



July 3, 2013 (Issue 83)

Vallejo's Independence Day Celebrations

Vallejo will be full of fun festivities to celebrate Independence Day.

The **Vallejo Parade Association** is proud to present the 160th Annual Vallejo July 4th Parade on Thursday morning at 10:00 a.m. The Parade will travel the traditional route, starting at Broadway Street and Tennessee Street, then turning left onto Sonoma Boulevard all the way through to Georgia Street, where it will go right into the downtown area. The parade will be approximately two hours long. Later in the evening, fireworks can be enjoyed from the waterfront around 9:15 p.m. to celebrate America's independence.

Additionally, the **Mare Island Heritage Preserve** will be open for special evening hours. Fireworks can be viewed from the Preserve on Thursday evening, and the trail will be glowing with lights until 10:00 p.m. from Thursday to Sunday night. Walk the one-mile paved trail to the Spirit Ship atop Mare Island Hill and see the lights glow into the darkness. The backdrop of lights from the Carquinez Bridge, the historic C&H Sugar Marquee and the surrounding communities at the Naval Cemetery, Reservoir Oak, Rowser Garden, Spirit Ship and along Bunkers Trail are sure to be stunning.

Six Flags Discovery Kingdom is also getting into the patriotic spirit with Thursday, July 4 park hours from 10:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., concluding the day with a fireworks show. The park hours will continue for the weekend, ending at 8:00 p.m. on Sunday.



Vallejo Adult School Expansion

The Vallejo City Unified School District (**VCUSD**) has been transforming the instructional programs at the pre-kindergarten through twelfth grade levels to better prepare students for college and careers for the future. The transformation will soon apply to the programs for adult students as well.

The District is excited to share that it will be expanding the new **Adult School** which will offer more robust training courses, maintaining courses that support the development of essential skills and continuation courses that enrich the quality of life for adults in Vallejo.

The new Adult School will be the hub for services administered by multiple partners. The creation of this center will provide the structure for creating community partnerships that strengthen all programs. **Adventus Education** and the **Greater Vallejo Recreation District (GVRD)** have joined VCUSD as partners, and will be teaming up with local community colleges and other agencies to provide adult students with a one-stop full-service experience.

Through new partnerships, expanded course offerings will include 11 new courses that will lead to pathways for employment in high-demand careers, as well as continue the general academic adult school courses already available.

GVRD courses will include AED/CPR/First Aid training, Beginning Computers, Retrain Your Brain, Fit after Fifty Strength Training Exercise and more. Adventus Education courses will include Pharmacy Technician, Medical Terminology, Custodial Services Training, Certified Nursing Assistant and more.



Summer Reading Program Incentives

Readers 12 years old and younger participating in the Children's Library Reading Program in Solano County have two more reasons to reach their reading goals this summer: one youth and one adult day pass for the **San Francisco Bay Ferry**.

To participate, young readers can stop by their **local library** branch to sign up and receive a game board. All those who reach their reading goals will get to choose from among several prizes, including SF Bay Ferry tickets. Each SF Bay Ferry prize consists of a free round trip for the successful reader and one adult.

SF Bay Ferry wants to continue encouraging kids to keep up their reading skills over the summer and enjoy a trip for two on the Ferry to San Francisco's great waterfront attractions, including: the Ferry Building, the Exploratorium and Pier 39, among others.

Riding the SF Bay Ferry is easy and enjoyable, with free WiFi, food and full beverage concessions, and a variety of seating options to



maximize comfort. Vallejo's ferry terminal offers free parking until August 1.

SF Bay Ferry schedules and information can be found on their website or by calling (877) 64-Ferry. For more

information about the Summer Reading Program, call **Ernest Sanchez** at (510) 289-2530 or visit one of Solano County's libraries.

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Jim Capoot Community Partner of the Year

Nearly \$1 million was awarded to 39 different Napa and Solano County nonprofit organizations at the 6th Annual Kaiser Permanente "Caring for Our Community" event on June 21.

Grants were awarded to organizations that focus on five key areas including: access to prevention and primary care services, reducing obesity and overweight rates in adults and children, decreasing risky teen behaviors, prevention of community violence and reducing health disparities.

The "Officer Jim Capoot Community Partner of the Year Award" was presented to **LIFT3 Support Group**, a nonprofit organization that offers direct services to victims of domestic violence in Solano County. The total award amount is \$5,000.

Now in its second year, the award is given in memory of the service and dedication of Vallejo Police Officer Jim Capoot, who was struck down in the line of duty in 2011.

"LIFT3 touches the lives of hundreds of children and families each year," said Community Benefit Manager Cynthia Varrett. "In 2012, they established a Community Engagement in Violence Prevention program designed to mobilize the community to help prevent intimate partner violence through community conversations, and to address and respond to family violence. Supporting this initiative is a tall order to fill, but LIFT3 demonstrates its effectiveness in changing the lives for victims of domestic violence."

First runner up went to the **Area Agency on Aging** and the second runner up went to the **Fairfield PAL - Matt Garcia Center** who both received \$2,500.

Captain Jim O'Connell from the Vallejo Police Department spoke about Officer Capoot's tenacity and dedication. O'Connell also spoke directly to the six high school scholarship recipients recognized at the event. "Jim was a warrior," O'Connell said, "He was ferocious. Never quit. He gave more to this world than he took and he protected and stood up for those who couldn't stand up for themselves. And I challenge you to do the same."

Assemblyman Jim Frazier and Senator Lois Wolk were also in attendance and provided their own words of wisdom.

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