

# Kohala Mountain News

Vol.11, No. 1

January 28, 2012

## Bank of Hawaii to Close Kohala Branch in April

Story and photo by Megan Solis

In a move that has Kohala merchants, kupuna and other local customers shaking their heads in disbelief, Bank of Hawaii has confirmed its plans to close its Kohala branch in spring 2012.

Stephen Brock, senior vice president and regional manager for Bank of Hawaii in West Hawaii, said the decision was not made lightly.

"First and foremost, we apologize for the inconvenience. We understand that this will be an inconvenience for

some of our customers," said Brock.

Brock explained that there was no single reason for the closure, but concerns about the branch started following the 2006 earthquake, which took a devastating toll on North Kohala.

"We needed to make significant investments to rebuild the Kohala branch. We even installed a photovoltaic system there. But subsequent to that, over several years business levels have never returned to pre-earthquake levels," he said.

Brock explained the decline is attributable to a number of factors related to a transition in how people conduct their banking: fewer full-branch banking facilities are being used; instead there has been an increase in the use of small, in-store branches, as well as ATMs, banking by phone and online banking.

The decision to close the branch was made at the executive, not local, level, he said. Various scenarios were considered, but the decision was made to close the branch and keep the night depository and ATM with deposit-taking capabilities open in the same location in Kapa'au. According to Brock, most of the transactions typically made in Kohala can be accommodated with the depository and ATM.

But local merchants see the situation much differently.

"This announcement comes as a shock to me. Figuring out a new plan for my banking needs during our busy season is challenging. Driving to Waimea for my basic banking needs is out of the question. I'll sort it out and find a solu-



The Kohala branch of Bank of Hawaii in Kapa'au is slated to close at the end of April.

tion but it probably won't be with the Bank of Hawaii," said Karen Rosen, co-owner of The Coffee Mill in Hawi.

Alyssa Slaven of Ackerman Galleries in Kapa'au said, "I am saddened to hear Bank of Hawaii is closing. I don't believe they will be able to provide all the services we need. For one thing change will be a major challenge. As a business we rely on the bank to make change regularly and it doesn't make sense to have to drive to Waimea to get it. Bank of Hawaii had suggested we open a small account at the credit union and stay with them [Bank of Hawaii.]

See BOH, page 2

## Tong Wo Society Celebrates Year of the Dragon

The Tong Wo Society in North Kohala plans a Chinese New Year's Celebration beginning at 10 a.m. Sunday, January 29, outside of the Tong Wo Society building in Halawa, about three miles from the King Kamehameha Statue toward Pololu, just past the first horseshoe turn on the mauka side. The community is welcome to join the fun.

There, sequined lions will dance, drums will bang, fireworks will explode, incense will burn and prayers will be offered. Festivities are meant to bolster the yang, energize everyone, add jubilation, share

blessings and appreciate history.

This year marks the Year of the Dragon, considered the most powerful sign in the Chinese zodiac.

Attendees can also learn more about the Tong Wo Society building, which is only open to the public once a year during Chinese New Year. It was built in 1885 and is the state's oldest Chinese building.

A potluck will take place around noon, and attendees are asked to bring something to share. Donations, accepted throughout this four-hour celebration, will be used for maintenance and restoration work.

## NKCRC Opens 'Kohala Welcome Center' on 10th Anniversary

North Kohala Community Resource Center's long-awaited Kohala Welcome Center is now open to the public. The center has completed the public restrooms and a beautiful hallway of storyboards for both the community and visitors to enjoy. The corridor tells the story of Kohala, both past and present.

To enhance this experience the center has launched a "Kohala Guides" program with volunteers from the community who greet visitors, answer questions and provide additional information to make their visit the best possible.

A blessing and dedication by Senior Club president Kealoha Sugiyama is scheduled for Saturday, February 18, from 4 to 7 p.m. Along with the blessing, NKCRC will be celebrating its 10th anniversary by recognizing eight of the original sponsored projects that continue to thrive, including KCAA, the Kohala Coqui Coalition, the King Kamehameha Statue Maintenance project, Kohala Football Boosters, Malama O' Kohala Cultural Resources, the Konea o' Kukui Garden Restoration, WasteStream recycling and the Kamehameha Day Celebration. Light pupus from many



Some of the new volunteer "Kohala Guides" at the Welcome Center are, left to right, Joe Vitorino, Juanita Rivera, Judy Rogers, Jan Morgan and Bob Martin. Volunteer guides not pictured are Cindy Tinker, Kathy Matsuda, Hazel Troche, Mickey Irwin and Fred Cachola. See Center, page 2

## Military Use of Upolu, Digital Billboard for Kohala Hot Topics at AC Meeting

By Lynda Wallach

The January 9 meeting of the North Kohala Community Development Plan (NKCDP) Action Committee (AC) opened with a comment from Margaret Wille of Waimea regarding the Marine Corps' Environmental Impact Study (EIS) for Upolu Airport. Although the fact that a marine sanctuary and one of only two whale breeding grounds in the state is located off the coast of Kohala makes the issue of coastal jurisdiction an important one for this community, the Hawaii County Corporation Counsel, Lincoln Ashida, has taken the position that coastal water is under the jurisdiction of the state and that the communities, through their CDP action committees, have no say. Wille disputes that position and feels the various action

committees need to work together on this issue. She has posted a video of the November 30 public information meeting in Waimea about Upolu Airport on her website: www.margaretwille.com. Finally, Wille announced that she will be running for the County Council seat of Pete Hoffmann, who has reached his term limit.

Following public comments, the draft EIS for Upolu Airport was the first item of new business on the AC agenda. AC chair Joe Carvalho asked whether, since the committee had written to the Planning Department regarding open water fish farming, they should do the same for Upolu Airport. Giovanna Gherardi and Carvalho both stated they believed that the draft EIS was poorly written

See AC, page 3

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### Library Hosts Evening of Japanese Music and Ikebana

In honor of the Japanese Cherry Blossom season and Girls Day celebration, North Kohala Public Library will hold an evening of Japanese music and flower arranging at 6 p.m. on Monday, February 13.

The evening begins at 6 p.m. with a demonstration of Japanese flower arranging by Ikebana master, Chikako Powers. Powers is a member of the Ikenobo School of Ikebana, and will use seasonal flowers in her arrangements. Following the flower presentation, "The Sakura Musical Ensemble" performs music celebrating spring and the cherry blossom festival.

The concert will feature Japanese-influenced music played on piano and

flute. The performers are: Annu Shionoya (piano) and Jean Pierre Thoma (flute).

In performances throughout the Big Island, the Sakura Musical Ensemble presents a varied repertoire including classical, jazz and ethnic music. The musicians are professional performers with classical music training and many years of teaching experience. They enjoy engaging audiences of music lovers and students of all ages.

Admission is free, and the entire family is invited to enjoy this unique presentation of Japanese arts.

Call the library at 889-6655 for additional information or to request special accommodation.

### Center, continued from page 1

local restaurants and local musicians will be featured, along with a cash wine and beer bar. Don't miss this wonderful event to celebrate our community and these project organizers for their great work in North Kohala.

### BOH, continued from page 1

However, this, in my opinion, seems unethical."

Others in the community have expressed concern about some of the seniors and others who don't have internet access or perhaps don't feel comfortable using it for financial transactions. Some do not use the ATM and prefer to do their banking with a live person, but Waimea is too far away for regular banking needs. The belief is that Bank of Hawaii either doesn't understand or doesn't care about the needs of the Kohala community: its isolated location, rural character and large number of senior citizens make a local branch a necessity.

Brock responded to the concerns about seniors by noting that the bank is making arrangements with the Kohala Senior Citizens Club to hold a series of "smart money" workshops for local kupuna, providing information about how to prevent being a victim of fraud. The seminars will include instruction on how to use the ATM as well as assisting seniors to set up direct deposit for their social security payments, which he says also helps to protect seniors against theft and fraud.

Bank customers with accounts housed at the Kohala branch will not

Please join us, relax a bit, talk story and share a special aloha with people who know and love the community. Call 889-5523, or visit the website, www.northkohala.org. The Welcome Center is open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays.

need to make any changes to their accounts, Brock said. Although those accounts will now be housed at the Waimea branch, the routing and account numbers will not change and there will be no need to re-order checks. Brock said a letter to Kohala customers explaining the closure and what to expect will be sent out in late January.

The branch's last day for business will be April 27, and the bank plans to host some customer appreciation days leading up to the closure.

Brock explained, "The Kohala community is very important to us. This bank has had a presence in Kohala for over 90 years. This is a grieving process for all of us. We want to assure the community that Bank of Hawaii will still be in Kohala. You may not be able to open those doors, but Jeff Craft will be calling up there and visiting you. We will continue to serve that community - not only from a banking standpoint but from a community standpoint."

Sandie Wong, president of ATV Outfitters Hawaii Ltd and Kohala Ditch Adventures Ltd. said, "It's very, very sad, but I respect BOH's business decision and for what is best for the bank and its customers. I'll miss their personal service Jeff and staff provided to ATV and KDA."

### Local Artist, Students Adorn KMS with New Mural

Kohala Middle School is receiving more than a fresh coat of paint. A group of students has been assisting Kohala artist Melody Moore with a mural of a Hawaiian hawk, the mascot for the KMS "Halaula Hawks."

Work began on the project in October with the group meeting after school on Fridays to first prep the area and sketch out the design. Abundant rain during the month of December slowed the group's progress, but the mural is now nearing completion. Left to right, Anela Medeiros, Mina Apostadiro, Kaitlyn Yamamoto, and Zaylee Apostadiro have been helping Moore with the mural. Moore is a member of Living Arts Gallery; her paintings can be seen at the Hawi gallery.



—photo by Melody Moore

Hana Anderson, owner of Kohala Tax LLC, said that she had a few clients who decided to open accounts at Hawaii Community Federal Credit Union. She thinks many people will be moving bank accounts to the HCFCU Kohala branch.

Anderson said one senior was shocked to hear that the bank branch is closing down. "He sighed and was quiet for a while. I think he was thinking about many transactions and services he had at the branch over the years. He just said 'Noooooo!'"

As the only other financial institution in North Kohala, HCFCU is preparing itself for new customers.

Tricia Buskirk, HCFCU vice president of corporate development and marketing, said, "We were as surprised as the Kohala residents when we heard about BOH closing their doors in Kohala. Knowing that BOH and HCFCU were the only financial institutions in the community, we understood the hardship that will be felt by Kohala residents."

