

## CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

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DECEMBER 17, 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.

If you need immediate assistance during the closure, please call 745.3412. All other phone messages and email correspondence will be returned after the closure. – *City Manager's Office*

**FIRE TRAINING:** On December 15 and 16, the Benicia Fire Department sent an engine company, along with the department's four new apprentice Firefighter Paramedics, to the Oakland Fire training and burn tower. Both days were spent performing multiple live fire scenarios. The apprentice firefighters were able to train on hose handling, air management, victim rescue, and various other skills while under the extreme heat and smoke of live fire conditions. The Oakland Fire Department graciously allowed the use of their training facility, including a stand by engine company for back-up and safety. The four apprentice firefighter paramedics will wrap of their three-week orientation academy on Friday, December 21. – *Fire Department*



**TAKE MY TREE, PLEASE:** Looking for a way to dispose of/recycle your live Christmas tree? Here are some options:

- **Boy Scout Treecycling** - Drop-off sites are Benicia Community Park (near Matthew Turner School) and First Baptist Church, 1055 Southampton Road on **December 29 & 30, and January 5, 6, & 12** from 9:00 am – 3:30 pm. Scouts will also pick up trees by appointment on the same days listed above. Call 707.551.4520 or visit [www.beniciascouts.org](http://www.beniciascouts.org) to schedule an appointment. A donation of \$7 would be appreciated. Please note that the Scouts will accept flocked trees.



- **Place Trees in Your Yard Waste Cart** - You can place unflocked trees (flocked trees cannot go in your yard waste cart) in your green yard waste cart under the following conditions:



- Branches must be 6” or less in diameter and 3’ or less in length. Cut off the tree top, remove the tree stand, and make sure the lid will close.
- No plastic bags.
- Please remove lights, ornaments, tinsel, nails and stands from trees.

As part of Allies Waste’s treecycling program, flocked, painted, fireproofed or artificial trees are not accepted. Flocked trees can be collected curbside for a fee of \$40 per tree. Pick-ups must be scheduled in advance. For pick-up scheduling or questions, please call 707.747.0608. – City

*Manager’s Office*

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

- The Workshop - 511 Claverie Way - Owner: Danny Glassmaker
- Seymour Family Law - 821 East 2nd Street #203 - Owner: Brent D. Seymour
- Golden State Bridge Inc - 2990 Bay Vista Court #D - Officer: David Riccitiello (Pres.); Ann-Marie Talbot
- Benicia Auto Body - 2045 Fir Road - Owner: Rafi Nawabi
- Sportclips - 808 Southampton Road - Owners: Joe Ardave and Dan Ardave
- Meo Baaklini Photography - 940 Tyler Street #A - Owner: Melissa Baaklini
- Benicia Makerspace - 901 First Street - Owner: Nicole Nunes
- Goldcrest Designs - 4592 East 2nd Street #M - Owner: Jim Pawloski
- Alladaye Enterprises - 3195 Park Road #F - Owner: William Alladaye
- Pro-Faction Martial Arts & Fitness - 632 First Street - Owner: Geoff Quares
- *Economic Development*



**I'M DREAMING OF A GREEN CHRISTMAS:** According to Allied Waste, the holiday season (from Thanksgiving to New Year's Day) is the most wasteful and least environmentally friendly time of the year. Americans throw away 25% more trash, which equates to an extra 25 million tons of garbage during this period. Energy use climbs as well.

Allied Waste offers these easy ways to be a little kinder to the environment this season:

- When shopping, consider reuse stores, choose items with less packaging, shop local, and use a reusable shopping bag. For that "hard to buy for" person, consider a donation to a charity in their name.
- Wrap gifts in brown paper, comics or reusable materials. Be creative! If you do use wrapping paper, do not burn it in the fireplace. It is often printed with heavy inks or made from metallics that release dioxins and other toxic pollutants into the air.
- Deep frying a turkey? If cooking with oil and grease, do not pour them into the sink drain. Clogged drains cause overflows, resulting in polluted storm drains. Place the grease/oil in a sealed container and call Allied's customer service at 707.747.0608 for a household hazardous waste pick up.
- Send e-cards or recycled-content greeting cards. Do not send cards with sound or flashing lights. The small batteries in them need to be disposed of like all batteries, as hazardous waste. For gifts with batteries, include a battery charger.
- Use energy-saving LED holiday lights. Limit holiday light displays to six hours per evening to conserve energy.



