



CITY OF SEBASTOPOL PROCLAMATION

LYME DISASE AWARENESS MONTH — MAY, 2021

WHEREAS, COVID-19 Pandemic Shelter in Place has left us all longing to be outdoors and enjoying the beauty of our County; and

WHEREAS, with the slow and gradual opening of parks and hiking trails, and with the warm weather that increases outdoors activities, areas such as woods, fields, open areas may be inhabited or infested with ticks; and

WHEREAS, Lyme disease is a bacterial infection primarily transmitted by Ixodes ticks, also known as deer ticks, and on the West Coast, black-legged ticks; and

WHEREAS, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimate that 476,000 people are diagnosed with Lyme disease in the US every year; and

WHEREAS, ticks can transmit serious and potentially fatal diseases; and

WHEREAS, Persons with Lyme disease are frequently misdiagnosed with chronic fatigue syndrome, fibromyalgia, multiple sclerosis, and various psychiatric illnesses, including depression. Misdiagnosis with these other diseases may delay the correct diagnosis and treatment as the underlying infection progresses unchecked; and

WHEREAS, Lyme disease affects people of all ages. The CDC notes that it is most common in children, older adults, and others such as firefighters and park rangers who spend time in outdoor activities and have higher exposure to ticks; and

WHEREAS, persons are encouraged to take all tick-borne diseases seriously; and

WHEREAS, the best protections against tick-borne diseases are prevention, education and early treatment.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT I, Mayor Una Glass, do hereby proclaim the month of May 2021 as Lyme Disease Awareness Month and encourage all community members to prevention and protect themselves from tick-borne diseases.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the Great Seal of the City of Sebastopol this 4th day of May 2021.

Una Glass
Mayor