# STAR



City of Brisbane Monthly Newsletter August 2019 Volume 16, Issue 8

# The City of Stars Wants to See Stars

When our ancestors would look up at the night sky, they would see a beautiful plethora of stars. Unfortunately today, artificial lights wash out our starry night skies. Light pollution is the excessive use of artificial light during the night and it has adverse health effects, disrupts ecosystems, and wastes energy. All organisms rely on their biological clocks to help guide their survival behaviors, however, street lamps and other night lights are disrupting the natural day-to-night light pattern and influencing behavior change. For example, night lights may confuse birds and cause them to wander into dangerous areas. While some light is required for safety, there are many ways that we can help to reduce light pollution. For instance:







Put simply, consider your neighbors, both human and non-human, and help bring back our starry night skies.

# The STAR has Gone to 100% Recycled Paper & Soy-Based Ink!

Did you know that a single sheet of paper requires 160 cups of water to produce? We find that to be pretty outrageous, and thus have decided to go to 100% recycled paper for printing the publication you're reading right now, the monthly STAR Newsletter. Of course, doing the right thing sometimes comes at a cost, which in this case equates to slightly more expensive paper stock. But the August 2019 issue is also the first issue where a 16-page Activity Guide is no longer being included as a special insert.

In a decision complementary to our desire to reduce our paper footprint, the Parks and Recreation Department will be piloting no longer publishing an Activity Guide every quarter (April, August & December). However, a 1-page "Active Adults & Seniors" page will still be regularly provided to the staff at the Senior Sunrise Room for distribution to residents interested in receiving a copy. Other recreation programs, activities, classes, and events will have flyers still made and will be posted electronically on the City's website and shared via other electronic platforms including social media. When you

take the two items together – going to recycled paper and not printing the Activity Guide, there is a cost-savings of \$3,000 per year.

Friendly Parks & Recreation department staff are happy to assist residents with identifying where they can locate all the necessary information to serve their recreational needs and they thank you for your support of this environmentally-sustainable decision. If you have any questions concerning this pilot program for the Activity Guide, please contact Recreation Manager Noreen Leek at <a href="mailto:nleek@brisbaneca.org">nleek@brisbaneca.org</a>. And don't forget! When you're done reading this issue, be sure to place it under the gray lid of your recycle bin.



# **Transportation Survey – Data Results and Raffle Winners**

The City received valuable feedback from over 130 respondents to the online Transportation Survey released in April on City social media and made available through May 20. The survey was a joint effort of City staff, the Complete Streets Safety Committee, and the Open Space and Ecology Committee to better understand the travel behavior of residents and non-resident commuters. Below are some highlights.

- Among working Brisbane residents, almost half travel northbound (San Francisco/Alameda/Marin counties) the most common commute direction.
- The most prevalent reasons why people do not use public transit include long travel times, coordination among too many modes, and a lack of convenient routes or stops.
- Student respondents tend to travel more often by transit than by car, with the Commute.org shuttle, BART, and SamTrans being the most popular systems used.
- Nearly 40% of non-resident commuters indicated that their trips to/from Brisbane include at least two modes. We can infer that most, if not all, of these trips include public transit, walking, or biking at some point.
- When asked if they would consider an electric vehicle (EV), nearly 45% of non-resident commuters and 30% of
  residents reported planning to purchase an EV for their next vehicle, with another 14% of residents responding
  already owning at least one. The most common reason why people do not own an EV is the relatively high purchase
  cost.
- Respondents stated their ideal transit systems would be less expensive, more direct, and run more frequently.
   They'd like to see shuttles running on weekends and earlier and later on weekdays. Some residents also expressed how they wished the Bayshore Caltrain station could be moved closer to them and/or be easier to access.
- Some noteworthy suggestions include promotion of electrically assisted bikes for Brisbane's hilly terrain, a bike share system between Caltrain and central Brisbane, more EV charging stations, and more education about transit options.