Give the environment a gift this year. Please do your best to Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.  
- City Manager's Office

**UPCOMING DUI/DRIVER'S LICENSE CHECKPOINT:** Benicia Police Department Traffic Unit will be conducting a DUI/Driver's License Checkpoint on **Friday, December 28** between the hours of 7:00 pm and 1:00 am at an undisclosed location near downtown Benicia.

Officers will be contacting drivers passing through the checkpoint for signs of alcohol and/or drug impairment and will also check drivers for proper licensing, delaying motorists only momentarily. Drivers caught driving impaired can expect jail, license suspension, and insurance increases, as well as fines, fees, DUI classes, other expenses that can exceed \$10,000.

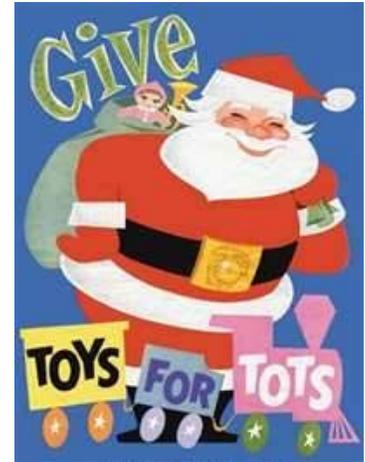


The deterrent effect of DUI checkpoints is a proven resource in reducing the number of persons killed and injured in alcohol or drug involved crashes. Research shows that crashes involving alcohol drop by an average of 20 percent when well-publicized checkpoints are conducted often enough.

“Over the course of the past two years, DUI collisions have resulted in 29 injury crashes harming 6 of our friends and neighbors,” said Lt. Frank Hartig of the Benicia Police Department.

Funding for this checkpoint is provided to Benicia Police Department by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, reminding everyone to continue to work together to bring an end to these tragedies. If you see a Drunk Driver – Call 9-1-1. For information, please email [Lt. Frank Hartig](mailto:Lt.Frank.Hartig@beniciacalifornia.gov) or call 707.746.4259. – *Police Department*

**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*



**BENICIA FIRE DEPARTMENT BADGE PINNINGS:** In other Fire Department news, you are invited to join them in celebrating the badge pinnings of Firefighter Paramedics Richard Garner, Kyle Sater, Matthew Murphy, and Adam Malbrough on Friday, December 21 at 3:00 pm in the City Council Chambers. – *Fire Department*

**SOLTRANS HOLIDAY SEASON PROMOTIONAL SERVICE:** Beginning **Friday, December 21 through December 31**, SolTrans will provide special promotional fares during the holiday season, implementing a rider promotion called “[This Holiday Season, the City is Yours](#)” where riders will pay reduced fares of 25¢ per ride on all local fixed routes in Benicia and Vallejo. Additionally, dial-a-ride service users in Benicia will pay \$1 per trip during this promotion.

Not to leave out the commuter ridership, and in an effort to promote the use of monthly passes, SolTrans is also offering a “\$10 off Monthly Pass” coupon for completing a survey which gathers ridership data, including trip origins, destinations, routes used most often, rider access to an automobile, and other statistics. Once the survey has been completed, riders will receive a coupon for \$10 off the purchase price of a January 2013 local or multi-zone monthly pass. One pass will be available per survey completed, with one survey available per person. Respondents must complete the survey no later than Friday, December 28, 2012 to receive the coupon.



