

# Senator Mike Gabbard

October 2010

19th District, West Oahu

WAIKELE, VILLAGE PARK, ROYAL KUNIA,  
KAPOLEI, MAKAKILO, KALAELOA, HONOKAI HALE,  
& PORTIONS OF WAIPAHAU & KO 'OLINA

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JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

*Aloha Friends,*

*Fall is here and so is UH  
football. Let's hope we can  
get to a Bowl Game this time  
around. Go Warriors!*

*Here are a few things going  
on around town. Please call  
586-6830 or email me at  
sengabbard@capitol.hawaii.gov  
if I can ever help you or your  
ohana in any way.*

*Mahalo nui loa,*



*Mike*

*Senator Mike Gabbard*

## 65th Anniversary of the End of World War II

My daughter, former State Representative Tulsi Gabbard Tamayo, and I attended a very moving ceremony on the Battleship Missouri Memorial to mark the 65th anniversary of the end of World War II on September 2nd. U.S. Senator Daniel Inouye, U.S. Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric Shinseki, USS Missouri Memorial Association Chairman Robert Kihune, and USS Missouri Memorial Association CEO Michael Carr all gave remarks. You might recall that General Douglas MacArthur presided over the surrender ceremony on the Battleship Missouri on September 2, 1945. As he approached the microphone on that historic day, General MacArthur said the following words:

"We are gathered here, representatives of the major warring powers, to conclude a solemn agreement whereby peace may be restored. The issues, involving divergent ideals and ideologies, have been determined on the battlefields of the world and hence are not for our discussion or debate. Nor is it for us here to meet, representing as we do a majority of the people of earth, in a spirit of distrust, malice or hatred. But rather it is for us, both victors and vanquished, to rise to that higher dignity which alone befits the sacred purposes we are about to serve, committing all our people unreservedly to faithful compliance with the understanding they are here formally to assume."

*Speech and story continue on Page 2...*

## Governor Lingle Releases Funding to Repair Schools

I was happy to see that Governor Lingle released \$65.5 million on August 12th for the repair and maintenance of our schools across the state. There's \$2.2 million in repairs for schools in Senate District 19. Here's the breakdown:

- Barbers Point Elementary \$646,000
- Kalei'opu'u Elementary \$97,000
- Kapolei Elementary \$285,000
- Kapolei Middle \$332,000
- Makakilo Elementary \$364,000
- Mauka Lani Elementary \$302,000
- Waikele Elementary \$185,000

## Listen-Story

My next "Listen-Story" community meeting will be at Kapolei Starbucks (next to Chevron) on Saturday, October 23rd from 9-10am.



The photo above is from our last meeting at Starbucks on August 21st. Hope you can make it this time, as we discuss ways to improve Senate District 19 and our state.

*Continuing from MacArthur's speech on Page 1...*

"It is my earnest hope, and indeed the hope of all mankind, that from this solemn occasion, a better world shall emerge out of the blood and carnage of the past—a world dedicated to the dignity of man and the fulfillment of his most cherished wish for freedom, tolerance and justice."

Shortly after the surrender documents were signed, General MacArthur broadcast this message to radios all over the world:

"Today the guns are silent. A great tragedy has ended. A great victory has been won..."

As I look back upon the long, tortuous trail from those grim days of Bataan and Corregidor, when an entire world lived in fear, when democracy was on the defensive everywhere, when modern civilization trembled in the balance, I thank a merciful God that He has given us the faith, the courage and the power from which to mold victory. We have known the bitterness of defeat and the exultation of triumph, and from both we have learned there can be no turning back. We must go forward to preserve in peace what we won in war..."

Listening to Senator Inouye and General Shinseki's remarks I looked around the crowd at the many veterans and their families who attended the ceremony. I held back tears as "Taps" was blown by a talented soldier. I thought of my father's service in the Air Force for 25 years, and of all Soldiers past and present and the sacrifices they have made to protect our freedoms. Mahalo nui loa for your service to our state and country.

### Parents and Children Together Hold Kapolei Office Open House

I attended the Parents and Children Together (PACT) open house for their new Kapolei Office and the Economic Development Center's "First to Work" Program at the Campbell Building in Kapolei on September 9th. PACT is a non-profit family services organization that focuses on early childhood education, child abuse and neglect prevention and treatment, domestic violence prevention and treatment, youth activities, community and economic development, and mental health support. Their "First to Work" program assists low to moderate-income individuals and families reach their economic goals by helping them improve their workplace and business skills. If you're interested in the programs PACT has to offer, you can reach their Kapolei office at 674-4233.

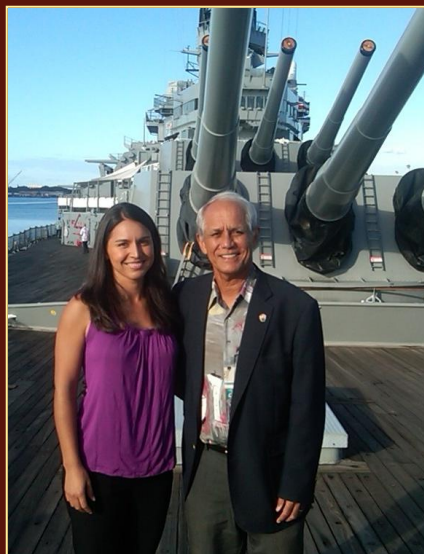
### West-Side Swap Meet Benefits Kapolei High School Project Grad

I did a little shopping at the West-Side Swap Meet at Kapolei High School on September 4th. The swap meets will be held the first Saturday of each month from 8am to 1pm and are intended as a fundraiser and community service project for Project Grad. The main focus of Project Grad is to ensure a quality education for economically disadvantaged youth and help them graduate from high school and have an opportunity to go to college. Vendors are encouraged to participate. It's \$15 for a used household goods vendor and \$25 for a business vendor. They also have a section for the sale of fresh produce and plants. Vendors are able to keep all of their sale proceeds. If you'd like more information, please contact Lolita Takeda at lolita\_takeda@notes.k12.hi.us or 692-8200 ext. 2246.

