



COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

FROM THE OFFICE OF REPRESENTATIVE JO JORDAN
HOUSE DISTRICT 45 · WAIANAЕ, MAKAHA, MAKUA · APRIL 2012

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Aloha Neighbors,

The 2012 Legislative Session is nearing adjournment, which is scheduled for May 3. In this newsletter, I highlight the Lawmakers Listen Town Hall Meeting with House Leadership that I hosted on March 14 as well as the Town Hall Meeting on Flood Mitigation that was held on March 28. The feedback I received from both meetings was very positive.

I'm also happy to share about construction upgrades that are underway at Waianae High School and the great news that Waianae High School's Searider Productions was named an Apple Distinguished Program, another prestigious accolade to add to the long list of recognition and awards.

It was also such a great honor to have the opportunity to personally congratulate Senator Daniel Akaka, the 2011 Recipient of the Harry S. Truman Award for Distinguished Service in Support of National Defense. Senator Akaka was accompanied by several family members and his staff.

I value this opportunity to share information on issues that impact our community, and I encourage you to communicate any of your thoughts and concerns with me.

Mahalo,

Jo Jordan,
District 45 Representative

Lawmakers Listen Town Hall Meeting an Overwhelming Success

Mahalo to everyone who participated in the Lawmakers Listen Town Hall Meeting that I hosted on March 14 featuring several House leaders including Speaker Calvin Say, Vice Speaker Joey Manahan, Majority Leader Pono Chong, Majority Whip Sharon Har, Finance Chair Marcus Oshiro, and Economic Revitalization & Business Chair Angus McKelvey. Ninety-two percent (92%) of the attendees who submitted a feedback form indicated that they received information about issues currently being considered by the Legislature. Waianae coast residents asked questions ranging from education, economic development, agriculture, and public safety. Several residents also expressed their support for two bills that I introduced and are still moving in the legislature: House Bill 2684, which requires the Department of Transportation to conduct a feasibility study on the extension of the zipper lane westward from Waipahu toward Kapolei, west of the Kunia on-ramp; and House Bill 2883, which requires the Department of Land and Natural Resources to conduct a flood study on Makaha Valley. Students from Kamaile Academy and Waianae High School who are part of the YMCA Youth in Government program also attended the meeting in preparation for their conference planned for later this year. Five individuals took the opportunity of having face time with lawmakers to personally thank Speaker Say for having a significant, positive impact on their lives. The Lawmakers Listen Town Hall Meeting can be viewed at <http://vimeo.com/repjordan>.



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Mahalo for doing your part to save the trees.

Waianae High School Upgrades Underway

Construction totaling \$2,415,771.00 at Waianae High School for Miscellaneous Repair and Maintenance for Race to the Top, Zones of School Innovation will be initiated shortly. The contract has been awarded to BCP Construction of Hawaii, Inc.

Construction totaling \$1,357,200.00 at Waianae High School for Building VV to Replace Center Bleachers will be initiated shortly. The contract has been awarded to Index Builders, Inc.

A pre-construction conference for both projects to discuss scheduling and construction start date will be held between the contractor and the school in order to minimize disruption and disturbance during the construction.

Waianae High School's Searider Productions named an Apple Distinguished Program

Waianae High School's Searider Productions program has been named an Apple Distinguished Program for its use of Macs, MacBooks, iPads, and software. Through the implementation of Apple technology, students have been provided with innovative and highly interactive learning opportunities that focus on mastering contemporary digital media and computer technologies. Students are able to explore areas such as video production, internet journalism & social media, graphic arts & design, 2D & 3D computer modeling, and interactive media creation & design.

"The overall goal of SP is to increase the number of youth entering and succeeding in upgraded digital media arts education and training programs in high school and college and to ultimately prepare them to succeed in related professional industries," said Candy Suiso, Searider Productions executive director.

The Apple Distinguished Program designation is reserved for programs that are recognized centers of educational excellence and leadership. The selection of Waianae High School's Searider Productions highlights its successes in enhancing and extending teaching and learning with thoughtful, innovative implementations of technology.

A key organizing principle is the integration of real-world work assignments into the learning experience and formal curriculum. Students have had the opportunity to work on projects for private, public and non-profit organizations. Students have

also entered various digital media contests and have been recognized nationally and locally for their work.

Although the Searider Productions program is constantly growing and incorporating new and innovative approaches to stay current, it always remains true to its original roots and its ultimate goal of preparing students for success in school, work and life. Through the implementation of innovative Apple technologies, students are able to showcase their digital media skills and are better prepared for higher education, employment and entrepreneurship in digital media-related industries.

Governor Abercrombie Releases Funds for Leeward Community College

On April 19, Governor Abercrombie announced the release of \$1,157,000 to Leeward Community College for equipment for a new three-story education and innovation instructional facility. This release of funds follows the inclusion of \$3 million in the budget passed by the Legislature last year for Leeward Community College for plans, land acquisition, design, construction and equipment for the education center. I'm excited about the expanded educational opportunities that are available to Waianae Coast residents through Leeward Community College and UH West Oahu.