"In 2006, when both BOH and HCFCU Kohala branches suffered significant damage from the earthquake, HCFCU was open and operating prior to BOH's re-opening. At that time, we learned what additional resources

would be required to support the community with one financial institution temporarily closed. That experience and knowledge played a big part in the renovations at HCFCU's Kohala Branch to accommodate future expansion of our membership and services. It also led us to a plan to provide our Kohala Branch with added resources to properly support higher transaction levels, whether permanent or temporary. HCFCU is a full service financial institution, ready to provide exemplary service to our community and businesses as we have for over 75 years," Buskirk said.

Employees at Bank of Hawaii's Kohala branch will be transferred to the Waimea branch, said Brock. The fate of the bank building, however, remains uncertain. Bank of Hawaii owns the building and has put significant investment into improvements since 2006.

Brock said the bank has already received comments from the Kohala community about the closure. Comments can be made on the bank's website: www.boh.com. Scroll down to the bottom of the home page to the link for "Your Thoughts Count." Or complete a "Your Thoughts Count" form at the bank; or mail comments to Your Thoughts Count, Box 135003, Honolulu, HI 96801-9951.

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**AC, continued from page 1**  
and based on old data, that there had been no input from the community, and that issues like erosion, bird migrations, the marine sanctuary and whale breeding grounds and the important cultural sites in the area were not adequately addressed. Since the deadline for public comment had been extended to January 23, it was decided that Carvalho would draft a letter to Coastal Zone Management stating the committee's concerns with the draft EIS without taking a position for or against the Marines Corps' proposed use of the airport. [See related story on page 9.]

Ron Friman then put forth his idea of a digital billboard for North Kohala, similar to one that was stationed outside Hawi during the holidays. He referred to the NKCDP which states the need to improve the ability to communicate critical information to the community during emergency situations. A local radio station and a large, lighted sign near Kohala High School were solutions put forth in the CDP; however the possibility of a radio station is probably at least five years away. Messages on a digital billboard are easier and faster to create than a lighted sign since they can be entered on a computer and transmitted directly to the billboard and also to cell phones and other devices. Friman has spoken with the local police commander, who has voiced his support for the idea. Friman has volunteered to head a committee to research the issues surrounding the purchase of a digital billboard including size, cost, placement and potential funding sources. He is looking for interested community members to be part of this committee.

Hermann Fernandez, reporting for the Growth Management subcommittee, said that a priority of his subcommittee is to discuss the need for the county to invest in a consultant in order to identify the county's Important Agricultural Lands. The subcommittee also looked at three subdivision applications: one is for five lots in downtown Hawi; another, in Kohala Estates, is a consolidation and resubdivision of two existing lots off of Ala Kahua Drive near Kohala Ranch Road; and the third is a request for the subdivision of a 118,944 acre parcel makai of Akoni Pule Highway east of Hawi Hill Road into five lots averaging 23.79 acres. This last proposal was a cause for discussion because it touches on aspects of the NKCDP: first, the need

to preserve existing agricultural lands; and second, the fact that some of the lots would be near the center of Hawi. The subcommittee will investigate further into the proposed plans for these lots and report back to the AC.

Carvalho, representing the Public Access subcommittee, reported that the deadline for the purchase of the 27 acres at Kauhola Point has been extended to February 15 and \$76,000 is still needed. [See related story on page 14.] On the important issue of grants of easement, he said the subcommittee plans to put together a map designating all the easements and the status of each one. He also said several parcels in North Kohala have been given high priority for purchase by the County Open Space Commission. Number two on their list is the Hapu'u to Kapanahaia corridor that consists of 166 acres. Several landowners are involved and all but two have said they would assent to the purchase; however a lot of money is involved which may not make this immediately doable. Third on the list are nearly 50 acres in Niuli'i close to Keokea Beach Park, fourth is Mahukona, fifth is the Kukuipahu-Haena and sixth is the Keawenui easement, making North Kohala the most active region on the island when it comes to preserving its coastal lands. Carvalho also announced that the State Heritage Land Commission has provided funds to purchase the Kauhola South two lots.

The AC then discussed the fact that, although it is good news that all this land is being purchased for the public, there have been no funds designated for maintenance. Toni Withington explained that one of the reasons the nonprofit Kohala Lihikai was formed was to create a legal entity that would allow the people of Kohala to perform maintenance, historic interpretation and preservation of public lands and cultural sites. Margaret Wille stated there is a bill currently before the County Council that would provide some money for maintenance of public lands.

Giovanna Gherardi reported from the Infrastructure A subcommittee on the issue of improving communication with the Kohala community and had some recommendations. The first is to create a master email list of community members. Community organizations would be asked to submit the names of people in their organization who would be interested in being on the list and also

to designate a point person who would act as a liaison between the AC and their organization. Other ideas included plain language fact sheets explaining what the AC and the subcommittees are doing that would be posted on the various bulletin boards, making presentations to community organizations and to the high school, setting up a dialogue between the AC and the neighborhoods, and having a booth at the Kohala Country Fair. A committee was designated to review all the suggestions and report back at the next AC meeting with specific recommendations.

Collin Kaholo's report from the Affordable Housing subcommittee focused on the Self-Help housing and the fact that, although 31 acres of land

is available for more housing units, the demand is not there since only one out of 10 applicants qualify. He stressed the need for classes to be offered, either public or online, that teach potential applicants what they need to do to prepare themselves financially so that they have income that is needed to get on the list for Self-Help housing. Hermann Fernandez stated that the Credit Union is planning on creating a program of financial education courses for adults that might be blended with the type of education that Kaholo was describing.

The next meeting of the NKCDP Action Committee will be held Monday, February 13, at 4:30 pm. The public is strongly urged to attend and to become involved in subcommittee work.

## 'Whale Come' to Kohala's Montessori Pre-school Open House

The children of Kohala's Montessori Pre-school and Kindergarten invite you to visit their classroom this month as we 'whale come' the return of the humpback whales. The children are counting, sorting, painting, washing and singing about whales as they learn about the biggest mammals in the world.

On Saturday, January 28, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., the school will host an Open House with teachers and staff on hand to answer questions and give tours of their comprehensive preschool and kindergarten learning environments. Refreshments will be served.

Montessori Education Center of Hawaii, which has been serving children in Hawi and Waimea since 1984, is located at 55-515 Hawi Road in Hawi (behind Nakahara Store). The school provides half- and full-day sessions with a Montessori-based curriculum for children 2 to 7 years old. Music, art, and Japanese language are offered as part of the school's educational program.

The school is struggling to meet



—photo by Summer Dwyer  
**Zachary Zandovskis and the other children at Kohala's Montessori school are learning about whales as they "whale come" the return of humpbacks to Hawaii's waters.**

the needs of many underserved families with limited resources. A program has been initiated by the school to offer financial assistance in the form of scholarship funding from private donors. If you would like to donate money to help an underprivileged child attend preschool, please contact the school at the number below.

Interested parents may call the school office at 889-5131 for more information or to set up an appointment for a private tour of the school.

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**Future KMN Deadlines**

It's important for the Kohala Mountain News to receive ads and news submissions by the following deadlines. Otherwise, submissions may not be able to be accommodated.

**February**

Ad deadline: 2/10/11  
News deadline: 2/13/11

**March**

Ad Deadline: 3/9/12  
News Deadline: 3/12/12

**Kohala Mountain News**

Our purpose is to enhance and strengthen the community by fostering continuous communication and understanding among the various cultures, residents and constituents.

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Letters to the Editor and Viewpoint articles must be accompanied by the author's name, address and telephone number. Both must address issues affecting North Kohala. Letters and Viewpoints are subject to editing, and shorter submissions will receive preference for publication.

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**Kohala Mountain News**

P.O. Box 639, Kapa`au, Hawai'i 96755

**Editorial –**

**Kohala Mountain News Wants Your Stories**

By Megan Solís

A new year is upon us, and though Kohala is a small community, the volume of news and events happening here continues to amaze me. Kohala Mountain News strives to provide a broad spectrum of community news that you won't read about in larger publications. To do this, however, we need the community's help.

KMN doesn't have staff reporters, so we rely on volunteers in the community to keep us informed and write articles about the people, places and news that are important to North Kohala residents. If we don't know about it, we can't publish it!

We welcome stories from experienced and novice writers alike. It doesn't matter if you haven't written for a newspaper before. As the editor, I will work with you to make your story

ready for publication. And if you're really uncomfortable with writing, just provide me with the information and I'll put the story together. We also welcome your photos.

Because we are a monthly publication and want to include as many different stories as possible, we ask that submissions be limited to about 400 words (300 words or less for letters.) All articles submitted are subject to editing for grammar, spelling and length. Sorry, we are unable to pay for stories or photos; however we appreciate all of the KMN contributors, whose names are listed each month on the masthead on page four.

Stories and photos can be emailed to kmneditor@hotmail.com, mailed to KMN at P.O. Box 639, Kapa`au, HI 96755, or call 884-5986.

Also, if you have an event for our calendar, be sure to contact our calendar editor, Jesús Solís, at kmncalendar@hotmail.com or call 884-5986 to get your event listed. Calendar listings are limited to public events that are either free or fundraisers for community organizations.

Remember, we are a monthly publication, so plan ahead to make sure your story is received in enough time for the next issue. Deadlines are listed on page four each month.

And finally, please support the businesses who advertise in KMN—they are the reason we can provide KMN free to all Kohala residents. Thank you, advertisers! And if you'd like to advertise your business in KMN and reach all of North Kohala, call Tom Morse at 345-0706 or email ltmorse@aol.com.

Mahalo nui loa for your support!  
*Megan Solís is the managing editor for Kohala Mountain News.*

**Letters—**

**Let Bank of Hawaii Know How We Feel about Branch Closure**

Aloha,

I am greatly saddened and concerned over the announcement of the Bank of Hawaii planning on closing our branch. It seems like another decision made in Honolulu that does not understand that we are an isolated community on a dead-end street! Like the closing of the middle school, it is entirely inappropriate and will have a crippling effect on our local seniors, business and homeowners.

I encourage everyone to write to the bank and their "Your Thoughts Count" program at Box 135003, Honolulu, HI 96801-9951. They own the building that they just put a lot of money into post-earthquake. Their roof is covered in solar panels. They are keeping their great employees (as well they should.) So we have to have a truthful reason why!

