

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

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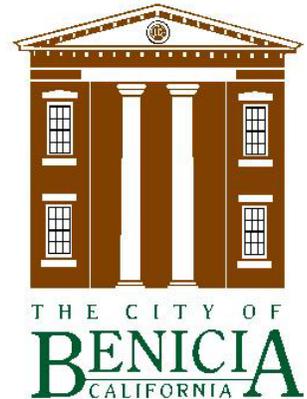
NOVEMBER 18, 2013

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

BENICIA NAMED A SAFEST CITY: Benicia was named one of the “50 Safest Cities in California” in a report released by SafeWise this week. SafeWise used the most recent FBI crime data and other ranking factors, like unique safety initiatives and security programs implemented within the past few years. From the 482 incorporated cities in California, they narrowed the list down to 50 and assigned rankings according to how the city met their criteria.

Cited for its stellar safety record, important factors are Benicia’s unique history and picturesque San Francisco Bay waterfront location, its eclectic collection of things to do, from history to arts to events, along with Benicia’s warm summers and moderate winters for year-round outdoor activities that are important to residents and visitors alike.

SafeWise notes that entrepreneurs and business owners will be glad to hear that Benicia invests heavily in developing its local economy, and the city’s Office of Economic Development offers a [website](#) that serves as a comprehensive guide to starting and growing your Benicia business.



Named number 40 out of 50, Benicia is in good company, sharing the list with the neighboring Bay Area cities of Danville, San Ramon, Cupertino, Foster City, Pacifica, Hercules, Windsor, Sunnyvale, Dublin, Lafayette, Petaluma, Pleasanton, and Belmont. To see the full list, [click here](#). – *Economic Development*



HOLIDAY CLOSURE: Benicia City Offices, the Benicia Community Center, and the Benicia Public Library will be closed on Wednesday and Thursday, November 28 and 29 in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Requests for emergency water and sewer service may be made at the Benicia Police Department, 200 East L Street or 745-3412. – *City Manager’s Office*

CITY OF BENICIA JOB OPPORTUNITIES: The Human Resources Department is accepting applications for the following positions:

- [Family Resource Coordinator I](#) (Grant Funded), closing **November 21**
- [Wastewater Operator II/III](#), closing **December 3**
- [Police Officer – Lateral](#), which is 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*



SIGNS OF THE SEASON: With the holidays rapidly approaching, members of the Benicia Fire Department, under direction of Captain Greg Petersen, assisted the Benicia State Parks Association with stringing lights on the historic Capitol Building. The Capitol will be lit for the Holiday Open House on the evening of December 6. – *Fire Department*



ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER FILMS COMMERCIAL: Benicia Police Department Animal Control Officer Darlene Jelonek assisted the Solano County Animal Shelter with the filming of an educational commercial that will soon air on local government channels in Solano County and on some Cable TV channels. Titled “Do Right by Your Pets, Animal Care and Control Points”, the commercial will feature ACO Jelonek meeting

with a group of children and discussing how to properly take care of your pet. Target all pet owners in Solano County, some of the talking points covered in the commercial are:

- Licensing
- Microchipping
- Adoption
- Spay and Neutering
- General Pet Ownership



Darlene was selected to star in this commercial because she is the only Animal Control Officer that works directly for a police department and currently deals with all of the issues in her daily work duties. – *Police Department*

MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY ASSOCIATION FILL-THE-BOOT FUNDRAISER: Firefighters

throughout the country have had a long standing relationship of providing support to the Muscular Dystrophy Association. The Fill-the-Boot event has become a standard in firefighter efforts to raise funds for the MDA.

On November 8, Benicia Fire Department personnel held their fundraising effort at First and Military, gathering in excess of \$2,800, which will be used by the MDA in support of local individuals. This was a great event, and is an example of Benicia Fire Department personnel engaging in community support.

– *Fire Department*



AQUATICS DIVISION UPDATE: The Parks & Community Services Department extends a special thank you and congratulations to Jill Wynn, Recreation Supervisor, for her time and dedication in co-chairing (for the 3rd year) the California Aquatic Management School, an important state-wide aquatic education and training for aquatic professionals. The California Aquatic Management School (CAMS) is an annual three-day intensive aquatics training sponsored by the California Park and Recreation Society. Topics included:



- Drowning prevention
- Staff training
- Use of social media
- Partnering with local EMS
- Life jacket awareness and education



The City of Benicia is fortunate to have such talented staff that are willing to share their knowledge and talents with their colleagues. – *Parks & Community Services*

NEW ART IN THE CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS: Arts Benicia presents the works of Kathy Oja in the Council Chambers through **January 27**.



Largely self-taught, Kathy Oja has been involved in a range of creative endeavors. Inspired by colorful, expressive, handmade ethnic arts found in her travels, Kathy describes her paintings as "stories that speak to life in all its beauty and complexity." Within her work exists a dichotomy between extemporaneous expression and thoughtful execution. Though her work is well thought-out, Kathy allows for improvisation during her creative process, thus each unique painting depicts neither the ideal nor a straightforward narrative.

View her work in the Council Chambers during public meetings or upon request during business hours. – *City Manager's Office*

AUTO EXTRICATION TRAINING: The Benicia Fire Department often responds to motor



vehicle accidents that require the use of specialized tools in order to remove trapped victims. People will commonly hear about or see the “Jaws of Life” being used to complete this task. This is a generic name that is used to describe hydraulic cutting/prying tools used during the extrication process. In some instances, personnel are faced with additional challenges like the vehicle being overturned or on its side. In these cases, other tools are used to stabilize the vehicle in preparation for the rescue. Tools such as a “saws all” and rescue air bags are often used in auto extrication operations.



