



Supervisor Monica Brown Newsletter



Monica with Planning Commissioner Kari Birdseye at Benicia High homecoming

SUPERVISOR MONICA BROWN JANUARY 2020 NEWSLETTER

Hello Benicia, Fairfield and Vallejo,

Welcome to my first newsletter of 2020! I hope the new year is going well for all of you. I want to update you on what has happened since my last newsletter. If I can ever be of any assistance, please don't hesitate to contact me at 707-784-3031 or at mebrown@solanocounty.com.

SECOND TERM AS VICE-CHAIR AND BOARD MEMBER ASSIGNMENTS

The Board of Supervisors unanimously chose me to be the Vice-Chair of the Board at the January 7th Board meeting. I was also assigned to represent the county on several boards and commissions. I was chosen to serve on the In-home Support Services Advisory Board, the Mental Health Advisory Board, the Solano Land Trust, the Solano Children's Alliance, the Area Agency on Aging, the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Board, the Regional Planning Committee for the Association of Bay Area Governments, Solano County Water Agency, and as the alternate for the California Association of Counties, Marin Clean Energy Board of Directors, and the Executive Board of the Association of Bay Area Governments. I look forward to continuing my work for Solano County on these organizations.

ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED

At the January 7 meeting, I requested that the Board receive information on the following items: (1) What the county will be doing with the \$400,000 we received in public safety shutoff money, (2) The status of the report promised to the Board members about the veteran's halls in Solano County, (3) The resolution for approval of home kitchen enterprises (which is the final step in the approval process) and (4) What will be done to ensure short-term rentals comply with regulations and don't negatively impact the community. I expect to see these issues addressed soon.

INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS IN GREEN VALLEY AND UNINCORPORATED VALLEJO

On Tuesday January 14th, the Board of Supervisors approved infrastructure improvements in both Green Valley and unincorporated Vallejo. These will be sidewalk improvements, replacing cracked concrete gutters and adding new sidewalks. These improvements are worth \$1.5 million.

RESTAURANT WEEK IN BENICIA

On Saturday January 18th, my son Seth and I went to Chars Hot Dogs and Hamburgers for Restaurant week in Benicia. I had a delicious patty melt and enjoyed the view of the waterfront in Downtown Benicia. Please visit your local restaurants and continue to support our local businesses.

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR MARCH IN VALLEJO

I joined the Martin Luther King Jr. march in Vallejo on Monday January 20th. It is always inspiring to see the community come together to celebrate the life and dream of Dr. King. We must always remember his legacy and work to continue to bring his dream alive for the next generation.

TOBACCO FREE SOLANO LUNCHEON

On Thursday January 23rd, Tobacco Free Solano held their annual luncheon. We celebrated our recent victory in Benicia. The City Council passed an ordinance mandating smoke-free multifamily housing. This is one of the strongest smoking prevention ordinances in Solano County. This is a great achievement for the health and safety of our community. I was unfortunately unable to attend, but my staff represented me at this event.

BENICIA CHAMBER INSTALLATION DINNER

On the evening of Friday January 24th, I thoroughly enjoyed the Benicia Chamber of Commerce installation dinner. The dinner was held at the Benicia Clocktower. The Chamber installed their new officers for 2020. The salmon was amazing.

BENICIA LION'S CLUB CRAB FEED

I attended my first crab feed of the season with the Benicia Lion's club. It was held at the Portuguese Hall in Benicia. I had a wonderful time meeting people and being with friends.

FINDING SOLUTIONS TO FLOODING IN FAIRFIELD

For the past few years, I have been working on resolving flooding issues in Cordelia and Green Valley. I was able to secure funding through the Solano County Water Agency for a Fluvial Geomorphologist to survey the creek in Green Valley and determine what needs to be done to resolve flooding issues. I am so happy we are making progress on this issue. Here is a great article from the Daily Republic about our efforts: <https://www.dailyrepublic.com/all-dr-news/solano-news/benicia/solano-county-seeks-green-valley-creek-flooding-fix/>

CONTRIBUTIONS AT 01/28/2020 BOARD MEETING

At the 01/28/2020 Board meeting, an item was approved by the Board from my office budget to donate to the following community organizations: Benicia Panthers Band Boosters (\$750); Rodriguez High School Education Unit (\$750); Benicia Unified School District (\$1,750): \$250 to the High School Debate Team, \$750 to Robert Semple Elementary for school supplies for the teachers, and \$750 to Mary Farmar Elementary School for supplies for the teachers; Vallejo School District (\$1,000): \$500 to Glen Cove Elementary School and \$500 to Pennycook Elementary School, both for school supplies for teachers; Benicia Community Action Council (\$250); Eric Reyes Foundation (\$125); Kyle Hyland Foundation (\$125) and Humane Society of the North Bay (\$250).

