

Senator Michelle Kidani

(D) Senate District 17— Serving Mililani Mauka, Mililani Town, Waipio Acres and Waipio Gentry



Aloha, friends and neighbors:

I recently toured `Ili`ili **Aquaponics** at the invitation of UH Ag Specialist Jim Hollyer. The visit grew out of a discussion I had with **Mililani resident Vic Kimura** of Sheraton Hotels who brought to my attention several issues related to food safety and sustainability, and ways in which the Legislature can help support Oahu's farmers. Sheraton is wholly committed to buying from local farmers to the extent possible for its many hotel restaurants.

The basic concept in aquaponics farming: water from fish tanks is piped to plants that take nutrients from fish waste; the water is cleansed and returned to the fish tanks. The fish - usually tilapia - are the fertilizer source and can be sold to markets when they mature. Aquaponic crops grow faster and use less land, water and labor.

Contractor Dan Ching leased land in Waianae this year to start his aquaponics farm because the construction business has been slow. He's growing lettuce, basil, watercress and bok choi using three 5,000 gallon tilapia tanks. Other aquaponics farms are operating in Kunia, Haleiwa and other parts of the state. Support for Hawaii's farmer/entrepreneurs is important to food sustainability and a diversified economy.

Me ke Aloha,

Michelle




Feeding the fish at `Ili`ili Aquaponics with my grandson Keaolana Cook. Jim Hollyer of UH in the pink cap; owner Dan Ching at far right.

October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month


An estimated 1,120 people in Hawaii will be diagnosed with breast cancer this year, among the 6,600 state residents whose cancers will be detected in 2012.



Years of research have demonstrated that regular screenings, a healthful diet and even a mild regular exercise program are effective tools in preventing and treating breast cancer.



**CONGRATULATIONS
Mililani High School
Trojans football team!**



**2012 OIA Red West
Division Champions**
**Good luck in this week's
playoff semifinal game!**

Congratulations and Mahalo, Dr. John Brummel ~ You will be missed!

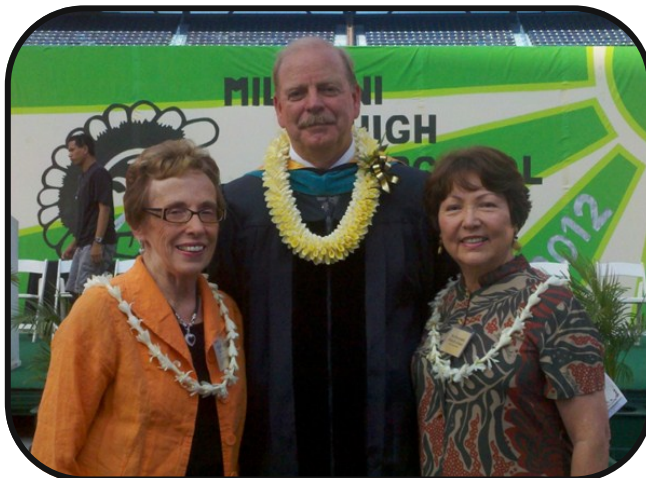


Photo of Rep. Marilyn Lee and Dr. Brummel taken at the MHS graduation ceremonies for the Class of 2012.

With mixed emotions, we heard the news that Mililani High School Principal John Brummel has accepted a new position with the Department of Education, ending a decade of leadership at one of Hawaii's premier secondary schools. Dr. Brummel had a lot to do with those stellar credentials—beginning with his term as Vice Principal in 2002, and serving in the top spot at MHS since 2004. During his tenure, Dr. Brummel was chosen **Hawaii State Principal of the Year** in 2007, and represented Hawaii in the National Association of Secondary School Principals National Principal of the Year program in Washington, DC. The program pays tribute to school principals who have demonstrated extraordinary leadership, commitment to students and staff, service to their communities, and contributions to the overall profession of educational leadership.

Dr. Brummel is now Complex Area Supervisor for the North Side Central District that includes schools in the Waialua, Leilehua and Mililani complex. He reminds us that his new position will allow him to continue his work in the best interests of his home campus for the last ten years. **Congratulations and Mahalo, Dr. Brummel, for your years service at Mililani High School.**

Coming events in the Mililani Community . . .

