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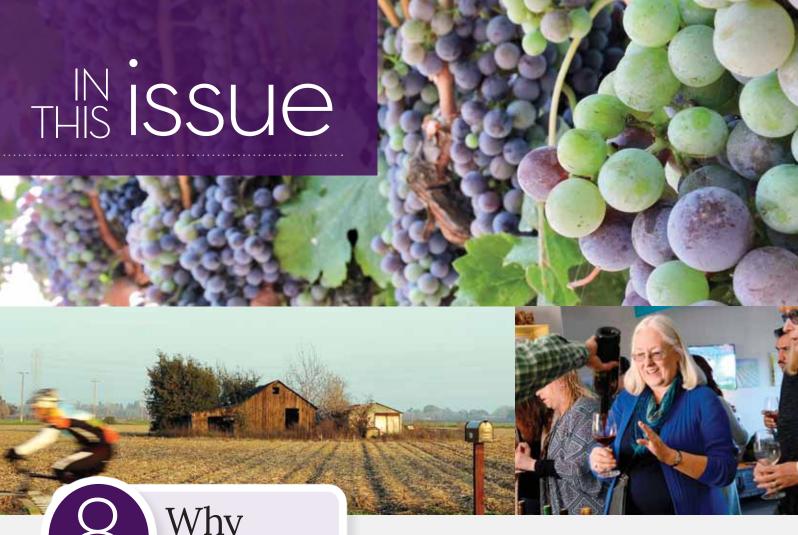




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Why Solano?

Fairfield and Suisun City's ability to attract talent and its location makes this area attractive to new businesses.

- 5 A Message From Our Chairman
- 6 Our Board of Directors
- 7 Calendar of Events
- 20 Chamber Member Testimonials
- 22 Intervention Saves Critically III Woman
- 24 New Chamber Members
- **27** Our Investors



The Voice of Business for Fairfield and Suisun City, California

1111 Webster St., Fairfield, CA 94533 707.425.4625 | Fax: 707.425.0826



**Debi Tavey**President/CEO

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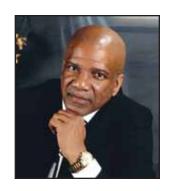


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Director of Operations
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Tonya Dretzka
Director of Membership
Tonya@
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## Why Every Business Should Be a Member



here are numerous reasons why a business should join the Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce, but here are a few key reasons I feel are important for joining:

When the Chamber is utilized to its fullest potential, it can provide strength and credibility for businesses where you may not have a voice. The saying, "there is strength in numbers" comes to mind. The Chamber provides a voice for businesses through advocacy with state and local government. What does that mean? It means, the Chamber is the "voice" for the business community and being a member of the chamber, you also have a "voice" for your business.

The Chamber provides many different marketing opportunities for businesses to network on behalf of their prospective business. One of the opportunities are the monthly mixers, which are hosted by different business members in the community. This is a great network gathering to meet new businesses and gain prospects.

What about our monthly Lunch MOBs? Anyone can attend and we go to one of our member restaurants, have lunch and network with people in the business community.

When you become a new member of the chamber, you're given the opportunity to have a ribbon-cutting. This is your opportunity to introduce your business to chamber members, so take full advantage of that opportunity.

Those are just some of the surface levels of connections made once you join. Becoming involved and participation is key to helping your business succeed.

Did you know that the Chamber has a personal website that you can directly have you or your staff provide updated company information?

When used the right way, it can be a powerful marketing tool. It provides a full directory listing with hyperlinks to your business website and social media sites. You can advertise your business on the chamber's website, giving your business added exposure on the worldwide web.

The chamber also has an exclusive customer referral service for its members.

Still need details? Reach out to the Chamber staff at 707-425-4625 and they can walk you through the process.

There are additional educational opportunities through the chambers partnership with the Solano Business Development Center (SBDC), the Travis Regional Armed Forces Committee (TRAFC), the Advocacy Council Committee, and various other hosted education seminars of the chamber.

If you're a member and not using the chamber to its fullest potential, not to worry. Please, take advantage of your membership and call the chamber at 707-425-4625 to sign-up for Chamber 101: Knowing Your Chamber Benefits.