"Banking has changed with smart-phones and computers" – well, not

so much in our fair town! We have a beloved preponderance of seniors and many more who do NOT have these items, nor do they wish to! So the truth is the least we deserve, and a reversal of this incredibly bad idea is needed.

Please everyone—write to them and call them. We were able to wake up the Department of Education, so let's try and wake up the Bank of Hawaii!

Mahalo,  
Sharon Hayden

**Mahalo to the Community from the Ho`opai `Ohana**

To the community of North Kohala, we, the family of Cheyenne Paki Kaiholena Ho`opai, would like to express our sincere aloha and mahalo. Our recent steak and laulau fundraiser was a great success, thanks to all the families, friends and strangers that came by and contributed to our cause.

Cheyenne had his cochlear implant done on November 17, 2011, at Kapi`olani Women and Children's Hospital on O`ahu. With the many visits back to the doctors, he will soon have his hearing device and be going through speech therapy.

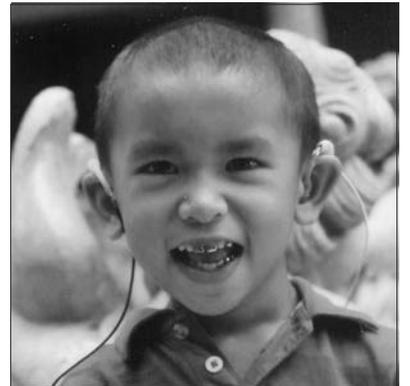
And THANK YOU to our community of North Kohala for your generous donations, support and prayers given to us.

It's a blessing to live here in Kohala, and I'm proud to call this beautiful place HOME. We wish you all a blessed New Year!

Mahalo,  
Chona R. Ho`opai

*Your kindness in supporting me with your donation made it possible for me to continue in my process of being able to hear. With love, Cheyenne Ho`opai*

—photo courtesy of the Ho`opai family



**Response to Pomeranze Letter**

Dear Editor,

In last month's 'Diatribes' by Peter Pomeranze, entitled, "In Response to Last Month's Byway Letters," he called several of us liars. He singled me out, by stating that I was "hurling untruths," and was "making false statements publicly." I was simply replying to NKCRC's letter, asking them to share with us their successes and failures, to allow the community to judge the overall value of the claimed benefits provided. He insisted that one just has to do some research, the facts are all there. Even when one visits the NKCRC site, all one can find is a listing of projects, and some self-serving commentary; no accountability or viability is shown for any of the projects listed. Mr. Pomeranze forgot, it was the NKCRC proudly announcing the over \$7.7 million, they managed, in their letter to the community, to which I responded. Naturally, a question comes to mind, on what was it spent? If the NKCRC do not want us to look into the pot, they should have never lifted the cover, but they did.

He falsely accuses people who defend the community from questionable, unwanted schemes of badly hurting the community. Contrary to Mr. Pomeranze, I have never accused anyone, by name or otherwise of lying;

I just asked for more transparency, by the NKCRC. He provided no evidence for his egregious and defamatory accusations against many of us.

Finally, after calling Malama Kohala liars, for the second time (see his letter published November 26, 2011), as well as myself this time around, Mr. Pomeranze closes his list of insults with, "... Let's start with that truth [read my truth] and move forward as a community of mature, respectful people tolerant of each others' views and beliefs." How hypocritical can one get?

Respectfully,  
Frank J. Maier

### 'Kohala's Got Talent' A Great Success

One Holistic Place held their first annual fundraiser in December at Luke's Place. The Kohala's Got Talent event was a great success, thanks to overwhelming support from the volunteers and the Kohala residents and businesses. Isabel Kala'au and Rosanne Arraujo volunteered to help organize the event. Many other community members joined to help with setting up, judging the performances, and operating the sound system. Nineteen courageous residents

of North and South Kohala shared their amazing talents with the community.

The evening of the event, performers shared how music has been a source of healing in their lives; all witnessed the therapeutic effects of people sharing their hearts in song, dance and humor. Our organization felt privileged to support all those who performed.

Luke's Place was a full house, and for many long-time residents from South Kohala, it was their first time dining at

Luke's. Many residents and performers voiced their interest in Kohala's Got Talent becoming an annual event, and we also hope to continue the tradition at Luke's Place!

Kohala's Got Talent helped to spread awareness of the importance of chronic disease prevention. However, to make the One Holistic Place health camps a reality, more funding is needed. Within a few weeks, our organization anticipates a response from the Beacon Heal

Grant. If funds are awarded, the first health camp will begin in May!

Much effort and support is needed to continue to move forward. Please email [OneHolisticPlace@gmail.com](mailto:OneHolisticPlace@gmail.com) to find out more about our organization, volunteer your time, or make a donation. We also welcome you to friend us on Facebook to view photos and videos of the event.

Mahalo Nui Loa,  
Rachel Allen

## Viewpoint

Information and opinions expressed in viewpoint articles are the responsibility of the author and do not necessarily reflect the position of the News or its staff.

### A Follow-Up Report on Loose Dogs

By Capt. Richard Miyamoto

*I am writing this follow-up article regarding "Loose Dogs," previously published in KMN, due to some recent disturbing reports of people, including very young children, being placed in danger due to dogs still running loose in the neighborhoods.*

*A few years ago, before I was assigned to Kohala, I had the unfortunate duty of having to investigate the death of a young child that was attacked and killed by a dog. The devastation done to the family of the child was indescribable, not to mention what it did to the owner of the dog. I still have memories of this investigation, and I never want to have to go through it again. For this reason I hope*

*that each of you will take precautions to make sure that your dog does not run loose.*

*I have taken the liberty of reprinting the following "Loose Dog" article as a reminder.*

#### Loose Dogs Can Be Dangerous

Lately Kohala's police officers have seen an increase in calls regarding stray or loose dogs chasing and even biting people who are walking or jogging. In addition more and more reports are being made regarding loose or stray dogs injuring or killing animals like goats, sheep and even cattle.

Dog owners need to take the respon-

sibility to secure their dogs and make sure they can't get loose to run onto public or private property. Every pet owner is responsible for safeguarding others and keeping their pets from harm. In fact, both Hawaii County and the State have laws regarding stray dogs and the liability that the owners may incur due to their dogs' actions.

The Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), section 142-74, states: "Liability Dog Owner—If any dog while on private property without the consent of the owner of the property, injures or destroys any sheep, cattle, goat, hog, fowl, or other property belonging to any person other than the owner of the dog, the owner of the dog shall be liable in damages to the person injured for the value of the property so injured or destroyed." In severe cases involving repeated attacks on people or animals, a dog can be taken from its owner and euthanized.

There are also county leash and stray dog ordinances (HCC 4-29, HCC 4-30) regarding a dog straying onto public or private lands which can result in fines of up to \$500. These ordinances require that whenever a dog is taken into any county park, street, public or private

school ground or airport; it needs to be on a leash that is not more than six (6) feet long. In addition, it is against the law for anyone to take a dog to a county beach park (even with a leash) unless the dog is a "seeing eye" dog or utilized for the benefit of a handicapped person. (Law enforcement dogs are exempt.)

Many people believe their dog is so well trained that it can't possibly hurt anyone or itself when off leash. However, letting a dog run loose can be very dangerous. When a dog encounters unfamiliar people and situations, it can react in unexpected ways. In addition, not everyone is comfortable around dogs, and an off-leash animal can cause these people serious anxiety, even put them in danger. Unleashed dogs can also run into traffic where they can get hit by a car or cause an accident for which the dog owner could be held civilly liable.

So, if you love your dog, please keep it safe by making sure it is secured at all times. Remember, your dog looks to you to keep it safe from harm.

*Capt. Richard Miyamoto is the former captain at Kohala Police Department. He recently transferred to Hamakua-Hilo division.*

### KCAD Gets 'Egg Money' from Moody Foundation

The Ernest Moody Foundation recently gave the Kohala Coalition against Drugs (KCAD) a \$1,200 donation for their annual April Easter Egg Hunt in 2012.

KCAD provides volunteer support for anti-drug education and efforts in North Kohala and is a sponsored project of the North Kohala Community Resource Center.

## KCAA

The Kohala Community Athletic Association

would like to thank the following volunteer coaches for a successful 2011 in our after-school sports programs for the children of Kohala:

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Fado Stevens  
Michael Fong  
Shannon Stevens  
Nino Ka'ai  
Vernon Karratti  
Bill Showalter  
Sheldon Aiona  
Brad Fernandez

#### Boys & Girls Basketball

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Paul Antonio  
Mary Hook  
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#### Biddy Basketball

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Lawrence Kauka  
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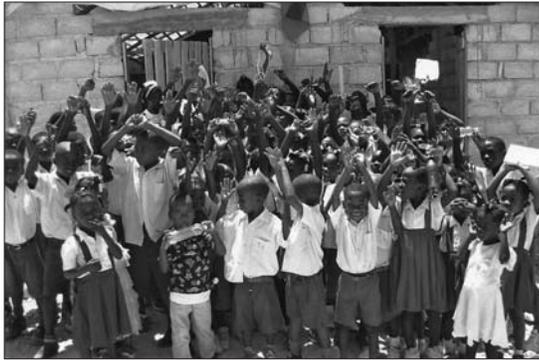
**"Trail Mix"**

### Kohala's Hope for Haiti... Two Years later

By Lani Bowman

When Haiti's devastating earthquake hit on January 12, 2010, a small group of Kohala residents vowed to do more than just offer a "band aid" response to the country's tragedy. "Kohala's Hope for Haiti" (KHFH) was formed to establish and build an 'Ohana relationship with the town of Marigot, a small southern coastal town similar to Kohala. Having a contact there has enabled the group to work directly with Marigot.

For two years the group has met monthly to fundraise, plan and implement short- and long-term projects. KHFH has held various fundraisers including swim- and read-a-thons, a Holiday Craft Fair, booths at the country fair and at the Hawi Farmers Market. In addition contributions from



One of Kohala's Hope for Haiti projects was helping to rebuild the Toussaint L'Overture School, a school for "street children" in Marigot, Haiti.

residents and visitors have enabled the group to raise over \$7,000 toward their efforts.

The group's goal is to raise \$20,000

for long-term, sustainability project(s) for the town. Key areas include: sanitation, health, economic recovery, shelter, education and protection.

