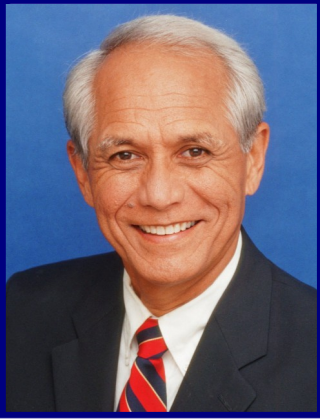


Senator Mike Gabbard



May 2011

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WAIPAHU, AND KO 'OLINA

Aloha Friends and Neighbors,

Well, we bought our first new car in almost 40 years on April 15th and it happens to be a Nissan Leaf, an all-electric car that produces no tail pipe pollution or emissions. Hopefully Carol will let me drive it some time. Here are a few things going on in our community: Please contact me if I can help you in any way. My phone number is 586-6830 and email is sengabbard@capitol.hawaii.gov



Governor Abercrombie Signs Bill to Help More People Get Solar Panels

I was happy to participate in a bill signing ceremony in the Governor's Ceremonial Room



on April 25th, where Governor Abercrombie signed SB 704 into law. I introduced SB 704 this session to help more people put solar photovoltaic panels (PV) on their roofs in order to reduce their electricity bills and our consumption of fossil fuels. Specifically, this bill allows solar companies to enter into long-term contracts with homeowners, permitting them to lease the PV systems without having to go through all the complexity of being considered a

utility. In essence, homeowners will be able to pay a monthly bill for their PV system, instead of paying thousands up-front to purchase it. Right now, about 4,000 of the 267,000 homes in our state have PV. I'd like to see thousands more use this new law to lower their \$200-600 electricity bills to the minimum \$18 that HECO charges for hooking up to the electricity grid.



Senator Mike Gabbard spoke at the Blue Planet Foundation rally at the State Capitol on April 19th, 2011 in support of HB1520. This on-bill financing legislation would help more people cut their electricity costs by putting PV and solar water heaters on their homes. They would then be able to pay back the cost of the energy efficiency systems on their utility bills. More than 250 students from Nanakuli High School, Roosevelt High School, Le Jardin Academy, University Lab School, and St. Francis School participated in the Rally.

Listen-Story Meeting

My next "Listen-story" community meeting will be held on May 7th at the Kunia Starbucks (Kunia Shopping Center) from 9:00am to 10:00am. Our session ends on May 5th, so this meeting will include a legislative wrap-up. My June meeting will take place at the Kapolei Starbucks (next to the Chevron Station) on June 18th at 9:00am .

Tennis Clinic for Foodbank a Hit



I held a beginning tennis clinic, with an assist from local attorney, Rick Fried, at the Governor's tennis court at Washington Place on April 2nd. The purpose of the clinic was to raise money for the Hawai'i Foodbank. The 2 ½ hour clinic brought in \$1,300 for this very worthy organization. You might not know, but I was formerly a collegiate tennis player and head tennis pro at Kulima Hyatt (now Turtle Bay Resort) during the 1970s. A special mahalo to the following folks who participated: Mike Bale of Henkels and McCoy; Aaron Landry of Ku'oko'a; Mihoko Ito of Goodsil Anderson Quinn & Stifel; Kamil Schuetz of Ku'oko'a; Alissa Katada of Automated Health Care Solutions; Gary Slovin of Goodsil Anderson Quinn & Stifel; Cathy Wilson of Automated Health Care Solutions; Lance Inouye of Ralph S. Inouye Co. Ltd; and Kara Catlin of Ku'oko'a.



Patrick Gartside: An Extraordinarily Giving Person

Serendipity, good karma, or chance? Famous Hollywood actor meets local rock star wannabe.

It started after I read in the newspaper about a remarkable young man endowed with deep aloha. Patrick Gartside, who spends his days as a web developer and his nights as a rock musician, was recognized for his extraordinary concern for others, which compels him to give all he has, literally, every chance he gets. Since he was a young adult Patrick has been a reliable blood donor. In 2004, he selflessly underwent a peripheral blood stem cell procedure which made a life and death difference to a stranger. In 2008, Patrick was back in surgery. This time he donated one of his kidneys to a Maui woman he'd never met. This decision allowed the woman's ohana to have their tutu to hug for many more years.



