



## District 5 Summer Newsletter

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The Fifth District includes the cities of Albany, Berkeley, Emeryville and Piedmont; the West Oakland, North Oakland and Rockridge communities and portions of the Grand Lake, Manzanita, Dimond District and Fruitvale neighborhoods.

#### Dear Friends,

Summer is an exciting time in the East Bay, full of music, food and enriching cultural activities that reflect the diversity of the region. On August 18, I am honored to host a special event at City Hall Plaza in Oakland: "Berry Gordy Day in the East Bay." With the help of local elected officials and cast members, we will celebrate the opening of Motown The Musical and pay tribute to Motown legend Berry Gordy. The event is free and open to the public. You can also get exclusive discounted tickets for the show (see p. 5).

My staff and I are busy working to ensure that we deliver timely and responsive services to our constituents. This Thursday with the Alameda County Public Health Department, I will host a Community Dialogue to gather ideas and feedback about the Community Health Improvement Plan. I encourage you to attend with friends and family to share your vision for a health Alameda County (see p. 2).

Please enjoy the contents of this newsletter and share relevant information with your family and networks. I welcome your thoughts and feedback about all of our communications. You can reach us at (510) 272-6695 or [dist5@acgov.org](mailto:dist5@acgov.org).

Sincerely yours,

**Keith Carson**

**Supervisor, District 5**

## No More Tears: A Response to Violence in our Communities

A group of men gather in a classroom on a Saturday morning for a workshop about how to respond to violence in their communities. The room grows silent as a mother speaks about the pain she has suffered after losing her eldest son to gun violence.

Her audience is not a group of teachers or policy makers—they are inmates at San Quentin State Prison in Marin and many are serving life sentences. Some of the men have committed murder. Their victims are survived by family members just like the mother who is speaking to them during the workshop.

No More Tears, an inmate-run program supported by volunteers, brings the mother and others like her to San Quentin with the mission of breaking the cycle of violence that has led to alarming rates of incarceration, especially among men of color in urban communities.

For the African American community, the numbers are well-known: 32% of African American males nationwide will enter state or federal prison during their lifetime, compared to 17% of Latino males and 5.9% of White males, according to the Bureau of Justice Statistics.

No More Tears seeks to break the cycle of violence and decrease recidivism by providing constructive and appropriate resources to incarcerated persons, formerly incarcerated persons, communities, and youth. The inmate-led workshops help incarcerated men to identify their own triggers, recognize the impact of violence on others, shift their mindset from negative to positive thinking, and develop conflict resolution skills that can be used with family, friends and employers.

#### Connect with District 5 Online!



<http://www.acgov.org/carson>



<https://www.facebook.com/keithcarsondotorg>



[http://twitter.com/keith\\_carson](http://twitter.com/keith_carson)



<http://www.youtube.com/user/KeithCarsonDistrict5>



@Supervisor\_KeithCarson

# County News



*Supervisor Carson speaks at a press conference on July 8, 2014, to announce the purchase of 90 all-electric vehicles by Bay Area local governments and agencies.*

## Alameda County Leads Regional Electric Vehicle Project

Alameda County is leading a collaborative effort with nine other Bay Area agencies, cities and county governments to purchase 90 all-electric vehicles as part of the Bay Area Climate Collaborative (BACC) Local Government Electric Vehicle Fleet Demonstration Project.

With 26 new vehicles, the county's plug-in vehicle fleet will double in size. These cars are used by employees to perform a range of duties, including making restaurant inspections and travelling to meetings.

Over a five-year period, the project will produce \$500,000 in fuel savings and will reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 2 million pounds.

The project is made possible by a \$2.8 million grant from the Metropolitan Transportation Agency and commitments from the participating agencies.

The 10 governments and agencies include the cities of San Francisco, San Jose, Oakland, Santa Rosa, Fremont, Concord; the Sonoma County Water Agency; the Marin Municipal Water District; and Alameda and Sonoma counties.

