

STAR



City of Brisbane Monthly Newsletter
January 2023 Volume 20, Issue 1

City Council Reorganization



Mayor Madison Davis



Mayor Pro Tem Terry O'Connell

At the December 15th City Council Meeting, we recognized outgoing Mayor Coleen Mackin for her year of service as Mayor during 2021-2022. During that time, Councilmember Mackin was the leading voice of encouragement for Brisbane community members to get involved in their communities, watch City Council meetings, serve on Commissions and Committees, write to City Council, and participate in the democratic process as much as possible. Councilmembers Davis and O'Connell were elected as the Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem for 2022-2023. To learn more about the Brisbane City Council, please visit brisbaneca.org/citycouncil. There you will also find information on how you can join their

Council Meetings (to join via Zoom, bookmark the link brisbaneca.org/cc-zoom), which are generally held on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 7:30pm. *Their meeting of January 19, 2023 will be held as a hybrid meeting (you can join in-person at City Hall, or remotely over Zoom).*



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BRISBANE
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or @brisbaneca in the Search bar



HAPPY
New Year

Important Holiday Service Information from South San Francisco Scavenger Company

- ❄️ There will be **NO CHANGE** in collection service days during the weeks of Christmas and New Year's.
- ❄️ Blue Line Transfer will be closed on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve. It will be open with regular hours (6 am - 4:30 pm) on December 26 and January 2.
- ❄️ Christmas trees will be recycled after the holidays!
 - ◆ Remove the stand and all decorations including lights and tinsel.
 - ◆ Cut tree in half if taller than 6 feet.
 - ◆ Do not bag or tie your tree.
 - ◆ Place tree on or near the curb on your regular collection day before 5 am.
 - ◆ An appointment is required to have trees picked up from multifamily residential complexes and businesses. Please call ahead to schedule!

Happy Holidays from our family to yours!



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Star Maker Bob Wilson and Partner Extraordinaire/ Marketeer, Alison Wilson

Brisbane got its nickname, the "City of Stars" because of the tradition of placing large, wood-frame stars atop rooftops of homes and businesses. Many stay up year-round now. Brisbane's first star appeared in 1939 when Mr. Gagnier on Kings Rd. put up a large green star during the holidays. Arthur Kennedy, who was a member of the Brisbane Chamber of Commerce liked the idea, and the following year, the Chamber built 20 stars and passed them out free of charge to residents. The tradition was born.

Brisbane's lit stars have become a display not only of holiday cheer, but also of pride. The City, Chamber, Brisbane Hardware, and "Star Maker" Bob Wilson work together to ensure this Christmas-time tradition continues. It's oft-heard that the spectacle of stars twinkling against the backdrop of San Bruno Mountain is one that many, near and far, look forward to seeing each year. The stars even caught the attention of Bianca Taylor of Bay Curious who came to the Festival of Lights in 2018 and interviewed former Mayor W. Clarke Conway (you can see her piece here: kqed.org/news/11712325/how-brisbane-became-the-city-of-stars).

So before we leave this holiday season and embark on what 2023 has in store, we wanted to learn more about Star Maker Bob Wilson and his wife, Alison, who together have accomplished some truly extraordinary things. They are but two of the real luminaries that shine on the slopes of the "City of Stars".

STAR: When did Bob start helping make the wood-frame stars?

AW: In 1997, Frank Walch asked Bob to help with the crafting of the stars. He asked me to take over the phone calls and list that year. In 2000, Bob became the Brisbane Star Maker. Frank brought over his last 12-foot star and passed the baton to Bob. In 2019, Dan Sorrentino began picking up the lumber from Golden State Lumber to bring to our home. We ask for donations for the Brisbane Scholarship Fund and stress the stars are FREE, a gift to the community by Brisbane Chamber businesses – Golden State Lumber, Brisbane Hardware, Dan Sorrentino, Alison Wilson Communications, and Star Maker Bob Wilson. Thank you to the Brisbane Chamber for continuing this program.

STAR: Where can people go if they're still in need of a star for their home or business?

AW: 480 Monterey St. I ask that people email me at alison@alisonbiztips.com or call (415) 640-9875.

STAR: Bob truly has a heart to serve. What was he recently honored with at the 2022 Veterans Awards Gala?

AW: Bob is a 1949-1954 Korean War Veteran and received the prestigious Korean Ambassador Peace Medal at the OneVet OneVoice Veterans Community Awards Gala that was held on November 9, 2022, at the San Francisco War Memorial Veterans Building. The gala certainly exhibited the much-deserved appreciation and respect for the men and women who serve and protect our community and the freedoms we hold dear.

