

# THE LUMINARY

Brisbane's Business and Community Journal

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## BRISBANE COMPANY, CAREDX, IS 100% COMMITTED TO ORGAN TRANSPLANT PATIENTS

By: JASON CRANSTON, Brisbane Chamber of Commerce Board Member, JLL, [Jason.Cranston@jll.com](mailto:Jason.Cranston@jll.com)

1 in 2 lungs, 1 in 3 hearts, and 1 in 5 kidney transplants are expected to fail within 5 years, primarily due to rejection by the patient's immune system. In the United States, it is estimated that seventeen people die daily waiting for an organ, as more than 100,000 people wait on the organ transplant waiting list. Organs are too precious to fail so frequently and quickly after transplant. CareDx wants to change the odds.

Founded 20 years ago, CareDx is the only transplant diagnostics company 100% committed to serving transplant patients and the ecosystem surrounding organ transplants. CareDx offers support pre and post-transplant of the heart, kidney, and lungs. Its core business focuses on providing clinicians with critical information that can help determine if a patient is a candidate for a transplant and, once they have received an organ, prevent it from being rejected by the body. This information increases survival rates and helps preserve organs from damage because clinicians can better determine when and how intervention should occur before it's too late.

In the early days, before CareDx, doctors would monitor patients through a tissue biopsy which required an invasive procedure, sometimes with anesthesia. However, biopsies are often lagging indicators of a problem, meaning doctors could miss early signs of rejection. In 2005, CareDx introduced the first non-invasive blood test to measure the immune status of a patient after receiving their heart, AlloMap and in 2018, introduced HeartCare which includes AlloSure Heart. Together, these tests can determine if the heart is at risk for rejection and has helped nearly 30,000 heart transplant patients to reduce pain, anxiety, and risk caused by biopsies. These tests helped save San Jose resident Eddie Garcia from heart rejection. Doctors noticed troubling results and had him come in for treatment. Due to early intervention, Eddie now exercises by walking four miles daily with no heart issues and has written a book about his survival called "Summer in the Waiting Room."

Patients who receive a transplant must take several medications for the remainder of their life. These medications suppress the immune system but can also be toxic to other organs like the kidney, explains Anna Czene, VP of Corporate Communications for CareDx. "If a patient responds well, a clinician may pull back the drugs, or if the body shows signs of rejection, they can increase medications," says Czene. CareDx aims to give clinicians the critical information they need to make life-saving decisions.

In 2017, CareDx launched AlloSure, a blood test to replace the need for biopsies to evaluate rejection in the kidney and lungs. This test is a quick, non-invasive way to see the health of the lungs or kidneys after transplant. Consistent monitoring is imperative because the median age of a transplanted kidney is only ten years. Since then over 100,000 patients have been testing using AlloMap and/or AlloSure.

"All body cells carry a special signature of the person indicating that they are healthy and are



a part of you, including the cells in the kidney," explains Nikhil Agrawal, MD, Medical Director of Kidney Transplant at CareDx. The immune system allows the body to determine which cells belong and which are invaders. Because transplanted organs come from others, they contain foreign cells and signal a threat to the immune system, and the body fights the new organ. The best way to prevent rejection is through immunosuppression. According to Dr. Agrawal "Many rejections are not severe, and a person doesn't have symptoms they would notice. They may only know from monitoring tests that indicate a problem." Therefore, tests like AlloSure are critical to monitor for signs of rejection.

The company also offers digital health solutions such as TxAccess, a unifying software to help patients navigate the waitlist process by ensuring they have all records up to date so that when an organ is available, they are ready to receive it. In some cases, organs are available for transplant, but a patient's medical record is not in order, making them ineligible. TxAccess facilitates communication between transplant centers, nephrology practices, and dialysis facilities. According to CareDx's website, with the software, "providers can submit referrals and required documents to transplant programs and view the latest information about all their referred patients."

After a transplant, clinicians use CareDx's digital health solution, AlloHome, to monitor patients remotely. Clinicians can track patient vitals and can quickly determine if they need to come in for further testing or assessment. Other digital solutions, like the AlloCare app, help patients track their medications. Transplant patients may take upwards of 30 medications daily, each with instructions, which can be confusing and hard to manage. Failure to take medications as prescribed contributes to organ rejection.

CareDx started in the South San Francisco area. Anna Czene explains, "As the company grew, we

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### MAYOR'S Message

## LUNAFEST GOES OUT WITH A BANG!

By: MADISON DAVIS, City of Brisbane Mayor, [madisondavis@brisbaneca.org](mailto:madisondavis@brisbaneca.org), 415-706-5276

LUNAFEST, a film festival featuring short films by, for, and about women, came to Brisbane this past weekend for the fifth time. The festival, created by CLIF Bar in connection with their women's health bar, Luna Bar, aims to illuminate the gender inequities in the film industry and provide a vehicle for women to tell stories often left untold.

