

# Kohala Mountain News

Vol. 12, No. 5

May 25, 2013

## New Charter School in the Works for Kohala

A group of Kohala residents is seeking community input on a proposal to bring a public charter school to Kohala.

The new school is tentatively named Perspectives: Innovative Kohala `Ohana Public Charter School (PIKO PCS). The official charter formation has not yet begun as organizers want the community to be informed and participate in the process. They hope to open for the 2014-15 school year.

A charter school is not a private school. Charter schools are public schools that offer parents an alternative education in a small school environment. Because they are public schools, charter schools are free for students. Funding comes from state, federal and private funds as well as grants.

Organizers say they felt a need to create a public charter school in Kohala that offers small class sizes in a values-based, nurturing environment. They say too many parents send their children out of town to expensive private schools, and they want to provide the same opportunities to all Kohala children right here in town.

PIKO aims to model itself after the  
*See Charter School, page 6*

## Dawstin Ho`opai Carries on Family Tradition, Preps for Rodeo Nationals

By Jesús Solís

Dawstin Ho`opai was just three months old the first time he rode on a horse. Riding is in his DNA. As the son of Bernelle Ho`opai Camara, grandson of Bernard Ho`opai and great-grandson of Kimo Ho`opai, Sr., he is carrying on a family legacy of roping and riding with honor as he prepares for the National Junior High Finals Rodeo in Gallup, N.M., June 23 to 29.

Twelve-year-old Dawstin qualified for the national tournament with a second-place win in the boys breakaway roping event at the state championships of the Hawai`i High School Rodeo Association Junior High Division, held in Haleiwa, O`ahu, May 10 to 12.

Dawstin says breakaway roping is his favorite event "because it's a fast event and I like the challenge."

Breakaway roping is a type of calf

roping in which a calf is roped, but not thrown and tied. The calf moves through a narrow run leading to a chute with spring-loaded doors. The horse

tened to the calf's neck releases the barrier, ensuring that the calf gets a head start. Once the barrier has released, the horse runs out of the box while the roper attempts to throw a lasso around the neck of the calf.

Once the rope is around the calf's neck, the roper signals the horse to stop suddenly. The rope is tied to the saddle horn with a string. When the calf hits the end of the rope, the rope is pulled tight and the string breaks. The breaking of the string marks the end of the run. The fastest run wins.

Dawstin said it felt good to compete at the state event, but he was a little nervous. He feels the hardest part of rodeo is competing against his friends.

Dawstin also competed in three other events at state, earning seventh-place in boys goat tying, fifth-  
*See Rodeo, page 3*



—photo courtesy of Bernelle Camara

*Dawstin Ho`opai, foreground, ropes a calf as his teammate, Leysie Matsumoto prepares for her role as "heeler."*

and rider wait next to the chute in a box with a barrier in front. When the calf is released from the chute, a light rope fas-

## Kohala Pa`u Equestrian Units Prepare for Kamehameha Day Parade

By Kay Aldrich

North Kohala pa`u equestrian units are preparing for the floral parade to be held in honor of King Kamehameha I on Tuesday, June 11. Eight units, led

by Pa`u Queen Sandie Wong, represent each of the eight Hawaiian islands. Each unit will be led by a page and banner carrier, followed by the princess and her attendants and escorts. All riders

and horses in each unit will be richly adorned with their island's colors and flowers. For example, Hawai`i Island's color is red, and our flower is the red lehua `ohi`a.

The pa`u princesses this year are:

Berchelle Munro of Kohala (Hawai`i Island), Blair Embernate of Honoka`a (Maui), Freline Pajimola of Waimea (O`ahu), Puanani Tayan-Smith of Kohala (Kaua`i), Sarah Chow of

*See Pa`u, page 2*



—photo by Bronson Bruno

*The 2013 Pa`u Princesses are, left to right, Zena Cruz-Poliahua, Puanani Tayan-Smith, Sarah Chow, Laura Bodell, Blair Embernate, Berchelle Munro, Jamie Ann Ho`opai, and Freline Pajimola.*

## Kohala Graduates Celebrate Commencement

*Members of the Kohala High School class of 2013 celebrate their status as new graduates after the ceremony on May 18. For more graduation photos and a list of North Kohala graduates, see page 10.*

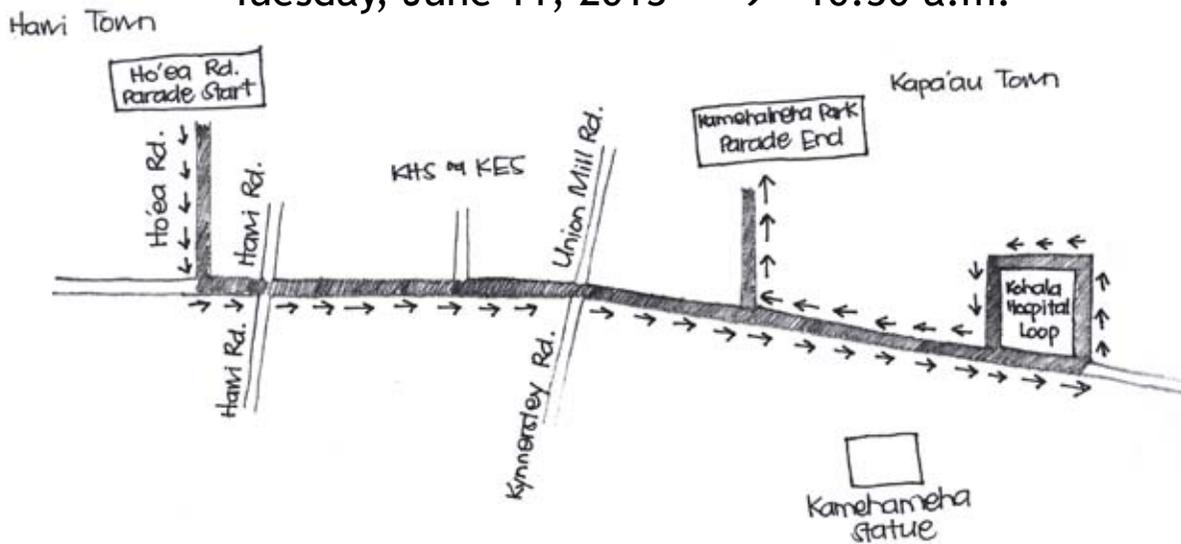


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### Kamehameha Day Floral Parade Tuesday, June 11, 2013 • 9 - 10:30 a.m.



### Notice to Motorists

Akoni Pule Highway will be closed in North Kohala on Tuesday, June 11, from 9 to 10:30 a.m. The Kamehameha Day Committee Floral Parade will start from central Hawi (Ho'ea Road intersection), proceed through Hawi and Kapa'au town to the Kamehameha Statue, continue along the Kohala Hospital Loop, and end at Kamehameha Park, where all festivities will be held.

Motorists may be stopped for as long as 30 minutes and should plan their trip accordingly. Only emergency vehicles will be allowed through.

For additional information, please contact:  
Cicely U. Ho'opai  
Kamehameha Day Committee Chairman  
557-6042 cell, email: choopai85@yahoo.com

#### Pa`u, continued from page 1

Waimea (Lana'i), Zena Cruz-Poliahu of Kohala (Moloka'i), Jamie Ann Ho'opai of Kohala (Ni'ihau), and Laura Bodell of Kawaihae (Kaho'olawe).

The pa`u tradition of women on horseback (na wahine holo lio) and style of riding is unique to Hawai'i and dates back to the 1800s. Ali'i and other women would drape many yards of fabric around their fancy dresses to protect them from dirt and horse sweat on their way to social gatherings.

Hawaiian women rode bareback and astride.

A pa`u princess is an accomplished horsewoman and must be willing to put in many hours of work in the months before the parade. She practices her horsemanship and the regal bearing (u'i) and spirit of aloha expected of a princess. She must learn how to collect natural materials for lei, how to weave the lei for horses and riders in her unit and how to drape the pa`u, a skirt of up to 12 yards of material, wrapped and held in place by kukui nuts. Pa`u princesses know what a great honor it is to ride in the Kamehameha Day parade, especially in North Kohala, the birth-

place of the Great King Kamehameha I himself. They take seriously their kuleana [responsibility] to carry on this unique tradition.

This month, the women will also take an excursion (huaka'i) to Kamehameha's birthplace in North Kohala. According to Amoo Ching Kainoa and Bronson Bruno, who are coordinating the pa`u units this year, the purpose of the huaka'i is for them to learn the mo'olelo [story or history] of Kamehameha, to learn more about the great King and to feel in their hearts the mana [spiritual energy] in this special place. It will also bond everyone as a hui [society] to work together.

The Kamehameha Day celebration in North Kohala begins at 8 a.m., Tuesday, June 11, with the draping of leis on the original statue of King Kamehameha I in Kapa'au. The ceremony is followed by the floral parade at 9 a.m., beginning at Ho'ea Road in Hawi with a turnaround at Hospital Loop in Kapa'au and ending at Kamehameha Park. Ho'olaule'a activities will be held at the park from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free, and the public is welcome.

Our princesses this year are skilled horsewomen. Berchelle Munro was raised on the Big Island by her grandparents Lyanne and Tony Mo'iha. She rides pa`u because she loves her Hawaiian culture and feels it is important to perpetuate the pa`u tradition for future generations. Blair Embernate has ridden pa`u in many parades since 2005, including Merrie Monarch in 2009. Her grandmothers were skilled lei makers, and riding pa`u allows Blair to carry on their tradition. Frelina Pajimola works as a

hearing instrument specialist and has a passion for helping others. She loves the history and culture of the islands and is honored to be a pa`u princess.

Puanani Tayan-Smith has ridden pa`u for seven years. She rode with her mother for four years, and feels honored to be a rider in this year's celebration. Sarah Chow was raised on Kapapala Ranch in Ka'u. She is fifth generation paniolo 'ohana and loves her ranching way of life. She says she "ranches with her head and rides with her heart."

Zena Cruz-Poliahu says, "Kamehameha Day is important to me because

I always wanted to be a part of the celebration and able to carry on the pa`u tradition."

Jamie Ann Ho'opai also comes from a long line of paniolo. She is the caretaker of Kohala Nui Farms and a ranch hand for KL Cross Ranch. Laura Bodell is riding for her second year in the Kohala Kamehameha Day parade. She began riding more than 14 years ago when she moved to the Big Island to follow her roots. She loves this tradition and says "once you've learned the skills of lei making...you see (plants for lei making) everywhere."

### Kids DARE to Say 'No'

Kohala Elementary School fifth-graders spoke out against drugs in a sign-waving event outside the school on Akoni Pule Highway May 16. The activity was part of the D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program offered to fifth-graders each year. Under the mentorship of Officer John Kahalioumi, the students learn how to resist peer pressure and live productive drug- and violence-free lives.



—photo by Megan Solis

**Kathie Babben**

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## Perez Takes Biggest Boar in Hunting Tournament

By Jesús Solís

For the second year in a row, Koa Perez brought in the biggest boar of the tournament in the 6th Annual Biggest & Baddest Hunting Tournament, held in Halaula May 11. The boar weighed in at 192.7 pounds.

The tournament is organized by Wendell Fernandez and Robert Medeiros. Thirty-seven teams of hunters from Kohala to Ka'u, and even as far as O'ahu and Kaua'i, participated in the hunt. The youngest hunter in the tournament was Kalani Fernandez, 11 years old, and the oldest was Steven Medeiros, age 57.

After being weighed and measured for tusk length, the pigs were butchered with the meat separated from the carcass. Fernandez said that they are conscientious about cleaning up and disposing of the pig carcasses and thanked Surety Kohala for donating a backhoe to dig ditches for the pig remains.

While hunters brought in their pigs, families and friends enjoyed a party that continued into evening with ono food and live music by North Shore.

Results of the tournament were (all weights in pounds):

Boar: Koa Perez 192.7; Peter Fernandez 142.8; Macky Keawe 117.9; Wayne Neves 116.6.

Sow: Jake Vallespin 113; Toby Carvalho 104.8; Koa Ching 104.2; Keahi Akana 103.4.

Longest Tusk: Blaine Ho'opai 9-1/8 inches; Coden Stevens 7 inches; Lee Espiritu 6-7/16 inches; Derek Batin 6 inches.



—photo by Charae Cannon  
Koa Perez, second from left, and his team, from left Renee Perez, Chelsey Yamamoto and Shay Van Zant, brought in the prize-winning boar, weighing in at 192.7 pounds.