The group realizes shorter term projects are important to establish a presence. Recently supported projects include helping to rebuild Toussaint L'Overture School, a school for "street" children in Marigot, and financing a small microloan project for women of Marigot. Our contact person, Omnes Barthelemy, ensures that the funds are used appropriately.

The group is researching several other projects. We are looking for people, perhaps teachers/retired teachers to commit to sponsor a teacher's salary at Toussaint L'Overture School at \$70/month, \$630/year. (The principal makes \$100/month, \$900/year). Another idea

is supporting the bamboo industry. Hawaii has recently sent bamboo to the area near Marigot. Contact has been made with a local resident, Norman Bezonna, who is presently in Haiti with the bamboo project. Ulu (breadfruit) is yet another crop of interest for the area and is being researched. KHFH has contacted a coffee growing enterprise that the group hopes to connect with our local coffee industry.

After two years of following through with their intent, the group is encouraged by the support of our Kohala community. They ask for your continued support by attending our monthly meetings on the first Tuesday of the month at 4 p.m. at Walker Hall in Kapa'au. Also, visit our booth at the Hawi Farmers Market on the third Saturday of the month where, weather permitting, we will be selling nearly new/gently used items and other goodies. Any donation toward this effort is appreciated. Please call Lani Bowman at 889-5852 or Lesley Patton at 889-5002 to donate.

### Library Seeks Donations for Annual Sale

North Kohala Public Library is currently accepting book and media donations in anticipation of the annual Friends of North Kohala Library Book-sale on Saturday, April 7. The sale will be held from 8:30 a.m. until 2 p.m. in the Kohala High School cafeteria.

Books, videos, CDs, and DVDs in good condition may be dropped off at the library during any open hours. Encyclopedias will not be accepted, and any textbooks must

have been published within the past 10 years.

The library hours are: Noon to 8 p.m. Monday; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday; and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Fridays.

Donations are tax deductible. Library staff can provide receipts for tax purposes when the materials are delivered to the library.

Call the library at 889-6655 for additional information

### KMS Student Wins 'Meth Pledge' Competition

The Hawai'i Isle Police Activities League (HI-PAL) held its second annual "Meth Pledge" competition for middle school students. More than 80 entries were received and a panel of judges selected the winning entry.



—photo courtesy of HI-PAL Bodhi Amar

Bohdi Amar from Kohala Middle School submitted the winning entry: "I pledge not to do meth. Not now, not tomorrow, not ever. I will live a healthy life and help others to not do meth."

This pledge will be featured on the back of shirts given to all the competitors.

Amar was recognized on December 27 at the HI-PAL Winter Basketball Classic "Skills Challenge" held at the Hilo Civic Auditorium, where all of the attendees were invited to take the pledge against meth.

The Hawai'i Police Department

thanks all the students who took the time and submitted their entries. They are encouraged to try again next year.

For more information about HI-PAL, call Officer Joseph Botelho at 961-2220.

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### Chinese Lion Dance Ushers in Blessings for New Year

By Prakash Flynn

The public is invited to share in North Kohala's Chinese New Year Lion Dance, to be held Saturday, February 4. The troupe will go from business to business, starting in Kapa'au in the morning and ending in Hawi.

The lion will dance through participating premises, chasing out the old and bringing good fortune to the business for the new year. On leaving, the lion will "eat" the head of lettuce or cabbage hanging at the entrance and spew it out.

Spectators can feed him with money while he dances around.

This is a great community event that the street front merchants have sponsored for many years.

The troupe will start in Kapa'au around 9:30 a.m. and make their way to Hawi by about noon. All times are approximate.

The Akoni Pule Highway will remain open during the event, which is sponsored by the North Kohala Merchant Association.

The Kohala Community Athletic Association (KCAA) would like to thank the following sponsors for their generous support for our after-school sports programs for the children of Kohala in 2011:

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- Hawaii Community Federal Credit Union
- ATV Outfitters
- Kohala Pacific Realty
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## Planet Pioneer Academy Off to a Great Start!

By Linda Lewandowski

In our last article in November, Planet Pioneers was accepting applications from Kohala High School (KHS) students in advance of the inaugural launch of the Planet Pioneer Academy. Since then, a selection board has carefully reviewed all applications and notified the applicants of the board's results. Congratulations to the first cohort of Planet Pioneers: Cody Geiger (junior), Arden Dean (freshman), Josiah Adams (freshman), and Carly Arraujo (sophomore). Three KHS teachers also volunteered to be actively engaged in Pioneer activities and support the program's goals. They are: Lisa Polonski, Jessica Brown and Van Chertavian.

Planet Pioneers was formed to fill a need for leaders and entrepreneurs who will successfully guide Hawaii's efforts toward a more sustainable way of life. The organization exists to transfer experiential knowledge and leadership principles from Hawaii-based leaders who will provide mentorship as well as inspire our next generation of youth to innovate and lead the journey to transform Hawaii. Over the last year, the organization has brought together a network of Hawaii-based innovative thinkers, practitioners, and entrepreneurs for the sole purpose of transferring knowledge and leadership experience to the immediate generation of K to 12 students. In its first year of operations, Planet Pio-

neers is focusing on high school students for its initial pilot program. A broader expansion of its program is anticipated in subsequent years to include all of K to 12 and the addition of internships.

With so much to learn and do, Planet Pioneers kicked off its program right after the New Year. On January 4, the Pioneers spent the afternoon at NELHA (Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawaii Authority.) Guy Toyama, head of NELHA's Outreach program, took the Pioneers through a briefing that showed Hawaii's isolation in the middle of the Pacific Ocean as well as its strategic location on the globe for the ocean's thermal energy storage and the Asian marketplace. They learned about how Hawaii has an abundance of natural resources yet is challenged by its dependence on fossil fuels for electricity generation, food and consumer goods imports, and transportation needs, leaving it extremely vulnerable to supply disruptions from natural and man-made causes. That may not mean much to mainlanders, but it is vital for Hawaii's day-to-day functioning when you realize the nearest source for these commodities is 2,400 miles away! The students were challenged to think about how many more benefits there could be for Hawaii economically and socially if we could overcome these dependencies.

They had a chance to reflect on the importance of basic science, math and communication skills in finding solutions to our sustainability challenges. The Pioneers were introduced to the many research projects and companies working on different pieces of a future sustainable Hawaii. For example, Cyanotech, a world leader in microalgae technology, has found the year-round conditions to be ideal for it to develop algae into natural health and nutritional supplement products on its 90-acre farm at NELHA. After years of experimenting with how to best grow and harvest the algae to produce its product, Cyanotech figured it out and is a recognized leader in microalgae products, exporting to 56 countries on six continents. Wow! Dr. Gerry Cysewski, co-founder, director and chief scientific officer of Cyanotech, took the Pioneers through the facility

where they learned how the business went from a research idea to microalgae world leader today.

The last stop at NELHA brought the Pioneers to engage with Neil Sims

to develop new marine culture methods for threatened native fish, new fish foods, and other aquaculture techniques that increase fish production yet decrease environmental impacts.

The Pioneers will be off to the HPA Energy Lab next to learn about how buildings can be designed to integrate with their natural environment in a sustainable way. In addition, they will explore "boundaryless learning" of sustainability in a hands-on way that can be seamlessly integrated into classrooms. What's next? Pioneers will be thinking about a project that they will conceive, design, and implement in the Kohala community that will have measurable results and add to Kohala's overall efforts to become more sustainable in food, energy and waste. Look for great things from these young leaders and innovators!

At the end of the school year, the Pioneers plan to travel to Silicon Valley in California to visit top Fortune 500 firms like Google and Apple to compare sustainability activities with what they have learned in Hawaii. The Pioneers will need to raise funds to cover travel expenses for this trip. Planet Pioneers is a project under the North Kohala Community Resource Center (NKCRC), so please consider sponsoring a Pioneer by making a tax deductible contribution to NKCRC in the name of "Planet Pioneers" before the end of April. Please invest in our youth who will be the leaders and innovators of the immediate next generation. Mahalo for your support!

Linda Lewandowski is the founder and executive director of Planet Pioneers.



—photo by Van Chertavian

Neil Sims of Kampachi Farms explains how they are experimenting with feeding techniques to learn how to better raise the endangered native Hawaiian grouper to Pioneers Josiah Adams, Arden Dean, Carly Arraujo and Cody Geiger.

of Kampachi Farms, LLC. Sims is the co-founder and co-CEO of the company that is exploring new methods of marine fish production. For years, Sims and others have successfully raised fish by developing responsible sustainable aquaculture techniques. Kampachi Farms is a new venture that aims to develop the next generation of marine offshore farming, especially given that the growing global population and fish demand exceed what can be sustainably produced by the world's fisheries. Students learned how more research is needed before we can understand how

## Support P&R Teams at Super Saturday Events

By Renee Gonsalves

Parks and Recreation sports age group basketball began January 10 for boys ages 9 to 14. Most home games are on Tuesdays starting at 4:30 p.m. Super Saturday is tentatively scheduled for March 10.

Girls age group softball has started practice and will be playing tournaments/games at home as well as in Kona and Hilo. Age groups range from age 8 to 14. Super Saturday for softball

will be on March 3 at the A & B fields.

T-ball/coach pitch has also started and began playing home games in mid January at Veteran fields. For ages 5 to 8, the teams play Monday through Thursday, starting at 4 p.m. Their Super Saturday is scheduled on March 3 at Veterans Field.

Please come out and support our young athletes. Concessions are available for all Super Saturday tournaments. Please call Renee at the gym: 889-6505.

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### 'Kimo' Ho`opai Honored as Steward of Paniolo Heritage

North Kohala's James "Kimo" Ho`opai, Sr., and seven other senior stewards of the paniolo heritage were honored during Paniolo Preservation Society's inaugural Lifetime Achievement Awards celebration January 21, at Paniolo Heritage Center at Pukalani Stables.

This new awards program recognizes revered senior members of the Hawai'i paniolo community whose careers exemplify the values of ranch life in the Far West. These individuals have distinguished themselves in performing their life's work, which has set them apart from others, commanding the respect of their peers.

"Hawai'i's uniquely insular ranching industry necessitated that knowledge and skill be passed on to the next generations if the heritage of paniolo life was to be perpetuated. A select group of individuals have carried out this unspoken responsibility," said the society's founding president and board member Dr. Billy Bergin.

Ho`opai was selected as one of the six recipients of the Kupa Award.

