

Kohala Mountain News

Vol. 11, No. 11

December 29, 2012

Searching for Family Ties to Coastal Lands

Besides working to save historic sites along the Kohala coast, several organizations are now focusing on preserving family ties to the shore. It is a good time for families to affirm their connection to ahupua`a of North Kohala so they and their descendants can have a say in the future of lands of their ancestors.

The Ala Kahakai Trail Association and Kohala Lihikai are actively looking for people with ties to coastal land. Both of the locally-based nonprofits dedicated to stewarding valuable open spaces have strong locally-controlled management built into their reasons for being. Respect and deference to descendants of families with ties to lands is a key element to their goals. Beyond that is guidance from long-time users of trails and coastal waters.

Local stewardship of land is also built into the management plan of the Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail, administered by the National Park Service, which has an on-going search for families with connection to land near the trail.

"Family participation in stewardship can mean anything from simply sharing information to advising or to working

on the ground," said Toni Withington of Kohala Lihikai. "This is an opportunity to be part of preserving these special places, not a commitment to any action. We want to respect the voices."

Much of the focus now is on the 206 acres of coastal land that has already been purchased from private to public hands. Another 112 acres have been slated for public purchase, and those sales are underway. In addition 2,615 acres of North Kohala coastal lands have been prioritized by the County and State for future preservation.

Descendants of the leeward lands of Kaiholena ahupua`a are particularly difficult to find since the area has not been settled for over a hundred years. The area is called Bolo Head Hill by many fishermen. The Ala Kahakai Trail Association, which will hold title to the last 35-acre portion of that section, is calling for anyone with ties to the land at Kaiholena to get in touch with Waimakalani Iona at 333-0336 or email waimakalani@yahoo.com. Most of the funding to purchase that property is being put up by the State Legacy Land Conservation program. The trail association, with the

See *Kaiholena* page 2

New KHS Aquaponics Program Needs Community Support

Local agricultural groups, including the agriculture subcommittee of the North Kohala Community Development Plan, are helping to initiate an aquaponics program at Kohala High School, an investment in both youth and agriculture in our community.

Aquaponics is a sustainable, integrated aquaculture system (growing fish) and hydroponic (growing soilless plants) system that mutually benefits both environments. Aquaponics uses no chemicals and requires much less water than traditional methods for plant production and fish culture.

Ten students have enrolled in the program to date. The students have commenced construction of the system but need to raise funds to complete the system and begin growing plants.

"The students are about half-way through the construction of the aquaponics system. We've completed the plumbing this week and put the system into operation, testing water levels and re-circulation, in preparation for starting up after the holidays. The goal is to pau the system build-out by Christmas and make ready for start-up in the New Year," said Frank 'Palani' Cipriani, subcommittee chair and direc-

tor of development at BioFarms Hawaii, LLC.

As part of the program, students enroll in the University of Hawaii's electronic ATOLL [Aquaculture Training Online Learning] aquaculture lab.



—photo courtesy of Frank Cipriani

Students work with Kohala High School agriculture instructor Adriel Robitaille to construct an aquaponics system at the school.

The program trains students for high level entry positions in the aquaculture industry. Mentors will be able to utilize the system to direct online lessons and monitor each student's progress, said Cipriani. Each student will have their own copy for network access.

The cost is ordinarily \$100 per copy. Cipriani has arranged for a group discount of \$50 per student for 10 or more

See *Aquaculture*, page 2

Santa Claus Cruises into Kohala



—photo by Megan Solis

Santa Claus (aka Kihei Kapeliela) made a grand entrance for Toys for Tots at Kamehameha Park December 16, escorted by assorted "reindeer" riding motorcycles and classic cars. For more holiday photos, see pages 10 - 11.

Hawi's Andrea Dean Named BALLE Local Economy Fellow

Andrea Dean, a resident of North Kohala, has been selected as a 2013 BALLE (Business Alliance for Local Living Economies) Local Economy Fellow. On December 13, BALLE announced its second cohort of Fellows, the only Fellowship of its kind in North America, dedicated solely to advancing the local economies movement.

Selected Fellows convene communities of businesses around a shared vision. Fellows are leaders at the forefront of rebuilding communities from the ground up through creative economic development strategies that enhance the staying power of locally owned businesses, and through emerging sustainable innovations in manufacturing, finance and food. BALLE Local Economy Fellows participate in an intense, close-knit and rigorous 18-month leadership



—photo courtesy of Andrea Dean

Andrea Dean, a local food and economy advocate from Hawi, was selected as a 2013 BALLE Local Economy Fellow.

immersion program that strengthens their capacity to bring about transformative change in their communities.

Dean is known for her projects focused on local food and economy such as: Think Local, Buy Local—a public education initiative to support the local economy; Ho`oulu ka `Ulu—a project to revitalize breadfruit for food security in Hawai`i; Hawai`i Alliance for a Local Economy (HALE), a local chapter of BALLE focused on growing the local, green economy; North Kohala Eat Locally Grown Campaign—public education, community capacity building and market expansion initiatives; Growing a Local Food System in North Kohala—community-based strategic planning; Community Harvest Hawai`i—food harvesting, preparation

See *Andrea*, page 2

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Healthy Changes to Last a Lifetime

Kohala Elementary School's IMUA team was one of 52 teams (including 15 from North Kohala) participating in Five Mountains Hawaii's annual Get Fit Hawaii program this fall. Team IMUA enjoyed the 10 weekly challenges (drinking 64 oz. of water per day, walking at least 30 minutes per day, time in nature, eating fruits and veggies, fitness with a partner, etc.) and especially experienced lifelong changes.

Members of Team KES IMUA were winners in the weekly challenges for Trying New Healthy Recipes, Medita-



—photo courtesy of Rose Mae Watterson

Members of Kohala Elementary School's Team IMUA in the Get Fit Hawaii program are, left to right, principal Danny Garcia, Renee Bautista, Amoo Kainoa, Elodia LeMay, Rose Mae Watterson, Antoinette Matsu, Jessica Bautista, Elysia Yamamoto, and Sammie and Donovan Aiona.

tion and Completion. Congratulations Team IMUA and keep up the healthy lifestyles.

For more information about the Get Fit Hawaii program, see getfithawaii.org.

Andrea, continued from page 1

and distribution; and EBT (SNAP) at the Hawi Farmers Market—increasing access to locally grown foods for low-income families. Dean's projects have been sponsored by a variety of sources including the County of Hawaii, Kaiser Permanente, Local Initiatives Fund of RSF Social Finance and the Island Innovation Fund of Hawaii Community Foundation.

"I am honored to be part of a group of such innovative leaders from all over the nation," says Dean. "My particular interest is in growing the local food system in Hawaii, and about half of the fellows are also working in that arena—the opportunity to cross pollinate and learn from each other will be invaluable. One of the great things about the BALLE Local Economy Fellowship is that the primary emphasis is on bringing home what I learn in order to benefit Hawaii."

The new group of Fellows were selected through referrals and support from some of the most respected and well-known organizations in the field: NoVo Foundation, Ashoka, New World Foundation, Rising Tide Capital, Rutgers Social Innovation Institute, Social Venture Network and Surdna Foundation. The 16 new Fellows are localizing food systems, reversing long-term unemployment trends and transitioning the workforce toward new economy jobs in communities from Hawaii to Detroit to Oakland to Appalachia.

The Fellowship began in 2011 and is dedicated to building local economies

from within – investing in the people and businesses rooted right where they are—and has seen profound, lasting outcomes within just a few years.

"Creating real jobs and rebuilding local economies requires working on multiple fronts," said Michelle Long, executive director of BALLE. "Expanding local ownership, spreading effective ideas and models, connecting entrepreneurs to values-aligned financing, and connecting businesses with each other to leverage their collective strength is at the heart of our Fellows' work."

Michael Kramer, co-founder of the Hawaii Alliance for a Local Economy and managing partner, Natural Investments, says, "Hawaii's drive to become food and energy self-sufficient must be based on local production, local ownership and sustainable practices, and Andrea Dean, with her expertise, networks, and endless dedication, will use the opportunity as a BALLE Local Economy Fellow to help catalyze change."

Learn more at: <http://bealocalist.org/andrea-dean> or at andreadean.com.

Sustainable Kohala to Offer Micro-Grants in 2013

Sustainable Kohala, a local community network promoting sustainability in North Kohala, is offering micro-grants of up to \$300 in 2013.

These small grants are intended to promote sustainability in North Kohala by supporting local practices that use energy and natural resources efficiently and equitably, for both present and future generations.

Growing household food and medicine, conserving water and energy, reducing waste, and re-using materials are examples of sus-

tainable practices.

A few examples of projects that might be funded with micro-grants include community garden supplies; seed propagation, exchange and storage; reforestation project expenses; soil building, etc. Projects must be focused on local sustainability and will not be considered if solely for commercial gain.

Grant applications can be obtained from Richard at info@lokahigarden-sanctuary.com. Grant application deadline: March 31, 2013.

Kaiholena, continued from page 1

help of Kohala community groups, is raising the rest.

Kohala Lihikai, made up entirely of North Kohala residents, is also seeking descendants and long-time users of the Upolu Airport area, Niuli'i and Halelua (between Lighthouse and Hapu'u Bay.) Contact any member of the board or Toni Withington, secretary, at 884-5476 or sundownertoni@yahoo.com.



—photo by Jan Becket

Local land preservation groups are seeking people with ancestral ties to North Kohala coastal lands, including Kaiholena, shown above.

Aquaculture, continued from page 1

eligible students. Thus far, the group has sponsors for two students and is looking for eight more sponsors.

For more information about sponsoring the ATOLL program, visit the website at <http://videolearning.uhatoll.com> and contact Frank Cipriani: algae@biofarmshawaii.com.

The Kohala Agricultural School project is also soliciting tax deductible donations to support the completion of the aquaculture/aquaponics system at the Kohala High School agriculture complex. The aquaculture program is a North

Kohala Community Resource Center sponsored project. Donation checks may be made out to NKCRC; please designate the "Aquaculture project" and mail to: NKCRC, P.O. Box 519, Hawi 96719. Please call NKCRC at 889-5523 with any questions about donations.

Cipriani said he is also arranging a sponsor's payment plan by credit card for the ATOLL program through its website: www.aquaculturehub.org. Potential sponsors should contact Lance Haga at UH by phone at 956-9249 (Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m.) to make the \$50 payment or email him at hagal@

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NKCRC Welcomes Yamamoto and Skudlarek to Staff

The North Kohala Community Resource Center is pleased to announce the addition of two new staff members. The Center has been in operation for more than 10 years, serving the community by providing planning, teaching and access to funding for projects that benefit the community. Currently they sponsor 76 projects which directly impact over 5,000 residents.

The Center's staff, up to now, has included full-time executive director Christine Richardson and part-time executive assistant Juanita Rivera. As the number of projects has increased, the workload has become too big for the staff to manage, and so the time has come to expand the staffing to better serve their constituents, the project organizers.

Chardelle Yamamoto has been hired part-time as an administrative assistant to support the growing office duties and requirements to keep NKCRC running smoothly. Chardelle is a "born and raised Kohala girl," the daughter of Clayton Yamamoto and Desiree Delos Santos. She received her bachelor's degree in business administration with a concentration in management in 2009.

She also works for Kohala Zipline as a guest service representative.

"Chardelle brings a passion for serving Kohala as well as a strong background in business," states Christine Richardson. "We are so happy to have her talent and enthusiasm as part of our team."



—photo courtesy of NKCRC
NKCRC staff, from left, Christine Richardson, Chardelle Yamamoto, Robyn Skudlarek and Juanita Rivera.

Additionally, Robyn Skudlarek has been hired as an associate director. Robyn moved to North Kohala in 1997. She is a certified teacher and has taught at Kohala Elementary, Waimea Country School, and Hawaii Community College. She has also served as a program coordinator and executive director for two island nonprofit organizations and has been an active volunteer in the community.

Robyn will provide support in proposal writing, teaching, and coaching

project organizers to be successful. In addition to her job with NKCRC, Robyn is the youth programs coordinator for West Hawaii Mediation Center.

"Robyn has worked with the Center in the past as a team member for the Yoga Ed project, WasteStream and the Kohala Stars Preschool. We are delighted to have her at the Center so we can better

serve the community," says Christine.

NKCRC has brought over \$8 million to North Kohala since its inception as a fiscal sponsor. The mission of the Center is to increase the number of community improvement projects. Please visit their website at www.northkohala.org to learn more about their work in North Kohala.

'Voice of the Wood' Musical Performance at Kohala Library

The "Voice of the Wood" Cello Chamber Players will perform at the North Kohala Public Library at 6:30 p.m., Monday, January 7, 2013.

As a delightful way to spend a Hawaiian winter evening, one young child said that the quartet is "like hot chocolate on a snowy day." The hour-long program is designed to entertain children as well as adults and features a variety of music by classical, Hawaiian, and contemporary composers.

Each January, members of the chamber ensemble spend one month in Hawai'i performing on the Big Island. Several members have performed with the Kamuela Phiharmonic. When they are not travelling, they dedicate much of their time to bringing the love of music to children.

Voice of the Wood plays in public schools throughout their home base of

Denver, Colo., and considers contacts with children to be a primary focus of the chamber players.

As an educational component for all ages, the performers introduce each piece of music in a humorous and conversational way. This sets the tone for the listener to relax and enjoy the sounds of the instruments.

The ensemble includes: Marilyn Hof, Michael Marecak, and Shirley Marecak on cello; Katherine Thayer and Natalie Hill on violin; Wand Beck on viola; and Larry Beck playing oboe. In addition to performing with the ensemble, each of these musicians participates in other chamber or symphony orchestras.

