



# District 5 - Winter 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.

Dear Friends,

In this issue we offer several important updates. Earlier this year the Governor of California released his 2015/2016 budget proposal, and this newsletter provides a summary, which highlights key areas of proposed changes. We announce our latest initiative, the "Year of the African American Male," and the recent adoption of the Father Friendly principles by the Board of Supervisors.

February is American Heart Month and we offer a few ways to keep your heart healthy. We also highlight events such as the Black Elected Officials/Faith Based Leaders (BEO/FBL) annual Community Leaders Recognition, our Financial Literacy workshop series and our upcoming Lunar New Year Event celebrating the Year of the Ram. We are honoring Black History Month by co-hosting the "African Diaspora Road Show" with KQED.

Check out the photos from our community activities and please share the highlights with your family, friends, and networks. I welcome your thoughts and feedback. You can reach us at (510) 272-6695 or [dist5@acgov.org](mailto:dist5@acgov.org).

Sincerely yours,

**Keith Carson**

Supervisor, District 5

## HEALTH CARE ENROLLMENT



The enrollment period for Covered California health care comes to an end on **February 15**. Here is what you will need to know about plan options and the process for choosing the best one to fit your needs.

There are basically two types of coverage: Affordable Care Act (Obamacare) Plans (offered by the government) and Short Term Plans (offered by private insurers). Obamacare Plans are available to virtually everyone and are designed to be affordable. Under these plans you cannot be denied for having preexisting conditions.

Under either plan the amount you pay is determined by your income and how many people live in your household. If you meet certain income guidelines, your rate is lowered by a credit to your premium, known as a "Subsidy" from the government. You have to have coverage or you will be fined during tax time. Covered California helps to determine your subsidy eligibility, making sure you get the best rate possible.

For More Information Visit:  
<http://www.covered.ca> or call (800)300-1506

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



<https://www.facebook.com/keith.carson>



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



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



@Supervisor\_KeithCarson

# County News

## STATE BUDGET SUMMARY

In January 2015 the Governor of California released his 2015/2016 budget proposal. The \$113.3 billion total budget represents an increase of 1.4% from the 2014/2015 budget.

The Governor assumes that there will be moderate economic growth but warns of an imminent slow down. He also noted that this year is the last full year with Prop 30, the quarter-cent sales tax.

The state has \$227 billion in long-term costs, debts, and liabilities of which \$222 billion of them are related to retirement costs of state and UC employees.

**Health Care Reform** – The budget is covering billions of additional dollars of expenses for the increased Medi-Cal case load, which is expected to grow to 12.2 million.

**Climate Change** – The budget proposes \$1 billion in Cap and Trade expenditures for the State's continuing investments in low carbon transportation, sustainable communities, energy efficiency, urban forests and high-speed rail.

**Water Action Plan** - \$532 million in expenditures from the Prop 1 water bond will continue the plan's implementation.

**Pension Reform** - \$1.4 billion is being proposed to implement the second year of the teacher pension funding plan. There is \$72 billion in unfunded liability for retiree health care benefits. The State is hoping to adopt measures to lower the growth in the premium costs.

**Education** - The budget proposes \$65.7 billion for education in 2015-16, an increase of \$18.4 billion over four years. K-12 funding will increase by more than \$2600 per student. The Local Control Funding For-

mula will allocate \$50.7 billion this year, which expands the efforts of community colleges to improve student success, with a particular focus on achievement in underrepresented student groups.

**Infrastructure** - The budget proposes \$478 million for critical deferred maintenance at universities and community colleges and for state parks, prisons, state hospitals and other state facilities.

**Workforce** - \$1.2 billion will go to support a coordinated framework for adult education, career technical education, workforce investment, and apprenticeships.

**For More Information Visit:**

<http://budget.ca.gov>

## **BOARDS/ COMMISSIONS VACANCIES**

**Consumer Affairs Commission** The purpose of this 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.

**Advisory Commission on Aging** This commission takes positions on matters pertaining to federal, state and local policies, programs and procedures, and any legislation affecting older persons.

**Arts Commission** The Arts Commission acts in an advisory capacity to the Board of Supervisors concerning the arts and cultural environment in the County

**For complete listings please visit**

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

**2015...THE YEAR OF THE AFRICAN AMERICAN MALE**



In an effort to support African American males overcome the various disparities they face in life, Alameda County Supervisor Keith Carson announces 2015 as the “Year of the African American Male”.

Throughout 2015, Supervisor Carson will bring together and highlight individuals and organizations that are focused on improving the overall quality of life for African American males in the community. During the “Year of the African American Male,” individuals and organizations will be invited to instill hope and work collaboratively towards improving outcomes in the areas of health, fatherhood, education, mentoring, workforce development, criminal justice and re-entry.