Kimo Ho`opai was born in 1936 in North Kohala. During his youth, he was exposed to some of the best cowboys



—photo courtesy of the Hoopai`ohana  
James "Kimo" Ho`opai, fifth from left, with the Ho`opai`ohana.

and cattlemen Hawai'i ever produced. Notable among his mentors were Peter Kainoa, Sr., and Ronald von Holt. Seeking the life he wanted at age 15, Kimo went to work as a Kahua Ranch hand becoming a direct understudy of Johnny Kainoa. It wasn't long before Kimo mastered the art of horse breaking at a time when Kahua Ranch used little vehicular transportation and the thought of ATVs was 40 years hence.

Walking market cattle down to Kawaihae the night before shipping meant covering rough country in the cool of night on a dependable, sure-footed

cowhorse that could bring you home the next day. Pu`u Kamali`i above Kawaihae Bay had a spacious corral to accommodate the cattle until daybreak when the sight of the SS Humu`ula signaled the final leg of the trip to market. Once at the Honouli Bay Shipping pens, a young Kimo would immerse himself in the art of hoau pipi, swimming the fat steers into the surf and onto the long boat.

Kimo especially admired Johnny Kainoa's horsemanship in producing work and rodeo horses that were stout in build, groomed with pride and trained to gentle perfection. Kimo also adopted the use of a lala covering for his tree saddle, a tradition preserved to this day by the cowboys of Kahua and Ponoholo ranches.

A wonderful chapter of Kimo's life was marrying his childhood sweetheart, Leina`ala Akina. Their combined virtues of hard work, musical talent and appreciation of ranch life would bring forth generations of paniolo of special note. Between their sons Kimo, Jr., and Bernard, both top cowhands in their own right, came forth four grandsons and three granddaughters, all of whom became accomplished paniolo from their

teen years forward. Now they are parents producing a third generation of cowboys and cowgirls, eight in total to date.

Kimo (and Leina) deserve well-earned recognition not only for his fine horsemanship and ranching leadership but for instilling the pride of the paniolo in their children, grandchildren and great grandchildren, 24 in all—a lifetime intergenerational contribution to the perpetuation of the paniolo lifestyle.

Paniolo Lifetime Achievement recognition recipients also included: Donnie DeSilva (Honoka'a) and Sonny Keakealani (Waimea)—Silver Spur Award; and Clement Andrade (Volcano), Richard "Casey" DeSilva (Ka'u), Willy Gomes (Kona), Miki Kato (Pu'uwa'awa'a) and Eugene Olivera (Kea'au)—Kupa Award.

Families of these remarkable paniolo, the ranch communities they came from and have worked at throughout their years of service, and members and friends of the society attended the program to honor these senior stewards of Hawaiian ranching.

The program began with a brief reception and sharing of each of the eight paniolos' achievements and stories, and concluded with a paniolo-style pa'ina (feast) with laulau, kalua pig, and long rice with all the fixings.

For more information about Paniolo Preservation Society, call 854-1541, go to www.PanioloPreservation.org, or find PPS on Facebook.

### Kohala Artists' Coöperative Offers Winter Activities

The North Kohala Artists' Coöperative offers a variety of art-related activities during the winter months.

**New Children's Art Class:** Mondays, January 9 to March 19, 10 to 11:30 a.m., at Kenji's Museum, \$10/session. Carole Jean, a long-time art educator, is gathering families with young children, 2 to 3 years old, for a tiny-hands art class for creative play and making friends. Contact Carole Jean at 756-0329.

**Kenji's Kids Movie Club:** February 18, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., potluck followed by film, "Rin Tin Tin." \$5 donation welcome. Reserve your spot with Cathy: 960-3597.

**Art Focus Film:** February's focus Artist is Henri Cartier-Bresson. February 5, 7-10 p.m., \$5 donation requested. Call to confirm: 987-3902.

**Learn to Draw:** Anyone can learn—

whether you feel you have little talent and doubt you can learn, or you enjoy drawing but have not been able to get much beyond a child-like level, this class, based on the monumental drawing instruction book, "Drawing on the Right Side of the Brain," will show you how to gain the skills you've always wanted. \$150.00 plus materials. Book is optional. High school age and up. Mondays and Wednesdays, 6 to 8 p.m. February 20 to March 21 (10 sessions) at Kenji's House. Contact Terry Adkison, 503-347-2046, terryadkison@yahoo.com.

Welcome to new artist members: Isaiah Price, Scott Olson, and Carole Jean; and new printmakers: Marian Thompkins, Beth Bohn, and Susan Kobzev. We look forward to 2012!

### 'Put Me In, Coach - I'm Ready to Play'

The Kupuna Softball League geared up for the new season with a scrimmage between the Local Boyz and Kohala teams on January 11. Stanford Rocha (Kohala) is at bat with Roy Antonio (Local Boyz) catching and Mel Ako (Kohala) as umpire. Leaning against the backstop are Jerry Wilson, left, and Ray Vega.



—photo by Jesús Solís

A preseason tournament is scheduled at Kamehameha Park on Saturday and Sunday, January 28 to 29. Games begin at 9:30 a.m. with eight Big Island teams participating, including Local Boyz and Kohala. Regular season play begins February 11.

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## Environmental Review of Helicopter Use at Upolu Airport Questioned

By Toni Withington

Several North Kohala organizations and individuals have challenged the accuracy of a draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) prepared to study increased Marine Corps helicopter activity that would include Upolu Airport. A petition was also submitted to the Navy and the planning firm Belt Collins, preparers of the EIS.

Meeting the deadline last month for comments on the draft were Kohala Lihikai, Native Hawaiian Researchers 'Ohana, as well as individuals Alyssa Slaven, Forrest Green, Renee Wulzen and Tommy Tinker. In addition Arac Arakaki, superintendent of the Ala Kahakai Historical Trail submitted comments, and Joe Carvalho, chair of the North Kohala Community Development Plan Action Committee, submitted a letter to the County Planning Department to forward.

Most of the comments did not challenge military landings at Upolu Airport, which are anticipated jumping

from about 30 per year to 280 per year by the year 2018. Instead they focus on the quality of information listed in the EIS to make the decision to use Upolu as a part of MV-22 and H-1 helicopter training at the Marine Corps Base at Kaneohe on O'ahu and Pohakuloa Military Training area on this island. Some comments asked the military to look at training options other than Upolu; others pointed out the long history of Kohala's support of the military and its need for training. Several comments called for help in reducing impacts on sensitive areas.

The petition, on the other hand, opposes the use of the airport by the military and says: "We feel there will be an impact on noise, cultural history, view plane, wildlife, fishing, airspace, erosion, and quality of life." Alyssa Slaven said 400 signatures were on the petition submitted.

A common theme in the comments was the inaccuracy of the 12-year-old information used to determine that

the increased landings would have no environmental impact needing mitigation by the military. Kohala Lihikai, which is now doing coastal restoration makai of the runway, pointed out the highly eroded condition and loose soil of the shoreline area. Native Hawaiian Researchers 'Ohana pointed to the inaccurate locating of Mo'okini Heiau and the Kamehameha Birthsite and lack of consultation with Native Hawaiians about the expected impacts. Alyssa Slaven noted the absence of a study of the helicopter noise effects on marine mammals in the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary, which extends seaward of Upolu Point. Arakaki said the draft EIS found that "no historic trails are known to exist in this area" when in fact a segment of the Ala Kahakai Historical Trail is located between the runway and the shore.

While the draft EIS said "noise impacts are not anticipated," Forrest Green said the impact of helicopter

noise on the quiet nature of the community is a major concern. Renee Wulzen said the report ignored recent studies on the effects of noise on whales, porpoises and the Hawaiian Monk seal.

The NKCDP Action Committee pointed out that the review process by the Navy and Belt Collins failed to include groups and individuals from North Kohala in its studies until days before the comment period was to be closed.

"A public meeting should have been held in North Kohala," Carvalho wrote. The State Coastal Zone Management office was allowed an extra month to January 23 for comment on the EIS, which allowed more community comments through the state. Slaven said an additional 200 signatures of protest were also submitted.

Preparers of the draft EIS must by law respond to the comments and recommend any new studies or mitigation efforts if needed before writing the final EIS expected later this year.

## Kohala Robotics Rises to Challenges

When Kohala High robotics hollers the school motto "E ALA E NA PAN-IOLO" they are not joking around. The high school robotics team had to move out of a condemned bus shed, converted to their workshop six years ago, moving not only their electric cars and large robots, but all their equipment, work tables and materials to a temporary, shared auto shop.

What made the move so challenging is that the team is entered in the FIRST (For Recognition of Science and Technology) ROBOTICS Competition and had six weeks total to design, build, program, test, practice, refine and crate by February 20. Thus, the news that the team had to move within 10 days, delivered to them on the same day of the kickoff, raised tremendous stress for the team. Yet, the mission of moving out is completed.

Kohala's Team 2460 NaPaniolo is qualified and registered for the FRC World Championships and also entered in the Hawaii Regionals. Entry fees are \$5,000 per competition.

Kohala Robotics is an afterschool program supported in part by 21st Century Community Learning Center grant funds. The program is also supported

by team fundraising and donations, and the high school group is a North Kohala Community Resource Center project.

Kohala Robotics includes three major platforms: 1) FIRST is the most intense "super bowl of smarts," six weeks to build and ship up to a 120-pound robot; 2) VEX, a middle-sized robotics system allowing for immediate build, iteration and experimentation without welding or large metal work; and 3) BOTBALL, a combination of plastic and metal design. All three platforms offer academic variety of problem-solving, writing, documentation, programming and presentation.

Michael Nelson, team captain, currently ranks 11th in the world of VEX robotics in driver skills and may qualify to compete at the VEX World Championships in April.

Upcoming events for Kohala Robotics include five events on O'ahu plus their February 5 Super Bowl Breakfast Fundraiser.

The robotics program continues to grow and fully represent Kohala well. If you are interested in supporting the team with a donation or materials, contact program coordinator, Fern White at 889-7117 ext 249.

## Community Harvest Celebrates Chinese Food and Culture in January



—photo by Andrea Dean

Sid Nakamoto and his wife, Gail, shared this lehi, or silver mouth snapper, for the Community Harvest feast in January. The purpose of the program is to help build a local, sustainable food system in North Kohala. Next month's theme is Puerto Rican food and culture.

## Student Credit Union Kept Busy Over Winter Break

Story by Jenna Nickl

Over winter break, members of the Kohala High School Student Credit Union kept busy by attending financial literacy workshops and Christmas caroling at Kohala Hospital.