Laho'ole: Ka'awalani Solomon 122.8; Shaun Pang 115.6.

Wendell Fernandez said he gets calls from people who are trying to

get rid of pigs causing trouble on their property. He said that pigs are coming into neighborhoods and getting territorial, even ripping chickens out of their

coops. Anyone who would like help with pig problems can call him at 889-5931 (home) or 987-4927 (cell) and he can arrange to cull the pigs.

### Rodeo, continued from page 1

place in ribbon roping, and eighth-place in team roping with his partner, Leysie Matsumoto. In team roping, Dawstin is the "header"—responsible for roping the horns or head of the steer—while Leysie is the "heeler" and must rope the hind legs. To qualify for the national tournament, ropers must place in the top four of the event at the state level.

Created in 2004, the National High School Rodeo Association Junior High Division was established to bring the sport to sixth- through eighth-graders as a feeder system into the high school ranks. Each summer the best from each state, about 900 competitors, show off their talents and compete for thousands of dollars in scholarships and prizes.

Rodeo competition isn't new for the Ho'opai family. Dawstin's great-grandfather Kimo Ho'opai, Sr., competed in bull riding, team roping and horse races in rodeos around the state of Hawai'i. Kimo was honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award as a senior steward of the paniolo heritage by the Paniolo Preservation Society in January 2012.

Dawstin's grandfather Bernard Ho'opai has competed in team roping events here on the island and won the Jr./Sr. team roping with his father Kimo at Hale Kea Farms in Waimea back in 1987.

Dawstin's mom, Bernelle, has competed in ropings and rodeos on the island

since the age of 7. She has placed in several events like team roping, wahine calf mugging, and Hawai'i's own po'owai u, which requires roping a steer, leading it to a post called a po'owai u, jumping off the horse, tying it to the po'owai u, and jumping back on the horse.

Dawstin says he plans on going far in roping, because it's what he loves to do.

"It makes me feel like I can set goals and achieve them. Like this is what fills me," he explained.

Since returning from states, Dawstin has been finishing up his sixth-grade year at Kohala Middle School and also practicing roping five days a week, three hours a day to prepare for nationals. It's a big commitment and as much as he loves roping, he would only encourage other kids to get involved in rodeo if they really love it and it's what they want to do.

Despite all the attention he's getting for his rodeo feats, Dawstin understands that he hasn't done this alone.

"I want to thank my whole family, especially my parents Wilton and Bernelle. I also would like to thank everyone else who supported me, like my uncle Blaine Ho'opai, uncle Danny Lopes and uncle Bill and aunty Sandie Wong. Without them I would not have made it this far," said Dawstin.

No doubt the whole Ho'opai 'ohana and all of Kohala are behind him.

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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.



### May

Ad Deadline: 6/7/13  
News Deadline: 6/10/13

### June

Ad Deadline: 7/12/13  
News Deadline: 7/15/13

## Kohala Mountain News

www.kohalamountainnews.com

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

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### Current Circulation 3,600

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

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### Kohala Mountain News

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

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## Letters—

## Take Care of the Land, Don't Leave Rubbish Behind

Dear Editor,

For the past year, bottle collectors have been digging at the lighthouse. It's been every two or three weeks. I go there to walk the coast about twice a month. They leave the rubbish they've dug up. I am a bottle collector myself. When I was a member of the bottle club on O`ahu, we would clean up the rubbish, take it with us and back fill the hole.

I was the one who arranged the clean-up of the lighthouse area, along with the Kohala Lions Club, back in 2008. We took out 60, 40-yard dumpsters—averaging 15 tons each—of rubbish, machinery and tires. When I go there now, I pick up the newly exposed rubbish and try to back fill the holes. If you, or anyone you know, are digging at the lighthouse, please malama the `aina and take the rubbish with you!

Mahalo,  
Jeff Alexander  
Kapa`au



—photo by Jeff Alexander  
*Rubbish dug up by bottle collectors and others continues to be a blight on our coastline.*

## Mahalo Nui from Kohala Robotics

On May 8, the Kohala Robotics program celebrated a full season of designing, building, programming and competing. Parents and families came together for an evening of "botting around."

Students shared their experiences while photos and various displays were enjoyed. A complimentary dinner was served.

The interaction of non-team members with the robots seems to be growing in popularity. The last portion of the program allowed for the public to have

hands-on experience with the robots that our students developed. Robotics students assisted children for driving and operation. Adults, parents in particular, were paired with robotics students in alliance. The challenge of the season's game was run. The evening ended memorably with great fun, food, family and friends for a community of support of the robotics program and its students.

Kohala VEX robotics competed in

seven tournaments and a world championship tournament where only 10 percent of the entire global team population, 700 teams, competed. Our success would not be possible without the many community members, businesses and sponsors.

Mahalo nui on behalf of the entire Robotics program.

Fern White  
Kohala Robotics

## Qigong Trip to China with Master Liu Jianshe

Aloha friends:

We hope that you will join us on this very special qigong journey with Master Liu Jianshe to China September 10 to 30.



—photo courtesy of Kokolulu Cancer Retreat  
*A recent QiGong trip to China with Master Liu Jianshe.*

This trip is a rare and unique opportunity to travel in the company of and have as our daily guide Master Liu Jianshe. We have purposely kept the size of our group small so as to allow more time for qigong practice and interaction with Master Jianshe.

Sunshine Mind Qigong Trip to China – September 10 to 30, 2013, led by Master Liu Jianshe. A percentage of the funds raised from this trip will go toward scholarships for those affected by cancer to attend a Kokolulu Cancer Retreat Program.

We appreciate you sharing this incredible opportunity with others. Mahalo!

For more information please contact Lew at 889-9893 or [lew@kokolulu.com](mailto:lew@kokolulu.com). Or see <http://kokolulufarmhawaii-blueskyretreats.com/chinatrip.html>.

Sincerely,  
Lew Whitney and Karin Cooke  
Hawi

## Speak Up Against Injustice

Dear Editor,

About my April 27 Letter to the Editor ["A Cautionary Tale for Kupuna and Request for Help," page 4]: my wish was to help my friend Peggy Sankot, not to talk stink about someone she feels hurt her, which is not kupuna way, and I apologize. I simply felt so badly about what Peggy has endured for a year now, almost dying and then having everything stolen from her place, that when I realized she'd told almost no one, I wanted to help.

Such things do happen in big cities; it's unthinkable to me that this should happen in our beloved Kohala.

It took Peggy months to realize the

extent of what she'd lost; that's why she didn't report this to the police.

The woman in question called me the Sunday after my first letter was printed, and wanted me to know her side of the story. I've known her in the past only as someone kind and helpful to me. The discrepancy is hard to believe. I kept saying: "where are Peggy's belongings—her letters, scrapbooks," and so forth. No answer.

If I'd been the one cleaning up her place, I'd never have touched a single personal item. Other friends feel the same way.

Happily, I've learned that one friend, upon knowing all the facts, drove

straight to Kona and bought her all new heavy stainless steel pots and pans and brought them to her front door. Bless him! Others have responded with kind phone calls and are helping, with the compassion this dear community is known for.

When we see injustice, we need to speak up, especially if we're women who've been brought up to be good little girls and to keep our mouths shut! Saying nothing means we agree with the injustice. How can anyone here have any conception of what it's like to be an older woman in this world, who has chosen to live alone, earn her own

*See Speak Up, 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.

### Legislative Update from Sen. Malama Solomon

Working together, we are improving the quality of life in our district and throughout Hawai'i Island!

Many of our district goals were met in the 2013 Legislature: Waimea District Park, Kahilu Theatre, Kohala Hospital, Waimea Middle, Honoka'a High and Kealakehe Schools, West Hawai'i Veterans Center, and Brantley Center. In fact, we brought home \$296-plus million. This represents new jobs and job training, education and healthcare, roads, airports and harbor improvements, and vital "safety net" services for our keiki, kupuna and less fortunate.

We haven't seen this level of fund-

ing in this district in years—partly due to an improving economy, but more so due to our collective lobbying efforts. A special thanks to everyone who called, emailed or sent testimony supporting these important projects. You made a difference!

And there's more: The Governor released \$20 million to begin Palamanui construction (it was a battle but it's moving). He just released \$1 million to begin repair of Kamuela Vacuum Cooling Plant (essential to boost our district's food production), and the feds signed off on completing Kawaihae Small Boat Harbor. Also, we expect nearly

\$4 million this year in improved federal reimbursements to North Hawai'i Community Hospital thanks to a bill we worked hard to pass last year.

As important, we made progress on addressing the financial crisis our state faces by passing a bill that protects our all-important AA bond rating. This is how we finance major infrastructure—schools, airports, roads, bridges, harbors, parks—and it creates good jobs. We also persisted on some controversial issues such as the high cost of electricity, the outrageous cost of interisland air transportation, and how to improve our university system. When you are push-

ing to resolve such huge complex issues, you will get lots of push back and we did, but that's what you expect of me: to get results that benefit our community.

I'm honored to be your senator and welcome your input and questions—always.

Aloha and Mahalo nui loa,  
Sen. Malama Solomon

*Malama Solomon is the state senator representing district 4, which includes North Kohala. She can be reached at (808) 586-7335. For Hawai'i Island call toll free: 974-4000 ext. 67335 Email: sensolomon@capitol.hawaii.gov.*

### Hawai'i Wildlife Center Receives Rescue Vehicle

Native birds and bats throughout the state now have a vehicle just for them at the Hawai'i Wildlife Center (HWC). Thanks to a generous challenge grant by the Omidyar `Ohana Fund of the Hawai'i Community Foundation and dozens of individuals who rallied together to answer the challenge, the native wildlife rehabilitation facility now has an official vehicle that provides wildlife transport to and from the Center.

The new wildlife rescue vehicle could not have come at a better time. Since the official launch of wildlife care in September 2012, the HWC has received sick and injured animals from all main Hawaiian Islands, many of which have needed to be picked up from the airport or from the pier. With activity continuing to increase, the new vehicle provides the peace of mind that there will always be a safe, reliable vehicle available for wildlife rescue missions.

Says HWC founder, president and center director Linda Elliott, "This vehicle is extremely meaningful to us because it is a telling show of support from our statewide and national `ohana and our local community. We are thrilled to receive this critical resource and are excited about how it will increase our response capacity for the benefit of Hawai'i's native wildlife. Mahalo to everyone who made this happen!"

The vehicle has only been at the facility for a few weeks, but has already been used to rescue a downed Newell's Shearwater and to pick up supplies for the two Maui Nene and one O'ahu `Auku`u currently in care.

As the only facility of its kind in the State, HWC is continuously working on expanding its network of volunteer transporters to get sick and injured animals to the Center for care and healed, healthy animals to their appropriate release location, including back to their

island of origin when necessary. If you would like to become a member of the HWC Wings for Wildlife air transport team or the Wheels for Wildlife ground transport team, please contact the Center at 884-5000, info@hawaiiwildlifecenter.org. Individuals from all islands are welcomed to join. For more information, see HWC's website at www.hawaiiwildlifecenter.org.

*Linda Elliott of Hawai'i Wildlife Center with the new wildlife rescue vehicle.*



—photo courtesy of Hawai'i Wildlife Center

### Go Skate Day June 22, Akoni Pule Hwy to Close

Roots Skatepark Committee invites the community to help celebrate its 5th Annual International Go Skateboarding Day! in Kapa`au on Saturday, June 22.

Motorists, please prepare for an official road closure in Kapa`au on June 22, from the Akoni Pule Highway and Kynnersley intersection to Kamehameha Park. Starting at 10:30 a.m., the highway will be closed to vehicle traffic and open to skateboarders for a parade ending at Roots Skatepark, located in the park in Kapa`au. The road closure will end at 11 a.m.

Roots is seeking volunteers and

donations in preparation for this event which supports youth activities and "phase two" expansion of the skatepark facility. Needed are sponsors for Skate Day t-shirts; food and beverage sales with proceeds to fund Skatepark materials budget; donors of prizes to be awarded to Roots Skatepark contest winners; silent auction donations; and youth and adult volunteers.

Monetary donations are also welcome and tax-deductible. Contact Roots Advocates for Youth at P.O. Box 946, Kapa`au, HI 96755 or call 895-2909.

### Speak Up, continued from page 4

living, and is without the protection of a husband or children? Only our wits and kolohe spirits protect us!

