

And we are off! The 2014 Legislative Session is now in full swing and my work continues as the chairman of the House Higher Education Committee. There is always optimism that something productive will be accomplished in the next sixty legislative days. For the higher education committee, maybe we can address issues like affordable access, having good preparation programs, quality and certified on-line learning programs, establishing good statistical and data gathering. Through this process, we can make better decisions on pathways and curriculum. Perhaps, we may also be able to discuss our State's workforce developments and economic needs. I am hopeful that this will be the subject areas that we will be discussing. Realistically, I know our time will be spent on discussing more mundane topics, such as fixing toilets.

In addition to my legislative chores, an initiative to build a better and safer community to prepare us for disasters is taking place in Manoa. Do you know what to do when the lights go out, or the sirens sound? How about where to get help, who to check on, and more importantly, where to go or even how to help? In collaborating with the National Disaster Preparedness Training Center, a group of Manoa residents have formed the 'Manoa Disaster Preparedness Team" (Manoa DPT) to work on a community plan on disaster preparedness which will answer these questions and more. A communication protocol, and training for those who Manoa Disaster Preparedness Meeting to be held on Saturday, January 25, 2014 would want to help others in our community will be in place.



The Manoa Disaster Preparedness Team prepare for the at the Manoa District Park. Meeting flyer on page 2.

This will include providing simple things like first-aid training to counseling for our neighbors who have personally experienced such extensive, ravaging storms.

Our federal government has certainly learned from different natural disasters around our country. Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Andrew, two of the deadliest calamities, and in our own backyard, the Manoa Stream flooding. Stay tuned! There is more to touch on regarding this matter, as we come together as a community to help each other stay safe.





Aloha,

Sam w Chay

Hawaii State Capitol 415 S. Beretania Street, Room 404, Honolulu, HI 96813 Phone: 808-586-8475 Email: repchoy@capitol.hawaii.gov



SATURDAY, JANUARY 25, 2014

9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Manoa Valley District Park

Lower Pavilion Meeting Room

2721 Kaaipu Ave, Honolulu, HI 96822

(Enter from Lowrey/Kaaipu Streets)

Refreshments Provided by Finance Factors

The **Manoa Disaster Preparedness Team (DPT)** is working with the National Disaster Preparedness Training Center to create a community disaster preparedness plan in the event of a disaster. Please join us as we are looking for participants who would like to take an active role and be a part of this working group.

The **Manoa DPT's Goal** is to create a community plan. Together, we will be able to prepare for natural/major hazardous events, utilize resources available, and use the neighborto-neighbor system like the NSW program, to improve our ability to safeguard our loved ones, our home and property.

Manoa Disaster Preparedness Team Meetings



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