



## CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

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DECEMBER 3, 2012

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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**REMINDER OF CLOSURE OF CITY OFFICES:** City Administrative Offices will be closed Monday, December 24 through Friday, December 28 and again on Tuesday, January 1. The Library will be closed on December 25 and January 1 and close early at 5:00 pm on December 24, at 6:00 pm on December 26 and 27 and at 5:00 pm on January 31. – *City Manager's Office*

**YOUTH COMMISSION DRIVE FOR DONATIONS:** The Benicia Youth Commission is collecting clean blankets, towels, and dog/cat beds to donate to animals at the Benicia-Vallejo Humane Society. If you have any you can spare, please donate at the Benicia Community Center from now through January and help us keep pets warm this winter. For more information, contact Ashley Howe, Recreation Supervisor, at 746-4283 or [ahowe@ci.benicia.ca.us](mailto:ahowe@ci.benicia.ca.us). – *Parks & Community Services*



**COUNCIL CHAMBERS DECORATED FOR THE HOLIDAYS:** Santa's helpers from Parks & Community Services were busy spreading holiday cheer. Be sure to stop by and see the patriotic tree in the Council Chambers, the festive Benicia Community Center or the beautiful Gazebo lit up at night. Special thanks to the Parks Crew, Building Maintenance Staff and Lindsay Dion, Recreation Coordinator. – *Parks & Community Services*





**TOYS FOR TOTS:** The Benicia Firefighters Association is collecting toys for local children in need. Your donation of new, unwrapped toys may be dropped off at either Station 11 at 150 Military West or Station 12 at 601 Hasting Drive. – *Fire Department*

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

- Tow Bully - 870 Teal Drive
- Family Fun Entertainment - 1350 Hayes Street
- Delticom North America - 631 Indiana Street
- Elle Placement DBA: Golden Gate Staffing - 2134 Columbus Parkway
- Cardio Kickboxing with Jennifer Vallejos - 949 Grant Street #A
- Brickspace - 418 Military East
- Jennifer Chapdelain (Administrative Services) - 1350 Hayes Street #A13
- Peaceful Healing Hands - 555 First Street #200
- Barbara Patrick Skin - 831 First Street
- Lil' Luna - 511 First Street
- Express Messenger Systems Inc DBA: Ontrac - 4661 Park Road
- Fabrics on First - 242 First Street
- Healthy Options Vending - 3001 Bayshore Road #4
- *Economic Development*



**PARKS DIVISION UPDATE:** The Parks & Community Services' Parks Division recently



completed the bollard re-alignment project at Alvarez 9th Street Park. A section of the existing bollards and chain railing was moved back away from the cliff area to improve safety for park patrons. – *Parks & Community Services*

**LETTERS FROM SANTA:** The Parks & Community Services Departments invites local children to send a letter to Santa. He will respond with a personalized note and a copy of the North Pole News. Include a self-addressed stamped envelope and mail to:



SANTA CLAUS  
C/O BENICIA PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES  
250 EAST L STREET  
BENICIA, CA 94510

Letters are due by **December 14!** – *Parks & Community Service*

**YOUTH BASKETBALL:** Over 450 participants are registered to participate in this year's Youth Basketball League. Divisions include: Kindergarten, Girls 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> grade, Girls 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>, Boys 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup>, Boys 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>, Boys 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>, Co-ed 7<sup>th</sup>&8<sup>th</sup> and Adapted. All teams are coached by parent volunteers and refereed by Parks & Community Service staff. The program has a recreational approach that focuses on learning the basics of the game and having fun. Score is not kept with the exception of the 7th and 8th grade division and all participants received a medal at the end of the season. – *Parks & Community Services*



**THANKSGIVING MEALS:** The Rotary Club of Benicia purchased pre-packaged Thanksgiving meals from Raley's Supermarket for local families in need. The Benicia Fire Department had the pleasure of delivering the meals to those families on Tuesday, November 20. – *Fire Department*



**BATTERY RECYCLING:** In order to assist in our recycling efforts, a USED Battery Collection bin has been placed in City Hall at the bottom of the stairs near Council Chambers.

All batteries, of any type, are now considered hazardous waste in California when they are discarded. This includes AAA, AA, C, D, button cell, 9 Volt, and all other batteries, both rechargeable and single use.

Battery recycling containers have also been provided at the Corporation Yard and the Library for all your used batteries. They will be collected by Allied Waste and disposed of properly.