*Electric Vehicles...continued on p. 4*

**Please join Supervisor Keith Carson and the Alameda County Public Health Department for a**

## **District 5 Community Dialogue**

**Thursday, July 31, 2014**

**5:30pm – 7:30pm**

**St. Mary's Center, 925 Brockhurst St., Oakland, CA**

The Community Dialogue will give residents the opportunity to share with us your thoughts about Alameda County's top priorities for improving the community's health in the next five years. We will also be discussing the conditions that impact health outcomes in your neighborhood. At the meeting, you will have the opportunity to provide feedback on essential services provided by the Public Health Department, which include:

- Monitoring public health threats
- Informing and educating residents about health issues
- Enforcing health and safety laws
- Linking people to clinics and affordable health insurance.

Your input will help us to better understand community strengths and concerns as we develop our five-year County Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). This five-year plan will be implemented in Alameda County and regularly reviewed in partnership with stakeholders to improve the health of our communities.

The Alameda County Public Health Department is holding a series of Community Dialogues throughout the county with a wide range of constituent groups and we want to hear from residents of District 5.

Refreshments will be served. Childcare will be available and translators will be provided upon request. For more information and to RSVP, please contact Lisa Nieves at [lisa.nieves@acgov.org](mailto:lisa.nieves@acgov.org) or (510) 208-1235.



## Dig Deep Farm Stand Comes to County building in Oakland

*Justice-Involved Youth and Adults Build Local Food Economy*

Alameda County's "Farm Stand" program brings locally grown fresh produce to neighborhoods where healthy food may not be readily available. In June, the program expanded with the launch of a fourth weekly Farm Stand in the County.

The new Farm Stand operates on Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and is located on the plaza in front of the County Administration Building at 1221 Oak Street in Oakland.



*A customer buys vegetables from an employee at the Dig Deep Farms & Produce stand at the Alameda County Administration building in Oakland. (Photo credit: Alameda County Sheriff's Office).*

The Farm Stand program was launched in 2013 through a partnership involving the Alameda County Social Services Agency and Dig Deep Farms and Produce (DDF&P). Dig Deep Farms is a venture started by the Alameda County Deputy Sheriffs' Activities League (DSAL) that aims to prevent violence and crime through job creation, access to healthy food and community revitalization.

DDF&P began farming on 0.75 acres in April 2010 and has since expanded to additional parcels totaling about 8 acres. DDF&P is building a "food forest" on the hillside next to the Juvenile Justice Center consisting of more than 500 fruit trees with an understory of berry bushes and annual vegetable crops. Seven full-time team members grow healthy, fresh fruits and vegetables and sell

their produce to community residents and other customers. DDF&P uses no chemical fertilizers or pesticides and is pursuing its USDA Organic Certification. DDF&P delivers product to about 100 customers who receive a box of vegetables and fruit twice weekly, to drop spots and to individuals.

DDF&P is a partner in the Sheriff's Office Operation My Home Town (OMHT), which provides case management, housing, job-training and other wrap-around services for justice-involved individuals, beginning while they are in custody and extending into post-release. DDF&P has provided full-time living wage jobs to 19 community residents since 2010.

DDF&P provides summer employment opportunities for as many as 12 formerly justice-involved local youth annually and paid internships for returning adult ex-offenders. Team members learn farming skills, post-harvest handling practices, and delivery and retail management. A major goal of the enterprise is to build the local economy and local ownership with more good jobs as production and distribution expands.

Over the past year, weekly Farm Stands have been launched at three County facilities where they provide fresh, locally grown produce at reasonable prices: the Eastmont Self-Sufficiency Center in East Oakland (Mondays); the Eden Area Multi-Service Center in Hayward (Thursdays); and the Thomas Berkeley Self-Sufficiency Center on San Pablo Avenue in Oakland (Fridays).

The Farm Stands are open to the public. Cash, credit cards and EBT cards are accepted.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.digdeepcsa.com/>.





