



OFFICE OF REPRESENTATIVE SHARON E. HAR

DISTRICT 42—KAPOLEI AND MAKAKILO | NEWSLETTER | JULY 2016

Representative Sharon E. Har
HAWAII STATE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



Member, House Committee on
Consumer

Protection and Commerce

Member, House Committee on Labor and
Public Employment

Member, House Committee on Public Safety

Member, House Committee on
Transportation

HAWAII STATE CAPITOL

415 South Beretania Street, Room 418

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Phone: (808) 586-8500

Fax: (808) 586-8504

rephar@capitol.hawaii.gov

Aloha Friends:

I hope you and your families are enjoying the summer. It is hard to believe that a new school year will start next month. This summer has been a productive one in that, there have been several events celebrating our youth and community. Earlier this month, I had the privilege of celebrating the accomplishments of four Kapolei High School students who participated in biotechnical research during their summer break. Their findings will be published in a national repository demonstrating that their research has significant future potential.

We also celebrated both Mālama Kapolei and the grand opening of the Kapolei Heritage Center. Mālama Kapolei was an event sponsored by the Ulu A'e Learning Center, a Native Hawaiian nonprofit, and the City and County of Honolulu, to raise awareness of our Pu'u o Kapolei, a sacred hula mound located in the Kapolei Regional Park. The grand opening of the Kapolei Heritage Center, phase I, was a true labor of love which began in 2007, when I met with Kapolei Homesteaders about their vision for a community center, located in the homesteads. I am proud that the legislature provided \$1.5M of funding towards this public/private project that will serve as a gathering place for our community.

Thank you for the honor and privilege of being your voice in the House of Representatives. Should you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please feel free to contact me at 586-8500, or via email at rephar@capitol.hawaii.gov.

Malama Pono,
Sharon

KAPOLEI HERITAGE CENTER GRAND OPENING

In 2008, community leaders from the Kapolei community homesteads of Kanehili, Kaupea, and Maluohai came together to create the Kapolei Community Development Corporation (KCDC). KCDC is dedicated to preserving and supporting the Hawaiian culture by providing programs aimed at educating, caring for, and strengthening families. With their hard work and dedication, KCDC spent many hard-working hours collecting state and private donations to help implement their vision and mission by building the Kapolei Heritage Center.

On Saturday, July 16, 2016, I had the honor of attending and speaking at the Kapolei Heritage Center's grand opening. This Center provides ohana with a place for learning and entrepreneurial support, and will be a cornerstone for our homestead communities. I am proud that I was able to assist by securing grant-in-aid funding of \$1.5M to help this vision come to fruition, and proud that we have another location for our community members to gather as one.

Right: Rep. Har speaks at the grand opening of the Kapolei Heritage Center about how proud she was that the legislature contributed funding to this project that will benefit our community.



Above: Reps. Har and Cullen present a congratulatory certificate to KCDC founders and current board members. (Left to right) Rep. Ty Cullen, Kaleo, Keawe-Aiko, Kanani Sang, Aunty Homelani Schaedel, Joe Kuhio Lewis, Aunty Shirley Swinney, Rep. Sharon E. Har, and Jamé Schaedel.



2ND ANNUAL BIOTECHNOLOGY SCIENCE SUMMER SYMPOSIUM

On Friday, July 8, I had the honor of attending the 2nd Annual Biotechnology Science Scholars Summer Symposium. Four students from Kapolei High School— Aaron Ines, Andrew Ines, Gazerelle Nean Acain, and Sarah Okamoto,— participated in this five week program focused on genome analysis. Their DNA research will be published in GenBank, a national repository of nuclei acid sequence data accessed by scientist worldwide. This summer program began studies that will continue through the 2016 – 2017 academic year, where students will work with faculty and staff from Rutgers University. These four remarkable students demonstrate the future of Kapolei. Congratulations Aaron, Andrew, Gazerelle, and Sarah!



Rep. Har presented certificates from the House of Representatives to our KHS Biotech Scholars. Left to Right: Kapolei High School Teachers Stacie Inouye and Justine Manabat, Kapolei High School students Sarah Okamoto, Gazerelle Nain Acain, Aaron Ines and Andrew Ines, Representative Har and Kapolei High School Principal Elden Esmeralda.



Kapolei High School students, Aaron, Andrew, Sarah and Gazerelle explain their research studies and findings to Representative Har.

MĀLAMA KAPOLEI

On July 9, 2016, Ulu A`e Learning Center, a native Hawaiian non profit, in partnership with the City & County of Honolulu, Queen Liliuokalani Children’s Center, Hawaii Electric and hunt Development, celebrated Mālama Kapolei at our Pu`u `O Kapolei. This event celebrated the re-dedication of the Pā Hula and included the installation of signage. With performances by



area hula hālau, the Royal Hawaiian Band and Waipuna, our community came together to celebrate the host culture of our island home and to honor the cultural significance of Pu`u `O Kapolei. A special mahalo to Mikiala Kanekoa and all of our local volunteers who are working to preserve and honor our Pu`u `O Kapolei.