Admission is free, and the entire family is invited to enjoy this special musical performance.

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

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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.



January

Ad Deadline: 1/11/12
News Deadline: 1/14/12

February

Ad Deadline: 2/8/12
News Deadline: 2/11/12

Kohala Mountain News

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

EDITORIAL STAFF

Megan Solís
Managing Editor
884-5986/kmneditor@hotmail.com

Anne Fojtasek
Associate/Layout Editor
884-5596/annef@hawaii.rr.com

Jesús Solís
Calendar Editor
884-5986/kmncalendar@hotmail.com

Tom Morse
Sales/Business Manager
345-0706/ltmorse@aol.com

Hana Anderson
Bookkeeper
987-6762/kohalataxllc@yahoo.com

Rachel Allen, Maya Anderson, Jan Becket, Elsie Carpio, Frank Cipriani, Jeff Coakley, Karin Cooke, Andrea Dean, Eric & Elsie Dela Cruz, Summer Dwyer, Tim Head, Kassie Kometani, Janet Lam, Kathy Matsuda, Betty Meinardus, Carolyn Mondress, Kealoha Sugiyama, Kelly Vitorino, Laura Ka'akua, Carla Orellana, Christine Richardson, Isaiah Salmoiraghi, Deanna Shelor, Lynda Wallach, Rose Mae Watterson, Fern White, Lew Whitney, Deborah Winter, John Winter, Toni Withington

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preference for publication.

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Letters—

3rd Annual Holiday Craft Fair Mahalo



—photo by Fern White

Gail Ching-Lee and Sid Nakamoto show their holiday spirit of joy at the 3rd Annual Kohala Holiday Craft Fair to benefit school programs. This is their third year as vendors at the annual event.

The Kohala High School Speech Club along with Kohala Middle and High School Robotics teams wish to extend a *Mahalo nui loa* to our community for their participation and support of our 3rd Annual Holiday Craft Fair held November 24 at the Kohala High cafeteria. We estimate that over 400 people browsed through the 28 booths of local crafts and food.

The vendors brought a wonderful array of handcrafted items and gifts. The local food choices and treats were big hits at the fair as well. Lunch hour entertainment with Nino Kaai and Gino Amar was lively as

several impromptu hula performances graced our cafeteria, adding to the holiday mood. Students in robotics and speech club assisted vendors with set up and clean up. Speech students served as emcees. Silent auction items boosted the fun for everyone making bids as they went away with some delightful deals.

The funds raised that day will support the students in their participation in educational robotics and forensics competitions. Once again, *mahalo nui loa* to everyone who made the craft fair possible, and, much gratitude to the community members who visited in support. We wish everyone wonderful, happy holidays.

Sincerely,

Ms. Fern White

Advisor/Program Coordinator

Aloha and Mahalo North Kohala

After nearly 21 years as the North Kohala Public Health Nurse (PHN), it is with mixed emotions that I say aloha as I retire from the Department of Health. I have experienced the full circle and seen infants grow into adults; some with children of their own. I have gotten to know many wonderful families over the years at immunization clinics and through TB testing, supervising the school health aides, coordinating care for medically fragile and developmentally delayed children, managing patients with communicable diseases, being a nurse consultant to the schools, and providing emergency preparedness information to the public.

North Kohala has had a PHN since early 20th century active sugar planta-

tion times. Unfortunately it appears that the Department of Health (DOH) does not have plans to keep my position in North Kohala, thereby eliminating a vital community service. A newly hired PHN from the Waimea office has been assigned to "cover" North Kohala in addition to her own South Kohala district. Sadly this will leave North Kohala without a Public Health presence, which could be critical in the event of a disease outbreak or disaster.

In difficult economic times, resources are often shifted from smaller communities like North Kohala to areas with larger populations. In light of our geographic isolation, I just cannot help but feel that this may be a short-sighted decision. If this is worrisome for you, con-

sider contacting one or more of Kohala's government officials like Sen. Malama Solomon, or County Council representative Margaret Wille to let them know your concerns, or even the deputy director of health resources administration in the DOH (Dr. David Sakamoto 808-586-4433). Perhaps your efforts will encourage the DOH to reconsider.

Since Kohala is my home, you will continue to see me around town at all the usual places. I have been deeply touched by so many in our small community. It has truly been an honor and a privilege to serve all of you, and I am so very grateful for having had the opportunity.

Me ke aloha e mahalo nui loa,
Shoshana Matsumura

AED Donated for Pololu, More Emergency Response Tools Sought

North Kohala Community Emergency Response Team sends out a big mahalo to Joan Ellen and Richard McFee, Suzanne Sasaki, Elizabeth Lee and Robert Hendrickson for their generous donations to place an AED (defibrillator) at Pololu.

North Kohala CERT has been ready to serve in emergencies for the last five years. We are first responders when emergencies happen, supporting the Fire Department and Civil Defense. We are still hoping to generate donations to get two more AEDs in Hawi and Kapa'au.

We have another opportunity to help ham operators in the area have the ability to use amateur radio to communicate during emergencies when there may

not be landline or cell phone service, as in the 2006 earthquake. The project is an ARES Repeater. ARES stands for Amateur Radio Emergency Service and is a program sponsored by the American Radio Relay League, helping to provide communications during emergencies and disasters. This is a two-meter repeater that, according to computer models, will cover the entire North Hawaii ARES district from Kona airport to Hawi to Kapa'au to Waipio Valley to Honoka'a to Pa'auilo.

Recently a repeater was donated for our use, but we need channel elements, a duplexer, and an antenna to make it operational. We estimate that the cost of these items will be about \$4,000 and so

we are asking for donations to cover the cost. Any excess money collected will go to the North Kohala CERT emergency equipment and maintenance. Donors will get tax benefits for their contribution, as allowable by law.

North Kohala CERT is a sponsored project of North Kohala Community Resource Center. Please write your tax-deductible check to NKCRC and mail to: P.O. Box 519, Hawi, HI 96719. Please specify for North Kohala CERT ARES Repeater Project.

For further information, contact Jeffrey Lee at 960-0031. Mahalo North Kohala, you are the best.

North Kohala Community Emergency Response Team

Young Fisherman Suggests Ways to Preserve Fish Populations

Editor's Note: *KMN received letters from Duncan Anderson's seventh grade social studies students at Kohala Middle School. Below is the first of several to be published in the coming months.*

Dear Editor,

My name is Isaiah Salmoiraghi. I am an athletic 7th grader at Kohala Middle School. I would like to talk about a topic that I am very concerned about: spear fishing. Spear fishing is a very ancient and successful way of fishing. It has been used as far back as man has been

hunting for fish. These days we spear fish with high-tech, gas powered spear guns or elastic powered bands. This makes it so the fish have little chance.

I am not against spear fishing, but I am against depleting the fish population.

I suggest we create seasonal restrictions on areas known to be breeding sanctuaries. I am a fisherman too and I like to catch fish as much as anyone. My concern is that in the future there will be no more fish to catch. There has been

great success with breeding sanctuaries in Fiji; there are areas in Fiji that are now swarming with giant black ulua.

Recently I went fishing and I was there for about two hours, not getting a single bite. I was surprised because that was the first time I had never got a single bite. I put on my mask and snorkel and went into the water.

I swam around for about 10 to 20 minutes and didn't see a single fish. That made me sad and mad because there

See Fish, page 5

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.

'Kapu System' Should be Revisited

By Jeffrey Coakley

The coastline of Kohala once had teeming schools of nenu, palani, pu'alu, pa'ikui'kui and the opelu kala found near the shoreline. Rubbish fish you say? Not good for eating? And you would be correct when the Kohala delicacy of the kole was as plentiful as the blossoms of a plumeria tree in bloom. Ummmm, deep fried kole so rich in flavor and taste, cooking it would turn your cooking oil yellow. Not to mention the U'u (menpachi) kumu and awe-oweo, such good eating and plentiful back in the day. However, kole was and still is a much sought after delicacy for the entire Big Island. And some of the best kole came from King's Landing in Hilo, Milolii and Hamakua. But in my opinion Kohala had the best kole.

But that was four decades ago...and the kole along with many other fish has just about disappeared from along our Kohala shores along with the near-shore schools of mu and opelu kala. Often I will hear Kohala fishermen ask, "What happen to the kole?" And to quote another old-time Kohala fisherman, "no

such ting as rubbish fish, you lucky you can get what you get."

What did happen to the kole, the red uhu or schools of mu? I don't know... some say overfishing, pollution, high-powered spear guns, changing ocean currents and even theories of government poisoning of our ocean.

In an article from the *Los Angeles Times* of July 9, 2008, it stated, "Teams of divers looked at 55 species of fish found on coral reefs around the main Hawaiian Islands as well as the remote and largely un-fished northwestern Hawaiian Islands, which lie hundreds of miles north and west of Kauai. Comparing the fish counts at both places, the divers determined that 75 percent of the species around the main islands, such as O'ahu, Maui and the Big Island, were in critical condition or depleted. Another 11 percent were below desirable levels. 'Probably in Hawaii, more than anywhere else in the United States, people rely on fish to feed themselves and their families,' Friedlander said."

What I do know is that Maika'i Kamakani 'O Kohala was awarded stew-

ardship for the land at Kauhola. The area adjacent to canoe landing and swimming pools or Keawaeli Bay borders a portion of the land. The 'aina presents a wonderful opportunity for MKOKI in partnership with the Kohala community to restore and preserve King Kamehameha I lo'i that was located on the land.

There have been numerous agriculture workshops in our community on becoming "self-sufficient" agriculturally for the Big Island, all of them great educational undertakings. But in the Hawaiian sense of things, the land and ocean went hand in hand with counterparts found in both ocean and land.

For example, the counterpart on land of the Humuhumunukunukuapua'a, the State of Hawaii fish (or reef trigger fish), was the pua'a or pig. They were similar in that a humuhumu when threatened you could hear it grunting like a pig. And for me when you cleaned the humuhumu, its entrails smelled like a pig pen but the flesh good eating when roasted over hot coals.

The bordering ocean gives us a great opportunity to examine the ancient

Hawaiian "kapu system" for ocean educational, ecological and resource management. At a time when we are looking toward becoming more self-sufficient in the producing of our own food on land, we need to also turn our attention to becoming better trustees to "malama 'o ke kai" of God's self-sustainable gifts from the ocean.

The MKOKI Board of Directors will be taking steps in developing a Kauhola ocean resource management program to educate Hawaii's youth to the ancient Hawaiian "kapu system" which had its emphasis on "malama 'o ke kai" in a caring and thoughtful management approach. We will be involving public and private entities along with our "kupuna" fishermen in the process. Anyone interested in being part of this project can contact me to kukakuka [discuss] at kalanicoakley@yahoo.com. Mahalo.

Jeffrey Coakley is the chairman of the board of directors for Maika'i Kamakani 'O Kohala and an avid "makule" spear fisherman.

'Team Kaliko' Mahalo ~ Kohala Shows Its Aloha

By Eric and Elsie Dela Cruz

On November 7, our son Kaliko attended the Canoe Club meeting at the Kohala pool. Kaliko was in the swimming pool and noticed he had little movement in his left arm and leg. He didn't know why it was happening. Kaliko was able to tell the paramedics what he was doing at the pool. He was then transported to North Hawaii Community Hospital emergency room and given a CT scan to find out what was happening to the left side of his body.

We were told that it was some kind of tumor or a mass of blood in the middle of his brain on the right side. After a while he started to suffer massive headaches and it was decided that he was to be transported to Kapi'olani Hospital on O'ahu. A transport team prepped him for the air ambulance ride to Honolulu accompanied by his mom.

At Kapi'olani the doctors in the ICU

had another CT scan done and started intensive brain medications to keep the swelling down to control pain. The doctors then said that a vessel in his brain had burst and blood had leaked out and flooded all the empty spaces in his head, putting a lot of pressure on his brain. When he was stabilized, which was about two days, he was transported to Straub Clinic to have a cerebral angiogram, which used a dye to highlight the veins and take pictures to see where the damaged vessel was.

Back at Kapi'olani, we were shown what really happened. He suffered an aneurism in his brain which caused blood to clot and block signals to his left arm and leg. The good thing was he still had feeling and the leak had stopped on its own, but the down side was he had lost motor skills to the left side of his body. The second scan also showed that the clot had not gotten bigger, another good sign. A third CT scan later showed that the blood was dissipating and being absorbed back into his body.

From November 7 to 19, we stayed at Kaliko's bedside helping him and trying to deal with his pain and emotional stress. We rotated staying at the hospital, and thank the Ronald McDonald House Charities for providing us with a home away from home. On November 18 he was finally taken off brain medications, and the next day he was transported to Kaiser Medical Center Moanalua which continued his physical and occupational

therapy.

We all came home on November 27, the day before his 14th birthday, so he got his wish: "I don't want to spend my

We were able to Skype so everyone could see his IV tubing all over his body.

All that time friends and family were putting together a fundraiser, "TEAM KALIKO," to help offset the medical expenses. We give a heartfelt thank you to our entire families who planned and executed this fundraiser on Sunday, December 2, at the Kohala Town Center.

On behalf of our son Kaliko, Elsie and myself, we give a heartfelt mahalo to our entire 'ohana, the community of Kohala, family and friends from distant places for your prayers, words of encouragement and generous donations. The wonderful aloha spirit has been an inspiration to the Dela Cruz 'Ohana.

Mahalo Nui to Heather Dela Cruz 'Ohana; Kanani Silva

'Ohana; Kane, Edison Dela Cruz; and Papa Sonny.