Solano County Transit (SolTrans) is the public transportation provider for the Cities of Benicia and Vallejo, offering local fixed route, regional express bus, complementary ADA paratransit, dial-a-ride, and subsidized taxi services. SolTrans is, dedicated to delivering affordable, reliable, convenient and safe transit services. For further information, please contact SolTrans Customer Service at 707.648.4666 or visit their website at [www.soltransride.com](http://www.soltransride.com). – *City Manager’s Office*



**SANTA AT THE FIRE STATION:** Santa visited Benicia Fire Station 11 at 150 Military West, on the evening of December 15. Children were able to take pictures with Santa in his sleigh and donations were collected for Toys for Tots as well as the Benicia Relay for Life. A good time was had by all! – *Fire Department*

**BENICIA POLICE ATTEND JOE HENDERSON 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE DARE GRADUATION:** On the evening of December 13, members of the Benicia Police Department along with approximately 175 family and friends of 5<sup>th</sup> graders of Joe Henderson Elementary School attended the DARE Graduation. 90 students from Ms. Campbell, Ms. Muscolino and Mr. Whitty's 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes received their DARE graduation certificates. The certificates were presented by School Resource Officer Sam Peterson and other Joe Henderson staff.

The event was attended by Chief of Police Andrew Bidou, Lt. Frank Hartig, Sgt. James Laughter, Corporal Gregg Rouse and Officer Jake Heinemeyer. Two students from each 5<sup>th</sup> grade class were selected to read their DARE essays.

The DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program was founded by the Los Angeles PD and is now in over 70 countries worldwide. Benicia PD brought DARE to the Benicia Unified School District in 1991. The goal of the program is to educate students about the dangers involving tobacco, marijuana, alcohol and other drugs and dealing with peer pressure. The Benicia Police Department thanked Benicia Valero Refinery for their financial support of the DARE program. – *Police Department*



**DISPATCHERS AND POLICE OFFICERS PROVIDE GIFTS FOR IN NEED FAMILIES FOR CHRISTMAS:** Members of the Benicia Dispatcher Association and the Benicia Police Officers' Association chipped in to help two Benicia families have a merrier Christmas this year. The Benicia PD Family Resource Center provided the names of two families needing assistance. On December 23<sup>rd</sup>, the two different families will receive a complete Holiday Dinner from Raleys, toys for the children, and gift baskets for the parents. All four children in both families will be getting new bicycles and bike helmets along with clothing and games.

BPOA President Kevin Rose stated "Christmas is the season to give. The men and



women of the BPOA have a very personal sense of involvement. We feel good when we are able to give back to the community we serve." Public Safety Dispatcher and BDA member Michelle Foley adds, "We are grateful every year to be able to reach out and give back to our community. In our profession we often see the dark side and it feels good to bring happiness to those in need." Michelle Foley has been organizing this event since 2001.

In addition, staff of the City Attorney's Office, Office of Economic Development, City Manager's Office, Human Resources, Information Technology, Parks & Community Services, Community Development, and Library chipped in and purchased several hundred dollars in grocery and gift cards to enable another local FRC family to celebrate the holidays with their four children. – *Police Department*

**UPDATE FROM PUBLIC WORKS:** Take a look at what the Public Works Department was working on in October and November. They were all over town. Were they working in your neighborhood?

**Maintenance – Streets:**

October

- Paving- McCall Dr. 10 tons
- Potholes- West K Street at State Park entrance (3), Southampton Road (9), Goodyear Road (1), West 7th Street near I-780 (3), Military West at Drolette Way (1), West 7th between Military & K Street (2), East 2nd at Rankin Way (1), Kuhland Alley (2), Cambridge Drive (2), Viewmont Street (1)
- Painting- PD parking lot, Braitto Park entrance curbs, Viewmont legends
- Miscellaneous Items- Industrial Way storm ditch clearing 10/3,4 &16, Farmers Market set-up 10/4 & 9, Homecoming Parade 10/15, 17 &18, West 7th near Carolina Dr. tree trimming, Lake Herman Road illegal dumping clean-up, Park Road at Stone Road roadside trash removal (7 loads), alley repair 400 blk West J & K Streets, illegal dumping clean-up 600 East H Street

November

- Paving- Reservoir Road (4), East D Street (2). 6 tons total
- Potholes- During the month of November there was 19 potholes filled City wide.

