



CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

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August 25, 2016

The City Manager's Report from City of Benicia Interim City Manager Steve Salomon 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 Information at the end of this report.

**MESSAGE FROM INTERIM CITY MANAGER STEVE SALOMON:** The Public Works Department is aware of the delays associated with the traffic signal at the Southampton Road and Chelsea Hills intersection, and has made temporary adjustments to the signal timing while waiting to acquire permanent equipment to make repairs. Two of the four video detection cameras that signal the traffic signal controller about waiting vehicles have failed. The interruption in signal occurred recently as the components were all inspected in July.

The best short term fix was to place the signals in automatic time mode, however, they may be placed in flashing mode as needed. A more effective temporary repair will take place Thursday, 8/25 when two cameras will be installed by the city's traffic signal contractor to restore normal operation.



The existing cameras are five years old and it has been difficult to acquire replacement cameras. In approximately three weeks, new cameras will be installed and the traffic control software will be upgraded. The repair should take one day of work to complete and is expected to maximize the travel efficiency in one of Benicia's most busy intersections.

The Public Works Department is aware of the inconveniences caused by the signal's compromised condition and appreciates the public's patience during permanent repair activities.

To report traffic signal problems, please call Public Works at 707.746.4296 during regular business hours or Police Department Dispatch after hours at 707.745.3411 or report online at <https://com3.govtsystems.com/ReqPBeniciaCA/>. – *City Manager*

**HOLIDAY CLOSURE:** Benicia City Offices, the Benicia Community Center and the Benicia Public Library will be closed **Monday, September 5** in observance of Labor 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*

**IN MEMORIUM:** It is with sadness that we learn of the passing of City of Benicia's first Poet Laureate, Joel Fallon. Mr. Fallon, 85, passed away on Thursday, August 11. He retired to Benicia in 1994 after a distinguished military career.

The Benicia Public Library's Board of Trustees established the office of the Poet Laureate in 2005 to place an emphasis on poetry in Benicia, report on local poetry-related activities and participate in library and civic events. Mr. Fallon was appointed by the City Council in November for a two-year term lasting from 2006 to 2008. He helped with the formation of the First Tuesday Poetry Group that meets monthly in the Library, the annual Poets' Picnic in the Park, and the Love Poetry Contest in February.



[Johanna Ely](#) is the sixth and current Poet Laureate of Benicia.

Mr. Fallon is survived by his wife of 65 years, Carolyn, five children, eight grandchildren and pets. A memorial service will be held in December. – *Library*

**OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT:** On Friday, August 19, Benicia Police Chief Upson had the honor of attending the promotional ceremony for Shawn Hale, a very special young man being promoted to Eagle Scout. The promotional ceremony was held at the Benicia Veterans Memorial Hall in Benicia.



Shawn's Eagle Scout project was to collect books for kids for the Sutter Solano Medical Center. Shawn collected 1,630 books for children in need! Chief Upson was honored to present Shawn his Chief's Challenge Coin for his outstanding achievement. Congratulations Shawn! – *Police Department*

**NATIONAL DRIVE ELECTRIC WEEK AT FARMERS MARKET:** Electric vehicle drivers and enthusiasts will be at the Benicia Farmers Market to highlight the fun, clean-air benefits, and cost-savings of electric cars on **Thursday, September 15**. The event is part of the fifth annual National Drive Electric Week.



Several drivers will be at First & B Streets to showcase their cars and share their enthusiasm for driving electric. They'll answer questions based on their real life driving experiences with their cars available to look at and check out. There will also be a coloring contest for children.

This event, sponsored by Benicia's Community Sustainability Commission, is one of more than 100 across the country where electric vehicle owners and their neighbors will hold electric car parades, "tailpipe-free" tailgate parties, recognition of leaders promoting EVs, launches of new public EV charging stations and other public events. [Plug In America](#), the [Sierra Club](#) and the [Electric Auto Association](#) are national organizers.

The movie "Who Killed the Electric Car?" will be shown at the Benicia Public Library on **Wednesday, September 14** at 7:00 PM in conjunction with this event.

