



Community Connection

Volume 8, Issue 1

February 13, 2008

Technology in the Senate

Paperless and Wireless Initiative helping to keep Hawaii Green

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

Kung Hee Fat Choy! The new year brings many changes to the legislature that make it easier to get involved and have your voices heard.

In the Senate, we have embraced our commitment to sustainable communities and have initiated a pilot project to reduce the volume of paper generated and consumed by the Senate. We have saved more than 2.6 million copies in the first month alone!

In this issue, we also celebrate excellence in our community. I hope you enjoy reading about these special individuals.

Aloha,

David Y. Ige
State Senator
16th District

Need help going paperless n' wireless?

Please visit the Legislative Reference Bureaus' Public Access Room conveniently located on the fourth floor of the Capitol in room 401 or phone them at 586-0478.

Last year, the Senate generated more than 4.375 million copies which consumed 22 tons of paper at a cost of about \$31,000, roughly the equivalent of 525 mature trees. This session, the Hawaii State Senate is embarking on a paperless and wireless initiative to limit the amount of paper consumed during the legislative process. This project is part of the Senate's push for a "sustainable" future for Hawaii. Here are a few highlights of the improvements:

<p style="text-align: center;">WIFI:</p> <p>Free WIFI internet access is now operational throughout most public areas of the State Capitol. Instead of printing and carrying around stacks of bill folders with you, just bring your laptop/notebook and access all of this and more online:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hearing notices—now hyperlinked with bill contents and testimonies. • Bill searchers • "Orders of the Day" • Search for bills by key words • And other legislative information <p>Go to www.capitol.hawaii.gov for an intuitive and easy to understand menu of services.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Senate Health Hearing Notices with Testimony (ies) linked-in:</p> <p>Once you are logged onto www.capitol.hawaii.gov:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Click on "Bill Status and Documents" 2) Scroll down to the box labeled: "2007 Interim/2008 Regular session hearing notices" 3) Click on "do a more detailed hearing notice search" 4) Scroll down the list of committees 5) Click in the box next to the desired committee 6) committee 7) Scroll down and click on "Submit Hearing Notice Request" 8) A listing of all hearings will appear 9) Click on any entry in the "Hearing Date"
<p style="text-align: center;">Submitting Testimony:</p> <p>By Email: It's easy! Please send emailed Testimony, 24 hours prior to the hearing to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) testimony@capitol.hawaii.gov 2) In the subject header of your email, we suggest using the following format: committee and insert the hearing's date and time. 3) To ensure that your testimony can be uploaded to the legislature website and retain its legibility, we suggest that you format your testimony to fit within the 8 1/2" by 11" standard letter-sized format. 4) You may email your testimony as either a word document or as a pdf attachment. We request that your testimony be less than five pages in length if possible. 	<p style="text-align: center;">Submitting Testimony by Fax:</p> <p>You may fax your testimony if less that five pages in length, 24 hours before the hearing to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) fax number: 586-6659 or from the neighbor island 1-800-586-6659. 2) On the cover page for your fax, please indicate which committee the testimony is for and the date/time of the hearing. 3) To ensure that your testimony can be uploaded to the legislature's website and retain its legibility, we suggest that you format your testimony to fit within the 8 1/2" X 11" standard letter-sized format.

Excellence in the Community

•Awards for academic and teaching excellence •

SCHOOL AWARDS

Aiea Elementary School

Aiea Elementary School is being recognized for having attained Annual Yearly Progress (AYP) for two consecutive years as well as for continuous growth in Reading and Mathematics from 2005 to 2007. The school was presented with awards at the Hawaii Distinguished Schools Awards Luncheon on Friday, February 1, 2008 at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom.

Aiea is now a school in Good Standing Unconditionally and is one of the only 36 schools that have made such progress. In spite of having 85% of its students in the free/reduced lunch program and 30% needing English as a Second Language, Aiea raised its math scores from 9.4% in 2005 to 32% in 2007 and its reading scores from 28.5% to 47%.



Aiea Elementary principal Edward Oshiro and counselor Kyla Maedo holding the "In Good Standing" T-shirt.

To celebrate their unprecedented accomplishment, all staff wear shirts declaring, "IN GOOD STANDING" on Wednesdays.



The faculty displays its pride in being "In Good Standing"



Outstanding Biology Teacher Award

The Hawaii outstanding Biology Teacher Award honors a biology or life science teacher for excellence in life science education. Traditionally awarded to high school biology teachers, the award was given for the first time in Hawaii to an intermediate school life science teacher, Kathy Lin of Highlands Intermediate School. Principal Amy Martinson nominated this teacher because she recognized how much she was able to engage her students in the all-important processes of scientific inquiry: asking questions, formulating hypotheses, experimenting, discovering, making mistakes and learning from mistakes. In addition to encouraging scientific inquiry in her classroom, Lin encourages her students to participate in everything the school offers to keep them motivated and involved, from Science Club and Science Fair to the First League contest and food and penny drives or serving on various committees. Her goal is to foster in them "a love of learning so they will have the inquisitiveness and willingness to probe and question."



