

LEGISLATIVE CONNECTION

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FLAG MEMORIAL DEDICATION CEREMONY

Waipahu's Hawaii

Plantation Village dedicated a new memorial featuring the flags of the countries from which our first laborers came. The colorful flags give a sense of the tremendous courage it took for our immigrants to leave their home country to start life anew in an unknown land.



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT



Last week Ewa residents took part in the 25th annual National Night Out. Volunteers from Boys & Girls Club, police, and Ewa Weed & Seed donned attention-getting yellow shirts and took to the streets in a stand against crime and drugs.

NATIONAL GUARD

Aloha Stadium was the site of a deployment ceremony honoring 1,700 Hawaii Army National Guard soldiers from the 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team. Around 6000 well-wishers showed their support before the soldiers are deployed to Kuwait and Iraq.



RENEWABLE ENERGY



The Hawaii Venture Capital Association kicked off a high-powered series of meetings about renewable energy challenges and opportunities. See www.hvca.org for future meetings.

BREENE HARIMOTO ON OLELO

Board of Education member Breene Harimoto was Senator Espero's guest on an installment of "Espero Conversation." The show covers topics of the day with key players in town. You can view "Espero Conversation" on Sunday evenings at 9:30 on Ch. 54.



RAIL RALLY

Rail supporters held a rally at the State Capitol last week. Advocates contend that the rail system will help traffic congestion and provide an alternative form of transportation for Oahu residents. West and central Oahu legislators joined in to lend their support.



OMPO

The Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (OMPO), honored and recognized community organizations involved in transportation planning. Senator Espero is the outgoing OMPO chair.



BROADBAND

Ken Wirt, Vice President of Consumer Marketing for internet giant Cisco Systems, informed legislators of how technology can be used to help different sectors. Senator Espero is a member of the Broadband Task Force, which is studying how broadband can help Hawaii.



USS KITTY HAWK

The Navy's aircraft supercarrier Kitty Hawk is the first and last active ship of her class. Built in 1956 in New Jersey, launched in 1960, and commissioned in 1961, the Kitty Hawk is in its last deployment and is the second longest actively serving ship in the Navy. It will be decommissioned in January 2009, near the time of the commissioning of the George H.W. Bush, and will be replaced in Yokosuka by the George Washington. Kitty Hawk was here participating in the annual RIMPAC exercises.



THE GREAT WHITE FLEET

Senator Espero and state Civil Defense Director Maj. Robert Lee joined in the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the U.S. Navy's arrival in Hawaii. The event took place on board the USS Missouri. Behind them is an actor posing as Teddy Roosevelt, who was president at the time.

