

Supervisor Keith Carson

Alameda County District 5

December 14, 2012 News & Updates



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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.



Reusable Bag Ordinance Starts January 1, 2013

Starting January 1, 2013, grocery stores and many other retailers selling packaged foods and/or alcohol will be required to stop handing out single-use bags at checkout. Recycled paper or reusable bags may be provided if the retailer charges a minimum price of 10 cents per bag. To avoid the bag charge, customers will be encouraged to bring their own bag when shopping.

Adopted by the Alameda County Waste Management Authority in January of 2012, the Reusable Bag Ordinance will reduce waste by helping to decrease the number of bags going to landfill. Plastic bags take hundreds of years to break down. The ordinance will also save cities money on litter and storm drain cleanup, which costs Alameda County jurisdictions approximately \$24 million every year.

Reusable Bags...continued on page 3

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http://www.acgov.org/form_app/board/district5/involved.jsp

For more information visit:

<http://www.acgov.org/board/district5/>



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Supervisor Carson greets community members at the Annual Holiday Party and Food Drive on Thursday, December 13, 2012. Toys were collected to benefit Oakland's Serenity House and food to benefit the Alameda County Community Food Bank.



Breakfast with Santa

Presented by the Piedmont Recreation Department
Saturday, December 15th, 2012, 9:00am—10:30am
Piedmont Community Hall
711 Highland Avenue
Fee: \$10.00 per person
(Children under 2 are free)

Dreidels and Donuts

Presented by the
Piedmont Recreation Department
Saturday, December 15th, 2012, 11:00am—12:30pm
Piedmont Community Hall, 711 Highland Avenue
Fee: \$10.00 per person (Children under 2 are free)

For more information about both Piedmont events, please call (510) 420-3072 or email jpomey@ci.piedmont.ca.us

Celebrate Yalda, Winter Solstice

Saturday, December 15, 2012 at 6 PM
Islamic Cultural Center of Northern California
1433 Madison Street, Oakland, CA 94612
Fee: \$10/Adults and \$5/Children and Students

For more information, please visit:
<http://www.iccnc.org/articlePage.php?Celebrate-Yalda-Winter-Solstice---Sat.-Dec.-15-2012-359>



Every two years, EveryOne Home conducts Alameda County's Homeless Count to measure our community's progress towards ending homelessness. The count is also an important tool for the County to maintain crucial funding for homeless services. To conduct a comprehensive count, EveryOne Home needs your help! On January 30th, 2013, the Homeless Count will be conducted across all of Alameda County. This requires 250 volunteers.

What is the commitment for volunteering?

- **Attend one Volunteer Training Session during January 2013.**

Several dates, times, and locations are offered. Click here to sign up:

<https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07e6httpfwa90ddb235&oseq=>

- **Volunteer during the Homeless Count on Wednesday, January 30th, 2013.**

Volunteers will serve as interviewers by meeting with homeless service users and asking them survey questions. Participation is anonymous and voluntary for homeless service users. Volunteers will be stationed at more than 30 locations across Alameda County.

For more information, please contact EveryOne Home at (510) 670-9796 or everyonehome@acgov.org.

Donate a Coat for the Holidays!

To benefit Oakland's Serenity House

Drop off Locations: Geoffrey's Inner Circle
408 14th Street, Oakland, CA 94612
Downtown Oakland and
Lake Merritt-Uptown District Associations
388 19th Street, Oakland CA 94612

FREE Independent Foreclosure Review

The Federal Reserve and Office of the Comptroller are reaching out to eligible current and former homeowners to inform them about the Independent Foreclosure Review (IFR). The IFR provides for a free evaluation of the foreclosure process for anyone who may have been in some stage of foreclosure during 2009 and 2010.

The deadline to submit a free application is December 31, 2012.

The Independent Foreclosure Review will determine whether individual homeowners suffered financial injury and should receive compensation or other remedy because of errors or other problems during their home foreclosure process.