HOUSING COORDINATOR IN SOLANO COUNTY

The Board has previously approved a hiring a housing coordinator for Solano County. The purpose of this position is to help the county take a more active role in providing affordable housing in the county. I requested an update on the progress of this item at the January 28th board meeting and look forward to seeing where we are.

BENICIA COMMUNITY ACTION COUNCIL TAX PREPARATION

The Benicia is offering free tax preparation services. For more information, please contact the Benicia Community Action Council at 707-745-0900.

CRIME AWARENESS AND PREVENTION WORKSHOP FOR BUISNESSES IN BENICIA

On Wednesday February 5th from 9-10 AM. It will be held at the Benicia Veteran's Hall on 1150 First St. The event is sponsored by the Benicia Police Department, the City of Benicia and the Benicia Veteran's Hall.

CAL GRANTS FOR COLLEGE

March 2nd is the deadline to apply for a Cal Grant for college. Please visit the California Student Aid Commission website for more information. <https://www.csac.ca.gov/>

SOLANO MOBILITY LYFT CONNECTION

You may be eligible to get 10 Lyft rides for \$20 and free connections in your commute. For more information, please visit: <https://www.solanomobility.org/commuter/>

REBUILDING TOGETHER SOLANO COUNTY HOME REHABILITATION PROGRAM

Rebuilding Together Solano County is accepting applications for home rehabilitation services for military/senior/disabled homeowners in Solano County. The application deadline is February 28th. For more information, please visit: <https://rebuildingtogethersolanocounty.org/services/>

CITY OF VALLEJO BOARDS AND COMMISSION OPENINGS

The City of Vallejo is looking for applicants for many Boards and Commissions. If you are a Vallejo resident and interested in joining a Board or a Commission, please visit this link: <https://www.cityofvallejo.net/cms/one.aspx?pageId=22192>

CENSUS AMBASSADOR:

Through the Children's Network, I am serving as an ambassador for the Census. If you are looking for information on the census or the importance of our community being counted, please don't hesitate to reach out to me.

CENSUS JOBS:

If you are interested in working for the census, they are looking to fill positions. Please visit: <https://2020census.gov/en/jobs.html>

JOBS AT SOLANO COUNTY

If you are interested in working for Solano County, here is a list of jobs available: <https://jobapscloud.com/solano/>

CLEAN UP OF LAKE DALWIGK IN VALLEJO

On Saturday February 15th, I will be taking part in the cleanup of Lake Dalwigk in Vallejo. It will be put on by the Vallejo Watershed Alliance and will be from 9 a.m. to noon. Questions may be sent to the Watershed Alliance at 707-652-7812 or at infor@vallejowatershedalliance.org.

IN MEMORY OF

At the end of each meeting, each Supervisor is given the opportunity to adjourn the meeting in memory of someone who has passed away. I will start including the names of constituents in whose memory I have adjourned.

Eric Dodson passed away on January 10th. Eric was born in Vallejo and is survived by his fiancé, mother, sisters, son and daughter. Eric enjoyed spending time with his family and enjoyed working with his hands. For more information, please see Eric's obituary: <https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/timesheraldonline/obituary.aspx?n=eric-paul-dodson&pid=195136636>

Clayton Homer Young passed away on December 31, 2019. He was a resident of Benicia since 1980. I enjoyed the time I spent with Clayton at the Benicia Senior Center and the Benicia Veteran's Hall. Clayton brought such joy to everyone around him. For more information about Clayton, please visit: <https://hayward.chapelofthechimes.com/obituaries/Clayton-Young-3/>

Thank you for reading my newsletter. I will be updating you next month on what progress has been made and where work still needs to be done. Please don't hesitate to contact me if I can be of any assistance to you. Take care and Go Niners!

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.