A complete list of National Drive Electric Week events are available at [DriveElectricWeek.org](#). – *Community Development*



**BENICIA FILM FESTIVAL IS ALMOST HERE:** The 3<sup>rd</sup> annual [Benicia Film Festival](#) is THE event for Labor Day Weekend, **September 2-4**. Films, fun, food & wine, all on First Street in downtown Benicia. You'll enjoy international, national and local short films during the three-day event.

Tickets are available at the Benicia Public Library, 150 East L Street or online at [BeniciaFilmFestival.com](#). – *Library*

**SING A STORY WITH THE SAN FRANCISCO OPERA!** Kids ages 5 and up are invited to sing a story with the [San Francisco Opera](#) on **Saturday, September 10** at 10:30 AM at Benicia Public Library.

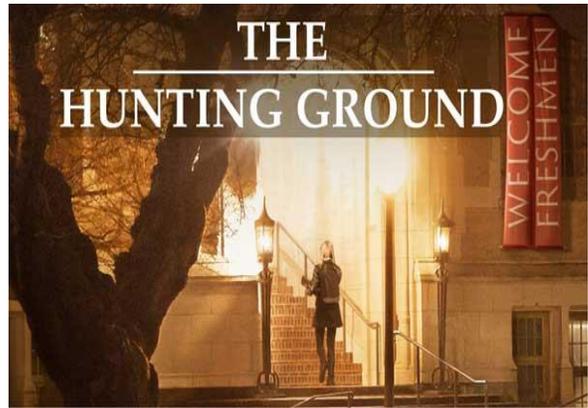
This interactive program presented by a teaching artist from the San Francisco Opera will feature scenes from The Magic Flute. After a singing lesson and the musical telling of the opera The Magic Flute, a magic bag full of props and costumes is unveiled to help the audience perform the opera. Come prepared to sing! - *Library*



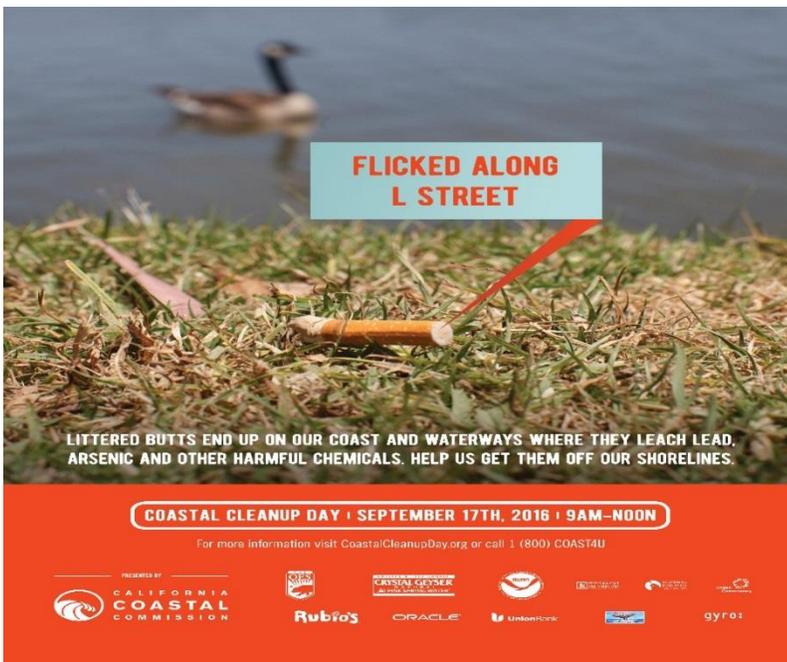
**HUNTING GROUND - DOCUMENTARY & DISCUSSION:** Teens and adults are invited to view the documentary *Hunting Ground* on **Tuesday, September 13** at 6:00 PM at Benicia Public Library.

This documentary addresses rape on American college campuses. You are invited for a screening of the film followed by a discussion. This event is open to teens, college students, parents, teachers and other professionals or volunteers who work with this age group.

This film has been rated PG-13 by the MPAA for disturbing thematic material involving sexual assault, and for language. Viewer discretion is advised. - *Library*



**CALIFORNIA COASTAL CLEANUP DAY:** The largest volunteer day on the planet, [California Coastal Cleanup Day](#), is coming on **Saturday, September 17**, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM. Come to any of the following sites to volunteer then enjoy a picnic at Ninth Street Beach (West 9<sup>th</sup> & J St.) for all participants at Noon.