For additional information about the IFR, you can visit the website below. Homeowners may view a list of mortgage servicers, determine their eligibility, learn about the application process, and submit a free online application:

www.independentforeclosurereview.com

Marketing materials in several languages can also be found at the IFR Community Partner Toolkit:

<https://independentforeclosurereview.com/Toolkit.aspx>

Do you or someone you know need emergency food during the holidays?

Call the **Alameda County Food Bank** to find out where you can find food pantries in your community.

Call toll-free (800) 870-FOOD (3663)

Monday—Friday, 9 am—4 pm.

Berkeley Food Pantry

Berkeley Friends Church
1600 Sacramento St., Berkeley
(510) 525-2280

Open for those seeking food:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 2 pm—4 pm

Open for those donating food:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 1 pm —4 pm

Call 211 for help with housing, health care and more!



Paid National Media Internships for Students of Color

Reusable Bags...continued from page 1

The **Emma Bowen Foundation** is seeking applicants for its paid internship work/study program with national media companies. Those who are eligible to apply to the program must meet the following criteria:

- U.S. citizens or legal residents of the United States
- Fluent English speaker and writer
- Any minority student (African American, Hispanic, Asian or Native American)
- A rising high school senior, graduating high school senior or college freshman
- Must have a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0
- Must possess an interest in pursuing a career in the media industry
- Must plan to attend a four-year accredited college or university.

The student's transcript, at least two (2) educational references from teachers and/or advisors, and a 500-to-1,000-word essay must accompany the application form.

To apply for Media Internships by January 31, 2013, please visit:

<http://emmabowenfoundation.com/index.php/application.html>

The **Emma L. Bowen Foundation** was founded in 1989 to prepare minority youth for careers in the media industry. During the Foundation's four-year work/study program, students work for partner companies during summers and school breaks from the summer following their senior year in high school until they graduate from college. Students have an opportunity to learn many aspects of corporate operations and develop company-specific skills. Corporations have an opportunity to train and mentor students with the option of full-time employment upon completion of their college degrees. Students work in a variety of areas, including marketing, sales, finance, public relations, human resources, technology, news, web design, promotion.

For more information, please visit:

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

With the Reusable Bag Ordinance, Alameda County jurisdictions join the 51 other cities and counties in California – including San Mateo, San Francisco, San Jose and Los Angeles – working to decrease the number of single-use bags. All 14 cities and unincorporated Alameda County agreed to participate in the ordinance.

“Plastic bags harm marine life, are difficult to recycle and are one of the most common litter items found in our creeks, storm drains and streets,” said Gary Wolff, P.E., Ph.D., Executive Director of StopWaste.Org.

The Reusable Bag Ordinance affects most grocery stores, minimarts, convenience stores, pharmacies and other retailers that sell packaged foods, as well as stores that sell alcohol. Stores are still permitted to provide free plastic bags to protect and transport produce, bulk food or meat from within a store to the checkout or cash register. Restaurants and take-out food establishments are exempt from the ordinance. WIC and food stamp customers are not subject to the bag charge.

Here are tips shoppers can use to remember their plastic bags:

- Hang a few reusable bags on the coat rack or near the front door
- Keep a few reusable bags in your car
- Keep a reusable bag at your office or place of work
- Keep compact reusable bags in your purse, backpack or pocketbook.

For more information, please visit ReusableBagsAC.org.

Check out Oakland Local's list of food and toy drives for the holidays:

<http://oaklandlocal.com/article/local-sports-teams-lead-oakland-organizations-food-toy-drives-holidays>





A Message to the Faith community about the Economic Action Plan



Dear Friends:

California Council of Churches (CCC) has been working with CA Forward almost since the beginning of their organization. Many of you around the state took advantage of our joint collaboration on the study guide, *For a Free and Energetic Government* that gave you a chance to think through what values you wanted brought into government reform and that let you share your ideas with CA Forward.