We thank all respondents for taking the time to share their input as we analyze potential improvements based on the data. Look for informative "Transportation Tidbits" in upcoming issues of the STAR. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Assistant Engineer Justin Yuen at <a href="mailto:juuen@brisbaneca.org">juuen@brisbaneca.org</a> or Sustainability Management Analyst Adrienne Etherton at <a href="mailto:juuen@brisbaneca.org">juuen@brisbaneca.org</a>.

Finally, congratulations to the winners of the \$50 gift certificates for Melissa's Taqueria, Julie's Deli, and Madhouse Coffee: Kris (left), Ariana (right), and Peter!





# Please Take our New Short-Term Rental Survey

Recently, short term rentals (STRs) of 30 days or less in residential dwellings have emerged as an affordable lodging option for travelers, and a source of supplemental income for homeowners or permanent residents. Web-based hosting platforms like Airbnb, VRBO, and Homeaway have contributed to the popularity of STRs by making it easier for STR operators to connect with renters

In Brisbane, our Municipal Code currently does not allow STRs in the City's residential zoning districts. Brisbane residents may recall that the Planning Commission and City Council held several workshops and public hearings in 2015 to collect public feedback on whether or not the Municipal Code should be changed to allow STRs in Brisbane's residential neighborhoods; you may have even participated in the City's first STR survey in the March 2015 STAR publication!

Four years after beginning the STR conversation, the City Council in February 2019 directed the Planning Commission to prepare an ordinance to regulate STRs in Brisbane's residential zoning districts. While STRs can provide a reliable and flexible source of supplemental income for hosts, the City's regulations must balance the quality of life issues that can often result from STRs, such as parking and noise impacts. The Planning Commission held a workshop on June 27th to discuss these issues and others, and determined that more community input was needed on specific policy topics.

Make your voice heard by filling out the new STR online survey available now through August 31<sup>st</sup> at <a href="www.tinyurl.com/brisbaneSTRsurvey">www.tinyurl.com/brisbaneSTRsurvey</a>. Get notified of future STR public meetings by emailing <a href="planning@brisbaneca.org">planning@brisbaneca.org</a>.

Thank you in advance for completing our survey and being a part of this important process in your City!









Sign up to receive Emergency Alerts from the City. This alert notification system is used to send emergency alerts, notifications and updates via email, phone or other portable digital devices. All San Mateo County residents or employees may sign up for a SMC Alert account for free at smcalert.info.

Want to run an epic trail race with amazing views? And join a great music festival at the finish?

# STAR CITY SAN BRUNO MTN. HALF MARATHON & 5K

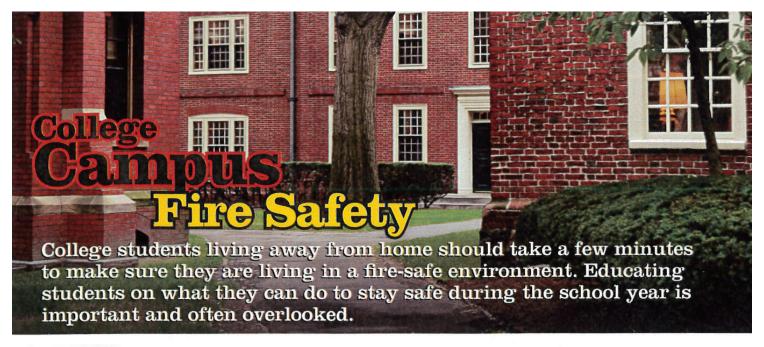
RACE ENTRY AT: STARCITYHALFMARATHON.WORDPRESS.COM/

Half Marathon entry gets you into the Festival & a lunch ticket from the Brisbane Lions Club (tri-tip sandwiches)!

OR RUN THE 5K AT 10:15AM ON CROCKER PARK TRAIL!