Recently, Fire Department personnel participated in training where they were able to use various tools to position a vehicle on its side, stabilize it, and then remove the roof and doors in order to remove a victim. It is the ability to perform this type of training on a regular basis that maintains the effectiveness of our emergency responders. – *Fire Department*

BENICIA SENIOR CENTER – ANNUAL SENIOR CRAFT FAIR: The Parks & Community Services Senior Craft Class, led by instructor Betty Qually, held a craft fair at the Senior Center on Saturday, November 9. The Senior Craft Class was joined by over twenty local senior craft vendors. Some of the items sold included knitwear, purses, decorative pillows, jewelry, glass art, ornaments, picture frames and much more. The event was deemed such a success that the Craft Class will donate some of the proceeds to a local charity of their choice. Look for the next craft fair in May. – *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:

- **Summit Drywall and Painting** — 4866 East 2nd Street, owners: John and Jennifer Everhart
- **Premier Brands** — 635 First Street, owner: Tim Aldrich
- **Huckleberry's** — 800 Southampton Road, owners: Cal Lundin and Jeff Lundin
- **Timeless Memories** — 129 First Street, Ste D, owner: Mohammad Mehdi Khosvari
- **Reds Auto Sales** — 1350 Hayes Street #22, owner: Jeffrey L. Jones
- **Patrick's Pumpkins and Trees** — 1654 East 2nd Street (parking lot only), owner: Patrick Gleason
- **Best Tax Firm** — 310 Military West, Ste B, owner: Jennifer Traynor
- **Barber Parlour** — 390 Military East, owner: Ahmad Abdelrazzaq
- **Benicia Pallets** — 3001 Bayshore Road, owners: Angel M. Estrada and Gustavo Perez
- **Panda Express** — 804 Southampton Road, owner: Panda Express Group
- **Kaiser Crossing, LLC** — 1001-1021 First Street, owners: Anne Kaiser and Robert Taylor
- **Stephens Mechanical Group** — 3900 Oregon Street, Ste 4, owners: Michele and Paul Stephens
- **Critical Weld Inspections, Inc.** — 507 First Street, owners: David and Sandra Cox
- **Mystic Nail Salon (*new owners only*)** — 191 Military East, Ste D, owner: Nhung Nguyen
- **Border Transfer** — 521 Stone Road, owners: Patrick McCluskey and Donald Staniszewski
- **Phoenix Installation Services, Limited** — 5000 East 2nd Street, Ste L, owners: Patrick McCluskey and Donald Staniszewski
- **Hunt and Sons (*new owners only*)** — 630 - 640 Noyes Court, owners: Joshua and Joseph Hunt

- *Economic Development*



SHELTER MANAGEMENT CLASS HOSTED BY THE AMERICAN RED CROSS: On Saturday, November 9, BERT (Benicia Emergency Response Team) members attended a shelter management class taught by American Red Cross instructors. The purpose of the one day course was to introduce participants to the role and responsibilities of organizations who partner with the Red Cross during disaster situations. This course specifically addressed setting up and managing shelters and consisted of both in-class lecture and a “show and tell” of a Red Cross trailer and equipment. Special thanks go to Larry Whitney, BERT Chief, and Sue Maddux, BERT Logistics, for scheduling the class. – *Fire Department*



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FIRE DEPARTMENT INCIDENT TRAINING: On average in the United States over the past five years, 90 firefighters have perished annually in line of duty deaths. In fact, in July of 2011, the San Francisco Fire Department lost two of its members on the Berkley Way Incident while fighting a residential house fire no different than fires that occur in cities throughout our country every day.



On November 6, the Benicia Fire Department hosted a workshop in order to review and learn from this local tragedy. The event was taught by San Francisco Assistant Fire Chiefs Siragusa (Incident Commander of the event) and Franklin (one of the members of the Accident Investigation Team). Approximately 50 firefighters from all over Northern California attend the single day session. Everyone took home “lessons learned” in hopes of reducing future firefighter fatalities.

Thanks go to Ann Dunleavy and other City of Benicia staff who went above and beyond to see that this important training session was an overwhelming success. – *Fire Department*

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



VETERAN’S DAY REMEMBRANCE: Benicia Police Officer Sam Peterson and the Benicia Youth Commission honored Veterans at the City Cemetery on Friday, November 8. Commissioners place over 150 flags to honor Veterans and included a new ribbon design on the main lawn area, individual flags on Veteran graves, and a colorful thank you in the display case in the parking lot. – *Parks & Community Services*



BENICIA SENIOR CENTER – THANKSGIVING LUNCH: The Benicia Seniors celebrated their annual Thanksgiving luncheon on Wednesday, November 13, catered by Venticello's. Venticello's made a delicious traditional Thanksgiving feast with turkey, mashed potatoes and all the fixings. Benicia Fire Department Captain Josh



Chadwick & his crew from Station 11 were very generous to come help serve lunch to the seniors. City staff and the Parks & Community Services teams helped in the kitchen and served as well.

The Benicia Seniors raise money yearly to purchase toys to donate to Toys for Tots. This year the toys they purchased were presented to Captain Chadwick and his crew during the luncheon. Special thanks for the event go to: 1) Lindsay Dion, Recreation Coordinator for the all the beautiful decorations and organization for the lunch, 2) Benicia Senior Craft Class for the centerpieces, 3) All the local businesses who generously donated items to be door prizes for those in attendance. Organizers were overwhelmed by the outpouring of generosity from Goldenhorse Shoe Antiques, First Street Impressions, Benicia Main Street, LUCCA, Sailor Jack's, Kennon Real Estate, The Steffen Collection, and Kinder's. -Parks & Community Services

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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**