I feel blessed to live on Moku o Keawe these 27 years. Our community resembles the tiny Massachusetts town my grandfather came from, where everyone knew everyone else, and where we all helped one another. My cousin was the police chief—and he had no work

to do! No drugs in those days; people worked hard, had lots of children to help on the farm, and we all lived in the same old stew pot together and loved one another. When someone would walk by our porch, Grandma would say to me: "Dearie, they look hungry—let's invite them in for a sandwich." Remind you of our sweet home here?!

Aloha mai,  
Pua Weymouth

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## New CEO and Medical Director Announced for Kohala Family Health Center

The board of directors of the Hamakua Health Center and the Kohala Family Health Center recently announced the appointment of a new chief executive officer, Irene Carpenter, and a new medical director, Dr. Sylvia Sonnenschein.

Irene Carpenter has been working and volunteering to develop health and human services in Hawai'i for over 25 years. For the past 11 years she has volunteered as a founder and board member for the Ko'olauloa Community Health and Wellness Center on O'ahu. This has provided her with the opportunity to travel to meet often with national and local leaders who are helping to shape health care reform. She has worked with all of the community health centers, State Health Planning and Development Agency (SHPDA), Department of Health, Hawaii Health Systems Corporation, Aloha Care, Hawaii Primary Care Association, AHARO (The Association of Providers of Rural Health Care Services) and the Hawaii State Substance Abuse Coalition.

Ms. Carpenter states, "I am aware of the challenge that all of our providers will face as health care reform unfolds and of the need for collaborative relationships to be developed to insure that current services are sustainable, coordinated and reflect best practices."

She was recently nominated to represent HHC on the AlohaCare board of directors and was also appointed by the Governor to serve on an advisory committee for SHPDA. She will make her home in Honoka'a.

Dr. Sylvia Sonnenschein, well known to the Kohala community, has accepted the position of HHC medical director with a strong commitment to keep both our community health centers open and thriving. She was born in Vancouver, British Columbia, and moved to the United States at an early age. She graduated from University of Washington with a B.S. degree in biology. She went on to medical school, now known as Western University in Pomona, Calif., and graduated in 1983 under an Army Health Professional Scholarship Program. After completing an army tour that took her to Southeast Asia, she went on to complete an IM residency at the University of Hawai'i in 1992 and then moved to



—photo courtesy of Hamakua Health Center

*Irene Carpenter, left, is the new CEO and Dr. Sylvia Sonnenschein is the new medical director for Kohala Family Health Center and Hamakua Health Center.*

Kaua'i where she encountered Hurricane Iniki, and continued to provide health care where it was most needed.

Finally in 1996, Dr. Sonnenschein chose the Big Island to be her home and began practicing at the Kohala Family Health Center. She enjoys being a part of the local community in providing health care and support. After years in private practice and urgent care, she feels that a community health center will best provide for the needs of the community.

Hamakua Health Center, Inc. (HHC) is a 501(c) (3) Federally Qualified Health Center located on the Island of Hawai'i. It operates two clinic sites (11 providers) and a mobile dental van (1 provider) serving the districts of Hamakua, North Hilo, North Kohala and South Kohala. Its service area is characterized as rural, ethnically diverse and under-served in many health professions and experiences various health disparities among at-risk populations. HHC is currently the only provider of primary care services in three of the districts it serves. The Health Center serves a population of 14,000 residents, has a patient base of approximately 8,000 people with 30,000 patient encounters annually.

The Kohala Family Health Center is owned and operated by HHC and serves the Hawi and Kapa'au communities in North Kohala. Our physicians are the only doctors available to staff the local Kohala Hospital.

The board of directors extends their heartfelt thanks and support to both of these capable women and their commitment to health care in our communities.

*Charter School, continued from page 1*

Innovations Public Charter School in Kona. Instruction would include the State common-core standards with a focus on Hawaiian and multicultural studies, arts integration, sustainable agriculture and farming, science and technology, and college prep. It will be governed by a local volunteer board.

Proponents say the advantages of a charter school include opening the door to parent and child involvement in how and what they learn; empowering teachers with curricula freedom to meet the common-core standards and each child's style and pace of learning; and providing a platform for innovative teaching. Learning is student-centered, thematic and interdisciplinary, multi-age, project-based, and relevant.

Ultimately the school plans to encompass grades K-12 and service a minimum of 150 students; growth would occur over a five-to-seven year period and demand may dictate which age groups to begin teaching. The upper grades would include community service hands-on learning for college and/or the job market through local mentors and internships.

Because charter schools are public schools, they are open to any student as long as the student's needs can be accommodated. Students are admitted on a first-come, first-served basis with preference given to siblings of already enrolled students as well as children and grandchildren of board or staff at the school. If more students apply than there are openings, a public lottery would take place.

The school would apply for the free lunch program and incorporate a gardening program into their lunch offerings.

The group has taken the first step

toward the establishment of a charter school in Kohala by sending a letter of intent to file a charter school application to the Hawai'i Charter School Commission and Board.

The move has been in the works for some time as parents and other concerned residents have investigated the level of interest in a charter school as well as the nuts and bolts of a suitable location and type of curriculum desired.

The school is applying for 24 acres of state land in Hawi town that the Department of Land and Natural Resources has offered for the school site and is also exploring other suitable locations.

Organizers, which include parents, educators, and local businesspeople, are looking for experts in education, administration, business, legal, grants, fundraising and more to join.

For more information about PICO PCS see [www.PIKOSchool.com](http://www.PIKOSchool.com) or contact Alyssa Ackerman Slaven at 889-5138 or [ackgift@gmail.com](mailto:ackgift@gmail.com). Be sure to watch your mailbox for more news!

### Give Your Input

PIKO PCS organizers will be sending out a brochure and questionnaire to all Kohala post office boxholders in the next few weeks to learn more from residents about their views and desires for education in Kohala. Although a charter school would most directly affect those families with school-age children, ultimately the education of our young people affects the whole community, so all households are encouraged to respond to the survey.

## Traffic Advisory for Akoni Pule Highway on June 1

Motorists be aware that the Ironman 70.3 Hawai'i will be held on Saturday, June 1. The cycling portion of the annual triathlon will include a ride from the Mauna Lani resort along Queen Ka'ahumanu Highway and Akoni Pule Highway up to approximately Upolu Airport Road and back. The section of Akoni Pule Highway between

Kawaihae and just west of Hawi will have restricted vehicle access except for local traffic from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Motorists are encouraged to use Kohala Mountain Road as an alternate route of travel.

For answers to questions not covered by this information, call 334-3400.

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## White Attends Conference in Somatic Horsemanship

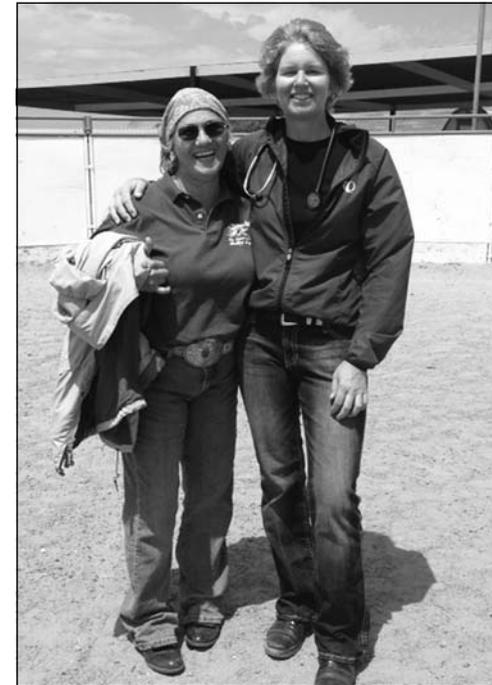
Fern White, a Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International (PATH Intl.) certified instructor, participated in the Region 11 PATH Intl. Conference at the DreamPower horse

center in Gilroy, Calif., May 4 through 5. The annual conference focuses on PATH Intl.'s mission to change and enrich lives by promoting excellence in equine-assisted activities and therapies.

PATH Intl. was formed to promote equine-assisted activities and therapies for individuals with special needs. PATH certified instructors help children and adults with physical, mental and emotional challenges to find strength and independence through the power of the horse. More recently, programs offer services in human growth and development to serve wide-ranging audiences for such educational purposes as leadership training, team building and other human capacity enhancement skills for the workplace and for daily use.

Wednesday afternoons.

A direct result of White's training at the regional conference is that she will begin to offer sessions in Somatic horsemanship, which combines the principles of safe, traditional horse handling of equine-assisted activities with techniques from yoga, t'ai chi, qigong, aikido, dance and other martial, somatic and healing arts. These sessions will involve interactions of horse-human physiology in both ground and mounted activities for physical fitness and stress reduction.



—photo courtesy of Fern White

Fern White, left, at the PATH Intl Region 11 conference with Ann Wimmer, D.V.M., presenter on veterinary examinations of therapy horses.

White currently provides services to local youth and adults with special needs. The services, supported by Lio Lapa'au, LLC, at the top of Hawi, are available by appointment. Regular lessons are held Monday and

equine-related activities may contact her at 896-0316.

## Natural Food and Farming Cooperative to Open in Kapa'au

Full Circle Cooperative will open its doors to the public in the Old Sakamoto Store on Akoni Pule Highway in Kapa'au starting in June. Full Circle will provide residents of North Kohala with natural and organic foods, resourced from local farms and through its distributor, UNFI Western Region of Ridgefield, Wash., the largest wholesale distributor of natural, organic, specialty foods and body products in the United States and Canada.



Coop members will receive a group discount on all products sold through the cooperative at their distribution site. Local farms providing fresh food for coop members will have the advantages of a CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) in that farmers will have a consistent customer base, thereby realizing a solid return on the investment in producing their crops.

distribution site. Just drive up at your scheduled time, your empty weekly basket(s) will be whisked away by a cooperative volunteer and your order will be placed back in your car without you having to lift a finger!

Owner Mary Letzring is a local artist who has resided in Kohala for five years. Manager Michael McCullough is a professional organic-based horticulturist and local business owner and has resided in Kohala for 21 years. Both are small homestead farmers with strong ties to the region. McCullough has been active in organic farming and as a Slow Food activist for many years in Hawai'i. He established the Parker School Farmers Market and has been involved with small buying cooperatives for much of his adult life.

The coop plans to expand over time to provide start-up loans for small farms and homestead producers, group insurance, cooperative equipment sharing, bulk fertilizer and a commercial kitchen site to produce value-added products and fresh baked goods for coop members. Low-cost classes will be offered providing members and the community at large with information ranging from backyard homestead farming and organic pest management to natural beekeeping and seed saving.

Full Circle collected over 130 signatures at this year's Kohala Country Fair from community members interested in forming the cooperative and will be contacting these individuals with membership details. Full Circle will also be maintaining a booth at the Hawi Farmers Market over the next few weeks for sign ups. They are seeking participation from local farms and homestead producers that have rotational or seasonal crops available for purchase by cooperative members on a consistent basis. Although their wholesale food distribution is a for-profit entity, Full Circle is working toward 501(c)(5) nonprofit status to distribute locally produced products to keep costs low for members and reward cooperative farmers for their hard work. The cooperative has initiated a One Percent for Wildlife campaign in which one percent of all profits received will be donated to preserving Hawai'i's flora and fauna.

Members can place their individual orders for products on the Full Circle website (coming soon) and then receive orders once weekly. Full Circle also maintains a Facebook site and will have a monthly newsletter for its members. UNFI and participating farms will deliver product to the distribution site on Mondays of each week; then members will be scheduled in a staggered timetable over the next several days to ensure efficiency in distribution and ease of potential traffic congestion at the

Questions can be directed to Full Circle's manager Michael McCullough at their Facebook site: [www.facebook.com/FullCircleCooperative](http://www.facebook.com/FullCircleCooperative).

## Fun & Games at Okinawa Children's Day Camp

Kohala Okinawa Children's Day Camp is back again this summer on Saturday and Sunday, June 29 and 30, at Kohala Intergenerational Center. Children will learn Okinawan history, music, crafts, games, cooking, karate, and hanafuda (card game). Special instructor from Hui Okinawa Kobudo Taiko will be coming to teach taiko drumming.

Fee is \$40 for one child; \$75 for two children; and \$110 for three children. Lunch is included. Please contact Kathy Matsuda at 889-5801 to register.

