



Senator Donna Mercado Kim

December 2011

Serving District 14

Moanalua
'Aiea
Fort Shafter
Kalihi Valley
Halawa Valley

Community Boards

Kalihi Palama No. 15
Kalihi Valley No. 16
Aiea No. 20
Moanalua Gardens Association
Moanalua Valley Association

Leadership and Committees

Vice President of the Senate

Chair:

Committee on Tourism
Committee on Accountability

Member:

Committee on Ways and Means

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Aloha Friends and Neighbors,



Mele Kalikimaka and Hauoli Makahiki Hou!

The holiday season is a time of year we all enjoy. It's filled with the love of family, the aloha of friends, the delight of children gathered 'round the Christmas tree, festive get-togethers, memories of holidays past, and good cheer.

The holidays are also a time of thanksgiving as we reflect on the year and everything that life has given us. I, for one, feel blessed and thankful that I live in a place as beautiful as Hawaii, have a wonderful family, and am able to contribute in some meaningful way to the betterment of our islands. I'm sure you share these sentiments in your own way.



Kalihi Business Association's 65th annual Christmas parade kicks off the holiday season

So as we prepare to celebrate Christmas and enjoy the festivities, I hope we can also take a moment to reflect and reaffirm our belief in the ideals this day symbolizes. Universal goodwill, brotherhood, charity, and peace may oftentimes elude us, but we should never stop striving to achieve these noble goals, not only in our daily lives but among all people.

It is in this spirit of the holidays that I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Schedule of Community Meetings

Neighborhood Board Meetings

Kalihi Palama Neighborhood Board No. 15

Wednesday, December 21, 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, January 18, 7:00 p.m.

Kalihi Union Church

Kalihi Valley Neighborhood Board No. 16

On recess for December.

Wednesday, January 11, 7:00 p.m.

Akira Sakima Recreational Center

Aiea Neighborhood Board No. 20

Monday, December 12, 7:30 p.m.

Monday, January 9, 7:30 p.m.

Aiea Library Conference Room

Community Association Meetings

Moanalua Gardens Community Association

Tuesday, December 6, 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, January 3, 7:00 p.m.

Moanalua Middle School

Moanalua Valley Community Association

Wednesday, December 14, 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, January 11, 7:00 p.m.

Moanalua Golf Course

Moanalua Valley Community Association Christmas Motorcade

A "Christmas Caravan" mini motorcade of vehicles with Santa begins at Moanalua Valley Neighborhood Park and will proceed to Ala Aolani Street and the entrance to Moanalua Valley

MERRY CHRISTMAS!!



**Sunday, December 18
2:00 PM — 4:00 PM**

Palama Settlement Centennial Celebration



As a product of Palama Settlement, I am proud to serve as honorary chair with Steven Ai and Paula Rath

To celebrate Palama Settlement's 100th year, a family day was held on November 20th with an amazing turnout from the community. The "Malama Palama: Festival of 100 Voices" included a fun-filled day of free, family activities with entertainment for all ages, food trucks, face painting, bake & plant sale, bounce-houses, sports demonstrations, and more!

Tourism Committees Visit Ko Olina Resorts

With tourism as the focal point of Hawaii's economy, the addition of a Disney and Hawaiian themed resort expands the range of what we have to offer as a world-class vacation destination. Resort officials are hoping to both attract visitors by combining the Disney magic with the culture and scenery of Hawaii.



Last month, Tourism Committee Chairs of both the Senate and the House toured two Ko Olina resort properties, the **Marriott's Ko Olina Beach Club** and the brand new **Disney Aulani Resort**. Hosted by the ARDA-Hawaii, legislators went on site visits to both properties and were given the opportunity to have their questions and concerns answered by resort officials afterwards.

These resorts will help our tourism industry which has seen a steady recovery over the past two years, with total visitor spending consecutively increasing for the past 18 months. Recent projections have shown that visitors have spent \$1.1 billion in October, a 15.6% rise from last October. Current projections show that visitor spending this year could break the previous record from 2007, the year prior to the economic downturn.. While recent years have been difficult, the tourism numbers are showing that the economy is on the path towards recovery and with it—Hawaii as well.



Moanalua Lions Club assisted with the annual Moanalua Elementary School Fun Fair