While women constitute 50% of the moviegoing audience, of the top 100 grossing films in 2022, women represented 11% of directors, 18% of editors, 17% of writers, and 28% of producers. And if you think these numbers are dismal, there has been minimal improvement in the last 25

>> CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



### SUPERVISOR'S Message

## COUNTY IMPOSES STIFF FINES ON RETAILERS WHO SELL TOBACCO TO KIDS

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

The tobacco epidemic is not just a statistic, it's a tragedy. It's robbing us of millions of lives every single year, including our youth. We must take a harsh stand against this deadly addiction that has killed more than 8 million people a year!

In response, the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors May 9 passed one of the strictest

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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](mailto:madison@brisbanechamber.org).*

## Mayor's Message, continued from page 1

years. In its 95-year history, only three women have won an Academy Award for best director, and only eight have received nominations.

And those statistics are just behind the scenes. Of the top 100 grossing films in 2022, only ten films featured a woman over 45 years in the lead role compared to 35 men in the same age bracket, which is 3.5 films starring older men for every one starring an older woman. Only 16 of the top 100 films featured a woman of color as the lead or co-lead in the story. In 2022 women made up only 37% of speaking characters, and 80% of films featured more male than female characters. Female protagonists are most likely to be featured in horror movies, followed by dramas, and action features.



## 2023 Board of Directors

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Deadline for Articles and Advertisements:  
2nd Wednesday of each month

E-mail your article, advertisement or questions  
[madison@brisbanechamber.org](mailto:madison@brisbanechamber.org) (415) 467-7283.

Advertisements are interactive on the Luminary  
posted to the web and on social media.

**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.

When women were directors or writers, females comprised 56% of protagonists. In films with exclusively male directors and writers, only 23% of protagonists were women. With women underrepresented in the film industry, our mainstream media fails to showcase enough female-driven stories, especially those featuring the experiences of women of color. Women are too often depicted in movies through the lens of men, meaning there are many missed opportunities to tell stories about women with more authentic representations of the female experience.

Along with promoting female filmmakers, LUNAFEST provides a mechanism for hosts to raise money for women's causes. When I decided to bring LUNAFEST to Brisbane with the support of my council colleagues in 2019, I knew the money we raised needed to stay in town. The Lions Club has always had a presence in my life, and when I needed their assistance most as a college student, they ensured I had funds for my education. It seemed only fitting that the money raised from LUNAFEST should go to the Lions. Thankfully, they shared my vision and have used the funds from LUNAFEST to create scholarships for women pursuing degrees in male-dominated fields such as film, engineering, science, math, technology, political science, or the trades.

When I approached the Lions, they asked me, "How much do you think we can raise?" I said, "I'm pretty confident we can raise \$4000." Fast forward five years, and we have raised over \$150,000 for students.

This year our event generated \$34,605. For context, the average LUNAFEST screening raises \$5,000. Since hosting LUNAFEST in Brisbane, we have maintained a five-year streak as the highest-earning LUNAFEST host worldwide.

Unfortunately, this LUNAFEST will likely be our last. In 2022 Clif Bar sold, and the new owners have decided to end the 2023 LUNAFEST season abruptly at the end of this month. They have no plans for a 2024 season. I hope Clif Bar will reimagine LUNAFEST or that the Clif Family Foundation will continue on the LUNAFEST legacy with another festival but can't say what the future holds. I can say that the Lions and the City will work together to fill the gap left by LUNAFEST with another event.

Every dime raised from sponsorships, concessions, and ticket sales goes directly to students. And what I think is important to note is that due to the influx of funds from LUNAFEST into the Lions Club Scholarship program, the money available each year to award has significantly increased. Not only has the amount available to women applicants increased, but that awarded to men has also. So the moral is when women win, we all win.

I must acknowledge all the people who planned LUNAFEST. The LUNAFEST committee includes Councilwoman Terry O'Connell, Former President of the Brisbane Lions Club Sharon Boggs, Recreation Director Noreen Leek, Park and Rec Commissioner Frank Kern, Park and Rec Commissioner Leesa Greenlee, Park and Rec Commissioner Tom Seawell, Head of the Brisbane Lion's Club Scholarship Committee Deb Horen, and Admin Management Analyst Angel Ibarra. Thank you to all the Lions Club members who worked hard at the event and for being incredible partners in this journey.

As you may have guessed, we didn't raise over \$34,000 solely from ticket sales. Most of this money has come from sponsorships from businesses. Our Bronze Sponsors were South San Francisco Scavenger, Golden State Lumber, and Lyon Medical Construction. Our Silver sponsors were Recology, Sound Productions, Midtown

Market, and two anonymous donors. Our Gold sponsor was Baylands Development Inc. Our Platinum sponsors were Prologis, Orchard Partners, Amazon, Bristol Myers Squibb, Anna Sweeney and Brett Crockett. Finally, our Diamond sponsors were Phase 3 Properties and Healthpeak. Kaiser Permanente sponsored our virtual screening.