Star Advertiser reporter Michael Tsai wrote about Patrick in a January 24th article stating: "When you're moving house, he's the guy walking backward downstairs holding the other end of your dresser... He's that dude you call in the middle of the night when you have only one phone call. Only, for the real Patrick Gartside, such everyday altruism is sundry stuff. What makes the 28-year-old programmer from Moiliili truly remarkable are the sacrifices he makes for people he doesn't even know."

On March 31, 2011, we, at the State Senate, honored Patrick in the Senate chambers for his selflessness and kindness toward others. During the honorary certificate presentation I said, "Many of us make donations of food, money, or our time to causes that are important to us. But how many of us would undergo major surgery or give parts of our bodies for the chance for someone else to survive? Hopefully, Patrick's story will inspire many others." I emphasized the importance of Patrick's benevolence by telling the audience that, "In the U.S. eighteen people will die today waiting for an organ transplant."

Coincidentally, the same time that I was commending Patrick, the cast from "Hawaii 5-0" was also honored. Alex O'Loughlin, aka Steve McGarrett in the hit CBS show, looked particularly interested in Patrick's story, as I gave my floor speech praising Patrick.

While I was speaking, I kept looking at Alex, who was smiling and nodding his head, staring at Patrick. There was a connection there that I didn't understand. After the ceremony, I was talking story with Patrick when Alex came up and said, "Patrick, you're the most important person here. Thanks for all you do. I founded a non-profit (Alex O'Loughlin Fans for Donate Life), and I'd like you to please give your contact information to my assistant." Patrick shuffled his feet a bit with a "Gee, I'm nobody special" look on his face. Who knows? We may see them team up on future projects to save some lives.

In case you wonder what altruistic activities Patrick is engaged in now--while he isn't giving blood or on the operating table--he volunteers with the Hawaiian Bone Marrow Donor Registry helping with recruitment and with the National Kidney Foundation of Hawai'i. Patrick also collects and distributes food and clothing to the homeless.

Senate Honored with 2011 Green Business Office & Government Program Award

The State Senate received a 2011 Green Business Office & Government Program Award in the Governor's Ceremonial Room at the State Capitol on April 20th. The Senate won the award for reducing paper use by 80% with its Paperless Initiative, forming a Green Office Working Group to implement energy conservation measures and recycling programs, and participating in the ongoing conservation initiatives at the State Capitol. Other businesses and organizations that were honored for having applied environmentally responsible measures within their office or retail establishment were Central Pacific Plaza, East West Center, Honeywell Utility Solutions, PBR Hawaii and Associates, Sustainable Island Products, WATG Architects, and Whole Foods Maui.



Governor Abercrombie Continues Releasing Funding for Senate District 19 Schools

I received two letters from the Governor over the last several weeks notifying me that he was releasing \$780,000 in funding for school improvements in our community. Mahalo to him and his staff. Here is a quick summary of those construction projects:

- **Waikele Elementary School – Faculty Parking Lot Expansion** – \$100,000 will be used to provide additional parking stalls for parents and visitors. Expected completion is August 2012.
- **Barbers Point Elementary - Hurricane Protection Measures** - \$480,000 will go toward installing stainless steel screens on glass panels and louvers in various classrooms to improve safety. Expected completion is September 2012.
- **Kapolei Middle School – Hurricane Protection Measures** - \$200,000 will be spent to install stainless steel screens on fixed metal louvers and glass panels, hardware for doors, and film on glass windows in the dining and music building to improve safety. Expected completion is September 2012.



Island Pacific Academy's "Field to Table" Teaches Green Living in Hands-On Way

I presented an honorary certificate from the State Senate in recognition of Island Pacific Academy's "Field to Table" project during an elementary school assembly in Kapolei on April 18th. The founders of the project are IPA teachers, Mimi Hirstein, Kelsey Barden, and Patricia DelaCruz. The "Field to Table" project shows 1st grade students about good nutrition, the source of our food, sustainability, organics, and green living in a real hands-on way. The unit includes field trips to grocery stores and farms as well as lessons on why we import most of our food. The really dirty and fun part is when the students plant their own garden at school. The school garden is a place where art, science, writing, history, and social studies lessons come alive. The students often choose to keep working in the garden rather than engage in their usual recess activities.