—photo by Megan Solis

In a show of support, the Kohala community came out in droves December 2 for the car wash and plate lunch fundraiser for Kaliko Dela Cruz.

birthday in the hospital." In February, doctors will do a procedure to repair the damaged vessel. Now that we are home it will be a long road to a full recovery with sessions of physical therapy exercises on his own. Right now he has some upper leg movement and some arm movement. He still needs help with getting around, his baths, and changing clothes; he also uses a wheelchair and walker.

Many helped us during that time on O'ahu: thanks to friends who loaned us cars so we could travel around, our families for helping with food and transportation, the friends and families who visited to comfort us during Kaliko's stay, and our families and friends at home who poured in phone calls wishing him the best and a speedy recovery.

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Fish, continued from page 4

were no fish even to be seen. I moved about half a mile down the beach and didn't catch anything there either.

I just went home sad and empty-handed; all I had caught was disappointment and a glimpse of the future if we don't do something.

"Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, things are not going to get better, they're not." - The Lorax, by Dr. Seuss

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Isaiah Salmoiraghi

Keokea Wedding Overflows with Aloha and `Ohana

Dwight Bunn and Carla Orellana were married at Keokea Beach Park, Saturday, November 10. In attendance were family and friends from the mainland and many of the new friends they have met since moving to Hawai one year ago.

Kealoha Sugiyama officiated the Hawaiian ceremony, and the sounds of David Gomes' guitar floated over the crashing of the surf. Guests were drawn together by the blowing of the conch by Hank Guerrero, who later graciously played guitar and sang The Hawaiian Wedding Song.

Carla's son, Orion Orellana, was able to make the trip from Brooke Army Medical Center in Texas and proudly give his mother away. Exactly one year ago Orion was severely wounded in Afghanistan and

almost didn't make it home. His family is so grateful for his service to our country, and his will to survive.

Carla's sister Molly Manaugh was her matron of honor, making the trip from Alaska with her husband, Max. Uncle Sampson Cazimerostood at Dwight's side as his best man. The couple credits Uncle Sampson for making them feel so welcome the day they first visited Keokea Beach Park, inviting them to Luke's for some dancing where they made more new friends.

The Keokea pavilion was beautifully decorated with flowers and greenery for the reception by Carla's hula sisters from the Hula Halau Mana

o Lana O Kohala, who later danced a romantic hula. The couple was also treated to a men's hula dance by Palani

and Harry, who wowed the crowd. The Sons of Kohala played for everyone to party to and then for Mele Waikiki to dance a solo hula. Mele has been teaching the couple to weave coconut fronds into `ohana baskets which they gave to family as a thank you for making the trip. Carla also danced for Dwight with a blue and white veil fan which matched the wedding dress and shirt Mele sewed for the bride and groom.

Minnie's prepared all the fantastic food, and Pua of "All About Chocolate" made delectable chocolate cakes. Sadie

Young and Randee Golden wove ti leaf lei, and Auntie Mary handmade lei for guests and family. Bronson Bruno also wove the artistic head lei that adorned the bride and her matron of honor. Friends Jerry and Linda and Charles L'Heureux took video and photos.

The couple shared this message with their many guests, friends and `ohana who lent a hand, shared in their day and helped make Kohala their home: "Thank you for living and sharing your warm Aloha, Kohala. You do it right!"



—photo courtesy of Carla Orellana
Newlyweds Dwight Bunn and Carla Orellana

Kauhola Point Management Plan Draft to Be Shared in Early 2013

By Maika'i Kamakani `O Kohala, Inc.

The Trust for Public Land is assisting Maika'i Kamakani `O Kohala in preparing a management plan for Kauhola Point. The plan aims to prioritize management goals and strategies based on the needs and wishes of the entire Kohala community and a grounding in traditional Hawaiian management practices. It will reflect more than five years of community surveys gathered by Maika'i and Malama Kai Foundation's Ocean Warriors Program.

Many kupuna and long-term Kohala residents offered their mana`o and vision for the property. In fact, the majority of surveys were submitted by community members who have lived in Kohala for more than 10 years to a lifetime. Many who responded to the surveys felt a strong need to protect and preserve Kauhola's valuable natural and cultural resources and to increase coastal education. The Trust for Public Land expects to complete a first draft of the plan to share with the community at a meeting in early 2013. Meeting date, time and location will be included in the January or February Kohala Mountain News.

Kauhola Point has always provided a safe place for the Kohala community to gather with family, enjoy the ocean and feel the area's deep connection to Kohala's rich history.

"As a child, my father and relatives pole fished along the cliffs and shoreline of Kauhola Point. We also camped there on weekends," wrote one Kohala resident who has visited Kauhola Point throughout his lifetime.

Bond to Give 3 'Talk Story' Sessions on Hawai`i History

North Kohala Public Library in Kapa`au will present a series of three "talk story" sessions on Hawai`i's history with North Kohala historian, Boyd D. Bond, in January, February and March 2013.

The first session, on Monday, January 14, focuses on "Hawai`i's Natural History." In the second presentation on Monday, February 11, Bond plans to talk about "Changing land tenure in the Hawaiian Kingdom." The final program in the series, on Monday, March 11, will focus on the life of Walter Murray Gibson, a prominent figure in Hawai`i government during the reign of Kalakaua.

Each hour-long presentation begins at 6:30 p.m.

Boyd Bond's knowledge of Hawai`i's history stems from his academic studies

and from a lifetime spent in Hawai`i as a sixth-generation descendent of early western settlers in Hawai`i. Boyd was raised in Hawai`i in a sugar plantation family, living on plantations throughout the state.

Of his interest in Hawaiian history, Bond says, "I can't ever remember a time when I wasn't immersed in it. Many of the stories of Hawai`i's history are also our family stories."

Bond earned a Bachelor of Arts in Hawaiian history from the University of Hawai`i at Manoa and went on to earn a masters degree in education.

Call the library at 889-6655 for more information and to register for the program. Contact the library three weeks in advance if a sign language interpreter or other special accommodation is required.

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Seniors Bend the Ears of County, State Aging Reps

By Kealoha Sugiyama

The last Senior Citizens Club business meeting for 2012 was held November 26, and it was filled with important information for the seniors of Kohala. The guest speakers were State Rep. Cindy Evans, who put the agenda together, Alan Parker with the county Office of Aging, and Wes Lum, director of the State Executive Office on Aging, from Honolulu. Cindy Evans wanted to hear the concerns and needs of Kohala seniors and also wanted the Office of Aging to hear the seniors' questions and concerns.

Alan Parker started the ball rolling by letting the Seniors know that he was conceived in Kohala as his dad was the police captain way back then. He has fond memories of Kohala growing up. The old Sun Sun Lau building in Hilo is now the Aging and Disability Resource

Center, which was conceived with the idea of a one-stop facility to provide service for all the senior needs. Their telephone number is 961-8626.

It was brought to Alan's attention that because the facility is in Hilo, it is not convenient for the Kohala seniors to use their services, and transportation to various kinds of medical needs is a big issue here. The Seniors also brought to his attention that because of the location of Kohala, it makes us feel out of the loop of ADRC services and suggested that perhaps an ADRC office be located here to better service our community.

Wes Lum spoke on One Stop Resource Center in Hilo where the Seniors can get answers on aging questions, disability needs and caregiving information. The Office of Aging also deals with fall prevention, Alzheimers and dementia, and senior Medicare patrol.

After all was said and done, the reassuring thing from this meeting was that we all had our concerns heard. Mahalo.

The Kohala Seniors Club discussed issues of importance for kupuna with county and state representatives. From left, Alan Parker of the county Office of Aging, Bobby Glory, Kealoha Sugiyama, State



—photo by Elsie Carpio

Rep. Cindy Evans and Wes Lum from the state Executive Office on Aging.

NKCDP Action Committee Wraps Up 2012

By Lynda Wallach

The November 26 meeting of the North Kohala Community Development Plan Action Committee (NKCDP AC) opened with a land use report from Rosalind Newlon, Planning Department's NKCDP project manager. Beginning in January, the Planning Department will no longer be provid-

ing land use reports to the action committee; instead they will send copies of major new land use applications to the AC chair along with a cover letter from the planning director. This should give the AC more time to review land use requests and make timely comments to the department regarding their impact on North Kohala.

No new land use applications had been received in October, Newlon reported. The Sargent request for a five-lot subdivision in Hawi with access from Hua Lane off of Akoni Pule Highway has received tentative approval; however certain conditions need to be met before final approval can be obtained, primarily providing potable water and fire suppression water to all lots and paving Hua Land and the roadway inside the subdivision.

Keoni MacKillop, reporting for the Public Access subcommittee, said the fence has been completed and there are new signs at Hapu'u. There was some discussion as to who has responsibility for maintenance of Kapanaiia Road from the cemetery to Hapu'u. Toni Withington stated she believed the county had assumed responsibility for the road from the state. Newlon agreed to research this and, if the county is responsible, the subcommittee will draft a letter to the county Department of Public Works

stating that repairs to the road are a number one public access priority for North Kohala. MacKillop also reported the Land Legacy Commission would meet in December to consider acquisition of agricultural and conservation easements from Vipassana in Halelua. [For an update on this issue, see related story on page 8.]

John Winter of the Parks and Water Improvement subcommittee reported the Friends of Mahukona and the Mahukona Cat Colony Caregivers continue to work together to complete improvements at Mahukona. He added that the roof at Kapa'a has been painted by the North Kohala National Guard Alumni with help from the Lions Club and that the falling-apart barbecue between the pavilion and the shore has been rebuilt. Keokea looks beautiful, in spite of some recent vandalism, thanks to the work of the Friends of Keokea. Winter urged everyone to visit all these parks to fully appreciate the extent of the improvements that have been made.

He also reported the subcommittee has been in contact with James Watts of the Hawaiian Rural Water Association, who will be giving a seminar early next year to the users of Hawi Well No. 1. The committee continues to address the issue of spaghetti water lines and how to accurately determine their location: a serious problem

when it comes to repair of the lines.

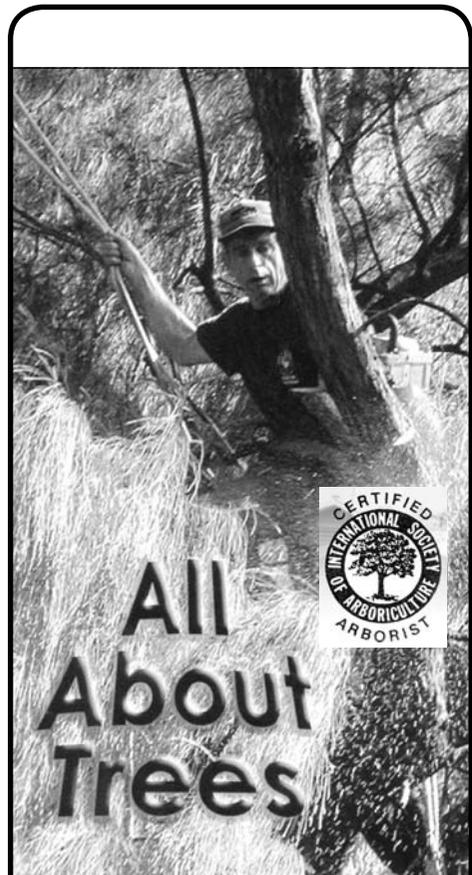
Susan Fischer of the Power, Viewplanes and Erosion Control subcommittee addressed the issue of the very bright sodium vapor street lights at several places along our highways. She reported the ultimate goal of the county is to replace the current lights with shielded LEDs, which would greatly reduce the amount of glare. Some lights in Hilo and Waimea have already been replaced, but there is no time frame for the replacement of all the lights on the island. Fischer suggested that the community, either through the subcommittee or as individuals and groups, might send a letter to the county stating their safety concerns about specific lights, mainly the problem of going from light to abrupt dark. She said the county is in favor of replacing all the lights but requires state approval and funding.

Collin Kaholo of the Affordable Housing subcommittee reported he is in the process of contacting state and county officials for help in providing land for housing for those families with income too high to qualify for Self Help housing but who would have difficulty coming up with the 20 percent down payment and then maintaining the payments on property costing \$300,000. This is what he has estimated would be the cost if another type of housing project were built.

Frank Cipriani stated that the Agricultural subcommittee has had only one request for information on how to designate property as Important Agricultural Lands. They are looking at ways to disseminate this information more widely. He also reported on the construction of the aquaponics project at the high school. [See related article about this project on page 1.]

The discussion then turned to a review of a draft letter from the AC regarding the reopening of the coastal access trail at Puakea Bay Ranch. It was decided that Joe Carvalho and Toni Withington would review the current draft, and then it would be sent on to the appropriate county department.

The next meeting of the CDP AC will be Monday, January 14, 2013, at 5 p.m. Please note that the meeting will be held at the former Bank of Hawaii building on Akoni Pule Highway in Kapa'au, across from the Senior Center. The public is urged to attend.



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Funding for North Coast Protection Advances

Story and photo by Toni Withington

Preservation of Kohala coastal lands between Kauhola Point and Hapu`u Bay moved a huge step closer this month when the State Legacy Land Conservation Commission voted to recommend funding for the purchase of a conservation easement on the 255-acre Vipassana Hawaii property. This property contains a mile-long stretch of cliff-lined coast between "Swimming Pool" and Halawa Gulch on the north coast.

