

LUMINARY

Brisbane's Business and Community Journal

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TALA WINE CO: UNVEILING EXCELSIOR'S WINE HAVEN

By: TAMARA PALMER-HEATH, Treasurer, Brisbane Chamber of Commerce



Interior of Tala Wine Co.

Tala Wine Co, a boutique wine shop, wine bar, and café, has opened its doors in the heart of San Francisco's historic Excelsior district. This charming space brings a unique blend of curated natural wines, a cozy atmosphere, and a commitment to education.

A Journey Rooted in Passion

Tala Drzewiecki's journey into the wine space and her connection to Brisbane are deeply intertwined. Relocating to Brisbane in 2009 for her job at Sierra Point with IGN, Tala's passion for winemaking emerged. Starting as a hobby in her garage, Tala delved into the intricacies of winemaking. In 2013, she took a leap and left her tech job to start Winelandia, her first online wine store and club. Passionate about natural wines, she hosted tastings and events, fostering a deep appreciation for this unique approach to winemaking. The journey led her to Adventures in Wine, where she further honed her expertise. Despite briefly sunsetting her first online wine shop, the challenges of 2020 inspired Tala to revive her passion, giving birth to Tala Wine Co.

The Tala Wine Club Experience

Tala Wine Co began as a monthly wine club and online wine retailer. They offer a variety of price points, bottle amounts, and delivery frequencies. The wine club sets itself apart with a concierge-style, high-touch customer service experience. Tala curates each selection for subscribers based on her deep understanding of their preferences. This hands-on approach, involving customer feedback and the development of personalized profiles, distinguishes Tala Wine Co from other wine clubs that rely on algorithms. Tala's intuitive wine matchmaking has become a superpower, making each subscription a unique and enjoyable

experience.

Community Hub in Excelsior

Eager to take her business to the next level and further connect with customers, Tala began searching for a brick-and-mortar location. She found the space at 4625 Mission St and loved the area. Since opening its doors on June 16, Tala Wine Co has become a beloved neighborhood hangout. Located just minutes from Brisbane, the store serves the diverse and vibrant community of the Excelsior neighborhood. With parking ease and a 10-minute drive from Brisbane, Tala Wine Co invites patrons to explore the Excelsior neighborhood and make a day of it. Stop by local restaurants such as Gentilly (Cajun) and Baby's Cafe (Filipino), explore the trails in McClaren Park, and browse the racks at the nearby Goodwill.

A Fusion of Elegance and Coziness

Tala Wine Co is a haven for wine enthusiasts. The space seamlessly integrates a boutique wine shop, a wine bar, and a café, offering a multifaceted experience for patrons. The space's interior combines Victorian and Parisian touches with modern elements. Chandeliers with crystals, gold framed artwork and mirrors, tufted velvet sofas, bistro tables and chairs, thick curtains, tin tile ceilings, an expansive marble bar, and shelf upon shelf of wine adorn the space.

Daily Tasting Delights

Tala and her team present four different wines daily, available in a flight (\$15) or by the glass (\$9). They price their glasses at retail, not restaurant prices. Restaurants typically charge for a glass what the whole bottle costs them, for example, \$10 a glass from a bottle worth only \$10. Tala Wine Co. will charge \$9 for a glass of wine that runs \$40 a bottle.

Tala Wine, continue on page 2



MAYOR'S Message

TRANSFORMING BRISBANE: A MILESTONE FOR THE CROCKER PARK TRAIL

By: MADISON DAVIS, City of Brisbane Mayor, madisondavis@brisbaneca.org, 415-706-5276

Brisbane residents and honored guests gathered under the clear skies on October 18 to witness a momentous occasion—the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the newly resurfaced Crocker Park multi-use trail. This event marked a significant upgrade to a vital commuter trail and celebrated the enhancement of a cherished outdoor recreational facility.

The over 2-mile trail loop, meandering around

>> CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



SUPERVISOR'S Message

BRISBANE EMBRACES PROJECTS TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF OLDER ADULTS

By: DAVID J. CANEPA, President of the San Mateo County Supervisors, dcanepa@smcgov.org, 650-363-4572

If you wish to see and understand positive social change in a community, take a look at the Age-Friendly Cities initiative being undertaken in San Mateo County in partnership with the Center for Age-Friendly Excellence (CAFE).

