



City of Sebastopol Community Newsletter

www.CityofSebastopol.org

**December 2 - December 8 Special Weekly Edition of
Sebastopol Community Newsletter**

Please visit socoemergency.org for the most up-to-date information on the coronavirus crisis in Sonoma County.

[View as Webpage](#)

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THIS EMAIL.**

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25% MANDATORY WATER USE REDUCTION IN SEBASTOPOL



Photo by Laura Hagar

COUNCIL MEMBERS GURNEY, GLASS AND SLAYTER RETIRE



(L to R): Sarah Glade Gurney, Una Glass, Patrick Slayter

After some 38 years of combined public service to the community, December 6 marked the last meeting as City Council members for three longtime Sebastopol public servants. Sarah Glade Gurney retires after 18 years on the council and 4 terms as mayor, outgoing Mayor Patrick Slayter retires after 12 years on the council and 4 terms as mayor, and Una Glass retires after 8 years on the council and 2 terms as mayor.

Outgoing comments by the council members, who thanked the community, their colleagues, city staff, family and friends, may be seen on the [recording of the meeting](#) beginning at the 27-minute mark.

Sonoma County District 5 Supervisor Lynda Hopkins expressed gratitude to the three and praised them not only as colleagues, but as mentors and friends who bring humanity and thought to their office and have always tried to do right by the community no matter the pressures.

District Director Leo Chyi presented a gold resolution from the Board of Supervisors to each outgoing council member honoring and acknowledging them for their years of exemplary public service to the people of Sebastopol and recognizing them for providing stable and responsible governance during

their tenures.

INTRODUCING SEBASTOPOL'S NEW CITY COUNCIL



Following being sworn in at the December 6 City Council meeting, newly elected council members Sandra Maurer, Jill McLewis, and Stephen Zollman participated in unanimously electing [Neysa Hinton](#) as mayor and [Diana Gardner Rich](#) as vice mayor. Ms. Hinton has served on the council since 2016 and was previously mayor in 2019. Ms. Rich has served on the council since 2020. More information about the new council members will be featured on the city website and in a future newsletter.

SEBASTOPOL HOUSING ELEMENT UPDATE



The Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) comment letter on the City's Revised Draft Housing Element has been received and is available on the City's website for review and download [HERE](#).

Also, please 'save the date' for the upcoming Hearing (all dates tentative and additional emails will be sent out once confirmed, with Meeting information and links):

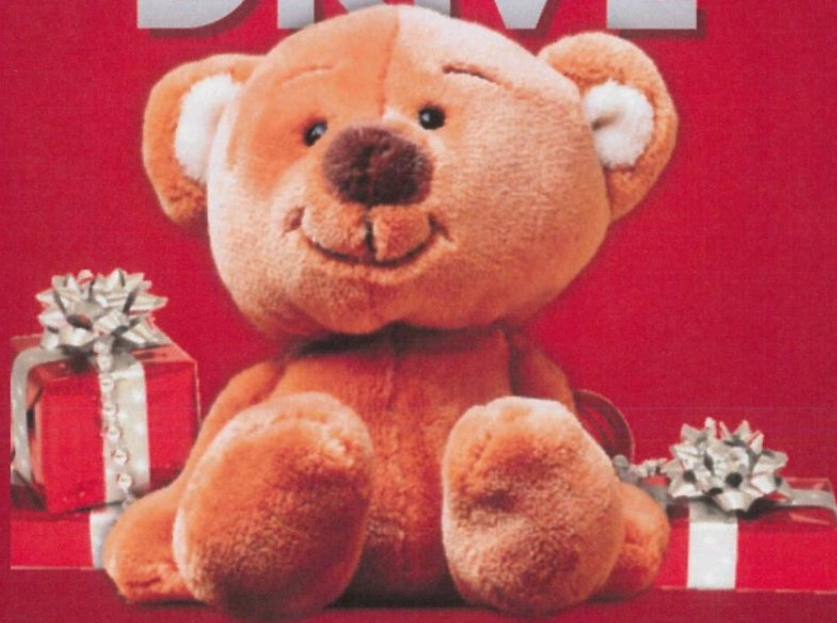
[December 13, 2022 – Planning Commission Public Hearing](#) on the Housing Element General Plan Amendment (6 pm, Zoom)

SEBASTOPOL FIRE DEPARTMENT'S ANNUAL TOY DRIVE

The Sebastopol Fire Department is holding their annual toy drive. Drop off new toys, art supplies, books, and gift cards to the firehouse at **7425 Bodega Ave.** during normal office business hours (**Mon. - Thurs. 7am to 5:30pm**) through **Tuesday, December 20, 2022**. All toys and gifts should be unwrapped.

