

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

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OCTOBER 21, 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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**AFFORDABLE CARE ACT UPDATE:** The Benicia Public Library is hosting a presentation on the Affordable Care Act/Covered CA on **Wednesday, November 13** at 7:00PM in the Dona Benicia Room.



Open enrollment for the Affordable Care Act began October 1 and runs through March 31, 2014. Coverage will start on January 1, 2014.

What you need to sign up:

1. Your Social Security Number or Tax Identification number for each member in your household that is signing up.
2. Your monthly income figure for each and all sources of household income.
3. A fair estimate of the amount of health related expenses incurred during the past three months. (This is used as a predictor by the computerized program to determine how much medical use the household typically makes, so if the past three months were unusual, the applicant may want to adjust for that.)
4. You do NOT need an email address.

The average sign up time for a family of 3 is 35-40 minutes, if you have all of the above information with you.

- Californians will apply at [coveredca.com](http://coveredca.com), NOT the federal website. For Questions call: [888-975-1142](tel:888-975-1142)
- National marketplace has established a toll-free call center [1-800-318-2596](tel:1-800-318-2596) – customer service reps available 24/7 to answer questions. English and Spanish available at all times. Language line for 150 additional languages.
- Currently, the main resources for information are the [Covered California website](#) and the [federal government's website](#).
- Kaiser offers a [calculator](#).
- Another good resource is [NN/LM's LibGuide](#) developed by Kelli Ham.

- Library

**UPDATE ON WESTERN GATEWAY PROJECT:** Construction on the \$1.1M Western Gateway Intermodal Facility (on Military West between Southampton Road and West K Street/Military West on/off ramps) began in August and is on schedule to be substantially complete by the end of November. To date the demolition, underground utilities and sidewalk on the north side of Military West have been completed. Once the sidewalk on the south side has been poured later this week, the median islands will be installed, followed by paving and the landscaping.

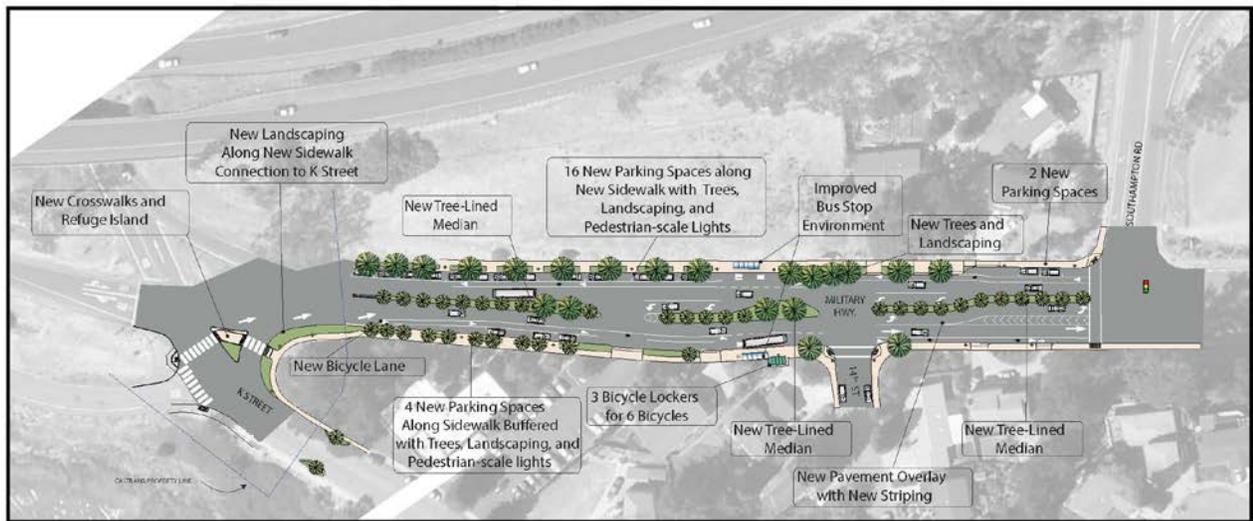


the south side has been poured later this week, the median islands will be installed, followed by paving and the landscaping.