Funding of the protective easement for the land owned by Vipassana Hawaii, a Buddhist organization, was prioritized by the commission. The \$1 million set aside will be matched by a \$2 million commitment made by the federal Natural Resources Conservation Service through its Farm and Ranch Land Protection Program. The easement will be held by the Hawaiian Islands Land Trust (HILT), which applied for the funding with the help of several Kohala community groups.

When the cooperative effort is in place it will return public access to popular fishing and recreational areas

and preserve the historic sites of this land once a part of the domain of King Kamehameha I. Habitats for a number of native animals, birds and fish will also be preserved. Beyond that the easement will retain the open space viewplanes of the mauka lands. Vipassana will continue agricultural use of the land as well as retain the right to build a Buddhist retreat center on the mauka part of the land.

State funding still requires an official appraisal and approval by the Legislature and governor. The purchase of 28 acres of adjoining land at Kauhola Point (Lighthouse) was achieved several years ago using this same funding source along with a successful local fundraising effort by Maika`i Kamakani O Kohala and the Trust for Public Land. The difference is the Kauhola land was purchased outright and title is held by Maika`i Kamakani O Kohala. Vipassana



Coastal lands between Kauhola Point and Hapu`u Bay have moved a step closer to preservation.

the 50-acre coastal portion of the Vipassana land called Halelua to the County Public Access, Open Space and Natural Resources Commission (PONC) this year with the cooperation of the land owner. The coastal parcel includes the entire coast including the coves at Halelua and Hapu`u Bay as well as much of Halawa Gulch. Priority ranking by that commission for funds from the County Open Space Funds is expected this month.

The groups working for preservation of the entire North Kohala coastline are Kohala Lihikai, Malama Kohala Kahakai, Kamakani O Kohala `Ohana, Maika`i Kamakani O Kohala, Malama Kohala Wahi Pana and the Kohala Historic and Preservation Committee. Work on both the county and state submissions was also supported by the North Kohala Community Access Group, a subcommittee of the Community Development Plan Action Committee.

will retain title with the easement held by Hawaiian Islands Land Trust, which will be working with Kohala Lihikai and other local organizations on stewardship.

Five Kohala groups also nominated

Chinese QiGong Master Jianshe Coming to Kokolulu in January

Karin Cooke and Lew Whitney are excited to welcome QiGong Master Liu Jianshe to Kokolulu Farm in Hawi, January 6 to 10, 2013. It is his first visit to America, and he will be teaching Zhineng Qigong (ZQ) methods Level 1 and 2 and offering healing circles in the evening.

Jianshe's story is fascinating. He worked for many years at the Huaxia QiGong Centre (also known as the Medicine-less Hospital). He trained with Dr. Pang Ming and eventually became head of the Recovery Unit.

Master Jianshe has been engaged in ZQ QiGong healing and teaching since 1991. He has spread Zhineng Qigong in many cities and villages in China as well as countries such

as The Netherlands, Belgium, Sweden, United Kingdom, Germany, and South Africa. He has witnessed many marvels of healing with his own eyes. He deeply feels QiGong can bring hope to humanity and harmony to the world.



—photo courtesy of Kokolulu Farm
QiGong Master Liu Jianshe

For over 10 years, Master Jianshe and his staff have operated the Hexianiu QiGong Centre on Hainan Island, China.

The style of exercise is called Zhineng Qigong. Essentially, the patients/practitioners learn the exercises to help themselves prevent or heal whatever illness they

have, and the practitioners use their energy to speed up this process.

Participants can expect to:

- Learn and deepen Zhineng Qigong methods of level 1 and 2;
- Understand the Zhineng Qigong healing methodologies and theories;
- Attend Healing Circles to further activate our self-healing power;
- Build a powerful, strong and effective healing Qi field;
- Practice daily under the guidance of Master Jianshe; and
- Learn methods and exercises that can be integrated in your daily routine after the retreat.

Jianshe will be giving a public talk at TuTu's House January 3, and at Kokolulu January 4, both from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. He will be teaching a week long workshop at Kokolulu Farm, January 6 to 10.

Early sign-up is recommended, as spaces are limited. For more information call Karin or Lew at Kokolulu Farm 889-9893 or visit www.kokolulu.org

All proceeds go to benefit Kokolulu's Cancer Retreats Program and the Hexianiu QiGong Center.

KHS Cowboys Homecoming Set for January 19

Kohala High School's Homecoming Spirit Week will take place January 14 to 19, 2013, and will include dress-up days, noon games, a banner contest and assembly. Homecoming goals include validation of school pride and a healthy dose of class competitions.

Spirit Week culminates with the Homecoming Parade, Game and Dance on Saturday, January 19. The parade takes place at 10 a.m. It begins at Kamehameha Park and travels west along Akoni-Pule Highway, ending at the Kohala High School parking lot. All parade floats need to be at the park by 9 a.m. for judging. Motorists: watch for road closure signs and plan alternate travel routes—or better yet, grab a chair and watch the parade!

The Homecoming Basketball Game is set for 6 p.m., Saturday, January 19, when the Kohala Cowboys challenge the Konawaena Wildcats.

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KHS Alumni to Face Honoka`a in Gridiron Action

This isn't your typical Homecoming game. On January 6, former Kohala High School football players and cheerleaders will represent their alma mater on the playing field one more time in an alumni game against rival Honoka`a.

The game begins at 4 p.m. at Honoka`a High School football field, and Kohala alumni are encouraged to come out and cheer for their team.

Players, ranging in age from 48-year-old Kamon Kupuka`a to 21-year-old Kama Manantan, have practiced for the game since October. Alums from as far

away as Hilo, Waikoloa and Kona have made the trek to Kohala to get prepped for the game. Head coach Tony Manantan has been assisted by Beldon Kealoha, Doug Atkins and Reggie Tolentino.

The game is organized by Alumni Football USA and helps raise funds for community athletics programs. Proceeds from this game will benefit Mighty Mites football for kids 5 to 16 years old.

Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased directly from players, or call Tony Manantan at 895-6676 or Debi Manantan at 895-6647.



Alumni football isn't complete without cheerleaders, left to right, front row: Tatiana Sugse, Toma Raymond '85, Lilyanna Villacorte-Carvalho; back row: Serena Ellazar '88, Rita Maria '85, Georgette (Naihe) Kalua`u '91, Brandy Sugse '99, Desiree Ellazar Hooton '91; not pictured: Mike Matsu '83, Efrelyn Abellera 2011, Rahjene Souza 2011.



—photos by Jesús Solís

KHS Alumni Football team, from left to right, front row: Kamalani Manantan, Keoni Emeliano, Brandon Carvalho, Benni Duque, Tim Holschuh, Wesley Yamamoto, Darrel Kapeliela, Cameron Kawai, Dwayne Keyes, Blaize Rodrigues, Ian Carvalho, Coach Doug Atkins; Back row: Kaawalani Solomon, Koa Perez, Oliko Cookman, Ashton Salas, Jesse Hudson, Shaun Pang, Orion Stevens, Eddie Velenzuela, Joey Kalua`u, Hauoli Alcoran, Travis Ching, Gabriel Perez, Kaina Matthey, Billy Rodrigues, Coach Beldon Kealoha, Kolby Carvalho, Bruce Ellazar, Head Coach Tony Manantan; Not pictured: Chad Atkins, Brycen Carvalho, Vernon Karratti, Kalei Kealoha, Kawika Kihara, Lopaka Kuali`i, Lindo Matsu, Glen Roxburgh, Jacob Roxburgh, Conn Wallman, Chai Wilson, Edison Dela Cruz, Chance Lincoln, Earl Hoshida, Kamon Kupuka`a, Koa (Harold) Perez and Jared Perez

Golf Tourney Set to Raise Funds for Hospital ER

On February 9, 2013, the Kohala Hospital Charitable Foundation hosts its 5th Annual Scramble Golf Tournament, taking place at the Hapuna Golf Course.

Last year the tournament raised about \$35,000, and since construction on the new Kohala Hospital emergency room will be starting soon, KHCF hopes to raise as much or even more this year.

It is always a day filled with fun and excitement. Each golfer receives a very generous gift bag. Bitburger and Koestritzer beers will be available on and off the course as well as during the fabulous buffet lunch at Arnie's, catered by the Hapuna Beach Prince Hotel. The all-inclusive registration is \$195 per person.

Played in four-person scramble

teams, the tournament will award prizes for first- through fourth-place teams; longest drive for men and women; and closest to pin.

Want to support the fundraiser but don't play golf? Sponsor a hole for \$100.

The event is sponsored by the Meinardus Family and the Bitburger Brewery, and 100 percent of the money taken in will go directly to the hospital's Emergency Room Building Fund. Call your golf buddy, join in the fun and help build the new emergency room.

To sign up, sponsor a tee or make a donation, please go to: kohalahospital-golf.com.

For more news about KHCF, visit their new website: kohalahospitalcharity.com.

Golf, food and fun are all part of KHCF's annual golf tournament to raise funds for Kohala Hospital's emergency room.

—photo courtesy of KHCF



WHAT'S NEW AT THE RESOURCE CENTER?

➤ The Learning Center was awarded a \$5,000 grant from the Bill Healy Foundation to assist with construction of the World Peace Game.

The staff and Board of NKCRC wishes everyone in Kohala a very safe and happy Holiday Season. We are grateful for all your support throughout the year.

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Kohala Celebrates the Holidays

—photos by Megan Solís

Two-year-old Kaydence Vaefaga couldn't contain her excitement when she picked out her new toy at Toys for Tots.



Excitement was in the air as Kohala enjoyed the Toys for Tots event at Kamehameha Park December 16. Founded and sponsored by Fig's Mixed Plate, the event—which began five years ago when Fig's sponsored four needy families in Kohala—has since grown to a huge community activity that was kicked off by the arrival of Santa, accompanied by an entourage of motorcycles and classic cars.

Activities included photos with Santa, two jumpy houses, face and nail painting, airbrush tattoos, a balloon man, hula performances, live music, plate lunches and of course, a free toy for each child ages 10 and under. More than 200 children participated in the toy giveaway, with toys donated by the community. Those who donated toys also had an opportunity to win raffle prizes for hotel stays, cruises and other activities.

Mahalo to Tracy Figueroa, Fig's Mixed Plate and all the volunteers and donors who bring so much happiness to Kohala's keiki each Christmas.



Keiki hula dancers in pj's performed a "Doll's Lullaby" dance at Toys for Tots.



Decisions, decisions. With so many choices, it was difficult to pick out just the right toy.



➡ After selecting a toy, children had a chance to get their photos taken with Santa.



A variety of games and fun awaited children, including the popular jumpy house.

Children ages 0 to 10 years old got to choose a toy from the hundreds of toys, games and dolls donated by the community. ⤴

➡ Hisaoka gym was crowded inside and out as families enjoyed the blue skies and were entertained by keiki and kupuna hula dancers while children selected their new toys in the gym.



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The Balloon Man twists balloons into animals, hats and all kinds of shapes.

Lions Bring Christmas Cheer and Carols



—photo by Megan Solis

Kohala Lions Club members paid a visit to patients at Kohala Hospital December 5 for a little tree decorating followed by some jolly Christmas caroling, including special Kohala versions of Winter Wonderland and Silver Bells. The Lions make the annual yuletide visit to bring a little cheer to patients and staff. Caroling Lions included, from left, Chris Brown, Lani Obina, Lakme Nishie, John Winter, Sat Carpio, Jesús Solís, Derek Obina and Bobby Glory.

Keiki Celebrate the Feast of Saint Nicholas

St. Augustine Episcopal Church was visited by Saint Nicholas (John Cole) on Thursday, December 6, during the Feast of Saint Nicholas. Children gathered to hear his story and later walked down to James Walker Hall to make ornaments for the Jesse tree and have a pizza dinner. (This is a tree, or a large banner with a symbolic tree, which is decorated each week, usually by the children, with ornaments or objects that represent Old Testament events from creation to the birth of Jesus.)



—photo by Kathy Matsuda

St. Nicholas (aka John Cole) visited the children at St. Augustine Episcopal Church.

Saint Nicholas brought the children gifts of cookies and a voucher to buy gifts for loved ones on December 15 during the Thrift Shop's Keiki Shopping Spree. Children also brought gifts of canned goods for the Food Bank to help feed local families.



Children gathered for the Feast of Saint Nicholas at St. Augustine Episcopal Church December 6.

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Have a safe and happy holiday season!

This message is brought to you by the North Hawai'i Drug-Free Coalition. Visit our website at fivemountains.org/nhdhc or call 887-0756.