The Year of the African American Male Resource Guide is now available in print and online at [http://www.acgov.org/board/district5/pdf/YearoftheBlackMan\\_ResourceGuide.pdf](http://www.acgov.org/board/district5/pdf/YearoftheBlackMan_ResourceGuide.pdf)

**FATHER-FRIENDLY PRINCIPLES ADOPTED BY THE ALAMEDA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**



Fatherhood was honored and celebrated by Alameda County Board of Supervisors Keith Carson and Richard Valle as they adopted a Resolution of Father Friendly principles at the February 3rd Board meeting. According to the resolution the principles

were adopted to “promote positive images depicting fathers of color with their children as part of a public awareness campaign.” Some of the principles include:

- That fathers and the needs of fathers, be included in the structure and delivery model of all family services in Alameda County agencies and organizations.
- That Alameda County programs, agencies and organizations be open, supportive, helpful, and inclusive towards the needs of fathers and provide father-specific services and/or programs, of which further the goal of increasing fathers’ involvement in their children’s lives.

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH EVENT**  
**Digital Diaspora Family Reunion**

Supervisor Carson and KQED are co-sponsoring a screening of “*Through a Lens Darkly*” and the Digital Diaspora Family Reunion Road Show.



“*Through a Lens Darkly*” explores the history of African Americans through historical photographs. Thomas Allen Harris, a documentary filmmaker,

created the Digital Diaspora Family Reunion Road Show in 2009. He is traveling the country collecting photographs and stories from families and placing them along with filmed interviews onto his web site.

**February 13, 2015**  
Impact HUB Oakland  
2323 Broadway,  
Oakland,  
7 pm—10 pm

**February 14, 2015**  
Word Assembly Church,  
2323 Harrison Street,  
Oakland,  
2 pm—5 pm

**District 5 Financial Literacy Workshop Series**



This **FREE WORKSHOP** will help youth learn how to create a budget, about personal finance, and smart spending.

**Date:** February 13, 2015

**Location:** Life Academy, 2101 35th Avenue, Oakland, CA 94601

**Time:** 4:30 pm—6:30 pm

**Co-Sponsored by Alternatives in Action**

For more information contact: Hayley.laity@acgov.org

**BEO/FBL COMMUNITY AWARDS**

The Black Elected Officials & Faith Based Leaders of the East Bay (BEO&FBL) hosted its annual Community Leaders Recognition Awards celebration, which took place at Impact Hub in Oakland in December 2014. The awards event honored dedicated leaders, appreciating their hard work and commitment to uplifting the community.



*Lynette McElhaney, Honoree Donald White, Keith Carson and Ken Maxey*

The honorees were: Pastor Michael McBride; Bernida Reagan, Director of Merriwether & Williams; retired Alameda County Board Supervisor Mary King; and Alameda County Treasurer Donald White.

Event hosts Councilmember Lynette McElhaney and Ken Maxey, Comcast Government Affairs Director, delivered the awards with humor and sincerity and poet "Jazz" Monique Hudson recited a relevant, thought-provoking piece inspired by the Black Lives Matter activities. For more photos visit <http://keithcarson.org/Photos>



*(Top Left) Poet "Jazz" Monique Hudson; (Bottom) Keith Carson with Honorees Bernida Reagan; Desi Woods Jones (for Mary King) and Pastor Michael McBride*



**FEBRUARY IS HEALTHY**  
**HEART MONTH**



Heart disease kills an estimated 630,000 Americans each year. It's the leading cause of death for both men and women. In the United States, the most common

type of heart disease is coronary artery disease (CAD), which can lead to a heart attack. You can greatly reduce your risk for CAD through lifestyle changes and, in some cases, medication.

Since 1963, February has been celebrated as American Heart Month to urge Americans to join the battle against heart disease. Since 2004, February also has been the signature month for the American Heart Association's Go Red For Women campaign and the message that heart disease is not only a man's problem. Managing your diet, keeping fit, and watching your blood pressure are just a few important factors.

**For more information visit:**

<http://healthfinder.gov/nho/PDFs/FebruaryNHOtoolkit.pdf>

**CELEBRATE**  
**THE 2015 LUNAR**  
**NEW YEAR**



Wednesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015  
11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.  
(Program starts at 11:45 a.m.)

Lake Merritt BART Station Plaza  
800 Madison Street, Oakland, CA

**Closest BART Station is Lake Merritt**  
For trip planning assistance all 510 465 2278

**For More Information Contact:**  
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