*No More Tears...continued from p. 1*

Supervisor Carson and Chief of Staff Rodney Brooks have been visiting San Quentin on a regular basis for the past 12 years to participate in the No More Tears program along with other East Bay elected officials and leaders in the faith community.

The program was founded in 2001 by Oakland’s Lonnie Morris and a group of inmates who wanted to look at incarceration and recidivism from a statewide perspective in order to work towards a collective solution to stop the violence in our communities.

According to Jerry Elster, a founding participant from the Los Angeles area, the men saw common threads among those who were re-offending: some kind of drug offense, a lack of resources and technical violations to their parole.

The program not only prepares the men to succeed upon re-entry but to also become “agents of change” in their communities, said Mr. Elster.

In addition to running workshops, No More Tears connects those who have lived the life with people on the outside who can make a difference, like law enforcement officers and decision makers at all levels of government.

In 2007, No More Tears partnered with the East Palo Alto Police Department to create a “Stop the Violence” PSA that was aired on local television and covered by the media. In the video, Mr. Morris says, “We realize that many of us were contributors to that problem, and now we figure that if we can do just a little something to give something back, that we are willing to do that.”

Out of the more than 100 people who went through the program when Mr. Elster was at San Quentin, he saw only one person re-offend.

“No one can make it through life on their own. We all need a support system,” reflected Mr. Elster. “No More Tears helped me to build a network with the sponsors and volunteers so I could succeed after I returned to the community.”

After his release, Mr. Elster worked a stint with the North Richmond Neighborhood House and now serves as a Healing Justice Coordinator with the American Friends Service Committee in San Francisco.


“No More Tears is effective because inmates themselves take on leadership roles and hold each other accountable for their past actions and future successes, noted Rodney Brooks, Supervisor Carson’s Chief of Staff.

For more information about No More Tears, including volunteer and support opportunities, please visit:

<http://www.no-more-tears.net/>

To view the East Palo Alto PSA, please visit:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7yiqN7HQQ5s>



Alameda County Behavioral Health Care Services put together this Resource Guide for providers and customers. Please share with your networks!

[http://www.acgov.org/board/district5/pdf/MHSA\\_2014.pdf](http://www.acgov.org/board/district5/pdf/MHSA_2014.pdf)

*Electric Vehicles...continued from p. 2*

The Electric Vehicle Fleet Demonstration Project confirms Alameda County’s on-going dedication to sustainability efforts. The county’s Climate Action Plan, adopted by the Board in 2010, will enable the County to reduce its community-wide emissions by more than 15% by the year 2020. To date, the plan had resulted in the following accomplishments:

- Alameda County’s fleet includes more than 50 plug-in vehicles because of this project and past efforts
- The County has 40 dual-port charging stations (to allow two cars to charge at the same time) at six locations with 13 more dual-port stations on the way to support the fleet of electric vehicles
- AlcoPark, a county-owned garage in downtown Oakland, has installed 10 public electric vehicle chargers
- In 2013, the County received the “20 Greenest Fleet Award”
- Alameda County General Services Agency (GSA) was recently recognized by the Department of Energy as a Workplace Charging Partner and joined the “EV Everywhere Workplace Charging Challenge”

For more information about Alameda County sustainability, please visit: <http://www.acgov.org/sustain/>.



## Oakland Early Head Start & Head Start Program

*Accepting applications for the 2014-15 school year*

Oakland Early Head Start is recruiting! The program is doing outreach for enrollment, especially in the home-based program for pregnant mothers and children between the ages of birth and 3 years old. The home-based program consists of an Early Childhood Instructor coming into the home once a week for 90 minutes to do one-on-one with the parent and child. The parent and child also attend Socializations/Playgroups twice a month for 90 minutes. Playgroup allows for the child and parent(s) to socialize with other families in the home-based program, and the child gets to play/learn in a classroom setting and participate in circle time, a planned activity, free play and receive a healthy snack.

Early Head Start also serves pregnant women and teens in the home-based program.

