



## LYNN DECOITE TO SERVE ON THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

The Hawai'i State Senate has confirmed Lynn Decoite to the Board of Agriculture. She will serve until June 2016.

Decoite has many years of agricultural experience. She is the current owner and ranch handler for V-8 Ranch, where she handles breeding, branding, irrigating, and the overall maintenance and management at the ranch. She is also the owner and manager of L&R Farm Enterprises, LLC, overseeing the daily operations of planting, harvesting, irrigating, and marketing produce.

"Ms. Decoite's extensive and diverse knowledge of farming and agriculture makes her a well-qualified member of the Board of Agriculture," said Sen. English, "As a former member of the Molokai Irrigation System Water Users Advisory Board, her experience with complex water issues facing the agricultural industry on Molokai will be valuable to the Board."

Decoite is a Hawaiian homestead farmer who has also established a value-added sweet potato chip business that utilizes the sweet potato grown on her farm.

## HALE MAHAOLU RECOGNITION LUNCHEON

Hale Mahaolu celebrated two decades of community service with their annual Recognition Luncheon held at the Maui Beach Hotel in Kahului, April 25, 2012.

Over the years, Hale Mahaolu has recognized numerous outstanding residents who by their actions, achievements and example have helped their neighbors, improved their community and served as role models for all.

Sen. English, unable to attend this luncheon due to legislative demands, sent a letter of congratulations, "Commending Hale Mahaolu for continuing to provide this honor to such civic minded residents who help to make Maui a better place for all. My aloha goes out to you, all the organizers and participants."

For more information visit:

<http://www.halemahaolu.org/site/382/future.aspx>

## CELEBRATING EAST MAUI TARO FESTIVAL

Sen. English returned home to Hana to celebrate the 20th Annual East Maui Taro Festival on Saturday, April 21, 2012.

Sen. English and his Hana neighbors greeted a record number of visitors from all over world. The annual festival, held at the Hana Ballpark, included a Farmers Market, poi pounding, food booths, arts and crafts, music and hula. Sen. English presenting a Senate Certificate of Recognition to organizers of the event.

"This festival provides the opportunity to bridge the cultural gap between keiki and kupuna using taro as a common thread," said Sen. English, who was raised in Hana and was part of a group of individuals who organized the first East Maui Taro Festival in 1992.

Kalo is a revered plant for the Hawaiian people. According to the Kumulipo, the creation chant, kalo grew from the first-born son of Wakea (sky father) and Papa (earth mother), through Wakea's relationship with his and Papa's daughter, Ho'ohokulani. Haloa-naka, as the son was named, was stillborn and buried. Out of his body grew the kalo plant, also called Haloa, which means everlasting breath. Kalo and poi (pounded kalo) are a means of survival for the Hawaiian people.

"I'm delighted that so many continue to come and more people attend each and every year. It is important to promote and perpetuate the practice of having kalo as a food staple and learning about its cultural significance," said Sen. English.

Learn more at:

<http://www.tarofestival.org/>



*Sen. English presents a Senate Certificate of Recognition to Judy Kinsner, (left) and Maria Orr (right), organizers of the 20th Annual East Maui Taro Festival. April 21, 2012.*



*Sen. English visited the Maui Invasive Species (MISC) educational booth and activities during the East Maui Taro Festival. April 21, 2012.*

## HAWAII STATE SENATE CONFIRMS MAUI RESIDENT ADRIANNE N. HEELY AS DISTRICT FAMILY COURT JUDGE

The Hawai'i State Senate confirmed Adrienne N. Heely as judge for the District Family Court of the Second Circuit, located on Maui.

"Judge Heely's diverse professional experience as an attorney in various aspects of government operations and within the Judiciary is highlighted by her strong integrity and credibility," said Senate President Shan Tsutsui, "I am confident that she will serve with honor and fairness on the bench of Maui's Family Court."

"Judge Heely has demonstrated the ability to analyze complex issues from all sides, which is a characteristic fundamental to a fair and just jurist," said Sen. English, "She is highly respected in our community and I have no doubt that she will serve Maui proudly."

"Judge Heely's attitude, intellect and leadership will serve her well in handling the demands of district court. Also, over the course of her career, she has displayed decisiveness and fairness in her decision making that will serve her well as a judge, and bodes well for the community," said Senator Roz Baker, "Maui County is fortunate to have someone so well-qualified and interested in public service as Adrienne."

A Kamehameha Schools graduate, Heely earned a bachelor's degree from the University of California, Santa Barbara. She earned her Doctor of Jurisprudence from the William S. Richardson School of Law at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa.

Heely currently serves as a Deputy Corporation Counsel for the County of Maui, where she is team leader for the Counseling and Drafting Section's Finance, Public Safety, and Hu-



*Maui Senators congratulate newly appointed Judge Adrienne N. Heely and her fiancé Leo K. Caires. (L-R: Sen. President Shan Tsutsui, Leo K. Caires, Judge Adrienne N. Heely, Sen. Roz Baker and Sen. English. April 25, 2012.*

man Resources Team. Active in providing pro bono services to the legal community and the community as a whole, she was recently appointed to the Board of Examiners of the Hawai'i Supreme Court. Heely serves as Vice President for the Maui County Bar Association and was the immediate past chair of the Hawai'i State Bar Association's Government Lawyer's Section.

## AUWAHI WIND FARM GROUNDBREAKING

Sen. English recently attended the groundbreaking ceremony for the Auwahi Windfarm, currently under construction in Ulupalakua on Maui. A total of eight wind turbines, capable of generating enough electricity to power approximately 10,000 typical Maui homes, are being constructed on the lower slopes of Ulupalakua Ranch and should be completed in late 2012.

An important component of the Auwahi Windfarm, is a 10 MW battery unit capable of storing up to 4.4 megawatt-hours (MWh) of power generated by the wind turbines during the windy morning and night hours. This stored power will help regulate and smooth intermittent wind power, providing a valuable source of grid stability to Maui Electric Company.

In addition to generating clean, renewable energy, the wind project will provide a boost to the local economy. It will create 150 construction jobs at peak and five additional positions to operate the facility.

"This project is a result of when the community seeks sustainability," said Sen. English, "a local business provides the venue and technology makes it happen."

*Sen. English joined the owners, Sempra executives and State and County officials in the groundbreaking of the future site of eight wind turbine generators. April 27, 2012.*



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HAWAII STATE SENATE  
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**SENATOR J. KALANI ENGLISH  
DISCUSSES THE "MOVE OVER" BILL**

Senate Committee on Transportation and International Affairs Chair J. Kalani English discusses **House Bill 2030**, widely known as the Emergency Vehicle "Move Over" Bill.

HB 2030, which passed out of Conference Committee on April 25, 2012, would amend the existing Chapter 291C of the Hawai'i Revised Statutes, to provide greater clarity of language. Specifically, the bill would require motorists to move over and slow down their vehicles when passing a stationary emergency vehicle on a highway. As law, a violation against it will result in a civil fine, which will not impact the driver's car insurance rates.



Visit this video link (above) in which Sen. English describes the details of the "Move Over" bill. April 25, 2012.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SR70Zygu9OY&feature=youtu.be>



*Sen. English meets with Maui Electric Company (MECO) leadership. (L to R) Sharon Suzuki, new MECO President; Sen. English and Ed Reinhardt, retiring MECO President. April 26, 2012.*



*Sen. English and Emi Azeka enjoy the lantern lit runway fashion show presented by Makawao's Fashion District purveyors. April 20, 2012.*