We also had donations of concessions, including truffles from Recchiuti, donation facilitated by Tom Seawell, Izze's and wine from Sharon Boggs, Popcorn by the City of Brisbane, Wine from Peju, donation facilitated by Frank Kern, Frank Kern and his partner Alan Velasco supplied all the beer, Terry O'Connell was our lemon drop mixologist, Izanami Sushi provided nearly 200 pieces of sushi, Voyage Real Estate gave everything for the charcuterie cups, and Leesa Greenlee did all the flower arranging. Sound Productions provided an incredible audio and visual setup and a big thanks to the City of Brisbane for the space and staffing.

We dedicated the evening in the memory of Lion Dan Sorrentino, who recently passed. Dan was a champion of LUNAFEST, always one of the first people to help me set up the day before the event, hauling coolers in his truck and other items from the Lions storage unit. He did everything with a smile and a chuckle. He wasn't called "Dan Can Do" for nothing.

To everyone who has attended or supported LUNAFEST, thank you! It was an incredible ride.

## WATER & SEWER RATE INCREASES APPROVED THROUGH JUNE 2027

By: **CAROLINA YUEN**, Finance Director, City of Brisbane, [cyuen@brisbaneca.org](mailto:cyuen@brisbaneca.org)

At the April 20th City Council Meeting, the Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution 2023-17 increasing the charges for water and sewer services and setting the discount rate for the City's low-income rate assistance (LIRA) plan at 25% for all services. The City spends approximately \$40,000 each year from the City's General Fund for the LIRA program. See if you qualify for LIRA at [brisbaneca.org/lira](http://brisbaneca.org/lira).

The new rates go into effect June 15th, so customers will see the change on their August bill (which captures the June 15 – August 15 billing cycle).

Utilities participating in the State's Low Income Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) – which the City is one – have raised the maximum benefit for LIHWAP Arrearage Assistance from \$2,000 to \$15,000. More information can be found at [csd.ca.gov/waterbill](http://csd.ca.gov/waterbill).

If you'd like to discuss your bill in more detail, Utility Billing staff is offering office hours Mondays & Thursdays from 10am - noon and Wednesdays from 4pm - 6pm. And of course, you can always call Ligia Ferreira at (415) 508-2154 during business hours.

**YOU'RE INVITED TO A MIXER!**  
Wednesday, May 17 from 5-7PM  
Hosted by SSF Scavenger Co. at  
7 Mile House- 2800 Bayshore Blvd  
RSVP TO: [madison@brisbanechamber.org](mailto:madison@brisbanechamber.org)

## 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](mailto:madison@brisbanechamber.org)

**Join us for our May Mixer Wednesday, May 17 Hosted by South San Francisco Scavenger Company at 7 Mile House!**

Join us on May 17 from 5pm-7pm at 7 Mile House (2800 Bayshore Blvd) for a mixer hosted by SSF Scavenger! This is an excellent opportunity to network with local business professionals and city officials while enjoying refreshments provided by our host. Please RSVP by emailing [madison@brisbanechamber.org](mailto:madison@brisbanechamber.org)

**Saint Studio Has a New Location and a New Service!**

Saint Studio is now located at 345 Visitacion Ave. Come say hello and check out the new space!

We're also excited to announce that we're now offering Spray Tan services. Fresh glowy skin awaits, just in time for summer! Mention reading this in *The Luminary* for \$20 off your next service of \$40 or more (lash fills excluded). For more info, please visit [Saint-Studio.com](http://Saint-Studio.com)

**Coffee With Canepa is May 20 at Madhouse Coffee!**

Join Supervisor Canepa on May 20 at Madhouse Coffee (402 Visitacion Ave) from 10am- 11:30am to discuss the environment! RSVP by calling 650-363-4572

**Water and Sewer Rate Change**

At the April 20th City Council Meeting, the Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution 2023-17, increasing the charges for water and sewer services and setting the discount rate for the City's low-income rate assistance (LIRA) plan at 25% for all services. The new rates go into effect June 15th, so customers will see the

change on their August bill (which captures the June 15 – August 15 billing cycle). Learn if you qualify for LIRA at [brisbaneca.org/lira](http://brisbaneca.org/lira), or the State's Low Income Water Assistance Program (LIWAP) at [csd.ca.gov/waterbill](http://csd.ca.gov/waterbill).

**Celebrate AAPI Month in Brisbane!**

Brisbane's Inclusion, Diversity, Equity & Accountability (IDEA) Committee is holding a series of community events called the #WeAreBrisbane Series to celebrate the diversity in our city and the importance of building community through the sharing of arts and culture, learning & connecting. The first of the series is happening May 20th for National Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month through a 2-hour celebration under the Community Park Gazebo featuring free food from Asian-owned restaurants in Brisbane, local acts, and the chance to purchase a new Brisbane t-shirt for \$20! Registration is available for this free event at [brisbaneca.org/aapi](http://brisbaneca.org/aapi).

**Summer Concerts in the Park Series Lineup Announced**

The Brisbane Parks and Recreation Commission and Parks and Recreation Department have offered a summer concert series at our Community Park for more than a decade. It has become a summer staple for many residents, and we certainly appreciate the community support as reflected in both event attendance and sponsorships. This year the series will be held on select Fridays in July and select Sundays in August.

