



March - April, 2020

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 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!

Updated Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) Ordinance

The City of Sebastopol has a new **Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) Ordinance** (<http://bit.ly/3bUZ9e3>) which took effect on January 16, 2020! The new Ordinance makes it easier to develop an ADU on your property. The **ADU Primer** (<http://bit.ly/2uYpSpq>) is a handy starting point to review the types of ADUs (also called 'granny' or 'in-law units') and general requirements.

In addition, the City received a 'grade' of A- for its ordinance, and was featured in U.C. Berkeley's Center for Innovation publication for its model user-friendly ADU program! Check out the **ADU California website** (<https://www.aducalifornia.org/>) and the **ADU Scorecard** (<http://bit.ly/2Vd1bAe>).

For Questions on how to get started or to review your ideas, please contact the Planning Department at: 707-823-6167.



Apple Blossom Time is Almost Here

The signs of spring are also a sign that the **Apple Blossom Parade & Festival** are happening soon.



The highly anticipated annual event is in its 74th year and continues to celebrate the diversity within our community. This year's theme is "Blossoms Votes & Floats" and the event

is sure to be filled with great food and entertainment for the whole family. You won't want to miss it.

Saturday April 18, 2020 is the Festival & Parade (Parade starts at 10am on Main St.) and the Festival & Blues Music Explosion will continue through Sunday, April 19, 2020.

Tickets are sold daily, and are \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors (62+) & students (11-17), and children under 11 enter FREE. Tickets can also be purchased at the door. The festival will be held at Ives Park and the Sebastopol Center for the Arts at the Veterans Memorial Building. For more information visit appleblossomfest.com.

Climate Action Subcommittee

As a result of the **Climate Emergency Resolution** (Resolution #6274-2019 - <http://bit.ly/2SLqEQ1>) recently passed by the City Council, applications are being accepted through March 20th for a new **Climate Action Subcommittee** (<http://bit.ly/2Vhx0lz>). The 11 to 13-member subcommittee will comprise a



cross-section of community members representing all sectors to work together to create recommendations to the City Council on specific actions.

The functions of the climate action sub-committee shall include the following powers and duties:

- Formulate a Work Plan for the sub-committee
- Research composition and duties of other cities sub-committees
- Update CAP Document for City
- Prioritize Climate Emergency Resolution Attachment A actions (<http://bit.ly/2SLqEQ1>) recently.
- Create Climate Calendar
- Create Volunteer Appreciation Event/Ideas for Climate Events
- Visit the **Boards, Commissions and Committees** section of the City of Sebastopol website for more details (<http://bit.ly/328YcKV>).

Community Vitality Contract Position

The City of Sebastopol is in the process of reviewing applications for its new **Community Vitality** position. With this new position, the city aims to further its current goals and expand into new ones to create a high quality of life for all residents and adjoining neighbors as well as attracting more visitors and businesses to the city. The selected person will interact as the central person between the citizens, businesses and the City, and act as an ombudsperson that the community can go to with questions, concerns, ideas, and feedback.



Mayor Patrick Slayter to Chair Sonoma Clean Power Authority Board of Directors

For the second time, Mayor Patrick Slayter has been named as Chair of the Board of Directors of the Sonoma Clean Power Authority, a joint powers authority of the counties and the cities that have voted to join Sonoma Clean Power. His first one-year term was in 2016. The Santa Rosa-based not for profit agency supplies power to customers in Sonoma and Mendocino counties from cleaner sources with lower emissions than its competitor.



Sebastopol Walks... and Runs!



New this year is the Sebastopol Runs program, joining Sebastopol Walks, which is in its 12th year. The programs introduce people to the fun of exploring town on foot, learning about the community, and discovering

what makes Sebastopol such a great place to live and visit. Each group will have its own experienced leader who will guide their group on routes that vary in distance to attract walkers and runners of all levels. Twelve walks and ten runs will take place February through November, on the last Saturday of each month at The Plaza beginning at 9am. Schedules for both programs are available on the [Community Calendar](#).

Keep Your Eyes Open for the Stars:



The 13th Annual Sebastopol Documentary Film Festival will take place March 26-29, 2020. The Festival exhibits on six screens simultaneously, presenting 67 shorts, documentaries, and mini documentaries to a combined audience of 4,000 documentary film lovers, industry guests, and fellow filmmakers.

www.sebastopolfilmfestival.org

Earth Day

April 22, 2020 marks 50 years of Earth Day! We're getting a jump start with a free community celebration on April 11th in the parking lot of the Sebastopol Community Cultural Center. Activities include free document shredding by the Sonoma County Library, Laguna cleanup, tree planting, and more. See the City website for more details.



Moving Closer to Hiring a New Police Chief

With the retirement of Police Chief James Connor in December 2019, the Sebastopol Police Department is now actively recruiting for a new Chief of Police. Applications were accepted in January and February. Interviews are tentatively scheduled for March. For more information on the position and application process, visit: <https://ci.sebastopol.ca.us/Article/Police-Chief-Opening>



Sebastopol Chamber Community Awards

The 45th **Annual Community Awards** are on Thursday, March 19, 2020 at the Veterans Memorial Building. Winners are nominated, voted on and selected by the local community. Categories include Citizen of the year, Business of the year, Volunteer of the year and much more.



Bike to Work Day



The annual Bike to Work Day event takes place on Thursday, May 14, 2020. Details are still developing on activities planned for Sebastopol. Check the website for updates: <https://www.bikesonoma.org/btwd/> for more information.

Sebastopol Senior Center's Big Fundraiser

Sebastopol Senior Center is having their big fundraiser, Aged to Perfection, on May 16th at the Sebastopol Center for the Arts. The theme of this year's event is "Back to the 60's Beach Party" and features food, beverages, a raffle, silent auction, paddle raise, and 3 hours of awesome dance music with Pride & Joy. More information and tickets are available at <https://www.sebastopolseniorcenter.org/event-aged-to-perfection>.