I introduced the concept to the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors in March 2019 and want to enlighten you on the progress San Mateo County cities have made with support of

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The Chamber Circle is a special group of members that have committed to support the Brisbane Chamber of Commerce through sponsorships.

If your business would like to become a member of the Chamber's Circle, please contact Madison Davis, President/CEO at 415-467-7283 or e-mail madison@brisbanechamber.org.

Supervisor's Message, continued from page 1

Measure K funding over the past four years to become certified age friendly by the World Health Organization.

CAFE has provided expert technical assistance to the participating cities in San Mateo including Brisbane. CAFE organizes representative city task forces; conducts comprehensive qualitative and quantitative research on unmet needs; explores and leverages existing community strengths and offers policy and program recommendations.

With that, I am proud to announce that the cities of Pacifica, Daly City, Brisbane, Half Moon Bay, South San Francisco, Millbrae, Burlingame, San Mateo, Belmont, San Carlos, Hillsborough, Foster City, East Palo Alto, Redwood City and Colma are all certified with San Bruno and Atherton on track to be certified by the end of December.

Age-friendly cities study and consider eight domains of livability, including transportation, community support and health care, housing, social participation, outdoor spaces and buildings, respect and social inclusion, civic participation, and communication and information.

I'm proud to say Brisbane achieved AARP/WHO age-friendly community designation in June 2023.

One of the inspired ideas in Brisbane proposed by council member Karen Cunningham, Dr. Kerstin Rosen, Nicole Houghton, Anne-Marie Despain, and Sara McDowell is to utilize existing library space and resources to assist seniors who must access telemedicine services. More and more providers are now requiring telemedicine visits (Kaiser 40%) and

this trend can be a barrier and unsurmountable problem for many seniors. Many older persons don't have the privacy, technology, broadband or devices to access telemedicine.

To learn more about how you can make Brisbane more age friendly go to: <https://www.brisbaneca.org/community/page/if-youre-45-or-older-your-feedback-needed-brisbanes-aarp-age-friendly-community>.

In next month's Luminary, I will share how I supported the replacement of the aging boiler at the community pool, a significant consumer of fossil fuels, with cutting-edge electric heat pump water heaters (EHPs) with a \$200,000 contribution in my district-discretionary Measure K funds.

Tala Wine, continued from page 1



Tala Drzewiecki in front of Tala Wine Co

This approach allows patrons to taste and explore a variety of wines without breaking the bank. The wines they love, they can purchase by the bottle to enjoy at home. Tala recommends the coveted Poco a Poco Cabernet Sauvignon, the popular Pomponette Rosé, and the rich Domaine De La Verpaille Chardonnay. They also offer a curated selection of local beers, coffee, tea, and non-alcoholic tinctures and tonics.

Educational and Engaging

Tala Wine Co. takes pride in its educational approach. Through regular special events, Friday tastings hosted by winemakers or importers, and a commitment to transparency about production practices, they empower customers with knowledge. The belief is simple - the more you know about wine, the more you will enjoy it. Knowledgeable staff are eager to give you a recommendation and offer insight and will find a wine you will fall in love with.

International Wines with a Purpose

Tala Wine Co's collection predominantly features European wines, emphasizing quality and a commitment to organic practices. The store maintains a strict standard, refusing to work with vineyards that use pesticides like Roundup, instead focusing on wines that take stewardship of the land and maintain transparent agricultural practices. They define natural wine as

those that undergo fermentation with ambient/native yeast, minimal or no SO₂, and are unrefined, unfiltered, and organically farmed.

Tala Wine Co believes in offering better-quality wine at reasonable prices and curates a unique, off-the-beaten-path selection. Be prepared to discover wines you have never seen or heard of because many brands they offer produce a limited supply. Tala Wine Co. is not your average wine store but a place to expand your collection with bottles that are difficult to find elsewhere.

Beyond Wine

Beyond wine offerings, Tala Wine Co serves light bites and hosts restaurant pop-ups, contributing to the local culinary scene. The space is also available for buyouts, accommodating up to 40 people. Occasionally featuring live music, Tala Wine Co. aims to be a community hub.