- Weed Abatement- Gutters and Roadside. Military (State Park to East 2nd Street), Hastings Drive (Southampton Road to Rose Drive), Cambridge Drive (Rose Drive to Hastings Drive), Reservoir Road, East 2nd Street (Lake Herman Road to Corp Yard), Chelsea Hills (Southampton Road to Panorama), East 2nd Street (Military to Corp Yard), Water Treatment Plant, Industrial (Storm Creek access road), Military East (East 5th to Adams), Lake Herman Road (East 2nd to Lake)
- Concrete- Panorama at Carlisle (joint sidewalk), Oxford Way (sidewalk removal and storm drain repair/install)
- Miscellaneous Items- East 5th at N Street (Ped Rail install), Industrial Way (storm ditch debris removal), E Street City Parking Lot (vegetation removal & trash pick-up), First Street (Christmas wreath install), 11/27 West 5th & K Street (Storm drain grate debris removal)

**Maintenance – Sewer:**

October

- Customer Service Calls- 16 total, Industrial Way, Via Alta, Parkway Plaza, West J Street, West Industrial, First Street, East 2nd Street, El Bonito Way, East I Street, Park Road, Carlisle Way, Buena Vista, El Bonito, Alto Loma, West K Street, East N Street
- Televised Inspections- West J Street, West Industrial, Buena Vista, East N Street
- Mains Cleaned- City Wide 26 locations for 7,927'

November

- Customer Service Calls- 15 Total, West K Street, Alley 400 blk East O Street, Jackson Street, Military East (2), First Street, Lift Stations (Park Road, Barn, Fleetside #1, 2, & 3), Dartmouth Place, Bayshore Road, 400 blk East N Street, West K Street, Camelia Court, Park Road, West I Street (2), West 2nd Street
- Televised Inspections- 100 blk First Street, 100 blk Military East (Civic Center to Solano Square), Bayshore Road, Camelia Court, 600 blk West I Street
- Mains Cleaned- City Wide 29 locations for 8,952'

**Maintenance – Water:**

October

- Service – (3) 3/4" HDPE water service line leaks. 800 blk Dorset, 300 blk East T Street, 545 East I Street. Replaced all with copper, 100' total. 1 at 1" HDPE water service line leak. 1400 blk Military East. Replaced with copper, 90' total.
- Mains – (3) at 6" AC water main leaks. Two on Viewmont at East 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, and another on the 1900 blk East 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. Replaced with C-900, 8' total. (1) 8" Ductile Iron water main leak. 500 blk McCall. Replaced with C-900, 6' total. (1) 8" AC water main leak. 600 blk Daffodil. Repaired with full circle clamp. (1) 10" AC water main leak. 6800 blk Goodyear Road. Repaired with full circle clamp.

November:

- Services – (4) 3/4" HDPE water service line leaks. 1000 blk West L Street, 500 blk Willow Court, 300 blk Steven Circle, 1400 blk West 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. Replaced with copper, 107' total.
- Hydrants – (2) replaced leaking hydrants



**MESSAGE FROM THE CITY MANAGER:** Even though budgets are tight, revenue is down, and the world seems to be going crazy, I'm reminded that we live and work in a most special place, made even more so by the care and commitment of the employees and volunteers of the City of Benicia.



From the crews on the streets, out in the field and in our parks...from our outlying facilities and our emergency personnel in their fire trucks and patrol cars...from our citizen volunteers, Commission and Board Members, our staff at City Hall, in our Library and everywhere in between...each one has a hand in making Benicia the safe, progressive, beautiful, and welcoming community that it is. Their care and commitment to their jobs and dedication to our community is outstanding.

I wish each of them and all of our residents a happy and safe holiday season. I look forward to all of us enjoying an even better 2013.

*Brad Kilger*

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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**