The Brooks Blotter

A summary of news & events from the Office of Pouncil Member Desley Brooks

Oakland Featured In US Airways Inflight Magazine

The January 2014 issue of US Airways inflight magazine features a 20-page editorial profile on Oakland. The City of Oakland is among the sponsors of this exciting editorial coverage on our city coordinated by Visit Oakland. This coverage is visible to more than 6 million passengers who board US Airways planes this month. Visit Oakland worked directly with the editors and art directors from US Airways magazine to tell its audience of affluent, travel-aficionados why Oakland is not to be missed. The City's Cultural Arts & Marketing staff helped sponsor the four-page arts & culture section and worked with the magazine's editors to provide content and images. To view the editorial profile, please visit http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/pace/usairways_january2014/#/54.

Oakland Police Department Promotional Ceremony

On Friday, January 17, Interim Chief Sean Whent led one of the Department's largest promotion ceremonies, honoring 39 sworn members and civilian employees. Promotions were made to the rank of sergeant, lieutenant, captain and several civilian manager positions. The ceremony brought cheers from the crowd as Chief Whent announced the names of the newly promoted. Congratulations to these men and women. They will assist the Police Department as we continue making positive strides in crime reduction, community relationship building and compliance with the Negotiated Settlement Agreement. The ceremony was held in Council Chambers at Oakland City Hall. For additional details regarding the ceremony, please visit OPD's website at www.facebook.com/pages/Oakland-Police-Department-Oakland-CA/391011254354978.

Happy Chinese New Lunar Year 2014 - Year of the Horse

On **Saturday, February 8th**, the Oakland Asian Cultural Center (OACC), is bringing in the Year of the Horse with their 10th Annual Lunar New Year Festival. You can support OACC by attending their upcoming Lunar New Year celebration, volunteering, and donating to support their classes, exhibits, collaborative projects, school tours, and Mapping Morsels project. The festival will include performances from wonderful local talent like Seibi Lee (Indian Kathak dance), Shirley Muramoto (Japanese koto), Ong Dance Company, Emeryville Taiko (taiko drumming), and Cynthia Lin (singersongwriter). A Free Daytime Festival is happening at the Oakland Asian Cultural Center, 388 9th Street, Suite #290 on Saturday, February 8th (11am-4pm), and an Evening Benefit Concert from 7pm-9pm. The evening benefit concert will be preceded by a reception at 6pm and will be followed by a dessert bar. For more information on the day festival, evening benefit concert, to purchase tickets and for donations to OACC, please visit their Facebook page at http://oacclny2014.eventbrite.com.

Oakland Museum joins in the New Lunar Year Celebrations

On Sunday, February 9, Noon - 4:30 p.m., the Oakland Museum is celebrating the Chinese New Lunar Year - Year of the Horse with a day of Asian New Year traditions for the whole family. For more information, visit www.museumca.org.

Oakland City Hall Celebrates 100 years (1914-2014)

Learn the history of our current, and Oakland's fifth, City Hall at the Oakland History Room. The exhibit, "Oakland City Hall Centennial, 1914—2014," will relate the story of how City Hall was built and the major events that have occurred in around our chief administrative building. Featured in the display will be photographs of the four previous city halls, photographs and floor plans of the current building's construction, news articles, building statistics, and vintage postcards. **MAIN LIBRARY**, Oakland History Room, 125 14th Street, 2nd Floor. Exhibit ends Friday, February 28, 2014.

Making a Difference in Young People's Lives

On Thursday, January 9, 57 Hoover Elementary School students proudly participated in a Gang Resistance Education and Training (GREAT) program graduation ceremony. Their instructor, Oakland Police Officer JuMaal Hill, handed out diplomas and congratulated the young people for their hard work. The GREAT curriculum, taught by uniformed officers, is designed to prevent middle and elementary school children from getting involved in drugs, gangs, violence and other destructive behaviors. For information about future classes or to enroll, please contact the Oakland Police Activities League (PAL) at (510) 615-5758 or visit https://www.oaklandpal.org/home. To view photos from the ceremony, please visit OPD's Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/pages/Oakland-Police-Department-Oakland-CA/391011254354978. For more information, please contact Sgt. Holly Joshi, OPD Chief of Staff, at https://www.balandnet.com or (510) 238-3131.