		Diamond G Rice 15 lbs. 7 ⁹⁹	Crisco Oil vegetable or canola 48 oz. 2 ⁹⁹	Dasani Water 24 pk. - 500 ml. 4 ⁹⁹ 	Banquet Family Entree All Types 25 - 27 oz. 4 ⁹⁹ 	Banquet Fried Chicken 28 oz. All Types 7 ⁷⁹ 
Hawaiian Springs Water 1.5 liter 79¢	Coca Cola 12-pk Cans 12 oz. All Types 4 ⁹⁹ 	General Mills Cereal Trix, Honey Nut Cheerios, Lucky Charms, Cookie Crisp 10 - 12.25 oz. 3 ²⁹	CapriSun Ready to Drink 10 ct. 2/6 ⁰⁰ 	Marie Callender Pot Pie All Types 3 ¹⁹ 16.5 oz.	Marie Callender Dinners Select Types 13 - 19 oz. 4 ⁵⁹ 	
C & H Granulated Sugar 4 lb. 3 ¹⁹	Yuban Coffee Original or Dark Roast 29 - 31 oz. 8 ⁹⁹	Taco Bell Refried Beans  16 oz. 3/3 ⁹⁹	Taco Bell Taco shells  12 ct. 1 ⁸⁹	Eggo Waffles Select Types 12.3 oz. 3 ¹⁹ 	Tyson Chicken Thighs 5-lb. box 6 ⁹⁹	
Sky Flake Crackers 30 oz. tub 5 ⁸⁸	Hawaiian Sun Jams • Jellies Assorted 10 oz. 2 ⁷⁸	Nissin Top Ramen 3 oz. 5/1 ⁵⁸	S/W Beans Black, Kidney, or Garbanzo 15 oz. 3/3 ⁹⁹	Ocean Garden Shrimp 31 - 35 5 lb. 36 ⁹⁹	Mama Bella Garlic Bread  14 oz. 3 ⁹⁹ Reg/Parmesan	
Asia Trans Arare 16 oz. 4 ⁴⁸	Roxy Lunkow Long Rice 8 pk. 2 ⁰⁸	Coral Chunk Light Tuna  Oil or Water 5 oz. 2/1 ⁹⁹	Quaker Oats Quick or Old-fashioned Oatmeal 42 oz. 3 ⁹⁹	Totino Party Pizza All Types 10 oz. 3/4 ⁹⁹	Flavor Pac Frozen Blueberries 16 oz. 4 ³⁹	
Roxy Chan Pei Mui 14 oz. 5 ²⁸	Roxy Whole Shiitake 3 oz. 2 ³⁸	Delmonte Ketchup 24 oz. 2/1 ⁹⁹ 	Delmonte Spaghetti Sauce All types 26 oz. 2/2 ¹⁹ 	Meadow Gold POG or Passion Orange Nectars  1 gal. 3 ⁴⁹	Meadow Gold Yogurt  6 oz. 10/7 ⁰⁰	

Grocery

Aloha Shoyu, reg./lite, 64 oz.	5 ⁷⁹
Campbell Cream of Mushroom Soup, 10 oz.	2/2 ²⁹
Delmonte Whole Kernel or Cream Corn, 14 - 15 oz.	2/2 ²⁹
Delmonte Tomato Sauce, 8 oz.	2/99¢
Delmonte Fruit Cocktail/Peaches, 14 - 15 oz.	2/2 ⁹⁹
Bumble Bee Pink Salmon, 14.75 oz.	3 ²⁹
Diamond Bakery Saloon/Cream/Graham Crackers, 8 - 9 oz.	3 ¹⁹
Diamond Bakery Soda Crackers, 13 oz.	3 ²⁹
Lion Coffee, all types, no decaf., 10 oz.	4 ⁹⁹
Carnation Coffeemate, assorted, 15 oz.	5 ¹⁹
Kingford Cornstarch, 16 oz.	1 ⁸⁵
Jif Peanut Butter, 18 oz.	3 ³⁹
Bakers Angel Flake Coconut, 7 oz.	2/4 ⁰⁰
Kraft Macaroni & Cheese, 7.25 oz.	2/2 ⁹⁹
Nestles Hot Cocoa Mix, 10 ct.	2/4 ⁹⁹
Koolaid, 8 qt.	3 ³⁹
Motts Apple Juice, 64 oz.	3 ²⁹
Barilla Spaghetti, 16 oz.	1 ⁵⁹
California Ranch Olive Oil, 25.4 oz.	9 ⁵⁹
Mums Mushrooms, pieces & stems, 5.5 oz.	2 ⁰⁹
Mums Bean Thread, 8 oz.	1 ⁸⁹
Shirakiku Mandarin Oranges, 11 oz.	1 ¹⁹
Shirakiku Sliced Shiitake, 1 oz.	1 ⁸⁹
Huy Fong Sirachi Sauce, 7 oz.	3 ⁹⁹
Shirakiku Tempura Batter Mix, 10 oz.	1 ⁹⁹
Sanka Instant Coffee, 8 oz.	6 ¹⁹
Shake-n-Bake Chicken or Pork, original, 2 pk.	2 ¹⁹
Progresso Soups, all types, 18 - 19 oz.	2 ⁸⁹

Hidden Valley Ranch Salad Dressing, 16 oz.	4 ⁵⁹
Libby Corn Beef, 12 oz.	4 ⁷⁹
Libby Corn Beef Hash, 15 oz.	2 ⁹⁹
Planters Sunflower Nuts, 5.85 oz.	1 ⁷⁹
Western Family Pitted Olives, 6 oz.	1 ⁵⁹
Western Family Honey, 12 oz.	3 ⁸⁹
Western Family Mayonnaise, 30 oz.	3 ³⁹

Natural Foods

Mori Nu Tofu, 12 oz.	1 ⁹⁹
Golden Temple Cereals, 10 - 12 oz.	3 ²⁹
Lundberg Rice Chips 6 oz.	2 ¹⁹
Maranatha Almond Butter, 12 oz.	5 ⁵⁹
Muir Glen Tomatoes, 28 oz.	2 ⁵⁹
Panda Licorice Chews Box, 7 oz.	2 ⁴⁹

Dairy

Meadow Gold Novelty Ice Cream Bars, 6 ct.	2/4 ⁰⁰
Meadow Gold Ice Cream, 4 qt.	6 ⁹⁹
Meadow Gold Orange Juice, 64 oz.	3 ⁰⁰
Meadow Gold Butter, 16 oz.	3 ⁸⁹
Big Island Poultry Grade A Large Eggs, Mainland Shell Protected, per dozen	2 ⁷⁹

Meats

USDA Boneless Chuck Steak, per lb.	5 ²⁹
Island Range Fed Boneless Top Sirloin, per lb.	7 ¹⁹
Foster Farm Value Pack Chicken Thighs, per lb.	1 ⁹⁹
Frozen Pork Butt, bone in, per lb.	1 ⁸⁹

SALE PRICES GOOD JANUARY 2 THRU JANUARY 15

LOVE'S Hearth Bread Assorted 24 oz. 4 ⁶⁹	LOVE'S Kid's Choice Bread 24 oz. 4 ¹⁵	JFC Coconut Milk 13.5 oz. 1 ⁸⁸	Yamamoto Yama Teas 1 ⁹⁸ 16 ct.	Pepsi 24-pk. cans 7 ⁹⁹	Pepsi 2-liter Bottle 3/4 ⁹⁹
Oscar Mayer Bacon All Types 16 oz. 4 ⁹⁹	Oscar Mayer Variety Pack All types 9 - 12 oz. 2/4 ⁹⁹	S & B Curry 3.5 oz. 2 ⁴⁹	Hula Turbinado Sugar 3 lb. 5 ⁷⁹	Nabisco Ritz Crackers or Bits 9.5 - 15 oz. 3 ⁴⁹	Nabisco Chips Ahoy or Belvita 8.8 - 13.72 oz. 3 ²⁹
Oscar Mayer Beef Franks Reg., Jumbo, New York, Chicago 15 - 16 oz. 3 ⁷⁹	Kraft Shredded Cheese All types 2/7 ⁰⁰ 8 oz.	Mae Ploy Sweet Chili Sauce 1 ⁷⁹ 10 oz.	Wel Pac Chuka Soba 6 oz. 1 ⁶⁹	Blue Bunny Ice Cream 56 oz. 4 ⁹⁹	Dreyer's Fruit Bars 6 ct. 3 ⁹⁹
Kraft Singles American 4 ¹⁹ 14.7 - 16 oz.	Philadelphia Soft Cream Cheese 2 ¹⁹ 8 oz. tub	Tiparos Fish Sauce 23 oz. 2 ²⁸	Family Lychee 20 oz. 2 ⁴⁸	Advil Caplets 24 ct. 4 ²⁹	Mach 3 Razor Blades 10 ³⁹ 5ct. 15 ⁹⁹
Frank's Foods Portuguese Sausage 12 oz. 3 ³⁹	Frank's Foods Frankfurters 16 oz. 3 ³⁹	Tropics Salad Dressing 12 oz. 3 ³⁸	Mid Pac Sauces 7 oz. 2 ⁷⁸	Savex Jar Lip Balm .25 oz. 79¢	Playtex Kinder Grip Nurser 8 oz. 2 ⁶⁹
Cool Whip Whipped Topping All Types 12 oz. 2/4 ⁹⁹	Oscar Mayer Regular Lunchables 4.5 oz 2/2 ⁹⁹	Krazy Glue 1 ⁶⁸ 2 guns	Sun Butane Cartridge 7.8 oz. 1 ⁹⁸	Pert Plus 2 in 1 3 ³⁹ 13.5 oz.	Icy Hot Patch 5 ct. 4 ⁸⁹

Freezer/Deli

Shedd's Country Crock Margarine, 15 oz.	2 ⁵⁹
Pillsbury Buttermilk Biscuits, 7.5 oz.	2/1 ⁹⁹
Hinoichi Firm Tofu, firm, 14 oz.	1 ⁹⁹
Athenos Feta Chunk Cheese, 8 oz.	4 ³⁹
Athenos Hummus, 7 oz.	2 ⁵⁹
Precious Ricotta, 15 oz.	4 ⁹⁹
Yoplait Yogurt, 4 - 6 oz.	2/1 ⁸⁹
Digiorno Shredded Parmesan, 8 oz.	2 ⁹⁹
Gorton Fish Fillet Thrift Pac, 24.5 oz.	7 ³⁹
Marie Callender Pies, assorted, 28 - 38 oz.	9 ⁹⁹
Bays English Muffins, 6 ct.	3 ¹⁹
El Monterey Burrito, 8 pk.	4 ⁹⁹
S&S Saimin, `ohana pack, 9/4.5 oz.	5 ⁶⁹
Menlo Lumpia Wrappers, 16 oz.	2 ⁹⁹
Pierre Sandwiches, 6 - 7 oz.	2 ⁹⁹
Carolina Ground Turkey, 16 oz.	2 ³⁹
Inland French Fries, 32 oz.	3 ²⁹
Birds Eye Steam Fresh Vegetables, 12 oz.	2 ⁵⁹
Tyson Boneless, Skinless Thighs, 40 oz.	7 ⁹⁹
Tyson Party Wings, 5 lb.	15 ⁹⁹
Tyson Popcorn Bites or Strips, 28 oz.	9 ⁹⁹
Frozen EZ Peel Shrimp, 31/40, 2 lb.	11 ⁹⁹
Frozen Frozen White Crab Sections, 1.5 lb.	6 ⁹⁹
Frozen Mussles, 1/2 shell, 2 lb.	7 ⁹⁹
Bailey Ground Pork, 16 oz.	2 ⁹⁹
Minute Maid Orange Juice, 16 oz.	2 ⁹⁹
Wes Pac Okra or Tiny Peas, 16 oz.	2 ¹⁹
Zippy Meals, 20 - 24 oz.	5 ⁹⁹

Produce

Amano Kamaboko, 6 oz.	1 ⁹⁹
Onions, round, yellow, per lb.	1 ⁰⁸
Broccoli, per lb.	1 ⁷⁸
Granny Smith Apples, per lb.	1 ⁹⁸

Non Foods

Angel Soft Bath Tissue, double rolls, 6 ct.	4 ⁸⁹
Sparkle Paper Towel, single rolls	2/2 ³⁹
Friskies Cat Food, 5 oz.	3/1 ⁹⁹
Glade Aerosol, 8 oz.	1 ³⁹
Gain Dish Liquid, 28 oz.	2 ³⁹
Dixie Plates, 8.5 in., 45 ct.	2 ⁵⁹
Downy Fabric Softener, 64 oz.	4 ¹⁹
Sun Detergent, 188 oz.	9 ⁷⁹
Western Family Foil., 25 sq. ft.	2/2 ⁴⁹
Saran Wrap, 100 sq. ft.	2 ¹⁹

Beer/Wine/Liquor

Corona, 12 pk., bottles	13 ⁹⁹
Heineken, 12 pk., bottles	14 ⁹⁹
Steinlager, 12 pk., bottles	11 ⁴⁹
Coors, 18 pk., bottles or cans	16 ⁹⁹
Natural Beer, 24 pk., cans	16 ⁹⁹
Rolling Rock, 12 pk., cans	8 ⁹⁹
Budweiser, 18 pk., bottles or cans	16 ⁹⁹
Mark West Wine, 750 ml.	9 ⁵⁹
Columbia Crest, 750 ml.	9 ⁹⁹
Yellow Tail Wine, 750 ml.	5 ⁹⁹
Captain Morgan Parrot Bay Rum, 750 ml.	13 ¹⁹
Tanqueray Gin, 750 ml.	17 ⁹⁹
Jose Cuervo Tequila, 750 ml.	14 ⁹⁹
Crown Royal, 750 ml.	19 ⁹⁹
Smirnoff Vodka, 750 ml.	11 ⁹⁹
Karkov Vodka, 1.75 liter	12 ⁹⁹

'Meet the Press': Who is Behind Kohala Mountain News?

Kohala Mountain News is not your average community newspaper. We have no office, no publisher, no reporters. In fact, we operate with a skeleton crew to bring you news solely about the people and places of North Kohala—the stories you won't read about in other island newspapers. And it's delivered free to every post office box in Hawi and Kapa'au and kiosks around North Kohala with a total distribution of 3,500 papers each month.

So, who are the people behind the paper and how does it come together each month?

First, the newspaper would not be possible without the support of our advertisers. Each month, these local businesses show their support for our community by buying ads in KMN. Our biggest advertisers are Takata Store and Hawaii Community Federal Credit Union, but we appreciate all of our advertisers, who trust KMN to deliver their business news to the community. Please patronize these businesses and let them know you saw their ad in KMN.