Apple Distinguished Program

From left to right: Rep. Jo Jordan, Michael O'Connor (SP Digital Media/Animation instructor), Sen. Maile Shimabukuro, Candy Suiso (SP Director), and Nani Daniels (Apple K12 Education Area Manager).

FLOOD MITIGATION

Town Hall Meeting on Flood Mitigation

Mahalo to everyone who participated in the Town Hall Meeting on Flood Mitigation held on March 28 that was a follow up to the initial meeting held on September 29, 2011. The meeting began with State Civil Defense providing the results of the community clean ups held in the Paakea area on November 19, 2011, the Puuhulu area on December 10, 2011 and January 16, 2012, and the Makaha area at Eku Stream on February 18, 2012. Steve Sigler, emergency operations planner with State Civil Defense, reported improved stream flow during the recent storms in March and he credited the community for continuing the efforts started by government agencies working together.

Jiro Sumada, Deputy Director of the City Department of Planning and Permitting (City DPP) shared a proposed flood mitigation program with near-term, mid-term, and long-term projects. He explained that the common sources of flooding are insufficient drainage infrastructure, lack of maintenance of private streams, illegal dumping in streams and ditches, and illegal grading, filling in of streams or diversion of surface runoff. The proposed solutions he presented include the following:

1. Near-Term Projects (within 1 year to complete):

City Dept. of Facility Maintenance	Routine cleaning of city streams and roadside ditches
State Civil Defense	Community clean up of private streams and roadside ditches (Paakea, Illili, Apana & Puuhulu)
US Army Corps of Engineers	Army Corps of Engineers Low Cost Drainage Improvements (Study of projects on Navy, State, City and private land)
City Dept. of Design & Construction	Mapping to identify private streams

2. Mid-Term Projects (within 1 to 5 years to complete)

City Dept. of Design & Construction	Plan, Design & Construct Puhawai Drainage Improvements
City DPP	Investigations & Mapping of Alleged Illegal Grading

3. Long-Term Projects (longer than 5 years to complete)

City Dept. of Design & Construction	Design & Construct low cost drainage projects for City roads
Navy	Design & Construct low cost drainage projects for Navy property
Private land owners	Low cost drainage projects on private land
State Dept. of Transportation	Plan, Design & Construct Farrington Hwy. Drainage Improvements
State Dept. of Transportation	Plan, Design & Construct Lahilahi Street Drainage Improvements

Most of the near-term projects previously referenced have already begun. One of the mid-term projects is the Puhawai Road Drainage Improvements, which was one of my capital improvement projects appropriating \$2 million in general obligation bond funds— \$150,000 for planning, \$350,000 for design and \$1.5 million for construction.

State elected officials shared information about pending capital improvement projects. I focused on House Bill 2883, which requires the Department of Land and Natural Resources to conduct a flood study on Makaha Valley and House Bill 2012, House Draft 1, which proposes design and construction funding for the Puhawai Culvert Replacement. Senator Shimabukuro focused on Senate Bill 3006, which establishes a task force to study ways to prevent or control the problem of abandoned tires and funding for improvements in the Paakea area. Representative Awana focused on the \$8 million for flood mitigation at Lualualei Valley and Farrington Highway appropriated last year.

“ Steve Sigler reported improved stream flow during the recent storms in March and he credited the community for continuing the efforts started by government agencies working together. ”

The meeting concluded with community flood education and outreach efforts shared by Ka Wai Ola O Waianae, a community group whose mission is to stop illegal dumping and non point source pollution in the streams and coastline of Waianae and Victor Flint, who compiled a post flooding survey on March 7, 2012 to share the positive outcomes and a plan of action for flood mitigation moving forward.

The Town Hall Meeting on Flood Mitigation can be viewed at <http://vimeo.com/repjordan>. Additional information can also be obtained at <http://www.wix.com/repjordan/floodmitigation>.



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SENATOR DANIEL K. AKAKA

The State Legislature Congratulates Senator Daniel K. Akaka

On April 3, the House and Senate both congratulated Senator Daniel K. Akaka, who was honored by the National Guard Association of the United States as the 2011 recipient of the Harry S. Truman Award for Distinguished Service in Support of National Defense. As a longstanding member of the Senate Armed Services and Veterans' Affairs committees, Senator Akaka worked to help increase benefits, full-time manpower, and the availability of body armor, as well as for rewriting the Post-9/11 GI Bill to include National Guardsmen mobilized under Title 32. The Truman Award is the highest award given to a lawmaker and is presented to awardees for their sustained and exceptional contributions to national defense and security, awarded only to thirty-four other individuals since its inception in 1969. Representative Jordan had an opportunity to personally congratulate Senator Akaka.



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