*Kamalu Yamamoto and his partner make homemade ice cream by rolling ingredients back and forth in a coffee container.*

—photo courtesy of Kathy Matsuda



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## Kohala Hospital Ready to Begin New ER Project

By Gino Amar

After many years of discussion, planning, and fundraising, Kohala Hospital is set to begin demolition on its Emergency Room. The ER renovation/relocation project kicks off on July 1. The hospital will be holding a "wall-breaking" ceremony on Thursday, June 20, at 11 a.m. to commemorate this occasion. The ceremony will include a blessing, a presentation on building plans and work phases, and light pupu and refreshments. The public is invited to come and see the results of their investment, time, and patience.

Please note: The Kohala Hospital emergency room will continue to be open 24/7 in its current location throughout the ER renovation/relocation project.

Kohala Hospital would like to thank the Kohala Hospital Charitable Foundation and all its board members, advisors, and volunteers for their continued support. Their annual fundraising efforts have grown to be impressive and fun events that we appreciate. The Kohala Hospital Charitable Foundation has collaborated with the North Kohala Community Resource Center to obtain additional funding for equipment and

to look for additional funding for the ER project above. Lastly, we'd like to thank our legislative team for their efforts on our behalf at the State Legislature to obtain limited funding available from the State.

Kohala Hospital has been receiving Capital Improvement Project (CIP) monies from the State (\$2.2 million last year), which enable us to continue renovating the hospital. The building is over 50 years old, and there are other projects that require our attention such as re-paving the hospital parking lot and updating and renovating our water heater system. Capital Improvement Project funding is restricted to maintenance and facility improvement projects, and cannot be used for day-to-day hospital operations. We greatly appreciate the availability of these funds; however we still need to raise funds for equipment and improvements that cannot be funded by CIP or other governmental awards.

Please join us as we kick off this long awaited project. For information, please call 889-6211.

*Gino Amar is the administrator for Kohala Hospital.*

## Learning, Creativity & Growth at Kenji's House

Thinking about taking a hula class or learning to tango? Finally learning to draw? Kenji's House makes it possible for community members to teach and take all sorts of courses. Why not give yourself the chance to expand your horizons and find out what other residents have discovered about spending a few hours at Kenji's: it's great fun! Kenji's is excited to announce that Mele Waikiki has started a Thursday night beginning Hula class, and she continues to lead the Coconut Wili weaving classes on Friday mornings.

Under the direction of Susan Lehner, construction has begun on John Hunter's innovative World Peace Game inside Kenji's House. Students are tasked with solving the problems of the world and in so doing develop skills of communication, collaboration, and compromise (to name just a few). The World Peace Game foundation describes the game as "a hands-on political simulation that gives players the opportunity to explore the connectedness of the global commu-

nity through the lens of the economic, social, and environmental crises and the imminent threat of war."

There's always room for more classes so if you have a skill or talent you'd like to share, please contact the Kohala Learning Center...bringing the people of Kohala together for lifelong learning!

To stay current on these classes and learn what else is going on, check the website at [www.kohalalearning.org](http://www.kohalalearning.org) or email at Susan at [slehner@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:slehner@hawaii.rr.com).

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## A 'Lion-Sized' Breakfast

Kohala Lion John Fuellas talks story with guests at the Kohala Lions Club annual Mothers Day Breakfast, May 12, at Kohala High School cafeteria. The Lions served up 443 breakfasts of pancakes, eggs, fried rice, sausage and fruit. Funds raised support the Lions Club's many service projects in Kohala.



—photo by Jesús Solís

## Apply Now for Monty Richards Hawai'i Island Community Award

Bank of Hawaii is now accepting applications for the 2013 Monty Richards Hawai'i Island Community Award. Hawai'i County nonprofit organizations are invited to apply by July 5. The award provides one or more grants totaling up to \$25,000. Nominations may be made by the public or by the 501(c) (3) tax-exempt organizations themselves.

The award was established in 2008 in honor of Herbert "Monty" Montague Richards, Jr., a dedicated Hawai'i Island community leader and former longtime board director for Bank of Hawaii.

Award selection will be based on:  
a) exemplary fulfillment of the orga-

nization's mission; b) the leadership demonstrated by the organization's executive director and board; and c) the organization's engagement in one of the following focus areas: community development, education and human services. Additional consideration will be given to organizations that also focus on community development through financial education programs.

Application forms are available at all Hawai'i island branches or by calling: 854-2029 or 854-2021. Nomination materials should be submitted to: Bank of Hawaii, Attn: Monty Richards Award, P.O. Box 305, Hilo, Hawaii 96721.

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Susan Denman, PO. Box 660, Kapa'au HI 96755 Tel. (808)889-1144

## From Swim Lessons to Skin Diving, Kohala Pool Serves the Community

By Jeff Coakley

The Kohala community has been the biggest supporter of the Kohala pool since it was first built in 1973. Since then there have been numerous "Learn to Swim" programs teaching Kohala's keiki drowning-prevention skills, and today participants travel from as far away as Waimea, Waikoloa and Mauna Lani to take swim lessons here. The pool has also provided youth at risk and budding artists the opportunity to utilize the surrounding pool walls as murals to exhibit their talent while being men-

tored by Kathy Morgan, a local artist.

The novice swim program has been a mainstay for years providing opportunities for youth seeking the enjoyment of competitive swimming and produced its first-ever Olympian in 2008 in Beijing. Today, graduates of the novice program are members of the Kohala Warrior Aquatics USA Swimming team and helped to reintroduce swimming to Kohala High School after a seven-year hiatus. One of its high school swimmers is a sophomore and currently ranked No. 3 in the state of Hawaii in

the 50-yard freestyle. Due to the "learn to swim," Novice, USA and now high school programs, Kohala keiki have the opportunity to achieve to the highest levels of swimming at the Kohala pool.

The pool is also used during the school week by students of Kohala Mission School and Kohala Elementary where they learn swim skills and have fun. We have also had students coming to the pool from HPA, Parker School, Kohala and Waimea Summer Fun programs. Another popular program during the summer months is water polo, and this year water volleyball will be an added program for all ages. This coming fall Kohala Middle School will again offer a swim program for its eighth-grade students where participants will learn lifeguard, 1st Aid, CPR, rescue and swim skills.

Another recent addition to the Kohala pool activities has been the "Basic Skin Diving" program that was well-received and due to overwhelming interest will continue. Participants learn skin diving skills in the pool before venturing out for ocean dives.

Members of the Kohala community have helped to maintain the facility by painting the pool walls, trimming trees, weed-eating the yard, patching

holes in the pool bottom and pool deck, pressure washing algae growth, raking and pulling weeds and numerous other tasks to assist the lifeguards. Recently, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints did a thorough cleanup of the pool as their annual "Helping Hands" project.

One of the biggest projects undertaken was the repairing of the pump room roof, spearheaded by the Kohala WAC team, which allowed for the installation of a water heater providing hot showers for pool patrons. The roof job was estimated to cost \$20,000 but with the help of a local roofing contractor and a donor, the job was done for \$5,000. The team also provides a pace clock, backstroke flags and kick boards for lap swimmers and fins and kickboards for learn to swim participants.

However, many of these programs shut down during the winter months when the pool temperature gets into the low 70s, making it too cold to stay in the pool very long. A solar system would help maintain the pool activities throughout the year. Anyone wanting to help can contact me at 889-6933 for more information.

*Jeff Coakley is the Senior Lifeguard at Kohala Pool.*

## Sustainable Saturday Series Continues June 8

Each second Saturday of the month, Sustainable Kohala will host a free presentation/workshop on topics promoting food security and environmental health in North Kohala.

The upcoming session on June 8, 10 a.m. to noon, will feature Dash Kuhr, director of HipAg (Hawai'i Institute of Pacific Agriculture), who will give out free copies of a 10-by-15 foot garden design that will easily feed a family of four. He will also show how using permaculture principles will reduce labor and cost, while maximizing health of both your produce and the soil.

Future Sustainable Saturday sessions will feature Brooks Thomas (July, "Let Worms Do Your Heaving Lifting");

Margaret Wille and Josh Green (August, "Sustainability Initiatives at the County and State Level"); Donna Maltz (September, "Fermenting Food for Family Health"); Kai Kaholokai (October, Medicinal Herbs at your Feet"); and Travis Dodson (November, "Unveiling North Kohala's Permanent Seed Bank").

Most sessions will take place Saturday mornings at the Kohala Intergenerational Center, but check the Calendar each month in Kohala Mountain News, and also [www.FoodHubKohala.org](http://www.FoodHubKohala.org) for up to the minute details.

The 2013 Sustainable Saturday series is co-sponsored by Sustainable Kohala and North Kohala Eat Locally Grown.

## Kohala VEX Robotics Continues with Summertime Sessions

The Kohala VEX robotics program will continue to meet through the summer months on Mondays and Wednesdays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Old Bond Memorial Library. Enrollment is open to students aged middle school to high school.

The program has registered two middle school and two high school teams for the VEX 2013 to 14 season. Four Big Island League tournaments will be held beginning August 24.

For information or to enroll call Ms. Fern White 889-7117, or contact Mr. Eric Dela Cruz, Mr. Alvin Kawamoto or Miss Cheryl Cabrera.



—photo courtesy of Cheryl Cabrera  
The Kohala Robotics Middle School VEX team at the April 16-20, 2013 VEX World Championships at the Anaheim Convention Center in California: left to right, sitting: Morgan Swan, Joe Pasco; kneeling: Sakura Remsen; standing: Fern White, Kayden Valenzuela, Kaimi Hook, Alvin Kawamoto, Cheryl Cabrera, and Eric Dela Cruz.



# Sustainable Kohala Presents

## Free Sustainable Saturday Series, 2013

**June Event:**

### How to Plant and Maintain an Easy Permaculture Garden for Healthy Family Food

*Free Workshop by Dash Kuhr*  
**Saturday June 8, 10 a.m. - noon**  
**Kohala Intergenerational Center, Kapa'au**

Free design and tips for a 10x15 foot garden  
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# North Kohala Graduates, Class of 2013

—photos by Megan Solís

## CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!



Senior class officers, from left, Alohilani Tolentino, Kawaiianuhea Moss, Paul-Devin Cadiente, and Kaululani Vinluan (behind) announced more than \$500,000 in scholarships awarded to Kohala's graduating seniors.

**HAWAII PREPARATORY ACADEMY**  
– MAY 24, 2013

Kian Quinlan

**PARKER SCHOOL – MAY 24, 2013**

Allen Bond, Rachel Dunn, Nondi Lampkin, Tyler McCullough, and Lauren Sweere.

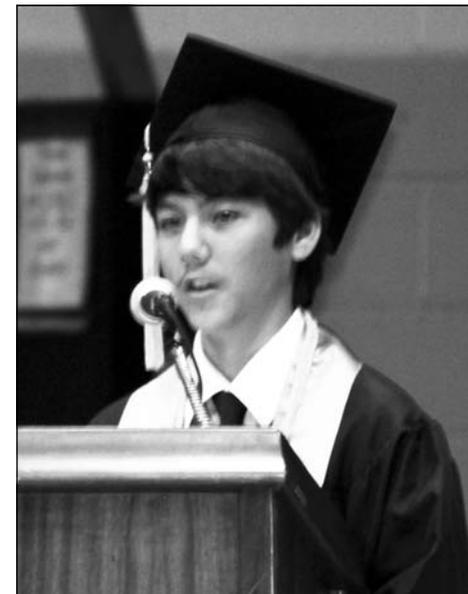


Excited seniors wait in the wings at Hisaoka Gymnasium for the beginning of the commencement ceremony.

