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Proudly serving District 8 - Kahakuloa, Waihe'e, Waiehu,
 Puuohala, Wailuku, Waikapu, parts of Kahului

NEWS AND UPDATES FROM Representative Troy N. Hashimoto

November/December 2019

Aloha!

As we approach the holidays, it is the perfect time to reflect and recognize all the things we are thankful for in our lives. It may be memorable achievements that happened this past year or simply being grateful for our wonderful friends and family. My philosophy has always been to give more than you get and that feeling is truly rewarding. Most importantly, enjoy this special time of year and have a wonderful holiday season!

The Legislative session officially begins on Jan. 15, and I have been using my off-session time to focus on constituent matters, meeting with community members, along with state, county, and non-profit agencies, and conducting numerous visits of sites throughout the state to help me better address our challenges during the legislative session.

If you have any ideas or would like to share your priorities, please do not hesitate to contact me either by email at rephashimoto@capitol.hawaii.gov or by phone at (808) 586-9444 so I can include them in the upcoming legislative session. It truly is an honor serving as your representative and I look forward to the upcoming year!

Mahalo,

*Troy
 welcoming the
 Central East
 Maui Little
 League team
 home from the
 Little League
 World Series.*



Troy with the Finance Committee on their Maui visit to Maui Memorial Medical Center, Iao Valley State Park, and to the University of Hawaii Maui College Ohana Zones that will be converted to homeless housing and an assistance center.

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT



Congratulations to the Wailuku Hongwanji Mission on celebrating their 120th Anniversary on October 20, 2019.

Troy along with a few of his colleagues presented a certificate to a few members of the Wailuku Hongwanji Mission.

Congratulations to the Miyake Concrete Accessories, Inc. on celebrating a successful 40 years on October 24, 2019.

Troy presented a certificate to the Miyake family at their celebration.





Waikapū Country Town Project

The Maui County Council recently approved the Waikapū Country Town Project which has been in the entitlement process for at least ten years. The town will be located throughout the Maui Tropical Plantation. This new development is projected to create 985 single-family homes, 368 multifamily units which will be cottages, townhomes and apartments. 80 rural hillside lots will also be available. The project will offer 200,000 square feet of commercial space, 82 acres of parks and open space, 8 miles of sidewalks, paths and trails.

The project will be required to set aside an elementary school within the town, which project developer Michael Atherton plans to donate 12-acres and donate \$2.6 million for construction costs. Punana Leo O Maui also plans to use five acres of land to open a bigger school to meet their growing demands for more spots for students who want to join a Hawaiian Language Immersion as well as members of the community who want to use the nonprofit as a resource center.

The project also boosts that there will be 910-acre agricultural preserve and 277 acres that will be subdivided into no more than five agricultural lots. The project plans to create it's own private water company to manage, operate and maintain its water and wastewater systems. The company will be in charge of an estimated 968,363 gallons-

per-day for potable water and 650,00 gallons-per-day of recycled water which will be used for irrigation. More information on the project can be found at www.waikapu.com or email answers@waikapu.com.



Troy volunteering at the 97th Annual Maui Fair.

Little Fire Ants - *Spot the Ant and Stop the Ant*



It only took "being lit up" by fire ant stings on her collar while picking fruit for a Waihe'e resident to wonder if she was working in an area infested with little fire ants (LFA). Within days of her report to the Maui Invasive Species Committee (MISC), a team from MISC and the Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA) confirmed that, indeed, little fire ants had invaded a 5-acre area of Waihe'e Valley.

An infestation of that size, while troubling, is not an insurmountable problem but there are challenges: the invaded area is bordered on one side by a steep hill and on the other by the Waihe'e River. If the infestation continued to spread, the terrain and river could make eradication much more difficult.

The earlier an infestation is detected, the easier it is to eradicate it – and that is the key to keeping these highly invasive ants from becoming established on Maui. The Waihe'e Valley infestation marks the 14th detection of LFA on Maui. This is the second detection

this year, after a four-acre infestation was found in the Happy Valley neighborhood of Wailuku last May. MISC and HDOA have eradicated eliminated ants at 8 sites; regular control of LFA is in process at six sites including the 150 acre population in Nahiku.

MISC needs your help and wants you test for LFA at home:

Survey your yard for little fire ants and submit your samples to MISC –even if you do not find ants. The survey will take only 30-45 minutes using materials you have at home: peanut butter, chopsticks, and a plastic bag. Survey kits are also available at Maui County Libraries.

- Smear a thin coat of peanut butter on one end of a disposable chopstick or popsicle stick. (A thick coat is no more attractive to ants and only makes identification more difficult). If you are allergic to peanuts, use small pieces of luncheon meat and tongs to retrieve the pieces.
- Place sticks in shady areas in, around, and on plants, including potted plants. For a thorough survey, place at least three sticks per plant, and/or one stick every two feet. Leave the sticks out for 45 minutes to 1 hour.
- Carefully pick up the sticks (so the ants don't fall off!), and seal them in a plastic bag. Write your name, contact number, and the date on the bag and freeze for 24 hours to kill the ants. An address is helpful, but not required.
- Just because you have ants, doesn't mean they are little fire ants. Some ants are look-alikes and require an expert to identify them. Turn in ALL ant samples for identification and peace of mind.
- More information, questions, and the control efforts on Maui can be found at stoptheant.org or call (808) 573-6472.