The project is being constructed by Redgwick Construction Company, the low bidder on the project, and is fully funded with a Regional Measure 2 grant from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission. When completed, the project will provide enhanced bus transit access for automobiles, bicyclists, and pedestrians and beautify the western gateway into the City. – *Public Works*



Intermodal Improvements on Military West, West of Southampton



Concept Site Plan



**JACK-O'-LANTERN CONTEST AT THE LIBRARY:** Enter the Library's 17<sup>th</sup> annual Jack-o-Lantern Contest. Bring your carved pumpkin to enter the contest, or just come to vote for your favorites on **Tuesday, October 29** at 7:00PM. The contest is open to everyone, including teens and adults, so show off those carving skills.



While the judges choose the winners, listen to some scary stories, very scary ones told in the dark for brave children (8 and up), and less scary ones for younger children. – *Library*

**2013 CALIFORNIA BUILDING AND FIRE CODE UPDATES:** Effective January 1, 2014, all new permit and plan review applications submitted after December 31, 2013 shall be required to comply with the following new state codes:



**2013 California**

**Building and Fire Code Updates**

**Effective January 1, 2014**

All new permit and plan review applications submitted after December 31, 2013 shall be required to comply with the following new state codes:

- 2013 California Residential Code
- 2013 CalGreen Code
- 2013 California Building Code
- 2013 California Mechanical Code
- 2013 California Electrical Code
- 2013 California Plumbing Code
- 2013 California Energy Code
- 2013 California Fire Code



City Council will consider the draft ordinance on November 19, 2013. For more information visit: [www.ci.benicia.ca.us](http://www.ci.benicia.ca.us) or [www.bsc.ca.gov](http://www.bsc.ca.gov)

City of Benicia - Building - 250 East L Street - Benicia, CA 94510 - 707.746.4230 - comdev@ci.benicia.ca.us

- 2013 California Residential Code
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The Benicia City Council will consider the draft ordinance on **November 19, 2013**. For more information visit: [www.ci.benicia.ca.us](http://www.ci.benicia.ca.us) or [www.bsc.ca.gov](http://www.bsc.ca.gov) or email the City of Benicia, Building Division at [comdev@ci.benicia.ca.us](mailto:comdev@ci.benicia.ca.us). – *Community Development*

**BPD SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER WILL PATTERSON NAMED BHS HOMECOMING GRAND MARSHALL:** On October 16, Benicia Police School Resource Officer Will Patterson took his spot as the Grand Marshall of the annual Benicia High School Homecoming Parade on First Street. Officer Patterson is the School Resource Officer assigned to the Benicia High School and was selected by the Benicia High School leadership group. Several people were nominated and the Leadership Club (30+ BHS students) voted for who they wanted as their Grand Marshall.



During the BHS Homecoming football game, SRO Patterson also led the parade around the field at halftime. This is the first time a Police Officer has been selected as the Grand Marshall for this event. Congratulations Will! – *Police Department*

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**PUBLIC SAFETY OPEN HOUSE:** On October 12, the Benicia Fire Department hosted a



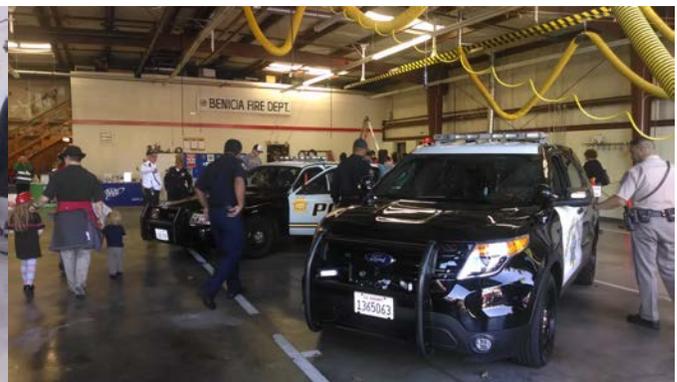
Public Safety Open House at Fire Station 11. This event was supported by several public agencies including the Benicia Police Department, the California Highway Patrol, and the US Coast Guard. In addition, several corporate organizations including the Valero Benicia Refinery Fire Department, AAA, and Medic Ambulance were also on hand. Several community volunteer organizations including BERT, BARC, the Benicia Volunteer Firefighters, and the Benicia Fire Explorers provided demonstrations and logistical support throughout the day.

