



January - February, 2021

The City of Sebastopol community newsletter is one way to stay in touch with what's going on in Sebastopol. Our web site, [CityofSebastopol.org](http://CityofSebastopol.org) is another. It's chock-full of information on City services, public meetings, and community resources. Or, stop by City offices any time we are open!

## Ring In 2021: Engaging in Sustainable Caring



Happy New Year! 2020 was certainly difficult with the world pandemic dominating so many aspects of our lives. There are small glimmers at the end of the tunnel but, until we emerge from the current crisis, safely connecting with our community will help sustain us through difficult times.

Check the City website - <https://www.ci.sebastopol.ca.us/> - for links to nonprofits that offer online events, lectures and classes. You will also find links to community resources related to COVID, health, mental health, food and shelter. If you are not online, call City Hall at **(707) 823-5331** and ask about available resources. Check out the Chamber of Commerce website - <https://www.sebastopol.org/> - for links to our local businesses and remember to shop locally.

Most importantly... we are Peacetown. Give each other a break. Everyone is stressed due to COVID and things aren't working as well as they should. Thankfully, this will inevitably change, but we must be patient. Seek accurate information about our community, respect others, and support your neighbors with a smile behind your mask and a friendly word.

## City Council Welcomes Diana Gardner Rich, Elects New Mayor and Vice-Mayor

At its December 1, 2020 meeting, newly elected Council Member Diana Gardner Rich was officially sworn in. Rich retired as executive director of the Sebastopol Community Cultural Center in 2017 after having served in that capacity for seven years. Council then elected Una Glass as mayor and Sarah Glade Gurney as vice mayor. Glass has been on the Council



since June 2014. This is her second term as mayor. Gurney has been on the Council since 2004 and has four times served as mayor. Council Member Neysa Hinton was also sworn in after her re-election to the City Council. Hinton joined the Council in 2016 and served as mayor in 2018. See the City's



website to learn more about the City Council Members: <https://bit.ly/3qBBQgW>

## Elizabeth Smith is a “Local Who Makes a Difference



Elizabeth Smith is being recognized as the City’s latest “Local Who Makes A Difference.” In the short time that Elizabeth has lived in Sebastopol she has made quite an impact on the community. She restarted Sebastopol’s

Soroptimist International Service Club serving as Club President, is a Sebastopol Union School board member, and Peacetown board member, and previously served on the Analy Boosters board as Fundraising Director. Elizabeth’s impact on Sebastopol can be seen in excerpts from her nomination applications.

*“Elizabeth Smith lives her life devoted to participating in community and spreading awareness & knowledge to strengthen families and community.”*

*“She has restarted the Soroptimist International chapter and widened its borders to the greater West County, serving as its president. She is actively involved in Peacetown. This last year she began the Peacetown Family Village for families and children to have a space to enjoy the music festivities and engage in activities for the kids.”*

*“[Elizabeth] is the founder of Project Whole Child and has awarded several scholarships to The Five Protective Framework Factors and Strengthening Families Workshops.”*

Learn more about the Elizabeth Smith on the City’s Locals Who Make A Difference page where you can also make nominations for the next round of nominees. <https://ci.sebastopol.ca.us/Our-Community/Locals-Who-Make-a-Difference>

## COVID-19 Updates

Visit <https://socoemergency.org/> for the most up-to-date information on COVID-19 and Sonoma County’s response and resources.

## Are You Flood Ready?

Winter rain and storms can bring the potential for flooding and it’s important to be Flood Ready. Community preparedness and resident responsibility are key to preparing for potential floods.

What can you do now to prepare?

- Find out if you live in or near a flood zone
- Have a personal/family emergency plan
- Have personal/family/pet disaster kits prepared
- REMEMBER: *Turn around, don’t drown*

Check out <https://socoemergency.org/get-ready/> and <https://myhazards.caloes.ca.gov> for more information on preparing for floods and other disasters.



## Shop the Sebastopol Farmers Market

Open year-round, the Sebastopol Farm Market offers farm-fresh produce and more. Remember to wear a mask and practice social distancing when shopping the Market. Online ordering and curbside pickup are available. <http://sebastopolfarmmarket.org>



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