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Alameda County
Supervisor Keith Carson, Fifth District

For Immediate Release
Press Release

May 11, 2011

Alameda County Proclaims May Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

Alameda County proclaimed May 2011 as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month at the regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors on Tuesday, May 10, 2011. Asian Pacific American Heritage Week was initiated in 1978 and became a full month-long celebration in 1993 after President Bush signed it into law.

Supervisor Keith Carson and Supervisor Wilma Chan presented proclamations to prominent leaders in the Asian Pacific American community. Joanna Selby, Executive Director of the East Bay Korean American Senior Service Center, brought a choir that sang God Bless America and traditional Korean folk songs. Also accepting the proclamation were Carl Chan, Board Member with the Oakland Chinatown Chamber of Commerce and Sherry Hirota, Executive Director of Asian Health Services.

More than one million Asian Pacific Americans (APA) make the San Francisco Bay Area their home, enriching the communities in which they live with diverse linguistic and cultural traditions. According to the most recent U.S. Census data, Asian Pacific Americans now make up over 25 percent of the population in Alameda County, or about 390,000 people.

Mina Sanchez, Senior Aide to Supervisor Carson, organizes and hosts a quarterly meeting with the Asian Community Collaborative (ACC) to maximize the exchange of information between Alameda County and the Asian Pacific American community and provide better access to local government. The meeting also offers community members an opportunity to bring issues of mutual interest to the attention of their elected officials. The next meeting of the ACC will take place on Thursday, May 19 from 1 PM to 3 PM at the East Bay Korean American Senior Service Center at 1723 Telegraph Avenue in Oakland. For more information, please call (510) 272-6695 or visit <http://www.keithcarson.org/>

For pictures of the proclamation ceremony, please see below or visit:

<http://www.facebook.com/home.php#!/media/set/?set=a.10150168396146890.299879.10280546889>

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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).



Supervisor Wilma Chan and Supervisor Keith Carson present a copy of the proclamation to Joanna Selby, Executive Director of the East Bay Korean American Senior Service Center.



Carl Chan of the Oakland Chinatown Chamber of Commerce, Sherry Hirota of Asian Health Services, Supervisor Wilma Chan, Supervisor Keith Carson and Joanna Selby of the East Bay Korean American Senior Service Center celebrate Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.



Supervisor Carson and Supervisor Chan (back row) present the proclamation to members of the East Bay Korean American Senior Service Center Choir and other members of the Asian Pacific American community in Alameda County.