Doris Dudley Lauded at Inaugural Leeward Music Festival

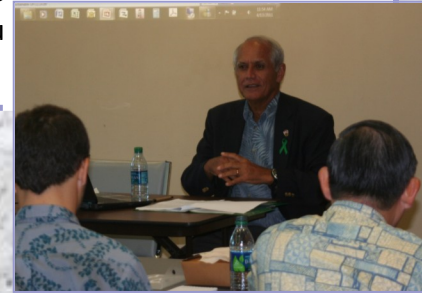
I honored Doris Dudley for founding the Kapolei Chorale and organizing the Inaugural Leeward Music Festival at Kapolei Middle School on April 2nd. Mrs. Dudley lives in Makakilo and has been happily married to Dr. Kioni Dudley for 30 years. In 2006, she founded the Kapolei Chorale to foster quality choral music in West Oahu. For five years, she has built the Kapolei Chorale, working without pay and opening her home for weekly practices. The Kapolei Chorale is a community chorus of roughly twenty-five members who represent Kapolei at musical events across the island, singing four-part harmony in English, Latin, Hawaiian, and Filipino languages. Last year, they were invited to sing in a weekend of events on the island of Maui.



For many years Doris dreamed of holding an annual music festival to showcase the talents of the people on the Leeward side. She has spent much of this last year putting together the first annual Leeward Music Festival. Hoping to inspire people of all ages to become more involved with music, she chose groups of children, teens, and adults to participate. The festival performers at the Inaugural Festival were the Island Pacific Academy Chorus, Waiau Elementary Violinists, Ewa School Chorus, West O'ahu Linedancers, Kapolei High Polynesian Dancers, Na Mele O Suzuki Violin Ensemble, the Kapolei Chorale, and special guests, the U.S. Marine Forces Pacific Band. Mahalo to Doris for all of her efforts in creating beautiful music in Leeward Oahu and inspiring young people and adults to appreciate and enjoy the fine arts.



Senators Gabbard & English and Rep. Denny Coffman honored Better Place Hawai'i upon their initial deployment of electric car infrastructure in the islands. The event took place on the Coconut Grove lawn of the Royal Hawaiian Hotel on April 20, 2011. Pictured are Sen. English, Jason Wolf (VP, Better Place N. America), Brian Goldstein (Director, Better Place Hawai'i), Senator Gabbard, and Rep. Coffman.



Sen. Gabbard addressed the members of the Building Owners and Managers Association at their 5th Annual "Sustainability Week" at Ali'i Place in downtown Honolulu on April 13. He gave an update on key energy legislation that's being considered at the Legislature.

Senator Gabbard presented an Easter Basket to Jared Pugay at the Village Park Community Association's Easter Egg Hunt, which took place at the Kunia Park-n-Ride on April 23. Pictured are Draeden, proud father Desmond Pugay, Jared, and Senator Gabbard.



Warrior Ohana Medical Home Welcomed to Kalaeloa

I welcomed the Warrior Ohana Medical Home to our community at their ribbon cutting ceremony in Kalaeloa on April 20th. The Warrior Ohana Medical Home is Tripler Army Medical Center's first community based primary care clinic, which is an innovative approach to providing health care service to Army families right where they live. The Medical Home will serve as a local nexus for healthcare for active duty family members in the community. It has the capacity to accommodate 8,100 patients, providing them with quality treatment and care, and will enable them to receive medical services without having to commute all the way to Tripler Army Medical Center. However, at the core of the Warrior Ohana Medical Home is the spirit of wellness engendered through the close relationship between each patient and his or her health care team. Congratulations to Brigadier General Keith Gallagher - Commanding General, Pacific Regional Medical Command & Tripler Army Medical Center and Mary Nilges - Warrior Ohana Medical Home Group Practice Manager for a job well done!