STAR: It also seems that Bob is passionate about filling peoples' lives with joy and security.

AW: It's true. When Bob moved to Brisbane from San Francisco in 1978, he continued his passion of making his community a better place. He ran the Brisbane Lions Holiday Tree lot for 20 years, and today, he continues to dye Easter eggs for the Brisbane Lions Easter Egg Hunt, in addition to being an active member of the club at the age of 91. On a side note, we moved to Brisbane because the homeowners association we were a part of San Francisco did not allow foster care and we had adopted three foster children, ages 4, 3, and 17 days old!



Alison and Bob at the Veterans Awards Gala with Margaret K. Lee, CEO, World Stars; Courtney Ellington, CEO OneVet OneVoice; and Eduardo "Eddie" Ramirez, founder of OneVet OneVoice



The Wilsons receiving the Brisbane Volunteer of the Year Award in 2003.

STAR: You (Alison) are often behind the camera and doing creative work. Where can one learn more about your work?

AW: I am a marketer and own a small business, Alison Wilson Communications. In short, I care about helping others connect the dots to meet and achieve the outcomes and results they want. You can learn more at alisonbiztips.com.

And there you have it. You can see that the Wilsons make a wonderful duo and have a strong desire to serve and improve their community where they can (together they were awarded the Volunteer of the Year award in 2003)! Thank you both for all of your dedicated service.★

Capital Projects Charge Reflected on Utility Bills in Late December

The City Council voted to implement the second of four Capital Fee Charges for the Utility Fund on October 6, 2022, which are being phased in over a 17-year period to pay for improvements to:

- The City’s aging water and wastewater systems such as an Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) system that will provide improved operational efficiency and allow customers to view near real-time consumption data and potentially save costs by way of leak detection availability
- The Glen Park Pump Station upgrade
- Ongoing water and sewer pipeline replacements

The cost of these projects above is \$5,000,000. The rates are graduated based on springtime usage (mid-February - mid-June) which ensures lower water users will pay less than higher users. See the City’s website for the actual rates at brisbaneca.org/capital-projects-charge. Utility customers should see this second Capital Fee Charge for the Utility Fund issued in December 2022. If you have any questions, please reach out to Senior Accounting Assistant Ligia Ferreira at (415) 508-2154 or lfereirra@brisbaneca.org.

Did you know that the City offers a Low Income Rate Assistance (LIRA) Program for utility bills? The Low Income Rate Assistance (LIRA) Program is offered to current City of Brisbane Water & Sewer customers who are enrolled in PG&E’s Care Discount Program. Once a customer is enrolled in the LIRA program, discounts will go into effect starting the next billing period.

To enroll in LIRA, a customer must provide the City of Brisbane a current copy of a qualifying PG&E bill that:

1. Has a Name and Service Address that Matches the Name and Service Address on the Brisbane Utility Account
2. Indicates Customer is Currently receiving PG&E’s CARE Discount

Customers can apply for PG&E’s CARE discount program and/or find out if you are eligible at pge.com/CARE or by calling 1-866-743-2273.

For questions about the City of Brisbane LIRA Discount Program, please contact the City of Brisbane Utility Billing Department at (415) 508-2154.





January 2023 City Calendar

The City's **Meals for Seniors Lunch Program** takes place **Mondays** from **12-12:45pm** outside the Senior Sunrise Room (2 Visitacion Ave.) for drive-thru/walk-up pickup. In-person **Senior Lunch** is every **Wednesday at 11:30am** at the Community Center.

The **Brisbane Farmers' Market** takes place **Thursdays** from **2-6pm** in the Community Park (5 Old County Road, Brisbane).

See brisbaneca.org/calendar for more information on all the above and the following items.

Meeting Agendas may be viewed online at brisbaneca.org/meetings at least 24 hours prior to a Special Meeting, and at least 72 hours prior to a Regular Meeting.

