

## MidWeek

This column by Senator Michelle Kidani was published in the MidWeek **CENTRAL** VOICE section on Wednesday, April 18, 2018.

## Important Mililani projects added to the State budget

As this issue of MidWeek is published we are within a few days of adjourning our 2018 regular session of the Legislature. The Senate has voted on House bills and vice versa, and if there are differences in their respective drafts, this is the time when final language is worked out for approval before we adjourn.

In addition to the construction projects for Mililani Ike and Mililani Uka Elementary Schools that I reported last month, \$10 million has been added to the current version of the budget bill for a girls athletic locker room at Mililani High School.

A Title IX compliance report earlier this year pointed out that numerous high schools across the state lack such facilities for their girls teams, and it's important that we moved quickly to correct this.

> *Tia Rodriguez & Randi Macadangdang a lady Trojans victory in a 2017 OIA playoff game.*



The budget as it now stands also calls for \$900,000 in planning funds for the First Responder and Cyber Security Data Center to be located in the Mililani Tech Park. This project was initiated by fellow Mililani Senator Donovan Dela Cruz and will be an important enhancement to emergency preparedness and response capability and a real asset to our community. ETS BILLE

First Responders Technology Campus and Cybersecurity Data Center

Our session is scheduled to adjourn on May 3. I'll have a full budget and legislative update in my newsletter, reports to the Neighborhood Board, and future MidWeek columns.

## We celebrate 50 years of our Mililani

Our hometown turns 50 this week. Mililani Town Association (MTA) was officially incorporated on April 17, 1968, as sales of the new central Oahu planned community's first 800 homes began. "Rec 1" opened in 1970 – the first of seven such centers, most with pools, that are a wonderful resource for community and family activities that fill our calendars.

Mililani is still the only neighborhood in Hawaii to be named an All-America City by the National Municipal League. Our town has been on *Money* magazine's list of Best Places to Live in the US, and Mililani High School – the Trojan Nation – is always among the top two or three Hawaii public schools in rankings compiled by *U.S. News & World Report*.

Nearly 50,000 residents now call Mililani home. Property use and community association governance are

guided by the MTA Board of Directors who take their job very seriously. I've been a Board member for more than 18 years and currently serve as Vice President to Board President Bob Barrett. Kudos to our treasurer, Glenn Yoshimori, who has just begun his 38th year on the Board. Day to day matters are handled by General Manager Dave O'Neal and his capable staff. We are all committed to programs and activities that encourage positive interactions among neighbors, businesses and civic organizations in keeping with the original vision for this special place.

Of course, we cannot let the anniversary pass without a party. Music and fireworks are the order of the evening on Saturday, April 21, beginning at 4:00 p.m. at John Kauinana Stadium at MHS. Henry Kapono is the headliner, along with Mike Love and the Fresh Preps, food vendors will be set up, and a grand finale fireworks show is set for the end of the evening about 9:00 p.m.



See you at the celebration!



The Mililani Town Association was honored on by the State Senate to recognize MTA's 50th anniversary—to be celebrated at Mililani High School stadium on April 21, 2018.