*Mapuana Tector, Sen. Gabbard, Arviella Keli'i, and Arviella Keli'i-Benavides at the West-Side Swap Meet on September 4th.*



*Sen. Gabbard and his daughter, Tulsi Gabbard Tamayo, were aboard the Battleship Missouri to commemorate the 65th Anniversary of the End of World War II on September 2nd.*



*Parents and Children Together (PACT) Program Manager Woodrow Moore, Rep. Har, Program Director Catherine Lee Loy, Sen. Gabbard, and CEO Ruth Ann Quitquit celebrated PACT's open house celebration in Kapolei on September 9th.*



## Mexican Independence Day Bicentennial Celebrated at IPA

I presented an honorary certificate from the State Senate to Laura Guzman, the Honorary Consul of Mexico, at the Mexican Independence Day Bicentennial celebration at Island Pacific Academy on September 15th. For those who don't know the history of Mexicans here in Hawai'i, here's a little background.

In the 1830s Kamehameha III invited Mexican vaquero (cowboys) who were living in California to come to Hawai'i. Kamehameha III appreciated the skills that the vaquero had in herding and controlling cattle. Cows at the time had overrun the forests and farmland of Hawai'i and were causing a decrease in food production. The King saw the potential for cattle if they could be herded and so he asked the Mexican cowboys to come to our state to teach Hawaiians these skills.



Not only were the vaquero successful in teaching their cattle handling and horsemanship skills to the locals, they also shared leather working techniques and in the hours after work, how to play the guitars they'd brought with them from California. Hawai'i's cowboys became known as paniolo. Some people believe paniolo is derived from the Hawaiians' pronunciation of "panuelos," the colorful kerchiefs the vaqueros wore around their necks. The term is still used affectionately for the cowboys working in the Islands today and for the culture their lifestyle spawned, much of which was heavily influenced by Mexicans.

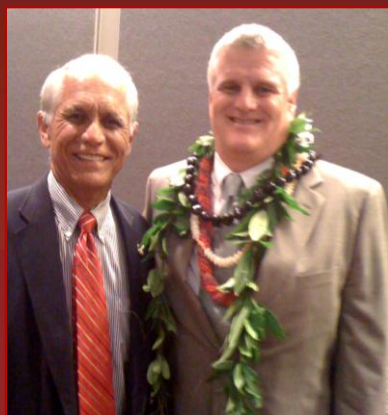
Although this was the most well documented Mexican immigration to Hawai'i, our state has welcomed many others who have come to our communities to raise families, work, learn about the Hawaiian culture and in turn share the beauty of their traditions with us.



*Sen. Gabbard participated in the Patriot Day Celebrations with over 1,000 students at Kaleiopuu Elementary School on September 10th.*



*Sen. Gabbard had a talk-story interview with students from Waipahu Intermediate School at the Olelo Studio on August 31st. Top row: Myka Oca, Jenalyn Ramos, Airra Asuncion, Grace Wilson, Camyl Limaco. Sitting: Angelica Badua, Sen. Mike Gabbard, Lauren Galiza*



*Senator Mike Gabbard congratulated Hawaii State Supreme Court Chief Justice Mark Recketenwald at his confirmation on September 2, 2010.*

## Conservation Council of Hawai'i Conference Focuses on the Pacific Ecosystem

I was honored to join with my colleagues at the Legislature in presenting certificates from the State Senate to American Samoa Governor Togiola Tulafono and Christian Giardina, 2010 Hawai'i Conservation Alliance Executive Committee Chair, for their environmental leadership at the 2010 Hawai'i Conservation Conference (HCA) at the Waikiki Aquarium on August 3rd.



The HCA is a cooperative collaboration of conservation leaders representing 18 state and federal agencies, educational institutions, and non-profit organizations. The HCA engages scientists and managers, educators and students, political leaders and community members in an ongoing dialogue about Hawai'i's conservation challenges and their solutions. The HCA focused on the theme Pacific Ecosystem Management and Restoration: Applying Traditional and Western

Knowledge Systems this year. Its main goal was to strengthen the ties between conservation leaders in Hawai'i and the greater Pacific Island region. Throughout the Pacific we face many of the same conservation challenges—the loss of native species and habitats, the encroachment of invasive species on land and in the sea, the impairment of watershed and coral reef function, and the growing threat of climate change—the combination of which poses an imminent threat to Hawaiian and Pacific Island biocultural heritage and to our very way of life.

Governor Tulafono, who served as a keynote speaker at the Conference, has proven himself to be a leader in the Pacific Island region for doing the right thing when it comes to our environment. His recent support for legislation to ban plastic shopping bags in American Samoa is a testament to this fact. Governor Tulafono continues to be a key participant on the United States Coral Reef Task Force, was instrumental in the designation of Rose Atoll as a National Marine Monument, and has shown true leadership in addressing global climate change impacts on Pacific Island communities.

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### Samoa Ala Mai Conference

I had the opportunity to speak at the 2nd Annual Samoa Ala Mai Conference at Windward Community College on September 11th. The Conference was sponsored by the UH Manoa Office of Multicultural Student Services and focused on improving college attendance rates for Samoan youth.



I encouraged the young people in attendance to take a hard look at the opportunities that will be available at the new University of Hawai'i - West Oahu campus, which opens its doors in the fall 2012. If you'd like more information on this conference or other initiatives of the OMSS, please contact Dr. Tina Tausosi-Posiulai at 956-7348.