



Solano County *California*

Supervisor Monica Brown Newsletter



Monica at the Benicia Main Street Shop on Small Business Saturday

SUPERVISOR MONICA BROWN DECEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER

Hello Benicia, Fairfield and Vallejo,

Welcome to my December 2019 newsletter. I want to update you on all that has happened since my last newsletter. If I can ever be of help to you, please don't hesitate to contact me at 707-784-3031 or at mebrown@solanocounty.com

This newsletter is dedicated to the memory of Lee Munoz. Lee was a dear friend of mine. She was a teacher in the Fairfield-Suisun district for over 30 years. I knew her through her teaching and our mutual involvement in the teacher's union. Lee was a longtime resident of Green Valley. Her passing truly marks the end of an era for Fairfield and for Green Valley. I will miss Lee and will always be thankful for her friendship and support through the decades. For more information about Lee's life, please read her obituary: <https://www.dailyrepublic.com/all-dr-news/obituaries/lee-munoz/>

SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY

On Saturday November 30, I had a great time supporting our local businesses on Small Business Saturday. My first stop was to Maggie's in Vallejo for lunch. I had a great tuna melt and the tea was amazing. Maggie's is located at 700 Benicia Road in Vallejo.

After Maggie's, I made my way to Bookshop Benicia. I found some great items and I purchased two gift certificates to donate. One will go to a family I am sponsoring for the holidays and the other to my gift basket. Each supervisor is preparing a basket of items that highlight their districts. The baskets will be auctioned, and the money will go to the foodbank.

Bookshop Benicia is a great community asset. They have a wonderful selection of local authors and neat items that will make great gifts for anyone. You can find more information about them on their website: <https://bookshopbenicia.indielite.org/>.

After Bookshop Benicia, I wandered down First Street to the Benicia Mainstreet Gift Shop at the train depot. I purchased a beanie with Benicia on the front, a scarf with Benicia written on it and a box of See's candy for my basket. Please remember that See's candy is available for purchase at the depot on First St. Please be sure to see what the Benicia Mains Street is up to throughout the year as well. <http://beniciamainstreet.org/>

For my last stop in my district, I purchased a gift card from Pelayo's for my basket. Pelayo's is a Mexican restaurant with locations in Green Valley and on Texas St in Fairfield. The family of one of my former students at Green Valley owns Pelayos. For more information about Pelayo's, please visit <http://pelayosmexicanfood.com/>

Throughout the year and especially as you continue your holiday shopping, please remember to support our local small businesses.

CENENTARIAN RECOGNITION IN BENICIA

After recognizing Peter Caggiano at the county for his 100th birthday this past September, I partnered with the City of Benicia to recognize Peter. The Benicia Herald did a great write up on the Dec 3rd Council meeting where we honored Peter. <https://beniciaheraldonline.com/centenarian-peter-caggiano-honored-with-city-of-benicia-proclamation/>

TOUR OF EAST VALLEJO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

On Thursday December 5th, I toured the EVFP with the Vallejo Fire Department and Vallejo resident Donald Tipton. The EVFP covers the unincorporated parts of the Vallejo portion of District 2 and is governed by the Board of Supervisors. The Board has contracted with the Vallejo Fire Department to handle fire response to this area.

BENICIA TREE LIGHTING

On Friday December 6th, I had so much fun at the Benicia Tree Lighting. Downtown was packed with community members out with their friends and families for the holiday festivities. I made a stop by the Vet's Hall to see Santa. It was a great night filled with holiday spirit.

BENICIA BALLET AT SOLANO COMMUNITY COLLEGE

On Saturday December 7th, I attended the Benicia Ballet's production of the Nutcracker. It was a fantastic performance and I had a wonderful time. The Benicia Ballet did a great job and we are lucky to have such a wonderful asset in our community.

HOME KITCHEN ENTERPRISES

On Tuesday December 10th, the Board of Supervisors approved my proposal to allow Home Kitchen Enterprises in Solano County. Staff will bring back the final resolution for the Board's approval. Essentially, this will allow persons to sell homemade food from their home. They will be limited to \$50,000 a year, 30 meals a day and 60 meals a week. They will have to be inspected, obtain a permit from the county and be certified in food safety.