National Board Certification

Four of the 33 teachers who earned National Board Certification in 2007 are from District 16 schools. This is the nation's highest professional teaching credential and comes after a yearlong series of performance-based assessments that includes teaching portfolios, student work samples, videotapes, analyses of classroom teaching abilities. A board certified teacher has been judged by peers as one who is accomplished, makes sound professional judgments about student learning; and acts effectively on those judgments.

Congratulations to Leisha Bento of Aiea High, Karol Dusendschon of Pearl City Elementary, Danelle Huddy of Pearl Ridge Elementary, and Jamie Young of Pearl City High on becoming National Board Certified Teachers. They earn a \$5000 bonus for each year of the certificate's 10-year term.

Scholastic Art Awards

The annual Hawaii Regional Scholastic Art competition showcases student art from public and private middle and high schools. Students whose works merit commendation by the judges will have their artwork on display at the Hawaii State Art Museum during the month of February through April. Our district's schools are well represented with five Gold Key and five Silver Key awards. Regional Gold Key finalists are those whose works are then sent on to the national competition in New York City.

Aiea High School—Lee Shelverton, Instructor

Isamu Jarman: Gold Key Award for his Portfolio

Aiea Intermediate School—Roy Chang, Instructor

Kaci Takara: Gold Key Award for her Drawing
"Ocean Goddess"

Samantha Roberts: Gold Key Award for her Painting
"Untitled"

Chanel Kawasaki: Silver Key Award for her Sculpture
"Untitled"

Tiffany Lo: Silver Key Award for her Sculpture, "Bignutter"

Highland Intermediate School—Jonathan Fong, Instructor

Jessica Chong: Gold key Award for her Drawing,
"Self-Portrait" (*= Pictured at right)
Silver Key Award for her Drawing,
"Surreal Drawing"
Silver Key Award for her Mixed Media,
"Collage Portrait"

Kelly Nakasone: Gold Key Award for her Drawing, "Self-Portrait" (+= Pictured at right)
Silver Key Award for her Drawing, "Surreal

Jay Jarman,
Wendy Larrow,
Isamu Jarman
(Aiea High
School Gold
Key Award
winner), and
Yuko Jarman



Aiea Intermediate School Award Winners (L-R) Chanel Kawasaki, Samantha Roberts, Tiffany Lo, Kaci Takara, Roy Chang (Instructor)

"GOOD ART IS
NOT WHAT IT
LOOKS LIKE, BUT
WHAT IT DOES
TO US."

- Roy Addzak-



Principal Remembered

"Live so that when your children think of fairness, caring and integrity, they think of you." H. Jackson Brown, Jr.

With this quotation, parents of Waiiau Elementary School were reminded of their important role as models for their children. This was a concept that was ever in the minds of the entire Waiiau Ohana as they all strove to live according to the school's Core Values which places "caring about people, learning, our school and the world around us" at the center of all their actions and decisions.

In January, Waiiau Elementary School experienced the loss of their beloved principal, Annette Leilani Miller, who had been at the school since being appointed Vice Principal on July 31, 2002. After serving in this position for four and a half years, Mrs. Miller was promoted to Principal on January 2, 2007 and in her brief tenure has touched the staff and students with her staunch efforts to improve the school's parking lot congestion and for the example she herself set.

After earning her elementary education degree in May 1996 from the University of Hawaii, she began her career at Kamaile Elementary on November 13, 1997 as a special education teacher, grade level chair and mentor until her promotion to the vice principalship at Waiiau. She had just marked her tenth anniversary of service with the Department of Education in November, 2007.

A joint House of Representatives and State Senate certificate honored Mrs. Miller for her many years of dedicated service and commitment to her family, Waiiau Elementary School, and the community of Pearl City. It was presented to the family at the memorial service held on February 4, 2008.

Capitol Artist Program

Since Senator Ige started the Capitol Artist Program over ten years ago, the hallways of the state capitol have been decorated with the talented artwork of students from communities across the island. From February 19th through March 14th, the original artwork of students from Aiea High School and art teacher Lee Shelverton's class will be on display in the Senate Chamber. The public is also invited to stop by and experience the artwork that is currently displayed in Senator Ige's office. The artwork featured in the Senator's office are sculptures from Aiea Intermediate and Roy Chang's art class. For more information and photos of the artwork from the capitol artist program, log on to davidige.org and click on the community tab and capitol artist program link for images of the work from these talented students.



