

FROM THE OFFICE OF

SENATOR STANLEY CHANG

East Honolulu Community Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2017



The 50th Anniversary of Hanauma Bay

This past month, Hanauma Bay celebrated 50 years as Hawai'i's first marine life conservation district. On October 24, 2017, hundreds gathered at the Hanauma Bay visitor center to commemorate the event.

Hanauma Bay is world renowned for its spectacular beauty and abundant diversity of marine life. It is a biologically, historically, spiritually, and culturally significant natural resource harboring a marine environment whose coral formations and over 450 varieties of fish create one of the most unique underwater landscapes in the world.

On October 23, 1967, Hanauma Bay was designated the State of Hawai'i's first Marine Life Conservation District, a living laboratory for research, investigation and educational purposes. This protective designation resulted in Hanauma Bay's thriving coral reef ecosystem with the largest standing biomass of reef fish around O'ahu.

Since 1990, Hanauma Bay has served as a model of marine protection and education by limiting the number of visitors and educating them about its marine environment. In 1993, Hanauma Bay became the first smoke-free beach; since then, the City and County of Honolulu banned smoking on all beaches and parks on O'ahu. In 2001, the first documented successful use of an automated external defibrillator (AED) in a beach setting by ocean safety lifeguards occurred at Hanauma Bay, leading to the widespread inclusion of AED's as standard first aid equipment at beaches worldwide, as well as at airports, schools, restaurants and other public venues. In 2002, the Hanauma Bay Marine Education Center was opened and has since been internationally acknowledged as a model of marine environmental education programs.

Just as significant, the State Department of Land and Natural Resources and the City and County of Honolulu work together to protect and preserve Hanauma Bay. Since 1990, the all-volunteer Friends of Hanauma Bay has consistently advocated for Hanauma Bay and unwaveringly supported its education and preservation mission. This collaborative triad of State, City and Friends organization dedicated to protecting and preserving Hanauma Bay is critical to forging the way ahead, ensuring Hanauma Bay remains the "crown jewel" of O'ahu for generations to come.



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► **HANDY CONTACTS**

Pothole Hotline
808-768-7777

Abandoned Vehicles
808-733-2530

Building Permit
808-768-5555

Trash Collection
808-768-3200

Street Light Repair
808-768-5300

Lawyer Referral & Information Service
808-537-9140

Current Bill Status
capitol.hawaii.gov

IN THE COMMUNITY



GLOBAL TOURISM SUMMIT

September 19–21 ▲ Senator Chang met the Food Network's Ted Allen, host of the prime-time competition series *Chopped*, at the 2017 Global Tourism Summit.



MEN'S MARCH AGAINST VIOLENCE

October 12 ▲ Senator Chang attended the 23rd annual Men's March Against Violence organized by the Domestic Violence Action Center at the State Capitol.



COMMUNITY COLLEGE TOUR

October 19 ▲ Senator Chang joined the House and Senate Committees on Higher Education in a tour of Honolulu Community College and Kapiolani Community College to learn about the innovative ways they are improving their institutions.



AIEA HIGH SCHOOL

October 23 ▲ Senator Chang spoke to junior and freshmen students at Aiea High School on the importance of education and leadership.

YOUR CONCERNS



Saturday Hours for Kapālama Hale Duplicate of Driver's Licenses and Instruction Permits Available Online

In an effort to better meet the driver licensing needs of O'ahu residents and reduce lines, the city's Department of Customer Services is announcing two new initiatives.

To help meet an expected surge in driver license renewals, the main driver license center at Kapālama Hale will temporarily be offering Saturday morning hours from 8 a.m. to noon, beginning this Saturday, October 14, through the end of the year.

Drivers can renew their license six months before the deadline and keep the same birth date expiration. However, no road testing or written exams will be performed on Saturdays. Appointments are recommended at license.honolulu.gov, where the city's interactive documents guide is also available.

In addition, O'ahu residents can now avoid lines and apply for a duplicate driver's license or instruction permit from the convenience of their mobile device or home computer. The city's Department of Customer Services recently launched the new online service at license.honolulu.gov.