If you are not a member, why wouldn't you want the additional exposure and support? Call Tonya Dretzka at the chamber to get signed up.

Sincerely,

#### Charles E. McCullar Jr.

Chairman, Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce

## chairman's club sponsors



















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#### DIRECTOR



**John McKaig** Hilton Garden Inn

DIRECTOR



**Peter Prieto** nDataStor, Inc.

DIRECTOR



**Jennivive Soriano**Anheuser-Busch Inc.

## calendar

#### **NOVEMBER**

6 TUE

#### AMBASSADOR COMMITTEE MEETING

8 to 9 a.m., Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce, 1111 Webster St.

**8** 

#### **MIXER**

Jelly Belly Candy Company, 1 Jelly Belly Lane, Fairfield

12 MON

#### **VETERANS DAY OBSERVED**

Chamber office closed.

13 TUE

#### ADVOCACY COUNCIL MEETING

8 to 9 a.m., Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce, 1111 Webster St.

16 FRI

#### BLACK & WHITE BALL DINNER AND AUCTION

6 to 11 p.m., Rancho Solano Clubhouse, 3250 Rancho Solano Parkway, Fairfield. Call Melissa Manry at 707- 425-4625 for details.

**27**TUE

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

8:30 to 9:30 a.m., Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce, 1111 Webster St.

#### **DECEMBER**



#### AMBASSADOR COMMITTEE MEETING

8 to 9 a.m., Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce, 1111 Webster St.

7 FRI

#### ANNUAL WINE TOUR

Explore the beautiful Suisun Valley. Call Melissa Manry at 707-425-4625 for details.

12 WED

#### CHAMBER LUNCH MOB

11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Mary's Pizza Shack, 1500 Oliver Road, Suite E, Fairfield. All are welcome, no RSVP required.

13 THUR

#### ANNUAL HOLIDAY MIXER

5 to 7 p.m., Anheuser-Busch, 3101 Busch Drive, Fairfield. Entry is six (6) cans of food, OR one (1) new toy OR \$20 at the door.



FOR UPCOMING RIBBON-CUTTINGS AND GRAND-OPENINGS.

#### **JANUARY**

8 TUE

#### AMBASSADOR COMMITTEE MEETING

8 to 9 a.m., Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce,

9 WED

#### CHAMBER LUNCH MOB

11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., La Cabana Restaurant, 325 Main St, Suisun City. All are welcome. no RSVP required..