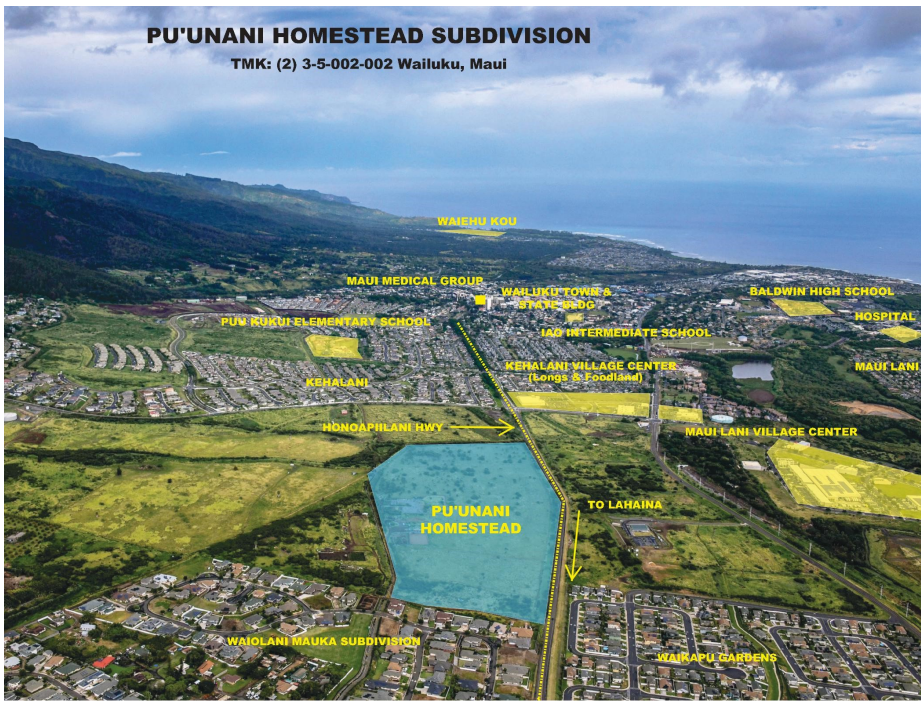


Reporting Helicopter Noise



Various concerns have been reported with helicopter noise throughout our District. Helicopters are under the jurisdiction of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). Some companies have self-regulated air traffic patterns to avoid residential areas. However, problems sometimes still persist. Starting on Jan 1, 2020, all aircraft must be equipped with ADS-B technology (location tracking), making identifying helicopters causing the noise much easier. Websites such as flightaware.com can show helicopter traffic patterns. You can also report any noise concerns to www.planenoise.com/hha or the Hawaii Helicopter Association's Hotline at (808) 639-5566. You may also contact the FAA Aviation Noise Ombudsman at 9-awa-noiseombudsman@faa.gov or calling (202) 267-3521. When emailing or calling the ombudsman please make sure to include as much detail;

time of event, description, type of aircraft, aircraft description, airport source if it is a repeat occurrence and even any other government officials were contacted. You can also contact the Western Pacific Region Office by calling (424) 405-8020 or email: 9-AWP-noise@faa.gov.



Pu'unani Homestead Subdivision

The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands recently announced that they will be working with the Dowling Co. to turn forty-four acres of land that border the Honoapiilani Highway and Waiolani Mauka Subdivision into housing. The project will create 137 turnkey homes and 24 vacant lots. Department of Hawaiian Home Land's turn-key lot offer is one of several types of lot offerings from the Department. The turn-key home product is the result of beneficiary interest in ready-to-live homes. There is a lot to be done still, including the environmental assessment which will take a few years and construction could take at least two years to complete. The subdivision may be done in the next six years.

Dowling Co. has purchased the property and will convey title to Department of Hawaiian Home Lands in exchange for affordable housing tax credits with no

money changing hands. Dowling also will build the subdivision and front the money for the housing, which will be leased to beneficiaries for \$1 a year.

Hawaii's Youth Vaping Epidemic: Act Now!

Electronic Smoking Devices (ESDs), also known as e-cigarettes have grown in popularity among school-aged kids nationwide. The U.S. Surgeon General reports that e-cigarette use among youth is a public health concern. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) states that teenage vaping or the use of ESDs is now at an "epidemic proportion." Hawai'i youth are adopting this dangerous trend by using ESDs or vapes, at an alarming rate. In the US, the youth vaping rates increased by a shocking 78% from 2017 to 2018 — that's over 3.6 million youth under the age of 18 vaping. In Hawai'i, youth use of ESDs has doubled or even tripled national rates.

