

## SENATOR J. KALANI ENGLISH SEES LARGER STORY IN THE DAMIEN CANONIZATION

In his fifteen years of representing the people of Kalaupapa and Moloka'i, J. Kalani English has never lost his appreciation for the complex emotions that surround the former colony for Hansen's disease patients. "Along with the immense sadness that has surrounded Kalaupapa is also a story of hope and heroism," he says. "It is an incredibly beautiful place, despite the grim history that has become so much a part of its character. And in spite of its isolation - the very reason for its existence as a leper colony - it is also a place where so many found peace, community, and a sense of family."

Between 1866 and 1969, Kalaupapa served as a colony of Hansen's disease sufferers, sequestered by law to avoid spreading the disease. Over the years, approximately 8,000 individuals left behind all that was dear to them to be isolated on the remote Moloka'i peninsula. In 2008, the Hawai'i State Senate passed a resolution, **SCR 208**, acknowledging the sacrifice of the people of Kalaupapa and apologizing for the harsh restrictions that separated people with leprosy from the general public. English was among the resolutions introducers.

"I could not learn the full story of Kalaupapa, a story I have heard my entire life from kupuna and Ohana who had close, visceral memories to share, and not be drawn into to a commitment to the Kalaupapa people, their welfare, and their concerns," English said.

With the canonization of Father Damien, English, who now represents Moloka'i, Lana'i, Kaho'olawe, Hana,

East and Upcountry Maui as a state senator and serves on the board of Ka 'Ohana 'O Kalaupapa - a group working toward creating a memorial to the colony - finds himself reflecting more on the richness of Kalaupapa's history.



"Without a doubt, Damien is the world's symbol for Kalaupapa," English says. "It is almost impossible to separate the two in the public mind. Miracles grow from insurmountable challenges, and saints will live among those who bear the greatest burdens. At the same time, there are a thousand stories among the hundreds who lived at Kalaupapa, stories of the day-to-day struggles and triumphs. Kalaupapa produced a single saint, but many, many heroes."

English's hope now is that the light shown upon Damien will also illuminate the larger story of the colony.

"Saint Damien is a part of a larger story. Many who showed strength, resilience and passion in Kalaupapa are not receiving individual attention, but are no less a part of Kalaupapa and what it meant then and today. Without detracting at all from what Saint Damien did and what his faith brought to the Kalaupapa community, we can see him as a symbol not only of human compassion and service, but also of the rich, complicated history of the many who lived their lives at Kalaupapa, who made sacrifices, and who touched other lives. As we recognize that Damien was an instrument of God's grace, maybe we can also appreciate that Kalaupapa was a reflection of God's redemption among man's fear, shown in many acts by many people."

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## A MESSAGE FROM KALANI

This month has been an emotional time for the members of my district and for me personally. Whether struggling to come to terms with our economic down-turn, cheering a Maui native playing in the World Series, or humbly reflecting on Father Damien's canonization for the work he did among our own people, we have seen our share of dramatic moments.

While we are all working to bring order to the budget shortfall, our communities are growing stronger and more proactive. Business, government, and the public have come together in providing options to families dealing with the teacher furloughs and finding creative ways to expand our keikis' education. Neighborhoods are becoming advocates for the environment, rallying to reduce our carbon footprint. Employers and employees are cultivating new skills.

The fact is, our challenges have brought us a new perspective and a new solidarity, approaches that I hope we continue to call upon with other challenges in the future. We have shown what we are made of and what we can accomplish if we remain committed and connected to the victories, large or small.