10

#### JOINT MIXER WITH VACAVILLE CHAMBER

5:30 to 7 p.m., Vacaville Chamber, 308 Main St., Vacaville

14 MON

#### TRAVIS REGIONAL ARMED FORCES COMMITTEE

Noon to 1 p.m., The Salvation Army Kroc Center, 586 E. Wigeon Way, Suisun City

22

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

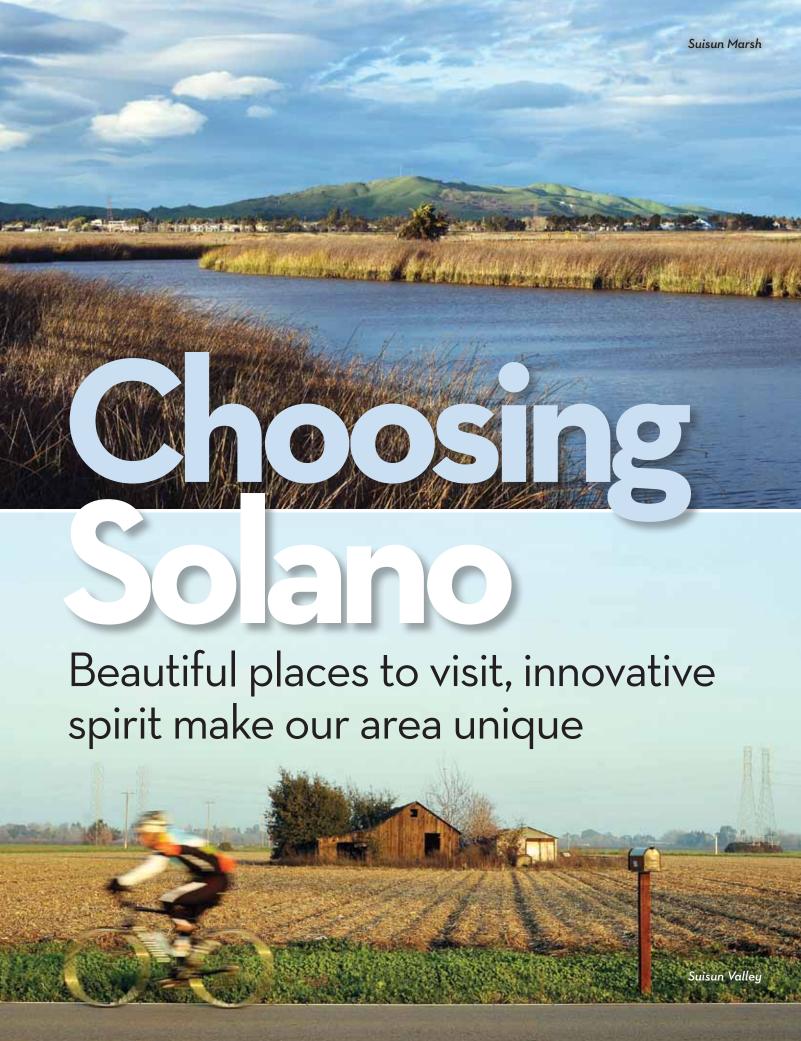
8:30 to 9:30 a.m., Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce,

30 WED

#### CHAMBER 101: DO YOU KNOW YOUR CHAMBER BENEFITS?

8 to 9 a.m., Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce, 1111 Webster St.







**BRIANNA BOYD** 

s the president of the Solano Economic Development Corporation, the number one question Bob Burris hears is, "Why?" Why Solano County? Why Fairfield? Why

Suisun City? Why is this region a more ideal place to develop or expand compared to

BY BRIANNA BOYD

others in the Bay Area and Northern California?

Often, Burris and his team have just moments to plant the seeds that

ultimately bring a business or corporation to Solano County. Those small nuggets of detail can make all the difference in helping Solano County to stand out amongst the larger, more well-known locations in the Bay Area. Often, what sets Fairfield, Suisun City and Solano County as a whole apart from the rest of the Bay Area and Sacramento regions is its location.

"We are in the middle of one of the most desirable locations in the United States here



DAILY REPUBLIC FILE PHOTOS

in Northern California," he said. "Right here in Solano County, we are literally able to touch all of the elements that make Northern California great. We are a part of the Bay Area, the Sacramento Valley, the wine region and the Delta. We have beautiful

places to visit, eat and drink and we are a center of innovation for the United States. You blend in that enjoyment of life with that innovative spirit and the ability to attract a lot of talent – it really makes this area very unique."

And right at the epicenter of Solano County is Fairfield. Burris worked in economic development for the city of Fairfield for two years prior to taking the helm of the Solano EDC in early 2018. That experience helped him to have a better understanding of Solano County's government seat.

"Fairfield really is located in the heart of Solano," he said.
"There are so many diverse aspects to this community – wine country, the Delta marsh, a valley – right at its center."

Over the past six months, as the EDC has increased its external and internal marketing efforts with digital media, videos and an international PR firm, Burris has seen the organization's prospect list – companies that have shown an interest in expanding or locating new jobs to Solano

County – more than double.

Due to confidentiality, he is not able to say much about the companies interested in Solano County. He can share that they range from small, biotechnology labs to major energy manufacturers and "everything in between."

For many of these companies, Solano County's location along Interstate 80, Interstate 680, Interstate 505 and Highway 12 is very appealing. As the primary connector between the Bay Area and Sacramento regions, I-80 in particular is instrumental to labor and goods movement, and is near several international airports and seaports.

