

## Alameda County Supervisor Keith Carson, Fifth District

1221 Oak Street, Suite 536, Oakland, CA 94612

Phone: 510-272-6695 • Fax: 510-271-5151

Contact: Hannah Greene

Office: (510) 272-6768

Cell: (510) 220-3866

Email: [hannah.greene@acgov.org](mailto:hannah.greene@acgov.org)

**Press Release**

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### Alameda County and BART Celebrate Lunar New Year “Year of the Horse”



*Caption 1: On Thursday, February 27, 2014, Supervisor Keith Carson presented a commendation to BART officials in honor of a nine-year partnership to highlight the Lunar New Year and celebrate the Asian Pacific Islander community in Alameda County.*



*Caption 2: More than 600 school children enjoy the lion dance at the Lunar New Year celebration on February 13, 2014 at the Lake Merritt BART station plaza.*

**Oakland, CA** - At the BART board meeting on Thursday, February 27, Alameda County Supervisor Keith Carson presented a commendation to recognize the nine-year partnership between the County of Alameda, BART and the Asian Community Collaborative to highlight the diversity of the Asian and Pacific Islander community in Alameda County.

On February 13, 2014, the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Lunar New Year celebration was held at the Lake Merritt BART station plaza, where over 600 elementary students attended from the Oakland Unified School District (Burckhalter Elementary, Carl Munck Elementary, Emerson Elementary, Joaquin Miller Elementary, Lincoln Elementary and Alice Learning Center) and the Berkeley Unified School District (Cragmont Elementary). Also in attendance were employees from the County of Alameda and BART and members of the community.

“Alameda County is home to one of the most culturally diverse communities,” Supervisor Carson said. “26 percent of the County’s population is Asian and Asian Pacific Islander, and over 100 languages are spoken in the region.”

Oakland Mayor Jean Quan and BART’s Department Manager of Customer Services Julie Yim also brought greetings to the group.

Entertainment at the celebration included a demonstration by BART police dogs, lion dancing and a Kung Fu Exhibition, Mongolian dancing, Chinese harp played by Winnie Wong, a Korean senior drumming and choir group, and two songs performed by the Alice Learning Center preschool choir.

2014 is the “Year of the Horse” according to the lunar calendar. People born in the Year of the Horse are extremely animated, active and energetic. People of this sign love to be in a crowd, like entertainment, have a deft sense of humor, love to take center stage and delight audiences everywhere. Those born in the Year of the Horse are trustworthy, friendly and like to be surrounded by a large circle of their relatives and friends.

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*Alameda County Supervisor Keith Carson represents the Fifth District, which includes Albany, Berkeley, Emeryville, Piedmont, and parts of Oakland (North Oakland, Rockridge, Grand Lake, Fruitvale, and Dimond District neighborhoods). For more information about District 5 and Supervisor Keith Carson, please call (510) 272-6695 or visit <http://www.acgov.org/board/district5>*