(5k entry does not include the festival ticket and meal ticket from the Lions Club)

SATURDAY AUG 17, 2019 10AM (FESTIVAL GATES OPEN AT NOON)



#### SAFETY TIPS

- Look for fully sprinklered housing when choosing a dorm or off-campus housing.
- Make sure you can hear the building alarm system when you are in your dorm room.
- If you live in a dormitory, make sure your sleeping room has a smoke alarm, or your dormitory suite has a smoke alarm in each living area as well as the sleeping room. For the best protection, all smoke alarms in the dormitory suite should be interconnected so that when one sounds, they all sound.
- If you live in an apartment or house, make sure smoke alarms are installed in each sleeping room, outside every sleeping area, and on each level of the apartment unit or house. For the best protection, all smoke alarms in the apartment unit or house should be interconnected so that when one sounds, they all sound.
- Test all smoke alarms at least monthly.
- Never remove batteries or disable the alarm.
- Learn your building's evacuation plan and practice all drills as if they were the real thing.
- If you live off campus, have a fire escape plan with two ways out of every room.
- When the smoke alarm or fire alarm sounds, get out of the building quickly and stay out.
- Stay in the kitchen when cooking.
- Cook only when you are alert, not sleepy or drowsy from medicine or alcohol.
- Check with your local fire department for any restrictions before using a barbeque grill, fire pit, or chimenea.
- Check your school's rules before using electrical appliances in your room.

# Smoking Sense

If you smoke, smoke outside and only where it is permitted, Use sturdy, deep, nontip ashtrays. Don't smoke in bed or when you've been drinking or are drowsy.

Burn candles only if the school permits their use. A candle is an open flame and should be placed away from anything that can burn. Never leave a candle unattended. Blow it out when you leave the room or go to sleep.

# FACT

- (!) Fires in dormitories are more common during the evening hours, between 5-11 pm, and on weekends.
- (!) Roughly six out of seven fires in dormitories are started by cooking.





# **August Library Calendar**

#### **SPECIAL EVENTS**

# All Summer until August 31 - Summer Learning Challenge

Take the Summer Learning Challenge! All ages and abilities are welcome. Weekly drawings and a chance to win a \$1,000 scholarship available for youth ages 18 and under! Contact your local library for more information. Register and track your progress online at www.summerlearners.org or pick up a paper log at the Brisbane Library!

#### Tuesdays, August 4 to 27 at 4pm – TED-Ed Club

TED-Ed Student Talks help students discover their big ideas and develop them into short TED-style talk. This program is a series of sessions and is designed to support students age 8-18 with a flexible presentation training curriculum. Participants should plan on attending all sessions if possible. **TED-Ed Club Series Dates: August 4, 6, 13, 20 & 27** 

# Wednesdays, August 7, 14, 21 & 28 at 11:30am to 12:30pm – Tech Help Drop-In

Struggling with your phone, apps, email or something else? Need help downloading an eBook or opening an attachment? Visit the Brisbane Library on Wednesdays from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm for a Tech Help Drop-In one-on-one, supportive technology tutoring session.

# Saturdays, August 3, 17 & 31 at 1pm to 2pm - Drop-In eMedia Help

Want to download an eBook or stream music or movies on your personal device (laptop, iPad or mobile phone but don't know how? Bring your device and appropriate passwords and take advantage of personal instruction from library staff.

# Saturdays, August 10, 24 & 31 at 3pm - Project STEAM

This summer, we will be doing hands-on STEAM projects for kids ages 8 to 12 years old. STEAM stands for science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics. This is a recurring Summer Learning event. Project STEAM is a Drop In event, no registration required.

# Wednesdays, August 14 and 28 at 3pm –Teen/Tween Hang

Calling all tweens/teens! Come hang at the library for snacks, games, anime showings, movies, comic book discussions, and other fun activities.

### Thursdays, August 8 & 22nd at 11:30am – Spanish/ English Bilingual Storytime

Join us for bilingual Spanish/English stories, songs, and activities for preschoolers.

