



REPRESENTATIVE SHARON E. HAR

District 40 Update

Royal Kunia - Makakilo - Kapolei - Kalaeloa

JULY 2010

HAWAII STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Hawaii State Capitol

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Dear Friends and Neighbors:

I hope you and your families are well and enjoying the summer.

Over the past months, there have been some very exciting developments in our community. The opening of the Kapolei Judiciary Complex means West O`ahu residents will now have better access to important judicial services, and I am very excited to share that construction on the long-anticipated UH-West O`ahu campus in Kapolei is scheduled to begin this August.

I am also pleased to report that legislation to help prevent drunk driving (on which I have worked over the last three years) was signed into law on June 14, 2010.

Finally, I am sponsoring a "Nourishing our Neighborhoods" recycling day on July 31st and a Community Talk Story on August 7th - further details on both events are on page 2, and I hope many of you will join me on those days!

As always, please contact me at rephar@capitol.hawaii.gov or 586-8500 with any concerns or questions.

Aloha,

Sharon Har
Representative, District 40
Kapolei, Makakilo,
Royal Kunia, Kalaeloa

Kapolei Judiciary Complex Officially Opens

On May 28th, I joined community members, elected officials and members of the Hawaii state judiciary to dedicate the Kapolei Judiciary Complex, new home to the Family Court of the First District, the Wai`anae District Court and a juvenile detention center. The complex gives West O`ahu residents much more convenient access to judicial services and alleviates overcrowding in other Honolulu facilities.

"We've finally accomplished what we started 20 years ago – giving underserved Kapolei-area residents better access to court services and helping to ease overcrowding in Honolulu's courts," said Hawaii State Supreme Court Chief Justice Ronald T.Y. Moon.

This judiciary complex is an important investment by the state in our community and in our judiciary system, and is another key step in Kapolei becoming a true Second City. The complex also features symbolic architectural and artistic elements meant to embrace the West O`ahu community and native Hawaiian culture, and I encourage you to visit this beautiful new facility.



Rep. Har and Chief Justice Ronald T.Y. Moon participate in the maile lei ceremony at the Kapolei Judiciary Complex dedication.

UH-West O`ahu To Begin Construction in August

The long-awaited construction of the University of Hawaii-West O`ahu is set to begin this August. Under the current timeline, university officials expect to complete construction on the initial campus – including the library, a campus center, an administration building and classroom buildings – in time to welcome students for the fall 2012 semester.

I am very proud to have worked with fellow legislators this session to secure the critical \$48 million funding needed to finally begin construction. The construction will provide numerous needed jobs and the completed campus will become an important economic hub for our area, with an impact going far beyond the students and university employees. As UH-WO Chancellor Gene Awakuni has said, the construction of the Kapolei campus is truly about "building a university for Hawaii's future."



Rep. Har and UH-WO Chancellor Gene Awakuni at a June event to detail plans for the new campus.

Located off of Kualaka`i Parkway, the sustainably designed campus will feature "green" buildings and layouts that address our unique resource challenges and encourage walking and biking throughout the campus. In addition to providing West O`ahu residents convenient access to a world-class institution of higher learning, the new campus will accommodate a greater number of students who are interested in bachelor degree programs not available at UH-Mānoa, including early childhood education, culinary arts management and respiratory health care.

Drunk Driving Bill Signed Into Law

After three years of hard work, I am very pleased to see the final in a series of three laws on drunk driving signed into law. SB2897, Relating to Highway Safety, was signed into law as Act 166 on June 14, 2010, and makes the final changes needed to implement an ignition interlock system on January 1, 2011.

An ignition interlock is a breathalyzer device that will be required to be installed to the ignition of the vehicle of a driver once arrested for drunk driving. In order



Rep. Har speaks at the Ignition Interlock bill signing ceremony in the Executive Chambers

to start his or her vehicle, the driver must blow into the device, and if the driver is over the legal blood alcohol content limit, the car

will not start. After being hit head-on by a drunk driver in 2007, I worked with Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), along with many other stakeholders, to introduce ignition interlock legislation in 2008. Act 171 created a task force, on which I served, and two subsequent laws (Act 88 in 2009 and Act 166 in 2010) make the final changes needed to implement the ignition interlock system in our state.

I was fortunate to survive my accident, but thousands of lives are senselessly cut short every year. The ignition interlock program will help us in the state of Hawaii by creating a cultural, systemic change in the often cavalier way we perceive drinking and driving. This law sends a message that drunk driving will no longer be tolerated, and I firmly believe this law will save lives.

**Save the Date:
Talk Story with Rep. Har**

Join us to talk story with Representative Har at 9:00 am on the following Saturday:

August 7, 2010

**Royal Kunia Community Association
94-615 Kupuohi St., Ste 201
Waipahu, HI 96797
(Across from Wal-Mart)**

“Nourishing Our Neighborhoods” Community Recycling Day - Saturday, July 31 at Kapolei High School

On **Saturday, July 31 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.**, I am sponsoring a "Nourishing our Neighborhoods" recycling day at **Kapolei High School**. Please bring canned goods in exchange for free recycling services for the following items: scrap metal, bicycles, appliances (excluding TVs or microwaves), beverage containers, cooking oil, cell phones, printer cartridges, computers, eyeglasses, hearing aids, batteries (all kinds) usable clothing/household items, telephone books and magazines. Tires, motor oil and hazardous fluids will not be accepted.

Each person can bring in one incandescent light bulb to receive two energy-saving compact fluorescent light bulbs in exchange. Additionally, you can make appointments for free towing of unwanted cars and for free roll-off bin service for scrap metal by calling 306-1876.

You can contact Rene Mansho at 306-1876 or rmansho@schn.com with any questions.



Rep. Har presented Kapolei Middle School students Arvin Rapanut and Reily Darkjian with certificates from the House of Representatives recognizing their accomplishments in the Olelo Community Media Youth Xchange Video Competition. With 575 videos submitted to the competition from across the state, Arvin and Reily were selected as finalists in the Global Warming Middle School division for their “Environmental Man” video. Also pictured is teacher Lauren Char.

Rep. Har spoke to fifth-graders at Mauka Lani Elementary School during their Career Day on May 25th. Pictured with Rep. Har, from left, are her fellow Career Day panelists: Janyrah White (Hawaiian Tel), Jolene Pesamino (Mauka Lani Staff), and Al Bright (OCCC Corrections Officer.)

