

AROUND OAKLAND

City of Oakland Business Assistance Center Grand Opening Wednesday, October 14, 2009

Council President Jane Brunner hosted the grand opening celebration of the newly created Oakland Business Assistance Center with Mayor Ronald Dellums and staff from the Community and Economic Development Agency.

“We are proactively seeking to encourage new business and the expansion of existing businesses in the City of Oakland,” said Council President Brunner, who was one of the early backers of the Assistance Center, and a key player in realizing the vision of a “one-stop-shop” of Oakland business owners and prospective Oakland business owners who want expert advice and assistance in locating or expanding their business in Oakland.

The Oakland Business Assistance Center is located in a storefront office across from City Hall. The center will provide expert, personalized service; zoning, permit and licensing assistance; tax credits and financing info; site location assistance; and business expansion and retention assistance. Additionally, the center offers 24-hour online support at www.OaklandBAC.com

Monarch Place Grand Reopening Ceremony Thursday, October 29, 2009

Council President Jane Brunner brought greetings from the City of Oakland to Monarch Place’s Grand Reopening Ceremony on Thursday, October 29, 2009.

Monarch Place was previously known as Claremont House and went through major remodeling and renovation to its original 1981 building. The festivities included invited dignitaries, residents of Monarch Place and their families, delicious food, drinks and live entertainment, throughout their six floors.

Their main dining room, where the ribbon cutting ceremony took place, included jazz, cocktails and hors d’oeuvres. Other floors included, wine & cheese tasting with classical music guitar and a popcorn bar and homemade sodas, to name a few.

Council President Brunner mingled and spoke with a number of residents and their families. And along with those residents, and dignitaries including Oakland Chamber of Commerce’s President and CEO, Joe Haraburda, and Monarch staff, participated in the ribbon cutting ceremony to welcome the grand reopening.

Celebrating Oakland’s Summer Youth Employment Program Thursday, October 29, 2009

On Thursday, October 29th, Oakland honored and celebrated 13 youth-service agencies and their partners for providing a meaningful and relevant work experience to over 1,000 young people in Oakland over the summer.

The celebration was held at the Oakland Private Industry Council’s (PIC) Downtown Career Center where guests were welcomed by Gay Plair Cobb, Chief Executive Officer of PIC.

Council President Jane Brunner was in attendance, as well as Councilmembers Larry Reid and Rebecca Kaplan. There were a number of guest speakers and a number of youths, including a young woman who spoke about the difficulties of finding a job and noted that the media and the government continue to report that the recession is over, but from her own experience and difficulties, “the recession is not over”. But with the skills and opportunities provided through the Summer Youth Employment Program, she was able to get a step ahead.

To learn more about the PIC’s Summer Youth Employment Program, check their website at:
<http://www.oaklandpic.org/summer-youth-program.html>

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