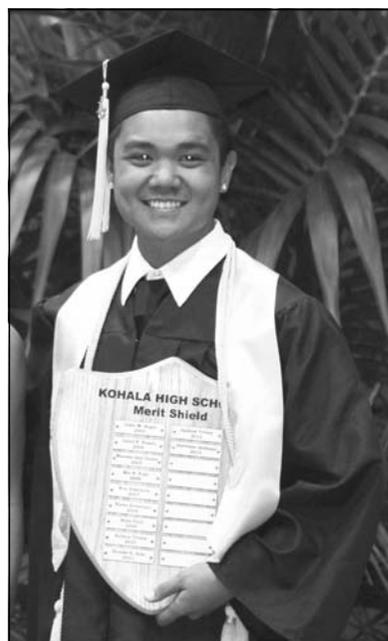
**KOHALA HIGH SCHOOL – MAY 18, 2013**

Efren Xerxes Abellera, Jr., **Anjalika Agustin\*\***, Andi Amar, **Jayvimar Arellano\*\*\***, Kennelyn Arenas, Brittany Bargas, Jake Ball, Rysen Bello, Paul-Devin Cadiente, Lynsie Carvalho, Cammeson Carlos-Ellazar, Dakota Carter, Sheana Cazimero, Mariah-Ann Collier, Whitney Collier, Leilia Culp, Veronica Fojtasek, Cody Geiger, Madrone Goldman, Iokepa Jordan, Jeremiah Kanehailua-Torres, Selina Keawekane, Dillon Ku, Makanikahio Kualii, Benjamin Kupuka`a\*, Tiani Luga, Sariah Medeiros, **Justin Meikle**, Derek Moreno, Kawaiianuhea Moss, Ruben Page III, Shaleshelyn Perez-Stevens, Brydin Poliahu-Sullivan, Arvi Anthony Realista, **Michelle Sahagun\*\*\***, Christian Salis-Kapeliela, **Dylan Snelling\*\*\***, Sharisse Sniffen, Amber Souza, Breea Souza, Casey Stevens, Clifton Thompson, Dakota Tolentino, Raevan Alohilani Tolentino, Kiana Valeros, Shylyn Vidal, Leesha Villacorte, Kaululani Vinluan, and Montana White.

\*\*\*Summa cum laude; \*\*Magna cum laude; \*Cum laude, **National Honor Society**



Dylan Snelling, one of three valedictorians along with Michelle Sahagun and Jayvimar Arellano, addresses his classmates and a full audience at Hisaoka Gym.



Jayvimar Arellano was awarded the Merit Shield at the Kohala High School commencement ceremony May 18.



Graduates are inundated with lei and congratulations after the ceremony.



The senior class members turn the tassels on their caps to mark their official graduation from high school.

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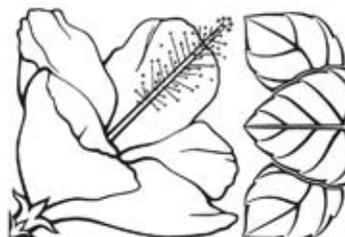
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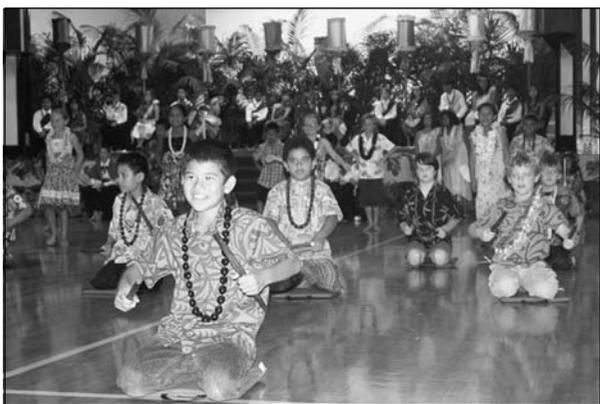
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# May Day... Lei Day... Kohala Style!

—photos by Jesús and Megan Solís



Third graders, including Razel Cafe, front, played Wa`a Kaukahi.



Mo`i Wahine Alohilani Tolentino dances solo "Lawakua."



Kohala Middle School May Day Mo`i Kane (King) Cainan Perez dances with Mo`i Wahine (Queen) Patricia Yamura at the school's celebration May 6.



KMS Mo`i Kane and island princes dance to the spirited "Papa Sia."



Kohala Elementary held its celebration on April 30 with the theme: Holomua `O Hokule`a [To Move Forward]. Left to right, front row: Announcers Tiani Perez, Stacey Firestone; 2nd row: Conch shell/Spearmen: Duncan Anderson, Jordan Alejandro III, Benjamin Vakauta, Mitchell Canniff; 3rd row: Princesses Kailee Paro, Jada Hook, Ashanti Coroton, Brianna "Wehi" Lim-Ryder; 4th row: Princes La`akea Mamala, Javan Motta, Zakary Javillonar, Jordan Redican; 5th row: Princesses Ke`au Souza, Jovelyn Campollo, Jessa-May Campollo, Kalia Emeliano; back row: Princes Jazz Francisco, Hokani Maria, Justus Ventura, Rayden Baldos.



Kohala High School's Mo`i Kane EfrenAbellera and Mo`i Wahine Alohilani Tolentino, surrounded by their court at the school's May Day celebration April 29.



A Tahitian dance, "Otea," was choreographed by Queen Alohilani Tolentino as her senior project.

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Coqui Hotline: 889-5775

Donations are gratefully accepted through NKCRC.

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June 29 and 30 at KIC

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9 - 4 p.m. Sunday

Children will learn Okinawa history, music, arts & crafts, games, cooking, karate, hanafuda, drumming.

Fee is \$40 for one child, \$75 for 2 children and \$110 for 3 children, ages 7 - 12

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889-5801

## Innovative Off-Grid Water System Comes to Kohala

Story and photo by Megan Solís

On May 10, a small crowd gathered for the dedication and blessing of an off-grid water pump system powered by wind and the sun, the first of its kind on a commercial scale. Located on Lokahi Road, makai of Kapa'au, the innovative system is designed to provide irrigation water to approximately 400 acres of agricultural land.

Called the Power Cube project, it is the joint venture of Gen-X Energy Development LLC, a renewable energy technology firm based in Maui, and Kohala Makani Wai LLC, which owns the land.

Gen-X co-founder Leo Caires explained that commercial agricultural operations utilize complex irrigation systems which consume substantial amounts of fossil fuel-based energy. Commercial-scale pumps are often fueled by diesel generators or require extensive and expensive transmission lines to connect to a grid system. Even where grid infrastructure is available, many sites are subject to grid saturation or limits on grid capacity.

Hawai'i has ample wind and solar power resources (including geothermal in some areas), but there has not been an off-grid system capable of marrying the power produced by these renewable resources with the load required by commercial-grade pumps and other systems. Until now.

Power Cube's system, housed in a 20-foot shipping container, manages the power production of a 100 kilowatt wind turbine integrated with solar power arrays and balances it with the energy needs of the 100 horsepower water pump—capable of pumping 33 million gallons of water annually—through a mobile, scalable, reliable and efficient micro-grid comprised of a lithium titanate battery bank, inverters, a variable speed drive and a supervisory control panel. The "brain" of the system was engineered by Sustainable Power Systems of Colorado and dubbed "Skygrid."

Half of the funding for the \$1.72 million project came from a grant from the U.S. Department of Energy through Hawaii Renewable Energy Development Venture (HREDV); the other half came from Power Cube LLC. The project was selected for its potential in fulfilling the Hawai'i Clean Energy Initiative's goal



The Power Cube project includes a wind turbine, solar power arrays and an innovative micro-grid, capable of providing stable, efficient renewable power for commercial agricultural applications.

of achieving 70 percent clean energy by 2030 with 30 percent from efficiency measures, and 40 percent from locally generated renewable sources.

Gen-X co-owner Fred Brown said the project would not have been possible without the grant from HRDEV and Pacific International Center for High Technology Research to develop the technology, which was a significant part of the cost of the project.

A high percentage of Hawai'i's energy consumption comes from fossil

fuels, said Caires. "The world is looking to Hawai'i to innovate and create solutions to help Hawai'i reduce its consumption and reliance on fossil fuels," he explained.

Caires explained that the variable speed drive enables the system to manage the power usage: when it's windy and the turbine is turned on, the system communicates that it is a good time to use the water pump; when the wind is down and power generation is low, the pump slows down or stops, marrying the load side of the system to the production side. This makes the system function more efficiently and not waste energy, he said.

The micro-grid can also be connected to a larger grid like HELCO's or to a bio-fuel generator, if desired.

Kohala, with its remote location, abundant renewable wind and solar resources, and agricultural lands, was an ideal place for the prototype of this project. But the use of such a system goes far beyond Kohala and even Hawai'i.

"This is a grid that can be dropped in anywhere," said Brown. "It can use wind, solar, or geothermal energy to tie into the grid and be used to pump water, desalinate water, and provide power for refrigeration."

"This can be a powerful solution for areas in the South Pacific, Africa and areas that have little to no access to infrastructure," said Caires. "We wanted to build something transformative. This can do it."

A representative of American Samoa came to the dedication of Power Cube to see the prototype and learn what it can do for remote agricultural areas there.

Now that Power Cube is up and running, phase two falls to Kohala Makani Wai to create a reservoir or storage tanks for storing the water and to set up the irrigation system.

To watch a video about the project, see [hawaiiirenewable.com/gen-x-energy-development/](http://hawaiiirenewable.com/gen-x-energy-development/) or visit the Gen-X website: [gen-xenergydevelopment.com](http://gen-xenergydevelopment.com).

At the dedication and blessing of the Power Cube project, Kahu Kealoha Sugiyama pours water from an ipu into a bamboo vessel held by Gen-X co-owner Leo Caires. The water was passed around the water pump by people instrumental to the project to symbolize "priming the pump."



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- Campbell Cream of Mushroom Soup, 10 oz. 2/2<sup>29</sup>
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- Delmonte Fruit Cocktail/Peaches, 15 oz. 2/2<sup>99</sup>
- Delmonte Pineapple Juice, 46 oz. 2<sup>19</sup>
- Delmonte Tomato Sauce, 8 oz. 2/1<sup>19</sup>
- Delmonte Whole Kernel or Cream Corn, 14 - 15 oz. 2/2<sup>29</sup>
- Diamond Bakery Cookies, all types, 6 oz. 1<sup>79</sup>
- Diamond Bakery Graham Crackers, 8 - 9 oz. 2/6<sup>00</sup>
- Diamond Bakery Soda Crackers, all types, 13 oz. 3<sup>49</sup>
- Hawaiian Hula Salad Dressing, 8 oz. 2<sup>49</sup>
- Huy Fong Srirachi Sauce, 7 oz. 3<sup>59</sup>
- Koolaid, 8 qt. 3<sup>39</sup>
- Kraft Grated Parmesan, 8 oz. 3<sup>99</sup>
- Kraft Macaroni & Cheese, 7.25 oz. 2/2<sup>99</sup>
- Libby Corn Beef Hash, 15 oz. 2<sup>99</sup>
- Libby Corn Beef, 12 oz. 4<sup>99</sup>
- Lion Coffee, all types, no decaf., 10 oz. 4<sup>99</sup>
- Malt O'Meal Dynobites Cereal, 12.5 oz. 2/4<sup>99</sup>
- Maxwell House Instant Coffee, 8 oz. 4<sup>99</sup>
- Mezzetta Hot Chili/Peperoncini, 16 oz. 2<sup>29</sup>
- Mums Bean Thread, 8 oz. 1<sup>89</sup>
- Newton Pancit Canton Noodle, 8 oz. 2<sup>19</sup>
- Pillsbury Brownie Mix, 19.5 oz. 1<sup>49</sup>
- Planter's Honey Roasted or Cocktail Peanuts, 12 oz. 2<sup>99</sup>
- S&W Black or Chili Beans, 15 oz. 3/3<sup>99</sup>

- Shirakiku Mandarin Oranges, 11 oz. 1<sup>19</sup>
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- Shirakiku Tempura Batter Mix, 10 oz. 1<sup>99</sup>
- Snow's Chopped or Minced Clams, 6.5 oz. 1<sup>69</sup>
- Sweet Sue Chicken Broth, 14.5 oz. 2/1<sup>59</sup>
- Van Camp Pork 'n' Beans, 15 oz. 2/1<sup>59</sup>
- Western Family Creamer, 22 oz. 3<sup>19</sup>
- Western Family Pitted Olives, 6 oz. 1<sup>59</sup>

**Natural Foods**

- Annie Chun's Seaweed Snacks, .35 oz. 1<sup>09</sup>
- Annie's Mac & Cheese Deluxe, 9 - 11 oz. 4<sup>19</sup>
- Crofter's Just Fruit Spread, 10 oz. 2<sup>99</sup>
- Green Mountain Gringo Salsa, 16 oz. 3<sup>99</sup>
- Lundberg Rice Chips, 6 oz. 2<sup>49</sup>
- So Delicious Coconut Beverage, 32 oz. 2<sup>59</sup>

