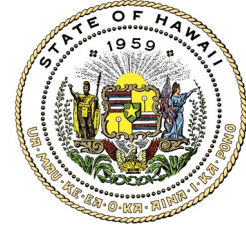




## **BARBARA MARUMOTO** **REPRESENTATIVE 19th DISTRICT**

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### **NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD REPORT**

**JANUARY 2012**

## **Legislative Issues**

### **Brown Tree Snake May Wiggle Into Hawaii**

Due to budget cuts, the state Department of Agriculture has allowed the brown tree snake program to lapse. The dogs used for cargo inspections were actually given away. Rep. Marumoto will introduce legislation to get the inspections up and running again. Guam has 15,000 snakes per square mile that have eaten many birds, frogs as well as small pets. The snakes have also disrupted electrical power when the snakes short out transformers. With increased military and civilian flights expected from Guam, Hawaii can inherit the problem. Besides affecting our environment, the brown tree snake could easily devastate our poultry and egg industry.

### **2012 Marumoto Legislative Staff**

Long time Office Manager Joan Shinn has retired and John Gibo has taken her place. Assisting him for the 2012 Session will be Maureen Muraoka, Roosevelt Freeman, Jennifer Dotson and Spencer Lau.



Finance Committee members observed the miconia eradication program from helicopters above Hana, Maui.



### **Marumoto Gets Advocacy Award From Arthritis Foundation**

For obtaining a grant to raise awareness about rheumatoid arthritis, Rep. Marumoto was recognized by the local chapter. Women in Government members were given the opportunity to hold educational events in their districts. Rep. Marumoto sponsored a seminar at Kahala Nui on how to live with this affliction. Others who were recognized for their work in conquering this disease were Dr. Alberto Santos-Ocampo, Eldon & Jean Miura, George Ehara, Hawaii Pacific Health and Arcadia.

## District Concerns

### An End to Kaimuki/Kaiser Community School for Adults?

The Board of Education decided to fund four community schools on Oahu. Unfortunately, the Kaimuki/Kaiser school, that currently serves 3,300 adults in East Honolulu, is not one of them. Principal Randal Tanaka is proposing increased fees and a charter school structure in order that the school can stay alive as a self-sufficient entity. With a federal grant and increased fees, this program can offer GED classes, adult basic education, English as a Second language, Civics, Workplace Education, Family Literacy, in addition to Life Long Learning courses. Rep. Marumoto supports this plan for self-sufficiency and, along with district legislators has petitioned the Board of Education to approve this proposal.

### Transportation Issues

Rep. Marumoto has been after the DOT to re-landscape the planter boxes on H-1 above Kahala Mall. She assumes that this area was not on the APEC beautification radar. However, now that APEC is over, the DOT removed the weeds. Mahalo DOT! Also the old 'Ewa section of the Honolulu Airport ticket lobby was refurbished. The representative asked the DOT not to remove the wooden sculpture feature that stretches across the width of Lobby 5 and 6. It was designed by the late and famous architect Vladamir Ossipoff so, now, if you are in the vicinity you can see it! Thank you, Rep. Marumoto. In an effort to slow down speeding, the City Department of Transportation Services is painting parking lanes on the main drag of Waialae Iki Ridge – Laukahi Avenue. Because the driving lane appears to narrow to 10', we will see whether motorists slow down a bit. Mahalo DTS.



Bill Green of Kahala Shell has been driving Rep. Marumoto for decades in the Kaimuki Christmas Parade. This year she had grandchildren Makua - 9, Haumea - 5, and Kahikina - 3 years accompany her. Mahalo to Mr. Green and the Mustang Club members who volunteer in many parades throughout the year across the island.

### Book Wish List for Public Schools

This is your chance to help our public schools. From time to time neighborhood schools have a "wish list" of books on a table at Barnes & Noble – Kahala Mall. Take the opportunity to buy one of the suggested titles. Rep. Marumoto selected *Cartoon History of the U.S.* for Kaimuki Middle School.

### Marumoto Requests Go-Ahead on Girls Locker Room Projects

Rep. Marumoto wrote to the Governor and Superintendent of Schools requesting release of \$800,000 for the planning and design of the Kalani High Girls Locker Room. Construction funds must still be appropriated. She will submit an appropriation bill in 2012 for the construction money. A softball field in the back of the campus is another Title IX project, but DOE facilities personnel say the planning process will determine whether there is enough space for the field even if it were placed *over* the parking lot. The DOE is at work with the planning and design of the Kaiser High girls locker room project.



## Marumoto Activities



Representatives visited vast warehouses that store departmental files.

Thanks to the hardworking volunteers, the Holy Nativity Fall Festival and Christmas Bazaar was a financial and social success. Rep. Marumoto is happy to serve on the Junior League of Honolulu Community Advisory Committee named by President Lisa Haeringer of Diamond Head. This energetic woman is organizing several events for members. Recently Rep. Marumoto and her husband Richard were guests at the annual meeting of the Association of Emeritus Regents at Waialae Country Club. Apparently there is life after serving on the UH Board of Regents.

Marumoto elevated to Women In Government Vice Chair – After serving as Treasurer and Secretary of the national Women in Government Executive Committee, Rep. Marumoto will be Vice Chair in 2012. Rep. Terri Austin of Indiana will be the Chair. WIG studies, evaluates, educates and advocates various issues, including health, education, transportation, and energy.

See the new exhibit at Bishop Museum, Tradition & Transition, featuring stories of Hawaii Immigrants. The first phase features documents and artifacts of Japanese immigrants collected by the non-profit Hawaii Imin Preservation Society (Shiryo Hozon Kai) and housed for safekeeping at Bishop Museum since the onset of World War II. Rep. Marumoto serves on the board of the society. Another reception was hosted by the US – Japan Council and the APEC Host Committee. On hand were Sen. Dan Inouye, the Japanese Premier and Foreign Minister, the US Secretary of Commerce John Bryson and many other dignitaries. Secretary Bryson said that he spent a year at Kaimuki Middle School many years ago. The 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion Veterans dedicated an educational display at the 442nd RCT Clubhouse.



Stadium staff briefed legislators on recent safety and structural improvements.

Signposts: Aloha to old friend Will Sanburn of Kahala Nui. Also we lost Rose Tam-Hoy of Kaimuki who was always decked out in a lovely muu muu, hat and lei. We will miss the Kaimuki restaurant Victoria Inn, and its long time, friendly, efficient wait-help.