- ◆ Friday - Sunday, Oct 26-28 – *Wahiawa's Applause Performance Academy* presents an on-stage double feature: *The Headless Horseman* and *Cinderella*. Paliku Theatre at Windward Community College. 1-866-967-8167 for tickets & information
- ◆ Saturday, October 27 - *Mililani Town Association Annual Make a Difference Day*, 8 a.m.- noon. Recycling and free document shredding at Rec Center 3, graffiti removal & community cleanup. Call 623-7300 for information and to volunteer.
- ◆ Friday, November 9 - *Mililani Uka Elementary School Fall Fest*, 5 p.m.-9 p.m.
- ◆ Friday/Saturday, November 9-10 & 16-17 - Student performers from Central District public schools in the Mililani HS-based Central Theatre Arts Academy present a fall semester comedy, *The Curious Savage*, MHS Cafeteria. Information at 627-4356.
- ◆ Saturday, November 17 - *Friends of Mililani Public Library Book Sale*, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Information at 627-7470.



Summer 2012 will be unforgettable for the 15 players on the **Mililani U14 girls soccer team** that won a national championship in their age division at the AYSO Games in early July. The team – named **Lanakila**, which means victory in Hawaiian – also won the tournament's Sportsmanship Cup that will be on display at the National AYSO headquarters in California – the first time *ever* a team, coaches and parents have won both the age-group championship and the sportsmanship award. **Congratulations Coach Dunstan Canne and Assistant Coach Rose Yuu** for their many, many hours of instruction and inspiration, and to team members (in alphabetical order) **Kii Aweau, Nicole Baltazar, Jazzy Davis, Kaci-Ann Endo, Kylie Greseth, Kristen Ishii, Tiare Kahlewai, Sam Masca, Kim Masuda, Marisa Matsuo, Kyllie Murray, Brooke Nakamura, Janey Tamashiro, Marisa Tanaka and Katie Yuu.**



Photo Gallery

Life Scout John Stadler, Troop 176 at Wheeler Army Airfield, in the orange shorts at right >>>>> enlisted fellow scouts, family & friends for some serious beach cleanups as part of his effort to become an Eagle Scout. In two days, they collected 75 pounds of trash underwater and on the beach at Ala Moana and Haleiwa. **Great work, John!**



Birthday celebrations provide an ideal opportunity to count life's blessings, and my favorite blessings helped me blow out the candles on my cake as we marked the 25th anniversary of my 39th birthday last month. From left, kids that make my world go 'round: grandsons **Akoni** and **Kahiau** and granddaughter **Kamalani**. At right, Kamalani makes sure that my youngest granddaughter **Ayame** gets her share of the attention (and a cupcake).

I sat in with my Senate colleagues for two days of intense hearings regarding UH practices and policies that brought forth a great deal of unsettling testimony about management and accountability at the University. The Committee's report is expected in a few weeks.



It's your right . . . and your responsibility General Election Day is Tuesday, November 6



Absentee ballots were mailed out starting last week; you may request a mail-in ballot until October 30. In person early walk-in voting began on Tuesday, October 23 and will continue until Saturday, November 3. Vote between 8 am & 4 pm at Honolulu Hale, Kapolei Hale or Pali Golf Course. Vote at your neighborhood polling place on election day from 7 am - 6 pm. Questions? <http://hawaii.gov/elections> or call 543-8683

Keiki can vote in Hawaii, too!



Since 1996, Hawaii school-aged students have participated in **Kids Voting Hawaii**, a nonpartisan, grassroots organization that partners with public, private, charter and home schools statewide. In the 2010 election, more than 108,000 Hawaii students voted online as a part of this program to teach civic responsibility and prepare our young people for a lifetime of voting.

Voting is done online at a secure Web site that requires a password, distributed by school coordinators. **Parents: check with your children to see if they've requested or received a password at school.** They can start voting on Monday, October 22, and continuing through election day November 6. **For more information: <http://www.kidsvotinghi.org>**