



Aloha e Friends,

Happy 4th of July to you and your 'ohana! We're so lucky to call Hawai'i home and live in a country where we enjoy our cherished rights and freedoms. During the fireworks, festivities, and fun please take a moment to reflect on this wonderful community, state, and country we live in...And please, don't forget... **BE SAFE!** As always, please feel free to contact me at 586-6830 or sengabbard@capitol.hawaii.gov if I can help you or your family in any way. You can also follow me on Twitter @senmikegabbard, Instagram @sengabbard, or [Facebook](#).

COMMITTEE CHAIR-
AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT

VICE CHAIR
Water and Land MEMBER

Judiciary

DISTRICT 20

Kapolei, Makakilo and portions of Ewa, Kalaeloa and Waipahu

KALAELOA DISTRICT ROAD IMPROVEMENTS

Great news! Maui Kupono Builders, LLC has been contracted by the City to rehabilitate many of the streets in the Kalaeloa area. The contract started on June 4, 2018, and will go until February 2019. The project includes reconstruction, milling and resurfacing of the asphalt concrete pavements; reconstruction of identified curbs and/or gutters; tree mitigation by a qualified arborist that could include pruning, trimming and removal; adjustment of utility frame and covers to finish grade; installation of permanent pavement markings

and vehicle loop sensors. The scheduled work will be done Monday through Friday from 8:30am-5:30 pm. Additional work may be performed on weekends and nights as needed. Hours for night work are Sunday 7:00 pm to midnight, Monday to Thursday from midnight to 5:30 am and 7:00 pm to midnight, and Fridays from midnight to 5:30 am. The 22 streets being worked on are

Awakumoku St; Boxer St; Copahoe Ave; Hanua St; Hornet Ave; Independence Rd; Kaiholo St; Kalaeloa Blvd; Kaomi Lp; Kapolei Pkwy; Kauhi St; Komohana St; Kuhela St; Lexington St; Malakole St; Midway Rd; Nukuawa St; Olai St; Saratoga Ave; Shangrila St; Tripoli St; and Yorktown St. By the way, the roadwork on Kapolei Parkway will fix the pothole-infested section fronting Costco from Kalaeloa Boulevard to Kamokila Boulevard. Hallelujah! If you don't see a street listed that should be re-paved, please call my office.



Kapolei Middle School Ground-breaking on May 10. (Pictured with Campbell-Kapolei Complex Area Supt., Heidi Armstrong and Gov. Ige.



Sen. Gabbard spoke at the celebration of the Kapolei Boulevard Improvement Project in Kapolei on June 20. (Pictured L-R: "Kahu Kordell" Kekoa; Brad Myers President - Kapolei Properties Division, James Campbell Company; Rep. Sharon Har; Mayor Kirk Caldwell; Tim Brauer, President and CEO - James Campbell Company; Councilmember Kymberly Pine; Sen. Mike Gabbard; Gerry Majkut, President of Hawaiian Dredging.)

Listen Story

My next Listen Story meeting will be held **July 21, 9 a.m. to 10 a.m.** at Ewa Mahiko District Park Meeting Room.

Governor Ige Releases Funding for Kapolei Middle School!

I was pleased to receive memos on June 20 from Governor Ige informing me that he had released construction funding for improvements to Kapolei Middle School, which includes:

- Parking Lot Improvements (to provide new bus lanes and drop off zones including parking stalls, ground, and site improvements) \$83,622
- Building A, G, and H



Kalaeloa Boulevard Improvements Completed

I spoke at the completion celebration of the Kalaeloa Boulevard Improvement Project in Kapolei on June 20. The Kapolei Properties Division of the James Campbell Company and the City partnered on this \$50 million road project, which



began in the summer of 2015 and improves daily access for the more than 40,000 vehicles that drive to and from the Campbell Industrial Park, Kapolei Business Park, and Kalaeloa Harbor on a daily basis. The project was financed by the James Campbell Company and included widening, rebuilding, and adding signals to Kalaeloa Boulevard, as well as construction of the new Kalaeloa Wastewater Pump Station and sewer transmission system. Mahalo to the James Campbell Company for their on-going generous contributions to the development and success of our Kapolei communities and job centers.

