



## Updates from Supervisor Mitch Mashburn - September 2021

### Welcome

Dear Neighbor,

Thanks for allowing me into your email inbox to keep you up to date on what's happening here in the Fifth District of Solano County. It's my intention to give you these little snapshots every other month – I want to keep it brief in hopes that this becomes a helpful resource for you, and to keep the lines of communication open between us. Please don't hesitate to reach out with questions, comments or concerns, or to share your neighborhood's good news or problems that need attention.

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## A Day in the Life - Solano's Agricultural Commissioner

*From Scales and Gas Pumps to Pest Control and Sunflowers, Commissioner Ed King is Always on the Job.*



The next best thing to walking a mile in someone's shoes is to shadow them for a day – and that's exactly what I did with Ed King last month. Ed serves our county as both the Agricultural Commissioner and Sealer of Weights and Measures, watching out for all of us while ensuring our multi-billion dollar farming and ranching industry stays successful.

The responsibilities that fall on Ed and his office are wide ranging and critical. When you fill your car with a tank of gas, you want to make sure you get every gallon you pay for, and it's Ed's office that makes sure you do. Next time you're at the gas station, take a look at the Solano County seal on the front, and you'll find Ed's name. That's your assurance that the pump is delivering what it says it is, and you're getting your money's worth every time.

From our inspection at a local gas station, we moved on to inspecting pesticide use. Ed's office regulates the use of pesticides that are used to protect local crops, and they make sure local growers and pesticide applicators are using them within the law and with the training they need to do it appropriately.

Ed's office is full of scientists with a wide range of expertise in agricultural-related sciences. From reviewing pesticides, we inspected one of Solano County's more attractive field crops, used by many as photo backdrops every summer: Sunflowers. Their Phytosanitary Field Inspections ensure

that this top-performing sector of our food providers will be ready to go to the marketplace with the millions of sunflower seeds produced right here in Solano.

Ed spends a lot of his time working with counterparts at both the state and federal governments, and our day together was no exception, as we met with a US Department of Agriculture Wildlife Specialist, who traps and relocates animal species that shouldn't be hanging around Solano. Their office also keeps up with our local water experts, keeping track of water used by those who farm tens of thousands of acres that produce more than 50 unique crops – second only to Monterey County.

Solano County employees are hard at work for all of us each and every day – people like Commissioner Ed King and the talented staff in his office. To learn more about all the functions of their office, visit [SolanoCounty.com](http://SolanoCounty.com).

## Find Your Next Career Move - Right Here at Home



If you're looking for new career challenges in an organization that's committed to public service, we might just have the job for you – Solano County is hiring! Thanks to Solano County's long history of careful fiscal management and strong negotiators, the county offers unmatched benefits that include retirement savings contributions, quality health insurance and paid time off for most employees. Plus, you'll find competitive salaries in a positive work environment that's close to home. You already know how wonderful it is to call Solano County home – why not see if it's a good fit for your next career move. You can always find the latest openings and details at [JobsAtSolanoCounty.com](http://JobsAtSolanoCounty.com)

## Protecting Travis AFB is a Full-Time Job



We all know the importance of Travis to the local economy, generating 5,017 community jobs with a \$2.2 Billion annual impact. And we know the role it plays in protecting the nation through moving equipment and personnel to sites around the globe on a moment's notice. As they work diligently to protect us, it's on us to protect their mission – and that means catching issues before they become problems.

One of the key issues we're watching now is how power-generating windmills in the hills surrounding the base interact with Travis' state-of-the-art radar system. A recent trip to the base had us up in the tower, getting a bird's eye view of the always busy runways and the nearly 300-foot windmills that dot the landscape behind it. Addressing potential issues early gives us the ability to find solutions that work for everyone. Those windmills produce enough power for thousands of homes, but we have to make sure they don't get in the way of Travis' mission.

Stay tuned...



## All Drivers have a Role in Back-to-School Safety



School's back after a long hiatus, and that means its time for us all to take a quick refresher on how to protect our kids when we're on the road. A few quick pieces of advice from the National Safety Council offers good tips to keep in mind when kids are making their way to and from school:

- Don't double park, don't drop kids off across the street from school, and consider carpooling when possible to reduce traffic.
- Don't block crosswalks when stopped at a light, and pay special attention to the blinking lights around school zone crosswalks that alert us to kids present. Always stop for the crossing guard, and pay special attention for kids in school zones, around parks and schools and in residential neighborhoods – we should always be extra cautious when kids are around.
- Don't pass a stopped school bus – it's the law for a good reason, and you'll save lives. Be alert around school buses, too – remember that young people are often unpredictable in their behavior, and take more risks than we do.
- Be vigilant and know the rules of the road around bicyclists – one of kids' favorite ways to travel back and forth to school. Check your mirrors and don't assume they'll always be following the rules as they learn safe bicycle operation.

A little extra effort and caution will save lives. And with most of us driving fewer miles this past year and a half, we can all use the reminders to make sure our young people are protected.

## About Me, the 5th District and Contacting My Office

### About Me

I'm honored to serve as your representative on the Solano County Board of Supervisors since taking office in early January. As you may know, I spent 10 years on the Vacaville City Council and retired from the Solano County Sheriff's Office in December – I've spent my entire adult life in public service, and I'm pleased to be able to continue in this new role. My wife, Tonya, and I were both raised here, and are raising our girls here. I'm committed not just to strengthening our communities today, but to ensuring the next generation has the opportunity to thrive.

### About the 5<sup>th</sup> District

The 5<sup>th</sup> District is a beautiful little slice of Solano County – including the City of Rio Vista, Elmira, portions of the Cities of Fairfield, Suisun City and Vacaville, as well as the beautiful rolling hills of Eastern Solano County. The 5<sup>th</sup> District is the proud home of thousands of airmen and civilian employees at Travis Air Force Base, hundreds of small farms, orchards and ranches, and a portion of the San Francisco Bay Delta – the largest estuary on the west coast of North and South America, and the world's only inland Delta.

### Contact My Office

#### Mitch Mashburn

Supervisor, 5th District Solano County, California  
675 Texas Street, Ste.  
6500 Fairfield, California 94533  
MHMashburn@SolanoCounty.com | www.SolanoCounty.com  
(707) 784-6131

**Danette Mercado**, District Representative, DIMercado@SolanoCounty.com  
**Amy Sharp**, District Representative, ADSharp@SolanoCounty.com



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