



# MidWeek

This column by Senator Michelle Kidani was published in the MidWeek **CENTRAL VOICE** section on Wednesday, March 21, 2018.

## Budget additions for Mililani schools

We are a little over half-way through our 60-working-day legislative session. House bills have crossed over to the Senate and vice versa, including the budget bill that makes adjustments to spending plans for the year beginning July first. Some funds for Mililani school facilities have been added to House Bill 1900 – the first working draft of the budget that we will be finalizing in the Senate Ways and Means Committee. They include:

- ◆ \$325,000 for design, construction and equipment for a new bell and PA system at Mililani Ike Elementary
- ◆ \$1.5 million for planning and design of a new portable restroom building for first-graders at Mililani Uka Elementary



## You are invited!

There's a terrific opportunity to visit the State Capitol to enjoy some art and entertainment on the first Friday in April. The annual Art at the Capitol open house is scheduled for Friday, April 6, beginning at 4:30 pm.

The State of Hawaii has a wonderful collection of works by Hawaii artists and many of them are on display throughout the Capitol. Most lawmakers' offices – including mine in room 228 – will be open through early evening, and there will be special presentations at a number of locations. Honolulu Youth Symphony will perform, and video presentations will be screened in the Senate and House Chambers.



As the Capitol program concludes at 7 pm, the art and entertainment shifts just across Richards Street to the Hawaii State Art Museum as part of downtown Honolulu's First Friday music and gallery walk.

Mark your calendars for a fun evening!

## “We want you to be a survivor!”

That's a quote from one of the presenters at our Town Hall meeting on disaster preparedness late last month. We were reminded that even with an event as catastrophic as a missile attack, the chances are most people will survive. That means it is all the more important to follow the basic “shelter in place” instructions with a well-thought-out plan on how best to recover in the aftermath.

More than a hundred residents showed up at the Mililani Middle School cafeteria to hear from the DOE and the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency (HI-EMA) to learn about how to prepare for emergencies and how to react to a disaster incident.

A sound approach to preparing for emergencies of any kind – tsunamis, hurricanes, acts of war – are pretty basic and easy to remember: **Know where to go, know what to do, know when to do it.** Thorough and careful preparation are the key to family security in the aftermath of a destructive event, and resources are available to help you begin. Start with this one: <http://dod.hawaii.gov/hiema/>.