Supervisors Spering and Thomson supported me in bringing Home Kitchens to Solano County. I view this as an opportunity for our residents. This will be an opportunity for our military spouses from Travis Air Force Base. Military spouses, because of moving frequently, have a hard time obtaining careers. The Home Kitchen program is an excellent way for military spouses to have an economic opportunity.

The Small Business Development Center, the Cook's Alliance, several advocates for Travis spouses and Vallejo resident LaDonna Williams all helped in getting the Home Kitchens approved. I look forward to seeing how this can benefit Solano County.

Here is an article from the Daily Republic about my proposal: <https://www.dailyrepublic.com/all-dr-news/solano-news/fairfield/supervisors-approve-micro-kitchen-businesses-in-solano-county/>

CANDY FROM LILEDS FOR THE BENICIA HOLIDAY PARADE

On Wednesday December 11th, I purchased a few hundred candy sticks from Lileds in Vallejo to pass out at the Benicia Holiday parade. Lileds has been serving their Vallejo made candy since 1936. It's truly a Vallejo institution. They also have amazing homemade ice cream. Lileds is located at 1318 Tennessee St in Vallejo.

BENICIA HOLIDAY PARADE

I had a blast at the Benicia Holiday Parade on Saturday December 14th. I passed out the candy from Lileds and enjoyed seeing so many community members out and about. The organizers did a great job putting the parade together.

VALLEJO MAD HATTER PARADE

After the Benicia Parade, I made my way over to the Vallejo Mad Hatter Parade. Downtown Vallejo was abuzz with activity. It was amazing to see so many people out in their festive holiday spirit. I had the privilege of riding on the trolley. Thank you to the organizers and the residents of Vallejo for their festive spirits.

FUNDRAISER FOR THE FOODBANK

Each Supervisor created baskets with items representing our districts to be auctioned off for the Food Bank. I filled my basket with Jelly Bellies (Fairfield), Moschetti Coffee (Vallejo), items from Cal Maritime (Vallejo), a gift card to Mare Island Brewery (Vallejo), a gift card to Sailor Jacks (Benicia), a gift certificate to Bookshop Benicia (Benicia), See's Candy and a Benicia Beanie as well as a Benicia throw from the Benicia Main Street gift shop (Benicia), a gift card to Pelayo's Mexican Restaurant (Fairfield) and Jams & Jellies from Erickson's Ranch (Fairfield).

I was so happy to offer these fantastic items representing my district to support the Foodbank. It supported local business and the Foodbank all in one! Please don't forget to support our local businesses.

THOMPSON, DODD AND GRAYSON HOLIDAY PARTY

Congressperson Thompson, Senator Dodd and Assemblymember Grayson held their annual holiday party on Dec 18th in Vallejo. Congressperson Thompson called in and was put on speaker phone from Washington D.C. to wish us a Happy Holiday. This was a nice event and many people attended. I enjoyed the evening and speaking with community members.

PETER CAGGIANO'S 100TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Peter's birthday was officially on December 26th. We celebrated his birthday at the Benicia Veteran's Hall on Saturday the 28th. It was great to see so many Benicia community members out to celebrate Peter's milestone. Peter entertained everyone with his singing.

KWANZA CELEBRATION IN VALLEJO

On the evening of Saturday December 28th, I enjoyed the festivities at the annual Vallejo Kwanza celebration held at the Naval Museum. It was wonderful to see so many Vallejoans taking part in this tradition.

COUNTY JOBS

Here is a listing of available jobs at Solano County: <https://jobapscloud.com/solano/>

REAL ID

Starting October 1, 2020, you will need a Real ID (or some other acceptable form of identification) in order to board a flight or enter a Federal building. You may obtain your Real ID at DMV. For more information and to see what documents you will need to obtain a Real ID, please visit https://www.dmv.ca.gov/portal/dmv/detail/online/dlrbi/REALID_dl

Thank you for reading my newsletter! If I can ever be of assistance to you, please don't hesitate to reach out to me. Have a Happy New Year!

Sincerely,

Monica Brown

Solano County Supervisor, District 2



Elected in 2016, Monica represents District 2 on the Solano County Board of Supervisors. District 2 encompasses the city of Benicia, the portion of Vallejo south of Georgia Street, Mare Island, Cordelia, Green Valley and a portion of Fairfield.