Kapolei Middle School Annual Awards Night

I attended the Kapolei Middle School 6th Annual Po'okela Awards Night on June 14. The Po'okela Award (po'okela means "champion") goes to top performing students in grades 6-8. To earn the award, students need to be on the principal's



Pictured L-R: Rep. Ty Cullen; Sen. Gabbard; Noah Anderson and Aaron Liwanag-Kuli'a I Ka Nu'u award winners; Principal Richard Fajardo, Campbell-Kapolei Complex Area Supt., Heidi Armstrong; and Rep. Sharon Har.

list for the first 3 quarters, have a 3.6 or higher GPA, and be a national award winner in one of three categories: Art, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics), or Media

(Video production, etc.) Approximately 160 awards are given, out of 1500 total enrollment. In addition, the Kuli'a I Ka Nu'u award, which means "Strive to Reach the Summit" is awarded. The recipient of this award must have been on the Honor Roll (GPA 4.0 and above) for the entire 3 years that they've been in Kapolei Middle School. The 2018 winners were Noah Anderson and Aaron Liwanag. As a former teacher, principal and lifelong educator, this was an incredibly special evening. Mahalo nui loa to the administration and staff of Kapolei Middle School, especially Terry Bunkley and Ari Ernestberg for all your hard work and help arranging the evening. It was such a pleasure meeting the students and their parents!

Blue Zones Project Kapolei-Ewa Kick-Off

I joined with Councilmember Kym Pine as Co-Chairs of the Blue Zones Project Kapolei-Ewa Leadership Committee to officially kick off the project at the Kroc Center in Kapolei on June 16. The day was designed to introduce the community first-hand to what the Blue Zones Project is all about. Blue Zones is a well-being improvement initiative, funded by HMSA, and inspired by the book, *The Blue Zones: Lessons for Living Longer from the People Who've Lived the Longest*, written by Dan Buettner. The book focused on the five places in the world – "Blue Zones" – where people live the longest, and are healthiest: (Ikaria, Greece; Loma Linda, California; Sardinia, Italy; Okinawa, Japan; and Nicoya, Costa Rica.) The book has now evolved into a global movement. The Project goal is to inspire people to live longer, more active lives with lower rates of chronic disease. The Project is dedicated to helping towns become better places to live, work and play.



Pictured at the information booth, from L-R with: Councilwoman Kymberly Pine; Kathy Davenport, Community Program Manager-Kapolei/Ewa; Ashley Leahey, Statewide Engagement Lead; Kelsie Cajka, Statewide Worksite Manager; Ann Hayashi, Executive Director, Blue Zones Project Hawai'i.

Final Pueo Report Released

The [final report of the Pueo Project](#) was released in June. The study was conducted from April 2017 to March 2018 by UH and the Department of Land and Natural Resources. The study was initiated by Senate Resolution 6, which passed the Legislature in 2017 and urged DLNR to conduct an extensive statewide Pueo habitat study. An interim report was released in October 2017. Here are some of the highlights from the final report's abstract:



They carried out 105 surveys at 35 sites, across 1030 hectares (0.66% of the total area of O'ahu). The total time spent surveying all vegetation types was 158 hours. *Survey effort was approximately equal across vegetation types (100–172 ha per vegetation type), except for grassland, the preferred habitat for Short-eared Owls in North America.*

- ◆ Surveys began approximately 90 minutes before twilight.
- ◆ They collected more than 50 Pueo sightings in one year through the Pueo project online portal, while the eBird portal collected 43 reports in three decades. Information gathered through the citizen science portal was highly valuable for obtaining phenology and breeding event observations (nests, owl locations, display flights); however, data collected in this manner was biased due to the lack of standard distribution of the observers, which hampered their usefulness for running distribution models or other population analyses.
- ◆ During the standardized surveys, Pueo were observed on agricultural lands, wetlands, short grasslands and open native vegetation.
- ◆ Pueo were detected, on average, 23 minutes before twilight.
- ◆ Based on observed densities, the population of Pueo inhabiting O'ahu was estimated at 807.

In order to properly assess the population size of the Pueo in the Hawaiian Islands, the species' movements, prey availability and breeding seasons need to be determined. Increased survey efforts, carried out annually, are needed to narrow down the variability in the population estimates.

During the 2018 legislative session, I introduced SB 2078, which would have appropriated \$330,063 in Fiscal Year 2018-2019 to DLNR to conduct Pueo breeding and foraging studies, in collaboration with UH CTAHR. The

research called for in SB 2078 is needed to determine where Pueo are nesting, what types of habitats they are using, and their overall distribution and range. The information gained would be crucial to understanding the Pueo and would have helped DLNR determine best-management practices regarding their recovery. Unfortunately, SB 2078 didn't make it to the finish line. I'll look to introduce legislation in 2019 to once again tackle this important issue.

