

# Prevailing Winds

**Representative Isaac W. Choy**

District 23 - Manoa, Punahou, University, Moili'ili



My journey to become a **Henry Toll Fellow** finally came to end with a graduation ceremony held in Kansas City, Missouri. It all started with an email asking me if I would like to apply for the fellowship which required me to write an essay on leadership. I have been studying leadership for all of my working life, taking thoughts from books such as "Fish" to the "Marine Corps Officers Manuel". I decided to write a piece on leadership using the technique of being *silent*. I got the idea from observing my colleagues in the accounting profession and in the Hawaii State House of Representatives whose leadership style seems to stem from the vocal bludgeoning school. I always felt that the road to becoming a

good leader was to first learn how to *follow*. I concluded that it is very hard to follow with your mouth open. Well, for some reason, the theme of my essay beat out the

competition, not only locally, but nationally, and I became one of the chosen forty-four.

The candidates came evenly from all four corners of the United States including the Treasurer of Puerto Rico. All branches of government were represented; Jurists, State Department Heads, Cabinet Members, Senators, Representatives; men and women of all ages. They were also from every political persuasion. They all had one thing in common; they were all leaders and certainly not there because of their lack of leadership skills. When first meeting my fellow candidates and introducing myself, I thought, what am I doing here? Can you imagine forty-four people with the personality of eagles in one room, learning to work together? We all know that eagles never fly in flocks, but that is exactly what the curriculum required us to do.



**2013 Henry Toll Fellow Program**

The mantra that was constantly instilled in us; *as public servants, if we learn to work together, we will best accomplish our mandate to move our country to a better place.* The exercises, the lectures, being sleep deprived, physically challenged, totally exposed and learning team building, I believe we now have forty-four people who can better serve the public.

So, what was the one big take away from this experience? I learned, that as my colleague from Connecticut impressed upon me, "*you don't have to own everything you do.*" She told me this while watching me organize our group in doing a project. Most people who excel in their businesses, communi-

ty or even public service wants to lead by taking control. Some leaders pound their fists on the table or scream from a bully pulpit, always ready to debate any suggestions rebut any comments, making sure that

any suggestions or even comments are beaten into submission. However, this method does not make the solution, even if the goal is accomplished, a good outcome. *Leadership is more about being a catalyst, reaching out to get more input even from the most timid members of the group, making an effort to see from different perspectives.* This lesson was not easy for the people of my class whose positions enable them to make hard calls unilaterally. Being able to bask in the glow of the collective efforts of all of the team members is true leadership.

I guess I travelled thousands of miles to learn what local folks always knew; "*poi dogs are always smarter and stronger.*" By the way, my classmate from Connecticut, Teresa Younger, is the Executive Director of the Permanent Commission of the Status of Women. Boy, I guess I have I come a long way.

Aloha,

Hawaii State Capitol

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**Representative Isaac Choy Appointed  
Board Chair  
of the Honolulu Community Action Program**

HCAP has been serving the community since 1965. Their mission is to provide opportunities to enable low-income individuals or families to achieve self-reliance. Working collaboratively with partner agencies & organizations, Federal, State and local government partners, Board of Directors, staff and volunteers, HCAP serves over 17,000 low-income clients with as many as 23 programs in areas of job preparation, placement, education & child-care services, family assistance & community involvement. The HCAP Head Start Program (federally funded) has grown to become the largest early childhood program in Hawaii serving over 1,659 children and families each year. HCAP has an annual budget of 18 million dollars and staff of over 400 employees.

**Representative Isaac Choy Awarded  
the Distinguished  
"Kentucky Colonel"**

The highest honor awarded by the Commonwealth of Kentucky is that of "Kentucky Colonel." Kentucky Colonels are Kentucky's ambassadors of good will and fellowship around the world and commissioned for an individual's contributions to his or her community, state or national, and for special achievements.

**Other Well-Known Colonels:**

Harland "Colonel" Sanders, Muhammed Ali, Betty White, George Clooney, Johnny Depp, Elvis Presley, Bob Hope, Bill Clinton, Bing Crosby, George Bush, Norman Schwarzkopf, Pope John Paul II, Winston Churchill, Danny Sullivan, Edgar G. Robinson, Richard Petty, Wayne Gretzky....



**10th Annual Community Clean-Up**

**Saturday, October 19, 2013  
9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.**

**Kaimuki High School – 2705 Kaimuki Avenue**

Save your recyclable waste and help turn trash into cash for community programs.

Canned goods to support the Hawaii Food Bank is appreciated.

Proceeds to Benefit: Kaimuki High School - Moiliili Community Center—Kapahulu Center

**Acceptable Items:**

- Scrap metal, bicycles, appliances
- 1 TV per car
- 3 propane tanks, 3 fire extinguishers
- Computers, printers, scanners (no limit)
- HI-5 beverage containers
- Used Cooking oil
- Cell phones, printer cartridges, PDAs,
- Batteries, all kinds
- Incandescent light bulbs exchange for CFLs
- Usable clothing and household items
- Used eye glasses and hearing aids
- Shredding-  
1st box free, \$10 (2nd box) 3rd box (\$10/ea)
- Prom dresses, accessories
- Women's business attire, accessories
- Pet food, towels, blankets
- White socks for Afghanistan
- Canned goods for Hawaii Food Bank
- Free towing of unwanted cars, call 291-6151



**SORRY, WE CANNOT ACCEPT:**

**TIRES, PAINT, MICROWAVE OVENS, MOTOR OIL, HAZARDOUS FLUIDS**

For **CURBSIDE PICK-UP**, please call: **CAROLE HAGIHARA**

from the Office of Representative Isaac Choy - Phone: 586-8475

**MAHALO TO:**

Congresswoman Colleen Hanabusa, Gov. Neil Abercrombie, Sen. Brian Taniguchi, Rep. Calvin Say, Rep. Scott Nishimoto, Rep. Isaac Choy, Rep. Scott Saiki, Rep. Mark Hashem, Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Councilmember Ann Kobayashi, Councilmember Stanley Chang

**H-1 Freeway Rehabilitation**  
Middle Street to Vicinity of Ward Avenue

From the State Department of Transportation

**Goals:** Rehabilitation and resurfacing of freeway pavement across all lanes; upgrading of highway lighting, highway drainage and pavement markings, and re-striping improvements to add new through-lanes.

**Schedule:** Work is anticipated to begin in late summer 2013 and take one calendar year to complete. Work will be done during nighttime hours. Up to 120 nights of full closures will be necessary.

**WEBSITE:** <http://h1rehab.com/>

Updates, Project Schedule, Optional Routes, Detour Maps & Road Closures, Other Road Projects.  
**PROJECT HOTLINE: 735-7465**

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION

Manoa Valley District Park

**FALL FUN FAIR**

Friday, November 1, 2013

5:30 - 7:30 p.m., New Gym

Carnival type games for the children to enjoy.



Assisted by the Manoa Valley Lions and the East Manoa Lions and various community service/sports organizations of Manoa Valley.

Paid in part by the taxpayers of the City & County of Honolulu

We All Quality to Life



CITY & COUNTY OF HONOLULU  
DPR PARKS & RECREATION  
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The Department of Parks and Recreation  
City and County of Honolulu is committed  
to providing quality recreational facilities  
and programs to all residents. We are  
committed to providing quality recreational  
facilities and programs to all residents.

**Visit My House Member Web Page**

<http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/memberpage.aspx?member=choy&year=2013>

My Newsletters, Bills, Community Events, Bill Status & Documents, Legislative Information, Links, etc.