For questions, please contact Desirea English, Early Head Start Coordinator at (510) 238-6483.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www2.oaklandnet.com/Government/o/DHS/o/ChildrenYouthServices/OAK022078>.



*The Alameda County Board of Supervisors commended 35 Alameda County high school students who have been selected as 2014 California Arts Scholars at the June 24, 2014 Board meeting. (Left to right): Alameda County Arts Commission Executive Director Rachel Osajima; Melissa Draper, Chairperson of the Board of Trustees, California State Summer School for the Arts; Margot Witte; Marie Marchant; Elliot Gordon; Supervisor Keith Carson; Michael Kuroda; Nina Gonzalez Silas; Madeleine Leibovitch; Ethan Salzman. (Photo credit: Paul Kuroda).*

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Supervisor Keith Carson



The audience at Beebe



D'Wayne Wiggins



Photographers@Large-2014



**JUNE 18, 2014**  
**BEEBE MEMORIAL CATHEDRAL**  
**OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA**



Angela Davis



Howard Moore, Jr.



Clayborne Carson

**The Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Civil Rights Act of 1964: The Struggle Continues** provided an opportunity for the whole community to reflect on the road to passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the gains and setbacks of the last 50 years and the ongoing struggle for full human rights in the United States. (Photo credit: Photographers@Large).

To order a photo CD or DVD of the program, please call (510) 272-6695.



Elaine Brown



Tarika Lewis and My Strings of Soul



Pastor Charley Hames, Jr.





## Alameda County Transportation Plan on November 2014 Ballot

The Board of Supervisors on July 8, 2014, voted to place the Alameda County Transportation Commission's (ACTC) 2014 Transportation Expenditure Plan on the November 2014 ballot for voter approval.

The plan is estimated to generate nearly \$8 billion for transportation improvements and services in every city in Alameda County. An analysis by the Bay Area Economic Council Institute projects that the \$8 billion investment will create nearly 150,000 jobs and will result in \$20 billion in economic activity throughout the region.

If passed, the measure would fund improvements in the following areas:

- Expand BART, AC Transit, ferry and commuter rail service
- Keep fares affordable for seniors, youth and people with disabilities
- Expand bike and pedestrian paths for greater safety
- Provide traffic relief and funds for repaving streets, filling potholes, improving highway on and off ramps and repairing bridges

ACTC estimates that each city in District 5 will receive the following funding streams for local improvement projects:

City	Local streets maintenance and safety	Bicycle and pedestrian paths and safety	Paratransit for seniors and people with disabilities	Total Plan Funding 2015-2045
Albany	\$22,510,000	\$2,820,000	\$2,530,000	\$27,860,000
Berkeley	\$161,870,000	\$17,510,000	\$17,570,000	\$196,950,000
Emeryville	\$14,600,000	\$1,550,000	\$1,340,000	\$17,490,000
Oakland	\$577,340,000	\$60,270,000	\$63,270,000	\$700,880,000
Piedmont	\$23,240,000	\$1,650,000	N/A	\$24,890,000

To see a detailed fact sheet about funding opportunities for your city, please visit:

[http://www.alamedactc.org/app\\_pages/view/13975](http://www.alamedactc.org/app_pages/view/13975).

The measure on November's ballot would extend the current ½ cent sales tax authorized by voters in 2000 and would add an additional ½ cent sales tax, for a total of 1 cent. The measure would sunset in 30 years on April 1, 2045, and would include strict accountability measures, including annual independent audits, an independent watchdog committee and an open and transparent process to allocate the funds.

For more information about the plan, please visit: <http://www.alamedactc.org/2014Plan>.



**SAVE THE DATE:**

## PLANNING AND CARING FOR AGING LOVED ONES

Saturday, September 6, 2014  
Location and time TBA

*Planning and Caring for Aging Loved Ones* is a biannual free series of workshops and panels sponsored by Supervisor Carson and presented at a local senior center. Representatives from local senior housing, legal assistance, elder care, health care and technology organizations provide Alameda County residents with resources to help seniors and their caregivers plan for the future.