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<p><b>Kraft Singles</b> All types 3<sup>59</sup> 14.7 - 16 oz.</p> 	<p><b>Kraft Chunk Cheese</b> or Shredded Cheese all types 8 oz. 3<sup>19</sup></p> 	<p><b>Kikkoman Miso</b> Soup 2<sup>49</sup> 1.05 oz.</p>	<p><b>Wei Pac Chuka</b> Soba 6 oz. 1<sup>69</sup></p>	<p><b>Coral Chunk Light</b> Tuna Oil or Water 5 oz. 2/1<sup>99</sup></p> 	<p><b>Jif Peanut</b> Butter 18 oz. 2<sup>79</sup></p>
<p><b>Frank's Foods</b> Frankfurters 16 oz. 3<sup>39</sup></p>	<p><b>Frank's Foods</b> Portuguese Sausage 12 oz. 3<sup>39</sup></p>	<p><b>Tentay Patis</b> Fish Sauce 25.6 oz. 2<sup>79</sup></p>	<p><b>Edelweiss Salad</b> Dressing 12 oz. 4<sup>79</sup></p>	<p><b>Pepsi</b> 24 - pk cans 8<sup>99</sup></p> 	<p><b>Pillsbury Cake</b> Mixes 15.25 oz. 2/2<sup>59</sup></p>
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Bays English Muffins, 6 ct.	3 <sup>19</sup>
Birds Eye Steam Fresh Vegetables, 12 oz.	2 <sup>59</sup>
Carolina Ground Turkey, 16 oz.	2 <sup>39</sup>
Chef America Hot Pockets, 4 oz.	2/2 <sup>39</sup>
Country Crock Margarine, 15 oz.	2 <sup>69</sup>
El Monterey Burrito, 8 pk./4 oz.	4 <sup>79</sup>
Farmbest Butter, 16 oz.	3 <sup>69</sup>
Flavor Pac Blueberries, 16 oz.	4 <sup>89</sup>
Frozen Mussels, 1/2 shell, 2 lb.	7 <sup>99</sup>
Frozen White Crab Sections, 1.5 lb.	6 <sup>99</sup>
Inland French Fries, 2 lb.	3 <sup>29</sup>
May's Picnic Patty, 2 lb.	11 <sup>99</sup>
Minute Maid Orange Juice, 16 oz.	2 <sup>99</sup>
Morningstar Grillers, Patties, Strips, Links, 5 - 9 oz.	4 <sup>69</sup>
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S&S Saimin, 'ohana pack, 9/4.5 oz.	5 <sup>29</sup>
Smuckers Uncrustables, 8 oz.	2 <sup>59</sup>
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Tyson Boneless, Skinless Thighs, 2.5 lb.	7 <sup>89</sup>
Tyson Party Wings, 5 lb.	15 <sup>99</sup>
Wes Pac Okra or Tiny Peas, 16 oz.	2 <sup>19</sup>
Yoplait Yogurt, 4 - 6 oz.	2/1 <sup>89</sup>
Zippy Meals, 20 - 24 oz.	5 <sup>99</sup>

Produce

Amano Crab Meat, 10 oz.	2 <sup>59</sup>
Cello Potatoes, 5 lb.	3 <sup>39</sup>
Fuji Apples, per lb.	1 <sup>89</sup>
Zucchini Squash, per lb.	1 <sup>99</sup>

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Alley Cat Food, 3.15 lb.	2 <sup>99</sup>
Angel Soft Bath Tissue, 12 ct.	4 <sup>79</sup>
Diamond Aluminum Foil, 25 sq. ft.	1 <sup>39</sup>
Gain Dish Liquid, 24 - 28 oz.	2 <sup>69</sup>
Hefty Foam Plates, 8-7/8 in., 50 ct.	3 <sup>19</sup>
Hefty Trash Bags, 30 gal./14 ct.	4 <sup>69</sup>
Sparkle Paper Towels, single rolls	2/2 <sup>39</sup>
Sun Liquid Detergent, 188 oz.	6 <sup>99</sup>
Western Family Napkins, 250 ct.	3 <sup>29</sup>

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Becks, 12 pk., Bottles	12 <sup>49</sup>
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Coors, 18 pk., bottles or cans	15 <sup>99</sup>
Corona, 12 pk., bottles	14 <sup>99</sup>
Heineken, 12 pk., bottles	14 <sup>99</sup>
Natural Beer, 24 pk., cans	16 <sup>99</sup>
Steinlager, 12 pk., bottles	11 <sup>49</sup>
Barefoot Wine, 750 ml.	2/10 <sup>99</sup>
Columbia Crest, 750 ml.	9 <sup>99</sup>
Guenoc Wine, 750 ml.	2/12 <sup>99</sup>
Mark West Wine, 750 ml.	9 <sup>59</sup>
Crown Royal, 750 ml.	22 <sup>99</sup>
Early Times, 750 ml.	8 <sup>59</sup>
Jose Cuervo Tequila, 750 ml.	15 <sup>99</sup>
Karkov Vodka, 1.75 liter	12 <sup>99</sup>
Smirnoff Vodka, 750 ml.	12 <sup>99</sup>

## Hawaiian Sites Featured at Library

From mid-May throughout June the North Kohala Public Library hosts a handsome exhibit of color photographs of Hawaiian historic sites, taken by noted photographer Boone Morrison. The images date from the early 1980s when the Historic Sites Committee of the Kohala Community Association asked Boone to help document the rich resources of the North Kohala leeward coast and help prevent construction of a large resort then being considered between Lapakahi and Kawaihae.

The photographs come primarily from Kaiholena ahupua`a with a few taken at Awalua next to Kapa`a Park. Honoka`a's Heritage Center, part of North Hawai'i Education and Research Center, has prepared this exhibit in honor of the great strides the North Kohala community has made in preserving the coastal resource.

The news is extraordinary. The 263 acres of Kaiholena, the largest of four properties endangered by the proposed resort in the 1980s, are now almost com-

pletely preserved. Since 2006 when the County initiated its Open Space Fund, Kaiholena has ranked high on the list of properties to be acquired. Now, through the efforts of community groups, almost \$12 million of committed funds have come from the County and State. So far 151 acres have been fully purchased, another 77 acres are in escrow and the last funding is being sought to complete the purchase of the final 35 acres.

Special credit goes to community groups Kamakani `O Kohala `Ohana, Malama Kohala Kahakai, Maika`i Kamakani O Kohala, Malama Na Wahi Pana, the Kohala Historic and Preservation Committee and Kohala Lihikai for all their work in securing this result.

Bishop Museum archaeologists had described the sites at Kaiholena as a continuous pattern from alongshore to the 100-foot elevation. Dr. Momi Naughton of the Heritage Center and her staff have done a fine job of transforming old color slides into beautiful images.

## Kohala Author Publishes New Book of Poems

Local author Sydney Limtiaco has published a new book of poems, "Master of My Soul."

The poems have been an important avenue for Sydney to get through the incredible grief and pain that she experienced from the loss of her daughter, the deaths of five sisters – four from cancer – four aunts, two nephews, and her mother.

The book takes the reader from her Spanish Catholic and chaotic upbringing that would shape her outlook on life until she made the decision to change it. Her travels and the people that came into her life, and how she interacted with them, were important in how Sydney chose to overcome the problematic past and return to Self.

Sydney did not find that mastering

her soul was an easy task. There is no magic bullet to be found in her poems; however, anyone so stricken with unresolved issues, particularly those stemming from grief and family misunderstandings, will relate to the shining honesty and sincerity in her words as she conquers the thought processes that were stealing her joy.



—photo courtesy of Sydney Limtiaco

Sydney Limtiaco

Indeed it was never death that was fearful; in fact it is acceptable when we know how to live. Forgiveness, understanding, healing, love and compassion resonate in her poetry.

Sydney has traveled extensively, both in the physical world and the world of the heart. She is a master chef, has been a caterer, explorer, potter, keynote speaker, and example of a woman whose spirit shines through all her endeavors.

"Master of My Soul" is available from Amazon.com or can be purchased at [www.createspace.com/4114163](http://www.createspace.com/4114163). It is available in color or black and white.

## Putting Their Best Foot Forward for Charity

The Waikoloa resort area was teeming with walkers and runners on a mission: to raise funds for their favorite charities as part of the Visitor Industry Charity Walk May 11. Thirty-nine participants (17 from Kohala Elementary School including Principal Danny Garcia) walked to raise funds for the North Kohala Student Cultural Enrichment Program.

The program helps provide Kohala students with opportunities to participate in many cultural and educational programs that have previously been prohibitive due to costs. The program is a sponsored project of North Kohala Community Resource Center.



—photo by Megan Solis

Walking for the North Kohala Student Cultural Enrichment Program in their blue bandanas are Jon Adams, Elsbeth Meinardus, Sue Carvalho, Ann Medve, Dixie Adams, Marianne Eaton, and Zoe Rudd; in front are Mary Frazier and Maddie Taomia.

The popular annual walk is in its 35th year. Participants were treated to a post-walk smorgasbord of food and drink courtesy of area restaurants including Sansei and Four Seasons, with entertainment provided by musical favorites including Anuhea.

## Library Launches Summer Reading Program

North Kohala Public Library invites all of Kohala's readers to participate in the annual summer reading program from May 28 to July 5.

"Dig Into Reading!"—the theme for this year's summer reading program—provides wonderful possibilities for reading and fun-filled library programs for all ages.

Each child, teen, or adult who registers and maintains a reading list will receive a different prize every week. Of course parents and older siblings can read to younger children—and since it's summer, the reading choices are for fun. The program is open to all ages and includes grand prize drawings for teens and adults in addition to the weekly incentives for visiting the library.

Family movie nights and storytime programs highlight the activities during the five-week program. Stop by the library for a flyer outlining the entire

schedule, or call 889-6655.

Preschoolers are invited to story times at 10 a.m. each Friday. The stories, games, and crafts will center around themes of digging gardens, digging machines, and digging animals.

At 6:30 p.m. each Monday evening through June and mid-July, the library will present family films loosely based on the digging theme. Beginning with "Wreck It Ralph" on June 3, the schedule includes, "Brave," "Rise of the Guardians," "Hoot," and "Gnomeo and Juliet."

The Summer Reading Program is possible with the support of the Friends of the North Kohala Library, the Friends of the Library of Hawaii, and the Hawaii State Public Library System.

Please contact the library three weeks in advance if a sign language interpreter or other special accommodation is needed.

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## Faye Yates Joins CDP Action Committee

By Lynda Wallach

On Monday, May 13, the North Kohala CDP Action Committee (NKCDP AC) welcomed its newest member Faith (Faye) Yates. Ms. Yates was born and raised at Ka`auhuhu Homestead and attended Kohala Elementary and High schools. After living on O`ahu for about 30 years, she returned to Kohala in 1998. She has been actively involved with Hawaiian Civic clubs and various golf clubs and she dances with halau hula Na Kupuna `O Kohala.

In administrative matters, John Winter, AC chair, explained how correspondence between the AC and recipients other than the Planning Department will now be handled: when official correspondence has been approved by the AC, it will be addressed directly to the intended recipient with a CC to the planning director. Rosalind Newlon from the Planning Department will create a final draft on County letterhead which will be returned to the AC chair for his signature and then sent to the intended recipient without modification by the department within two business days. This satisfactorily resolves a rather contentious issue.

Newlon said that she puts the AC meeting agendas, approved minutes and subcommittee reports on the Hawaii County CDP website. These documents are all available to the public at: [www.hawaiicounty.cdp.info/north-kohala-cdp](http://www.hawaiicounty.cdp.info/north-kohala-cdp).

Susan Fischer of the Power, Viewplanes and Erosion Control subcommittee presented a special report on the Hawaii Island conversion to fully shielded LED streetlights. The AC has sent a letter to Margaret Wille, North Kohala's representative on the Hawaii County Council, supporting an amendment to the Hawaii County Code allowing for the use of Class II LED fixtures for all private and public rights-of-way (rather than the bright yellow, low pressure sodium (LPS) lights used presently). The conversion would promote energy conservation, reduce glare and help restore dark night skies. Her report and a poster showing the differences between LPS and LED streetlights are available on the website listed above.

Gail Byrne of the County of Hawaii Public Access, Open Space and Natural Resources Preservation Commission

(PONC) made a brief presentation to the AC about the commission. PONC has representatives from each district on the island and is responsible for advising the mayor on which properties should be considered for purchase using the 2

percent Land Fund. Community groups nominate lands of historical or cultural significance for purchase and preservation, and the commission prioritizes these nominations and once a year gives a report to the mayor. Once a parcel has been prioritized and put on the report, a council member has to draft a purchase resolution which, once it is approved by the council, enables the administration to purchase the land if an opportunity arises. She said that since 2006, groups in North Kohala have been

very active in nominating lands and advocating for their purchase and that later this month the County will close escrow on two additional parcels at Kaiholena. Ala Kahakai is still seeking funding to purchase the last Kaiholena South property. She added that Kohala has earned a reputation for being able to work collaboratively with landowners to create win-win situations in this process. Of the top 14 parcels on their priority list, seven are in North Kohala!

