



Governor's E-Newsletter

November 5-10, 2005



Aloha and Welcome from the Governor's Office in Hawai`i!

It is with pleasure that we send you this e-newsletter.

Quote of the Week

"The Administration worked closely with the Legislature in getting this law passed, but we must find additional ways to make the streets safer for pedestrians."

- Governor Lingle, citing the need to propose new legislation to amend current pedestrian-safety laws to better protect people crossing the street. The Governor will make this issue a priority in the next legislative session.

Thought of the Week

"It is reassuring to hear a panel convened to examine the state's economy valuing the islands' host culture to such a degree. The Hawaiian culture, including value systems going far beyond hula shows, luau and "color," not only defines Hawai`i but is the only thing that distinguishes our islands from every other sea, sand and sun resort."

- Maui News editorial, "Panel report useful, solid," praising the Economic Momentum Commission, convened by Governor Lingle, for its emphasis on the state's vibrant Native Hawaiian culture and value system.

A Veterans Day Message from Governor Lingle and Lt. Governor Aiona...



As Governor and Lt. Governor of the State of Hawai`i, we would like to pay tribute to the men and women in the armed forces, National Guard and Reserves, who serve our country both at home and abroad.

The price of liberty has been paid by the sacrifices of those who have fought and died for the freedoms we enjoy today. The veterans who served on the battlefield and those who protected our country at home are true heroes.

Veterans Day is not a day just to remember the past, but to honor the present.

Sacrifices are being made today by our troops from Hawai`i serving in Iraq, Afghanistan and the DMZ. Whether they are Hawai`i-born, or stationed here from the mainland, these soldiers are part of our `ohana. Their families at home, who are enduring personal sacrifices, need the love and support of our entire community.

We are grateful for our troops' steadfast efforts to bring the same liberties we enjoy to other parts of the world. The proud faces of Iraqi citizens, broadcasted on the evening

Upcoming Events

November 11, HOLIDAY - VETERANS DAY

November 11, Governor Lingle will honor veterans from Hawai`i and the nation during the annual Governor's Veterans Day Ceremony.

November 11, Governor Lingle will attend the Honolulu Council Navy League's Annual American Patriot Award Dinner honoring Captain Jerry Coffee.

November 12, Governor Lingle will participate in a forum sponsored by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to obtain input on the 2007 Farm Bill.

November 15, Governor Lingle will be the keynote speaker at the Building Industry Association-Hawai`i's (BIA) annual membership meeting.

November 17, Governor Lingle will participate in a CEO forum on diversity. The panel will feature the honorees of the 2005 Diversity and Women Leadership Awards.

November 17, Governor Lingle will accept the 2005 Diversity Government Leadership Award on behalf of the State of Hawai`i in

news and printed on the front pages of newspapers, are testimony to the tremendous efforts of our service members.

To our veterans who honorably served our country in the past, and to those who are upholding their duties today, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts and will always keep you in our prayers.



Linda Lingle
Governor, State of Hawai`i



James R. "Duke" Aiona
Lt. Governor, State of Hawai`i

Governor Honors Girl Scouts' Women of the Year



Governor Lingle, a former girl scout and troop leader and the 2003 recipient of the Girl Scout Council of Hawai`i's Woman of Distinction award, congratulated this year's honorees: Claire Asam, executive director, Queen Lili`uokalani

Children's Center; Dee Jay Mailer, chief executive officer, Kamehameha Schools; and Colleen Wong, vice president for legal affairs, Kamehameha Schools.

Dick Jensen Earns Star on Las Vegas Walk of Stars



Governor Lingle traveled to Las Vegas to honor one of Hawai`i's best loved entertainers as he received a star on the Las Vegas Walk of

recognition of Hawai'i's commitment to diversity and providing equal opportunities for all people.

[Governor's Weekly Radio Show](#)

The show can be heard live from 7:05-8:00 a.m.

Wednesdays on www.hawaii.gov/gov or on the following radio stations:

O`ahu (KHVH AM 830)
Maui/Kona (KAOI 1110 AM)
Hilo (KPUA 670 AM)
Kaua`i (KONG 570 AM)

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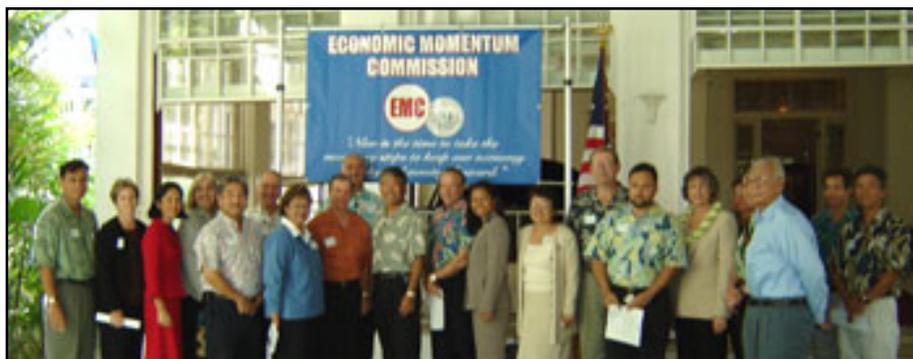
Stars. Dick Jensen, who grew up in Kalihi, in a home filled with ukuleles, guitars and singing, is the first native Hawaiian and first resident of Hawai'i to receive such an honor.

