



WINTER/SPRING 2019

VOLUME 17, ISSUE 1

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## Election Brings New Council Members & Laws

In the November 2018 election, City voters chose Yvette Brooks to join the City Council for her first four-year term. Voters also re-elected incumbent Council Member Jacques Bertrand for another four-year term and, after a few years break, returned Sam Storey to the City Council. These successful candidates join Ed Bottorff and Kristen Petersen to round out the five-member council.

The City bid a fond farewell to outgoing council members and long-time community leaders Stephanie Harlan and Michael Termini, who were ineligible to run due to term limits.

After seating the new members in December, the City Council selected Jacques Bertrand as mayor and Kristen Petersen as vice mayor for 2019.

Capitola voters also passed four ballot measures in the November election. Measure I created a retail cannabis tax that authorized the City to permit two retail locations in the northern 41<sup>st</sup> Avenue commercial area. Measure J increased the tax on hotel rooms and vacation rentals, with portions of the additional money reserved to support children's programs and local businesses. Measure K made the city treasurer an appointed position. Voters also approved Measure L, a citizen initiative regarding the rail corridor and trestle.

## Plans for Wharf Improvement Continue

Design efforts on the Wharf Improvement Project are moving forward.

The current focus is on identifying the historic elements of the wharf so that they can be properly addressed. Staff and contractors are also considering how to protect any new improvements, such as bathrooms or new structures, to ensure they are maintained in the event of sea level rise.

The historic report and design options should be ready for public review by March of 2019.



The Capitola Wharf in Winter.

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@CityOfCapitola



### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### Lincoln's Birthday & Presidents' Day

City Hall Closed  
February 12 & 18

#### Surfer's Path Run/Walk

Capitola Village  
Sunday, February 24

#### New Exhibit Reception

Capitola Historical Museum  
Saturday, March 16

#### Village Easter Egg Hunt

Capitola Main Beach  
Saturday, April 20

#### Citywide Garage Sale

Capitola  
April — date TBD

#### SC County History Fair

Jade St. Community Center  
Saturday, May 18

#### Surfer's Path Half/Marathon

Capitola Village  
May 18 & 19

#### Classic Car Show

Capitola Village  
June 8 & 9

Click on Calendar at [cityofcapitola.org](http://cityofcapitola.org) under the Resource Center tab to view an up-to-date & interactive Calendar of Events!

## Recent Road Projects

Over the past 15 months, two road improvement projects have been completed with funding from local and state transportation tax measures.

The City of Capitola installed a bike lane safety project at the Highway 1 over-and-underpasses and a citywide slurry seal project that resurfaced 2.5 miles of roads. These projects used \$285,000 in funds from Measure D, the Santa Cruz countywide transportation initiative approved in 2016, and \$60,000 from SB 1, a statewide transportation authority.

Funds from both the local and state programs are dedicated to transportation projects. The City annually adopts a five year expenditure program for the funds. Future projects scheduled to receive funding include improvements to Brommer Street, 42<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Diamond Avenue, and McGregor Drive.

## How to Receive Emergency Communication Information

Recent wildfires through the state have emphasized the need for all communities to familiarize themselves with emergency alert capabilities via personal cell phones and landlines.

Wireless Emergency Alerts, or WEAs, are sent by public safety officials directly to your cell phone to warn about safety threats in your area. Notice goes out to cell phones identifying safety concerns, evacuation routes, and other important information. All cell phones turned on and connecting with local cell towers in the affected area receive the alert, similar to AMBER alerts.

Most cell phones have been programmed to receive all emergency alerts. To confirm that the alert default setting on your cell

phone or other wireless device is turned on, follow the instructions from your wireless service provider.

In addition to wireless emergency alerts, the City of Capitola also utilizes Nixle and Facebook to communicate safety information and select community alerts to the public. To sign up for Nixle visit its website at [www.nixle.com](http://www.nixle.com) and click on the registration button.

Lastly, in the event of an emergency in the City of Capitola, public safety officials will also make use of the traditional "reverse 911" system to call all landlines in affected areas to provide safety alert information to residents with a landline.

## Remember: Only Rain Down the Drain

The City's storm drains carry rainwater flow directly to Soquel Creek and into Monterey Bay without receiving any type of treatment. Storm water pollution is toxic to fish and other wildlife and it degrades our beaches and ocean. During the winter it is especially important to keep pollution from washing down the storm drains.

**Report illegal dumping:** Illegal dumping is any substance, other than rain water, that is dumped into the storm drainage system or directly into a body of water. Paint, motor oil, and erosion sediment material are examples of substances that are often dumped illegally. *If you see someone dumping anything into a storm drain, report the incident immediately by calling the Capitola Public Works Department at 831-475-7300.*

Take precautions to control the following potential pollutants in water runoff:

**Pet Waste:** Dog waste left on the street or lawn does not just go away or fertilize the grass. The bacteria in dog

waste is often washed down the storm drains and into ditches, creeks, and the Monterey Bay, and can travel for miles in the water. Kitty litter dumped outside can also be washed into creeks. Bring plastic bags with you when you walk your dog. Pick up after your pet to keep our beaches open. Create a clean, sanitary play area for family activities, and ensure a healthier environment for us all.