02, Monday, All Day

City Hall Closed in Observance of New Year's

04, Wednesday, 6:30pm

Complete Streets Safety Committee Meeting, B

11, Wednesday, 6:30pm

Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting, B

12, Thursday, 7:30pm

Planning Commission Meeting, B

16, Monday, All Day

City Hall Closed in Observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day

18, Monday, 6pm

Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accountability (IDEA) Committee Meeting

19, Thursday, 7:30pm

City Council Meeting, B

23, Monday, 4:30pm

Public Art Advisory Committee Meeting

25, Wednesday, 6:30pm

Open Space and Ecology Committee Meeting, B

26, Thursday, 7:30pm

Planning Commission Meeting, B

28, Saturday, 7:30pm

Artists' Evening of Sharing | brisbaneca.org/aes

B = Broadcast live on Comcast Ch. 27 and YouTube

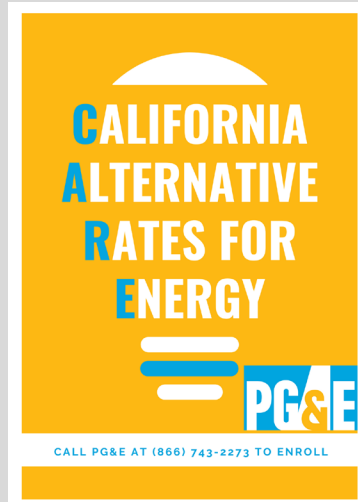
City Hall Walk-In Service Hours – 3 days/week: M: 9am – 4pm, W: 9am-7pm, Th: 9am – 4pm. Please see all services that can be conducted remotely at brisbaneca.org/online-services.

Do you have questions about the STAR or have an article to suggest? Articles are due by the 15th of each month. Contact Caroline Cheung at ccheung@brisbaneca.org or (415) 508-2157.



DID YOU KNOW...

That the City of Brisbane offers a Low Income Rate Assistance (LIRA) for Utility Bills



brisbaneca.org/lira

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Brisbane Library Calendar – January 2023

SPECIAL EVENTS

Tuesday, January 24 from 1:30pm – White Crane Lion Dance

The famous SF Leung's White Crane will bring you a traditional lion dance to celebrate Lunar New Year. All ages are welcome.

Wednesday, January 25 at 3:30pm – Paws for Tales

Do you have a reluctant reader? Sign your child up for a 10-minute session to practice reading with a therapy dog at the library. We'd like to thank our partners for making this possible: Pet Assisted Therapy teams and their handlers from the Peninsula Humane Society & SPCA's Paws for Tales program. Registration is required, and space is limited, so register early at smcl.org/events

Keep an eye out for more fun events that we're planning to bring to Brisbane Library at smcl.org!

RECURRING EVENTS

Tuesdays at 1:30pm, except January 24 – Family Storytime

Come along on an imaginary adventure for Family Storytime. Hear new stories, sing songs, and learn wiggles that the whole family can enjoy together, from toddlers to grown-ups.

Thursdays at 11:30am - Baby Bounce and Rhyme Time

Bring your bouncing baby to our weekly playtime, full of nursery rhymes and songs you can do together to stimulate your baby's development. Ideal for newborns up to 18 months old.

Monday, January 9 at 11am – Yoga

Interested in learning how to do yoga or already have a practice, and want to join others in your community? Please bring your own towel or mat. Register at smcl.org/events

Wednesday, January 18 at 11am – Tai Chi

Learn about the Chen-style Taijiquan (Tai Chi) form, Silk-reeling Exercises and Wuji Qigong. Chen-style Taijiquan is widely acknowledged as the ancestor of all other styles of Taijiquan.

POWER UP AFTERNOONS

Join us for Power Up Afternoons! We have fun drop-in experiences available for kindergarten through high school students every day after school. Take a study break to relax with free-form art or experience hands-on STEAM activities.

Mondays from 3-5pm – Calm Corner

Study with your buddy or take a brain break in this calm corner of the library.

Tuesdays from 3-5pm – Game On

Solve a lockbox Challenge, puzzles, board games and more.

Thursdays from 3-5pm – Lego Club

Design and create from your imagination at Lego Club!

Fridays from 3-5pm – What Will You Create?

Ease into the weekend with a fun, creative activity.

Wednesday, January 11 from 2:30-4:30pm – Pipe Cleaner Animals

Explore your creativity and try doing wire sculpting to make an animal or creature from your imagination.

Wednesday, January 18 from 2:30-4:30pm – Create Kindness Clothespins

Spread a message of kindness! We're decorating clothespins with uplifting messages to share with friends.

Wednesday, January 25 from 2:30-3:30pm – Art Table

Explore the process of creation in an open-ended art project.

Please note the Brisbane Library will be closed

Sunday, January 1, 2022 - Monday, January 2, 2023, for New Year's and Sunday, January 15, 2023 - Monday, January 16, 2023, in honor of Martin Luther King Day.



Buddy is Brisbane's volunteer dog for the monthly Paws for Tales program.



ARTISTS'
EVENING
of SHARING

saturday

JAN 28

7:30PM

MISSION BLUE

*Join us for an inspiring
showcase of local artists,
musicians, performers,
filmmakers, and writers.*

*No admission fee. All
ages welcomed!*

Housing Element Update!

