



# Downtown Vallejo

Central Core Restoration Corporation

Promoting a safe, clean and vibrant downtown Vallejo

October 2020

## In Memoriam



On Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, Vallejo lost one of its most beloved citizens, Fred Sessler. He was one of the founding members of CCRC and served on the board for more than 20 years. Fred was known around town as a real estate icon and an all-around great guy. He loved the city he spent a lifetime in and will be missed by everyone who had the pleasure of knowing him. RIP Fred!

## CCRC Meetings

Due to the Corona Virus CCRC's in-person meetings have gone virtual, but you are still invited to attend. Our Zoom meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at 4:30 pm. For more information call 707 557-6762 or email us at: [ccrcvallejo@gmail.com](mailto:ccrcvallejo@gmail.com)

CCRC always welcomes applications for board membership. If you are interested in serving [click here](#) to download an application or visit our website at [www.downtownvallejo.com](http://www.downtownvallejo.com)

## DISTRICT SERVICES

### Farmers Market

For most us, 2020 has been a difficult year but despite all the changes we have had to endure with masks, social distancing and other restrictions, the farmers market continues to provide a sense of normalcy and a place to enjoy some time outside while making a purchase of fresh and nutritious food along the way.

We would like to express our gratitude to the market organizers (PCFMA) for keeping the market open over the last 8 months and for ensuring that shoppers and vendors are kept as safe as possible. We would also like to thank everyone who shops at the market for your support in maintaining the COVID protocols - together we can continue to keep our market open, safe, and thriving.

#### Market Highlights

- The market will be **closed** on November 28<sup>th</sup> and December 26<sup>th</sup> to celebrate the holidays.
- Free, 8 oz bottles of hand sanitizer are dispensed every weekend at the market's information booth – Courtesy of CCRC.
- Due to COVID restrictions, the moratorium on new vendor applications is still in place.
- The market has a new manager, Michaela Munguia. She can be reached by phone at 925 825-9090 x 967 or by email at: [michaelamunguia@pcfma.org](mailto:michaelamunguia@pcfma.org).

Welcome, Michaela!



## **New Downtown Decorative Lights**

Phase one of the new decorative lights have been installed on the 300 block of Georgia Street. This was a collaborative effort between Geocene, CCRC and the City of Vallejo's Public Works Department. A big thank you goes out to Geocene for facilitating the purchase of the lights and equipment, to CCRC board member Chris Platzer for taking the lead on this project and to Public Works for the installation. When completed, the lights will illuminate both sides of the 300 and 400 block of Georgia Street and both sides of the 600 block of Marin Street. The project is scheduled to be completed by Thanksgiving.

## **Street & Alleyway Maintenance**

Keeping our streets and alleys clean and free from household and business garbage is a very important part of protecting our community from disease. We ask you to please do your part and dispose of your trash in the appropriate containers. Every bit helps!



## **Vallejo P.D. has a New Website**

Per recommendations of #40 of the ORI report, the VPD has launched a new website. Among its new features, the site offers:

- An easy-to-navigate *Get Services* page that highlights popular online services.
- A consolidated *Public Information* page to access press releases, policies and other reports.
- Extensive data on crime and police activity, including an interactive *Use of Force* dashboard.
- Information on the VPD's community programs, such as the Chief's Advisory Board and Operation P.E.A.C.E.
- A redesigned *Careers and Recruitment* page with information for job seekers.

To check out the new site [click here](#).

## **Public Safety**

In response to an anticipated, post-election, threat, the City of Vallejo is preparing to open an Emergency Operations Center (EOC). The Vallejo Fire Department will increase its staff by an extra Battalion Chief and one fire engine and the Police Department will continue to have their Mobile Field Force on standby.

The city supports free speech, however, cautions everyone to be mindful of the COVID-19 threat and to wear a mask, especially when gathering where social distancing may be difficult.



## California Maritime Academy Purchases 201 Georgia Street

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California Maritime Academy (CMA) recently purchased 201 Georgia Street and plans on moving the Anchor Center to that location. They still retain a lease at their current location, 253 - 255 Georgia Street, and are looking to sublease that space. CMA is also in talks with Inyo/Praxis about connecting to the fiber optics.



## Is moving to 237 Georgia Street

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Geocene is a consultancy business that specializes in helping teams build **Internet of Things** products. They are experts in everything an IOT device needs, including hardware, communications, mobile apps, backend systems, and data analysis platforms. They are also the local company who are collaborating with CCRC and the City of Vallejo's Public Works Department on the new downtown decorative lighting project.

[Click here to learn more.](#)



## Commission on Culture and the Arts - Grants

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The Commission on Culture and the Arts will be awarding \$80,000 in community art grants for local art groups and individuals. There are three categories in which to apply: Performing Arts, Visual Arts and Cultural Events. At least one award will be given in each category. Projects must be completed by 2021 and grantees must make a final presentation to the Commission on Culture and the Arts upon completion. There are two \$10,000, five \$5,000, and twelve \$2,500 grants to be awarded.

Grants to organizations will be awarded to groups that provide our community with access to high quality artistic experiences, build audiences, and provide opportunity for greater understanding and appreciation of the arts.

Grants for artists will be given to allow artists to explore and create, help to build audiences, and provide support in career development.