The multiple highways and interstates in Solano County and the Amtrak train that stops in both Suisun City and the newly constructed Vacaville/Fairfield station open up a huge pool of potential employees. Businesses often create a 60-mile circular "labor shed" to see how many potential employees live in their region. The thought process behind that, Burris explained, is that a potential employee will commute up to 60 miles for a job opportunity.

"You draw a 60-mile ring around the center of Solano and that includes a population of 4.1 million people," Burris said. "That includes all of Solano, Napa, portions of the Sacramento region, the North Bay and portions of the East Bay.







Vanessa Noonkester pours beer for guests in the tasting room at the Anheuser-Busch Brewery in Fairfield.

ROBINSON KUNTZ/DAILY REPUBLIC FILE (2014)

That circle goes right across the Golden Gate Bridge. It also includes two Top 25 universities (UC Davis and UC Berkeley) and over 40 colleges and universities.

"That's 4.1 million people that can access our market place and our jobs," he added. "And with that is affordability, a high quality of life and a lot of specialized jobs that are growing here within our region."

The Moving Solano Forward campaign has shown that there are three industry sectors that have the most opportunity here in Solano County – food and beverage, advanced materials manufacturing, and biotechnology and life science.

The food and beverage industry in particular has flourished in the Fairfield and Suisun City region. Burris pointed to Jelly Belly, Anheuser-Busch, Sonoma Harvest Olive Oil, and the locally owned breweries like Heretic Brewing as perfect examples.

"When it comes to beverage manufacturing or anything that really requires water, this is the place to come," he said of Fairfield. "When we were creating a lot of our industrial zones, this city was built on heavy infrastructure that can carry a lot of water and wastewater. It's one of the reasons Anheuser-Busch is here. And honestly, there is room here in Fairfield to build five more Anheuser-Busch's. We are one of the last few locations in Northern California that can handle that type of development."

Solano County is also one of the last affordable locations in the Bay Area. Businesses already located near San Francisco are finding it next to impossible to expand, not just because of the cost but also the lack of real estate.

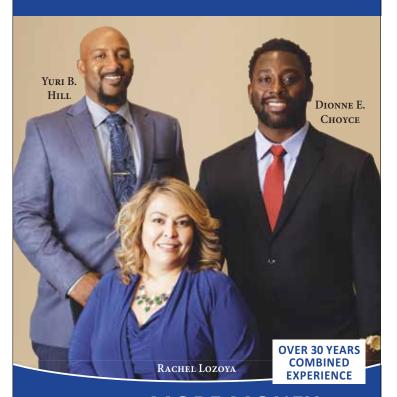
"What they are also finding is that their talent is moving in this direction to escape the costs of the Bay Area," Burris said. "They have to follow their workforce."

These components are all working to create an exciting synergy in the area.

"I feel like Solano is still a secret of sorts," Burris said. "The state and world needs to know this is a premiere location for business."

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# Foirfield/Suizun ADVENTURES

#### FOR THE KIDS.

- Sample every jellybean flavor at the Jelly Belly Factory sample bar
- Z Go on a FREE Jelly Belly Factory Tour
- 3 Embrace your need for speed and drive a Driven Raceway go-kart
- Play a round of golf at Scandia Family Fun Center
- Go on a train ride at the Western Railway Museum
- 6 Spend the day at Six Flags Discovery Kingdom

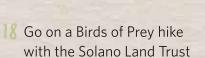
- Cool off at the Allan
  Witt Aquatics Center
- 8 Pick a beautiful bouquet of summer flowers at Larry's Produce

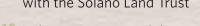


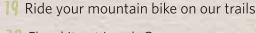
- Visit the horses at Rush Ranch
- 10 Enjoy a picnic at the lake at Rockville Hills

## FOR THE OUTDOOR ENTHUSIASTS.

- 11 Find the caves at Rockville Hills
- 12 Kayak on the Suisun Marsh
- 13 Visit Rush Ranch for one of the free monthly "Get the Rush" events
- @grizzly\_waters Kayaking Suisun Marsh
- 14 Go fishing on Grizzly Island
- 15 Admire incredible views of the Bay Area from Lynch Canyon
- 16 Meet the residents of the Suisun Wildlife Center
- 17 Learn about the Patwin Indians and their history in Suisun at Rush Ranch