**2023 Concerts in the Park line up:**

Friday, 7/14 - Pride & Joy

Friday, 7/21 - DJ Sharon (sponsored by Lion's Club)

Friday, 7/28 - Livewire Band

Sunday, 8/6 - Local Brisbane Bands

Sunday, 8/13 - Houserockers

**The City of Brisbane is Hiring!**

The City of Brisbane is Hiring for the following positions: Firefighter/Paramedic, Lifeguard,

Recreation Leader (Summer/Youth Programs), Office Specialist (Finance), Building Permit Technician (Planning), and several Summer Interns. Apply at [brisbaneca.org/jobs](http://brisbaneca.org/jobs)

**Airplane Noise Over Brisbane**

The City is aware many residents in the southern end of Brisbane have been impacted by the airplane noise over town the last couple of weeks and has been in contact with SFO and Congressman Mullin's Office regarding this noise issue. The Airport has advised that they are repaving two runways, with construction expected to be completed by May 25th, if not earlier. Crews are working around the clock so that the project can be completed as quickly as possible. Thank you for your patience.

**Now Accepting Volunteer of The Year Submissions**

Do you know someone who has tirelessly given their time for the betterment of the community? We want to hear about them! Please send submissions for the 2023 Volunteer of the Year and Youth Volunteer of the Year to Noreen Leek at [nleek@brisbaneca.org](mailto:nleek@brisbaneca.org). These special individuals will be announced at the 2023 Day in the Park event.

**Peninsula Restaurant Week is May 19-27**

Peninsula Restaurant Week is happening again this year from May 19-21, and is sure to be an awesome 9 days for restaurants up and down the Peninsula (from Brisbane to Sunnyvale) that will be offering specials during PRW. If you'd like to get involved with PRW as a participating restaurant, please sign up for a webinar they're hosting on March 16th at 10am. Register at [brisbaneca.org/webinar-PRW](http://brisbaneca.org/webinar-PRW)

**Get City Hall in the palm of your hand! Get the free app, My Brisbane, to access information, submit service requests, and receive notifications. (Note: GoRequest is now My Brisbane but you will need to download the new, My Brisbane app.)**

### Supervisor's Message, continued from page 1

anti-to tobacco ordinances in California to combat this epidemic by imposing stiff fines to retailers who sell tobacco products to children or banned products such as e-cigarettes and flavored vape cartridges.

Big Tobacco has preyed on our youth with flavored products like bubblegum and cotton candy for years. The ordinance is a message to our retailers that if you are caught selling to minors or selling banned flavored tobacco products you will be fined heavily.

Because we know tobacco is a highly-profitable killer, the county will now conduct two mandatory compliance checks every year at every retail establishment that sells tobacco products. This is another huge step toward saving lives and

creating a world free from harmful tobacco products that are purely poison.

The improved public health safety standards in this ordinance give me hope that we can finally turn the tide against the tobacco industry's hold on our communities. For every life lost to tobacco, there's a family and a community left devastated by the loss. We owe it to them to keep up the fight against this deadly addiction.

Every single time a retailer sells a prohibited tobacco product, they are contributing to the tobacco epidemic and putting many lives at risk. We must hold them accountable and demand better for our communities.

The new ordinance restricts where new retailers may be located: no new Tobacco Retailer Permit will be issued to a location within 1,000 of a Youth-

Populated Area, or within 500 feet of a location already occupied by another tobacco retailer. "Youth-Populated Areas" is updated to include college campuses.

It also increases fines up to \$500 for the first violation, and up \$1,000 for all subsequent violations within a 60-month period and requires that a permit be suspended if a business is found to have sold tobacco products to persons under the age of 21.

This is about public health and keeping Big Tobacco products out of the hands of children. Enforcement must be prioritized if we want to reach the ultimate goal of having a tobacco free San Mateo County.

### CareDX, continued from page 1

needed to find the best space to accommodate our existing workforce." CareDx decided to move to 3260 Bayshore Blvd in Brisbane. A few employees had been eyeing the building for several years and were quite pleased it was available. The building holds its clinical lab and processes all tests. "We love Brisbane because we have a beautiful location. I have a view of the Bay from my desk. Being in Brisbane is perfect because we are surrounded by the biotech community in the area," says Czene.

On the horizon for CareDx is harnessing the power of AI to look at risk outcomes and detecting trends in blood to predict the likelihood of failure. The company also plans to create tests for other organs like the liver. In addition, CareDx is excited about driving innovation for stem cell transplantation on how that might help cancer patients.

For more information on CareDx, visit [caredx.com](http://caredx.com)

and follow them on social media @caredx. The Chamber appreciates the opportunity to share with you about this business and is excited about the future of biotech here in Brisbane. Companies like CareDx are changing the world right in our backyard.



