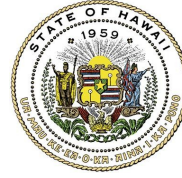


# Representative Gene Ward

2011

# DECEMBER Report



District 17 • Hawai'i Kai-Ka Iwi Coast-Kalama Valley • 586-6420



MERRY CHRISTMAS/HAPPY HANUKKAH/  
HAPPY NEW YEAR!



## Koko Head Elementary School Honored



Representative Ward, pictured with Senator Sam Slom, Principal Jeffery Shitaoka, faculty members and students, participated in an assembly celebrating Koko Head Elementary School's 2011 National Blue Ribbon School Award. Congratulations to Koko Head Elementary School students, faculty, staff and parents on this great achievement!

## New Laws New Year's Day

In case you're curious, the following laws become effective on January 1, 2012:



- The time period to file an application for an appeal with the Hawai'i Supreme Court will be shortened from 90 days to 30 days after issuance of a decision by the intermediate appellate court. A

30-day extension may be allowed.

- First and second deputy sheriffs will become civil servants.
- Employers will be prohibited from discriminating against victims of domestic violence and required to make reasonable accommodations in the workplace for the victim.
- Civil union law will go into effect, recognizing the legal relationship of a civil union and providing the same benefits as marriage to partners in a civil union.
- Courts will be allowed to permit certain anonymous legal filings to protect the privacy of the petitioner.
- Court surcharges will be raised to increase monies for the indigent legal assistance fund. Certain filings in circuit and appellate courts, currently \$25, will increase by \$25. Certain filings in district court, currently \$10, will increase by \$15.
- Additional training requirements will be necessary for those involved in selling life insurance. Those selling life insurance will not be allowed to market senior-specific products if they have not been properly certified and designated to do so.

## KA IWI WATCH UPDATE:



- No Permits Filed -

The City's Department of Planning and Permitting stated on December 29, 2011 that no applications have been filed for development on Ka Iwi.

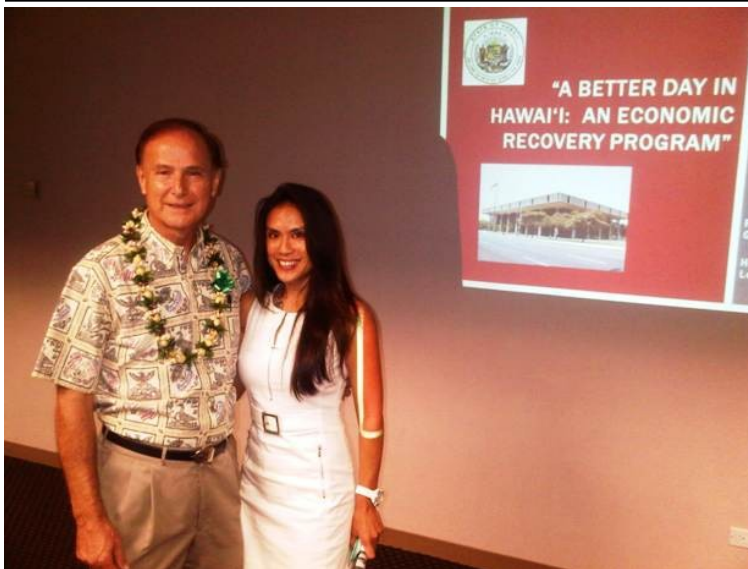
## Marathon With A Cause



Representative Ward, inspired by Gladys “Glady” Burrill, the eldest woman in the world to complete a marathon (at the young age of 92 at our own Honolulu Marathon) along with members of “Team Gladysator” proudly completed the 2011 Honolulu Marathon Race Day Walk on December 11th. Proceeds from the Race Day Walk benefit a local charity that supports the needy during the holiday season.

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## Minority Caucus Package Preview



Representative Ward, pictured with Sherry Menor-McNamara of the Chamber of Commerce of Hawai‘i provided a preview of the 2012 House Minority Caucus package on December 13th. The package is a four-step recovery program that outlines the policies and steps needed to be taken during the 2012 Legislature in order to stem the tide of job losses, budget deficits and lack of accountability and transparency in government spending. Highlights of the 2012 package will be presented in Rep. Ward’s January 2012 newsletter.

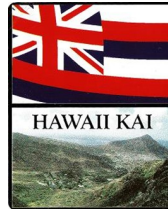


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## We Love Hawai‘i Kai Farmers



**KEEP THE VALLEY VALLEY!**  
**SAVE KAMILONU VALLEYS**



Rep. Ward and members of the House Minority Caucus participated in a “district tour” of Hawai‘i Kai in November. The legislators had an opportunity to “talk story” with Mrs. Judy Nii (pictured above) of Hawai‘i Kai’s R&S Nii Nursery to learn about the history and issues affecting Kamilonui Valley.

Legislators also participated in a tour of Maunaloa Bay, Hanauma Bay, and visited O‘ahu’s only public shooting range complex at Koko Head. The final visit on the tour was at Kaiser High School, where Principal John Sosa highlighted the successes of its students, and included a briefing of the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program.

## Constituent’s Corner

- The City’s Department of Environmental Services reminds residents to recycle their Christmas trees after the holidays. Households with City collection should place bare trees – without flocking, ornaments and tinsel – curbside as part of your normal green waste pickup. For those with green carts, trim and cut trees to fit inside the cart with the lid closed. For condo residents, trees may be dropped off at any refuse convenience center or directly to the composting facility – there is no tip fee charged for Christmas trees over the holidays, courtesy of the City. For more information, click on Holiday Trash Tips at [www.opala.org](http://www.opala.org).
- Have any announcements or advice for your neighbors in District 17? Call Sarah at 586-6420.