SEBASTOPOL FIRE DEPARTMENT'S ANNUAL

TOY DRIVE



PLEASE DROP OFF NEW TOYS, ART SUPPLIES,
BOOKS, GIFT CARDS

7425 BODEGA AVENUE, SEBASTOPOL

Waste with Postage Paid 501

WINTER HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS



Winter Holiday Safety

Winter holidays are a time for families and friends to get together. But that also means a greater risk for fire. Following a few simple tips will ensure a happy and fire-safe holiday season.

HOLIDAY DECORATING

- Be careful with holiday decorations. Choose decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant.
- Keep lit candles away from decorations and other things that can burn.
- Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use, but not both.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.
- Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged.
- Keep decorations away from windows and doors.

HOLIDAY ENTERTAINING

- Test your smoke alarms and tell guests about your home fire escape plan.
- Keep children and pets away from lit candles.
- Keep matches and lighters up high in a locked cabinet.
- Stay in the kitchen when cooking on the stovetop.
- Ask smokers to smoke outside. Remind smokers to keep their smoking materials with them so young children do not touch them.
- Provide large, deep ashtrays for smokers. Wet cigarette butts with water before discarding.



Before Heading Out or to Bed

Blow out lit candles when you leave the room or go to bed. **Turn off** all light strings and decorations before leaving home or going to bed.

FACTS

- ! More than **one-third** of home decoration fires are started by candles.
- ! More than **two of every five** decoration fires happen because decorations are placed too close to a heat source.



**NATIONAL FIRE
PROTECTION ASSOCIATION**
The leading information and knowledge resource
on fire, electrical and related hazards

Your Logo

nfpa.org/education ©NFPA 2019

SONOMA COUNTY WINTER SHELTERS

Information on Sonoma County's system of care partners with local service providers that will offer winter shelter bed space or other sleeping alternatives. This is in addition to year-round shelters. [English.](#) [Español.](#)

Sonoma County



Winter Shelters

CHRISTMAS TREE SAFETY TIPS

Christmas Tree Safety



As you deck the halls this holiday season, be fire smart. A small fire that spreads to a Christmas tree can grow large very quickly.



PICKING THE TREE

- Choose a tree with fresh, green needles that do not fall off when touched.



PLACING THE TREE

- Before placing the tree in the stand, cut 2" from the base of the trunk.
- Make sure the tree is at least three feet away from any heat source, like fireplaces, radiators, candles, heat vents or lights.
- Make sure the tree is not blocking an exit.
- Add water to the tree stand. Be sure to add water daily.



LIGHTING THE TREE

- Use lights that are listed by a qualified testing laboratory. Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.
- Never use lit candles to decorate the tree.
- Always turn off Christmas tree lights before leaving home or going to bed.



After Christmas

Get rid of the tree after Christmas or when it is dry. Dried-out trees are a fire danger and should not be left in the home or garage, or placed outside against the home.

Check with your local community to find a recycling program.

Bring outdoor electrical lights inside after the holidays to prevent hazards and make them last longer.

FACTS

- ! **Almost one third** of home Christmas tree fires are caused by electrical problems.
- ! Although Christmas tree fires are not common, when they do occur, they are more likely to be serious.
- ! A heat source too close to the tree causes more than **one in every five** of the fires.



Your Source for SAFETY Information

NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169

Your Logo

www.nfpa.org/education ©NF-PA 2020

PAINT OUT HATE - COMMUNITY ART PROJECT

Let's walk our talk!

- Use your creativity to paint an expression of love, kindness, equality, social justice, and inclusivity
- Share your idea on the flyer/submission form - forms available at the Sebastopol Library, 7140 Bodega Ave., or download and print a copy **HERE: [English](#). [Español](#).**
- Those selected will be invited to a community paint party (paint party date to be announced in December)

Murals will be painted on sidewalks, at the Senior Center, the Sebastopol Regional Library, the Center for the Arts, and Ives Pool.