The annual financial literacy workshops are held every winter break and taught by Hawaii Community Federal Credit Union branch manager Lakme Nishie. The workshops are available to all Kohala SCU members. This year's topics were car loans, student loans and credit. The workshops provided each attendee with a binder with examples of loans and worksheets explaining each of the topics. All the workshop participants will receive a prize at the end-of-year academic assembly.

On December 23, a handful of credit union members from both the student and main branch went Christmas caroling at Kohala Hospital. The sleigh bells and voices carried throughout the hospital, prompting the patients to start clapping and singing along. Overall, the financial literacy classes and Christmas caroling were a great success for the student credit union.



### THE COQUI CORNER

DECEMBER 2011

Quiet month for Coquis!  
No calls on the Coqui Hotline this month.  
Traditionally, coquis are less vocal when the weather is cool.  
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- Delmonte Fruit Cocktail/Peaches, 14 - 15 oz. 2/2<sup>19</sup>
- Delmonte Cut Green Beans or Spinach, 13.5 - 15 oz. 2/2<sup>39</sup>
- Carnation Evaporated Milk, 12 oz. 4/5<sup>00</sup>
- Diamond Bakery Saloon/Cream Crackers, 13 oz. 2/6<sup>00</sup>
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- Motts Applesauce, 23 - 24 oz. 2<sup>59</sup>
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- Shirakiku Oyster Sauce, 18 oz. 3<sup>39</sup>
- Shirakiku Young Cut Corn, 15 oz. 3<sup>69</sup>
- Shirakiku Bamboo Shoot Tips, 8.5 oz. 2<sup>09</sup>
- S.B Wasabi Tube, 3.17 oz. 1<sup>59</sup>
- Swanson Broth, 14.5 oz. 2/2<sup>19</sup>

- Taco Bell Refried Beans, 16 oz. 2/2<sup>49</sup>
- Taco Bell Taco Seasoning, 1.25 oz. 2/1<sup>59</sup>
- Western Family Honey, 12 oz. 3<sup>19</sup>
- Western Family Creamer, 22 oz. 3<sup>19</sup>
- Western Family Sweet Relish, 10 oz. 1<sup>59</sup>
- Western Family Preserves, 18 oz. 2<sup>99</sup>
- Van Camp Pork 'n' Beans, 15 oz. 2/1<sup>69</sup>

**Natural Foods**

- Lundbery Rice Cakes, 8.5 - 9 oz. 3<sup>39</sup>
- Mori Nu Tofu, 12.3 oz. 1<sup>59</sup>
- Knudsen Simply Nutritious, 32 oz. 3<sup>69</sup>
- Thai Kitchen Org Coconut Milk, 13.6 oz. 2<sup>09</sup>
- Kind Fruit 'N' Nut Bars, 1.5 oz. 1<sup>69</sup>
- Annie Chun's Noodle Bowls, 7.7 - 8.8 oz. 3<sup>39</sup>

**Dairy**

- Meadow Gold Fruit Drinks, 64 oz. 2/2<sup>89</sup>
- Meadow Gold Yogurts, 6 - 8 oz. 2/1<sup>99</sup>
- Meadow Gold Cottage Cheese, 16 oz. 3<sup>19</sup>
- Meadow Gold Novelty Ice Cream Bars, 6 pk. 2<sup>69</sup>
- Big Island Poultry Grade A Large Eggs, Mainland Shell Protected, per dozen 2<sup>49</sup>

**Meats**

- USDA Boneless Chuck Steak, per lb. 5<sup>39</sup>
- Island Range Fed Boneless Top Sirloin Steak, per lb. 5<sup>89</sup>
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- Frozen Pork Butt, bone in, per lb. 1<sup>89</sup>

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Athenos Hummus, 7 - 8 oz.	2 <sup>59</sup>
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Stella Romano or Parmesan, 5 oz.	2 <sup>49</sup>
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Chef America Hot Pockets, 4 oz.	2/2 <sup>25</sup>
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Coffeemate Creamer, 16 oz.	3 <sup>79</sup>
Athenos Feta Chunks, 8 oz.	4 <sup>39</sup>
Smuckers Uncrustables, 4/2 oz.	2 <sup>59</sup>
S&S Saimin, 4.5 oz.	2/1 <sup>39</sup>
Minute Maid Orange Juice, 12 oz.	2 <sup>59</sup>
Inland French Fries, assorted, 32 oz.	3 <sup>19</sup>
Tyson Party Chicken Wings, 5 lb.	14 <sup>99</sup>
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Frozen Mussels, 1/2 shell, 2 lb.	7 <sup>89</sup>
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Wes Pac Cut/Chopped Spinach, 16 oz.	2 <sup>59</sup>

**Produce**

Potatoes, loose, per lb.	89¢
Broccoli Crowns, loose, per lb.	1 <sup>89</sup>
Carrots, 1 lb. bag	1 <sup>09</sup>
Amano Tempura, 6 oz.	1 <sup>99</sup>

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Western Family Facial Tissues, 160 ct.	1 <sup>49</sup>
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Ziploc Sandwich Bags, 120 oz.	3 <sup>19</sup>

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Coors, 18 pk., bottles	16 <sup>19</sup>
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Natural Beer, 24 pk., cans	16 <sup>99</sup>
Bud Light, 18 pk., bottles	16 <sup>19</sup>
Becks, 12 pk., bottles	12 <sup>49</sup>
Yellowtail Wine, 750 ml.	5 <sup>99</sup>
Woodbridge Wine, 1.5 liter	12 <sup>49</sup>
Columbia Crest, 750 ml.	8 <sup>99</sup>
Fetzer Wine, 750 ml.	6 <sup>99</sup>
Crown Royal, 750 ml.	20 <sup>99</sup>
Smirnoff Vodka, 750 ml.	12 <sup>99</sup>
Tanqueray Gin, 750 ml.	20 <sup>89</sup>
Early Time, 750 ml.	8 <sup>89</sup>
Bacardi Rum, 750 ml.	12 <sup>99</sup>
Karkov Vodka, 1.75 liter	12 <sup>99</sup>

### Kohala Swimmers Top 8 at States

With the financial help of the Kohala community supporting their carwash and Aunty Peaches Poi Balls fundraiser, the Kohala Warrior Aquatic swim team was able to offset costs and participate in the USA Swimming Age Group Championships, December 16 to 19, held at the Kailua Aquatic Community Center.

More than 500 swimmers participated in the championships, concluding the Short Course season with swimmers from throughout the state.

Only those swimmers who are fast enough to meet the qualifying state of Hawai'i times are eligible to compete in this prestigious meet. Representing

Kohala were Naomi Ney (50 back), Yuki Zbytovsky (50 free, 100 back), Hikari Shaver (200 free/medley relay), Malcolm Davis (200 free/medley relay), Marvelanne Clark (50 back, 50 breast), Kassie Kometani (50 free, 100 free, 200 free, 100 butterfly), and Kendra Twist (50 free, 100 free, 50 back, 100 back, 50 fly, 100fly, 100 IM, 200 free) in individual and relay events.

Marvelanne Clark (50 backstroke) and Kassie Kometani (50 free) medaled in their respective events placing them as one of the top eight fastest swimmers in the entire state. Their times were fast enough that they qualified to compete in the Northwest Age Group Sectional Championships, held at Federal Way, Wash., site of the 1998 Pan American Games. Competitors in this outstanding meet are some of the fastest swimmers in the Northwest USA. Daniel Coakley, Kohala's Olympian, won the gold medal for the 50 free and 50 breaststroke as a 12-year-old back in 2001.

"These swimmers are not only some



—photo by Jeff Coakley

Kohala Warriors Aquatics swimmers include, front row, left to right: Morgan Davis, Kendra Twist, Maya Inglis, and Gavin Twist; back row: Marvelanne Clark, Kassie Kometani, Yuki Zbytovsky, Naomi Ney, and Malcolm Davis. Not pictured: Keala Gusman and Hikari Shaver.

of the fastest swimmers in Hawai'i but are also 4.0 GPA or close to it in their studies. If they continue to progress as they have, a swimming scholarship is attainable. These guys would greatly benefit from being on a high school swim team," said Kohala Warrior Aquatics coach Jeff Coakley.

### Support Kohala Hospital By Playing Golf and Having Fun

An early morning walk in beautiful North Kohala started it all: Betty Meinardus and Susan Denman had a chance meeting in 2008, and they talked about the Kohala Hospital's Emergency Room project. Betty was wondering how more funds could be raised. She went home and discussed this with her husband, Michael, who was very much in favor, and this is how the Kohala Hospital Charitable Foundation Golf Tournament was born.

Fundraising associated with golf was new to Michael and Betty, but they learned quickly, and are now very proud to be part of it.

This year on February 11, the 4th Annual Kohala Hospital Charitable Foundation Scramble Golf Tournament will be held at the Hapuna Golf Course, sponsored by Bitburger Beer and the Meinardus family.

Check-in is 7:15 a.m.; Shotgun start at 8 a.m. All-inclusive ticket (golf, lunch and fun) is \$195 per person. Prizes include: Winning 1st Team: \$600 (\$150 to each winning team player); 2nd Team: \$400 (\$100 each); 3rd Team: \$200 (\$50 each); 4th Team: \$100 (\$25 each); Longest

Drive Men: \$100; Longest Drive Ladies: \$100; and Closest to the Pin: \$50.

Hole Sponsors are \$100. Donors are greatly appreciated.

It is a very generous tournament, with great prizes and a fabulous gift bag for every golfer playing in the tournament. And of course Bitburger beer, and a wonderful buffet lunch.

If the past is a guideline, this luncheon will again be a lot of fun, with Michael Meinardus as the "Master of Price-Give-Away." Most of the golfers have been playing from the beginning and are very loyal supporters of the hospital (and the beer). Organizers hope there will be even more golfers this year to make for a very successful tournament. One hundred percent of the money raised will go to the Kohala Hospital Charitable Foundation Emergency Room Building Fund, adding to the \$80,000, including a generous donation, raised during the past three years.

For information or sign-up sheet please contact Betty Meinardus at 808-889-5304, or email: elsbethm@earthlink.net. Address: P.O. Box 10, Hawi, HI 96719.