Tala Wine Co. is open Tuesday-Thursday from 1 pm to 9 pm and Friday-Saturday from 1 pm to 10 pm at 4625 Mission Street in San Francisco. For an unparalleled wine experience and a touch of European charm in the heart of Excelsior Tala Wine Co. invites you to savor the flavors and stories within each bottle. Showcasing a highly curated collection and a dedication to sustainability, Tala Wine Co is not just a wine store but a destination for wine lovers seeking something extraordinary. Visit their website: tala.wine, and follow them on Instagram and Facebook: [@talawineco](https://www.instagram.com/talawineco). When you stop by, mention reading about them in *The Luminary*!

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Mission Statement: The purpose of the Brisbane Chamber of Commerce is to create an atmosphere in which business prospers and the community thrives.

The Luminary is printed using recycled paper and environmentally-friendly soy-based ink.

EMPOWERING FUTURES: CITY OF BRISBANE GRANT FUNDS NEW JOB TRAINING PROGRAM

By: **Stephanie Shakofsky** | Vice President Government Affairs Baylands Development, Inc., sshakofsky@thebaylands.com

Last month, students from the Young Community Developers (YCD) Brownfield and Environmental Technician Training Program visited the Baylands project site to learn more about the 700-acre development and potential careers their training and EPA certification would create. This specialized 12-week-long program is expanding into San Mateo County and is made possible through funding from the City of Brisbane's Brownfield Grant, awarded in 2022.

The innovative program will forge new, equitable career opportunities for San Mateo County residents by expanding YCDs' highly successful Brownfield and Environmental Technician program--currently limited to residents of San Francisco--into San Mateo County. NOVAworks of San Mateo County is overseeing the expansion.

NOVAworks is a nonprofit job training and development agency based in San Mateo that provides customer-focused workforce development services. YCD, a San Francisco-based nonprofit workforce development agency, has been creating direct pathways to construction and remediation careers for their BIPOC community for decades.



NOVAworks will partner with YCD to recruit students and potential employers for the program to northern San Mateo County and provide post-graduation job placement assistance for program graduates. The next training session starts on February 5, 2024. If you are a potential student or business interested in hiring graduates, please contact Juana Pascubello at NOVAworks at 650-581-0700 or write jpascubello@novasanmateo.org for an application or more information.

A NIGHT OF SPECTACLE AND GRATITUDE: MOONLIGHT MADNESS RECAP

By: **SUE COCHRAN**, Chairperson of the Board, Brisbane Chamber of Commerce

On October 28, the Brisbane Chamber of Commerce hosted a sold-out crowd for its second cabaret performance, featuring the acclaimed star Leanne Borghesi. The event, aptly named “Moonlight Madness: A Spooktacular Revue,” celebrated the Chamber’s 75th diamond jubilee anniversary.

A dedicated team of volunteers worked tirelessly behind the scenes, transforming Mission Blue into a breathtaking spectacle. We welcomed guests with glamour as they stepped onto a red carpet adorned with enchanting lanterns and twinkling lights, setting the tone for the evening’s magical festivities. In the lobby, a towering 12-foot Skeleton stood as an impressive guardian as the incredibly talented bubble artist Sterling Johnson skillfully transported guests into a world of enchantment within iridescent bubbles. Ushers were on hand to guide guests to their tables, each one meticulously arranged to fill the main space.

The lobby and main event space underwent a remarkable transformation, courtesy of elegant pipe and drape arrangements, effectively reshaping Mission Blue into an opulent and intimate venue. The main room was a Halloween wonderland with grinning jack-o'-lanterns and other spirited decor. Tables with pumpkins and candy dotted the room, and VIPs enjoyed prime seating and an array of snacks. Uplights and artfully placed cobwebs added the perfect finishing touches.

For those seeking refreshment, a well-appointed bar awaited at the back of the room, ensuring every guest could enjoy their evening to the fullest. The bar remained open through the show, ready to serve and enhance the experience for all in attendance. All tips benefitted our scholarship program.

Leanne Borghesi, the driving force behind

this event, introduced the idea of this benefit performance to commemorate our milestone anniversary. Following the success of our debut performance, “Mood Swings,” it was an easy decision to continue this series with a Halloween twist. Leanne graciously devoted her time and talent to delivering an unforgettable performance. She arranged a lineup of renowned performers, including super duper hula hooper Natasha Kaluza, bubble artist Sterling Johnson, juggler and unicyclist Jefferson Freire, comedic magician Robert Strong, and Brisbane powerhouse vocalist Lafi Faletose Ma'u.