For sponsorship and vendor opportunities, please contact Aisha Brown at (510) 272-6686 or [aisha.brown@acgov.org](mailto:aisha.brown@acgov.org).



POLICE-COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

National Night Out (NNO), "America's Night Out Against Crime," was founded in 1984 as a national effort to promote involvement in crime prevention activities, police-community partnerships and neighborhood organizations. NNO is now in its 31st year. Contact your local police department to find an event in your neighborhood!

#### Albany

Tuesday, August 5, 2014, 6 pm—8 pm

<http://www.albanyca.org/Index.aspx?page=903>

For more information, please contact Karina Tindol at (510) 528-5755 or via email at [ktindol@albanyca.org](mailto:ktindol@albanyca.org).

#### Berkeley

Tuesday, August 5, 2014

For more information, please contact Officer Stephanie Polizziani at (510) 981-5772 or via email at [spolizziani@cityofberkeley.info](mailto:spolizziani@cityofberkeley.info).

#### Emeryville

Tuesday, August 5, 2014, 6pm to 8pm

City-wide event: Doyle Hollis Park, 1333 62nd Street.

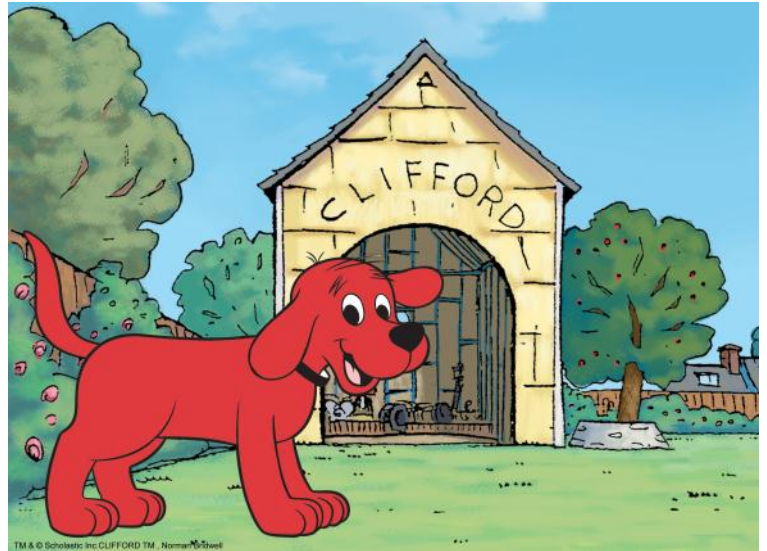
For more information, please contact the Emeryville Recreation Center at 510-596-4395 or on the web at [http://emeryville.org/community\\_services](http://emeryville.org/community_services).

#### Oakland

Tuesday, August 5, 2014, 7pm—9 pm

<http://www2.oaklandnet.com/nno>

The deadline to register your block party is Monday, July 28th at 6 pm. For more information, please contact Brenda Ivey at (510) 238-3091.



**SAVE THE DATE:**

## 9TH ANNUAL READY TO LEARN FUN FAIR

**Saturday, October 25, 2014, 10 am—1 pm**  
**Martin Luther King, Jr., Elementary School**  
**960 10th Street, Oakland, CA 94607**

Meet Clifford the Big Red Dog, get free books, play games, win raffle prize, and more!

**FREE!**

Families with children age birth to 5 are encouraged to attend. All are welcome.

Now in its ninth year, the Ready to Learn Fun Fair has been a highly valued resource for hundreds of families across Alameda County. The goal of the fair is to promote education at an early age and encourage healthy lifestyles by showcasing community and local government resources for families and children. The Ready to Learn Fun Fair will provide families with information about community, county and state resources that are available to them.

For information about sponsorship and vendor opportunities, please call (510) 272-6695.