Of course, these ads don't just land at our doorstep; Tom Morse, our ad sales and business manager, personally visits and makes the calls to get new advertisers and keep mainstays, making sure ad content is correct and received on time. Under his leadership, advertising has increased to an average of 40 ads per month, allowing KMN to expand from 16 to 20 pages in 2012, as well as helping KMN develop an online presence (with help from Harry Mullin) at www.kohalamountainnews.com. Contact Tom at 345-0706 or ltmorse@aol.com to place an ad in KMN.

Of course, the meat of the paper is the news. Megan Solis, managing editor, is responsible for digging up news sto-

ries, soliciting people to write them, and then editing and preparing the articles for publication. Since there are no staff reporters, her job is to recruit volunteers in the community (people like you) to write about people and events here in North Kohala. And when she can't find

Once stories are edited and the paper is planned out, Megan transmits everything electronically to Anne Fojtasjek, the layout editor for KMN. Anne has been with KMN since its inception. She not only organizes and plans the layout of the ads, stories and photos, she also

in Waimea to pick up the newspapers. On Friday morning, they meet with the Senior Citizens Club members, who collate the sections and organize the papers into sets of 25. Jenna and Jay then weigh the papers and prepare accompanying paperwork for bulk mailing, as well as organizing bundles for distribution at kiosks throughout North Kohala. With the help of Terri and Richard at Kapa'au Post Office and Hoku in Hawi, the papers are processed as bulk mail and delivered to every post office box. Jenna also maintains the list of out-of-area subscribers and mails out copies to them.

Of course, all of this has its costs, but Hana Anderson of Kohala Tax, LLC, handles all of the ad invoices, processes incoming and outgoing checks, files appropriate tax forms, and generally "keeps the books." KMN is a sponsored project of North Kohala Community Resource Center and also gratefully receives some donations from the community to help with our costs. Donations should be made to NKCRC, earmarked for Kohala Mountain News.

Be sure to check the masthead on page 4 each month for the next month's deadlines and for contact information for each of us.

Thank you for your support of Kohala Mountain News. We wish each of you a joyful holiday season and prosperous New Year.



Kohala Mountain News staff includes Hana Anderson (bookkeeping), Anne Fojtasjek (layout), Tom Morse (ads), Megan Solis (news) and Jesus Solis (calendar).

someone to cover a story, she does it herself. Each month she sends out an email to frequent KMN contributors, keeping them informed of deadlines and finding out what stories they plan to submit. All stories are subject to editing for content, grammar, and space limitations. Unfortunately, we cannot pay writers for their articles. Stories and photos are usually submitted to Megan by email at kmneditor@hotmail.com, or call her at 884-5986.



Jay and Jenna Vega (with baby Legacy) handle distribution.

Calendar editor Jesús Solís works closely with Megan to make sure that upcoming events are included in the monthly calendar,

published on page 19 of each issue. Events are limited to those that are open to the public and are free or low cost. To have an event listed in the calendar, contact Jesús at kmncalendar@hotmail.com or 884-5986.

creates some of the ads, including Takata Store's. Working under great time pressure, she coordinates with Tom and advertisers to make sure ads are accurate and will reproduce well. Once ads are on the pages, she lays out the articles and photos, making small adjustments in leading and photo sizes to try to get every story to fit. Occasionally, it means making last-minute edits to stories. On Sunday night before the paper goes to print, she and Megan often work late proofing pages, which Anne sends as pdf files to the printer, Hilo Bay Printing.

A few days later distribution coordinator Jenna Vega, along with husband Jay, arranges to meet a courier



Kohala seniors help collate and count the papers each month.


*Best Wishes to Our
Kohala Family
for a Joyous Holiday Season
and a Glorious New Year.
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What will you discover at Parker School?

Kohala High Brings Back School Swim Team

By Kassie Kometani

Courtesy of Ka Leo Na `Opio

For the first time since 2006, Kohala High School is offering swimming during the winter season. The decision to open up the swim team again was made by athletic director Laurie Koustik. It was risky, knowing that students might not be interested. But a small team was formed when two girls and five boys signed up.

Jeffrey Coakley, with the assistance of Billy Inglis, will coach the high school team. Both men coach Kohala's USA swim team, which will be traveling to state championships this December. Also on the USA swim team is freshman Yuki Zbytovsky and sophomore Kassie Kometani. Their entering high school sparked interest in having a school swim team once again.

"I'm really happy about finally having a swim team this year. It gives

us a chance to represent our school and show that the Kohala High swimming program can make a comeback," said Zbytovsky.

Training is held at Kamehameha Park pool every day from 4 to 5:30 p.m. The swimmers are making a lot of progress and will hopefully be ready for the upcoming season.

The swim team had its debut meet at HPA December 8. Zbytovsky took first place in the 100 breaststroke and Kometani was first in the 100 fly. The pair also took second in the 200 free, 100 back and 50 free.

This was the first meet for the boys and, though they did not place, showed great poise for their first competitive meet. However, Nathan Canienero-Carvalho, a past novice swimmer and champion spring board diver, did a great job in the 50 yard freestyle, and his experience helped to steady the boys' team composure.

Though starting out as a small team, it is hoped swimming will become a force to be reckoned with in the coming years. This year the Kohala novice swim team had 40 swimmers with some of them looking forward to one day competing for Kohala High.

The next meet will be at the KCAC pool on January 5 and every Saturday until the BIIF championships on January 25 to 26.

Read more Kohala High School news at www.kaleonaopio.com. Jeff Coakley contributed to this article.



—photo courtesy of Jeff Coakley

Kohala High School's competitive swimmers, left to right, are Jayven Amanonce, Kassie Kometani, Yuki Zbytovsky, Nathan Canienero-Carvalho and Ford Clark with coaches Billy Inglis and Jeff Coakley (behind).

Free Emergency Response Training Coming to North Kohala

There will be another free CERT [Community Emergency Preparedness Team] training in North Kohala this coming year. Rarely are they held here, but we are beginning to show up on the emergency response map. Isolated North Kohala is especially vulnerable during emergencies such as hurricanes, earthquakes, fires, or floods. One of the best things residents can do to get prepared is to join the North Kohala CERT. Hawai'i County is No. 1 out of the 3,140 counties in the U.S.A. for the potential to be impacted by hazards, and North Kohala is particularly isolated, so we need to be prepared.

Following a major disaster, professional first responders who provide fire and medical services are usually unable to meet the huge immediate demand. As a result, people generally have to rely on each other for help. In the wake of a major disaster it is common for spontaneous volunteers to pitch in, but many impromptu rescuers have been injured

or killed while attempting to save others. This is a high price to pay and is preventable through proper training. Civil Defense and local fire departments have trained CERT teams in every state, including 16 on the Big Island. The North Kohala CERT team needs more volunteers to adequately serve our area in an emergency.

People who complete the free CERT training gain a clear understanding of the potential threats to their home, workplace, and community and more importantly know what steps need to be taken to properly respond to an emergency to reduce losses of life and property.

CERT training promotes partnering between emergency response agencies and the communities they serve. Our CERT team is part of Hawai'i Civil Defense and coordinates with our local fire and police departments. Because resources are limited, building community resilience is the key to effective response

and quicker recovery. Partnering with emergency response agencies and our community through the CERT program helps build community resilience.

Consider taking the free training and joining North Kohala CERT. After completing CERT training, you'll find your newly acquired knowledge and skills useful for yourself and your family, should the need arise. CERT team members maintain and refine their skills by participating in exercises and other organized activities. CERT members often volunteer and participate in projects that improve their community. When disaster strikes your area, you will know what to do through CERT.

CERT Training spans four consecutive Saturday sessions consisting of nine modules. The next North Kohala training will be February 16, 23, and March 2 and 9. The modules are:

1. Emergency Preparedness: Hazard Mitigation and Risk.
2. Fire: Fire chemistry, hazardous

materials, assessment, safety, suppression.

3. Emergency Medical-Part I: Recognizing and treating life-threatening conditions, triage.

4. Emergency Medical-Part II: Disaster medical operations, head-to-toe assessment; first aid and medical treatment, public health.

5. Light Search-and-Rescue Operations: Planning, assessment, conducting search and rescue; cribbing techniques.

6. CERT Organization: Decision-making; documentation.

7. Disaster Psychology: Team well-being, working with survivors.

8. Terrorism and CERT: Defining and identifying terrorism.

9. Pet Care: Animal care for a disaster.

Final Course Review and Disaster Simulation: Exercise critique, summary, and certificates of completion.

Please call or email John Winter at 889-6901, winterj@whitman.edu, if you are interested in taking this training and becoming a member of North Kohala CERT.

For more information on the CERT Program, visit www.citizencorps.gov/cert/, or check out the HI CERT website: co.hawaii.hi.us/cd/cert/.

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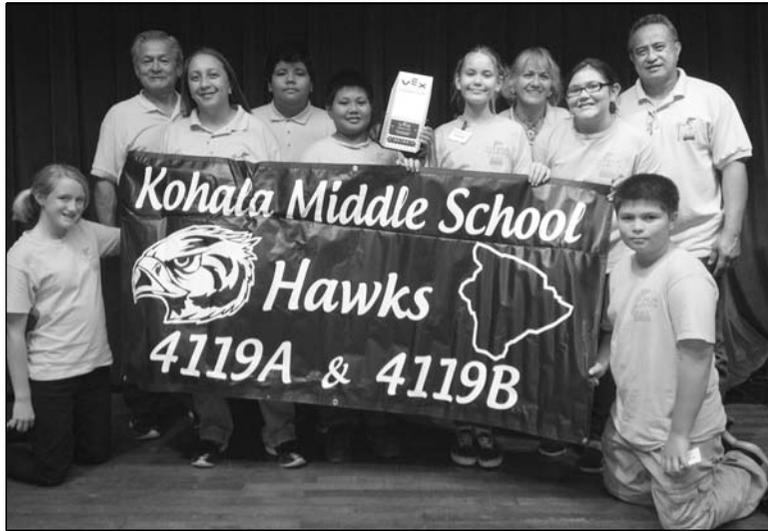
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Middle School Robotics Qualify for VEX World Championships

By Fern White

The Kohala Middle School VEX robotics teams are flying high after competing at the Hawaii VEX Middle School Invitational December 8, with VEX robotics team 4119B qualifying for VEX World Championships scheduled for April 2013. The team driver is Joseph Pacheco. Other team members include Kaimi Hook, Sakura Remzen, Reyanna Savedra, MorganSwan, and Kayden Valenzuela.



Hawaii Convention Center.

Notable is the fact that all middle school VEX team members are rookies. Additionally, they have stated that they wish to live up to Kohala's record

A second robot team, 4119A, placed sixth overall; Kayden was the driver. There were 36 middle

—photo courtesy of Fern White
Kohala Middle School teams 4119B and 4119A celebrate their win as tournament champions. Left to right, kneeling: Morgan Swan and Kaimi Hook; Standing, left to right: Alvin Kawamoto, Cheryl Cabrera, Kayden Valenzuela, Joseph Pasco, Sakura Remzen, Ms. White, Reyanna Savedra, and Eric Delacruz.

school teams mostly from O'ahu. Waiakea Intermediate and Pa'auilo schools also had teams at the competition. Each team played five qualifying matches to earn rankings for top eight seeds, which are the teams that get to select their alliances for eliminations and finals. Final rounds are double eliminations of quarterfinals, semifinals and then the final four.

The intensity of the matches and quality of robots was high. Team 4119A was the only team to upset the higher seed and advance to semifinals. However, other teams prevailed. In the end, Kohala Middle team 4119B sealed the second match of the finals with high scoring and excellent teamwork with Pearl Highlands team 394 from O'ahu. As a result, the team is bound for Anaheim, Calif., for the World Championship VEX tournament next April. In the meantime, they also competed in Hilo on December 15 (results were unavailable at press time), and on O'ahu, February 20 to 23, at the

last year as middle school rookies who went to Nationals and Worlds and won awards! For the last two years, middle school mentors have invited high school robotics team members to mentor some of the middle school students. Lead middle school mentor Alvin Kawamoto and assistant Cheryl Cabrera work with students afterschool twice weekly. Congratulations to the Kohala Middle School VEX robotics team 4119B...Tournament Champions!

The Kohala robotics program meets afterschool three to four times weekly 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. During the intercession the teams met daily from 4 to 9 p.m. The Kohala robotics program has expanded from one high school VEX team to three VEX teams with three completely running robots. The program includes partnerships with middle school VEX team.

Kohala Robotics is supported in part by 21st Century Community Learning Center and is a North Kohala Community Resource Center project.

Kohala Robotics Hosts World Qualifying VEX Competition

The first VEX robotics tournament ever held in Kohala occurred December 1 at the Kohala High School gym. The second leg of three in the TMT Big Island VEX Robotics League competitions consisted of 26 teams from 12 Big Island schools competing in 57 matches that began at 10:30 a.m. and ended at 3:30 p.m.

The event required many volunteers. With a fully scheduled day of exciting matches as teams attempted to earn the most wins and score points to increase their rankings, mentors, parents and volunteers pulled together to host the event, working as referees, cue managers, inspectors, registrars, security persons for pit safety and crowd control.

Set up began the evening before by rolling out tarps to protect the gym floor. Two game fields sized 12-by-12 feet were set up; the electronics set out and cords secured; signage, a registration area and an inspection area, two cueing stations, and pit areas for each



—photo by Fern White
Ninth grader Kaliko Delacruz looks on as Billy Skelton, 10th grade, prepares their robot for the next match at the TMT Big Island VEX Robotics Competition held at Kohala High School gymnasium December 1.

team were all assembled and arranged. Although the matches should have begun at 10 a.m., the absence of one team forced a match alliance redraw. Excellent scoring and robotics alliance strategies action followed. Supporters cheered from bleacher area, and large screens continually displayed updates as each match was completed.

