Passage of Library Bond Supports New Capitola Library

On June 7, local voters approved the Measure S library bond, which will provide $62 million for library facility upgrades from Boulder Creek to La Selva Beach. Capitola is slated to receive $8 million of these funds to construct a permanent library building at the existing Wharf Road location.

The bond proceeds will be combined with $2.6 million the City has already set aside and will allow us to meet the 2019 deadline to begin construction of a permanent library.

Earlier this year, the City Council approved conceptual renderings for a new, modern building to replace the existing temporary modular library structure. The permanent library will provide small group meeting space, dedicated areas for children and teens, and community access to upgraded technology. This vision grew from an October 2015 public workshop.

With the passage of the bond, the City will return to the public for more specific input about the library design. That process will likely begin this winter.

Meanwhile, community members who wish to become involved with the Capitola Branch Library are invited to learn more through the local Friends of the Library chapter. Its Facebook page is www.facebook.com/CapitolaLibraryFriends

In addition, this year’s Monte Foundation fireworks display on Oct. 9 will raise funds for the new library.

Keep Capitola Beaches Safe on July 4th

The Fourth of July is a festive holiday, but those who wish to celebrate with fireworks or alcohol must avoid Capitola beaches. Our police department and City volunteers once again will be on hand to keep the day safe and fun by reminding visitors and residents that alcohol is not allowed on the beach and fireworks are prohibited throughout the city. Only safe and sane fireworks are permissible on private property.

Capitola beaches will close overnight from 10 p.m. to 4 a.m., and glass containers, dogs, open fires, and smoking are prohibited.
City Council, Treasurer Seats Open in November Election

On Nov. 8, 2016, Capitola voters will elect two City Council Members and one City Treasurer for four-year terms beginning in December 2016. Candidates must be 18 years of age or older, a resident, and registered voters in the City of Capitola.

The filing period for nomination papers is Monday, July 18, through Wednesday, Aug. 17. Nomination papers are issued and filed with the Capitola City Clerk and will be available beginning July 18. Appointments with the Clerk to pull papers are highly recommended, but not required. To schedule an appointment, please call (831) 475-7300.

The new 24-hour ballot drop box in the parking lot in front of City Hall will be available for November 2016 mail-in ballots.

Join the Historical Museum’s Birthday Bash July 9

When the Capitola Historical Museum first opened its doors on July 9, 1966, Capitola was booming. In fact, Capitola nearly doubled in population over the six years prior. Vacant lots were rapidly giving way to new shopping centers, apartment houses, homes, and mobile home parks.

Political controversies were frequent, including, believe it or not, whether or not the City should have a museum. Now, after hundreds of exhibits and several hundred thousand visitors, the museum turns 50. It is the third oldest of the 23 museums in Santa Cruz County.

To celebrate, come to the outdoor party July 9 in the parking lot at City Hall (next to the Museum at 410 Capitola Ave.) from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Enjoy birthday cake, special exhibits about Capitola in the 1960s, vintage 1966 automobiles and music, free hotdogs, and activities for children. The Museum will only turn 50 once, so don’t miss the fun!

Volunteers Undertake Peery Park Habitat Restoration

On Feb. 6 and April 16, local volunteers took steps towards returning Peery Park to a native riparian habitat by removing large sections of invasive English ivy. English ivy, known to environmentalists as the “green desert,” crowds out native plants that support local plant and wildlife habitats. Removing the ivy is the first step to native habitat restoration.

The next volunteer event will be Saturday, July 30, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Those interested in participating please contact Danielle Uharriet at duharriet@ci.capitola.ca.us or Peter Wilk at petergwilk@gmail.com. Training, tools, and gloves will be provided to those who wish to pitch in!

The restoration effort is sponsored by the City of Capitola and is coordinated by the Capitola Commission on the Environment.

Summer Water Pollution Prevention Tips

Please don’t feed the birds. As the seagull, pigeon, and other waterfowl populations increase along the creek and beach, water quality decreases noticeably.

Only Rain Down the Drain. Remember our storm drains are for storm water only, and allowing landscaping over watering, car wash rinse water, oils, paints, or any other liquids or debris in these systems adds to water pollution.