As the day progressed, a wave of community members arrived to participate. The participants had an opportunity to engage in discussion with representatives from all of the various organizations. Not only were they provided guided tours of the fire station and the Coast Guard's Patrol Boat, but they were allowed to sit in various vehicles and learn more about the tools and equipment used by the different agencies. Kids were provided opportunities to dress in firefighting gear and to participate in a bucket brigade operation. One of the most popular

attractions enjoyed by both young and old was the fire engine rides. Valero personnel also demonstrated some of their rescue equipment and allowed individuals to work directly with it. For those that were interested, training was provided on the proper use of fire extinguishers. Enjoyed by all were the free refreshments, including hot dogs that were cooked by volunteers from BERT.

Overall, this was a very successful event with over 600 attendees. Benicia Fire is very thankful for the active participation of the public agencies and the corporations. We recognize that this event could not have been successful without the support of all those that volunteered their time. Most importantly, we appreciate the community involvement.

*– Fire Department*



## FREE CONCERT AT THE LIBRARY: Charged Particles, Plugged-in Jazz with a Spark!

will be at the Library's Dona Benicia Room on **Sunday, October 27** at 3:00PM. This three-man jazz group hails from the Bay



Area and have played in a number of distinguished venues including Yoshi's San Francisco, the Jupiter in Berkeley and the Faultline Brewing Company in Sunnyvale. Rave reviews from various jazz publications describe the group as "electrifying," "definitely dazzling," and "fresh, energized contemporary jazz." Members include Aaron Germain on the acoustic & electric basses, Jon Krosnick on drums and Murray Low on keyboards. [Give them a listen here](#), then come see them in person. - *Library*

**UPDATE ON BOOK CLUBS:** Benicia Public Library has many [book clubs](#). Here's info on the clubs and what they are reading:

### Adult Book Clubs-

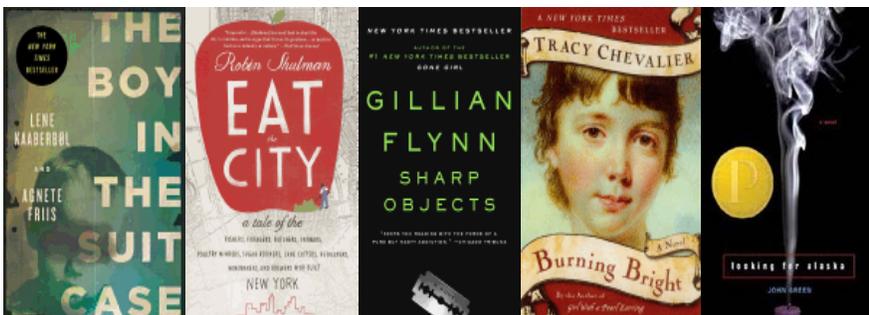
- **Noon Mystery Book Club** meets the first Wednesday of the month at noon. They are reading *The Boy in the Suitcase* by Lene Kaaberbol
- **Food for Thought Book Club** meets on the first Monday of the month at 7:00PM. They are reading *Eat the City: A Tale of...* by Robin Shulman
- **Mystery Book Club** meets on the fourth Thursday of the month at 7:00PM. They are reading *Sharp Objects* by Gillian Flynn
- **Evening Book Club** meets on the third Wednesday of the month at 7:00PM. They are reading *Burning Bright* by Tracy Chevalier
- **Kids Books for Adults Book Club** meets on the third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM. They are reading *Good Luck, Anna Hibiscus!* by Lauren Tobia

### Teen Book Clubs-

- **Teen Book Club** next meets on Monday, November 25 at 6:00PM. They are reading *Looking for Alaska* by John Green
- **Middle School Book Club** next meets on Tuesday, November 12 at 4:00PM. They are reading *Cherub Series* by Robert Muchamore

If you're interested one of these book clubs, contact the [Benicia Public Library](#) or sign up

for their [newsletter](#). You can [borrow a set of books](#) for your book club's use and check them out for up to 60 days. Contact [Helaine Bowles](#) at 707.746.4358. - *Library*



**BPOA'S 16<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT:** On Friday, October 18, the Benicia Police Officers' Association hosted their 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament at Eagle Vines Vineyards and Golf Club in Napa. Great weather and a nice lunch started the day. The tournament featured activities such as Longest Drive, Hole-in-One, and Closest to the Hole sponsored by various local vendors.

