

# BARBARA MARUMOTO REPRESENTATIVE 19th DISTRICT

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## NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD REPORT

### **SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2011**

# Legislative Issues

## Ethics Commission Director Les Kondo Sets Very High Standards

When Rep. Marumoto wrote to the Ethics Commission asking whether it would be appropriate for legislators to accept an invitation to the Retail Merchants annual January reception, she accepted the negative response. But when the Director wrote that accepting an invitation to a scholarship banquet honoring prominent Sacred Hearts Academy alumnae would *not* be appropriate because there is no "state benefit", Marumoto questioned the answer. She pointed out that attendance (albeit \$150 per person) merely demonstrates support for Sacred Hearts' mission of educating young women and honoring their chosen alumnae. Further, she noted that the school does not lobby the Legislature, give out political contributions, or endorse candidates. Marumoto is still awaiting a response from Kondo regarding a statement that certain legislators could attend events for "protocol reasons, i.e., the Speaker or a Chair or a Vice Chair – especially of *Tourism*" – might attend to represent the Legislature or a committee. But where does that leave minority members who will not have the opportunity to hold those leadership positions, who will not meet and learn about various issues?

# Finance Committee on the Move

Flashlights were required to see the basement of the empty Kamamalu Building and then climb to the 9<sup>th</sup> Floor. Should the State leave the building vacant, remodel it in order to sell, lease or move departmental personnel into it that are now paying for leased private space? The Committee also visited the old Waimano Home "campus" that occupies 280 acres above Pearl City. The Department of Health occupies a few buildings, but many are empty and decaying. Marumoto favors selling a portion for residential use. The Committee also viewed improvements at Honolulu Airport, visited Central and North Shore Oahu that included Lake Wilson (another expensive problem) and a wind farm. The



DLNR officials outline Diamond Head improvements.

Committee found that in the last few years the Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility has shown great improvement. At one point the federal government was threatening to take over the facility under a consent order. The House Republican Caucus took a field trip to Maui to observe Kihei Charter School, the Maui Economic Development Board to learn about the Haleakala Observatory activities (Air Force Research Laboratory and the UH Institute for Astronomy), and visit the Maui High Performance Computing Center, the Joint Information Technology Center and Pacific Defense Solutions, LLC.

# **District Concerns**

## Legislators Tour District

House Republicans found several working examples of **sustainability** at a **Kalani High** project. Not only are students growing vegetables and raising fish, they are composting using biodegradable paper cafeteria trays, food waste, chicken manure, worms, maggots and fish waste. Legislators leased an Elite Limousine van, Bucky Yee's longtime business on Harding and 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

At Leahi Hospital, Bruce Anderson, the new head of the statewide Hawaii Health Systems Corp. (and Kahala resident) and Vince Lee, Oahu District Chief, briefed them on the financial challenges facing the entire hospital system as well as at Leahi. Lydia Chock, in charge of External Affairs for Oahu, (and also current Kaimuki Business & Professional Association Pres.) showed us through the wards as well as other programs that share the Leahi campus. She pointed out capital

improvement needs along the way. **Dr. Stanley Michels** showed legislators through the **Diamond Health Mental Health Clinic** that houses the Clubhouse, a therapeutic networking group and the Sexually Transmitted Disease Clinic that has pioneered the fight against HIV/AIDS.

At **KCC Vice Chancellor Louise Pagotta** showed off the culinary skills of the students as well as new improvements in the Manele Building, sat us down in the Library so that we could hear about the energy-saving measures at KCC. Legislators found the student services building welcoming – helpful for a commuter campus.

Film Chief Georja Skinner walked representatives around the Film Studio on 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue, through the huge sound stage, the water tank for underwater shots, the old Hawaii 5-O sound stage that now houses a bewildering array of props. In the shop, workers were making fish for the upcoming Steven Spielberg's TV series, *The River*.

Finally **Deputy Director of Parks Curt Cottrell** and **Diamond Head Monument Coordinator Yara LaMadrid-Rose** briefed lawmakers on completed and ongoing improvements in and outside the crater. Mahalo to **MidWeek's Bob Jones** for sparking an investigation of illegal vendors in the park. His wife **Denby Fawcett** is planning to write a book about Hawaii's iconic landmark.



Rep. Marumoto admires a student's talented work on Kalani's art wall.



KCC Vice chancellor Louis Pagotto.



Prop making for *The River* in the 18th Ave. Hawaii Film Studio.

Saint Louis School Robotics panel discussion on Oct. 5. See saintlouishawaii.org for its Speaker Series.

