







November 26, 2013 (Issue 104)

Giving Back for Thanksgiving

Several local organizations are encouraging everyone to 'give back for Thanksgiving.' This year, these groups are giving back in a big way to Vallejo families and individuals in need. It is not too late to give back!

Christian Help Center provides food and shelter year-round and is located at 2166 Sacramento Street. The Center will be distributing 300 Thanksgiving meals to families in need beginning at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, November 27. Though the shelter has enough turkeys to dispense, they are still in need of side dishes (corn, green beans, stuffing and potatoes). The Christian

Help Center will also have food on location all day Thanksgiving, hosting a dinner at 5:00 p.m. for women and children, and at 5:30 p.m. for men.

California Maritime Academy is currently running a food drive for Vallejo families. Donation barrels are conveniently located all around campus at the Lab Building Lobby,

Naval Science Lobby, Dining Center Lobby, Student Center, and McAllister Lobby. The donation barrels will be collected and food will be shared with local residents on Wednesday, November

Vallejo Together, a non-profit community organization, is partnering with Solano County Transit and the Vallejo Elks to make a memorable Thanksgiving luncheon for local senior citizens. The annual Thanksgiving meal, aimed to ensure seniors are not alone on the holiday, will be run entirely by volunteers, with home-made decorations, donated food and dessert items, and lively entertainment.

In addition to the donated time and work, Solano County Transit will pick-up and drop-off seniors who would not otherwise be able to attend. For those who can't or do not wish to attend, Vallejo



Together is able to deliver meals. The Vallejo Together Thanksgiving luncheon for seniors will begin at noon on Thanksgiving Day, November 28, until 3:00 p.m. at the Vallejo Elks Lodge, located at 2850 Redwood Parkway. Vallejo Together is in need of some additional food items, particularly side dishes, and live entertainment. For additional information, to volunteer, donate, or

RSVP to the event, contact Lead Coordinator Justine Manaid at (707) 315-8252.

Shop Local in Vallejo

As the holiday shopping season approaches, residents and guests are encouraged to shop local in Vallejo. Vallejo offers numerous businesses including retailers, food and restaurants, arts and entertainment, sports and recreation, and home improvement, for all your holiday essentials.

Shopping locally in Vallejo is important for many reasons, including:

- Creates and sustains jobs for Vallejoans Increases available funds for improved City services
- Multiplier effect money recirculates in the community
- Supports long term investments and encourages new
- Supports local nonprofit organizations
- Saves time and money, by staying close to home Daily investment in Vallejo's future

Shopping makes for a hungry appetite and there are plenty of neighborhood eateries. Local food options include Sac's Tasty Hotdogs, Bud's Giant Burgers, Gracie's Family Barbecue, Good Day Café, The Front Room at the Wharf, Zio Fraedos, the Buttercup Grill and Bar, and much

more.

Driving around town shopping



can add wear-and-tear on your vehicle, but Vallejo's auto services can assist in keeping your vehicle in top condition.

Repair, Solano Collision Inc., and Wiler's Towing are some of Vallejo's auto businesses. Vallejo also offers big name retailers such as Target, Best Buy,

Big 5 Sporting Goods, Anna's Linens, Lowe's, Home Depot, Toys R Us, Bed, Bath and Beyond, Costco and Kohls, most of which are in a conveniently located at or near Gateway Plaza. Don't forget to support "Small Business Saturday" by shopping at

your local small businesses. When the shopping is ready to commence, just remember to Shop Vallejo First!

The 4th Annual Mad Hatter Holiday Festival will commence with

Mad Hatter Holiday Festival

free festival activities at Unity Plaza in the Historic Downtown District at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 7. Festivities include international food and craft vendors, dancing Mexican horses, the Sunglow Hoop Troupe, a petting zoo, face-painting, rides and other children's activities. The Mad Hatter Parade beings at 4:30 p.m. down Georgia

Street and ends in Unity Plaza

with festival activities and Vallejo's Tree Lighting Ceremony, beginning at 6:00 p.m., with a Lighted Boat Parade to follow at 6:30 p.m. This year's Parade Grand Marshals are Mark Muñoz, the singer and American Idol Finalist.

Filipino Wrecking Machine, and Olivia Jasmine, Former VOENA



can make their way back to Alice's Palace as it becomes the Mad Hatter Costume Ball with the Grand Ballroom opening at 7:30 p.m., with food and drink, activities and live entertainment. The Mad Hatter Costume Ball will be located at 342 Georgia Street. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased at Pieced on Earth, located at 340 Georgia Street, by calling 707-644-6788, or online. City Communications Sign-Up

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Vallejo Fire Department Donates 55 **Thanksgiving** Dinners

As the Holiday season is upon us, the Vallejo Fire Department (VFD) is giving back to the community by donating bags of Thanksgiving fixings to 55 families who are unable to afford the dinner on their own. Since the early 1990's, the VFD has provided more than 2,000 meals to families during the Holidays.

The Thanksgiving and Christmas dinner outreach program was launched by the late Timothy Elze and is now headed by Engineer Curtis Perryman. The aim of the program is to provide meals to Vallejo families who may not be able to afford it on their own.

In cooperation with the

local elementary schools, teachers are asked to identify potential families that may be in need of assistance, who are then asked if they would like to participate. From that group, lists are established by the school principals and forwarded to Engineer Perryman. He then purchases all of the food required for the meals, paid for by the Firefighter's Union (Local 1186).

items at Station 21 and each family will receive a turkey, potatoes, dressing, cranberry sauce, yams, corn, green beans, soda and a cooking pan for the turkey. Food bags are delivered by fire personnel and undeliverable meals are given to other families in need or to the Christian Help Center. Thank you VFD for making

Firefighters package food

a difference in Vallejo!