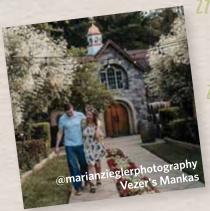




- 70 Fly a kite at Lynch Canyon
- [7] Enjoy a bike ride through Suisun Valley
- 22 See if you can spot the Tule Elk in the Suisun Marsh
- Z3 Take your dog on a walk or run
- 24 Say hello to the friendly cows in our hills
- 25 Bring your camera and spend the day photographing all the wildlife you see
- 76 Watch the sunset from the top of one of our hills



#### FOR THE ADULTS.



- Travel the 'valley loop' and enjoy a day of wine tasting in Suisun and Green Valleys
- 28 Sample olive oils and learn how to pair the oils and vinegars with your favorite foods when you visit II Fiorello and Sonoma Harvest
- Visit Anheuser-Busch Brewery and go on one of the daily tours, then enjoy samples in the tasting room
- 30 Adults love candy too! Enjoy a free tour at Fairfield's Jelly Belly Factory
- 31 Go on your own treasure hunt at Suisun Valley Antiques and Collectibles
- 37 Play a round of golf at Rancho Solano or Paradise Valley golf courses
- Wisit the Chocolate & Wine Experience at Jelly Belly and enjoy delectable treats paired with Suisun Valley wines
- Take a walk along the picturesque Suisun City Waterfront and then enjoy a meal in a nearby restaurant



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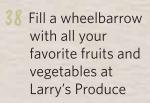
Sign up for a cooking class at Il Fiorello's 
'Kitchen in the Grove'

estinationmae

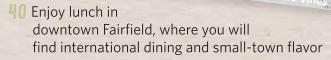
elly Chocolate and Wine

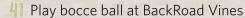
- 36 Come out for a Food Truck Friday event at Wooden Valley Winery
- 37 Take part in one of Suisun Valley's annual events,

Passport Sunday Harvest Celebration, or the Anniversary Celebration, and discover why this area is such a gem











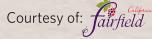




- Have a beer (or two) at Heretic Brewing and take a tour of this locally-owned brewery
- 45 Enjoy live music at Anheuser-Busch's Party in the Taproom and First Fridays concert series
- 46 Visit the historic Mankas Corner in Suisun Valley and enjoy lunch or dinner at Mankas Steakhouse









ROBINSON KUNTZ/DAILY REPUBLIC FILE

## Fairfield-Suisun students on path to college, careers

Young cadets salute the flag before being released for their weekend at the Public Safety Academy in Fairfield.

DAILY REPUBLIC FILE (2012)



#### BY BRIANNA BOYD

t's almost time for lunch at Fairfield High and the students in the school's culinary program are preparing to sell the food they made fresh that morning to their peers.

Across town at Armijo High, seniors in the auto mechanic shop are learning the latest technologies to repair and build cars. Not far from them are teenagers in engineering design that are working with and designing their own robots.

Meanwhile, at Solano Community College, the students at Early College High School are finishing

first and second year college work, at absolutely no expense to them or their families.

The paths all of these students are on could not be more different. While many are going to a four-year university, community college or trade school after graduation, others are headed directly to a career, with no intention of seeing another classroom after high school.

And to Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District, each and every one of these students is succeeding.

"A big philosophy and goal for our school district is that all our students are career and college ready," said Tim Goree, the executive director of administrative services and community engagement for Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District, which serves 21,500 students in kindergarten to 12th grade. "When they leave high school, when they leave our system, we want them to fully have the choice to go whichever direction they want to go because they are ready for all of it.

"The idea of a student being 'college or career' ready is the old model," he explained. "It is now 'career and college', meaning that we've added these career components involving disciplines that interest students, and we know that if students are working within their interests then they will perform better academically, with a higher level of engagement and deeper level of learning. We want to provide lots of different avenues for students to work within their interests while they are at school."