Work on Zoning Code Update Continues

In 2014, the City began a comprehensive update to its zoning code. Zoning is a tool used by cities and counties to promote orderly growth while protecting existing property owners and desired community character. It regulates how land may be used and controls the type, size, and height of buildings. Zoning also establishes standards for parking, signage, and landscaping.

A draft zoning code has been completed and is available for public review and comment. Planning Commission hearings to review the draft code are ongoing and are expected to conclude by July 2016. The City Council will then begin its review later in the summer and is expected to adopt a new code by late 2016 or early 2017.

Members of the public are encouraged to attend the hearings and share their opinions. For more information, please visit the Zoning Code Update page on the City website.
Capitola Works with Federal Representatives on Flight Path Concerns

In April, local Congressional representatives formed a select committee of local elected officials as part of the response to ongoing community concerns about increased airplane noise. The committee began public input meetings with the FAA in late May regarding a feasibility study to address the impact of the NextGen jet paths over Santa Cruz County and other portions of the Bay Area.

Capitola Mayor Ed Bottorff serves as one of the 12 members of the select committee, joining officials from other jurisdictions in Santa Cruz, Santa Clara and San Mateo counties. This committee will accept public input, and review and make recommendations on FAA proposals.

An estimated 500 people attended the May public meeting in Santa Cruz, and the outreach continued in other affected counties through June.

The feasibility study is available online. Visit Congressional Representative Anna Eshoo’s website www.eshoo.house.gov and search “feasibility.” To provide public input to the committee, contact our local committee member Ed Bottorff at ebottorff167@yahoo.com.

Progress Continues on Improvement Projects Throughout the City

Over the last six months, the City has spent $1.4 million on a number of improvement projects around town. An additional $2.1 million worth of improvements is either under construction or out to bid at this time. Overall 2000 tons of new asphalt has been put down, 400 feet of new sidewalk has been built, and new accessible pathways and ramps installed.

Below is a list of recently completed and upcoming projects. This work is paid for out of both the City’s General Fund and Measure O sales tax revenue.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Funded</th>
<th>Designed</th>
<th>Constructed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stockton Avenue &amp; Esplanade intersection improvements</td>
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<tr>
<td>38th Avenue paving</td>
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<td>Rosedale paving</td>
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<td>Rispin/Peery ADA phase 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>McGregor Multi-Use Park</td>
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<td>Under construction</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rispin/Peery ADA phase 1</td>
<td>√</td>
<td>√</td>
<td>Under construction</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jade Street tennis court resurfacing</td>
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<td>√</td>
<td>Out to bid</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rispin Mansion Park</td>
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<td>Out to bid</td>
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<td>Paving on Monterey Avenue, Park Avenue &amp; Kennedy Drive</td>
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<td>Out to bid</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hill Street improvements</td>
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<tr>
<td>Park Avenue Sidewalks</td>
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<td>In progress</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clares Street Improvements</td>
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Officers Recognized for Lifesaving Actions

This June, three Capitola Police officers received an award for lifesaving from the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors during Emergency Medical Services Week. Officers Minium, Evans, and Yeung responded quickly in what initially appeared to be a routine traffic stop, but turned into a matter of life and death.

The February incident began when Officer Kraig Evans spotted a vehicle that began driving erratically. Officer Evans pulled it over and was told by the driver that the back seat passenger was not breathing. Officer Evans acted heroically and quickly, pulling the nearly lifeless elderly man out of the vehicle and initiating CPR on the sidewalk of Soquel Drive.

Recent recruit Officer Jackie Yeung and Officer Kelly Minium soon arrived and began assisting with patient care, helping with family members, and controlling the scene.

Stay Connected with Your City

Want to know what’s happening in Capitola between newsletters? Our website now includes an easy location that centralizes the many ways you can keep track of what’s going on at City Hall. For example you can register for police alerts, find our social media pages, or sign up to receive the new City Manager’s Monthly Update.

Just look for the “Connect @ City of Capitola” button on the City’s homepage.