Governor to Accept Diversity Award on Behalf of the State of Hawai'i



Next week, Governor Lingle will travel to Washington, D.C. to accept Diversity Best Practice's Diversity Government Leadership Award on behalf of the State of Hawai'i. Criteria for this prestigious distinction includes being a champion of diversity; a leader for diversity through corporate initiatives; having a demonstrated vision for the future; a special recognition of the community and philanthropic activities; and supplier diversity leadership.

Governor's Economic Momentum Commission to Conduct "Town Hall" Meeting



Governor Lingle and members of the Economic Momentum Commission.

The Economic Momentum Commission (EMC), convened by Governor Lingle, will conduct a "virtual Town Hall" meeting via closed-circuit broadcast, statewide, November 15 at 6:00 p.m. to gain public input and discuss its proposals to

maintain the state's economic prosperity. On November 1, the EMC made public its draft recommendations, which suggest changes in such areas as housing, taxation, education, workforce development, tourism, energy, infrastructure, agriculture, health care, the environment and Native Hawaiian issues.

Visit the commission's website at www.emc-hawaii.com to share your opinion and rank the importance of the proposals.

"Dedicated to Hawai'i's Troops"



Photo courtesy of SSG Tran

SSG Kevin Tran of the 804th Signal Company from Hawai'i and fellow soldiers after arriving in Uzbekistan.

We invite you to submit digital photos of your loved ones who are serving our country in the defense of freedom and liberty. Please e-mail your photos and a brief caption to governor.lingle@hawaii.gov.

Departments of the Week- Agriculture



Photo, from left:

Katy Coba-Director of Agriculture, Oregon;

Pat Takasugi-Director of Agriculture, Idaho;

LaVerne Brabant-Director, USDA-FAS Agricultural Trade Office; Guo

Geping-Chair, China Chainstore & Franchise Association; Sandra Kunimoto-

Chairperson, Hawai'i Dept. of Agriculture; Janet Kanefsky-Manager, Western

US Trade Association; Andy Anderson-Exec Director, Western US Trade

Association.

Board of Agriculture Chairperson Sandra Kunimoto traveled to Beijing, China this week to take part in a meeting to establish U.S. participation in next year's China Chain Store Expo, which will be held November 2 - 3, 2006 in Beijing. The group also met with U.S. trade representatives at the U.S. Embassy to discuss trade issues between China and the United States.

Health



Read more in the [Honolulu Star-Bulletin](#).

Hawai`i became the **first state in the nation** this week to monitor airports for signs of bird flu or other flu viruses. Passengers traveling through Honolulu International Airport who show influenza symptoms, including a high fever, will not be required to submit to examinations but will be tested voluntarily using nose or throat specimens taken at the airport clinic.

Through this process, the Queen's Airport Medical Service will be called to evaluate ill passengers at the arrival gate. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Quarantine Station as well as the Hawai`i Department of Health may also be notified if the passenger is assessed to have a potentially communicable disease.

Seven registered nurses will be on hand 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to collect samples from passengers thought to demonstrate symptoms. Detailed passenger information will allow health officials to trace contacts and begin disease containment, if necessary.

In the News



State to use airport for emergency quarantine

Gate 34 would hold passengers showing bird flu symptoms

WORLD SUMMIT
World Health Organization marks year global strategy | A4

BY LAURENCE MURPHY
Advertiser Staff Writer

In a worst-case scenario, Gate 34 at Honolulu International Airport — with enough space, facilities and security to accommodate 400 passengers — will be cleared out and used as an emergency quarantine station for patients suspected of carrying avian influenza, officials said yesterday.

A team of seven nurses already trained to take tissue samples from any incoming passenger who might be sick, officials with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Honolulu Quarantine office said at a news conference yesterday.

The details were among those disclosed yesterday about what officials said was an evolving plan to deal with an influenza outbreak here.

SEE MORE PAGES

PHOTO ABOVE: The woman examines Natasia Bafalis (see display above) she would use on incoming travelers who show flu symptoms and appear to be sick. The Queen's Medical Center clinic at the airport, managed by Wendy Karamba, right, has been opening but the surveillance program for about a week as part of the state's plan to deal with a pandemic.

[State to use airport for emergency quarantine](#)

Honolulu Advertiser, November 8, 2005

State first to monitor passengers for viruses

Voluntary checks should help response to possible pandemic

Associated Press

Hawaii has become the first state in the nation to begin airport monitoring of all passengers to detect signs of bird flu or other viruses.

Passengers and airport visitors will not be required to submit to examinations but will be noted only on a voluntary basis for flu viruses, health officials said.

Making the testing available is expected to improve the state's ability to detect and respond to the threat of a pandemic flu, according to Catherine Chow, a medical prevention officer for the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, who is assigned to the state Health Department.

