Street between the Benicia Senior Center and Military East.



This park will demonstrate the benefits of planting drought tolerant and low-water use planting / trees as well as efficient watering techniques. Work was completed with help from many community volunteers. – *Parks & Community Services*



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### CONTACT INFORMATION

The *City Manager's Report* from City of Benicia City Manager Brad Kilger is published twice monthly. Email your questions or comments to [edev@ci.benicia.ca.us](mailto:edev@ci.benicia.ca.us). For additional information on any of the items in this report, please contact one of the following departments:

**[City Manager/Human Resources/I.T./City Clerk](#): 707.746.4200**

**[City Attorney](#): 707.746.4216**

**[Community Development](#): 707.746.4280**

**[Economic Development](#): 707.746.4202**

**[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**