



OUR Voice

Oakland Unified Residents



Spring/Summer
2016

www.oakha.org

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The Scoop

The Golden State Warriors

have spent this past season dazzling fans with their on-court brilliance and shattered the record books at every turn. Led by Stephen Curry—the two-time MVP of the NBA—the Warriors are no less brilliant off the court. Every member of the team is committed to our local community and they work tirelessly year-round in support of the many charitable organizations that help families, youth, seniors, people with disabilities and many more.



Thanks to generous support from Warriors players and season ticket holders, the Warriors Community Foundation donates thousands of tickets each season to local schools and nonprofits that serve children and families. The Warriors also support qualified community organizations by donating autographed memorabilia, promotional items and player appearances. To request an in-kind donation for your church group or nonprofit (i.e., 501 (c) 3) organization visit the Foundation's website at <http://www.nba.com/warriors/communityfoundation>.

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Congresswoman Lee and HUD Secretary Castro Visit OHA

In April, Congresswoman Barbara Lee (CA-13) assembled elected officials and community advocates at the Oakland Housing Authority's West District Office, to discuss the region's affordable housing crisis. The Congresswoman brought together a powerful group of local leaders including Oakland Mayor Libby Schaaf and Council President Lynette Gibson McElhaney to meet with U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Secretary, Julian Castro.



Congresswoman Lee is joined by (l-r) Oakland Mayor Libby Schaaf, HUD Secretary Julian Castro, Oakland City Council President Lynette Gibson-McElhaney

Congresswoman Lee used the opportunity to discuss with Secretary Castro the dire need for more affordable housing in Oakland. During the meeting, the Congresswoman focused the conversation on keeping Oakland affordable and maintaining our diversity. The meeting with Secretary Castro shed a national spotlight on our housing crisis and displacement. Congresswoman Lee acknowledged, "Right now, Oakland rents are growing faster than any other place in the nation and housing is getting further out of reach for many fami-

lies. If the average Oakland resident had to move today into a market-rate apartment, they would spend 70% of their income on housing. This is a crisis affecting us all and it's clear that coordinated action is needed," said Congresswoman Lee. "In Congress, I'm fighting for more federal resources to keep families in the neighborhoods that they call home. Earlier this year, I was proud to help win a 34% increase in Alameda County's

continued in Issues & Politics

History in the Making

Scheduled to open, Saturday, September 24, 2016, The Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture is sure to quickly become one of America's best treasures. The museum has formally been in the making for 13 years, but tells a story that has taken over 600 years to craft.



The 400,000-square-foot building will have five levels above ground and four more below. The newest addition to the Smithsonian Institution includes exhibition space, a theater and café, staff offices and an education center.

The museum says that the "signature space" is a water and light-filled memorial area called the Contemplative Court, where

visitors are invited to reflect on the stories told within the building. A reflecting pool at the south entry is endowed with a purpose—"calm waters meant to invite all to approach."

Learn more about this important part of American history at Smithsonian.com.

Spotlight

Homeownership Program

To date, a total of 108 participants have purchased through the homeownership program, including:

- A single parent mother of four girls purchased a four bedroom home in East Oakland.
- Another single parent with two children purchased a two bedroom home in East Oakland.
- A disabled participant also achieved her dream of homeownership. She purchased a six bedroom home in East Oakland where she will reside with her five children.

FSS

In 2015, twelve participants graduated the FSS program. The total escrow disbursed in 2015 was \$86,314.24; the average amount disbursed was \$7,192.85.

Civic Engagement and Leadership Development

In 2015, residents played an active role in many OHA civic engagement and leadership development activities, notably our Neighborhood Leadership Institute (NLI) and Neighborhood Orientation Workshop (NOW). For the 2015 Spring and Fall sessions, 26 residents completed the NLI workshop series. We also saw 232 residents participate in NOW workshops.

For more information about these programs contact FCP at (510) 587-5115.

Please send names of OHA family and friends who have recent accomplishments you'd like to share with the housing community.