The new surveillance measures began Monday under an agreement between the Health Department and The Queen's Medical Center, according to department spokeswoman Janice Okubo.

Passengers could be referred to the hospital's airport clinic by the CDC's airport quarantine station, by an airline, or from anywhere in the airport, by requesting medical assistance.

Public health officials will collect nose or throat specimens from sick passengers to test for flu, Chow said. Detailed information...

SEE VIRUS, B1

[State first to monitor passengers for viruses](#)

Honolulu Advertiser, November 5, 2005

[Bird flu prevention efforts focusing on Kahului Airport](#)

Bird flu prevention efforts focusing on Kahului Airport

The Maui News,
November 6, 2005

Panel report useful, solid

Gov. Linda Lingle may not like all of the conclusions reached by her Hawaii Economic Modernization Commission but she has to admire the speed with which it worked. The governor appointed the bipartisan panel last summer. Last Tuesday it issued 42 preliminary proposals with the report due to be finalized Dec. 2.

Chairman Don Hester, president of First Hawaiian Bank, said he had a sense of urgency and that commission members agreed their job "was not to try to satisfy either (political) party."

At least two of the report's conclusions were endorsed unanimously and should be taken to heart by state and local leaders.

The first is that "economic growth should not come at the expense of the quality of life of Hawaii's residents." The commission noted Hawaii ranks 49th among the states in home ownership and 48th in the proportion of 9th-graders finishing high school.

The second was in the conclusion of the draft report: "The health of Hawaii's economy, our quality of life, and ultimately Hawaii's collective identity are founded on a vibrant Native Hawaiian culture and value systems."

It is reassuring to have a panel convened to examine the state's economy "valuing the islands' host culture to such a degree. The Hawaiian culture, including value systems going far beyond hula shows, lua and "coloi," not only defines Hawaii but is the only thing that distinguishes our islands from every other sea, sand and sun tourist."

As for education, the commission sees a need to close charter schools that have "been hollowed out" due to falling enrollment and selling far overvalued properties. The estimated \$100 million from the sales of about two dozen a school properties should go back into the public school system. The commission

[Panel report useful, solid](#)

The Maui News,
November 5, 2005

Lingle will work with lawmakers to toughen up pedestrian-safety law

By GUY W. WATSON

In the wake of last week's pedestrian fatalities on Oahu and the Big Island, Gov. Linda Lingle said she will request state lawmakers to strengthen an existing state law.

Lingle said she will make it a priority to take a proposal into legislation to amend the current pedestrian-safety law to help her partner agencies increase the crime.

"The pedestrian death or injury is one too many," Lingle said, according to the state officials.

"We would like to see these laws tightened up so that the kind of tragic situations never happen again. The ultimate goal is to make Hawaii a safe place for our visitors and residents to visit the state."

In the first 17 days of October, there were six cases of pedestrian being struck on Oahu roadways, including two that were fatalities.

In May 2004, Lt. Governor James H. "Duke" Aiona, D., in his capacity as acting governor, signed a bill that gave pedestrians the right of way to pedestrians crossing the street at any distance.

Under the new law, drivers must yield when pedestrians are on the crosswalk or

the roadway, or are approaching and in danger of being hit.

The purpose of the bill was to clarify and strengthen the pedestrian's right of way within a crosswalk.

"The administration worked closely with the Legislature in getting this law passed, but we think that pedestrian safety is more the driver's duty for pedestrians," said Lingle.

"These recent fatalities serve to help fight the problem."

In the last year, there have been no pedestrian fatalities on Oahu.

Last year, an 81-year-old female pedestrian was hit by a truck near the Kalia Highway I-50 in Honolulu's Kalia neighborhood. The woman died at the scene.

Also last year, a 15-year-old woman was killed when she was crossing an Alakoa Boulevard ramp at Aiea on the Big Island. She was struck by an off-duty police officer's truck.

She died on her way to The Queen's Medical Center.

On the same day, a 19-year-old Kailua woman died from injuries sustained when a truck struck her the night before. She was crossing Kalaheoune Highway in the area known as the Waialeale Highway in Kailua.

The Big Island accident occurred on Halloween morning in 2004, when a pedestrian was struck crossing the street on Kilauea Avenue near Waipahoehoe Island in a residential area.

The driver will receive one year in the hospital or prison in addition.

Lingle said Aiona has already signed several bills to help improve pedestrian safety, including bills to help people to begin next year. They will help reduce the "walk when there's no crosswalk" rule, which is a common problem, and bills to improve pedestrian safety, such as implementing more crosswalks, better crosswalk design and more sidewalks.

State officials are also asking contractors for pedestrians and cyclists as part of the widening of Honolulu and Waialeale Highway in Kilauea on the Big Island, and the Waialeale Highway in Kilauea on the Big Island.

Construction along Honolulu Highway on the Waialeale Island is being completed for better visibility, as part of the state's transportation program.

There are also funding to extend a bike path through Kilauea Highway on Oahu, to connect the city's Pearl Harbor Historic Trail with the Waialeale, Lingle said.

Lingle will work with lawmakers to toughen up pedestrian safety law

The Garden Island, November 8, 2005