# Thursday, August 15, 12:30pm – Giant Games at the Park

Come hang out with the Library at the Community Park! We'll have giant games, hula hoops, and more. Weather permitting.

# Saturday, August 17 at 10:30am - Book Arts Roadshow Workshop

Learn how to make: a sewn book, an adhesive book, and a folded book! Book Arts Roadshow will provide a show-and-tell, materials and hands-on instruction. All you need to bring with you is your enthusiasm! For Adults & High Schoolers. Registration required. Please contact the Brisbane Library to sign up.

# Tuesday, August 20, 7:30pm - Friends of the Brisbane Library Meeting

Do you love your library? Would you like to have a say in its future? Come to a Friends of the Brisbane Library meeting. New people are always welcome.

#### RECURRING EVENTS FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

#### Mondays at 10:30am - Preschool Storytime

Join us for a fun morning of stories, songs, movement, and play! Ideal for ages  $2\frac{1}{2}$  and up.

#### Mondays at 4pm - Art Explorers

Join us for process art projects. It will get messy, so please dress for mess! No registration is required for this program. All ages and abilities are welcome.

#### Tuesdays at 11:30am - Baby Bounce and Rhyme Time

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

#### Wednesdays at 10:30 am - Toddler Storytime

Join us for a fun morning of stories, songs, movement, and play! Ideal for ages 18 months to 3 years.





2019 Summer Learning Challenge is still going on until August 31st!

Stop by the Brisbane Library to pick up your reading log and get a free book.

Youth prizes include a \$1,000 scholarship!

# **August City Calendar**



Check the City's online calendar for the latest: www.brisbaneca.org/calendar.

Residential Street Sweeping: 2nd Monday of Every Month Commercial Street Sweeping: Every Weds. AM (Visitacion Ave. enforced 3-6AM) Brisbane Farmers' Market: Every Thurs. 3-7PM

#### 02, Friday, 6:00pm-8:30pm

Concerts in the Park – Lost Dog Found (Rock & Roll)



#### 05, Monday, 6:30pm

Complete Streets Safety Committee Meeting

#### 08, Thursday, 7:30pm

Planning Commission Meeting, B

#### 09, Friday, 6:00pm-8:30pm

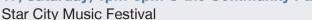
Concerts in the Park – Busta-Groove (Party Music)



#### 17, Saturday, 10am @ the Community Park

Star City San Bruno Mtn. Half Marathon and 5k (10:15am)

# 17, Saturday, 1pm-8pm @ the Community Park





#### 21, Wednesday, 6:30pm

Open Space and Ecology Committee Meeting, B

#### 22, Thursday, 7:30pm

Planning Commission Meeting, B

## 29, Thursday, 6:30pm @ Mission Blue Center

Brisbane Baylands Developer Workshop

Note: The City Council resumes regular meetings on Thursday, September 5th at 7:30pm. The Parks and Recreation Commission's August meeting was cancelled. Their next regularly scheduled meeting will be Wednesday, September 11th at 6:30pm.

> B - Meeting broadcast on Ch. 27 and on www.brisbaneca.org/live-streaming

City Hall Regular Hours of Operation:

M, T, Th 8am-5pm, W 8am-8pm, F 8am-1pm

Do you have guestions about the STAR or have an article to suggest? Articles are due by the 15th of each month. Contact

Caroline at ccheung@brisbaneca.org or call her at (415) 508-2157.



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Brisbane Lions Club

**BBQing** 

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SATURDAY, SEPT. 14

SUNRISE CENTER, 2 VISITACION AVE.

FROM 3-5 P.M.

MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT

- Learn how volunteers make a difference.
- \* Learn how members can receive assistance.
- Enjoy food, friendship and fun!



FRIDAYS 6:00 PM



For more information:

Call 415-508-2185; Visit our website: Brisbanevillage.org; Email us at brisbanevillagehelpinghands@gmail.com