Now CCC is also working with CA Forward's new Economic Action Plan. We were invited to attend their first Economic Summit. We contributed our ideas to their sections on Labor and Capital as part of our own coming work in renewing manufacturing and creating new ways to offer people economic self sufficiency.

We are presenting a letter of invitation to you from CA Forward Executive Director Jim Mayer to be part of the next year's work in preparation for the second Economic Summit next December. We hope this will stimulate as much interest as our Government Reform work and help you and your congregations become key voices in creating innovative ways for our economy to expand and grow. Please take advantage of this good offer!

CA Forward Economic Action Plan Letter of Invitation:

We know you care about justice, equity and fairness in the treatment of all people. That's why we think you should know about the California Economic Summit and why we want your help. Click [here](#) to learn more.

The first-ever Summit, held May 11th in Santa Clara, was an unprecedented gathering of community leaders focused on working together to put California's economy on a sustainable path for growth.

The Summit resulted in an [Action Plan](#) to invest in people, infrastructure and innovation in creative ways to

prepare our state to compete in the 21st-century global economy.

Check out the [progress](#) of our teams working across the state.

The Second Annual California Economic Summit will be held in Southern California in December 2013. To be successful at this second event, there are things we need to do.

Here's where you come in: We need local leaders like you to identify priorities for your community. Regional forums will take place around the state this coming spring before the Summit and we're looking forward to sharing details as they become available.

Want to learn how to participate and get the latest news? Sign up [here](#) today and we'll keep you posted.

To find out even more and read our daily blog, visit us at [CAeconomy.org](#). Follow our work and Like us today on our social media channels:

[Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [YouTube](#)

We hope you will engage with this important work and stay in touch.

Sincerely,

Jim Mayer

Executive Director

California Forward



Kids' Holiday Movie

Saturday, December 22, 2012

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Albany Library, Edith Stone Room

Please call (510) 526-3720 for more information.

Click here to see more events at the Albany Library:

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=ACL&curKey1=Albany Branch&setRef=new>

Albany Library is an Alameda County Library!

Announcing District 5 Vacancies on County Boards and Commissions

Supervisor Carson is currently accepting applications from residents in the Fifth Supervisorial District who are interested in serving on a countywide board or commission. The Fifth District encompasses North Oakland, West Oakland, Montclair, Rockridge, portions of the Fruitvale and San Antonio Districts, and the cities of Piedmont, Berkeley, Emeryville, and Albany. The following is a list of current boards and commissions vacancies:

Art Commission/1 Vacancy

The Art Commission provides financial support to Alameda County nonprofit arts organizations each year through the Alameda County Supervisors' ARTSFUND Grants Program. The Grants Program supports all art forms – dance, literature, media arts, music, theater, visual arts, traditional arts and crafts, and multidisciplinary programs.

Meetings: 2nd Wednesday of each month at 4:00 pm, 1401 Lakeside Drive, Room 1107, Oakland, CA 94612

Assessment Appeals Board of Equalization/

2 Vacancies

The Assessment Appeals Board is where a property owner can interact directly with the County to get a hearing on a property tax issue. Evidence is presented to the board by both the County Assessor and the property owner to settle the issue.

Note: applicants must have 5 years experience as a CPA, accountant, attorney, licensed real estate broker, or property appraiser.

Meetings: Monday or Wednesday twice a month, Board of Supervisors Chambers, 1221 Oak Street, 5th Floor, Oakland, CA 94612

Consumer Affairs Commission/1 Vacancy

The purpose of the Alameda County Consumer Affairs Commission is to promote and protect the best interests of the consumer public, to encourage the highest standards in the business community and to develop a high level of consumer awareness.

Meetings: 2nd Thursday of each month from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm, Board Conference Room, 1221 Oak Street, 5th Floor, Oakland, CA 94612

Mental Health Advisory Board/2 Vacancies

Performs advisory functions on matters relating to mental health in Alameda County.