This shift in Fairfield-Suisun's philosophy only began seven or eight years ago but already reaches across all grade levels and school sites.



ROBINSON KUNTZ/DAILY REPUBLIC FILE (2014)

Early College High School program ninth-graders, from left, Jaelyn Graves, Kiara Buffington and Tyler Rodriguez participate in a science lesson at Solano Community College in 2014.



ROBINSON KUNTZ/DAILY REPUBLIC FILE

Armijo freshman Kyren Brown, right, and Zach Viri, left, work on a VEX Robotics project.

At the high school level, the three comprehensive high schools in the district offer Career Technical Education pathways, in addition to the traditional advanced placement programs. This includes the culinary program at Fairfield High, the auto mechanic shop and engineering program at Armijo, and a game design and integration pathway at Rodriguez High.

"The smaller high schools, like the Matt Garcia Career and College Academy, the Public Safety Academy, and Early College High School have their own CTE themes built into their schools," Goree said "The CTE pathway is integrated into everything that they do."

Even Sem Yeto High School, where students go when they are behind in credits for graduation, has its own child development pathway.

Eight years ago, when the focus really began to shift from "college or career" to "college and career," Fairfield-Suisun Unified had a mix of K-5 schools, K-6 schools and middle schools (6th-8th) throughout the city. Since then, the Public Service Academy (5th -12th) and Matt Garcia Career and College Academy (6th-12th) opened, many of the elementary schools are now K-8, and six of those schools have adopted their own 'themes' that are incorporated into every classroom as early as kindergarten. The district still has its middle schools too, which offer electives and opportunities to students in sixth to eighth they would not necessarily have access to at a K-8 school.

"We want students and families to think of this as they would a college – where am I going to go and what best suits me," Goree said. "They can start thinking about their own personal interests at a very young age. It doesn't commit them to doing it for the rest of their lives but it gives them a taste of real world experience inside a school, where they can work

#### Dentistry with a Gentle Touch . . .

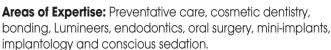
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within their current interests and apply the things they learn. Those components, we truly believe, will lead students to do better academically."

There are six themed K-8 schools in the district, with a seventh on the way. The entire school community works together to create the theme for a particular campus, ensuring all are unique.

Choosing **Solano** 

At Suisun Valley Elementary, the focus is on agriculture. Students run and operate a working garden and farm, where they grow their own vegetables and fruit. A very successful science program at the school integrates the garden in the lessons. The kindergarten classes take care of the chickens.

Oakbrook Elementary was re-named Oakbrook Academy of the Arts, with a theme of performing arts. From kindergarten to eighth grade, students focus on vocal and instrumental music, theater and dance. The older students also learn about design, stage creation, directing and technology.

Dan O. Root Elementary is the newest themed school, now known as the Dan O. Root Health and Wellness Academy. The school will focus on health, wellness, athletics and sports medicine. They have a student-led yoga class and a yoga studio.

The other themed schools are Dover Academy for International Studies, David Weir K-8 Preparatory Academy and Sheldon Academy of Innovative Learning.

"Honestly, there are not many districts out there that have flushed it out like we have," Goree said. "The whole district is their oyster now. They can go to any of the schools in this district that they want to. We are giving students and their families true choice, with so many different places they can allow their children to go, as young as kindergarten."

Another important component of the district's "college and career" philosophy is the Inspire program.





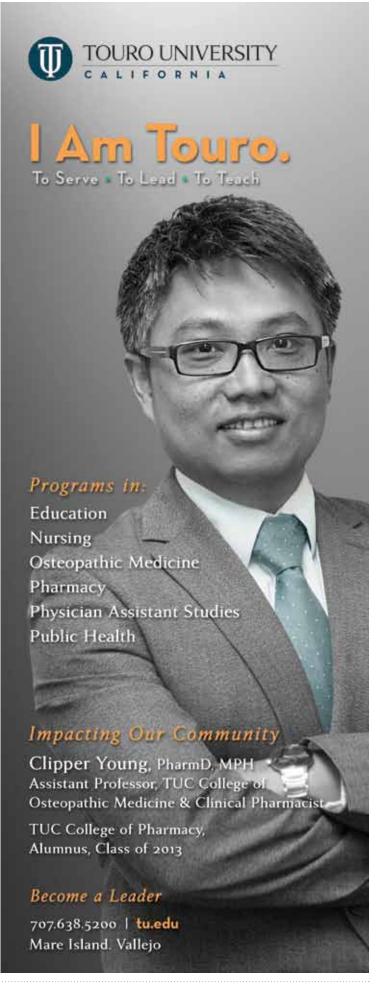
COURTESY PHOTO/SUISUN VALLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

