



CITY MANAGER UPDATE

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February 9, 2018

Community Services

Santa Rosa ESL and GED Classes expanding – Free adult ESL and GED Preparation classes began January 17 at the Community Center. The classes meet Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m., and Corazon Healdsburg offers free childcare to participants during class. There are 28 students enrolled in the ESL class and 19 students in the GED program. The classes are part of Santa Rosa Junior College's Adult Education Program. The semester run through May, and the program will return for the summer session.

Organic herbicide application pilot program -- As part of the City's elimination of glyphosate in public areas, staff worked with our landscaping contractor to implement an organic herbicide treatment pilot program at the Community Center. The organic product "SUPPRESS" is intended to combat weeds and invasive grasses that surface during the rainy months. The application will continue monthly through spring as we monitor its effectiveness for potential use elsewhere in the park system.

Feb. 10 Saturday Social, Happy Healthy Y-O-U! --The Senior Center continues its Saturday Social series with a focus on health and wellness. Activities include low/no cost hand massage, manicures, and healthy food and drink. Participants can speak to local health providers and enjoy samples from Nectary, The Council on Aging Bistro, Downtown Bakery and more while learning healthy tips and tricks from Senior Center instructors and local businesses. Activities will be held 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. No age limit; all are welcome.

Feb. 14: Parents' Night Out -- Community Services is offering a night of childcare (ages 3-10) at the Community Center so parents can spend a night out on the town for Valentine's Day. Childcare will be offered 6:30 – 9:30 p.m. and will supervised by our Recreation Leaders. The evening will include games, crafts, a movie and dinner for \$20. To reserve your child's spot, go to: <http://bit.ly/COHParentsNightOut>

Planning

720 Johnson Street -- A new single-family home is proposed in the Johnson Street historic district and will be considered by the Historic Committee/Planning Commission on February 13 at 6 p.m.

Farmworker Housing Land Use Code Amendment -- Planning staff proposes an amendment to this Land Use Code as current regulations don't allow any provision for employee housing of more than six employees. The code amendment would allow for larger employee housing facilities (7-12 residents), specifically for agricultural workers in the GMU district with a Conditional Use Permit.

The Oaks at Foss Creek -- The City's development team met with Doyle Heaton, the developer of the Oaks, this week to discuss comments on his revised housing proposal for 29 single-family homes. The applicant is targeting a public hearing date of March 13 for the Planning Commission.

Public Communication & Community Outreach

"Here in Healdsburg" series -- To date, staff has created nine photo essays/articles on local-business owners in our ongoing narrative series on the people behind Healdsburg's small businesses. This series is featured on Instagram (<https://www.instagram.com/cityofhealdsburg/>), on the City's main Facebook page, and on our website: www.hereinhealdsburg.com, which house the stories in full plus additional photos. Our latest story: Skip and Holly Brand and the Healdsburg Running Company. Please have a look, follow, and share!

Citizen survey -- City staff is working with consultant FM3 to create a citizen survey that gauges community sentiment on issues such as affordable housing, tourism, and City services. The online and phone survey (also translated into Spanish) is estimated to start mid-late February. Results will be presented to Council in late March.

Public Safety

Feb. 10 Sweetheart Breakfast -- The Healdsburg Firefighter's Association will hold its annual Sweetheart Breakfast along with the Love Run that will finish at the fire station. Enjoy pancakes, eggs, bacon and mimosas with your valentine. Tickets are \$10 and are available at the Healdsburg Fire Department or any Healdsburg firefighter. Each ticket includes one raffle ticket! This event is a fundraiser for the Healdsburg Firefighter's Association, which uses the money for things such as specialized equipment and training for the Reserve firefighters.

HFD wins 12th Annual Bucket Brigade Blood Drive Challenge -- For the first time, the Healdsburg Fire Department won first place in this challenge with 23 other fire departments across Sonoma, Lake, and Mendocino counties. We garnered 100 participants for our blood drive, which was held Jan. 24; Windsor won second place with 93 participants. The aim of this annual friendly competition is to bring attention to the need for blood donations and asking people to help: Nationwide, someone needs a unit of blood every few seconds.

Public Works

Steel plates on North Street -- City staff has installed steel plates on a small area of the road in front of SHED due to a sinkhole in the asphalt discovered some time ago. With the steel plates in place, the road is completely safe for vehicles. Later this month, staff will excavate this part of North St. to investigate, figure out the cause of the sinkhole, then create a repair plan.

Roundabout construction -- Now that work on the deep sewer and water lines is complete, Bay Cities is beginning to form and pour curb, gutter, and paving on East and West Mill, and is installing blocks for the stone wall on South Healdsburg Avenue.

Weekly roundabout construction updates -- City staff is working with GHD to create and deliver a weekly roundabout newsletter for local merchants. If you'd like to be added to the newsletter list, go to: https://tinyletter.com/City_of_Healdsburg. You can also view these updates on www.healdsburggaveimprovements.com.

Utilities

Hydro Energy -- City staff meet with the Sonoma County Water Agency (SCWA) regarding the potential purchase of hydro energy. SCWA operates a small hydro-electric facility at the Warms Springs Dam and is considering the sale of this energy.

Student Project on Recycled Water -- Through a controlled experiment, an inspired Healdsburg student has grown radishes using various types of water. Water and wastewater staff look forward to a taste test of radish grown with the City's recycled water and drinking water.