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\*\*Indicates Chamber Circle Members

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### Skin Body Zen

Amber Doyle  
277 San Francisco Ave Unit A, Brisbane  
415-769-4184  
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## BIOTECH/BIO SCIENCE

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3260 Bayshore Blvd, Brisbane  
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[www.caredx.com](http://www.caredx.com)

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[brisbanedanceworkshop@gmail.com](mailto:brisbanedanceworkshop@gmail.com)  
[www.brisbanedanceworkshop.org](http://www.brisbanedanceworkshop.org)

### Brisbane Eagles Lodge #3255

185 Visitacion Ave, Brisbane  
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### Brisbane Lions Club

PO Box 317, Brisbane  
[www.brisbanelions.org](http://www.brisbanelions.org)

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[www.brisbanevillage.org](http://www.brisbanevillage.org)

### KC Upcycle

Karen Cunningham

### Lyrical Opposition

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[www.lyricalopposition.org](http://www.lyricalopposition.org)

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44 Visitacion Ave Ste #206, Brisbane  
415-467-6631  
[info@mountainwatch.org](mailto:info@mountainwatch.org)  
[www.mountainwatch.org](http://www.mountainwatch.org)

### Sierra Point Yacht Club

500 Sierra Point Pkwy, Brisbane  
650-952-0651  
[www.sierrapointyc.org](http://www.sierrapointyc.org)

### Vitalant

Alexandra Carter  
400 Valley Dr, Brisbane  
877-258-4825  
[www.vitalant.org](http://www.vitalant.org)

## CONSULTANTS

### MB Consulting

Mitch Bull  
[mitchbull.sf@gmail.com](mailto:mitchbull.sf@gmail.com)

## CONSTRUCTION

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100 N Hill Dr #20, Brisbane  
415-469-7116  
[www.christopherwellsconstruction.com](http://www.christopherwellsconstruction.com)

### Gil Construction & Associates

200 Valley Dr #19, Brisbane  
650-992-7800  
[www.gilconstruction.yolasite.com](http://www.gilconstruction.yolasite.com)

### \*\*Lyon Medical Construction\*\*

100 N Hill Dr #52, Brisbane  
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[brisbanedanceworkshop@gmail.com](mailto:brisbanedanceworkshop@gmail.com)  
[www.brisbanedanceworkshop.org](http://www.brisbanedanceworkshop.org)

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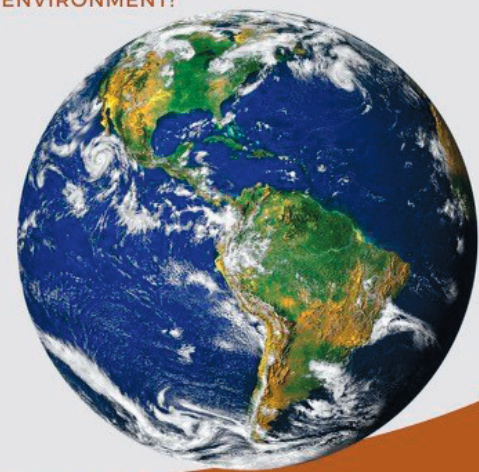
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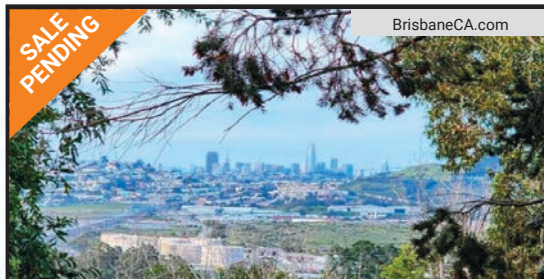
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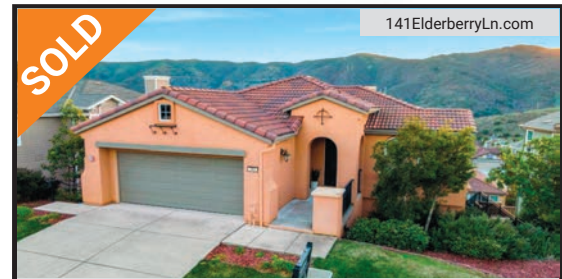
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## BLAST FROM BRISBANE'S PAST

The following article is from the December 28, 1972 issue of the *Brisbane Bee-Democrat*

### Year of Decision for Brisbane

By: Petra Fischer

Brisbane is facing "probably the most critical year in its history" since the city was incorporated 11 years ago, predicts City Manager Gene Aiello.

"It will be decided whether she really moves forward vigorously, stands still, or just withers and disappears," Aiello said, closely tying in the future of San Bruno Mountain with that of the small rural community nestled in one of its slopes.

Although Brisbane ranks third in a recent report to San Mateo County's Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) about spheres of influence, Aiello is optimistic.

"Things look pretty good," he said. "I think LAFCO will recognize we have the best claim to Crocker Industrial Park and the mountain, and the most logical decision would be to place these areas within our sphere of influence."

Such a decision could cut the tax rate up to one half for the first year after annexation and for years thereafter. But, Aiello pointed out, annexation of any kind won't be completed until 1973-74, and "nothing will be finally accomplished before 1974."

LAFCO's decision on the report is expected early next year.

Concerning the report's first recommendation to merge Daly City and Brisbane for annexation purposes, Aiello stated Brisbane "simply won't stand for it."

"There is no sentiment whatsoever in this community for the merger suggestion," he said. "And nobody can shove it down our throat."