Meetings: 2nd Monday of each month at 12:00 pm, Every Child Counts Conference Room, 1100 San Leandro Blvd., Suite 130, San Leandro, CA 94578

Measure A Citizens Oversight Committee/1 Vacancy

Measure A is the voter-approved ½ cent sales tax to fund healthcare in Alameda County. The Citizens Oversight Committee monitors Measure A spending and publishes yearly reports covering the spending for each fiscal year.

Meetings: 4th Friday of each month at 9:00 am, 1000 San Leandro Blvd., San Leandro, CA 94578

Boards and Commissions Application: <http://www.acgov.org/clerk/forms/BoardCommApplication.pdf>

If you are interested in serving on a board or commission, please send a resume, completed application and cover letter to:

Alameda County Supervisor Keith Carson
 Attention: Mina Sanchez
 1221 Oak Street, Suite 536
 Oakland, CA 94612
 Fax: (510) 271-5151
 Email: mina.sanchez@acgov.org



San Francisco Bay Area Kwanzaa Celebration

Wednesday, December 26, 2012 to Tuesday, January 1, 2013

For a full calendar of events, visit: <http://www.kwanzaasanfrancisco.com/>

For more information, contact Adrian Williams at (415) 424-2980.



Youth Radio Wins Presidential Arts Award

In a ceremony at the White House on Monday, November 19, 2012, Oakland-based **Youth Radio** received the **2012 National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award** from First Lady Michelle Obama. Accepting the award on behalf of the entire organization was 17-year-old high school senior Shyra Gums and Senior Producer Nishat Kurwa.

This award is the nation's highest honor for after-school arts and humanities programs. It recognizes Youth Radio's enduring commitment to developing learning and life skills in young people by engaging them in the arts.

Youth Radio is one of only 12 after-school and out-of-school programs across the country to receive the award. The awards are presented by the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities.

Youth Radio is part of an exceptional class of community-based arts and humanities programs that make a significant impact in the lives of their participants. Youth Radio programs help youth to improve academic scores and graduation rates, enhance life skills, develop positive relationships with peers and adults, and express themselves creatively.

"The 2012 awardees demonstrate the power that comes from young people realizing their creative promise," said Mrs. Obama. "These outstanding organizations from across the country inspire our youth to explore the world of possibility that awaits them, and they are gaining critical skills that translate into every other aspect of their lives."

For Shyra Gums, the opportunity to meet the First Lady and represent Youth Radio was "once-in-a-lifetime." She said, "I came to Youth Radio to learn about music and media production, but during the past two years, I've gained the skills that have put me on a path to success. Youth Radio has helped me grow as a leader and as an artist."

In addition to the national recognition of the prestigious award, Youth Radio will receive \$10,000 to support their programming and to engage more young people.

As Youth Radio's President and Chief Content Officer Ellin O'Leary said in a statement, "We are deeply

honored to receive this recognition from the White House. It's a tribute to the many outstanding youth we have served over the past two decades."

The [National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Awards](#) recognize and support outstanding programs that lay new pathways to creativity, expression, and achievement outside of the regular school day. These programs excite and engage a range of students, cultivating imagination, collaboration, discipline and academic success, with demonstrable results. They also provide safe harbors after school, on weekends and in the evenings for children and youth in some of our country's most at-risk urban and rural settings.

For more information about Youth Radio, visit:

<http://www.youthradio.org>

The Junior Commission on the Status of Women is Accepting Applications!

The Junior Commission is a project established by the Alameda County Commission on the Status of Women to develop leadership ability, build high self-esteem, expose young women to government, and to demonstrate how young women can become empowered by advocating on policy related issues. The commission strives to promote a leadership development program for young women that allows them to learn more about themselves while impacting their community.

Applicants must live in or attend school in Alameda County and be a 9th, 10th, 11th, or 12th grader. Students are recruited, interviewed, selected and then recommended by the Alameda Commission on the Status of Women for approval by the Alameda County Board of Supervisors.

Applications are open until all positions are filled.

For more information and to apply for the Junior Commission, please visit:

http://www.alamedacsw.org/?page_id=43