### Children's Alliance honors Judy and Joe Fadrowsky

For their long time leadership in fighting child abuse, the Children's Alliance dedicated their 2011 fundraiser to the Fadrowskys of Waialae Iki. They will be spending much of their retirement years traveling so their absence will have an impact on the Alliance.

## **KCC Culinary Institute Applies for Permit**

Rep. Marumoto submitted testimony to the Department of Planning & Permitting in favor of KCC's application for a Diamond Head Special Design District permit to build on the site of the old Cannon Club Officers Club. She requested a change in the architecture that would exhibit a stronger "Hawaiian sense of place" and consideration for a multi-level, air-cooled dining room.



KCC Dean Carol Hoshiko describes how the Culinary Institute of the Pacific project will look upon completion

## **KCC Faculty Receives Kudos at UH Convocation**

Yuko Kataoka, Associate Professor of Japanese was recognized with a Regents' Medal for Excellence in Teaching. Susan Jaworowsky received the Frances Davis Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching. She is the program Director and Assistant Professor in the Business, Legal and Technology Education Department. Congratulations to these outstanding KCC professors!



**Marumoto Activities** 

<u>Orchids to Betsy Somerville Purpura</u> – As the oldest daughter of Hawaii's leading tennis family, Betsy Purpura adds luster to the family name. Betsy was inducted into the <u>USTA Hawaii</u> <u>Pacific Section Tennis Hall of Fame</u>. After her championship days at Punahou, Betsy soared to national and international acclaim. As a U. of Arizona sophomore she and Sue Russo achieved No. 1 national ranking in doubles. Betsy played on the pro tour two years getting into all four Grand Slams. She now teaches at the <u>Oahu Club</u> in Hawaii Kai. *MidWeek* featured <u>Kea Ho</u>, the 8<sup>th</sup> of Don Ho's10 children, in several sizzling swimsuits that she designs. The feature story mentions that Kea, who lived in <u>Diamond Head</u>, attended Waiokeola <u>Preschool</u>, Waikiki Elementary and La Pietra.

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The <u>UH Colleges of Arts & Sciences Alumni Association</u> once again held a (great) fundraiser at the <u>KCC</u> fine dining facility. Lunch and dinner are open to the public, but phone for dates and times. Rep. Marumoto also attended the <u>Mayor's Honolulu/Zhongshan Sister City</u> observance as guests of Kahala residents and friends, Sandy and Marvin Fong. At a <u>NAIOP (National Association of Industrial and Office Properties)</u> meeting the representative heard <u>Central Pacific Bank president John Dean</u> discuss how he brought the bank back to financial health.



Legislators tour the Chevron Refinery at Barbers Point

<u>The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii</u> held a day long Policy Summit for legislators to provide an update on the national health care reform law and how the Act will coexist with the proposed Health Insurance Exchange and Hawaii's Prepaid health Care Act. Marumoto was happy to attend the Japanese Chamber of Commerce Chopsticks event as well.

<u>Signposts</u>: A fond aloha to former <u>Waialae Iki</u> resident Keo "Casey" Nakama, who was the first to swim the Molokai Channel. Keo served 10 years as a Republican in the House of Representatives and also taught and coached at several public schools. In a Certificate of Memoriam, Marumoto noted that Keo was captain of the swimming *and* baseball teams at Ohio State University way back in the '40s. The representative also presented a Certificate to the family of the late <u>Katsugo Miho</u> who also was a Republican in the House. Finally, Aloha to <u>Michael</u> <u>Nauyokas of Diamond Head</u>, a labor attorney and mediator who passed away much too soon.

As a member of the <u>Diamond Head Theatre Community</u> <u>Advisory Board</u>, Rep. Marumoto attended a Board Meeting and the <u>Ilima Awards</u> fundraiser as well. Did you know you could take classes in dance, acting, voice and something called "musical theatre experience" at DHT? Barbara was pleased to be asked to the <u>Jeanie Chun Fashion Show by Maunalani Heights philanthropist</u>, Dr. Lawrence Tseu.

Rep. Marumoto was happy attend a check presentation at Kahala Mall for the Coalition for Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD). The Coalition, which fights emphysema and chronic bronchitis, got a \$25,000 grant from the Hawaii Tobacco Fund. Congratulations to the Okinawan community for another jam-packed Okinawan Festival at Kapiolani Park and a successful Hui Makaala scholarship luncheon. The Representative was happy to present the King and Queen of Aloha Week a Certificate from the House, David and Emily Auwae. Emily was elected to the House in 2000.



Waialae Iki residents Blossom Tyau and her son Sheldon were guests of Sandy and Marvin Fong at Mayor Carlisle's Honolulu/Zhongshan sister city celebration at Jade Dynasty Restaurant.