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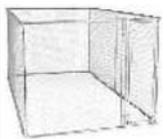
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 (Next to Napa Auto Parts)  
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**Multi-Age Houses a Part of New KMS Advisory Program**

If you ask a Kohala Middle School student what group he or she belongs to at school, instead of the usual answers, you might hear, "Hale Aloha" (House of Compassion) or "Hale Akamai" (Clever House). Their response is in reference to the school's new advisory program of six hale or houses with values-based names. (The other houses are Hale Laulima (cooperation), Hale Kokua (help), Hale 'Ike (knowledge), and Hale Mana (supernatural or divine power).)

House names were chosen by the students from a group of values presented by the KMS teachers. The names are important concepts that will help students understand the school's overarching theme of *Pono* (goodness, excellence, uprightness), selected to evolve the foundational understandings set at Kohala Elementary, which also teaches about pono as a guiding principle for students.

The new student advisory hale have around 33 students per group from grades six, seven, and eight. The idea is to develop 'ohana, or families, of students and educators who build positive relationships while learning and working together. Hands-on, culture-based activities provide the foundation for these groups to experience and learn about living pono, living in harmony and with respect for everyone and everything.

Middle school teachers are getting help with their new program due to a native Hawaiian federal education grant

called "The Growing Pono Schools Project." This grant was written to develop culture-based advisory resources and materials made especially for Hawai'i's youth. Funded through the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Center on Disability Studies (CDS), project staff includes Randee Golden, an educator employed by CDS who has collaborated with many Kohala teachers over the past 25 years. She is working directly with the school's student activities coordinator Christopher Michaelis, principal Trish Champagne, teachers Wendy Nickl and Duncan Anderson, counselor Kevin Cochran, and other staff members dedicated to developing the new program. KMS educators also help create materials and resources to support other schools and their character education programs.

The third quarter goal for the students and teachers is to deepen their understanding of their house name as well as the guiding principle of pono. Small groups in each house will create projects that reflect this learning and represent the house's identity at the upcoming House Celebration.

Thursday, March 8, from 5 to 7 p.m., parents can learn more about the new program. Members of each hale will present what they have learned and created, student work will be on display, and a free dinner along with student entertainment is planned for this evening of sharing and celebration.

*Happy New Year!*

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## Kauhola Point 'Lighthouse' On Its Way to Being Protected

By Laura Ka'akua

Since the last KMN edition notifying residents and visitors about the opportunity to protect beloved Kauhola Point (aka Lighthouse) as undeveloped open space for the Kohala community to enjoy in perpetuity, Kohala has rallied together to raise the remaining acquisition funds. You may have seen people sporting the blue "Mālama Kauhola" shirts around town, attended a community agriculture focused concert where all donations collected went to the Kauhola acquisition, overheard Kohala middle and high school students in the Ocean Warriors Program chatting excit-

edly about their Kauhola Point stewardship work, or perhaps you are planning to join the community potluck by the lighthouse from 3 to 6 p.m. on Sunday, January 29, to hear about how you can help. This outpouring of support has impressed the Kauhola Point landowners, and they have agreed to extend their fundraising deadline until February 15 to give The Trust for Public Land and the Kohala community more time to acquire the property and protect it for all the generations to come.

Over the past year, many Kohala community members have been working to protect Kauhola Point from devel-

opment, to keep it open as a resource for the community. The private landowners of the 27.5-acre coastal parcel that constitutes the majority of Kauhola Point agreed to sell the property to The Trust for Public Land, rather than a developer, if The Trust for Public Land could raise the agreed upon bargain purchase price of \$1.3 million by December 31, 2011 (now extended to February 15, 2012). With the help of the Kohala nonprofit Maika'i Kamakani 'O Kohala, Malama Kai Foundation's Ocean Warriors Program, the State Legacy Land Conservation Program, private foundations, members of the North Kohala Commu-

nity Access Group, and many neighbors and regular users of Kauhola Point, The Trust for Public Land has raised 95 percent of the purchase price (\$1,224,000) and has just 5 percent (\$76,000) left to raise before February 15.

Once acquired, The Trust for Public Land will transfer the property to the nonprofit Maika'i Kamakani 'O Kohala, which will ensure that public access for all is maintained for recreational, cultural and agricultural purposes, and that the area remains undeveloped and a community resource in perpetuity.

Tax deductible donations can be sent to Maika'i Kamakani 'O Kohala, Inc., P.O. Box 40, Kapa'au HI 96755-0040 by February 15, 2012. Please note "Kauhola Point" on the donation. "Malama Kauhola" fundraising t-shirts are available through Malama Kai Foundation at 443-8303.

For more information or to get involved, please watch the short video at <http://vimeo.com/18034112> or contact Laura Ka'akua at The Trust for Public Land, (808) 524-8562, [laura.kaakua@tpl.org](mailto:laura.kaakua@tpl.org); Stephanie Naihē Laxton at Maika'i Kamakani 'O Kohala, 884-5757, [naihe@msn.com](mailto:naihe@msn.com), [www.mkoki.org](http://www.mkoki.org); or Elizabeth Pickett at Malama Kai Foundation, 443-8303, [elizabethpickett@gmail.com](mailto:elizabethpickett@gmail.com).

Laura Ka'akua is the Native Lands project manager for The Trust for Public Land.

## Kohala Middle School Gets a Makeover

Story and photo by Megan Solis

A much needed renovation project at Kohala Middle School began last November, a plan initiated in 2003 but now finally coming to fruition.

The school has been getting a campus-wide makeover, including new paint inside and out, new floors, and replacing the old glass windows with jalousie windows to take in the fresh breezes. Most doors are also being replaced, and some rooms are getting new white boards and better locks on cabinets.

Most of the improvements have been cosmetic, said KMS principal Patricia Champagne, but in some cases, they have led to more substantial work than initially thought. At first, the plan had been to tile over the existing floor where possible, but it was discovered that the old tile had asbestos—not uncommon in old construction, said Champagne. The school was built in 1926.

Construction crews then had to do asbestos abatement: removing old floors and installing new subfloors before the

new tile could be laid. Summit Construction of O'ahu is doing the renovation work, under a contract with the Hawai'i Department of Education. The project is funded by the department.

Most of the work has been accomplished during school hours. Champagne had nothing but praise for staff and students alike in their handling of the disruption to their routine.

"The teachers have been amazing with packing up their rooms and being flexible," she said. Champagne has tried to keep teachers and classes as stationary as possible.

"The students love the rooms—they are so much brighter with the new paint," said Champagne.

The principal also noted that Summit Construction had been very helpful. During the winter break, they adjusted their schedule to accommodate the school's need to get the administration area finished. Despite a tight timeline, they got it done, she said.

The entire project is slated to be finished in April.



Workers from Summit Construction prepare a new subfloor to be re-tiled. Some old tiles were found to have asbestos, requiring asbestos removal.



### Downtown Kapa'au

2-story Cape Cod/Hawaiiana-style house with views from every window. Master suite upstairs with master bath and soaking tub. Wood and tile flooring throughout. Lovely kitchen with gas appliances, dishwasher and granite counters. Wrap-around porch. \$395,000 MLS 250927



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## Seniors Celebrate Spirit of the Makahiki Season

We are in the Makahiki season, lasting from mid October through mid February. At the start of Makahiki is when the Hawaiians harvested and counted their blessings for abundant supply.

In the western way, they celebrate only one day for Thanksgiving. The Hawaiians made it a rule to celebrate an abundant harvest with one another, joining in song, dance and games. Fighting was forbidden, and so were unkind words and gossip. Being in the festive mood and sharing their harvest with each other continued for the remaining time of February.

For Thanksgiving, the Senior Citizens Club president Kealoha Sugiyama organized a potluck so all the members could share with each other. He also donated two turkeys and asked the club members to bring canned goods so the club could offer them to a needy family.

In December, the Senior Club was in charge of the Hospice tree lighting event and raised over \$800 from the Kohala community. Mahalo nui. The Senior club is also grateful for the Community Harvest program each month and the fun we get by participating.

Mahalo Kohala for all your kindness, generosity and aloha that you constantly share and extend to the Kohala Senior Citizens!

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**St. Augustine's Episcopal Church**  
 Kapa'au, North Kohala • 808-889-5390  
**Sunday Services:**  
 9:00 a.m. - Holy Communion  
 (Child Care & Fellowship Brunch)  
 7:00 p.m. - Holy Communion  
**Thrift Shop Hours:**  
 Weds: 12:00 - 3:30  
 Thurs: 4:00 - 6:00  
 Last Saturday: 10:00 - 12:00  
**Free Community Meal:**  
 Last Saturday: 11:00 - 12:30

**Kohala Baptist Church**  
 Located on Akoni Pule Hwy across from Makapala Retreat  
**Sunday Services**  
 9 am  
 Adult Bible Study/Kids on Mission  
 10:15 am  
 (Matthew 11:28) Worship Service/Sunday School  
 Pastor Steven E. Hedlund (808)889-5416  
[www.kohalabaptist.org](http://www.kohalabaptist.org)

**Sacred Heart Catholic Church**  
 Hawi, Hawai'i • The Welcoming Church  
 Masses: Saturday 5 p.m.  
 Sunday 7 a.m. • 9:30 a.m.  
 Weekday Mass:  
 Monday - Thursday at 7 a.m.  
 Eucharistic Service: Friday at 7 a.m.  
 Father Ray Elam, O.S.A.  
 Deacon Thomas Adams  
 Telephone 889-6436

### Middle Schoolers Learn Swimming, Lifesaving Techniques

The best surfing, diving and fishing spots along our Kohala coast are in isolated areas, making it difficult to help someone who is experiencing some kind of trouble. Lifeguards are not available and help may be far away. Recently, a group of Kohala Middle School students received training, not only in swimming skills, but also important lifesaving techniques.



—photo by Jeff Coakley

*Chase Kalua`u and Brianna Harrison, standing on deck, help to safely extract Taylor Reyes-Galan, a mock victim with a possible head, neck or back injury, from the pool. Assisting in the rescue are Kainalu Emeliano-Solomon, on the left in the pool, and Dayton (Ehu) Kumai-Isabel (with teacher Aunty Jenny Stevens looking on). Other class members (not pictured) were Elijah (Kaliko) Dela Cruz, Naomi Keawe-Hauanio, Ryah Manning, Jake Palacay, Chance Pang and Deon Seidel-Glory.*

“Don Davis, the former Halaula Middle School counselor, called me and wanted to start an elective swim class that would teach students swimming skills. We expanded the curriculum to include lifeguard, first aid and CPR skills,” said instructor Jeff Coakley. With the approval of then-principal Janette Snelling, the program was conducted during the months of August through December 2011.