A student holds a squash in the garden at Suisun Valley Elementary School.

Inspire: Dreams Start Now, an interactive career fair for all 1,600 eighth-graders in the Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District, first began four years ago. Many local businesses, organizations and city and school district departments have booths at the fair, giving students a hands-on, up-close look at career opportunities in their own community.

The event at the KROC Center has become so successful that Vacaville Unified School District implemented its own Inspire program three years ago that now also includes Dixon Unified School District and Travis Unified School District. Both Benicia and Vallejo's school districts have also shown interest in being involved, and Goree expects they too will be on board in the next two years.

"You always have those kids, and I was one of them, in junior high and high school, where school loses that luster and





COURTESY PHOTOS/SUISUN VALLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



they wonder, 'how am I going to use this in the world outside of school?'"
Goree said. "Inspire helps them connect math and English and social studies to the real world and future possibilities and careers. It rings true to them."

The second component to the Inspire program, Inspire: Dreams Move Forward, a one-day job shadow for 10th-graders, launched in February. Around 800 sophomores from Fairfield-Suisun and Vacaville were divided into groups that toured some of the major companies in the area, including Six Flags Discovery Kingdom, Jelly Belly, Kaiser Permanente and NorthBay Healthcare.

The third component to the program, individual job opportunities and internships for seniors, is about three years away, Goree said, but the planning has already started.

"Over the last few years, we've had a number of school districts from around the state approach us to talk about Inspire," said Goree, adding that the program is nominated for the California School Board Association's Golden Bell Award. "We know we have something good going on when there is that much interest from people from outside the area who hear about it and then call and say, 'I want to know more.'"



AARON ROSENBLATT/DAILY REPUBLIC FILE

Airmen salute during the Assumption of Command ceremony at Travis Air Force Base, Sept. 18.

## Base a vital part of Solano's economy

#### BY BRIANNA BOYD

nown around the world as the "Gateway to the Pacific," Travis Air Force Base is home to the largest Air Mobility Wing and Air Force Reserve Associate Wing in the country.

Its expansive global reach has ensured that the base has been an essential part of the American military since World War II. But did you know Travis Air Force Base also fuels the local and regional economy?

Travis has long been the largest employer in all of Solano County, with a total workforce of 26,205 personnel. The base creates an estimated 4,839 jobs in the local community with an economic value of \$249.6 million. The total economic impact of the base is estimated at \$1.65 billion.

"Obviously, that's a huge driver for our region and our communities, representing roughly 10 percent of Solano County's \$20 billion annual economic output," said Sandy Person, the Industry Engagement Officer for the Solano Economic Development Corporation. "Travis is often referred to as 'America's First Choice' and for good reason –

it's a lynch pin of global power and global reach, 24/7, 365 days a year."

Travis Air Force Base is the second largest contributor to Solano County's economy, behind only manufacturing at 24.9 percent. Travis' 10 percent contribution is higher than health care (9.7 percent), real estate (8.9 percent) and construction (5.1 percent).

The Travis Air Force Base 'family' includes 9,500 active duty and reservists, 13,700 military family members and 3,000 civilian employees. It is also estimated that close to 100,300 military and civil service retirees live within 50 miles of the base.

Of those who live off base, more than 15,000 live in Solano County and spend about \$298 million in the county.

Travis Air Force Base is home to the largest Air Mobility Wing (the 60th) and Air Force Reserve Associate Wing (the 349th) in the country, as well as the 621st Contingency Response Wing. Altogether, the base handles more cargo and passenger traffic through its aerial port than any other military air terminal in the United States.