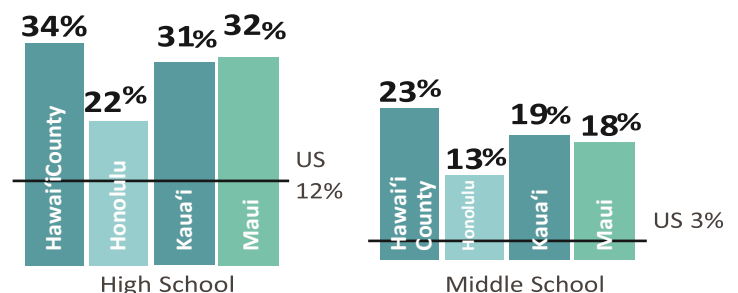
Talk to your kids about vaping:

- Recognize that your child may already have first-hand observations or experiences to have opinions about vaping.
- Be positive, ask open-ended questions rather than repeat negative statements.
- Share YOUR concerns with your child, they will appreciate your care, even when speaking about products with potential harm.

Parents Can:

- Learn about the different types of e-cigarettes and the risks of vaping for young people.
- Talk to their children about the risks of vaping among young people.
- Express firm expectations that their children remain tobacco-free.

Hawaii Youth ESD Use by County



CDC. Tobacco Use among Middle and High School Students - United States 2011-2017. Hawai'i Youth Risk Behavior Survey 2017.

Representative Troy N. Hashimoto

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If you would like to be added to our email list.

Please email us, and we will gladly add you.



December & January Community Events

Friday, December 6: Volunteer at Waihe'e Coastal Dunes and Wetlands with Refuge Pacific Whale Foundation. *More info can be found at www.pacificwhale.org*
8am-12pm

Saturday, December 7: Living Wreath Making with Native Plants: Maui Nui Botanical Gardens. *More info can be found at www.mnbg.org*
9am-12pm

Friday, December 13: Volunteer at Waihe'e Coastal Dunes and Wetlands with Refuge Pacific Whale Foundation. *More info can be found at www.pacificwhale.org*
8am-12pm

Friday, December 20: Volunteer at Waihe'e Coastal Dunes and Wetlands with Refuge Pacific Whale Foundation. *More info can be found at www.pacificwhale.org*
8am-12pm

Deadline for First Class mail & packages to make it to the Mainland by Christmas. *More information can be found at <https://faq.usps.com/s/>*

Saturday, December 21: Deadline for Priority Mail to make it to the Mainland by Christmas. *More information can be found at <https://faq.usps.com/s/>*

Sunday, December 22: Ka'ehu Beach Clean-up with SHARKastics. *More info can be found at www.sharkastics.org/*
9am-12pm

Friday, December 20: Last Day of Fall 2019 semester for University of Hawai'i Maui College

Monday, December 23: Deadline for Priority Mail Express Packages to make it to the Mainland by Christmas. *More information can be found at <https://faq.usps.com/s/>*

First Day of Winter Break for Baldwin High School, Iao Intermediate, Pu'u Kukui Elementary, Waihe'e Elementary and Wailuku Elementary

Tuesday, December 24: Christmas Eve
Federal, State and County Offices will be open. Schools will be closed.

Wednesday, December 25: Christmas
Federal, State and County Offices will be closed. Schools will be closed.

Friday, December 27: Volunteer at Waihe'e Coastal Dunes and Wetlands with Refuge Pacific Whale Foundation. *More info can be found at www.pacificwhale.org*
8am-12pm

Monday, December 30 to Friday, December 3: Maui Nature Adventure Day Camp: Hawaii Nature Center. *More info can be found at www.hawaiinaturecenter.org*

Tuesday, December 31: New Year's Eve
Federal, State and County Offices will be open. Schools will be closed.

Wednesday, January 1: New Year's Day
Federal, State and County Offices will be closed. Schools will be closed.

Friday, January 3: Volunteer at Waihe'e Coastal Dunes and Wetlands with Refuge Pacific Whale Foundation. *More info can be found at www.pacificwhale.org*
8am-12pm

Monday, January 6: Last day of Winter Break for Baldwin High School, Pu'u Kukui Elementary, Waihe'e Elementary and Wailuku Elementary.

Tuesday, January 7: Last Day of Winter Break for Iao Intermediate.

Friday, January 10: Volunteer at Waihe'e Coastal Dunes and Wetlands with Refuge Pacific Whale Foundation. *More info can be found at www.pacificwhale.org*
8am-12pm

Monday, January 13: First Day of Spring 2019 semester for the University of Hawai'i Maui College.

Wednesday, January 15: Opening Day at the Hawaii State Capitol.

Friday, January 17: Volunteer at Waihe'e Coastal Dunes and Wetlands with Refuge Pacific Whale Foundation. *More info can be found at www.pacificwhale.org*
8am-12pm

Monday, January 20: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Federal, State and County Offices will be open. Schools will be closed.

Friday, January 24: Volunteer at Waihe'e Coastal Dunes and Wetlands with Refuge Pacific Whale Foundation. *More info can be found at www.pacificwhale.org*
8am-12pm

Sunday, January 26: Ka'ehu Beach Clean-up with SHARKastics *More info can be found at www.sharkastics.org/*
9am-12pm

Friday, January 31: Volunteer at Waihe'e Coastal Dunes and Wetlands with Refuge Pacific Whale Foundation. *More info can be found at www.pacificwhale.org*
8am-12pm