The draft 2023-2031 Housing Element (Housing Element) is scheduled for public hearing at the Planning Commission on January 12, 2023, at 7:30 pm. The meeting will be held virtually via Zoom. Visit the City Meetings Directory webpage, brisbaneca.org/meetings, after close of business on Friday, January 6th to read the agenda report and for information on how to participate in the virtual meeting. The Planning Commission will consider the draft Housing Element and provide a recommendation to City Council regarding its adoption.

If you've been tracking the progress of the Housing Element update over the course of the past year, you may recall that City Council reviewed the draft Housing Element in October 2022 and directed that it be submitted to the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) as required for an initial 90-day review period, during which HCD will review the housing element to determine if it complies with State law. HCD's deadline to provide comments to the City on the draft Housing Element is January 5. HCD rarely accepts a Housing Element upon the first submittal.

Per State law, cities in the Bay Area have until January 31, 2023, plus a 120-day grace period (or May 31, 2023) to have a certified element. City staff initially anticipated using the full extent of the grace period to allow for Planning Commission and City Council review of the first round of HCD comments and hold the necessary public hearings for adoption of an updated version of the Housing Element.

However, a recent interpretation of state housing element law by HCD staff suggests that the City must adopt a compliant Housing Element by January 31, 2023, without regard to the 120-day grace period. Failure to adopt the Element by the deadline could leave the City's Housing Element out of compliance with state law and expose the City to the so-called "builder's remedy", whereby housing developers who comply with certain affordability standards can ignore local zoning requirements.

Based on this recent interpretation and in an effort to limit risk to the City, the Housing Element adoption process is being accelerated, beginning with the above-noted January 12th Planning Commission meeting. Further details regarding scheduling will be provided following the January 12th hearing. If you have questions or comments, please use the



Community Development Department's Contact Form at brisbaneca.org/CD-Contact-Form, or mail your questions or comments to: Community Development Department, City of Brisbane, 50 Park Place, Brisbane, CA 94005. For a comprehensive overview of the Housing Element update process, including links to prior public meetings and workshops, and to sign up for notifications of Housing Element updates and public meetings, visit brisbaneca.org/housingelementupdate.

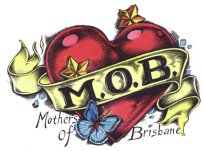
A promotional banner for a housing element update meeting. The background is dark blue with a white circular graphic on the left containing a house model and the date 'JAN. 12'. The text 'HOUSING ELEMENT UPDATE!' is at the top in white, and 'HOUSING ELEMENT IMPORTANT MEETING' is in the center in white and green. A QR code is on the right with a white arrow pointing to it. Below the QR code is the text: 'OPEN YOUR CAMERA APP, POINT IT AT THE CODE, AND TAP THE BANNER THAT APPEARS TO VIEW THE PAGE, BRISBANECA.ORG/HOUSINGELEMENTUPDATE'.



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AGES:
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Infants under 6m
free!

ADMISSION

Costs are per child

Season Pass: \$32
(8 sessions total)

Drop Ins: \$5

Siblings get 50% off

Saturdays 9:30 am - 11 am

Winter/Spring 2023 Dates: Feb 4th & 18th | Mar 11th & 25th
Apr 1st & 22nd | May 6th & 20th

Brisbane Community Center
250 Visitation Ave.

For more details contact:
mobplaygym@gmail.com

Sign up online @ www.brisbaneca.org/playgym

Come!



AHEAD OF OUR TIME

Reflections on Diversity

& Celebrate!



Carol Badran

Sunday Jan 22, 2023 1 to 4pm

Music by John Worley
& the Mo-Chi Ensemble
Book Signing, Readings, Q&As,
Refreshments, No Host Bar

Sierra Point Yacht Club
500 Sierra Pt Pkwy, Brisbane CA

Join us in celebrating author Carol Badran!

Carol will discuss how today's struggle with racial inequity inspired this book and how we can shape a better future. "Storytelling is important. These stories are snapshots of the lives of 41 people whose lives intersected at Jefferson High School between 1968 to 1972..."

M.O.B. Shop

Friday 2/10/2023 from 12PM-5PM
Saturday 2/11/2023 from 10AM-3PM
@ Mission Blue

Come and shop for gently-used clothing for kids and adults! All proceeds will benefit the Mothers of Brisbane, a local 501(c)(3) and non-profit.



DID YOU KNOW...

You can stay connected with us on Instagram and other social media outlets?



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Nextdoor

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