Send entries to: ohacommunications@oakha.org

Summer Fun in the Sun

The Eastbay Regional Parks District hosts a number of activities and programs throughout the Bay Area for the community. Some of these activities include:

- Free Outdoor Movie Nights
- Special Interest Classes
- Day Camps
- Trails Challenge
- Kids Challenge
- Community Outreach Programs



You can spend the day boating, biking, fishing or simply just relaxing and enjoying nature at a nearby park. This summer, grab the kids or a friend, pack a lunch and some water and head out for some fun in the sun. Some activities do require advance registration, which can be done online at www.ebparks.org/activities/recreation#days

Additional information about summer activities can be found on OHA's website on the Events & Activities page (under the "Residents" tab) at www.oakha.org.

Guidelines for Section 8 Unit Repairs

If your unit needs repairs, **notify your landlord in writing**. Be specific on the needed repair(s) and how it is affecting you as a tenant. Allow your landlord at least 72 hours (for non-emergency repairs) to respond to your request. If the landlord does not make needed repairs, contact the following agencies:

- For emergencies related to utilities being disconnected by PG&E, or the unit being unlivable due to a fire, immediately contact Oakland Housing Authority at (510) 587-2100.
- For mold, mildew and lead poison, contact Healthy Homes at: (510) 567-8280 or visit <http://www.achhd.org/healthyhome/maint.htm>.
- For rodent, bedbug or termite problems, contact Alameda Vector Control Services at (510) 567-6800 or visit <http://www.acvcsd.org>.



- For sewage spillage, back-up or potential emergency situations, contact City of Oakland Code & Compliance at (510) 238-3381 or email: pwacallcenter@oaklandnet.com.

For more information on when and how to contact Oakland Housing Authority for unresolved repairs in your unit, review the complaint inspections fact sheet at <http://www.oakha.org/PropertyOwners/HQS-inspections/Pages/default.aspx>.

Summer Lunch Program

Through a partnership with the City of Oakland's Department of Human Services' Summer Food Service Program, OHA's Family and Community Partnership Department (FCP) is excited to announce that they will continue to host a Summer Lunch Program in East Oakland.



Children ages 1 to 18 years old are invited to come have lunch with staff from FCP June 13 to August 12. FCP Resident Interns will serve free healthy meals at Lockwood Gardens, located at 1327 65th Ave., Oakland, CA 94621. We will serve the children beginning at 12:00 pm and meal service will end at 1:00pm daily, Monday through Friday. All children in the surrounding community are also welcomed.

Children can simply walk into the Lockwood Gardens computer lab and enjoy a nutritious meal with us.

The Department of Agriculture has approved each delicious meal as an opportunity to encourage healthy eating habits. The lunch is a balanced meal that has



portions made for children. The menu varies and usually has food from all the basic food groups.

In the last 4 summers, over 4,000 meals have been served at OHA sites. The meals help children in East Oakland obtain the nutrition they need to learn, play, and grow throughout the summer.

Success Stories

Ms. Riviore is an East Oakland resident who joined OHA's Family Self Sufficiency program in August 2012. As an active participant, she took advantage of various programs offered through the Family & Community Partnerships department including the Women's Group, Resident Leadership and Employment Development.



In 2014, Ms. Riviore was hired through the Section 3 program as a janitor with IMPEC/NOVA Janitorial, where she worked diligently and successfully maintained her employment. In February 2016, she attended an MGA Employee Services hiring event hosted at OHA's West District office and was hired immediately to be the on-call janitor at UCSF. She is currently working 40 hours a week and loves her new job. Congratulations! OHA wishes you continued success.

RESOURCES

Are you unemployed, underemployed or looking to return to the workforce, but don't know where to start? Visit a One-Stop Career Center to receive free assistance on job search, career exploration, skills and aptitudes assessment, vocational training, job placement, and supportive services at the following locations:

Oakland Downtown Career Center

1212 Broadway, Suite 100, Oakland, CA 94612
(510) 768-4400

SSA Eastmont Town Center

7200 Bancroft Ave, Suite 140, Oakland, CA 94605
(510) 568-8349

The Unity Council Multi-Cultural Career Center

1900 Fruitvale Avenue, Oakland, CA 94601
(510) 535-6101

West Oakland Career Center

1801 Adeline St., Oakland, CA 94607
(510) 419-0392

Lao Family Community Development, Inc.