Travis celebrated its 75th anniversary in 2018.

## /estimonials



I opened my business in Fairfield because I wanted to give back to the community that provided me with the tools and foundation to be successful. I understood that small businesses play a vital role in their community. They boost local economy, they provide local jobs, and many of them are involved and or give back to their

community. I wanted to be a part of this. This was my way of giving back what was given to me. I was born in Fairfield; my grandfather owned a Downtown Fairfield business in the late '70s-early '80s, so I couldn't see myself opening up anywhere else but Fairfield, California.

TARA CRUZ OWNER. TOUCH OF PARADISE SPA



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Hi, my name is Dino DiGiulio, owner of Body Best Collision. I moved here to Fairfield three years ago from Sonoma and living here has been great! The people are very friendly, and I love all the shopping that is so close. I ride motocross and the track is only 20 minutes from my home. So, a little over one year ago, I started looking for a second location to grow my business and I thought Suisun City or Fairfield would be a great place to add my second location. I found a shop off Highway 12 and knew it could be great. We opened in March and things have been going well! The reason I joined the Chamber was to get to know the great business owners of Fairfield and Suisun City. They have been awesome in supporting me and helping me grow my business to new heights. This is a beautiful place to live and a wonderful place to raise a family. I love it here!

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Dorothy Whitteaker and gastroenterologist Nazia Hazan, M.D., a specialist in minimally invasive interventional endoscopy.

## Intervention Saves Critically Ill Woman



By the time she ended up in our emergency room, the consequences of the perforation had progressed to such a critical state that she was put on comfort care.

– DR. NAZIA HASAN



By the time her family got Dorothy Whitteaker to the emergency room at NorthBay Medical Center, she was in dire condition. Dorothy had developed a large hole in her esophagus, following a fairly common procedure to help with swallowing difficulties, done by a doctor outside of the NorthBay Healthcare system. Fluids filled her lungs and chest cavity and emergency medical staff had to place her on life support. They didn't offer much hope for her husband and daughter, and her condition was too fragile for an invasive surgery she would never survive, her family was told.

That was December of 2015. In June of this year, Dorothy celebrated both her 85th birthday and 63rd wedding anniversary thanks, she and her family agree, to the work of NorthBay gastroenterologist Nazia

Hasan, M.D., a specialist in minimally invasive interventional endoscopy.

"By the time she ended up in our emergency room, the consequences of the perforation had progressed to such a critical state that she was put on comfort care," explained Dr. Hasan.

Dr. Hasan was able to examine Dorothy's esophagus from the inside using an endoscope, and she came up with a plan. "I offered her family a minimally invasive option that may give her a chance to survive although the odds were not in our favor," said Dr. Hasan. "Given the extent of the esophageal defect and Dorothy's critical condition, I proceeded with cautious optimism."

"At that point, we were willing to try anything," recalled Dorothy's daughter, Denise Whitteaker. "I was going through what anyone would feel when you're told your mother is probably going to die after a simple procedure. I believe that without Dr. Hasan my mother would have died."

Dr. Hasan's intervention involved inserting a fully covered metal stent into Dorothy's esophagus to cover the large perforation. The stent could then block additional fluid from going into the chest and allow for the hole to heal. In the following months, Dr. Hassan repeatedly



Dr. Hazan with the Whitteakers.

removed the stent, re-evaluated the perforation and replaced the stent until it was small enough for her to completely repair it with endoscopic clips.

"Dr. Hasan sat with us and explained everything. She was awesome," said Denise. "For 22 days in the ICU and later in the floor unit, she was constantly

checking on Mom. She is definitely hands-on and I have nothing but respect for her."

Dorothy agrees. "Like my husband says, her coming along was kind of like a miracle. If it wasn't for her I'd be in the ground," she said. "I tell everyone she's just wonderful!"

NorthBay Gastroenterology's team of board-certified experts employs a variety of advanced treatments, from medications to minimally invasive endoscopic procedures and complex digestive endoscopy.

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