Local Teen Named 2014 "Great American Museum Advocate"

On Tuesday, January 14, the American Alliance of Museums selected the first Great American Museum Advocates from nominations submitted by museums across the country. Simone Batiste, a teen volunteer at the Chabot Space & Science Center, is one of only two chosen this year to travel to Washington D.C., where she will present remarks at a gathering of several hundred museum professionals and members of Congress on Museum Advocacy Day, February 25. A resident of Oakland and sophomore at the Athenian School, Simone is passionate about science, a pursuit sparked and nurtured at the Center. Her affinity for the Center began at age 5, when she attended science camp at the museum. It was an awakening for the budding scientist. To read the media release on the announcement, please visit http://www.chabotspace.org/press-releases 61.htm. Congratulations Simone!

East Bay SPCA Open House

Saturday, January 25, 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at Education and Training Center, 8323 Baldwin Street. The Open House celebrates the launch of several new children's programs offered at East Bay SPCA's new Education and Training Center and will include animal meet and greets, an animal career talk, make and take crafts for kids, shelter tours and refreshments. For more info, please call (510)563-4611.

4th Annual Oakland Restaurant Week

Sunday, January 26, is the last day to check out the 4th Annual Oakland Restaurant Week. More than 50 of Oakland's top restaurants offer a variety of special deals and fixed-priced lunch and dinner options priced at \$20, \$30 or \$40. Some of the participating restaurants are also donating portions of their sales to Oakland non-profits and schools. It is a great opportunity to experience Oakland's dining scene that has propelled our city to become one of the hottest culinary destinations in the U.S. Reservations are encouraged. Last year, Oakland Restaurant Week generated more than \$300,000 in revenue for Oakland restaurants. For more information on participating restaurants go to http://visitoakland.org/restaurantweek.

Oakland A's 2014 FanFest

On Saturday, February 8, from 10:00 a.m.to 4:00 p.m., the Oakland A's host their annual FanFest with current and former players on hand plus autograph sessions. This will take place at the O.co Coliseum and the Oracle Arena, 7000 Coliseum Way. For more information, please visit http://oakland.athletics.mlb.com/oak/fan_forum/fanfest.jsp.

Arts Commission Hosts "Poetry Out Loud"

The Alameda County Arts Commission is hosting the 4th Annual Alameda County Poetry Out Loud Competition, open to all county high school students grades 9-12. All interested students must confirm their participation with the Office of the Alameda County Arts Commission by **Friday**, **January 31**st. The competition will take place on Feb. 19. Poetry Out Loud is an annual program that celebrates youth and poetry. The competition is designed to build on that momentum by inviting the dynamic aspects of slam poetry, spoken word and theater into California classroom. School winners advance to the county competition. The county winner then advances to the state competitions at the State Capitol in Sacramento in late march, and finally to the National Finals in late April. For more information, visit www.acgov.org/arts, or contact the Alameda County Arts Commission by calling 510-208-9646 or email artscommission@acgov.org.

Invitation to a Celebration of Volunteerism- January 30

The Oakland Parks Coalition (OPC) invites you to their Annual Meeting -Thursday, January 30th, 5:15pm to 7:10 pm, at the Garden Center in Lakeside Park (Ebell Room), 666 Bellevue Ave, Oakland. The traditional approach to maintenance of municipal parks is undergoing a quiet revolution all over this country. Because many cities are struggling to pay for basic services such as park maintenance, city officials are looking for ways to compensate for loss of services and volunteerism is getting a lot of serious attention. At this year's OPC Annual Meeting on January 30th, you will hear from a panel of three Bay Area park officials who will discuss their experience with volunteerism and its present and future role in the panoply of approaches to keeping our parks viable. The distinguished panel includes:

Kimberly Kiefer, Deputy Director for the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department's Volunteer Program that supports 157,000 hours of volunteer service to the 220 parks and recreation centers in that city; **Jim Ryugo**, recently retired from the City of Oakland, where he worked for 24 years in the Office of Parks and Recreation and nine years for Public Works where he was responsible for

maintaining 134 parks and public grounds and over 100 street medians; **Mike Perlmutter**, who serves as the Environmental Stewardship Team Supervisor for the City of Oakland Public Works Agency which supports community and volunteer efforts to clean, green and beautify Oakland.

The OPC Annual meeting will begin with member registration, refreshments and a brief report on OPC activities. A panel discussion on volunteerism will follow and conclude with a tribute to OPC Park Stewards. (All those who pay this year's membership dues of \$20 will be eligible for the drawing of a selection of enticing gifts at the end of the meeting). *Your RSVP* will be much appreciated.

PWA's 2014 Bulky Pickup Program

Public Works Agency mailed out an announcement to the occupants of 90,000 Oakland single-family residences (1-4 units), including owner-occupied and rental properties notifying them of the 2014 Bulky Pick up Program. Oakland residents can call (510) 613-8710 to schedule a pickup appointment. For more information on the guidelines and for any questions you may have about the program, please contact PWA's Recycling Hotline, at 238-SAVE (7283) or recycling@oaklandnet.com.

Update Regarding LED Lighting Conversion Project

The City of Oakland is currently converting 30,000 existing High Pressure Sodium (HPS) cobra head streetlights with Light Emitting Diode (LED) streetlights citywide. This project does not include ornamental lighting such as the fixtures near Broadway (Downtown Oakland) and the fixtures surrounding Lake Merritt. Replacement of the existing streetlight fixtures with the new LED fixtures provides a better quality of light that will enhance public safety. In addition, the conversion project saves resources as the new LED technology is more energy efficient and the bulbs have a longer lifespan. Oakland is one of first municipalities nationally to implement or be in the process of converting wide-scale LED lighting.

The City Council approved this project in 2013, and awarded to Amland Corp. for services and to Graybar Inc. for materials. The project began in June 2013 and to date the City has converted 24,000 lights out of the 30,000 (80%) streetlights citywide. During the installation of the new LED Light fixtures the contractor identified an estimated 2,500 lights where service wires re-routing would be necessary. The cost of this change order is estimated at \$75,000 which will be covered by the project contingency. On December 31, 2013, Amland Corp. requested and was granted a project completion extension date of February 28, 2014. This extension will allow Amland more time to retrofit the remaining street lights as well as complete several change orders submitted to the contractor. This extension of the LED Lighting Conversion Project will not have an impact to the rebate provided by PG&E. As an element of the extension, if the project is not completed by February 28, 2014 the City will be able to recoup liquidated damages daily until the project is completed.

The LED Lighting Conversion Project provides many benefits to several different audiences, with the primary goal to support public safety with brighter and better lighting, less glare and fewer 'dark spots' between poles. Significant energy savings results in lower power consumption and a healthier environment. LED streetlights require less maintenance and have a longer lifespan (15 years minimum). Project costs are estimated at \$15 million financed over a 10 year period. The repayment of the project cost will be paid from an estimated \$2.9 million in incentive rebates from PG&E and

energy savings as a result of the conversion.

If there are concerns regarding LED lights, please contact the PW's Call Center at the following:

• Phone: (510) 615-5566

Email: <u>pwacallcenter@oaklandnet.com</u>
Webpage: <u>www.oaklandnet.com/PWA</u>
Mobile Application: SeeClickFix

Re-Create 2014 Art Contest and Travelling Exhibition

Students in Oakland schools are invited to participate in the 2014 Re-Create Art Contest, Oakland's annual recycled art competition. Participants will use discarded or reused materials in a creative application of the 4Rs - reduce, reuse, recycle, and rot. All students in grades K-12 are eligible to participate in the contest. Art supply sets, theatre and museum passes will be awarded to students who enter this year's contest and exhibition. A public reception to recognize participants and contest winners will be held on **Friday February 28, 2014, 6-8pm at Pro Arts, 150 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Oakland, CA.** The Oakland Re-Create 2014 Art Contest and Travelling Exhibition is sponsored by the City of Oakland, Public Works Agency and produced by Pro Arts. For contest deadline and entry information, see ReCreate brochure.