Leanne’s dedication and hard work were pivotal, and on behalf of the entire Brisbane Chamber of Commerce board, we extend our deepest gratitude for her extraordinary efforts.

The event was possible through the generous support of our sponsors. Baylands Development Inc. took the lead as our Platinum sponsor, followed by Gold sponsors Healthpeak and South San Francisco Scavenger Company. Orchard Partners and Golden State Lumber joined us as Silver sponsors, while Jason Cranston of JLL and San Mateo Credit Union were valued Bronze sponsors. Their investment in the community and local Chamber underscored the significance of such partnerships in sustaining events like Moonlight Madness.

Executing a production of this scale involved the concerted efforts of many dedicated individuals. Sharon Boggs and Sound Productions provided all audio services, from sound equipment to custom sound design, engineering, and live/studio Audio and Video recording. Sharon’s unwavering commitment and problem-solving approach were instrumental in the planning and success of the event. Local Brisbane resident JoeJoe Martin of LumiGeek played a crucial role by providing all



Juggler, Unicyclist, and Violinist Jefferson Freire performing in Moonlight Madness

the lighting services. JoeJoe’s tireless work throughout the week transformed Mission Blue into a swanky cabaret club, setting the mood for the evening. We owe a debt of gratitude to the City of Brisbane for providing us with the space free of charge.

Moonlight Madness: A Spooktacular Revue was a success due to the incredible teamwork and support from our sponsors, performers, volunteers, and the entire community. We look forward to continuing to enhance Brisbane’s economic landscape and support businesses large and small.

FINANCIAL Focus

CAN YOU MAKE CHARITABLE GIVING LESS ‘TAXING’?

By: **SVEN GEFFKEN**, Financial Advisor, Edward Jones, Sven.Geffken@edwardjones.com, (650) 355-1365

Once again, it’s the season of generosity. In addition to considering gifts for your loved ones, you might want to think about charitable gifts as well. But what should you know before making gifts to charities? And what impact might these gifts have on your financial and tax situation?

First, you may want to create a gift budget by deciding just how much you will give to charitable organizations over the rest of the year.

Next, look closely at the groups to whom you wish to contribute. You can find many reputable charities, but some others may be less worthy of your support. One of the red flags of a questionable organization is the amount of money it spends on administrative costs versus the amount that goes to its stated purpose. You can check on the spending patterns of charitable groups, and find other valuable information about them, on the well-regarded Charity Navigator website (charitynavigator.org).

Once you’ve established a gift budget and are comfortable with the groups you choose to support, you might turn your thoughts to another key issue connected with charitable giving: tax benefits. A few years ago, changes in the tax laws resulted in a large increase in the standard deduction, which meant that many taxpayers found it more favorable not to itemize — and lost the ability to take charitable deductions. But if you still do itemize, your charitable gifts or contributions to tax-exempt groups — those that qualify as 501(c)(3) organizations — can generally be deducted, up to 60% of your adjusted gross income, although lower limits may apply, depending on the nature of your gift and the organization to which you’re contributing.

Other, more long-term avenues also exist that combine charitable giving with potential tax benefits. One such possibility is a donor-advised fund, which allows you to make an irrevocable charitable contribution and receive an immediate tax deduction. You can give cash, but if you donate appreciated assets, such as stocks, your tax deduction would be the fair market value of the assets, up to 30% of your adjusted gross income. Plus, you would not incur the capital gains tax that would otherwise be due upon the sale of these assets. Once you establish a donor-advised fund, you have the flexibility to make charitable gifts

over time, and you can contribute to the fund as often as you like.

Another possible tax benefit from making charitable contributions could arrive when you start taking required minimum distributions, or RMDs, from some of your retirement accounts, such as your traditional IRA and 401(k). These RMDs could be sizable — and distributions are counted as taxable income. But by taking what’s called a qualified charitable distribution (QCD), you can move money from a traditional or Roth IRA to a qualified charitable organization, possibly satisfying your RMD, which then may be excluded from your taxable income. You must start taking RMDs at 73 but you can begin making QCDs of up to \$100,000 per year as early as age 70½. (This amount will be indexed for inflation after 2023.)