This year, 56 golfers participated, including a team from Benicia Fire Department dressed in authentic golf plaid. Many local businesses and numerous individuals helped sponsor the event, which is BPOA's only fundraiser of the year. The net proceeds help the Association sponsor a number of local youth activities and support fallen officer's families during their time of need.

There were many volunteers helping out on the course to make this a successful event. The Benicia Police Dispatchers Association had a great showing with many of the members helping on the Hole-in-One for a new Chevy Camaro and helping with the raffle during the banquet that followed.

Tournament winners included BPD Volunteer Cathy Shea winning the longest drive for women and Lt. Mike Greene winning two of the three Closest to the Hole contests. The First Place Team winners were: BPD members Roger Yokoi, Mike Greene, Frank Hartig and Gary Armstrong of Valero Refinery. They shot an 11 under par 60.

BPOA President Kevin Rose extends thanks not only all the participants, but especially to those who donated their time and services to making it a successful event. – *Police Department*



**POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT AVAILABLE:** The Benicia Police Department monthly report for September 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*

## **HOLIDAY GREENERY/RELAY FOR LIFE FUNDRAISER:** Are you ready for the holidays?

The weather is getting cooler and the holidays will be here before we know it. If you'd like to order holiday wreaths, garland, or centerpieces, now is your chance. The City Employees Relay for Life team is using this as an



opportunity to raise money for Relay for Life 2014. [Click here](#) to check out some of the products. You can even ship direct to your friends and family. For more information, or to place an order, contact Gina Eleccion at 707.746.4278 or [geleccion@ci.benicia.ca.us](mailto:geleccion@ci.benicia.ca.us). Order deadline is **November 8** and items will ship the first week of December. Team Benicia thanks you for your support. – *Community Development*



**NEW EXHIBIT AT THE LIBRARY: Wet - The Artists' View of Water** by the Benicia Plein Air Group is the latest exhibit in the Marilyn Citron O'Rourke Art Gallery at the Benicia Public Library. It is an exhibit of all things water done in oils, watercolors, acrylics, and pastels. The exhibit runs through **November 16.** – *Library*

### **BARC TRAINING:**

During a simulated emergency test on Saturday, October 5 at the Benicia Community Center, the Benicia Amateur Radio Club (BARC) was able to try



out new gear (a transportable high-frequency, multiband antenna and antenna analyzer) purchased with a grant from the American Automobile Association. During a disaster, this new equipment, which is part of a "Go-Kit," can be used to communicate from various parts of the city.



Division Chief Nicolas Thomas would like to thank BARC Emergency Coordinator Art Mayoff and Benicia Community Services Superintendent Ann Dunleavy for their coordination of the event. – *Fire Department*

**BENICIA POLICE OFFICER MARK SIMONSON NAMED ROTARY POLICE OFFICER OF THE YEAR:** Benicia Police Officer Mark Simonson was recently honored as the 2012



Benicia Police Officer of the Year by the Solano County Rotary Clubs. Mark and his wife Jennifer attended a dinner at the Hilton Garden Inn in Fairfield on October 11. The dinner was attended by Benicia Police Chief Andrew Bidou, the Police Department Command Staff and numerous other members of Benicia Police Department in show of support for Mark. Recipients from every law enforcement agency in Solano County were also honored. Mark's name will be engraved on the perpetual plaque that is proudly

displayed within the Benicia Police Department.

For the past three years, Officer Simonson has been assigned to the Traffic Division as a motor officer and has excelled within his specialized assignment. Officer Simonson is an expert in traffic collision reconstruction.

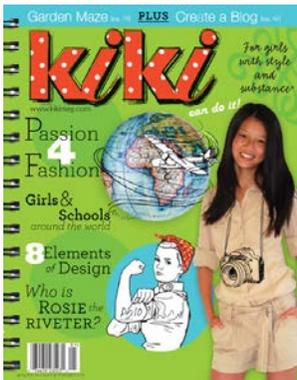
The Benicia Police Department is an active participant in the Solano County's "Avoid the 11" initiative and California's Office of Traffic Safety DUI Checkpoint program. Officer Simonson plays an integral role by assisting the traffic supervisor with these programs and ensuring that all of the grant requirements are met.

