



November-December, 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!

## Micah & Michelle Sawyer are Locals Who Make A Difference

Micah and Michelle Sawyer were recognized as "Locals Who Make a Difference" honorees at the September 7



City Council meeting. They have shaped their lives around giving back to the community that they live in. Tireless volunteers, they focus their attentions on providing warm clothing and food to the local unhoused population, drug addiction prevention and awareness, and supporting youth through sports and agriculture

programs. Marked by the tragic loss of Micah's 22-year-old son Micah, Jr. to a fentanyl overdose in 2019, the Sawyers have created "Micah's Hugs." The 501c3 nonprofit is dedicated to raising awareness of addiction and mental health issues through education. Their hope is that removing the stigma that surround these issues will encourage those suffering from them to seek help. At the beginning of the pandemic, the couple temporarily closed the family construction business and spent much of their time and energy making and donating masks and hand sanitizer to those who needed them. Learn more about the Sawyers here: <https://bit.ly/3lyLa3i>. Do you know a member of our community who has made Sebastopol a better place to live? Nominate them on the Locals Who Make a Difference page on the city website. <http://bit.ly/SebLocals>.

## Harvest Café Open



Harvest Cafe at the Sebastopol Senior Center is now open Tuesday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. serving lunch on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and brunch on Wednesdays. The café is open to all, with to-go options available. Prices are

moderate: \$10 per meal or \$12 for non-members, for an entrée, dessert, and drink. All dishes are homemade by renowned Chef Gerald Lowe who focuses on using fresh local ingredients including cage-free eggs, free-range and grass-fed meats, and organic fruits and vegetables. Visit [www.sebastopolseniorcenter.com](http://www.sebastopolseniorcenter.com) for more details.

## 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.



## Historic Drought Continues and So Must Water Conservation

Sebastopol has been working hard to save water, but the historic drought continues and so must our water conservation efforts. With rainfall and water storage well below average for this time of year,



it's important we keep conserving water this fall. See the City's Water Conservation Page at [www.sebsaveswater.com](http://www.sebsaveswater.com) for actions you can take to reduce water usage and check out these indoor and outdoor water conservation tips from the Sonoma-Marín Saving Water Partnership at [www.savingwaterpartnership.org](http://www.savingwaterpartnership.org).

## Are You Earthquake Prepared?

Don't let an earthquake catch you off guard! The **California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES)** launched the first ever statewide public earthquake warning system, **Earthquake Warning California**. Californians can receive earthquake warn-

ings with the state's free **MyShake App**, which can be downloaded on the Apple App Store or Google Play on smartphones or tablets. The MyShake App is currently available in English and Spanish, with other languages in the works. The technology links mobile devices with ground sensors to send warnings to those in the nearby area when significant shaking is detected so that individuals have a few extra moments to take protective actions, such as to drop, cover, and hold on.

To learn more about Earthquake Warning California, the MyShake App, or the other earthquake warning resources, visit [earthquake.ca.gov](http://earthquake.ca.gov).

**Are you earthquake prepared?**

- Download the MyShake App**  
The free app is available on the Apple App Store and Google Play.
- Turn on location services**  
The app uses seismic sensors throughout California to alert users based on their location.
- Receive earthquake alerts**  
The app will automatically send users alerts for 4.5 magnitude or larger earthquakes.

**EARTHQUAKE WARNING CALIFORNIA**

## Business License Applications and Renewals

Our upgraded online business directory allows you to make it easier for your customers to find your business. Make sure that your business information is up to date by visiting the online portal at <http://bit.ly/BLWebApplication>



where you can also apply for a business license. Please make sure to fill out all applicable fields. Business License renewal notices will be sent electronically to the email info we have on file, so make sure your contact information is up to date. You can check and update your information at our renewals portal at <http://bit.ly/WebRenewals>. Give us a call at (707) 823-7863 with any questions. Visit <https://bit.ly/SebBusinessLicenseInfo> for more information.

## Chamber of Commerce Annual Tree Lighting & Holiday Celebration

This year's annual tree lighting and holiday celebration will be Thursday, December 2nd at 5pm. The festivities include a candle lighting, tree lighting, Santa's arrival on a fire truck, and a live performance. Visit the Chamber's website for details: [www.sebastopol.org](http://www.sebastopol.org).



## Stay Up-to-Date on Covid-19

Please visit [SocoEmergency.org](http://SocoEmergency.org) frequently for the most current information.



Read Sonoma County's Health Orders and Recommendations at: [socoemergency.org/emergency/novel-coronavirus/health-orders/](http://socoemergency.org/emergency/novel-coronavirus/health-orders/).

For information on COVID-19 and local vaccination clinics, visit [SoCoEmergency.org/vaccine](http://SoCoEmergency.org/vaccine).