Establishing a donor-advised fund and making qualified charitable distributions are significant moves, so you’ll need to consult with your tax advisor first. But if they’re appropriate for your situation, they may help you expand your ability to support the charitable groups whose work you admire.

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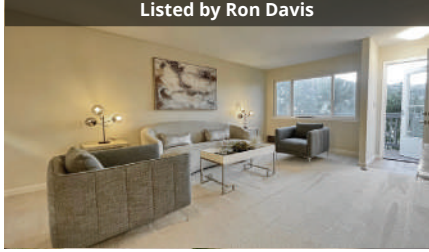
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BRISBANE BUSINESS BULLETIN

“The Brisbane Business Bulletin” allows Brisbane Chamber of Commerce members to communicate brief bits of news to the public such as change of hours, new product offerings, upcoming events, etc. If you are interested in listing a news item next month, please contact Madison Davis at madison@brisbanechamber.org

Place Your Order for a Holiday Star!

The Brisbane Chamber of Commerce began Brisbane’s beloved tradition of creating holiday stars for residents and we continue to offer them to the community today. This tradition is made possible due to the generosity of Golden State Lumber, Brisbane Hardware & Supply, and Star Maker Bob Wilson with support from Alison Wilson. To place an order for pick up (after Thanksgiving), please email: madison@brisbanechamber.org. Stars help us raise funds for our collage scholarship program and we ask that you consider donating (no one will be turned away). Suggested donation amounts are from \$10-\$40 depending on star size.

Dark Sky Ordinance

The Brisbane Open Space and Ecology Committee has recommended a “Dark Sky Ordinance” to protect and enhance the local

environment and public health by reducing light pollution at night through reasonable restrictions on outdoor lighting. The ordinance was introduced at the City Council meeting on November 16 with a second reading expected in January.

Could You or Someone You Know use a Little Extra Support This Holiday Season?

Make sure to register for the Police Department and YMCA’s annual Holiday Food and Gift Distribution. Brisbane residents can register in-person at the YMCA Community Resource Center located at 1486 Huntington Ave #100, South San Francisco Monday 8am-12pm; Tuesday/Thursday 8am-4pm. Registration can also be completed online Monday-Friday 8am-4pm by emailing crc@ymcasf.org or calling (650) 276-4104 x4. Make sure you bring your ID, proof of your address, and a birth certificate/or school registration or ID card of minors in the household. The day-of the event will be Tuesday, December 19th, 2023 from 3-5pm at Brisbane City Hall (50 Park Pl). If you’d like to donate non-perishable food and/or new, unwrapped toys, you may do so at City Hall, the Brisbane Police Dept., or at Eagles Hall.

BDW’s Annual Holiday Arts & Crafts Fair is Saturday, December, 9th!

Follow the BDW Holiday Fair on Facebook (facebook.com/BDWHolidayFair) to receive vendor updates so you can get an idea of who will be at the fair and what they will be selling.

Your Feedback Needed on AARP Age-Friendly Community Survey!

Did You Know? Brisbane is now an Age-Friendly City! The City received this designation from AARP in June 2023. An AARP Age-Friendly community survey is out now for residents to provide additional feedback about how Brisbane can continue to be a great place to live for our older adults. Kudos to the Age-Friendly Task Force and all of their hard work this past year to get Brisbane to this point. Please fill out the AARP Age-Friendly Survey here: www.brisbaneca.org/aarp. There are hardcopy versions of the survey available at City Hall (50 Park Place, Brisbane); please turn in completed surveys to the Sunrise Room or City Hall. The survey will be open through the end of this year. For more information or how to get involved, contact Nicole Houghton at (415) 508-2144 or nhoughton@brisbaneca.org.

BRISBANE School District News

READING AND WRITING IN THE BRISBANE SCHOOL DISTRICT

By: SARAH NEIDHART, Panorama School Principal

The Brisbane School District participates in monthly professional development and for the full day PD in October, the language arts teachers worked with Katherine Prescenzi, Literacy Consultant and Instructional Coach, and explored ways to use formative data to inform our teaching of reading, writing, and phonics programs. Katherine has led professional development in the past and has worked as a literacy coach with many of our teachers. We had such a productive day working with Katherine that teachers were excited to extend their practices in the classroom the following day!