VEX robotics consists of a design system that offers students an exciting
See KHS VEX, page 17

NORTH KOHALA EAT LOCALLY GROWN

Growing a Local Food System in North Kohala

JANUARY EVENTS

19 ALL ABOUT 'UALA (SWEETPOTATO)

With Ulu Mau Puanui

Saturday, January 19, 2013
8:30 am - 1:00 pm

Did you know that the Kohala Dryland Field System was once one of the keys to Kohala's food security? Native Hawaiians grew tons of 'uala (sweetpotato) in the Kohala Field System. There used to be over 200 varieties of sweetpotato, today there are about 20. Come take advantage of this opportunity to learn from the 'uala experts—Kehaulani Marshall and Ala Lindsey—about this amazing Hawaiian agricultural system. Includes 'uala variety tasting and cuttings to take home. Free, but advance registration required at foodhubkohala.org or call Karla at 808-224-1404.

Meet at Kohala Intergenerational Center at 8:30 am sharp to carpool to Puanui.

20 LOVING LOCAL FOODS—MAKING ROCKIN' ROLLS

Kohala Elementary School Discovery Garden

Saturday, January 26, 2013
9:00 am - 11:00 am

Learn how to make expert sushi rolls with local ingredients from the garden. Guest chef from Sushi Rock Hawi. And...wear your garden clothes and help out in the garden—sushi rolls and local foods to follow!

21 HOME GARDENING—MAKING GREAT COMPOST

Kohala Senior Center

Saturday, January 26, 2013
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

The North Kohala Eat Locally Grown Campaign is hosting quarterly "Home Gardening" workshops. Let us know what you want to learn... and if you want to host an event at your home. This month we are focusing on compost and learning how to feed our gardens right. Taught by Ben Nicholson of Sage Farms.

Coming up in February: Kohala Farm-to-Fork Tour!

Check out our new website FoodHubKohala.org
Events! Equipment Share! Food Share!

The North Kohala Eat Locally Grown Campaign is a project of the North Kohala Community Resource Center and is funded by Kaiser Permanente, County of Hawai'i, Department of Research and Development and Local Initiatives Fund of RSF Social Finance.



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KOHALA HIGH SCHOOL WINTER SPORTS SCHEDULE

BOYS AND GIRLS SOCCER

Dec 29	Sat	1 pm	@ Waiakea
Jan 5	Sat	1 pm	vs CLA
Jan 9	Wed	2 pm	vs Kealakehe
Jan 12	Sat	1 pm	vs. HAAS (boys)
Jan 16	Wed	2 pm	vs. Honokaa
Jan 19	Sat	1 pm	@ Kau
Jan 22-26	T/Th/Sa	Girls BIIF Playoffs	
Jan 29- Feb 2	T/Th/Sa	Boys BIIF Playoffs	

BOYS BASKETBALL

Jan 7	Mon	6 pm	@ Kealakehe
Jan 9	Wed	6 pm	vs HPA
Jan 12	Sat	6 pm	@ Laupahoehoe
Jan 15	Tue	6 pm	@ Honokaa
Jan 19	Sat	6 pm	vs Konawaena
Jan 23	Wed	6 pm	vs Kealakehe
Jan 25	Fri	6 pm	@ HPA
Jan 26	Sat	6 pm	vs Laupahoehoe
Jan 31	Thu	6 pm	vs Honokaa
Feb 9	Sat	6 pm	@ Konawaena
Feb 11-16	Mon-Sat	BIIF Playoffs	
Feb 20-23	Wed-Sat	HHSAA @ Oahu	

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Jan 3	Thu	6 pm	vs. Honokaa
Jan 5	Sat	6 pm	vs. HPA (varsity)
Jan 8	Tue	6 pm	@ Kealakehe
Jan 14	Mon	6 pm	@ Konawaena
Jan 16	Wed	6 pm	@ Honokaa
Jan 18	Fri	6 pm	@ HPA (varsity)
Jan 22	Tue	6 pm	vs Kealakehe
Jan 24	Thu	6 pm	vs Konawaena
Jan 26	Sat	6 pm	vs Laupahoehoe(JV)
Jan 30-Feb 2	Wed/Fri/Sat	BIIF Playoffs	
Feb 6-9	Wed-Sat	HHSAA @ Oahu	

BOYS AND GIRLS SWIMMING

Jan 5	Sat	10 am	@ Kona
Jan 12	Sat	10 am	@ HPA
Jan 19	Sat	10 am	@ Kamehameha
Jan 26	Sat	10 am	@ Hilo
Feb 1-2	Fri/Sat	BIIF @Kamehameha	
Feb 15-16	Fri/Sat	HHSAA @ Oahu	

Students Enjoy Live Performance, 'Brundibar, the Bully'



—photo by Rose Mae Watterson

Students from Kohala Elementary and Kohala Mission schools were entertained in November by Maui Academy of Performing Arts actors in the play "Brundibar, the Bully." This charming Czechoslovakian opera shared a message about perseverance, resilience and courage. MAPA provided scholarships for the event, reducing ticket prices by \$1 per student, and the North Kohala Cultural Enrichment program contributed \$1 per student, reducing ticket prices to \$2.50. Mahalo also to Takata Store for the Banzai cards (\$1.50), which students could turn in toward payment.

Hawks Fly at First Lego League Tourney on O`ahu



—photo courtesy of Maya Anderson

By Maya Anderson

On December 1, the Kohala Middle School Halaula Hawks FLL (First Lego League) robotics team, from bottom left, Miranda Canniff, Maya Anderson, Kaid Nickl, and top left, Kirk Kiriu, Cloë Parks, Justin Moniz, Nicole Castillo, and Jay Vega, went to the FLL Senior Solutions Lego robotics tournament on O`ahu. The group had a great experience on O`ahu while we went to the Bishop Museum, Ala Moana Shopping Center and the state tournament. We thank our parents, coaches and mentors Kirk Kiriu, Justin Moniz, and Jay Vega, and others for their guidance and support!

KHS Juniors to Sponsor Walkathon

OK, Kohala, strap on your walking shoes and get ready to move those feet! Kohala High School's junior class is gearing up to bring back the walkathon in February. The purpose of the event is to promote drug awareness, and it is offered as a community service project by the junior class.

After the walk, which will begin at Kamehameha Park to the high school and back to the park, there will be a fair to include special speakers, anti-drug information, and concessions. The event, including the walk, is open to all ages and is free. Families are encouraged to participate together.

Junior class president Eloisa Viernes Obero said the event is also a fundraiser for the class. Students will be responsible for getting pledges in support of their walk, and funds will also be raised through vendors. Moneys raised help to defray expenses for the senior prom, Proj-

ect Grad night and other class activities. Eloisa, along with vice president Hauoli Sproat-Lancaster, treasurer Mohala Kaholoa`a-Kumukona and secretary Summer Murai, are working to schedule the speakers and are currently seeking food vendors. A specific date has not yet been set, but the officers said it will definitely be held on a weekend in February.

The walkathon used to be a regular event sponsored by the junior class until about four years ago. The students thought the walk would be a good way to blend physical activity and family time with the message of the dangers of drug use.

For more information about the walkathon or to become a vendor, contact Mr. Lovitt or Mr. Kealoha at Kohala High School at 889-7117. And look for more details about the walkathon in next month's Kohala Mountain News.

KHS VEX, continued from page 16

platform for learning about areas rich with career opportunities spanning science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). Beyond science and engineering principles, VEX Robotics projects encourage teamwork, leadership and problem-solving among groups.

In Kohala there are two grade levels

in VEX: Kohala Middle and Kohala High. The programs, sponsored in part by 21st Century Community Learning Center and North Kohala Community Resource Center, meet two to three times weekly afterschool at the Old Bond Memorial Library. For more information, contact Fern White, program coordinator at 889-7117.

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Sacred Heart Catholic Church
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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

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

Operation Vacation Gives Respite to Veteran and Family

This past Veterans Day weekend Operation Vacation Hawaii hosted another well-deserving Army soldier and his family for a free vacation in Kohala. Lt. Col. Michael Ragan has a 26-year career of service, earning numerous awards and decorations, including a bronze star and meritorious service medal, along with Army commendation and special achievement medals. Recently home from Kuwait and only a year away from retirement, Lt. Col. Ragan is studying to be a teacher on O'ahu when discharged.

While in Kohala, he and his two daughters, Jackie and Ellie, were treated to a stay at a private condo in Waikoloa generously donated by Mr. and Mrs. Gary Chapman.

Over the weekend, they enjoyed a zipline tour courtesy of BIEA, a ranch visit to Hawaii Paso Finos courtesy of Joe and Kelly Vitorino, and a private dinner at Macaroni Grill with other military families. Waikoloa Lions Club provided gift certificates for the family, and Alamo Rental Car donated their

transportation.

Lt. Col. Ragan was one of the guest speakers at the annual Veterans Day program and luncheon November 11, hosted by the Kohala National Guard Alumni. He was joined by his base commander from Fort Shafter, Lt. Col. Matthew Goodman, who has been instrumental in getting Army approval of the program, and selecting the soldiers who get to participate in the vacations.

The family truly appreciated the Aloha shown to them by the whole community, and especially loved the quiet and beautiful rural surroundings of this treasured part of the Big Island. They intend to return someday in the near future.

Operation Vacation provides all-expense-paid vacations for soldiers returning from Iraq and Afghanistan in order for them to reconnect with their families in the peacefulness of North Kohala. The Hawaii chapter was started in 2010, and has since provided free vacations to Kohala for seven soldiers and their families.

In order to continue into 2013, the program is currently in need of any and all cash donations and is also looking for donated Hawaiian Airline miles to sponsor interisland flights for the soldiers.

For those who would like to learn

more about sponsoring or donating to the program, please contact program director Joe Vitorino at 884-5625, or mail directly to Operation Vacation Hawaii, P.O. Box 1107 Kapa'au, HI 96755. Let's give our troops a break!



From left, Kelly and Joe Vitorino of Hawaii Paso Finos welcomed veteran Lt. Col. Michael Ragan and daughters Jackie and Ellie Ragan to Kohala.

—photo courtesy of Joe Vitorino

Free Sustainable Saturday Series 2013 Begins January 19

By Deborah Winter and Andrea Dean

The North Kohala Eat Locally Grown Campaign and Sustainable Kohala are co-sponsoring FREE events throughout 2013 on how to grow and enjoy healthy food.

The first session, All About 'Uala, will take place Saturday, January 19, 2013, from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. (see ad, p.16) and features 'uala experts Kehaulani Marshall and Ala Lindsey. Register at foodhubkohala.org or call Karla at 224-1404. Meet at Kohala Intergenerational Center at 8:30 a.m. sharp to car-pool to Puanui.

Other upcoming events in January will take place the following week—on January 26 at 9 a.m. learn how to make local sushi rolls with Sushi Rock at the Kohala Elementary School Discovery Garden (and it's a volunteer work day so bring your gloves!) At 1 p.m. learn how to make great compost at the Kohala Senior Center, taught by Ben Nicholson of Sage Farms.

Throughout the rest of the year, Sustainable Saturdays will feature local and island-wide experts presenting and demonstrating skills on planting, gardening, composting, cooking, and enjoying home-grown food and medicine.

Sustainable Saturdays will focus on growing food yourself, as it is more nutritious, more delicious, cheaper, and more sustainable than "food" you'll find in boxes in the grocery store.

What exactly is sustainability? The term gets used a lot these days, so it might be worth defining. Sustainability means living in ways that do not hinder the well-being of future generations. That means reducing both our use of natural resources and our production of waste, while building mechanisms for regeneration and future security. Traditional cultures taught and lived sustainability, but today we live in industrialized settings that consume more resources than we produce.

Because there is a limited supply of fossil fuels, sustainability also means

local production of household commodities, and a resilient local economy, including trade and barter. The less fossil fuel used to transport goods, the more sustainable.

Much of the work of learning to live sustainably involves (re)learning traditional methods of growing food and medicine. Using "waste" as food for the next cycle of production, growing and cooking healthy food, and working together to teach and learn these skills are all dimensions of sustainability.

The entire free Sustainable Saturday Series 2013 is made possible by Sustainable Kohala and the North Kohala Eat Locally Grown Campaign, both projects of the North Kohala Community Resource Center. The North Kohala Eat Locally Grown Campaign is funded by Kaiser Permanente, County of Hawaii Department of Research and Development, and Local Initiatives Fund of RSF Social Finance. Sustainable Kohala is funded by many generous donors of North Kohala.



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Montessori School Hosts Open House

"Miss Bonnie" Beckett and the staff of Montessori Education Center of Hawaii host their winter Open House on Saturday, January 19, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The center is located at 55-515 Hawi Road behind Nakahara Store in downtown Hawi. The school currently has preschool and kindergarten programs with two teachers and one assistant serving 15 students ages 3 to 6.

Parents and children are welcome to attend, tour the facilities, meet the staff, enjoy refreshments and learn more about the Montessori approach to education. They will offer hands-on demonstrations of Montessori learning materials throughout the day. Enrollment for both programs is ongoing on a space-available basis.

For more information, call office manager, Summer Dwyer, at 889-5131 or visit their Facebook page.