In subcommittee reports, Hermann Fernandez said Norman Piianaia from Na Kalai Wa`a met with the Growth Management subcommittee on their organization's proposed special use permit for a 10-acre agriculture zoned parcel between Alaalai and Ho`ea in Hawi. Na Kalai Wa`a built the Makali`i voyaging canoe and is dedicated to preserving Hawaiian culture. The land was donated to Na Kalai Wa`a by the late Kim Smith. The land would be used to house 30 children for six one-week periods during the summer, for a total of 180 children. The campers would spend most of their time away from the

property, learning traditional voyaging and wayfaring near the ocean and participating in additional cultural activities in the mountains. Na Kalai Wa`a plans to construct the accommodations as well as a certified kitchen. Piianaia

said he has spoken with many members of the community and will not move forward with the project if there is opposition. Fernandez stated that, although some aspects of it may conflict with parts of the NKCDP, the benefits far outweigh the conflicts and the subcommittee overwhelmingly supports the goals of the project.

Joe Carvalho, reporting for the Public Access subcommittee, told the AC that on April 16 the Trust for Public Lands presented the first draft of a man-

agement plan for Kauhola Lighthouse at a meeting attended by about 40 people. They will be presenting updates in the near future. On June 1, National Trails Day, there will be a celebration at Upolu Airport with students from the middle school, members of Ala Kahakai Trail Association and others involved with the airport shoreline restoration. They may also plant some of the naupaka that they have potted. He said the subcommittee's work on the grants of easement documents and maps showing existing easements and those that are pending is nearing completion.

John Winter said the Water, Parks and Roads subcommittee has decided that the community has not identified enough water problems to pursue a rural community water association. Rather they will write a letter to the Department of Water Supply (DWS) pointing out the problems with long spaghetti lines: there is a higher risk of leaks and the subcommittee suggests that the fact of long lines crossing multiple properties should be factored in when determining leak adjustments; and there is a

decrease in chlorine level and pressure in long lines far from an owner's property. The subcommittee has decided to put together a leak detection workshop for the community with the Rural Water Association. Hermann Fernandez said there is a device called a volumetric control meter which will cut water off at a preset flow volume thus preventing a huge water bill resulting from a leak. He said the device can be purchased for about \$90 from Kona Irrigation. Winter said that, beginning June 1, DWS annual water quality reports for North Kohala will only be available online at the DWS website [www.hawaiidws.org](http://www.hawaiidws.org). Finally, the subcommittee is considering scheduling an open community meeting at Keokea regarding the parking situation at the Pololu lookout.

Collin Kaholo reported that the Affordable Housing subcommittee is once again looking for land. Neither of the two properties that had potential as sites for affordable housing have worked out. The owner of one wants full price for his lot which makes it unaffordable for Habitat. As for the property in the Kahei area, a group in the community with 501(c)3 status has applied to the Department of Land and Natural Resources to get the site for a charter school. The Affordable Housing subcommittee does not have 501(c)3 status and does not have the ability to purchase land and build housing; rather its job is to bring together people who have property and people who build affordable housing, he said.

Frank Cipriani reported on some of the initiatives of the Agriculture subcommittee. He stated that he is working with Ka Hana No`eau and Sustainable

See CDP, page 17



—photo courtesy of Faye Yates  
Faith (Faye) Yates is the newest member of the CDP Action Committee.

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## Shiro Takata Honored for Lifetime Service at NKCRC Event

The North Kohala Community Resource Center showed its appreciation for its many supporters, project organizers and donors at a well-attended event April 27 at Puakea Ranch. More than 350 guests enjoyed pupu by local chefs, live music by David Gomes and John Cruz, and gathered to honor Shiro Takata with a Lifetime Achievement Award for his constant support of youth, sports and community-minded causes over many years. Shiro gives not only generous donations but is actively involved in many charitable groups including KCAA, Kohala Coalition Against Drugs, Little League, Kohala Country Fair, and the Coqui Coalition, to name only a few. Mayor Billy Kenoi was on hand to present the award to Shiro, who was given a standing ovation by the crowd.

NKCRC also paid special tribute to three of its 70 projects: Kohala Mountain Farm Pumpkin Patch, Kohala Mountain News, and Kohala Equine Education Center (KEEC).

The Pumpkin Patch and Corn Maze is a labor of love for Stacy Hasegawa, who began the project in 2010. With support from Kahua Ranch, Stacy began with the pumpkin patch on one and a half acres and despite some setbacks saw the project grow to nine acres last year, with four acres of pumpkins, plus squash, gourds and other veggies, and introducing a huge corn maze, the first ever on Hawai'i Island. The program has grown to include student tours with hands-on activities to engage young people in agriculture and teach them about the origins of our food. The farm gives families a wholesome, fun activity to enjoy together.

Kohala Mountain News operated as a twice-monthly newspaper serving North Kohala from 1997 through 2001, when it closed down due to financial difficulties and the breakdown of the printing press on which it was being printed. In October 2006, Hawai'i Island was hit by 6.7 and 6.0 magnitude earthquakes,

with the North Kohala community being close enough to the epicenter that many in the community suffered damages. The need for a community newspaper became immediate as elected officials, FEMA, and nonprofits tried to communicate important information



—photo by Megan Solis

Mayor Billy Kenoi, left, presents a Lifetime Achievement Award to Shiro Takata for his dedication and service to the community.

to the community about the safety of public facilities and services, meetings, and available help.

In response, KMN was relaunched as a monthly paper in January 2007 by Anne Fojtasek, the paper's former layout editor, Bob Martin, Joel Kennedy and a crew of volunteers.

Since then, the newspaper has thrived, delivered free to all boxholders and kiosks around Kohala, thanks to the support of advertisers and the community.

KEEC was built upon North Kohala's long and proud tradition of paniolo families and events. In 2004 NKCRC board member Desiree De los Santos started a project called Paniolo Keiki 'O Kohala. Her dream was to create a permanent arena site to perpetuate the paniolo tradition in North Kohala. But finding a site was difficult.

In 2008, some folks stepped forward to pick up the reins: Beth Robinson, Bill Wong, Bernelle Camara, Dixie and Jon Adams, Kelly and Joe Vitorino,

Fern White and Alvin Kawamoto. They picked up the energy, re-named the project the Kohala Equine Education Center and persevered through several sites before securing a place with the help of Bennett Dorrance on 'Iole land. This original group, along with current board members Katie Adams, Matthew Medeiros and Gary Grisholm, were present at the event. This opportunity will provide numerous agricultural

educational programs to be developed including FFA, 4-H and therapeutic riding programs. Additionally, it will be an arena that will allow individuals and groups to teach, practice and show their equestrian skills.

For more information about these or any of the many other projects sponsored by NKCRC, see [www.northkohala.org](http://www.northkohala.org), call 889-5523 or stop by their office in Hawi.

## Brownies for Breast Cancer

If you were anywhere near the Kohala Elementary School cafeteria on Friday, May 10, at 2:15pm, you were definitely in a long line of parents and students anxiously waiting to see what was on sale at the bazaar.

The students and staff of Kohala Elementary School's 21st Century After-School Program held its second Mother's Day Bazaar. The children from this program worked diligently to create cookbooks, jewelry, ceramic art, plants and much more to sell to the public.

According to Debbie Wilner, on-site coordinator, last year's bazaar was so successful they wanted to do it again. Not only did the students and staff work for many weeks to plan the event, but they also added an educational component that made it unique. Staff decided that it would be great for the children to learn to give back to others in their community. An idea to honor mothers quickly came about and the thought of "Brownies for Breast Cancer" would now be an additional project.

Wilner, along with project director Kyle Steinhoff, decided to take it a step further and get the entire school involved. Students sold brownies for \$3. The entire cost was donated to American Cancer Society. Students worked on die cutting special boxes for the brownies as well as decorating each box by

hand. Teachers, staff, students and even the office ladies participated in getting all the boxes made and decorated. This was a huge task since the students sold over 400 brownies. Wilner and her staff are extremely grateful to Priscilla Galan and the cafeteria staff, who helped bake the brownies. She also thanks everyone who supported the project, especially the office staff that dedicated themselves to the success of this sale.

The student who sold the most brownies received pool passes for the Hilton Waikoloa Village. That lucky winner was Leianna Carvalho, who sold 59 brownies. Other students who sold a big amount are: Wyatt Mattos - 29, Arienne Bumanglag - 27 and Adriana Leitch - 24. A total of \$1,200 was donated to the American Cancer Society - Hawaii Island.

ACS staff partner Maile Lincoln, a former student and teacher at Kohala Elementary, said she is extremely grateful and thankful for the students', as well as the staff's, efforts to give back.

"The philanthropic knowledge that our children will gain will guide them to be great stewards in our world. It is never too early to instill good values and morals in our keiki. I am amazed and humbled with everyone's efforts, and it also gives me a sense of pride that this happened in my home town," said Lincoln.

### CDP, continued from page 16

Initiatives LLC toward the goal of producing 50 percent of the food consumed in North Kohala locally by 2018. He said that protecting and preserving Kohala's agricultural lands remains a priority of the subcommittee. The Greenhouse Aquaponic system has started up with the stocking of 50 adult-size Tilapia

donated by Dan Jelks fish farm. Sadly, Cipriani also reported that on March 28 the KHS lab and classroom housing the lab aquaponic model was vandalized. Someone sprayed fire retardant over all the walls, ceiling and equipment killing all 175 golden tilapia fry and biofilter plants. The perpetrator(s) have not yet been identified.

Finally there was some discussion of GMO labeling. The GMO labeling bill was defeated in the state Legislature on March 21. Margaret Wille has submitted a GMO-free Hawaii County bill (Bill 79) to the County Council. It had its first hearing in committee on Wednesday, May 15.

The next meeting of the NKCDP will be Monday, June 10, at 5 p.m. in the former Bank of Hawaii building in Kapa'au. The public is urged to attend.

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## HELCO Announces 3 Planned Outages this Summer

Hawaii Electric Light Company (HELCO) recently announced three planned outages this summer, tentatively set for late June and early July. HELCO is upgrading equipment in its Waimea substation which requires at least three outages to perform the work safely, a representative said.

The first two outages are tentatively planned for Wednesday and Thursday, June 26 and 27, from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m. The third outage is planned for Wednesday, July 17, 8 p.m. to 5 a.m. The dates provided are subject to change.

HELCO said the job is complex and they are still awaiting some material deliveries so the dates are a best

estimate of the schedule at this time. HELCO will send out notices through radio, newspaper, civil defense City Watch system and flyers when dates are confirmed.

The upgrade removes 1950s equipment that is past end-of-life and has caused unplanned outages in recent years. The station is also being reconfigured to provide some redundancy to allow the equipment to be maintained without requiring an outage of North Kohala in the future. HELCO emphasized, however, that there are still several parts of the system feeding North Kohala that will require future planned outages to maintain.

## Making Waves and Raising the Roof Swim-A-Thon at Kohala Pool June 15

Over the years the Kohala Warrior Aquatics (KAC) swim team has been involved in providing swim equipment for pool patrons and used fundraising money to help repair a leaky roof at the pool. Team members also assist in teaching drowning-prevention swim skills to youngsters and they share racing skills with swimmers in the novice program.

More recently, KAC installed two rescue tubes at Pololu Valley. The additional flotation devices may help avert future drownings at the often dangerous and remote beach.

On Saturday, June 15, the swim team will be hosting a Swim-A-Thon fundraiser. Part of the funds will go toward additional roof repairs at the Kohala Pool to enable installation of a solar heating system. Funds will also go toward the purchase of a much-needed storage unit.

"Right now our storage room is jam-packed with cleaning fluids, yard cleaning equipment, tools, vacuums, lawn mower, weed eater, wheel chair, paints, and I haven't even listed the swim equipment stored there for pool patrons," said pool lifeguard Kelli Pollak.

For the Swim-A-Thon, swimmers will be asking friends and family to

sponsor a certain amount of money for each lap they swim up to 200 laps or two-hours in the pool. Lap donations could be anywhere from 10 cents to \$100 per lap or, donors can make flat amount donations. At the conclusion a counter will total up the number of laps each swimmer completed and multiply those laps by the amount pledged. It's that simple! Donations are tax deductible since Kohala Warrior Aquatics is part of a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization.