ANDREW SATO: *A Hero in our Community*



Despite his having had what might be called a very hard life, Andrew Sato is optimistic, upbeat and has pledged to live the rest of his life as fully as he can.

When he was a young toddler, his father died of leukemia. At age 8, he was abandoned by his mother in a park and was diagnosed of the same ailment that had killed his father. He was bounced from home to home, but with treatment, the disease went into remission for several years. But it returned in April 2006, resulting in his having to be hospitalized for five months.

Once again, Andrew beat it, but it came back again late in 2007, this time stronger than ever. His attendance at Aiea High School has not been exemplary for obvious reasons, but he is, to his classmates, a shining example of perseverance and humility. When told that he was still included in the senior class despite his not having completed all of his work for his classes last year, Andrew declined that designation, saying that would not be fair to his classmates to had met all requirements and fulfilled their assignments.

Nevertheless, knowing that one of Andrew's dreams was to earn a diploma, the school conferred an honorary high school diploma at a special ceremony on February 5, 2008. Lieutenant Governor James "Duke" Aiona praised Andrew for his positive attitude and selflessness despite having had such terrible hardships and presented the Governor's Proclamation that February 5 was "Andrew Sato Day."

Andrew has inspired not only his classmates and family, but also many members of the community. Upon learning that one of his dreams is to be a chef, the culinary arts division of Kapiolani Community College has arranged for him to be driven to their campus in a fancy sports car. There, he will don a chef's outfit and be given the opportunity to cook in a professional setting.

The Gamata family has now taken legal guardianship of Andrew. Despite Andrew's struggles and turbulent upbringing, his attitude on life and the courage he has shown throughout his struggles has made him a hero to so many in the community.

Student Awards: American Mathematics Competition

Pearl Ridge Elementary School Participated in the American Mathematics Competition for middle school mathematics, a national program designed to promote the development and enhancement of problem solving skills. Open to schools with 6th, 7th, and 8th graders, the test consists of 25 word problems which challenged the students to apply knowledge and skill learned in the classroom and go beyond what is normally done in middle school classrooms.

Ten of the top scoring sixth graders in the Hawaii State Assessment in mathematics were chosen to participate in the competition. All who participated received a Certificate of Participation and a gift certificate to Romano's Macaroni Grill. Special recognition was given to Jacob Dang, who placed first and won a Gold Award; Talon Choy, who took second and received a Silver Award; and Tyler Ogawa, who placed third and won the Bronze Award. The others who competed in this very difficult competition were Ariela Bali, Nya Barklage, Chrislin Hearn, Aaron Higuchi, Kauionalani Kekuawela, Devon Miller and Lisa Carlie Procell.

Kokua Requested...

Aiea Blood Drive

Na Alii of Aiea High School will be conducting two Blood Bank drives, one was on February 4 and the second will be on April 28 in the school library. Anyone who is at least 17 years of age and 110 pounds is eligible to donate. It takes only a few minutes and every pint of blood can save three people. In addition, they began their annual Penny War on February 2 to raise funds for the Leukemia Lymphoma Foundation. The different grade levels compete to collect as many pennies as possible in their respective jars to garner points. Any other currency results in negative points and the class with the most points wins. Supporters are welcome to give monetary donations at the administration office. For further information, contact the school at 483-7300 or email neal_nakamitsu/AIEAH/HIDOE@notes.k12.hi.us.



Breakthroughs

Breakthroughs, a nonprofit organization that promotes youth development, is recruiting adult mentors for their program which began on January 14 at Highlands Intermediate School. First established in 1994, Breakthroughs has worked with youth at Castle High and Puohala Elementary and has seen students achieve better grades and improved social relationships through having caring adult mentors who are non-judgmental, and can give guidance and be successful role models. Training is provided to those who are willing to help students develop their potential and realize their dreams. For more information, contact school social worker Jenny Kim at 454-8815 or visit the program website at www.breakthroughshawaii.org.

UPCOMING MEETINGS!

- **PEARL CITY / AIEA TOWN MEETING**– There will be a town meeting regarding cyber crime on Wednesday February 20, 2008 at Pearl Ridge Elementary School Café from 7-8:30.
- **WAIMANO RIDGE TASK FORCE MEETING**- Use Officials from the Hawaii State Department of Health and State Legislatures will hold a meeting on February 13, 2008 at the Pearl City Culture Center from 7-8:30.

Office of Senator David Y. Ige

- Representing Aiea, Aiea Heights, Momilani, Newtown, Pacific Palisades, Pearl City, Upper Pearlridge, Waiiau and Waimalu

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