

CITY OF OCEANSIDE
NEWS RELEASE



Contact:

*John Lundblad
(760) 435-3393*

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

**For Immediate Release
January 14, 2008**

2008 ANNUAL MLK CIVIC AWARD NOMINEES

The 2008 recipient of the City of Oceanside – Martin Luther King, Jr. Civic Award will be announced at the annual commemoration event honoring Dr. King on Saturday, January 19, at 4:00 pm at the MiraCosta College Theatre. The commemoration event is sponsored by the North San Diego County Branch of the NAACP and the public is invited to attend the free event. The civic award recognizes a resident of the City of Oceanside or MCB Camp Pendleton for service to the community outside of a work setting, especially for volunteer activities that reflect the teachings and ideals of Dr. King. This is the nineteenth year for the civic award. Nominees for the 2008 award include:

- Danielle Grijalva, who founded of the nonprofit Committee for the Safety of Foreign Exchange Students after learning of lax screening of host families that led in some cases to abuse and/or neglect of exchange students. She was instrumental in the adoption and implementation of child protection measures for minor exchange students under Department of State regulations.
- Myla L. Hampton, who has devoted her life to service to others though church work, volunteer activity and many contributions to the community. She has worked as one of the “unsung heroes” as a voting place worker, Toys for Tots volunteer, church pianist and willing helper to elderly persons who need transportation.

- Tanna Cruickshank, a long-term volunteer with the Bread of Life Rescue Mission to help the homeless and working poor in our community. She has spent many hours with homeless men to enable them to obtain Social Security or Veterans benefits, help them develop money management skills, find permanent housing and in some cases become employed with local businesses. She worked with five formerly homeless men to find and rent a house in Oceanside and become functioning members of society.
- Janet Bledsoe Lacy, a long-time supporter of civil rights causes in the community and resource manager for the City of Oceanside – Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholarship Program, which has raised \$400,000 in contributions from the community to help graduating seniors in Oceanside attend college. The program distributed \$50,000 to sixteen youth for the 2007-08 academic year; any young person who lives in Oceanside and plans to attend college after graduation is eligible to apply.

The North County NAACFP and MiraCosta College Black Students Union will also host a community prayer breakfast on Monday, January 21, at 7:30 at the MiraCosta College Cafeteria. Tickets are \$20.00 in advance and \$25.00 at the door; call (760) 754-9686 for more information and to purchase tickets.