Perhaps the best part is that donations will help with pool improvements benefitting the entire community. It will also allow swimmers to acquire training equipment to be able to compete at higher level meets which can bring positive awareness and recognition to our Kohala Community. It's a win-win situation!

The Swim-A-Thon on June 15 begins at 8 a.m. at the Kohala Pool. All Kohala swimmers are encouraged to come help raise money by swimming laps for their personal sponsors. Swimmers may designate money they raise for the solar system, roof repair, storage unit and/or to help the swim team. For Swim-A-Thon sponsor forms or more information contact Vicky Kometani at 640-3364 or vkometani@hawaiiantel.net.

## Growin' Coconuts



Bill Wong performs a traditional Hawaiian blessing by placing a squid in the bottom of a hole as the first coconut is planted. Thirty employees of the ATV Outfitters and Kohala Ditch Adventures pitched in to plant 100 coconut palms in the big field in front of the company office April 30. Palms were provided by the Coconuts for Kohala initiative to establish sustainable coconut production in Kohala.

—photo by Jessica Goodoni



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\*County of Hawai'i: Epidemiological Profile of Alcohol Related Behaviors Among Youth, Spring 2007, current revision May 2010.

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## Sharing the 'Bowl of Light' Lesson at International Conference

On April 30, Kohala Middle School students Gabriella Boyle and Kiera Javillonar helped facilitate a lesson for approximately 50 students and adults during a presentation at the 29th annual Pacific Rim International Conference on Disability & Diversity at the convention center on O'ahu. These students, as well as teachers Amber Corrales and Wendy Nickl, were sponsored to attend and present at this conference by the Growing Pono Schools (GPS) Project, a program in partnership with the school to help create their student Advisory program.

The GPS Project is funded through the University of Hawai'i at Manoa's Center on Disability Studies, which sponsors this annual conference. GPS staff member Randee Golden has been working with teachers and students at Kohala Middle School for the past two years to plan and facilitate weekly lessons that help students learn more about themselves, their community, and the place they call home.

The lesson these students shared is from a story about the Bowl of Light, first introduced to KMS teachers years ago by Kumu Raylene Kawaia'e'a. This story, which helps people learn about keeping strong and positive, is found in a book entitled Tales from the Night Rainbow, by Koko Willis and Pali Jae Lee.



—photo by Trip Rems  
KMS students Kiera Javillonar, left, and Gabriella Boyle facilitated a lesson at the Pacific Rim International Conference on Disability & Diversity.

"It was wonderful seeing Ella and Kiera confidently share the Bowl of Light story and help facilitate a discussion with the group. They represented their school well, and we are very proud of them," shared Randee Golden.

Pono Life Skills lessons are being created for students, grades 4 to 12, by the GPS Project staff in collaboration with DOE teachers and cultural educators from ALU LIKE, Inc. Funds for this curriculum development project are through a U.S. Department of Education Native Hawaiian grant. Teachers can look for additional lessons to be posted online this summer at the GPS Project website, which currently offers various resources to help students learn about living pono, or doing the right thing: [www.growingponoschools.com](http://www.growingponoschools.com).

## Summer Programs at Kohala Middle School

Kohala Middle School will run two programs during the summer from June 3 to July 12, 8 a.m. to 2p.m. One program will be summer fun with a theme of environmental stewardship. Students will use their learning to develop a project demonstrating their understanding of how humans impact our environment. There will be field trips to Hilo, Volcano as well as locally in Kohala. Contact Deanna Shelor at 889-7119 for an application or more information.

The second program is geared toward students needing to recover a credit so they remain on track for promotion to high school. Any students needing to take credit recovery can take up to two classes during the summer. The cost per class is \$75. Payment can be made by check to Kohala Middle School. Parents will be contacted informing them if their child will need to complete credit recovery classes. Any questions regarding credit recovery can be directed to Wendy Nickl at 889-7119.

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## KOHALA CALENDAR

June

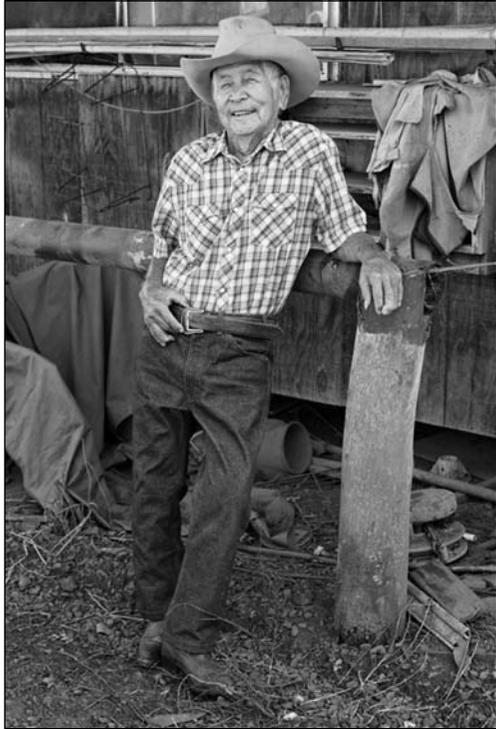
- 1 Sat 8:30 am, "Walking in the Wild" guided silent walks w/ Gavin Harrison, at `Iole, by donation, sign up by 8:30, call `Iole at 889-5151.
- 2 Sun 10:30 am, Metaphysical Church "Prayer Power," Kohala Yoga, 54-3877 Akoni Pule Hwy, Rev. Lee, 889-5505.
- 3 Mon 6-7 pm, Growth Management Subcmte. Mtg., public invited, Surety Kohala office, Hawi, Hermann, 889-1464.
- 3 Mon 6:30 pm, Family film "Wreck it Ralph," free, North Kohala library, 889-6655.
- 3 Mon 7 pm, Al-Anon mtg., every Monday, lower level, Walker Hall, St. Augustine's, Laura, 884-5833.
- 4 Tue 11 am, Adult book discussion group, "The Botany of Desire" by Michael Pollen, North Kohala library, 889-6655.
- 4 Tue 5 pm, CDP Parks, Water & Roads Subcmte, public welcome, KIC picnic area, Kamehameha Park, andi@hawaii.rr.com.
- 5 Wed 4:30-6:30 pm, CDP Public Access Subcmte. Mtg., Senior Center, Ted, 889-5801.
- 6 Thu 6-9 pm, Green Drinks Hawi, Kava Kafe, organic networking & pupus, Forrest, 987-2365.
- 7 Fri 10 am, Preschool Story Time series, ages 2-5, North Kohala library, 889-6655.
- 8 Sat 9 am-1 pm, ADOPT LOCAL! North Kohala-Grown Kits 'n' Kats June Adoption Saturday: very friendly, litter-trained, neutered/spayed, FIV & FeLV neg., all shots, dewormed, most microchipped, the works! Kapa'au Veterinary Ctr, 54-3876 Akoni Pule Hwy, Kate, popokipono@gmail.com.
- 8 Sat 10am-noon, Sustainable Saturdays series, Dash Kuhr, small gardens to feed four, free, KIC, [www.foodhubkohala.org](http://www.foodhubkohala.org).
- 10 Mon 5-6:30 pm, CDP Action Cmte. Public Mtg., public welcome, former Bank of Hawaii bldg., Kapa`au.
- 10 Mon 6-7 pm, Kohala Haw'n Civic Club Public Mtg., Hawi Community Center, Rochelle, 896-3033.
- 10 Mon 6:30 pm, Family film "Brave," free, North Kohala library, 889-6655.
- 11 Tue 8 am, Kamehameha Day activities, lei draping at statue 8 am, parade 9 am, ho`olaulea to follow at Kamehameha Park, free, Cicely, 557-6042.
- 12 Wed 8 am, No. Kohala Merchants Association Mtg., Resource Center, public invited, Bobby, 889-0505.
- 12 Wed 5-6:15 pm, CDP Power, Viewplanes & Erosion Control Subcmte, public welcome, county bldg. (former Bank of Hawaii), Susan, 882-7611.
- 14 Fri 10 am, Preschool Story Time series, ages 2-5, North Kohala library, 889-6655.
- 15 Sat 8 am, Kohala Warrior Aquatics swim-a-thon, raise money for Kohala pool, Vicky, 640-3364.
- 15 Sat 9 am-1 pm, Treasures Helping-Hand Store, Assembly of God, Hawi Rd., free meal: 10 am-1 pm, 889-5177.
- 15 Sat 4:30-6:30 pm, Free Grindz--Hot Meal, under the Hawi Banyans, bring a friend, Kohala Baptist Church, Sondra, 889-5416.
- 16 Sun 10:30 am, Metaphysical Church "Fathers & the Duality Principle," Kohala Yoga, 54-3877 Akoni Pule Hwy, Rev. Lee, 889-5505.
- 17 Mon 4:30 pm, CDP Affordable Housing Subcmte, public welcome, Senior Center, Collin, 880-6726.
- 17 Mon 6:30 pm, Family film "Rise of the Guardians," free, North Kohala library, 889-6655.
- 20 Thu 11 am, Kohala Hospital ER "wall-breaking" ceremony, public welcome, light refreshments, Kohala Hospital.
- 20 Thu 1:30-2:30 pm, Kohala Hospital Auxiliary Mtg., Hospital Pavilion, new members welcome, Dixie, 889-5730.
- 22 Sat 10:30-11 am, Go Skate Day parade, hwy open to skateboarders/ closed to motorists for parade, Kynnersley to Kamehameha Park, free, 895-2909.
- 22 Sat 11 am-12:30 pm, Free Community Meal, St. Augustine's Walker Hall, Thrift Store open 10 am-12:30 pm.
- 22 Sat 3-7 pm, Talk Story w/ artist Susan O'Malley, Living Arts Gallery, Hawi, 889-0739.
- 24 Mon 6:30 pm, Family film "Hoot," free, North Kohala library, 889-6655.
- 25 Tue 6 pm, CDP Agriculture Subcmte. Mtg, public welcome, KIC, Frank, 333-8026.

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

## Masa Kawamoto Contributes Paniolo Paraphernalia to Smithsonian

By Suzanne Sasaki

During 2011, Masa and Eunice Kawamoto took part in ceremonies which originated in Washington, D.C., and carried over to numerous states to honor World War II Nisei soldiers of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and the 100th Battalion; Masa, like many of his former soldier buddies, was awarded a Congressional Gold Medal. The Smithsonian Institution took part in documenting these ceremonies. It was during this time that Masa was contacted by a Smithsonian staffer, Nariko Sanefujin, who works in the Institution's National Museum of American History and ensures



Masa Kawamoto shared his paniolo history and one of his saddles with the Smithsonian Museum of American History.

that Asian-American and Pacific Islander history records are researched and maintained.

Masa shared stories of the Hawaiian cowboy, or paniolo, with Ms. Sanefujin, a subject which had hitherto been unknown to her and a number of her colleagues. She asked Masa if he would be willing to donate objects and speak further on his life as a Hawaiian paniolo.

Masa explained that he grew up on a family ranch on the island of Hawai'i and began working there full-time after he finished the 10th grade. He explained that he handmade all of his gear, including the Hawaiian horse saddle, distinguished by its wooden frame

and saddle horn; ropes; and branding irons. He donated a saddle decorated with images of small flowers worked into the leather with iron stamps, a braided leather rope, and branding iron, all of which he had made, and a pair of chaps Eunice believes was purchased from someone.

The objects went on display at the Smithsonian Museum of American History on the National Agricultural Day Press Conference on March 19, 2013, and will be part of an exhibition of "American Enterprise," where diverse artifacts and stories of American agriculture will be featured. The public will be able to access much of this information at the Smithsonian website, <http://americanhistory.si.edu/agheritage>. Anyone wanting to contribute their own stories of American agriculture may also do so



—photos by Brian Y. Sato

Years of hard work show in Masa Kawamoto's hands.

at this website. So far, stories on slavery, seasonal laborers, undocumented workers, and family farms have been received.

Masa's Hawaiian paniolo artifacts and stories now join other objects at the Smithsonian's Museum of American History ranging from a 1920s tofu store sign, a stool from a mochi candy store, plantation worker tools and clothing, and a Japanese picture bride's wedding kimono. Thanks to Masa's generosity, a little bit of Kohala now has a place in our Nation's museum.

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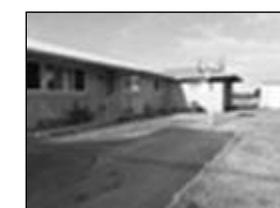
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