



District 5 News and Updates

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

A MESSAGE FROM SUPERVISOR CARSON

Dear District 5 Community,

I would like to extend my deepest condolences to the citizens of Japan and all who have been affected by the devastating earthquake and tsunami that took place on Friday, March 11. In response to the disaster, the Alameda County Board of Supervisors re-opened the Disaster Relief Fund to aid Japan as it faces challenges from aftershocks, search and rescue and the ongoing nuclear emergency. I encourage Alameda County employees and members of the public to make a donation. All donations are welcome, large or small.

All donations to the Alameda County Disaster Relief Fund will be directed to citizen relief and rebuilding efforts through the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California (JCCCNC) and the U.S. - Japan Council.

You may make a donation by sending a check payable to:

The Alameda County Disaster Relief Fund
c/o the Auditor-Controller Agency
1221 Oak Street, Room 238
Oakland, Ca. 94612

For more information, please [click here](#).

Thank you in advance for your generous support.

Sincerely,

RECENT NEWS FROM THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



March 27—April 2 was proclaimed Agricultural Week in Alameda County. Youth from the [Montclair 4-H](#) and representatives from [Oakland Based Urban Gardens](#) (OBUGS) described their community garden projects, work with animals and community service clean-up efforts. Congratulations to both groups for their achievements in promoting agriculture!

JOBS NEWS



Oakland Career Expo
WORKING TOGETHER

Coliseum Extension Skilled Trade Jobs Career Expo

Careers in engineering, design, sales, administrative/clerical and more!

Eastside Club, Oakland Coliseum

April 7, 10 AM - 3 PM

For more information and to register, [please click here](#).

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

For more information visit:
www.KeithCarson.org

COUNTY NEWS



Alameda County Social Services Agency (SSA) is providing **free tax preparation assistance to low and moderate-income taxpayers** through April 13, 2011. Since 2002, SSA Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) preparers have helped taxpayers to receive larger tax refunds by claiming the credits they have earned. According to the United Way, refunds claimed through the program in 2010 created 276 Bay Area jobs and \$73.3 million in local sales and wages.

The Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) is provided to working families, single or married individuals. Additionally, families and individuals may be eligible for childcare tax credits. To qualify for the EITC you must have earned income of \$48,279 or less during the 2010 tax year. Children are not a qualifying factor for this credit. Undocumented individuals and families can be assisted if Individual Taxpayer Identification Numbers (ITIN) are available.

No Appointments Are Necessary! Walk-ins are welcome during the hours of operation:

Wednesdays: 5:30 - 8:30 PM,
Saturdays: 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

District 5 location

Thomas L. Berkley, Self Sufficiency Center
2000 San Pablo Ave. Oakland, CA 94612

Read more about the County program:
<http://alamedasocialservices.org/public/features/eitc/index.cfm>

Read more about the Bay Area program:
<http://www.earnitkeepitsaveit.org/>

NONPROFIT NEWS

OCCUR and The San Francisco Foundation Present:

Faiths Program and Community Needs:
Making the Critical Safety Net Connection

Preservation Park – Nile Hall
1233 Preservation Park Way
Oakland, CA 94612

Preservation Park – Nile Hall
April 7, 2011, 8:30am to 12:00 noon

[Click here for a flyer and to RSVP](#)

THE SAN FRANCISCO FOUNDATION



Due April 25! The San Francisco Foundation's **Nonprofit Transitions Fund** helps organizations rethink and regroup in response to the downturn in the economy. The goal of the Nonprofit Transitions Fund is to help nonprofits reduce costs and time spent on administrative work, as well as increase productivity. Grants ranging from \$10,000—\$30,000 will support serious planning efforts, consultants, due diligence, and other expenses.

[Click here for more information.](#)



Grantwriting Essentials Workshop

April 8, 9:30 am—4 PM
James Irvine Conference Center at the
East Bay Community Foundation
353 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza

[Click here to register](#)

EDUCATION and SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

College Scholarships

[Click here](#) to see a list of college scholarships for Black Students.

MassMutual Scholars Program

High achieving students of African-American/Black, Asian/Pacific Islander, or Hispanic descent who reside in or attend a college in Northern California may apply for one of three **\$5,000 college scholarships**. Applicants must express an interest in pursuing a career in the insurance and financial services industry. The application deadline is **May 2nd, 2011**, and winners will be notified in late summer.

[Click here for more information](#)



Free Dental, Vision and Medical Clinic

April 9 - 12, 2011
@ Oakland-Alameda Coliseum
Parking lot opens at 12 midnight, Doors open at 3:30 am

Volunteer doctors and medical professionals will provide free Dental, Vision, and Medical services intended for the uninsured, underinsured, underemployed and unemployed, and those who cannot afford to pay.

[Please click here for more information](#)

[Please click here for a flyer](#)

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT: FRUITVALE



The Peralta Hacienda Historical Park in the heart of the Fruitvale district is rich in California history. Visit the park and travel back in time to the Spanish Colonial period and the founding of the Peralta's Rancho San Antonio.

The Park also offers community members an opportunity to become a **Community Tour Leader**.

As part of training, Tour Leaders learn from artists, historians, and Peralta Hacienda staff about the history of California and how your story is part of the story of Oakland. Leaders develop public speaking skills and enjoy camaraderie with fellow volunteers.

The next training cycle is on Wednesday nights from 6-8 pm. Training sessions take place April 6, 13, 20, 27, and May 4, 2011.

If you are interested in being a Community Tour Leader, please call (510) 532-9142 or email ben@peraltahacienda.org.

[For more information, please click here.](#)

Project Re-Connect in Collaboration with The Carmen Flores Recreation Center Presents

Effective Parenting Classes

Learn effective strategies to communicate with your children about gangs, crime, substance use and healthy nutrition

Program begins: Thursday, April 7, 2011
Held at Carmen Flores Recreation Center
1637 Fruitvale Ave, Oakland, CA

[Click here for the flyer](#)

[Click here for the flyer in Spanish](#)