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Training in Ewa

Given the recent disasters with the flooding on Kaua'i and the lava flow on Hawai'i Island, it's important that we realize a disaster can hit at any moment. That's why local organizations, like the Ewa Emergency Preparedness Committee (Ewa EPC), are critical to helping us prepare for possible hurricanes and other disasters. Ewa EPC was formed in March 2011 and focuses on outreach and training with the "Get Ready Ewa Beach" Emergency Preparedness Fair, CERT training, and other classes. I promised Ewa EPC volunteer, Rodney Boucher, that I'd help get the word out about upcoming CERT Training. Here's a schedule of CERT training that will train and prepare community members in post-disaster emergencies. All training will take place from 6:30pm to 8:30pm at Sutter Health Kahi Mohala (91-22029 Old Ft. Weaver Rd.) Register at EwaEPC.com. For more information, email EwaEPC@gmail.com or call 682-0111.

- ◆ September 18 – Introduction/Disaster Preparedness Overview
- ◆ September 20 – Fire Safety & Extinguisher
- ◆ September 25 – Disaster Medical Operations Part 1
- ◆ September 27 – Disaster Medical Operations Part 2
- ◆ October 2 – Light Search & Rescue Operations
- ◆ October 4 – Damage Assessment
- ◆ October 9 – CERT Organization
- ◆ October 11 – Disaster Psychology/Terrorism & CERT
- ◆ October 16 -18 – Disaster Practical Exercise



Jeff Tamaye, of the UH School of Nursing, gave Sen. Gabbard a quick CPR class at the Ewa Beach Emergency Preparedness Fair at Ewa Makai Middle School.

HONORARY CERTIFICATES

Honoring Animal Rights Activist James Aspey

I surprised James Aspey with an Honorary Certificate to welcome him to Hawai'i at a speaking engagement at 'Iolani School on June 7. The event was organized by the Good Food Movement and sponsored by Down to Earth Hawai'i and the Vegetarian Society of Hawai'i. James was on a speaking tour to promote animal welfare and a culture of nonviolence. He's from Australia, dedicates his life to compassion and non-violence, and is a prominent voice for

young people to promote the vegan lifestyle grounded in a foundation of morality and ethics. After being diagnosed with Leukemia at age 17, he was told that he only had six weeks to live. Little did his doctors know that James' most meaningful life would begin in the years after his diagnosis. James underwent chemotherapy treatments and survived. He became addicted to drugs and survived again. James later became a personal trainer and worked hard to get his body stronger and healthier. He experimented with vegetarianism after hearing that "eating animals is bad karma". More analysis on vegetarianism eventually led him to veganism. James rapidly became a world renowned vegan activist after making, and fulfilling, a 365-day vow of silence to raise awareness about animal cruelty, to promote animal welfare, as well as to encourage a culture of nonviolence.

76th Anniversary of the Battle of Midway Commemoration Ceremony

Did you know that U.S. Marines stationed at Ewa Field (7 miles west of Pearl Harbor) in Kalaehoa were the first to fire on Japanese planes before they attacked Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941? On June 2, American Veterans "AMVETS" Hawai'i and Barbers Point Riding Club hosted the 76th Anniversary of the Battle of Midway at Ewa Field. The Battle of Midway was one of the most decisive naval battles of World War II. By solving the Japanese codes, Admiral Chester Nimitz figured out the Japanese plans and our brave Navy service members inflicted a devastating blow on the Imperial Navy, from which they were never able to recover. I was invited to give the welcome speech

at the Commemoration Ceremony held at the Barbers Point Riding Stables in Kalaehoa to honor all veterans of Midway and all those who gave their lives in service to our country. I also presented the AMVETS Silver Helmet Award to Dr. Gerard Akaka, who accepted it on behalf of his



Sen. Gabbard presented an Honorary Certificate to James Aspey on June 7.



Sen. Gabbard presented the AMVETS Silver Helmet Award to Dr. Gerard Akaka on behalf of his late father, U.S. Senator Danny Akaka, on June 2.

father, the late U.S. Senator Daniel Akaka. The award is a unique silver replica of the World War II GI helmet and has acquired a reputation as the most prestigious of all the awards given by veterans organizations. It is the "Oscar" of the Vets." Additionally, I presented an Honorary Certificate from the Hawai'i State Senate to special guest speaker Colonel Gregory D. Gadson (US Army, Retired), who is former US Army Wounded Warrior Director and Garrison Commander of the U.S. Army, Fort Belvoir. Col. Gadson is a bilateral above-the-knee amputee, actor, and motivational speaker. He has served in the U.S. Army for more than 25 years as a field artillery officer and served on active duty for Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, Operation Joint Forge, Operation Enduring Freedom, and Operation Iraqi Freedom.



Sen. Gabbard presented an Honorary Certificate to Colonel Gregory D. Gadson on June 2.