# SENATE PRESIDENT DONNA MERCADO KIM

March 2013



Serving Hawai'i's Senate District 14

Encompassing the following communities:

Kapalama Alewa Kalihi Valley Ft. Shafter Moanalua Gardens Moanalua Valley Halawa Aiea



### Senate to Take Up Hundreds of Bills

The Legislature is approaching its half-way mark into the legislative session, and the Senate will vote on nearly 300 measures to meet Thursday's first crossover deadline. The deadline means that each chamber must pass and send bills to the other chamber by Thursday or the measures will be off the table. The Senate has sent 36 measures to the House so far, while the House has already transferred more than 140 bills to the Senate.

Measures that will be taken up by the Senate include the following:

- SB 331—increases the minimum wage over a 3 year period
- SB 106—appropriats funds for programs and services supporting the elderly
- SB 1095-establishes an early education program
- SB 1083—controls school bus vendor costs for school children

Measures that have stalled in its referred committees and therefore will not make it to a floor vote include the sugar beverage tax, a Constitutional Amendment to reserve marriage between a man and a woman, and legalizing marijuana for recreational use.

# At the Capitol...



Left: Donna takes time out to get her flu shot

Right: Donna with Steven Tyler of Aerosmith and Mick Fleetwood of Fleetwood Mac. Both were at the Capitol to offer testimony in support of Senate Bill 465 relating to physical or constructive invasion of privacy



#### **Aiea Public Library Ground Breaking** Ceremony

State legislators and community leaders will celebrate the new Aiea Public Library with a ground breaking ceremony scheduled for Saturday, March 16, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. The Governor and area legislators will participate in the ceremony giving a short congratulatory message. The public is welcome to attend.

The new library is located at the old Aiea sugar mill site and is expected to be completed on November 25, 2013.

Here is a status update on the construction work as of February 21, 2013:

- Clearing, grubbing and general grading of project site completed in January 2013.
- Trenching and rebar work for building footings completed in early February 2013.
- Initial concrete pour for building footings occurred on February 15, 2013.
- Upcoming work to include construction of concrete walls/columns.



Left: Project site is at the old Aiea sugar mill

**Right:** Initial concrete pour for building footings



# **Funds Released for District 14**

#### Kalihi Valley Homes

Governor Abercrombie released \$700,000 for Kalihi Valley Homes. The money will fund Phase IV of the project, which includes site and dwelling improvements. The release of Capital Improvement Project (CIP) funds is part of the Governor's New Day Work Projects designed to accelerate the State's economic recovery.

#### Aiea Intermediate School

Aiea Intermediate has been awarded \$221,570 to upgrade their fire alarm system. The contract has been awarded to United Electric, LLC.

#### Senate Honors Tuskegee Airmen of WWII

The Hawaii State Senate honored three members of the Tuskegee Airmen, the celebrated group of African-American combat pilots who fought in World War II. The Tuskegee Airmen are members of the 332d Fighter Group and 477<sup>th</sup>

Bombardment Group that flew missions from Sicilv to Normandv during World War II. The Tuskegee Airmen are the only African American pilots who served in combat.



#### **Town Meeting to Feature** Honolulu Mayor Kirk Caldwell

Thursday, March 21, 2013 7:00-8:30 pm Pearl Ridge Elementary School Cafeteria

U P C O Aiea Pearl City legislators will be hosting a community town meeting featuring Honolulu Mayor Kirk Caldwell. He will be discussing his priorities as Mayor, including major issues of concern, such as the timely construction of rail, traffic congestion, and improvements to the sewer system.

> For more information, please contact (808) 586-6340.

## Aloha Aina Recycling Drive

Saturday, April 6, 2013 9:00 am—12:00 pm Moanalua Elementary and Intermediate

The recycling drive allows island residents to turn in a variety of unwanted items including used appliances, clothing, computers and more.

For more information, please visit www.kokuahawaiifoundation.org







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