Aloha,



Tom Johnson,  
Sen. English and  
Ian Smith at the  
Hana Business  
Council  
Annual Meeting  
in Hana.  
Oct. 15, 2009



## NEW MARITIME TRADITION BEGINS

The first **World Maritime Day** honors the men and women who serve to protect and inform shipping safety, maritime security and the marine environment across the State of Hawai'i. Representatives from the 14th Coast Guard District and maritime partners from the state of Hawai'i received the following Senatorial Proclamation from Sen. English, presented by Senate President Colleen Hanabusa in Honolulu on Oct. 16, 2009. Please visit these links for more info: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6ZsR6Bg-YKo&feature> <http://www.uscg.mil/worldmaritimeday/Honolulu.asp>

### Senator J. Kalani English Statement on World Maritime Day, October 16, 2009

Hawai'i is probably the most ocean-dependent spot on Earth. Our history begins with the story of brave seafarers who crossed endless miles of open ocean to settle on these islands nearly a thousand years ago. Our early economy was built upon the import and export of first goods and later visitors by sea. Even today, with other means of travel and transport available, our economy and the lives of our residents rely on shipping across the ocean from East and West.

At the same time, the Hawaiian recognition of the importance of our natural environment and our special ties to preserving our world are deeply ingrained in our culture. Living on these small islands, drawing our sustenance from the land, sea, and air have taught us that what is lost is difficult—sometimes impossible—to regain. Life, livelihood, and our notion of community grow from the Earth's resources.

And so, this World Maritime Day, with its celebration of the contributions of our maritime industry, and the industry's acknowledgment of its role in preserving our environment, has particular significance here at the Honolulu waterfront. We're glad you're coming around to our way of thinking. Actually, we're proud to be a part of this event and to offer our assistance and support as the maritime industry moves forward with these vital efforts.

I want to thank the International Maritime Organization for showing true leadership in helping develop a modern maritime industry that simultaneously serves such vital needs and demonstrates good corporate citizenship. To the North American Marine Environment Protection Association and the other organizations that have made this event possible, thank you for helping to spread the word. And to the U.S. Coast Guard, of course, no amount of thanks will ever be enough to express our community's gratitude for all that you provide us.



Musician/artist/surfer Haumoana Pakarati, from Easter Island, here with Sen. English at the Polynesian Cultural Center's Rapa Nui Village. Oct. 2, 2009. To listen to Haumoana's music and for more info. visit: <http://www.haumoana.net/>



Sen. English welcomes newborn Hawaiian Monk Seal and its mother at Koki Beach, Hana. This is the first surviving monk seal born on Maui in the last eleven years. Oct. 10, 2009 For more information visit: [http://www.fpir.noaa.gov/PRD/prd\\_marine\\_mammal\\_response.html](http://www.fpir.noaa.gov/PRD/prd_marine_mammal_response.html)



Ward Mardfin, Treasurer of the Hana Cultural Center; Sen. English & Neil Hasegawa, Treasurer of the Hana Aloha Festivals; at the 2009 Hana Aloha Festival Parade. Oct. 17, 2009

## 6TH DISTRICT HAWAII 3R'S AWARDS

In 2001, the State legislature found that a backlog of repair and maintenance projects for Hawaii's public schools was estimated to cost more than \$600 million and that no public school was ever given sufficient funds to cover all of its repair and maintenance needs. The backlog occurred during the prior decade's economic downturn and officials acknowledged that it was unlikely that enough money could be budgeted to catch up with the accruing workload. Consequently, the legislature found a need to develop a public-private partnership to mobilize the community in improving the facilities at Hawaii's public educational system including parents, students, teachers, business and government.

Accordingly, Sen. English was among the introducers of **SB 493 CD1 (ACT 309)** that appropriated funds to establish the non-profit Hawaii 3R's (Repair, Remodel, and Restore Our Schools) to tackle the backlog of repair and maintenance projects in Hawaii's public schools by leveraging available funds with volunteer labor and business support.

Recently, Hawaii 3R's thanked Sen. English for his continued support and acknowledged his ardent advocacy for a better learning environment in his district's public schools. He was also informed that the following schools were awarded grants: \$30,200 to Kaunakakai Elementary for replacement of the cafeteria wheelchair lift; \$10,800 to Maunaloa Elementary for exterior repainting of the Administration building; and \$77,300 to Molokai Middle School for resurfacing of the gym floor and replacing the jalousies.