If you have any questions about recycling, contact Tonya Gilmore at 707.746.4334 or [tgilmore@ci.benicia.ca.us](mailto:tgilmore@ci.benicia.ca.us). – *City Manager's Office*



**911 FOR KIDS:** On November 8, members from Benicia Police Department and the Benicia Fire Department attended a “911 For Kids” event in the 1300 block of Military West. There were approximately 20-25 young children in attendance along with many parents. This event allowed the children to learn about 911 and what to do in an emergency. They were given 911 coloring books and BPD Junior Police badges. Officers Marjone Roberson and Traffic Officer Fred Ayala represented the police department. The children were allowed to sit inside the patrol car and on the police motorcycle. Many of the children had their picture taken with the officers for souvenirs. – *Police Department*



**SPECIAL EVENTS FOR KIDS:** If you're between 6 and 12 years old, come to the Benicia Public Library on **Wednesday, December 12** from 3:30 – 4:45 pm to create holiday gifts. You can make friendship bracelets, cards, ornaments, and more! This event is free, thanks to the Friends of the Benicia Public Library.



Future events for kids in the New Year include:

- Pop-up books: **Wednesday, January 23** from 3:30-4:45 pm for ages 6-10
- Cartooning workshop: **Wednesday, February 6** from 3:30 – 4:45 pm for ages 8 – 14

Check out the [library's website](#) for more events for kids. – *Library*

**FALL/WINTER MULCHING PROGRAM:** The Parks & Community Services Parks Division is currently in the middle of its Fall/Winter mulching program. Planter beds in various areas throughout the city are receiving a fresh layer of recycled wood mulch. The mulch is a byproduct of the City's tree maintenance program that is recycled in the form of organic mulch. Mulching improves soil quality, reduces weed growth, and helps retain soil moisture. – *Parks & Community Services*



**WINTER CONCERT:** Looking for a great way to celebrate the holidays? The annual Winter Concert presented by the Diablo Regional Concert Band will be held in the fireplace area of the Benicia Public Library with Cora Martens conducting on **Friday, December 7** at 7:30 pm. This free event is sponsored by the Friends of the Benicia Public Library. – *Library*



**STORM UPDATE:** The latest storm started at about 5:00 am on Sunday and while the City



began storm water recovery by early afternoon, it affected the Wastewater Treatment Plant until early Monday morning. Staff at the plant were proactive throughout the storm. Jim York called the Superintendent the day before very worried about the storm and asked if he could come in early to get a jump on the situation. His planning ahead was a great idea, and allowed the plant to be braced for the onslaught of the storm. As the day unfolded Andy Morris, Alan Hodges, Tom Svensson, Steve Landers, and Greg Axline all came in. They addressed issues within the plant as they presented themselves and worked at almost every significant lift station for hours at a time to reduce the potential for sewage overflows. Jennifer Harrington and Allison

Connor came in to perform compliance testing. In fact, Allison altered her plans to re-run an important test. Jonathan Lane and Roy Magner came in at around 6:30 pm to relieve the folks that had been there all day. They stayed all night to ensure we stayed in compliance and to move the wastewater we had stored throughout the plant. Jeff Gregory stated, "I have been in the wastewater business about 21 years and this was one of the most significant storms I have ever experienced." The water surge that hit the plant was huge and lasted for 16 plus hours. Our WWTP staff performed in an exemplary manner. They fought every battle necessary to get the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant through this event. – *Public Works*

**SHORE-BASED MARINE FIREFIGHTING TRAINING:** Valero Fire Chief, Joe Bateman and his father, Frank Bateman, a highly recognized Industrial Fire Service Instructor, provided shore-based marine firefighting training to members of the Benicia Fire Department. The training was provided at no cost to the Benicia Fire Department. – *Fire Department*





**LAWYERS IN THE LIBRARY:** Volunteer attorneys are available for up to 20-minute consultations on **Thursday, December 6** in the Dona Benicia Room at the Benicia Public Library. Signups begin at 5:00 pm in the Art Gallery hallway -- first-come, first-served for fifteen available slots. While you wait, visit our [Lawyer in the Library](#) webpage with links to resources. – *Library*

**FREE COMPUTER CLASSES AT THE LIBRARY:** Looking for a great recipe? Want to learn all about future vacation spots? Want to write a holiday newsletter to send to friends and family? Hoping to reconnect through Facebook? Free computer classes are being presented by tech savvy high school computer science students at the Benicia Public Library. The first one was December 1 and the next one will be on **Saturday, December 8** from 10:00 am - noon. In addition, you can bring your own devices to the Library on **Saturday, December 15** for a personalized lesson on how to use your electronic equipment. – *Library*



**UPDATE ON INTERMODAL PROJECT AT FIRST & MILITARY:** Carone Construction, the general contractor, indicates that the landscaping will begin on December 6 and be installed over the next 3 weeks, *weather permitting*. The traffic signal installation is underway, bus shelters are scheduled to be installed next week, light standards and stamped concrete at the intersection of First & Military will begin next week, followed by the lighted crosswalk at West 2nd, and then the final striping before Christmas. – *Public Works*

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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