There will be two Zoom workshops: November 2nd, at 7:00 p.m. and November 8<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m.

Interested parties should email

[renayconlin@vallejoarts.org](mailto:renayconlin@vallejoarts.org)

**Deadline for submission:** November 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.



## Ride the San Francisco Bay Ferry for \$1.00

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The ferry offers fresh air trips across the bay with spectacular views and critical safety measures in place to protect passengers and crew. The San Francisco Bay Ferry is the best way to cross the Bay.

For the month of November, the San Francisco Bay Ferry is offering \$1.00 fares for all passengers. The Bay Ferry is committed to high health and safety standards, including: mandatory masks for passengers and crew, reduced capacity on all routes, social distancing requirements and enhanced cleaning protocols.

The \$1.00 adult fares are available only on the Hopthru app, and youths 17 years and under ride free with a paying adult with maximum of 5 youths per adult. Only limited weekday service is currently available.

[Click her for more info](#)



## Veterans Day Ceremony November 11, 2020

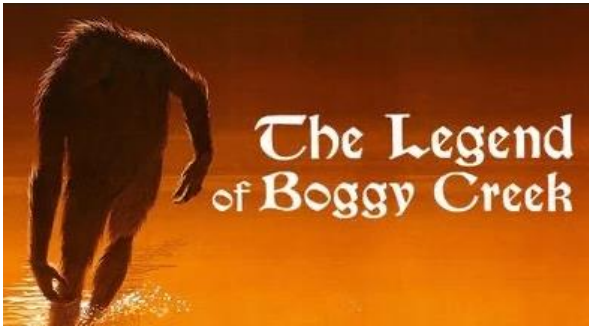
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On Wednesday, November 11<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m., the public will gather to honor those who have served our country at the historic Mare Island Naval Cemetery.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, there will be limited seating for 75 guests. Tickets are by reservation only, beginning Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m. on a first-come, first-served basis.

To reserve, please go to Eventbrite tickets, Tickets are limited to six seats maximum per order.

Please send inquires to Shelee Loughmiller, Community and Volunteer Coordinator at [Shelee.Loughmiller@cityofvallejo.net](mailto:Shelee.Loughmiller@cityofvallejo.net)



## The Empress Theater Presents The Legend of Boggy Creek

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On October 31<sup>st</sup> at 7:30 p.m., the Empress Theater will be both live-streaming and opening their doors for 100 socially distanced guests for the cult classic film *The Legend of Boggy Creek*.

The movie was inspired by true events that happened in the small town of Fouke, Arkansas when people there began reporting sightings of an aggressive sasquatch-like creature known as the *Fouke Monster*.

[Click here for tickets](#)

### List Your Rental Property

Send us your vacancy information in the following format: 200 characters or less; no pdf flyer format; include one image sized 263 x 161 pixels (jpg).

Please do not use all caps



## Smarty Makes his Trash Debut at the Farmers' Market

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Thanks to Peter Brooks and Shannon O'Hare, Smarty the talking trash bot will be making his way around town to teach kids about the importance of picking up litter -- so keep your eyes out for him and don't forget to put your litter in the trash.



## Social Distancing Tai Chi

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Hemphop will be offering social distancing Tai Chi classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. at 3201 Sonoma Blvd., for a donation cost of \$15.00.

[Click here for more info](#) or call 707 641-1444



## Jack-O'-Lanterns and the Tale of Stingy Jack

The term *jack-o'-lantern* was first applied to people, not pumpkins. As far back as 1663, the term meant a man with a lantern, or a night watchman. Later, it began to be used to refer to the mysterious lights sometimes seen at night over bogs, swamps, and marshes.

These ghost lights were known by various names, such as Jack-o'-lanterns, corpse candles, fairy lights and fool's fire. They were created when gases from decomposing plant matter ignite as they come in contact with electricity or heat or as they oxidize. For centuries, before there was a scientific explanation, people told stories to explain the mysterious lights. In Ireland, dating as far back as the 1500s, those stories often revolved around a guy named Jack.

Legend has it, Stingy Jack – often described as a blacksmith – invited the devil to join him for a drink. Stingy Jack didn't want to pay for the drinks from his own pocket, so he convinced the devil to turn himself into a coin that could be used to settle the tab.

The devil did so, but Jack skipped out on the bill and kept the coin in his pocket with a silver cross so that the devil couldn't shift back to his original form. Jack eventually let the devil loose, but made him promise that he wouldn't seek revenge on Jack, and wouldn't claim his soul when he died. Later, Jack irked the devil again by convincing him to climb up a tree to pick some fruit; he then carved a cross in the trunk of the tree so that the devil couldn't climb back down. Jack freed him again, on the condition that the devil once again not take revenge and not claim Jack's soul.

When Stingy Jack eventually died, God would not allow him into heaven, and the devil, keeping his word, rejected Jack's soul at the gates of hell. Instead, the devil gave him a single burning coal to light his way and sent him off into the night to find his own hell. Jack put the coal into a carved-out turnip and has supposedly been roaming the earth with it ever since. In Ireland, his restless soul wandered the countryside. He and the

lights were dubbed *Jack of the Lantern*, or *Jack O' Lantern*. Irish Immigrants brought this tradition to America and the turnip was later replaced by the pumpkin.

WISHING YOU ALL A  
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