The second recommendation, which assigns the area in question to Daly City, would "severely cripple Brisbane," Aiello warned. The city would lose the \$100,000 a year it now receives for the police and fire protection contract with the Guadalupe Valley Municipal Improvement District (GVMID) and thus be forced to substantially raise its \$1.24 tax rate.

"But I don't think all this will happen," Aiello assured. "Up until now, nobody has taken us seriously. But during the last year we have established the ground fairly well to annex the park and the mountain. Crocker wants us, and the merger recommendation to LAFCO went a hell of a long way in unifying this community."

He warned, however, any type of annexation will be controversial "unless this community further crystalizes its feelings."

"Whatever happens," he said, "will be largely what this community wants to happen. We therefore need critical and unemotional study, discussion, and examination of the issues, and of the assets and liabilities of each course of action"

With Brisbane's life "pretty much in balance," Aiello expects the tax rate to remain the same, at least for 1973. "I don't think we can raise it even if we wanted to," he said.

No tax increase above the level of this fiscal year is allowed under the just passed Reagan-Moretti tax reform and school aid bill (SB 90), either without a vote of the people or other conditions not likely to occur in Brisbane in the near future.

Revenue sharing will net the city about \$40,000 during the coming year, and the city manager has "some ideas about how to further increase the revenue base."

He would not divulge the details at this time, however.

Aiello hopes for a state planning grant should Brisbane require professional planning services to work out the particulars of annexation. For this, the staff needs not necessarily be increase, he said, as it can be done on a contractual basis.

With the work on the water improvement system about to begin, Aiello now plans to look into the possibility of applying for another HUD grant to improve the sanitary sewers and storm drains which, together with street work, constitute the city's next priorities.

The grant will depend on Brisbane's financial ability to share the cost, and the availability of categorical grants in general, be explained.

Work on the water system will begin right after the January 1 unless bad weather continues to delay the project. It will be completed by late summer.

The city engineer's first job in 1973 will be to coordinate the street improvement program. The extent of paving and repair is not known at this time, but Aiello said, "we plan to get the maximum use and leverage out of under-grounding and backfill involved with the water system project."

Plans to improve Old Bayshore are being worked on right now, Aiello said. Under a program with San Mateo County and the State Division of Highways, the entire length of the road will be repaved, striped and lighted. Traffic lanes will be rearranged, and the traffic signals improved wherever indicated.

Scheduled to be completed at the beginning of summer, work should start sometime this spring.

"We got quite a bit done last year," Aiello concluded, "and because of extensive preparation undertaken in all these areas, we can look forward to fairly good 1973."

## THE BAYLANDS - RESTORATION OF ICEHILL HOUSE

By: STEPHANIE SHAKOFSKY, Vice President Government Affairs - Baylands Development, Inc., [sshakofsky@bdisf.com](mailto:sshakofsky@bdisf.com)

In last month's edition of the Luminary, we wrote about the release of The Baylands Specific Plan and how it will guide the reimagining of the former industrial site. This month, we are diving into the specifics of the document and providing a snapshot of our plans to restore the existing IceHouse Hill open space.

An accessible and interwoven open space system is central to The Baylands Specific Plan. This network consists of diverse open area typologies that serve various recreation needs in the Brisbane community which includes the restoration of IceHouse Hill, a large habitat- focused area nestled between Bayshore Boulevard, the Caltrain tracks, and Main Street.

Design for the future 24.3-acre IceHouse Hill Park will enhance its ecological functions by protecting and improving existing native grasslands, coastal scrub, and small pockets of seasonal wetlands. Icehouse Hill is outside the project's remediation areas, and it is practically the only portion of the property with natural soils, which will help support its more natural character and habitat value by restoring impacted vegetation with invasive species management and the planting of native butterfly host species to increase butterfly habitat extent and quality.

IceHouse Hill Park will provide contemplative recreation for Brisbane residents through passive programming, such as native gardens, butterfly gardens, overlook(s), multi-use trails, and educational signage. Activities that produce loud or prolonged noises are prohibited to prevent adverse impacts on the surrounding habitat areas.

To learn more about The Baylands Specific Plan, please visit [www.brisbaneca.org/baylands](http://www.brisbaneca.org/baylands) or check out our website [www.thebaylands.com](http://www.thebaylands.com)



IceHill House Rendering

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# THE BRISBANE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE: WHO WE ARE & WHY YOU SHOULD JOIN US

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

With our annual membership issue, we would like to take some time to explain what the Brisbane Chamber does and why you should join us. The Chamber has been a Brisbane fixture since 1944, long before Brisbane officially became a city, and coordinated many of the city's events at that time. In addition, the Chamber established one of Brisbane's first publications, The Brisbane News Bulletin. This paper provided the residents of Brisbane with information about local businesses, town gossip, and critical news about issues impacting the community.