1551 23rd Avenue, Oakland, CA 94606
(510) 533-8850

For more information on the services provided by the One-Stop Career Centers, visit the Private Industry Council, Inc. (PIC) webpage at <http://oaklandpic.org/> or Alameda County Workforce Investment Board (ACWIB) at <http://www.acwib.org/job-seeker/services/> or EASTBAY Works at <http://www.eastbayworks.org/>.

YOUR VOICE

Q: I lost my job last year and have been having a hard time finding a new one. Does OHA offer help with finding work or learning new skills??

A: On July 22, 2014, President Obama signed the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) into law. WIOA is designed to help job seekers access employment, education, training, and support services to succeed in the labor market and to match employers with the skilled workers they need to compete in the global economy. Locally, the Oakland Private Industry Council serves as the facilitator of the career counseling, job search assistance, and pre-employment and life skills training, which is tailored to each person's needs.

OHA residents are eligible for the following services following attendance at a WIOA enrollment orientation:

- **4 Keys to Success: 4-day job search workshop series** (Preparing for Job Search, Writing Resumes, Interviewing, Getting & Keeping the Job)
- **One-on-One support with your job search from an Employment Counselor**
- **Job Referrals and On-Site Recruiting Events**
- **Basic Computer Classes, Typing Speed Development, and Typing Certificates**
- **KeyTrain** (e.g. *Basic Skills: Reading, Math, Locating Information; Career Skills: Job Search/ Business Etiquette, Problem Solving & Customer Service* etc.)
- **Resume Critique and Interview Preparation** (resume workshops & one-on-one coaching; mock interviews & video-recorded interview coaching)
- **Possible Vocational Training or On-the-Job Training (OJT) opportunities** (based on funding, labor market & need to re-enter the workforce)
- **Possible supportive services based on individual need** (e.g.: transportation, interview clothing, tools, uniforms, union dues, textbooks)

RAB Blog

The OHA Resident Advisory Board (RAB) would like to encourage all residents to attend a board meeting. The RAB provides residents with a forum to share, learn, and discuss matters that are relevant to community members. It also provides an opportunity for residents to learn about the OHA Annual Plan and discuss policies that impact the entire OHA community. If you believe in the availability of quality affordable housing and wish to support the OHA community, the RAB is for you!

RAB meetings are held on the first Thursdays of each month, from 5:00pm to 7:00pm, at 1619 Harrison Street. The meetings are open to the public. Dinner and transportation assistance are provided for each meeting. If you have any questions or are interested in participating, please call 510-587-5129.

RAB'S MISSION STATEMENT

To ensure that OHA Public Housing Residents and Section 8 Participants actively participate in the decision making process regarding OHA policies and procedures and are actively engaged in their community as leaders.

The RAB meets the 1st Thursday of each month from 5:00pm to 7:00pm at 1619 Harrison Street. For more information about the meeting, please call (510) 587-5129.

EDUCATION

Mayor Launches Oakland Promise



Oakland Mayor Libby Schaaf recently launched **Oakland Promise**, a “cradle-to-college” initiative designed to support Oakland children on their educational path from birth through college graduation. Comprised of four separate components, Oakland Promise has a goal to deliver financial and other support to 200,000 children by the year 2026. The four initiatives, Brilliant Baby, K2College, Future Centers, and College Scholarships & Completion, target the child as they move through childhood and adolescence, and research indicates that the combination of these specific supports leads to higher rates of college graduation, eventually earning the student \$1.3 million more, on average, over the course of their careers than those with a high school diploma alone.

Brilliant Baby: Through a two-generational approach, babies born into poverty in Oakland will have a college savings account of \$500 opened in their names, setting an expectation for college from birth. New mothers and/or fathers will benefit from parenting support, financial coaching, and the opportunity to earn financial awards as they take steps to promote their children’s well-being.

