

Agenda Report Reviewed by:  
City Manager: 

CITY OF SEBASTOPOL  
CITY COUNCIL  
AGENDA ITEM

Meeting Date: March 5, 2019  
 To: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers  
 From: Kari Svanstrom, Planning Director  
 Subject: Annual Peace Wall Honorees *KS*  
 Recommendation: Accept Nominations  
 Funding: Currently Budgeted: \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No  N/A

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

The Sebastopol Living Peace Wall is located on City property, at the southeast corner of McKinley Avenue and Petaluma Avenue. The Peace Wall is intended to honor efforts to promote peace.

As approved by the City Council, the persons proposed to be honored on the Peace Wall are required to be reviewed by the City Council, since the Wall is located on public property. As described in the attached submittal, the Sebastopol Living Peace Wall Committee has submitted four names proposed to be inscribed on the Wall:

- Jim Corbett
- Lynn Woolsey
- Tula Jaffe
- Dr. Earl Herr

The attached submittal provides information about each proposed honoree.

ATTACHMENTS:

Proposed Peace Wall Honorees

The City of Sebastopol  
2/4/19

Att: Kari Svanstrom  
ksvanstrom@cityofsebastopol.org

RE: Sebastopol Living Peace Wall  
2019 Honorees

The Sebastopol Living Peace Wall Selection Committee was convened on  
January 21, 2019.

The committee members present were:

Michael Gillotti, Chairman, Richard Retecki Vice Chairman, Paul Robbins from  
the Redwood Friends group, Rev. Judith Stone, Ret., Alice Waco from the Sonoma  
County Peace and Justice Center

After a thorough review and discussion of the nominees, the following four persons  
were selected to be honored for the year 2019. Upon your approval their names will be  
inscribed onto the Living Peace Wall and added to the roll of honorees on the peace  
wall web site, [www.sebastopolivingpeacewall.com](http://www.sebastopolivingpeacewall.com).

Thank you for your consideration and for your support in promoting the cause of peace  
and justice by honoring those who have who dedicated their lives to this cause.

1. **Jim Corbett**
2. **Lynn Woolsey**
3. **Tula Jaffe**
4. **Dr. Earl Herr**

**BIOS:**

**1. Jim Corbett**

A local Sebastopol peace activist, Jim has contributed countless time over enumerable  
years to serving the community. As founder of the Love Choir he has helped spread  
peace through love and song. The motto of The Love Choir is "making peace and love,  
one song at a time". In addition he was instrumental in Sebastopol being named Peace  
Town USA and his summer Peace Town Concerts are a wonderful environment for the  
community to gather and celebrate together.

Further, for many years he has been involved with music in the schools and in helping children learn and play music as well as acquire musical instruments. His Peace Garden behind the Community Center is a wonderful place for people to go within and reflect on the peace within each of us, always the first step in creating a more peaceful world.

Finally, Jim is truly an asset to our community and is truly deserving to be honored and recognized for his service.

## **2. Lynn Woolsey**

As a former member of the House of Representatives from Petaluma, Lynn worked tirelessly for peace and justice, along with many other important issues. In 2004 a year after the war in Iraq started, she rose on the house floor each day that Congress was in session and called for an end to the war. She shared at the time that “. . . these wars are eroding our spiritual core; bankrupting us morally and fiscally; teaching our children that warfare is the new normal.”

She co-founded the Out of Iraq caucus and in January, 2005 was the first member of Congress to call for a withdrawal from Iraq. Her daily speeches on the house floor led to the San Jose Mercury News calling her “The unofficial matriarch of the anti-war movement”.

Instead of war Lynn promoted finding non military solutions to conflicts such as promoting reconciliation, economic development, humanitarian aid and regional diplomacy.

In addition to her work for peace she has advocated for conservation and clean, renewable energy sources, as well as for children and families.

## **3. Tula Jaffe**

Tula was a passionate advocate for social justice and humanitarian causes who spent more than fifty years fighting for global peace and working to elevate the causes of social, political and environmental issues. She passed away last November.

From 1982 to 1989 Tula directed the Sonoma County Chapter of WAND (Women's Acton for Nuclear Disarmament), founded nationally by Dr. Helen Caldicott. Among her many activities related to Nuclear Disarmament, she led a successful effort to have the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors support a freeze on the building and testing of Nuclear weapons, organizing 200 demonstrators to gather at the County chambers

From 1989 to 1998 she coordinated the Sonoma County Task Force on the Homeless, and was an instrumental figure in the founding of the Sonoma County Peace and Justice Center

During her years as an activist, she earned many awards and honors, including the Sonoma County "Women of Achievement" Award and Congresswoman Barbara Boxer's "Women Making History" Award.

#### **4. Dr. Earl Herr**

Earl was born into a Mennonite family in Pennsylvania, who traditionally have opposed war. Therefore, when he turned 18 and received his draft notice, he registered as a Conscientious Objector and performed two years of alternative service. During the Vietnam War, Earl demonstrated regularly against what he considered an unjust conflict and was beaten and arrested in San Francisco for his non-violent demonstrations against the war.

He later moved to Sonoma County where he helped found the Peace and Justice Center in Santa Rosa and served on its board of directors for many years.

As a physician, he traveled several times to Central American to provide medical care for those caught up in the Contra War. He even immersed himself in Spanish so he could be more effective.

Among other things, Earl also participated in the struggle of the Sonoma County farmworkers to obtain fair pay and safe working conditions and volunteered at the Jewish Community Free Clinic which provided free medical care to the uninsured.