Absent a city government, the Brisbane Chamber of Commerce helped Brisbane get its footing in its early years. We raised funds for much-needed infrastructure, helped organize police and fire resources, arranged town hall meetings to bring the community together to discuss critical issues, and advocated on behalf of Brisbane at many Board of Supervisors meetings. The Chamber also established some of the city's most cherished traditions, such as hanging stars on homes during the holidays, which is why Brisbane is nicknamed the "City of Stars." From the beginning, the Brisbane Chamber of Commerce has worked to enhance the businesses of Brisbane and the community as a whole.

Today, we are a non-profit 501(c)(6) organization created through a partnership of businesses, civic leaders, and residents working together to enhance Brisbane's economic landscape. The Chamber Board includes senior executives from a cross-section of companies.

Our members include businesses of all sizes in a myriad of sectors. From sole proprietorships to Fortune 500 companies, the Chamber works collaboratively with businesses to help increase their visibility in the community, connect them with vital resources, and advocate for their interests locally, regionally, and at the state level.

We organize regular mixers and grand-opening ribbon-cutting ceremonies, send regular email newsletters, produce Brisbane's only business and community journal, The Luminary, provide college scholarships, coordinate a job-shadowing program and luncheon for students, and work to help our members connect with the resources they need. We host the annual State of



the City event, where the Mayor of Brisbane and city staff connect with residents and businesses about how the city is faring.

We support Brisbane Elementary School's paper- The Brisbane Buzz, and local events like the Brisbane Garden Show and the Star City San Bruno Half Marathon. We partnered with the city in 2021 and 2022 to award \$200,000 in grants to 34 Brisbane small businesses impacted by COVID-19. In 2022 we debuted a fundraiser Cabaret show with famed performer Leanne Broghesi at Mission Blue.

Our members enjoy an enhanced website directory listing, inclusion in the Chamber directory portion of the annual membership issue of The Luminary, and the ability to attend and host Chamber mixers, grand-opening, anniversary, or remodel ribbon-cutting ceremonies. Members also receive a membership certificate, a subscription to our email newsletter, and the ability to occasionally submit information about their business for inclusion in emails and the Business Bulletin section of The Luminary. Membership makes a business eligible for a front-page feature article in The Luminary and for dependents of employees to apply for the Chamber's college scholarship program. We offer B2B and B2C referrals and warm introductions to other businesses, city staff, and community leaders.

We offer additional marketing opportunities in The Luminary, our website, email newsletter, event sponsorships, online directory, and more! For more information about joining the Chamber, please email Chamber CEO Madison Davis at [madison@brisbanechamber.org](mailto:madison@brisbanechamber.org) or call 415-706-5276

## TAMARA PALMER-HEATH RETIRES FROM GOLDEN STATE LUMBER AFTER 24 YEARS

By: **DAN CARTER**, Chair of the Brisbane Chamber of Commerce Board

Tamara (or Tam as GSL employees lovingly call her) started at Golden State on June 15, 1998. Her final day as the Director of Operations was September 9, 2022.

"Tam was instrumental in the success of many Golden State Lumber employees, including me," says Andy Lopez, Vice President of Operations. He continues, "She not only helped us here at work, but she also made sure to help when our employees were in need at home."

Tamara had a sign that said "Principle," outside her door because she was regarded as a dependable leader. However, she did not take herself too seriously and could be a big jokester.

"Those of us here in our Brisbane yard will always remember Tam as a mentor, leader, teacher, and most of all, one of our family members," explains Andy.

In addition to her tenure with Golden State Lumber, Tamara has served on the Brisbane Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors for several years, many as Treasurer and member of our Scholarship Committee. She is also a member of the Brisbane Lions Club and serves on their scholarship

committee this year. We congratulate Tamara on her retirement and know she looks forward to spending more time with her husband Tom, and daughter Sam, while also traveling and continuing to volunteer with the Chamber and Lions Club.

Congratulations Tamara on a well-deserved retirement!



### BRISBANE School District News

## SUMMERTIME

By: **RONAN COLLVER**, Brisbane School District Superintendent, [rcollver@brisbanesd.org](mailto:rcollver@brisbanesd.org)

Ella Fitzgerald's lyrics "Summertime, and the living is easy" starts playing in my head this time of the year as we prepare to wrap up the school year and send all the students home for the summer. My mind goes to that special feeling that I would get as a child on the last day of school. For me the excitement was the sense of completion and the realization that responsibility just went out the window. If I am being honest, I really miss that feeling.

Summertime is a special time for children to play, explore and take a much needed break from school. The chance to play all day, every day is wonderful for children. They need those long days and weeks with no pressure to perform, pass tests, or prove themselves, except by their own choosing. Play is the natural habitat of children. At play, they are using all their minds and their hearts to learn and grow.

What never crossed my mind as a child was the stress my parents must have endured to find care for me when I was too young to be home alone as well as the stress when I was alone and exploring the neighborhoods. Perhaps that is what happens as we become adults; we shift from the excitement of summer to the stress of summer. Hopefully many families are able to plan vacations together and try to recapture that wonderful feeling many of us had

as children where we get to temporarily escape from our daily responsibilities.