**Herbicides & Pesticides:** The application of both herbicides and pesticides to your lawn and garden during the winter months can be very detrimental to the environment. Fertilizer can wash off the lawn and into the ground water, the nearest storm drain, or stream, adding unwanted nitrates to our local water bodies. Limited use and minimal application help protect water quality.

**Car Maintenance:** Keep your car maintained to prevent leaks of oil, antifreeze, and other fluids. Check your car regularly for leaks. Fluids from cars, such as oils, antifreeze, hydraulic fluid, and gas that leak on the roads, driveways, and parking lots only end up in our waterways.



## What's New at the Capitola Historical Museum?

### Spring Exhibit

Did you know that people have lived in this region for 13,000 years? Or that the locomotive that once pulled trains through Capitola is now in the Smithsonian? These are just two of the many topics that will be covered in this year's exhibition at the Capitola Historical Museum, titled *Capitola Obscura: Unusual and Little-Known Facts About Capitola's Past*.

"Even long-time residents are sure to learn something new," says Museum Curator Frank Perry. "It's going to be a fun topic."

The opening reception will be Saturday, March 16, noon to 2 p.m., and the exhibit will run through December. The Museum is at 410 Capitola Avenue and is open noon to 4 p.m., Thursday through Sunday.



The "Santa Cruz" Locomotive once came through Capitola.

### History Fair

On Saturday, May 18, the Capitola Historical Museum will be hosting the Santa Cruz County History Fair. More than 20 historical societies and museums from around the county will have displays of old photos, artifacts, and assorted memorabilia.

This is a great opportunity to get your local history questions answered and to learn about historical resources throughout the region. The free event will be at the Capitola Community Center in Jade Street Park, noon to 4 p.m.

## Capitola Recreation Grows to Suit Community

The City's Recreation Division is pleased to announce some exciting programming changes. The recently released Recreation Winter Brochure includes 15 new classes and, for the first time, workshops and a weekend event.

Recreation Division staff plan to continue developing new engaging recreation programs and events, potentially including after-school programs for youth, family events, and senior programs. At the same time, the City remains committed to providing the high-quality classes, Camp Capitola, and the Junior Guard program that are so valuable to our community.

This summer, Capitola Recreation saw the retirement of some long-term staff and welcomed a new recreation supervisor, Nikki Bryant LeBlond. Nikki began her career in recreation by coordinating aquatics and camp programs more than 25 years ago. After moving to Santa Cruz in 2004, Nikki served as the Director of Youth Programs for Hidden Villa in Los Altos Hills. She earned her BA in psychology and education at the University of North Texas and studied developmental psychology and social skills for her graduate work at the University of Texas at Arlington. Nikki is an ARC Lifeguard Instructor, USA Archery Level 2 Instructor, and has special interest in rock climbing and circus arts.

The public is encouraged to come to the Community Center at 4400 Jade Street to meet the Recreation Supervisor and provide feedback on what is desired from our recreation program. Or visit our website at [cityofcapitola.org/recreation](http://cityofcapitola.org/recreation).



Paint-Your-Pet, one of the 15 new classes Recreation offers.

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## City of Capitola

420 Capitola Ave.  
Capitola, CA 95010

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www.cityofcapitola.org



Named one of *Sunset* magazine's best beach towns with one of *USA Today's* best California beaches

## City Council

### MAYOR

Jacques Bertrand

### VICE MAYOR

Kristen Petersen

### COUNCIL MEMBERS

Ed Bottorff

Yvette Brooks

Sam Storey

### Email City Council:

citycouncil@ci.capitola.ca.us

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## Capitola Library Construction Underway

Construction is underway on Capitola's new library building at the corner of Wharf Road and Clares Street. The project should take approximately 14 months for building to complete, and then another two months for staff to set up the new library. During construction, traffic may be delayed in the area from time to time. Your cooperation and understanding is appreciated!

Follow construction progress and view a live-cam of the job site from a link on the Public Works page of the City of Capitola website.

## Thank You, Library Donors!

Rudolph Monte Foundation  
Ow Family Trust  
Linda and Larry Smith  
Lanai Financial — Christine McBroom  
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Ed Newman Charitable Family Trust  
Carey & Julie Williams  
Capitola Public Safety Foundation  
Friends of the Capitola Library  
Ted Burke  
Capitola Historical Museum & the van Zuiden Family  
Nels & Susan Westman, Carin Hanna & Duan Wallace in memory of Ray Westman  
Triad Electric  
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