The Brisbane School District loves to teach reading, writing, and phonics. To do this we follow the Advanced Literacy Units of Study and implement the workshop model. In our classrooms, students are allowed to genuinely grow a love of reading and writing. The workshop model starts with a mini-lesson where explicit instruction about a strategy or skill is taught. Students then go into independent reading or writing time to practice the strategy or skill. Students are motivated because within the model, there is an element of choice. Students pick out books that are of interest to them as long as the book is in their reading range, or they can write about a topic of their choice within a genre. It is here that students build stamina and participate in rigorous learning as they connect their own interest to reading and writing.

At the core of this model is differentiated instruction. While students are reading or writing independently, the teacher is conferring with students or meeting with small groups to work on strategies that will deepen a student’s skill set and knowledge. These small group lessons help learners because the teacher is explicitly teaching a strategy and holding the student instantly

accountable for doing their best learning. A teacher might also use this time to confer with students who might need individualized instruction. This model allows time for differentiated instruction and makes learning relevant to a student’s individualized needs. The routines and structures of the reading and writing workshop are kept simple and predictable so that the teacher can focus on the complex work of teaching in a responsive manner to accelerate achievement for all learners.

To make the most of differentiated instruction, teachers use formative assessment to monitor student learning. The main purpose of formative assessment is to monitor the progress of learning and to provide feedback to students about their understanding of a topic. Assessments are done both formally and informally to provide input about student learning and to inform instruction. Lessons are then created that are tailored to meet the learning needs of students. Student needs are always changing and it is so important that students are assessed and student work is analyzed often. The data we collect by looking at assessments or student work drives our instruction and keeps students on the path of progression.

We have had lots of coaching and professional development in the area of reading, writing, phonics, and formative assessment and, once again, teachers showed up to extend their skills even further at our latest full day PD in October on data collection and small group instruction led by our ELA coach, Katherine Prescenzi. The teachers in the Brisbane School District are truly committed to lifelong learning. Thank you teachers and also to Katherine Prescenzi for once

Mayor’s Message, continued from page 1

Crocker Park businesses, has undergone a remarkable transformation, boasting a smoother surface that caters to diverse users. The level and scenic route makes the trail more enjoyable for everyone and ensures greater inclusivity for those who require wheeled assistance.

The Crocker Park Trail has held a special place in the hearts of Brisbane residents since 2007 when the unused Southern Pacific rail spur corridor was generously donated to the city by Foremost McKesson. The removal of track materials by the Iron Horse Preservation Society, a non-profit organization from Reno, Nevada, left behind a challenging trail experience with loose and uneven railroad ballast.

Over the years, the City Council allocated funds for minor improvements, incorporating quarry fines to create a firmer and more passable surface. However, the turning point came in 2017 when Brisbane secured a federal Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvement Program grant for the resurfacing project, laying the foundation for the remarkable transformation we celebrate now.

In April 2020, the city partnered with RRM Design Group to create a master plan for the Crocker Park Trail, focusing on accessibility, safety, ecological responsibility, recreation, and support for local artists. The comprehensive plan aims to enhance the quality of life for all Brisbane residents, capturing the desires and aspirations of the community.

Public Works staff worked with the Parks & Recreation Department and ensured the resurfacing aligned seamlessly with the master plan. The result is a trail that not only meets the highest standards of functionality but also stands as a testament to the collaborative efforts of our dedicated city staff.

I applaud all of our partners – C/CAG, MTC, Caltrans, Federal Highway Administration, and Contractor EE Gilbert– for their efforts and support of the City of Brisbane and for giving our residents access to an improved, safe, and smooth trail surface.

During the ceremony, Councilmember Cliff Lentz shared insight regarding funding acquisition for the trail. He acknowledged the tireless efforts of community members who advocated for funding from the county, emphasizing the importance of community engagement in shaping the development of our city.

Councilmember Mackin also addressed the gathering, highlighting the profound significance of the Crocker Park Trail to the Brisbane community.

The trail’s new and improved features symbolize a commitment to fostering recreation, connectivity, and a sense of pride in our local environment.

Councilmembers O’Connell and Cunningham, several city staff, and community members were also at the ceremony. Following the ribbon-cutting, many attendees took the opportunity to explore the enhanced trail, embodying the shared enthusiasm for the project.