As for the Brisbane School District, we will be finishing up the modernization of both Panorama and Brisbane Elementary Schools this summer. We are very excited to have all three of our campuses fully modernized and in top shape for the start of the 23-24 school year. Unfortunately, the elementary school's playgrounds will be all closed up and inaccessible for families to utilize during the summer months. We are thrilled to partner with The City of Brisbane to operate their summer programs out of Lipman Middle this summer. Their programs are always much needed in the community and offer a wonderful summer experience for the children in our community.

I wish all of the children in our school community a happy summer and I also hope that the adults are able to join in the relaxation and have moments where those childhood feelings of freedom and exploration take over. I look forward to seeing all of you in August!

## FINANCIAL Focus

## SOME 'DID YOU KNOWS' ABOUT ESTATE PLANNING

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

If you've done any estate planning, or even if you're just familiar with it, you probably know the basics — that is, a comprehensive estate plan can help you pass on assets to your family while also achieving other goals, such as designating someone to take care of your affairs if you become unable to do so. But you may not know about some other estate-planning issues that could prove important in your life:

- Power of attorney for students – Children heading off to college may be considered legal adults in many states. Consequently, you, as a parent, may not have any control over medical treatment if your child faces a sudden, serious illness or is involved in an accident. Instead, a doctor who doesn't know your child or your family may decide on a course of action of which you might not approve. To help prevent this, you may want to have your college student sign a medical power of attorney form, which will allow you to make decisions on your child's behalf if doctors don't think your child can make those choices. You might also want to combine the medical power of attorney with an advance health care directive or living will, which lets you specify actions you do or don't want to happen. In any case, consult with your legal advisor before taking any of these steps.
- Community property versus common law – Not all states treat married couples' possessions equally. If you live in a community property state, the property you acquire during your marriage is generally considered to be owned in equal halves by each spouse, with some exceptions. But if you live in a common law state, the property you obtain while you're married is not automatically owned by both spouses. In these states, if you buy some property, you own it, unless you decide to put it in the name of yourself and your spouse.
- This doesn't necessarily mean, however, that your spouse has no rights, because common law states typically have rules that guard surviving spouses from being disinherited. But here's the key point: If you move from a community property state to a common law state, or vice versa, you might not want to assume that your and your spouse's property ownership situations will remain the same. Consequently, if you do move, you may want to consult an estate-planning attorney in your new state to determine where you stand.
- Pet trusts – You always strive to take good care of your pets. But what might happen to them if you become incapacitated in some way? Unless you have a close family member or friend who's willing to take over care for your pet, you might want to consider setting up a pet trust, which can take effect either during your lifetime or after you pass away. A trustee typically will make payments to the caregiver you've designated for your pet, with payments continuing for the pet's lifetime or a set number of years. Again, an estate-planning attorney can help you with this arrangement.

Estate planning certainly involves the big-picture issue of leaving a legacy to the next generation. But the issues we've discussed can also be meaningful to you, so you'll want to address them properly.

## TRASH TALK-HOSTING A NO-WASTE PARTY

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

With Memorial Day, Father's Day, Graduation, and Independence Day all coming up, chances are you will soon be hosting or attending a celebration. Please plan to reduce the amount of waste created.

If you're responsible for food or beverages:

- Avoid providing more than necessary and have a plan for distributing leftovers. Consider asking guests to bring reusable containers to fill.
- Serve foods that don't require utensils and maybe not even a plate. Tacos, hot dogs, hamburgers, egg rolls, pizza, corn on the cob, watermelon, grapes, and cupcakes are great examples.
- Serve beverages and condiments from bulk containers.
- If plates, cups, and utensils are needed, plan to use reusables not disposables. Bring them from home, have guests bring their own, or rent them.

If you're decorating:

- Utilize tablecloths and napkins that are washable/reusable.
- Display centerpieces that guests will want to take home, can be reused, or are easily recycled or composted. Potted plants, flowers/greenery, and photos printed on recyclable paper are good ideas.
- Say no to balloons, confetti, glitter, or any plastic decorations.
- Provide well-labeled collection bins for recyclables, compostables, and garbage. Locate them side by side so one is as easy to find as another. Ask guests to please use them correctly. Make sure you set a good example by using them correctly yourself.
- Provide a collection area for dirty reusable plates, cups, and utensils. Ideally, this should be near the collection bins mentioned above.

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If you're giving a gift:

- Avoid greeting cards and wrap that can't be reused or recycled. Cards and wrap with foil, glitter, and similar adornments cannot be recycled.
- Give the gift of an experience instead of something that will eventually need to be disposed. Tickets to sporting or concert events, memberships, and gift cards to favorite stores are good examples.

If you're willing to go the extra mile:

Make custom signs for your waste collection bins. List or use graphics to show party-related items that belong inside each bin-- especially those that tend to be confusing. For example, show that paper cupcake wrappers belong in the compost bin. If you need help determining what belongs in which bin, visit [www.ssfscavenger.com/sort-smart](http://www.ssfscavenger.com/sort-smart) and use the handy search tool!

Can you think of more helpful tips? Please email them to [info@ssfscavenger.com](mailto:info@ssfscavenger.com).

~SAN MATEO~  
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