- St. Dominic's School
- West 6<sup>th</sup> & I St at Bordon**
- Semple Elementary
- Foot of First Street**
- Joe Henderson Elementary
- West 3rd St Beach**
- Mary Farmar Elementary
- West 9th Street Beach**
- Matthew Turner Elementary
- West 12th Street Beach**
- LDS Scouts
- Benicia State Park Main Parking Lot**
- Benicia High School
- BHS Baseball Field**
- Liberty High School
- Levee Trail off Industrial Road**
- Benicia Middle School
- Benicia State Park Picnic Area**

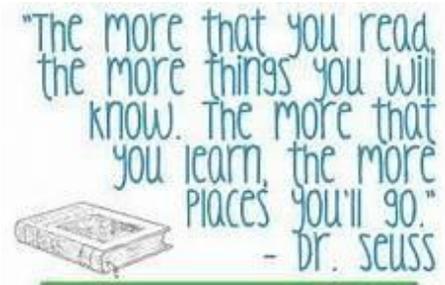
Download the [CleanSwell](#) app to join a global movement to keep beaches, waterways and the ocean trash free. Head out to your favorite beach and use the app to easily record each item of trash you collect. Then share your effort with family and friends.

For more information, contact Sue Frost, Coordinator at 707.980.1895 or [Brad Harms](#), City of Benicia, at 707.746.4337. – *Public Works*

**NATIONAL LITERACY MONTH:** September marks the 50th anniversary of UNESCO's International Literacy Day!

Join the Benicia Public Library's Literacy staff as they recognize their hard working English speaking learners, English as a Second Language students and many dedicated volunteer instructors and tutors.

If you know someone who needs help with their English OR are someone with time and a desire to help, please call the [Literacy Office](mailto:literacy@beniciapubliclibrary.org) at 707.746.4341.  
– *Library*



## PERSONNEL NEWS:

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

[Recreation Leader II](#), part-time, closing 08/30/16

[Police Officer - Lateral \(currently working\)](#), full-time, open continuously

[Reserve Officer \(Volunteer\)](#), part-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.

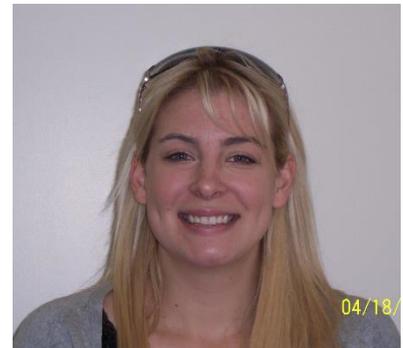


These job opportunities are open to any current City of Benicia employees (full- or part-time) as well as the general public. If you know of someone who may be interested in applying, please let them know. -  
*Human Resources*

**New to City Attorney's Office:** City Attorney Heather McLaughlin welcomes Stephanie Barreto to the City Attorney's Office to work on special projects. She comes from the Benicia Police Department where she has been a Public Safety Dispatcher since 2007.

Stephanie says she is excited to work for the City Attorney and experience a change of pace. She likes helping people and working closely with other departments.

When not at work, Stephanie enjoys traveling with my husband and two kids. Her active family has a German Shepard named Gary. She says her favorite place is Disneyland and if security would allow it, she would take residency at the park!



Stephanie started on August 9 and will continue to work for the Benicia Police Department as a Per Diem Dispatcher. – *City Attorney*

**FIRE DEPARTMENT OPEN HOUSE:** Mark your calendars for the annual Benicia Fire Department Open House on **Saturday, October 15** from 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM. You're invited to enjoy a fun, educational day at Fire Station 11, 150 Military West. Meet your firefighters, police officers, and many other public safety professionals. Free food, goodies for the kids, face painting, a jump house, and much more! For more information, call 707.746.4275. – *Fire Department*



# BENICIA FIRE DEPARTMENT

# 2016 OPEN HOUSE

**Saturday 11 am—3pm** 

# October 15th

**Fire Station 11, 150 Military West, Benicia**

- \* Free Food \* Goodie Bags for the Kids \* Fire Station Tours \*
- \* Face Painting \* Benicia Police Department \* 9-1-1 Dispatchers \*
- \* Hands-on Extinguisher Demo \* Coast Guard Boat Tours \*
- \* Fire Engine Show & Tell \* Family Resource Center \* CHP \*
- \* REACH Air Medical \* Benicia Emergency Response Team (BERT) \*
- \* Jump House \* Benicia Amateur Radio Club (BARC) \* AND MORE...