Residents can use the site to order an exact duplicate replacement of their driver's license or instruction permit, which must have been originally issued by the City and County of Honolulu. The online system will not allow changes to address, name, or other information.

A temporary paper license or permit will be mailed to the recipient's current address on file within two to three business days, and the permanent license or permit will arrive within three to four weeks. The online fee for a duplicate license or permit is \$6 plus a non-refundable service fee of \$1. Payment must be made by credit or debit card.

Motorists are advised that they cannot drive without a valid license. If they do not wish to wait for the temporary driver's license or instruction permit to be mailed, they should apply at a Driver Licensing Center or Satellite City Hall at Fort Street, Hawai'i Kai, Pearlridge and Windward City to receive a temporary card on site. The permanent card will then be mailed.

The new online service supports the city's efforts to utilize technology to reduce lines and wait times at all Driver Licensing Centers and designated Satellite City Hall locations. In fiscal year 2017, the Department of Customer Services processed close to 40,000 duplicate driver's license transactions. The Department of Information Technology designed the license.honolulu.gov site with no additional cost to taxpayers.

"This new online service is yet another example of how the city is using technology for the benefit of O'ahu residents so they don't waste their precious time," said Mayor Kirk Caldwell. "By developing the software in-house, we are also saving taxpayer money that can be spent on other initiatives."

The public is encouraged to use online services whenever possible. Visit honolulu.gov/csd for motor vehicle registration renewal, State ID applications, the driver's license and ID document guide, water bill and property tax payment, and driver's license road test appointments.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

DCCA: Beware of Fake State Investigators

The Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs' Regulated Industries Complaints Office (RICO) is warning the public about at least one individual who posed as a RICO investigator.

The office received information that a letter was sent to a local business asserting a violation and that RICO would be conducting an investigation at that location. The letter, however, was not sent by an investigator from the RICO office.

Notices from RICO are sent on official letterhead and include contact information for all RICO offices. Legitimate RICO investigators carry official badges and credentials with their name and organization. Members of the public may request to view the credentials of a RICO investigator to confirm the investigator's identity. To verify the authenticity of an investigator or a written notice from RICO, the public also may call the RICO office at **(808) 587-4272**.

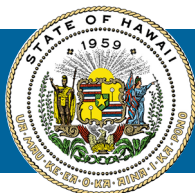
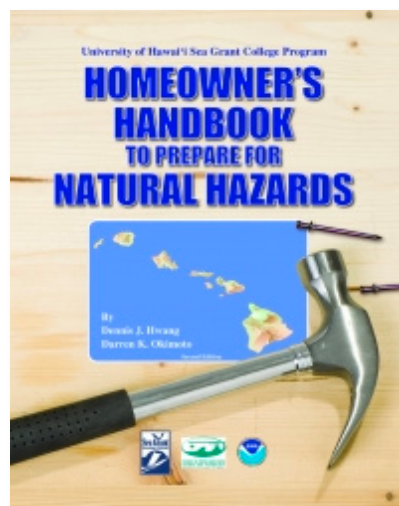


Hurricane Preparedness

Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria teach us of the need to prepare even more in Hawai'i. In 2015 we had a record level of activity in the Pacific. This year, there has been a record level of activity in the Atlantic with devastating impacts for Texas, Florida and Puerto Rico. Weather conditions favorable for hurricane formation in the Atlantic coincide with unfavorable conditions for hurricane activity in the Pacific, but these cycles alternate back and forth over multi-year periods.

Almost every house can be strengthened with simple or modest home improvement projects. These include adding hurricane clips, protecting your windows, strengthening your roof, or foundation. Considering your house is your major investment, and its main function is to protect you and your family from high winds and rain, this is a very wise move. The best time to do this work is during clear weather conditions. As hurricane season nears its end on **November 30**, consider making these changes now for this year and the long-term.

To protect your home and family from future disasters check out the free Homeowner's Handbook to Prepare for Natural Disasters from the University of Hawaii Sea Grant. Learn about the importance of a Continuous Load Path Connection and the many retrofits to protect your home from natural hazards. Download a copy at: seagrant.soest.hawaii.edu/homeowners-handbook-prepare-natural-hazards.



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