Free Re-Create Workshops- Pro Arts will provide FREE hands-on workshops at several Oakland Public Library branches to assist the students in creating artwork from discarded materials: Wednesday, Jan 22, 2014, 3:00pm - Golden Gate Branch Library, 5606 San Pablo Ave. Friday, Jan 24, 2014, 3:15pm - Asian Branch Library, 388 9th St., Ste 190 Saturday, Jan 25, 2014, 1:00pm - 81st Avenue Branch Library, 1021- 81st Ave. Friday, Jan 31, 2014, 3:00pm - Lakeview Branch Library, 550 El Embarcadero Saturday, Feb 1, 2014, 2:00pm - Montclair Branch Library, 1687 Mountain Blvd. Thursday, Feb 6, 2014, 3:00pm - Melrose Branch Library, 4805 Foothill Blvd. Friday, Feb 7, 2014, 1:00pm - Brookfield Branch Library, 9255 Edes Ave.

Oakland Public Library's Teen Design Competition

Are you artistic? Do you love the library? Are you 13-18 years old? Oakland Public Library needs your original artwork! Oakland Public Library is starting off 2014 with a fun contest for teens that allows them to make their mark on the Main Library... permanently! With a grant through Keep Oakland Beautiful, the drab cement trash cans outside of the Main Library on Madison Street are going to be transformed into beautiful mosaic murals. This competition is based *entirely* on teen input and creation, and is open to anyone between the ages of 13-18, as long as they live or attend school in Oakland. Youth across Oakland are welcome to enter the competition and are also invited to help create the mosaics. Teens interested in submitting designs can choose from two possible layout options and can submit multiple entries: **Option One**: Wraparound Panoramic design for an estimated size of 69"x30" which would cover the three panels of a trash container. **Option Two**: Individual Portrait Panel design to cover a 23"x30" surface.

For sample templates and Design Submission Forms, please visit www.oaklandlibrary.org/teendesign or the Main TeenZone, 125 14th Street, 2nd Floor. All submissions (only paper copies are accepted) must be received in the Main TeenZone by **5:30pm on Feb 14, 2014**. For more information about the competition, please visit www.oaklandlibrary.org/teendesign or contact Lana Adlawan, Teen Services Supervising Librarian, at (510) 238-7613 or LAdlawan@oaklandlibrary.org.

Public Works Agency Welcomes new Complex Manager

Please join us in welcoming **Marco Torres** as the new Complex Manager in the Public Works Agency Facilities Services Division. Marco has been selected to serve as the Complex Manager for the Public Works Agency Facility Services Division. In this role, he will oversee the day-to-day operations of the Civic Center Complex and the Hall of Justice, along with the management of security operations and custodial units. Marco has a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Business Management. Marco previously worked for Broward County Public Works Facilities Maintenance Division as a Building Manager II. He has over six years of Facility Maintenance and operations experience of small to large buildings, including, but not limited to libraries, a judicial complex, an animal shelter and parking garages. When Marco is not working, he enjoys hiking, camping, volleyball and spending time with his family. He is excited to be working with everyone in his new position and looks forward to many new challenges. Marco Torres will be located at 250 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Suite 1329, in the Dalziel Building. He can be reached at (510) 238-6355 or MTorres2@oaklandnet.com.

Oakland School Board To Hire Next Superintendent of Schools in 2014

Coming up in 2014! The search is on. The next Oakland Superintendent of Schools will lead a system that serves 46,000 students. This is the most important decision the school board will make this year. Make your voice heard in this process. Take the Community Survey and let the School board and Superintendent candidates know how satisfied you are with your school and the district, and what you think the new leader should focus on. You can take the 10-minute survey by logging into: http://bit.ly/NextOakSuper.