Benicia Family Resource Center



Keeping Children Safe and Families Strong



For more info, call  
707-746-4275



**CALL FOR SOLANO COUNTY CENTENARIANS:** If you are 100 years old or older, you are invited to an annual special ceremony held in your honor.



"Centenarians are living examples of how to age with grace and dignity," says Solano County Board of Supervisors Chairwoman Erin Hannigan. "They remind us to try new things, to take risks, to stay active, to love, to forgive, and most importantly, to enjoy every moment of the rollercoaster called life."

This year marks the tenth year the Board of Supervisors, in conjunction with the Senior Coalition of Solano County, will pay tribute to Solano County centenarians. To date, the Board has honored 114 centenarians, the oldest of them, Marie West, who reached super-centenarian status in January, 2011. Super-centenarians are 110 years or older and occur at a rate of about 1 in 7 million people – with an estimated 60-70 super-centenarians in the United States.

The Senior Coalition hopes to hear from all centenarians as part of the ongoing project to capture the stories of Solano County's oldest residents as a way to bring attention to the issues facing the senior population.

"We understand that not every centenarian wants to participate in the gala event, but we want to capture their stories and acknowledge how they've touched our community," said Rochelle Sherlock, consultant to the Senior Coalition.

The Centenarian Day reception will be held at the Board of Supervisors meeting on **Tuesday, September 13** at 1:00 PM at 675 Texas Street in Fairfield.

If you know of a centenarian, please contact Rochelle Sherlock at 707.864.3984 or [Rochelle.Sherlock@Comcast.net](mailto:Rochelle.Sherlock@Comcast.net). Names are requested even if the centenarian is unable to attend the ceremony. – *City Manager's Office*

**NATIONAL SENIOR CITIZENS DAY:** On Wednesday, August 17, the Benicia Senior Center celebrated National Senior Citizens Day with a free ice cream social. Vice Mayor Mark Hughes and Benicia Fire Department (A Shift) scooped the ice cream sundaes for the seniors. Recreation Supervisor Lindsay Dion organized the event and set up a delicious ice



cream bar with all the fixings. It was a wonderful event for all who attended.  
– *Parks & Community Services*

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

**Wastewater Treatment Plant Projects:** June was another good and productive month at the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). Staff completed draining, inspecting, and repairing all of their Primary Settling Basins (or Primary Clarifiers) for the year. The large, automatic raking assembly for rags and other miscellaneous large debris at the plant’s “headworks” (beginning of wastewater treatment) had a major maintenance job performed to inspect and lubricate all working parts in the main drive motor.



There was one emergency maintenance job that needed to be performed when one of the plant’s two secondary clarifiers’ sludge collector drives became stuck and shorted out. WWTP staff mobilized quickly and efficiently, and was able to drain, clean, repair, and put the clarifier back on line before the end of the day. Without such a good team, that level of efficiency would simply not be possible. We have also hired

another new operator at the treatment plant, Jose Perez, and the team is busy with training him on the workings of the facility. They are happy to have him as part of their crew.

**Wastewater Treatment Plant Maintenance:** Wastewater Treatment Plant personnel successfully completed 78 preventative maintenance work orders, and 9 corrective maintenance work orders.

**Wastewater Treatment Plant Performance:** The Wastewater Treatment Plant processed 55.63 million gallons of wastewater this past month with no Permit exceedances. Nutrient pollution removal was 98% for BOD (Biochemical Oxygen Demand), and 99% for TSS (Total Suspended Solids). This information was determined by Water Quality Laboratory personnel performing 1,378 tests on 325 different samples using 44 analytical methods. The monthly bioassay test passed with a 97.5% survival rate. – *Public Works*

### CURRENT LIBRARY STATISTICS:

- Total July visitors: 16,730
- Record Day of visitors on July 12 with 866 visitors
- July Internet sessions: 2,257
- Wireless Internet Sessions: 1,686
- Library Adult & Teen Facebook views: 7,887

-Library

Please don't forget that the last day to collect

### SUMMER READING PROGRAM

prizes is  
**Wednesday, August 31!**  
- Library

**NEED A NEW ROOF?** Re-roofs require a building permit and generally have 3 inspections:

- Tear off- where dry rot has been removed and replaced,
- Roof deck nail- where the plywood, size of the nail or staple, and spacing are inspected,
- Final Inspection



As a reminder, the City of Benicia does not do "in progress" roof deck nail inspections. We do allow the roofer to paper the roof while waiting for their inspection to protect your roof from inclement weather.