Officer Simonson is actively involved in several different community outreach programs: The Benicia Bicycle Rodeos, Safe Routes to School, Neighborhood Watch, and Every 15 Minutes. Most notably, Officer Simonson implemented a new community outreach program that focuses upon school traffic safety. This new outreach program provides additional safeguards for school children during drop-off and pick-up hours. Officer Simonson presented this program to the Benicia Unified School District and has received overwhelming support by their administration. Congratulations to Mark on his award. – *Police Department*

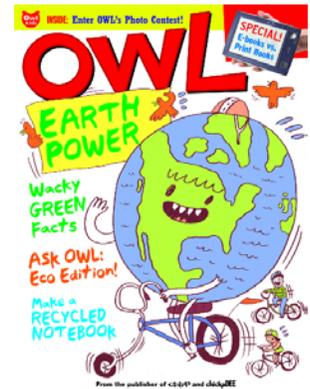
**VALERO LIVE FIRE TRAINING:** On October 16, members of the Benicia Fire Department participated with the Valero Benicia Refinery Fire Department in a live fire exercise at the refinery. This type of training prepares our staff to respond to refinery emergencies, as well as elsewhere in the community. The opportunity for personnel to participate in training with actual fire is invaluable. We are fortunate that Valero has the training facility at their site, which provides the refinery and our agency the opportunity to train together and develop the necessary working relationships to effectively manage any emergencies that may arise. – *Fire Department*



**NEW MAGAZINES AT THE LIBRARY:** Two new magazines recently added to the children's area are *Kiki* and *Owl*.



*Kiki* is an award-winning magazine and creativity journal published bi-monthly for tween and young teen girls. Each issue includes unique features including: From the Studio (design & clothing); Art Bin (art tools & projects); World Beat (international cultures & destinations); Biz Buzz: (the business of money); and Kiki Care: (healthy habits). *Kiki* affirms readers' individuality and helps readers develop self-confidence.



*OWL* is loaded with fascinating articles and amazing facts for 9 to 13 years olds. Each issue includes science behind how things work, quizzes, contests, and topics on everyday life. With breaking news stories and mind-boggling puzzles, it's a thought-provoking, entertaining place for kids to grow. Most current issues must be read in the Library and older issues may be checked out for three weeks. Look for future highlights of our new adult magazine titles. – *Library*

**BENICIA PD VOLUNTEERS ATTEND 14TH ANNUAL LAW ENFORCEMENT VOLUNTEERS OF CALIFORNIA:**



On Tuesday, October 8, members of the Benicia Police Department Volunteers in Policing (VIPS) unit attended the 14th Annual Law Enforcement Volunteers of California (LEVOC) annual conference in Lodi. Benicia PD's own Patti Baron serves on the LEVOC Board of Directors and has assisted with coordinating the conference since 2004. She has previously served as President and is currently the Association's Treasurer. At this year's event, approximately 50 different California law enforcement agencies sent over 500 patrol volunteers to the conference. Volunteers Bruce Shea, Dick Meyer, Art Mayoff, and Ron "Doc" Uhlman, Dave Sears, Jay Colvin, and Art Schipper represented Benicia PD.

This year the attendees were treated to outstanding classes by law enforcement instructors. The Director of the State of California Volunteer Organization contacted Patti Baron about the LEVOC Conference. They were so impressed that LEVOC is able to bring together over 500 police volunteers representing so many agencies, that they donated over 2,000 collapsible lighted traffic cones and 250 Pelican flashlights. These items were divided equally with each agency attending receiving 48 cones and 5 flashlights.

The Benicia PD Volunteers are a valuable asset to the City of Benicia. They continue to provide assistance at every major event taking place within the city. They have most recently assisted with the Benicia Handicraft Fair, the Benicia High School Homecoming Parade and with various Safe Routes to School events at our local elementary schools. Congratulations on a successful conference and thanks to our volunteers for all you do for our community! – *Police Department*

**BERT SKILLS DAY:** On Saturday, October 19, the Benicia Fire Department, in conjunction with Benicia Emergency Response Team volunteers, conducted their BERT Skills Day from 8:00 AM-noon, which culminated with the graduation of BERT Class 27. From 1:00-5:00PM, a BERT Member Refresher Training class was held for current BERT members. – *Fire Department*



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CONTACT INFORMATION

The City Manager's Report from City of Benicia City Manager Brad Kilger is published semi-monthly. 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