

Looking for something local to do for a weekend staycation? Come out to the Mare Island Shoreline Heritage Preserve's second annual Mare Faire. The event will be held on Saturday, August 8 and Sunday, August 9 from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Located on 200 acres of the original Mare Island, the Preserve has breathtaking views of seven counties visible from the top of the hill. Festivities start at the Visitor Center, located in Building A -167 on Railroad Avenue [follow the signs]. Activities include an audio walking trail tour with 14 interpretive guideposts and docent-led outings of historic and natural areas, and the Naval Cemetery. Organizers promise live music with Guy Arrostuto, good food and a silent auction.

An art show including a Plein Air paintout is scheduled. Gourds have been gathered for an art class and contest for kids of all ages. Art show information is available by emailing naturesglow@comcast.net or 925 838-5991.

On Sunday there will be a commemoration of the 65th anniversary of the Port Chicago Mutiny. More information about the free Mare Faire is at www.mareislandpreserve.org, 707 557-9816 or 707 649-9464.

If you miss this event, you can always attend activities which are held on the second Saturday of each month.

Solano County's newest certified Green Business

Jack Anthony's 7 Flags Car Wash, located at 2270 North Texas Street, received the distinction of becoming the City of Fairfield's first Green Business and Solano County's fourth Green Business overall!

County officials reported: "After having already initiated their own environmentally-friendly measures to their business operations to recycle and conserve water, 7 Flags Car Wash implemented additional measures to fulfill the requirements of the Green Business Program including lighting retrofits to meet the Energy Section standards. While excited and proud to receive these noteworthy distinctions, the owners and staff are already working to get their Vacaville and Vallejo car wash sites Green Business certified as well as their

corporate office which is located in Vallejo."

Businesses in Vallejo and Benicia are also in the process of becoming certified as Green Businesses. For more information, log onto www.greenbiz.ca.gov.

2009 Smarter Cities List

The Natural Resources Defense Council (www.smartercities.nrdc.org) has just announced their latest Smarter Cities list. In cities with a population of more than 250,000, Seattle tops the list with San Francisco rating number two, Oakland number three, and San Jose number four.

Cities are rated on standard of living, green building, transportation, air quality, environmental standards, recycling, green space, energy production and conservation, and water quality.

The site has a list of cities of different populations that they evaluated. You can search for your favorite city to see if it is included.

The only city listed from Solano County is Vallejo. We are rated 59 in our population category and number nine under Standard of Living.

NRDC reported that the "Vallejo Neighborhood Housing Services works to rehabilitate deteriorating neighborhoods in Vallejo while simultaneously creating affordable housing. The City has financed the construction of affordable for-sale homes, and offers programs to help people acquire housing. It works with the Vallejo Neighborhood Revitalization initiative to target appropriate areas."

Kudos Vallejo!

VALCORE Recycling Board Secretary Jane Bogner's "A Sorted Affair" is published every other week in the Times-Herald. For recycling information call VALCORE Recycling at 645-8258 or visit www.VALCORErecycling.org.

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