Submissions due January 23

Supplies provided

Open to all ages



The flyer features a blue header with the text 'Community Art Project' and a large orange box containing the title 'Paint Out Hate' in white. Below the title is a pink heart with the word 'Out' inside. To the right, there are illustrations of green trees and a window with a view of trees. The main text is in a white box with a green border, containing the title 'Let's walk our talk!' and a three-step list. Below the list is a graphic of a road with various murals. At the bottom, there are logos for Sonoma County Library and Sebastopol Regional Library, along with social media icons and a note about the project's funding.

Community Art Project

Paint Out Hate

Let's walk our talk!

- 1 Use your creativity to paint an expression of love, kindness, equality, social justice, and inclusivity
- 2 Share your idea on the back of this flyer to be selected to be part of a sidewalk mural in Sebastopol
- 3 Those selected will be invited to a community paint party*

*Paint party date to be announced in December.

Murals will be painted on sidewalks, at the Senior Center, the Sebastopol Regional Library, the Sebastopol Center for the Arts, and Ives Pool.

SONOMA COUNTY LIBRARY BIBLIOTECA
SEBASTOPOL REGIONAL LIBRARY
7140 Bodega Avenue, Sebastopol
(707) 823-7691
sonomalibrary.org

This project is supported by the City of Sebastopol.

Brought to you by the Measure Y sales tax.

SHOP LOCAL FOR THE HOLIDAYS

The closer you shop to home, the further your money goes. When you buy local, significantly more money recirculates in local communities. When you shop at locally owned, independent



businesses more money is kept in the community because local businesses often purchase from other local businesses, service providers and farms. Buying locally helps grow other businesses as well as our region's tax base. Local independent businesses invest 3 times more money back into the local economy than non-local businesses.

Not only does shopping local help other businesses in the community, it helps fund other important services. A whopping 53% of our city's budget comes from sales and other (non-property) taxes. Sales tax revenue is a guaranteed funding source for essential city services, including public safety, code enforcement, parks and landscaping, streets pavement and other essential services.

CITY OF SEBASTOPOL RECRUITING MAYORS & COUNCIL MEMBERS ASSOCIATION OF SONOMA COUNTY CLERK



The City of Sebastopol has been tasked with searching/recruitment for a Mayors & Council Members Association of Sonoma County Clerk.

The focus of the Sonoma County Mayors and Councilmembers Association (MCA) has been the exchange of ideas among fellow elected officials - both by educational presentations and by providing an opportunity to network with peers. The MCA Board of Directors (Board) also makes appointments to select regional bodies, as well as serving as the City Selection Committee for Sonoma

County, as required under Government Code §50270. The MCA Board and General Membership meetings are held quarterly, per the current by-laws. The MCA also has a Legislative Committee.

- [Sonoma County Mayors and Councilmembers Association Clerk Position](#)
- [Agreement for Professional Services - City of Sebastopol MCA Clerk](#)

WATER SAVINGS THAT WILL MAKE YOU ENJOY WASHING THE DISHES

Join City of Sebastopol's Water Upgrades Save program to save water and money right away!

Our qualified contractor installs water and energy efficient upgrades like high-efficiency toilets, showerheads, and aerators. You start saving right away!

City of Sebastopol customers are saving an average of 20 percent on annual utility costs when they upgrade! ¹



Follow the steps below:

1. Visit www.waterupgradessave.org to enroll.
2. Schedule a free home assessment to learn about your potential water savings.
3. Choose your upgrades including high-efficiency toilets, showerheads, and aerators.
4. Schedule your installation with a qualified program contractor.
5. Begin saving water and money right away.

Enroll now at www.waterupgradessave.org

¹Actual savings will vary based on measures installed and customer water use.

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES



Police Department

[Police Officer \(Lateral/Academy Graduate\)](#)

Deadline to Apply: January 11, 2023 at 11:59pm

[Police Captain](#)

Deadline to Apply: December 9, 2022 at 11:59pm

See the city [website](#) for additional information and requirements on these current opportunities to participate in the management and growth in our community.