Grants Available for Home Repairs

Do you have a pre-1978 home in Berkeley, Alameda, Emeryville or Oakland? Are there any children under 6, or a pregnant woman, living in the home? Or do children under 6 regularly visit? Is the household low-income? If so, you may qualify for up to \$4,000 in grants for lead hazard and other safety repairs in the home, from the Alameda County Healthy Homes Department. Rental and owner-occupied homes are eligible. Lead poisoning, asthma triggers and safety issues in the home are a serious threat to our children's health. The Alameda County Healthy Homes Department has services to assist low-income residents and property owners in making their homes safer for young children. Grants and technical assistance are available to reduce lead hazards, and other health and safety issues in the home, as well as free consultation services. To find out more about home repair grants and to apply, go to www.achhd.org or call 510-567-8280.

City Council Adopted New 2013-2023 Redistricting Boundaries

Every 10 years the City of Oakland reviews and revises City Council District boundaries, as mandated by the City Charter. The purpose of this Redistricting process is to equalize each district's population according to U.S. Census data. New City electoral district boundaries are drawn to address population changes over the past decade. On December 10, 2013, the City Council adopted Ordinance No. 13206 C.M.S. creating the 2013-2023 Council and OUSD electoral district boundaries. On Friday, December 20, the City's online Council District Locator Tool was updated and now reflects the 2013-2023 District Boundaries. To educate those residents impacted by changes to district boundaries, the City of Oakland will undertake an outreach campaign beginning in January. In addition to the use of Web and Social Media outlets, the campaign will include a direct mail piece to impacted residents, presentations to Neighborhood Crime Prevention Councils in areas where the boundaries shifted and informational slides on the City's television station, KTOP TV-10. Printed information will be available in English, Chinese, Spanish and Vietnamese. A detailed map of the new district boundaries can be found at oaklandnet.com/redistricting.

General Summary of Boundary Changes:

Broadway Terrace is generally the new border between District 1 and District 4. The Forest Park neighborhood moves to District 4. Woodland Place, Pine Needle and Farralon Way move to District 1. In the Glenview neighborhood, both sides of Trestle Glen Road are united in District 2. Both sides of Greenwood Avenue and Canon Avenue are united in District 5. Two census blocks just west of the Fruitvale Elementary School – bordered by I-580, Boston Avenue, School Street and Champion Street – move to District 5. The school itself remains in District 4. The boundary between Districts 4 & 5 between Humboldt Avenue and 35th Avenue moves one block to Davis Street. The Maxwell Park neighborhood is united in District 6. The Melrose Leadership Academy Middle School, at 4730 Fleming Avenue, moves to District 6. The boundary between Districts 4 & 6 is extended to 55th Avenue between Bancroft Avenue and Brookdale Avenue. The Melrose neighborhood, between Seminary and 51st Avenue, from International Boulevard south to San Leandro Street and the railroad tracks, moves to District 5. Bridges at Melrose Elementary School, at 1325 53rd Avenue, moves to District 5. East of Lake Merritt, Haddon Hill and Lakeshore Avenue move to District 2. The Gold Coast neighborhood blocks bounded by Madison Street, Lake Merritt, 14th and 17th streets move to District 2.

Upcoming City of Oakland Job Announcement

During the week of January 21, the Department of Human Resources Management (DHRM) anticipates posting job announcements for the following positions:

- ➤ Agency Administrative Manager
- ➤ Police Records Specialist

For updated information on City jobs, please visit the DHRM website at http://agency.governmentjobs.com/oaklandca/default.cfm. This Employment Information page also contains information on minimum qualifications of specific job classifications, how to apply for a job online and how to submit a job interest card for positions not currently posted. For more information, please contact the Department of Human Resources Management Receptionist at (510) 238-3112.