A Type 1 or 1A extension ladder is required to be attached to the structure and extend above the roof deck for all inspections.

Per state law at the time of the Final Inspection, smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors will be verified.

Have questions? Call us here at the [Building Department](#) at 707.746.4280 – *Community Development*

**SUMMER CAMP FUN:** This summer, the Adventures Day Camp for grades 1-5 averaged about 175 campers per session. The K2 Camp for grades 6-8 averaged about 45 campers per session (5 sessions). Campers had the option to attend great field trips including the Exploratorium & Pier 39 Aquarium, Stars Bowling & Vacaville Ice Rink, Oakland Zoo, Sky High Sports, Waterworld, and a San Francisco Giants Game.



The Parks & Community Services Department would like to give a very special thank you to their team of dedicated part-time staff who work hard to provide a safe, fun and rewarding camp experience for the children. The Recreation staff are an amazing collection of talent (many are former campers) who were selected to spend their summer giving back to the community

by creating lifelong memories for our campers. – *Parks & Community Services*

**RELAY FOR LIFE/BARK FOR LIFE FEATURED BPD:** The Benicia Police Department participated in this year's Relay For Life/Bark For Life event last weekend, held at the Benicia Middle School. Officers stopped by throughout their shifts on Friday and Saturday to show support. Two young ladies made a special bracelet for one of the officers. When Officer Francis bought one of the fundraiser bracelets at [Relay For Life of Benicia](#), the girls made a special one in black and blue as a symbol for law enforcement. Thank you for the support, Ladies!



Officer Heinemeyer and his partner Atos participate at the event, offering a K-9 demonstration.

The Benicia Police Department is honored to be part of such a good cause in our city and are inspired by the strength of all cancer survivors. – *Police Department*



**POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT:** The Benicia Police Department monthly report for **July 2016** is now available. It contains a monthly wrap-up of Community Services, Professional Development, Statistics, and Interesting Case Summaries. [Click here](#) to read more. – *Police Department*

**LIFEGUARD GAMES:** Three teams of lifeguards from the James Lemos Swim Center competed in the Bay Area Public Pool Operator's Lifeguard Games on August 7. Events included active victim rescues, CPR, passive victim rescue, surveillance and obstacle course. Benicia teams scored 7th, 8th and 19th overall out of 30 and medaled in three events. The James Lemos Swim Center has a long tradition of sending guards to participate in the games that give Bay Area guards a chance to compete, show off their skills and meet lifeguards from neighboring agencies. Good work to all competitors and thanks to the volunteers who came along to help!



Congratulations & Thank You to the following Lifeguards: Daphne Kuta, Terrence Villagran, Matt Simonson, Hank Nelson, Will Portello, Harrison Meyer, Jarred Fisher, Tyler Harris, Nicole Peck, Sean Wright, Gabi Wirth, Karah Fisher, Caitlin Wirth, Amie Gigliotti, Lacey Merryman, Julianna Deighton and Niki Tata. – *Parks & Community Services*

### AFTER-SCHOOL ZONE IS BACK!

Looking for somewhere to go after school? Try the After-School Zone at the Library!  
Open Monday thru Thursday from 3:15 to 5:15 PM when school is in session.

Drop in to study, eat, talk with friends, and play games.  
It's FREE and kids over 8 are welcome.

On 9/1 and 9/15, they'll have Lego and board games in the After-School Zone,  
as well as video games. - *Library*

~ CONTACT INFORMATION ~

The City Manager's Report from City of Benicia Interim City Manager Steve Salomon 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](#): 707.746.4200

[City Attorney](#): 707.746.4216

[Administrative Services](#) (Finance, Human Resources, I.T): 707.746.4200

[City Clerk](#): 707.746.4200

[Community Development](#): 707.746.4280

[Economic Development](#): 707.746.4202

[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