COVID-19 INFO & RESOURCES

COUNTY OF SONOMA

COVID-19 TESTING LOCATIONS

Free, convenient, confidential COVID-19 testing is available to all Sonoma County residents, regardless of document status

CITY NEWS

CITY MEETINGS

All meetings will be held virtually and are open to the public to attend via web or phone link.

Agendas for upcoming meetings can be found on the City website by clicking the "[Meetings](#)" link on the home page. Agendas will contain information about participating virtually in real time when this feature is available.

City Council Meetings:

- **Meeting Days:** First and Third Tuesday of each month
- **Meeting Time:** 6pm
- **Livestream Link:** <http://bit.ly/sebcctv>
- To submit comments before the meeting:
 - **For Items Not on the Agenda:** Members of the public may submit written emails/comments for items not on the agenda either by email as a public record or by public comment during the public comment period of the virtual City Council meeting. All written emails/comments will be provided to the entire City Council as a public record but will not be read into the minutes at the City Council meeting. Written emails/comments should be received by 5:00 pm of the Council Meeting Date for submission to the entire City Council prior to the meeting and will be included as a part of the record of the meeting. Please submit your comments via email for this meeting to mgourley@cityofsebastopol.org
 - **For Items Listed on the Agenda:** Members of the public may submit written emails/comments for items listed on the agenda either by email as a public record or by public comment during the public comment period of the agenda item during the virtual City Council meeting. **Email comments must identify the Agenda Item Number in the subject line of the email.** All written emails/comments will be provided to the entire City Council as a public record but will not be read into the minutes at the City Council meeting. Written emails/comments should be received by 5:00 pm of the Council Meeting Date for submission to the entire City Council prior to the meeting and will be included as a part of the record of the meeting. Please submit your comments via email for this meeting to mgourley@cityofsebastopol.org
- **Next Meeting:** [City Council Meeting of December 20, 2022 @ 6:00 PM](#)

Planning Commission Meetings:

- **Meeting Days:** Second and Fourth Tuesday of each month
- **Meeting Time:** 6pm
- **Livestream Link:** <http://bit.ly/sebcctv>
- To submit comments before meeting, send an email to kvanstrom@cityofsebastopol.org
- **Next Meeting:** [Planning Commission Meeting of December 13, 2022 @ 6:00 PM](#)

(NOTE: All meetings will be held virtually and are open to the public to attend via web or phone link. Information for meeting attendance can be found here: <https://www.ci.sebastopol.ca.us/Meeting-Event.aspx>)

Design Review Board Meetings:

- **Meeting Days:** First and Third Wednesday of each month
- **Meeting Time:** 4pm
- **Livestream Link:** <http://bit.ly/sebcctv>
- To submit comments before meeting, send an email to kvanstrom@cityofsebastopol.org
- **Next Meeting:** [Design Review Board Meeting of December 21, 2022 @ 4:00 PM](#)

Public Arts Committee Meetings:

- **Meeting Days:** First Wednesday of each month
- **Meeting Time:** 10:30am
- **Livestream Link:** <http://bit.ly/sebcctv>
- To submit comments before meeting, send an email to kvanstrom@cityofsebastopol.org
- **Next Meeting:** There are currently no meetings scheduled.

Climate Action Committee Meetings:

- **Meeting Days:** Second and Fourth Wednesday of each month
- **Meeting Time:** 3:30pm
- **Livestream Link:** <http://bit.ly/sebcctv>
- To submit comments before meeting, send an email to kvanstrom@cityofsebastopol.org
- **Next Meeting:** [Climate Action Committee Meeting of December 14, 2022 @ 3:30 PM](#)



COMMUNITY NEWS

SEBASTOPOL COMMUNITY CULTURAL CENTER'S UPCOMING CONCERT SERIES

DECEMBER 10

A SOLSTICE CELEBRATION WITH MAMUSE



Check out the Sebastopol Community Cultural Center's (SCCC) upcoming concert. All concerts are held at the SCCC and ticket prices vary.

- **December 10** - A Solstice Celebration with Mamuse

Visit the SCCC website [HERE](#) for more info and to buy tickets.

Contact Us



7120 Bodega Avenue, Sebastopol, CA 95472

707-823-1153

www.CityofSebastopol.org

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