Kindergarten to College (K2C): Beginning in the fall of 2016, every Oakland child entering kindergarten in OUSD will have a college savings account opened in his or her name through a phased approach over three years, expanding to charters beginning in fall 2017.

Future Centers: School-based advising centers will be opened in Oakland high schools and large middle schools to support college and career planning for all students. Students will develop a career and college plan and get help applying for college, financial aid, scholarships, and high leverage internships.

College Scholarships and Completion: Oakland Promise’s vision is that every qualifying student will have access to college scholarships of \$1,000 to \$16,000

over the course of his or her college career within a decade.

To learn more about Oakland Promise, the plans for phasing in the various components of the program and participation requirements, please visit the website at www.OaklandPromise.org or email David Silver, Director of Education for Oakland Mayor Libby Schaaf: dsilver@oaklandnet.com.

Teen Scene

Summer Employment

Oakland Housing Authority is helping fund summer employment opportunities for our resident youth, ages 16-21. Through the Oakland Mayor’s Classrooms2Careers Program (C²), Youth Uprising, Lao Family Community Development, and Youth Employment Partnership will help place up to 260 OHA youth into jobs in various fields including construction, clerical, childcare, education and retail. Submit a completed 2016 C² application at one of OHA’s resident services offices at either 935 Union Street or 1327 65th Avenue.

OHA staff from the Family and Community Partnerships (FCP) department will assist with the application process. Download applications from the OHA website www.oakha.org—then click Residents/Resident Programs/FCP Events and Activities. For more information, please contact FCP at 510-587-5115.



Summer Alphabet Challenge

Can you come up with a summer themed word for each letter of the alphabet?

A _____	H _____	O _____
B _____	I _____	P _____
C _____	J _____	Q _____
D _____	K _____	R _____
E _____	L _____	S _____
F _____	M _____	T _____
G _____	N _____	U _____
		V _____
		W _____
		X _____
		Y _____
		Z _____



Dress the Part!



Wardrobe for opportunity

Founded originally to provide professional clothing for women, Wardrobe for Opportunity has expanded to provide in-depth, 360 degree professional development for men and women. www.wardrobe.org

Dress for Success

Job ready women, who are referred by a range of non-profit organizations, work with a volunteer personal shopper who helps select professional attire and provide support as well as encouragement for the upcoming interview. www.dressforsuccess.org

For a list of links to resources for professional clothing and other support visit: <http://www.21alamedacounty.org> <http://www.suntopia.org/>





PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION 2016

The 2016 Presidential campaign season has been nothing short of action-packed. With 17 candidates vying for the Republican nomination and five competing for the Democratic nomination, voters are hard pressed to stay up to date on the

status of the races. The front-runner throughout most of the campaign season and now, presumptive Republican nominee is New York businessman, Donald Trump. Former Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton has held a solid lead in the Democratic race, with only Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders remaining.

On July 18, 2016, delegates will gather in Cleveland, Ohio for the Republican National Convention. Some are predicting fireworks but only time will tell. The Democratic National Convention in Philadelphia, PN July 25-28, may have just as much drama depending on where the delegate count ends up after the final states vote leading up to the granddaddy of them all, California, on June 7.

Regardless of the outcome of the presidential race there will be numerous “down-ticket” races on the ballot which

impact everyone on a local and statewide level. The key to being able to have a say in what effects your day to day life is voting. In order to vote you must be registered. Californians can register to vote on the website of the secretary of state at www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-registration. Voter registration forms can also be picked up at many locations such as DMV, libraries and post offices. Do not delay since there are deadlines in place for when you may do so. In California that is usually 15 days prior to a general election. Don't delay, register to vote today. 🌿



Congresswoman Lee and HUD Secretary Castro Visit OHA

continued from front page

Section 8 Fair Market Rent amounts. This increase will help families obtain stable housing and encourage more property owners to participate in affordable housing programs. However, much work remains; we must have a unified federal, state and local strategy to protect and expand our affordable housing stock so Oakland stays Oakland.”