"In this similarly tight economy the state is saving thousands of taxpayer dollars with this program and businesses benefit by earning valuable state tax credits for their contributions," said Sen. English. "More importantly, keeping our schools clean and well maintained provides a positive, productive learning environment for our students, teachers and staff." To date, the 6th District has received \$813,000 under the Hawaii 3R's program:

School	Award	Scope of Work
Kaunakakai Elem. (Moloka'i)	33,500	Repaint Int / Stage / Recarpet
	25,900	Admin Install Security Screens
	31,500	Install Security Scrn / Renovate Kiln Rm
	17,200	Install Ceiling Fans in Bldg A & P-2064
	30,200	Replace Wheelchair Lift in Cafeteria
Kilohana Elem. (Moloka'i)	60,000	Install Security Screens & A Paint Exterior
	15,900	Electrical Improve / Install Security Screens
	22,700	Repl Sink / Paint Ext Port / Install Ceil. Fans
	17,500	Bldg H Replace Gutters & Downspouts
Maunaloa Elem. (Moloka'i)	22,500	Install Security Screens & Paint Kitchen Int
	24,500	Repaint Exterior of Teacher Cottages
	23,800	Campus Replace Chain Link Fence
	17,800	Bldg A Repair and Repaint Walkway
Moloka'i High	10,800	Repaint Ext of Administration Bldg.
	55,200	Install Security Screens & Replace Lights
	52,600	Install Security Screens
	19,300	Replace Kitchen Lights / Replace Walkway
Moloka'i Middle	10,000	Rpl Light Fixtures/Install Sinks & Waterlines
	6,500	Install Security Screens on U Bldg
	18,400	Install Partition & Secure Storage
	77,300	Resurface Gym Floor/Replace Jalousies
Kualapuu El PCS (Moloka'i)	35,600	Rpl Stage Curt/Install Wlkwy/Rpr Elec Boxes
	65,000	Replace Playground
Haiuku El (Maui)	75,000	Renovate Lath House
Hana High & El (Maui)	30,000	Refurbish sculpture
Lanai High & El	15,000	Install Stair Railings
	<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>813,000</b>

## ENGLISH PRAISES JOINT WORK ON KAPOLEI NORTH-SOUTH ROAD INTERCHANGE

Sen. English, who serves as chair of the Senate Committee on Transportation, International and Intergovernmental Affairs, praised the joint effort by the State Department of Transportation and the Hawaii Legislature in working together to bring the Kapolei North-South Road Interchange project to fruition. The interchange was dedicated at a ceremony held on Oct. 5, 2009.

"This interchange serves so many needs, and will have such a positive impact on Kapolei and surrounding communities, that I think it is important that we stop to acknowledge everyone who worked together to make it happen," said Senator English. "I want to personally recognize the administration, particularly Transportation Director Brennon Morioka, for working with the Legislature to make sure funding was in place, and that everything went smoothly. And of course, we cannot ignore the contribution of the federal government and our Congressional delegation in supporting our continued efforts to bring the people of Hawaii what they need to improve their quality of life."

"To me, this is not just about Kapolei," Senator English continued. "It is about demonstrating how we can work together to meet serious challenges. This project is encouraging to me as we consider what our state faces in the future."



*Labu Mederios receives a proclamation from Sen. English on his 94th Birthday in Hana. Sept. 30, 2009*





Tahitian President Oscar Temaru and Senator J. Kalani English consider the possibility of an International Airport in the Marquesas Islands, which are about 3.5 hours south from Hawai'i by plane. The first migration to Hawai'i came from these islands, and the Hawaiian people are closely related to those of the Marquesas Islands. Hiva Oa. Oct. 26, 2009



Rep. Marcus Oshiro, Sen. English, Sen. Donna Mercado Kim, and Sen. Roz Baker inspect an emergency epidemic preparedness exercise at Maui Memorial Hospital during a Legislative Site Inspection on Maui. Oct. 20, 2009

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Mahalo to you all.



Sen. English presents a trophy to winners, Maui Cricket Club, after they played Honolulu Cricket Club at Baldwin Beach Park as part of the Princess Ka'iulani Festival. Oct. 19, 2009



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