The transformation of Crocker Park Trail stands as a testament to the resilience and collaborative spirit of the Brisbane community. As we continue to invest in improving our public spaces, we look forward to fostering a healthier, more connected, and vibrant Brisbane for generations to come.

For more information about this article or for any other concerns, call me at 415-706-5276 or email me at madisondavis@brisbaneca.org

TRASH TALK: HOLIDAY WASTE EDITION

By: TERESA MONTGOMERY, Chamber Board Member and Sustainability Manager at SSF Scavenger, and ADRIENNE ETHELTON, Sustainability Manager at City of Brisbane

Q: How can I reduce holiday waste?

A: The best way to reduce is to plan ahead. Here are several tips:

- If you enjoy sending traditional greeting cards, make sure they are made from recycled content and can be recycled again. Avoid cards and envelopes with glitter and foil.
- Avoid excess packaging by shopping for gifts and groceries locally. Be sure to bring your own reusable shopping bags.
- Give gifts that are durable or consumable (such as performance or sporting event tickets, zoo or museum memberships, a promise to babysit or to make a favorite meal). Stay clear of items that are sure to quickly end up in the landfill.
- Wrap gifts in something reusable. Avoid single-use gift wrap, bags, and ribbon—especially those that are not recyclable.
- If you are hosting a holiday meal, don't over-buy at the grocery store. Need help figuring out how much to buy? Use the dinner party calculator at SAVETHEFOOD.COM (www.savethefood.com/guestimator).
- Set your holiday table with reusable linens, plates, cups and silverware. If you think there may be leftovers, ask guests to bring reusable containers to fill.
- Do not decorate a live Christmas tree with anything you can't remove when the holidays are over. Trees that have been flocked or covered in tinsel end up in the landfill instead of as valuable mulch.

Do you have additional tips to share? Please email them to info@ssfscavenger.com. We'll share them along with other helpful waste-related information on Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, and YouTube. Find us @ssfscavenger.

HOSTING A HOLIDAY FEAST? Please plan to minimize waste!

- Don't prepare an over-abundance of food. Have a plan for any leftovers.
- Set your table with reusable plates, cups, utensils, and linens. Avoid disposables.
- Include Ozzy the Organics Cart on your guest list. He's happy to eat what your friends and family won't.



Get holiday waste reduction tips! Follow us @ssfscavenger

An important message from



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BLAST FROM THE PAST

The following article is taken from *The Brisbane News Bulletin*, a Brisbane Chamber of Commerce publication, printed on November 15, 1948.

Brisbane's Thanks

As the holiday season approached it is not too early to reminisce.

In our mad scramble we might check ourselves and remember that in observance of Thanksgiving Day we have much to be thankful for in regards to the growth and development of our own little town.

Let's look back just one year ago. An embryo of a businessmen's club was being formed. Today, it is a full fledged Lion's Club, an organization of which any town can well be proud. At this time in a short year ago we did not have a Police District. Whoever had heard of Brisbane Drum and Bugle Corps? A new V.F.W Post has come in to its own. Due to ever increasing membership of the Legion a new building was needed and acquired. A new church, the Bethel Baptist is being erected in our midst.

More teachers installed to take care of the larger number of children enrolled in our school and a new cafeteria to feed them. To say nothing of the new homes springing up all over town.

We can be thankful for the ever increasing number of civic-minded people who are proud to live in this community and who have come forward to lend their support and ideas to make this a better place to live.

This little paper (the only medium through which the people of Brisbane know and hear about each other) gives thanks to the good citizens who contribute their news items and articles so faithfully each month. Also to regular advertisers and subscribers who are regularly showing their profound interest in the growth of our community.

These may indeed be called blessings for which we can all be thankful!

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HOLIDAY STARS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE CHAMBER! ✦

Place your order for 2,3,4,5, 6 or 8 ft Stars!

✦ This tradition is made possible due to the generosity of Golden State Lumber, Brisbane Hardware & Supply, and Star Maker Bob Wilson with support from Alison Wilson. To place an order for pick up (after Thanksgiving), please email: madison@brisbanechamber.org

Stars help us raise funds for our college scholarship program and we ask that you consider donating (no one will be turned away) ✦

Suggested Donation

2ft-\$10	5ft-\$25
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Photo By Dan Ryan

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