While at the West Oakland Office, Congresswoman Lee and Secretary Castro also toured programs that bring opportunity to OHA families, including an innovative collaboration between the Oakland Unified School District (OUSD) and the Oakland Housing Authority. The

tour included a variety of efforts designed to level the educational playing field for our youth through access to programs and services that support the student and the family.

The OHA Education Initiative has, at its foundation, a data sharing Memorandum of Understanding with the OUSD that enables both agencies to analyze basic demographic and student attendance information. With this data exchange, OHA and OUSD are better able to tailor programs to the specific needs of children in an effort to achieve our mutual goals: to increase 3rd grade literacy, to reduce chronic absenteeism, and to increase parent engagement. 🌿

Lee and Castro are greeted by Nicole Thompson of FCP while touring OHA's West District Office.



Congresswoman Lee gives a standing ovation to a student who recited a poem and another who played the trombone.



Dress the Part!

When it comes to a job interview, it DOES matter how you dress and how you present yourself because first impressions can be the difference between getting the job offer and continuing to be unemployed. Even if you get the job, the impression an employer has of you can determine how well you fit in with your new employer or any future opportunities for which you may be considered.

When preparing to meet any potential employer you should first consider the industry and the culture of the company (including the department and team). Often you can get this information from the company's website, a website like www.glassdoor.com or by asking the HR representative. When all else fails, visit the organization in the morning or late afternoon as employees are arriving and departing and take note of how they dress.

Conservative: Corporations, financial institutions, accounting and law firms.

Business Casual: Sales, government agencies, education, retail, small companies, information tech, engineering, real estate.

Casual: Construction, repair, landscaping, plumbing and any other job where you may get dirty (obviously).

Creative/Fashionable: Fashion, entertainment, graphic design, video game design, music.

These recommendations are guidelines only. Always use your best judgment when preparing for a job interview.



AT-A-GLANCE • SPRING/SUMMER 2016

MAY

S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

JUNE

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26	27	28	29	30		

- 05/05/16 Cinco de Mayo
- 05/08/16 Mother's Day
- 05/30/16 Memorial Day
- 06/07/16 Primary Voting Day
- 06/15/16 Summer Lunch Program Begins
- 06/19/16 Juneteenth

JULY

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31						

AUGUST

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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

- 07/04/16 Independence Day
- 07/24/16 Parents' Day
- 08/02/16 **National Night Out**
- 08/22/16 First Day of School OUSD
- 08/22/16 First Day of Fall Semester, Peralta Colleges



Since 1984, National Night Out (NNO) has been celebrated by over 38 million people throughout the United States, U.S. territories and Canada. By coming together in the spirit of community and hosting events like block parties and BBQs, people are joining in the fight against crime and strengthening ties with their neighbors, which makes neighborhoods safer. The nation's night out against crime is sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch (NATW), and is supported by the City of Oakland and the Oakland Housing Authority (OHA).

Neighborhood groups that register their event in advance will receive support and supplies. For coordination and registration assistance for the August 2, 2016 NNO, please contact OHA's Omar Ronquillo at (510) 535-3165 or visit <http://natw.org> or <http://www2.oaklandnet.com/nno>.

SEPTEMBER

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OCTOBER

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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

- 09/05/16 Labor Day
- 09/07/16 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Orientation
- 09/11/16 Oakland Pride Festival
- 10/31/16 Holiday Splendor tickets go on sale

Visit the Board of Commissioners web page for Board meeting schedule, agendas and minutes at <http://www.oakha.org/boc.html>

SAVE THE DATE!



For Bay Area 4th of July Celebrations visit:

<http://sf.funcheap.com/family-fun-4th-july-oakland>

<http://abc7news.com/entertainment/bay-area-fourth-of-july-fireworks-and-festivities/124287>

<http://www.nbcbayarea.com/brchannel/Fourth-of-July-Bay-Area-Events-Guide-212791711.html>



Oakland Housing Authority

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