Students learned and practiced the swim skills of front crawl and breaststroke using a rescue tube to rescue active or passive drowning victims in shallow and deep water. The students also learned how to apply arm slings, anatomical and soft splints to injured parts of the body.

“I have to thank Don Davis for initiating this program at the Kohala

Middle School. As more kids learn lifesaving skills and how to swim correctly, they become community assets,” said Coakley. “I was very impressed by how quickly the students were able to learn and perform the rescue skills and at times better than adults who take my lifeguarding class.”

### KOHALA CALENDAR

#### February

- 1 Wed 10-11 am, Homeschool Wednesdays, free, North Kohala library, 889-6655.
- 1 Wed 4:30-6:30 pm, No. Kohala Public Access Group Mtg., Senior Center, Ted, 889-5801.
- 2 Thu 6-9 pm, Green Drinks Hawi, Kava Kafe, organic networking & pupus, Forrest, 987-2365.
- 3 Fri 10 am, Preschool Story Time series, ages 2-5, North Kohala library, 889-6655.
- 3 Fri 6-9 pm, Bible study by the Rev. Heather Mueller on the Holy Land, dinner precedes presentation, free, Walker Hall, St. Augustine Episcopal Church, 889-5390.
- 4 Sat 9:30 am, Chinese New Year Lion Dance at Kohala merchants, starts 9:30 am in Kapa`au, in Hawi about noon, public invited, Prakash, 889-0760.
- 4 Sat 4 pm, David Nelson Band, Kohala Trade Ctr, Hawi, \$25/advance, \$30/door, under 12 free w/ adult, tickets at Lighthouse Liquors & Deli.
- 5 Mon 6-7 pm, Growth Management Subcmte. Mtg., public invited, Surety Kohala office, Hawi.
- 5 Mon 7-10 pm, Art Focus Film: focus artist Henri Cartier-Bresson, \$5 donation requested, Kenji's Museum, 987-3902 to confirm.
- 7 Tue 4-5:30 pm, Hope for Haiti Mtg., St. Augustine's Walker Hall, new members welcome, Lani, 889-5852.
- 8 Wed 8 am, No. Kohala Merchants Association Mtg., Resource Center, public invited, Bobby, 889-0505.
- 8 Wed 6:30 pm, KHS SCC mtg., rm. D-24, parents & community welcome, 889-7117.
- 9 Thu 3:30 pm, Kohala Elem. SCC mtg., rm. 12, public invited, 889-7100.
- 10 Fri 10 am, Preschool Story Time series, ages 2-5, North Kohala library, 889-6655.
- 10 Fri 6-9 pm, Bible study by the Rev. Heather Mueller on the Holy Land, dinner precedes presentation, free, Walker Hall, St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, 889-5390.
- 11 Sat 8 am, 4th Annual Kohala Hospital Charitable Foundation Scramble Golf Tournament fundraiser, \$195 entry fee, Hapuna Golf Course, Betty, 889-5304 to register.
- 13 Mon 4:30-6:30 pm, CDP Action Cmte. Public Mtg., Senior Center.
- 13 Mon 6 pm, Japanese music and flower arranging demonstration, North Kohala library, 889-6655.
- 13 Mon 6-7 pm, Kohala Haw'n Civic Club Public Mtg., Hawi Community Center, Rochelle, 896-3033.
- 14 Tue 11 am, Adult book discussion group, "O Pioneers" by Willa Cather, North Kohala library, 889-6655.
- 15 Wed 10-11 am, Homeschool Wednesdays, free, North Kohala library, 889-6655.
- 15 Wed 4:30 pm, KMS SCC mtg., library, parents & community welcome, 889-7119.
- 15 Wed 6 pm, Kamehameha Day Celebration Cmte. Mtg., Kamehameha Park concession area, Cicely, 557-6042.
- 15 Wed 6-8 pm, 7 week Bible study begins, Wednesdays, Walker Hall, St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, 889-5390.
- 16 Thu 1:30-2:30 pm, Kohala Hospital Auxiliary Mtg., Hospital Pavilion, new members welcome, Dixie, 889-5730.
- 16 Thu 6 pm, Kanikapila: Learn and play the ukulele with Andy Andrews, all invited regardless of experience or skill, Hawi Gallery, Richard, (206) 452-3697.
- 17 Fri 10 am, Preschool Story Time series, ages 2-5, North Kohala library, 889-6655.
- 18 Sat 9 am-1 pm, Treasures Helping-Hand Store, Assembly of God, Hawi Rd., free meal: 10 am-1 pm, 889-5177.
- 18 Sat 3-5 pm, Opening Day, "Made @ Kenji's" Kids' Art Show, free hands-on crafts for kids, art created by students ages 3-13, on exhibit thru 3/1, Kenji's, 960-3597.
- 18 Sat 4-7 pm, Welcome Center Blessing/Dedication & NKCR 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, NKCR in Hawi, public welcome, 889-5523.
- 18 Sat 4:30-6:30 pm, Free Grindz--Hot Meal, under the Hawi Banyans, bring a friend, Kohala Baptist Church, Sondra, 889-5416.
- 18 Sat 5:30-7:30 pm, Kenji's Kids Movie Club, potluck followed by film, "Rin Tin Tin," \$5 donation welcome, Kenji's Museum, Cathy, 960-3597.
- 20 Mon Presidents Day holiday, schools, county & state offices closed.
- 20 Mon 3 pm, CDP Infrastructure B Subcmte. Mtg., public invited, St. Augustine's Sunday School rm.
- 20 Mon 4:30 pm, CDP Housing Subcmte. Mtg., public invited, Senior Center.
- 24 Fri 10 am, Preschool Story Time series, ages 2-5, North Kohala library, 889-6655.
- 25 Sat 9-11 am, KES Discovery Garden volunteer day, grade level challenges for students who bring family or friend, potluck lunch follows, Star, 896-3436.
- 25 Sat 11 am-12:30 pm, Free Community Meal, St. Augustine's Walker Hall, Thrift Store open 10 am-12:30 pm.
- 27 Mon 6:30 pm, "Hawaii's Royal Women," a lecture by Boyd Bond, North Kohala library, 889-6655.

Email calendar listings to [kmncalendar@hotmail.com](mailto:kmncalendar@hotmail.com) or call 884-5986.



## COMMUNITY HARVEST HAWAII

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Drop off your contributions

**Saturday, February 11th**  
10am - 3pm  
Drop off, help prep and eat!  
Lunch at 12 pm



**TASTE OF KALO**  
Saturday, March 10th

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Community Harvest Hawaii is helping to build a local, sustainable food system in North Kohala and is a project of the North Kohala Community Resource Center and a partnership between the North Kohala Eat Locally Grown Campaign, Ka Hana No'eaui and the Ho'ea Agricultural Park. The project is funded through the Island Innovation Fund.

## New Kapa`au Eatery Offers Fresh Fish and Gourmet Dogs

Story and photos by Megan Solís

Hungry? Looking for a new place to tantalize your tastebuds? Gill's Lanai in Kapa`au offers a variety of fresh, local food at affordable prices.

The outdoor dining establishment opened December 3 in the former Pico's Bistro space next to Kenji's Museum. Owners Jim and Tracey Gilmore had been looking for a small café for many months and took over the space in September 2011, sprucing it up with repainting, repairs, landscaping and equipment upgrades.

Specializing in locally caught, fresh island fish, the couple crafts the ocean's catch into crispy Fish 'n Chips, Baja-style Fish Tacos and Ahi Poke Bowls. But it's not all about seafood—from the classic all-beef hot dog to Louisiana hot link sausage to the vegan Smoked Apple Sage Dog, Gill's serves gourmet dogs on Mamane Bakery buns, and the produce

in their salads and other vegetarian offerings is locally sourced. The eatery also offers daily specials, such as their popular Lobster Tacos.



Gill's Lanai owners Jim and Tracey Gilmore opened their casual eatery in Kapa`au in December 2011.

For those wanting a light refresher, Gill's makes organic Açai Bowls and all-fruit smoothies. Açai is a super antioxidant berry that comes from a palm grown in Brazil. The berry makes a refreshing, healthy meal when paired with their organic granola and fresh fruit.

Regular menu items are priced at \$10

and under. Diners can eat in the shade of the lanai or take out.

The Gilmores moved to the Big Island in June 2010 from Southern California. On the mainland, Tracey had been in the restaurant and catering business for 30 years, most recently managing a fine dining seafood restaurant in the Los Angeles area for many years, and doing almost every job in that industry at one time or another.

Jim was an attorney for more than 25 years and a partner in a law firm. He had youthful experience in a popular L.A. hot dog stand, and he wanted to re-create that fun experience here. Together the couple came up with the Gill's Lanai concept: fresh, local and uniquely delicious food served with aloha.

"We moved here to the Big Island in search of a more relaxed, community-centered life, and of course the famous 'Spirit of Aloha,'" Tracey explained. "We have found all those things and more since arriving here, and our experience with the Kapa`au community has been nothing short of wonderful!"

Tracey noted that thus far, business has been split fairly evenly between

tourists and locals, but they have quite a few regulars already, which, she says, is really gratifying.

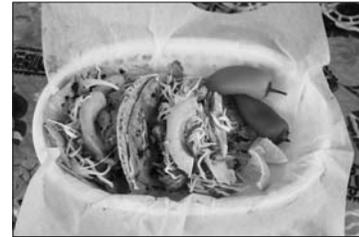
It hasn't taken long for Gill's Lanai to get some notice outside of the North Kohala community as well. In early January, the café was used by a Japanese film crew for a location to shoot a music video for Masaharu Fukuyama, the "Jack Johnson of Japan."

"Apparently the director was very taken by our spot, and the crew loved our fish tacos," said Tracey.

Despite the international attention, the Gilmores are satisfied being a two-person operation, along with the help of their part-time employees.

"We just want to concentrate on bringing delicious, affordable food served in a timely fashion to our guests. We hope we are creating a relaxing, friendly atmosphere that enhances Kapa`au and the surrounding businesses," said Tracey.

Gill's Lanai is open Tuesday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed Mondays and the major holidays—Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's Day. Call 315-1542 or see their menu on their Facebook page.



Gill's Lanai offers daily specials like these Lobster Tacos, served in a soft tortilla.

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