Watercolor Workshops with Tracy Lewis

Register now for two watercolor workshops offered by Tracy Lewis in early February. "Painting Tropical Fish" is great for beginners to advanced watercolorists. Learn glazing and wet into wet techniques, how to keep your colors clean and bright and more. Class is Friday, February 8, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Kohala Intergenerational Center. Cost is \$100.

In "Painting Portraits in Watercolor," Tracy will share her techniques for creating luminous and expressive watercolor portraits. All skill levels are welcome. Work from your own

photo or one provided. Materials list and tips on choosing a good reference photo will be provided upon registration. Class meets Saturday and Sunday, February 9 to 10, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost is \$200. Take both classes and get a \$50 discount.

For more information, see tracylewisart.com.

KMN Now Online
www.kohalamountainnews.com

THE COQUI CORNER

December Update:

- Sites Treated:
- 2 residences at Kaahuhu Homestead
 - 2 sites near Pololu Valley
 - 1 site near the Aloha Gas Station in Kapa'au

- Sites Still active after treating:
- 1 near Pololu Valley
 - 1 on top of Kynnersley Road

- New sites recently reported:
- Behind the Tong Wo Society in Halawa
 - Midway up on Kynnersley Road
 - Pasture on Honomakau Road
 - Residence at Kapiko Estates

PLEASE KEEP KOHALA COQUI FREE

CALL THE Coqui Hotline: 889-5775

Donations are gratefully accepted through NKCR. Mahalo for your support!

Kohala's Donnelly and Brooke Shine at Talent Show

The Kahilu Theatre was the venue on December 7 for Waimea's Got Talent, a showcase for extraordinary local performers and a fundraiser for One Holistic Place, a North Kohala program which uses a holistic approach to prevent chronic illness in Hawaiian youth and adults.

North Kohala native Christi Donnelly won first place for the second year in a row. Judge Billy Rodrigues stated that Christi was one of the best singers on the island. All of the judges encouraged Christi to get in a studio immediately to record a CD.

Hawi's Jonathan Brooke was also part of the winning performances for the second year in a row. Jonathan's band, Kaahale & the Isness, won second place. Third-place winner Rique Rose recently moved to the Big Island after performing in top shows in Vegas.

Hannah Marie, Clover Joy and Isaiah Salmoiraghi all tied for first place for the keiki division as it was too difficult for the audience to pick a winner. An outstanding performance was given by Uma Murillo, Brian Nakasone, Jorge Ayala, and Michael Mattson.

Judges for the event were Rona Lee, Billy Rodrigues of the I'land Boiz, and Leiola Mitchell; and masters of ceremonies were Dr. Lorraine Sonoda-Fogel and Allison Spencer.

Organizer Rachel Allen said, "Mahalo Nui Loa to all of the volunteers, performers and guests who helped to

make Waimea's Got Talent fundraiser a success and a memorable evening."

She gave a special thank you to head coordinators Monica Hurley and Lezlie Purdy; chef Ikua Purdy; photographer Steve Berkoff, sound techs Clay Matsuzaki with assistant Rudy, and Ira Shigaki, as well as the many other volunteers.

All proceeds from the show will fund One Holistic Place's outreach program to be held in March for teens and young adults. The group will learn about the history of the area and participate in



—photo by Steve Berkoff

Christi Donnelly enthralled the judges and crowd with her first-place performance.

healthy and cultural activities.

To support the outreach program, write a check to One Holistic Place and send to P.O. Box 1584, Kapa'au, HI 96755. For more information see www.OneHolisticPlace.org or call Rachel Allen at 756-3883.

Support Project Grad... Eat Spaghetti!

The Kohala Project Grad 2013 Spaghetti Luncheon will be held Saturday, January 12, 2013, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Kohala High School cafeteria.

Tickets are being sold by Kohala High Seniors for \$12, which includes luncheon and special entertainment by the Senior Class of 2013. Take-out is also available. For more information, contact Matthew and Rosalind Kupuka'a, fundraising chairpersons, at 889-5629 or Gino and Michelle Amar,

KPG 2013 chairpersons, at 889-9868.

Monies raised will be used for Kohala Project Grad, an overnight drug- and alcohol-free party for graduating seniors, which will be held on May 18, 2013.

Kohala Project Grad is a sponsored project of the North Kohala Community Resource Center. Donations may also be dropped off at the Resource Center in Hawi. Please make checks payable to NKCRC and note KPG 2013 in the memo.



~ Mele Kalikimaka e Hau'oli Makahiki Hou ~

From Our 'Ohana to Yours; Goodness & Love Fill Your Year

We've closed 2 more homes in the last week! Please call us if you want to sell. Tired of handling the vacation rental? We'll probably more than pay for our services... Here's one of our vacation rental owner's comments: "Thank you for caring, Jeffrey & April! We totally agree with you both... Appreciate all your efforts." **Bonnie C.**

April K. Lee, RB, BA, CCIM, ABR, E-Pro in RE/MAX Hall of Fame & Jeffrey D. Lee, RS Instrumental in building 100's of homes on Hawai'i Island



Office: 808.889.5505 Toll Free: 877.781.3070

KOHALA CALENDAR

January 2013

- 2 Wed 4:30-6:30 pm, CDP Public Access Subcmte. Mtg., Senior Center, Ted, 889-5801.
- 2 Wed 6-9 pm, Live music w/ David Gomes, every Wed, Lighthouse Deli, 889-5757.
- 2 Wed 7 pm, AA meeting, every Wed., Kalahikiola Church annex on `Iole Rd.
- 3 Thu 6-9 pm, Green Drinks Hawi, Kava Kafe, organic networking & pupus, Forrest, 987-2365.
- 4 Fri 10 am, Preschool Story Time series, every Fri., ages 2-5, North Kohala library, 889-6655.
- 4 Fri 5:30-7:30 pm, QiGong talk w/ Master Jianshe, Kokolulu Farm, Hawi, 889-9893.
- 4 Fri 7 pm, Northshore live for Pau Hana, every Fri., Lighthouse Deli, 889-5757.
- 5 Sat 8:30 am, "Walking in the Wild" guided silent walks w/ Gavin Harrison, at `Iole, by donation, sign up by 8:30, call `Iole at 889-5151.
- 6 Sun 10:30 am, Metaphysical Church: "Letting Go Into the New Year," Kohala Yoga, 54-3877 Akoni Pule Hwy, Rev. Lee, 889-5505.
- 6 Sun 4 pm, KHS Alumni football game vs. Honokaa, \$10, Honokaa HS field, Debi, 889-6647.
- 7 Mon 6-7 pm, Growth Management Subcmte. Mtg., public invited, Surety Kohala office, Hawi, Hermann, 889-1464.
- 7 Mon 6:30 pm, "Voices of the Wood" Chamber Players, a cello concert, North Kohala library, 889-6655.
- 7 Mon 7 pm, Al-Anon mtg., lower level, Walker Hall, St. Augustine's, Laura, 884-5833.
- 8 Tue 11 am, Adult book discussion group, "Blue Skin of the Sea" by Graham Salisbury, North Kohala library, 889-6655.
- 9 Wed 6:30 pm, KHS SCC mtg., rm. D-24, parents & community welcome, 889-7117.
- 10 Thu 3:30 pm, Kohala Elem. SCC mtg., rm. 12, public invited, 889-7100.
- 12 Sat 9 am-1 pm, North Kohala-Grown Kits 'n' Kats Adoption Day: friendly, litter-trained, neutered/spayed, FIV & FeLV negative, all shots, dewormed, most microchipped, Kapa'au Veterinary Center, 54-3876 Akoni Pule Hwy, Kate, popokipono@gmail.com.
- 12 Sat 11 am-1 pm, Project Grad spaghetti lunch, KHS cafeteria, \$12, Matthew/Rosalind, 889-5629.
- 14 Mon 5-6:30 pm, CDP Action Cmte. Public Mtg., Bank of Hawaii bldg., Kapa'au.
- 14 Mon 6:30 pm, Boyd Bond presents, "Hawaii's Natural History," North Kohala library, 889-6655.
- 14 Mon 6-7 pm, Kohala Haw'n Civic Club Public Mtg., Hawi Community Center, Rochelle, 896-3033.
- 16 Wed 10 am, Homeschool Wednesday, North Kohala library, 889-6655.
- 16 Wed 5 pm, KMS SCC mtg., library, parents & community welcome, 889-7119.
- 17 Thu 1:30-2:30 pm, Kohala Hospital Auxiliary Mtg., Hospital Pavilion, new members welcome, Dixie, 889-5730.
- 19 Sat 8:30 am- 1pm, Sustainable Saturday series, All about `Uala, free, meet at KIC to carpool, call to register, Karla, 224-1404.
- 19 Sat 9 am-1 pm, Treasures Helping-Hand Store, Assembly of God, Hawi Rd., free meal: 10 am-1 pm, 889-5177.
- 19 Sat 10 am, KHS Homecoming Parade, on Akoni Pule Hwy from Kamehameha Park to KHS.
- 19 Sat 4:30-6:30 pm, Free Grindz--Hot Meal, under the Hawi Banyans, bring a friend, Kohala Baptist Church, Sondra, 889-5416.
- 20 Sun 10:30 am, Metaphysical Church: "Divine Love is the Way," Kohala Yoga, 54-3877 Akoni Pule Hwy, Rev. Lee, 889-5505.
- 26 Sat 9 am, Sustainable Saturday series, learn to make sushi, free, KES Discovery Garden, (bring work gloves for volunteer day).
- 26 Sat 11 am-12:30 pm, Free Community Meal, St. Augustine's Walker Hall, Thrift Store open 10 am-12:30 pm.
- 26 Sat 1 pm, Sustainable Saturday series, learn to make compost, free, Kohala Senior Ctr.
- 28 Mon 6:30 pm, "San Marcos, Revolutions in Clay," a film presentation & discussion w/ Carol Geertsma, North Kohala library, 889-6655.
- 29 Tue 6 pm, CDP Agriculture Subcmte. Mtg, public welcome, KIC, Frank, 333-8026.
- 31 Thu 7 pm, New Year's Eve, Northshore Live, DJ & dancing from 10 pm til close, Lighthouse Deli, 889-5757.

Email calendar listings to kmncalendar@hotmail.com or call 884-5986.

At Your Service: Robin Marquez Brings Auto Detailing to Your Door

Story and photo by Megan Solís

Imagine going to work and coming out to find your car cleaned and polished! Halaula resident Robin Marquez recently opened Signature Auto Detail Hawaii, LLC, a mobile auto detailing service that allows him to go to the customer's residence or workplace to professionally detail their vehicle.

But don't expect him to show up with a bucket of soap and a can of Turtle Wax—Marquez has invested in a trailer equipped with a 90-gallon water tank, pressure washer, generator, air compressor, 30-gallon hot water carpet extractor and all he needs to provide complete interior and exterior vehicle care. In addition, he also repairs windshield chips, headlight restoration, odor removal, paint touch-up, and much more. He even details golf carts and pressure washes houses.

Marquez says he decided to start the business to supplement his work as certified athletic trainer at Kohala High School, a job he says leaves him with free time in the mornings. He considered

yard care—his father had a successful yard maintenance business and Robin had worked with him in his youth—but he recognized that there are a lot of people in Kohala providing that type of

knowledge about car care, he took professional detailing classes through RightLook.com, one of the industry's leading national training institutes for auto reconditioning professionals.

"Your vehicle is the second largest purchase you make, after your house. People don't take that into consideration when taking care of their cars, so when it's time to sell it or trade it in, or in leasing a car, it [detailing] can really help you out in the long run. It can increase the resale value of your car," he says.

After a detailing, he can help educate customers on how to wash their car properly and maintain the appearance of their vehicle.

"At many detail shops, you talk to the person at the front desk—you don't get to talk with the person who will actually be touching your car. Customers deal directly with me, and we can talk about what the customer wants, problem areas on the car, and I can go over the car with them and make suggestions," he explains.

Marquez provides a quote based on the needs of the customer and the size and condition of the vehicle. He also has three detail packages: Express, Premium and Signature. Gift certificates are available, and he offers maintenance packages after an initial restoration. He

is offering 15 percent off the first detail and 20 percent off extra services such as engine compartment details through the end of February.

Though headquartered in Kohala, his travel range is from Honoka'a to Kona. He's also building a garage where he can detail cars so that he can provide a pick-up and drop-off service.

A 1999 graduate of Kohala High School, Marquez earned bachelor's and master's degrees in kinesiology but came back to Kohala to live and work, and he plans to continue his work at KHS. He is the son of the late Robert "Bobby" Marquez and Pamela Marquez of Hawi. He and Kealii have a five-year-old daughter, Kalia, and another baby on the way.

Contact Marquez at 557-5282 or Marquez@SignatureAutoDetailHi.com.



Robin Marquez has all he needs to professionally detail autos on his customized trailer.

service. He also used to work with his dad detailing cars down at Puako, a service which most people have to drive to Hilo or Kona to get, he says. He saw this as an opportunity to provide a needed service in Kohala with a flexible schedule that would allow him to continue his work in Kohala High School athletics.

Robin says his desire is to provide professional but personalized service, exceeding the customers' highest expectations. To improve his

Free Hula, Hawaiian Studies Course Offered

Kohala Middle School, in cooperation with 21st Century, presents a free Hula/Hawaiian studies course offered to students and the community. The course is offered Wednesdays at 3 p.m. beginning January 10 until spring break at Kohala Middle School. After the break, it will pick up again until Memorial Day.

Registration forms are available in the middle school coordinator's office or school library. For more information, call Mrs. Shelor at 889-7119, ext. 226 or Kalai Katoku at ext. 254.

From our 'Ohana to yours . . .

Wishing you a safe and happy holiday season

