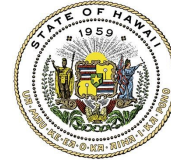


Representative

2013

Gene Ward



December Report

Minority Leader Emeritus

Vice Chair, Economic Development And Business Committee

District 17 • Hawai'i Kai-Ka Iwi Coast-Kalama Valley

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MERRY CHRISTMAS—HAPPY 2014!

KOKO HEAD RIFLE RANGE SILENCED...



The City closed the rifle range (not the pistol range) at Koko Head Shooting Complex (**the only public shooting range on the island of Oahu**) Friday, December 6th, after two reports of stray bullets landing in a residential area nearby. ***"We're going to be closing it down temporarily while we complete the investigation,"*** said Honolulu Mayor Kirk Caldwell.

Officials say one of the stray bullets was reported to have hit a car near the Botanical Garden on the northeast side of the crater and the other struck a home in a subdivision on the opposite side of the crater as well.

It's still unclear if any of those bullets came from the range. ***"It is possible, I wouldn't say it's impossible, it's highly unlikely but possible,"*** said Mike Marumoto, the Range Master at Koko Head Shooting Complex.

Gun enthusiast, Matt Longfellow, says the only way bullets could reach the opposite side of the crater is by shooting directly over it ***"I just cannot imagine somebody pointing a gun that high into the air, you know an accident could have happened but it's not going to happen over and over again,"*** said Longfellow.

The City says the berm is supposed to be at 90-degree angle but after all the years of wear and tear, some parts of the berm look more like its at a 45-degree angle. The plan now is to backfill the berm with dirt and return it to a right angle.

The City also plans to create an "eyebrow," which is an extension of the roof that covers shooters, to keep them from misfiring into the sky. ***"Both of these improvements can be done fairly quickly; my goal here is to get it running again in a safe way,"*** said Caldwell.

But will the renovations solve the problem? ***"Without the study of the bullet, these repairs may be just for show,"*** said Longfellow.

Either way, the improvements are much needed and will hopefully end an era of neglect.



KA IWI WATCH UPDATE:

- No Permits Filed -



As of December 30th, 2013, no applications have been filed for development on Ka Iwi, according to the City's Department of Planning and Permitting.

GREAT LAWN UPDATE:

- Shopping Center on "Hold" -

As of December 30th, 2013, KS/BE has not changed their postponement of the development of the Great Lawn.

LUNALILO HOME NO LONGER SITE FOR AFFORDABLE RENTALS

Luxury condo, Hale Ka Lae, will have to find another way to fulfill their requirement of an affordable senior housing development. **In a letter to Rep. Ward dated November 19, 2013, "... due to changing market conditions, Hale Ka Lae and the King William Charles Lunalilo Trust have amicably agreed to end its development discussions."**



This is good news for the neighbors in the Lunalilo Home area, however, in order to be able to proceed with the development of Hale Ka Lae, the owners *still* have to fulfill the affordable senior housing requirement. This means they will likely be looking for another piece of East Honolulu property or they could decide as originally

proposed, to locate the affordable units in its luxury condo. Stay tuned, we'll keep you updated as developments arise, (pun intended).

WARD STUDIES DRONES IN D.C.

Rep Ward attended the NCSL (National Conference of State Legislators) in Washington, DC from December 4 to 6 along with other representatives and senators from Hawaii. Various experts spoke on education, energy, and security, but clearly the most provocative panel was the one on "drones," now properly called "Unmanned Aerial Vehicles" or UAV's. Presently, Hawaii has no laws regulating these vehicles though we have been conditioned by an increasing number of computer or remotely controlled vehicles such as "automatic pilots" for airplanes, trains, subways, and more recently semi-autonomous driving and parking cars (e.g. Google's Prius, Audi, and Mercedes C class). UAV's are now being tested for crop management, border control, mapping, and a myriad of other functions-**particularly pertinent to Hawaii; invasive species and shark monitoring.** The NCSL panel had nothing to do with military UAV's, and the issue of privacy and licensing was the biggest state concern expressed by legislators. **No privately owned UAV is licensed or legal in the state of Hawaii at this time.**



SEE YOU AT THE SUMMIT! (Talk story over a Coffee or a Beer)

Want to speak with Rep Ward in a relaxed and unstructured environment? Come to a "summit" at Koko Marina Shopping Center the 1st Tuesday and 1st Thursday of every month:

COFFEE SUMMIT - Tuesday, January 7, 2013 - 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Zippys (inside at the far right corner) **This is the 1 year anniversary of Rep Ward's Summits!!!**



BEER SUMMIT - Thursday, January 9, 2013 - 5:30-7:30 p.m. - Kona Brewing Co. (outside on patio entrance)



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT HAHA'IONE



Haha'ione Elementary School has raised funds (through various methods including donations from Haha'ione Elementary School Ohana, the Hawaii Kai Community and a generous grant provided by Hawaii State's 3R program) for two new playground structures and installation will commence

late December.

Haha'ione has had several volunteers contributing to this project but they could use more help. If you are interested in volunteering on December 28th, please contact Mike Doi at IDY-MA@hawaii.rr.com.



Haha'ione PTSA would like

to thank all of those in our community who have supported our organization for this project and all the various fundraising and support projects that occur throughout each year!

LIVE EVERY SECOND

By Sam Slom, Pres & CEO Smart Business Hawaii
(with permission)

We can learn a lot of life's lessons from football. So it was at the end of the frenetic "Iron Bowl" between rivals Alabama and Auburn at Auburn. It was a good game with #1 Alabama struggling. It was headed for overtime and a play that seemed to run out the clock was challenged with one (1) second remaining. It took nearly 5 minutes to review but 1 second was put back on the clock. Alabama elected to go for a 57 yard winning field goal with that 1 second. The ABC/ESPN announcer was spot on when he said, it might allow a run back. As we all watched, the kick was wide and short, and allowed the Auburn kicker to grab it nearly 9 years deep in the end zone and to the disbelief of everyone, run it out for a 100-yard touchdown and an incredible Auburn upset victory. Auburn made the very most of that 1 second. Alabama did not prepare adequately for that impossible run (but they could/should have).

A football game, like a life or business challenge, is played the entire 60 minutes. Every second of life is valuable and precious. We can't take it for granted, not even 1 second. This is important in business, politics, medical emergencies and sports. It was also recalled that "Destiny wins over Dynasty". It was more than just a football game.

QUESTION OF THE MONTH:

Did you participate in any Hawaii Kai holiday events? Send us your picture or story for publication in our next newsletter!

E-mail p.altonn@capitol.hawaii.gov