

Kohala Mountain News

Vol. 12, No. 12

December 28, 2013

Toxic Waste Site in Kohala

By John Winter

There was a meeting at 6 p.m. on Thursday, December 12 at the Senior Center to hear about plans to clean up a toxic waste site in our neighborhood. The site is just behind the self-help housing development and the high school east of Hawi. Several people presented information, including personnel from the Hawai'i Department of Health (HDOH), their Hazard Evaluation and Emergency Response (HEER) office, and consultants. The former pesticide-mixing site is an approximately half-acre plot in a wooded gulch, where the Kohala Sugar Company mixed pesticides for treating the cane fields. Apparently materials were routinely spilled or dumped on the ground, and the site now has elevated levels of arsenic, dioxin, lead, mercury, and petroleum aromatic hydrocarbons. Local resident Alfonso Mitchell remembers working at that site. They mixed pesticides in a large vat and filled jerry cans to take to the fields. When finished they would rinse out the containers and dump the rinse water on the ground.

HDOH did a sampling survey, finding potentially hazardous levels of bio-accessible arsenic (over 95 milligrams per kilogram of soil) and dioxin (over 1.5 micrograms/kilogram) over about a quarter of an acre, extending approximately three feet deep. These levels are considered hazardous to humans, but because testing shows the contaminants are tightly bound to soil and not a hazard for leaching into groundwater, they do not constitute "hazardous waste" for landfill disposal (which is an important point, as we shall see below).

Hawai'i state government has no general funds to treat contaminated sites. Hawaiian law holds the original dumper responsible, but if they are no longer reachable (as in this case) responsibility falls to subsequent landowners... even if they had nothing to do with the spill. And that can be expensive.

Several remediation alternatives
See Toxic, page 2

The Hawi Christmas Display

Story and photo by Tom Morse

Hawi has its own Christmas tree and display thanks to the generosity of Craig and Janice Williams, who donated the display and set it up. The tree, donated by Shiro Takata, is illuminated each night. The display is located on the vacant lot adjacent to Shige's gas station.



The tree, donated by Shiro Takata, is illuminated each night. The display is located on the vacant lot adjacent to Shige's gas station.

Lions Club Spreads Holiday Cheer



—photo by Tom Morse

Kohala Lions Club members shared the joy of the Christmas season December 5 with some caroling at Kohala Hospital. Some patients sang along, and one even got up to dance to the music.

Makahiki: A Time for Thanksgiving

This year the Kohala Senior Club was treated to the Hawaiian Cultural Thanksgiving called Makahiki.

Past Senior Club president Kealoha

Sugiyama began the celebration with the blowing of the pu, followed by a Hawaiian chant. He then shared his stories, beginning with the Makahiki.

Long before Abraham Lincoln signed the bill proclaiming a national Thanksgiving Day, the Hawaiians were already observing Thanksgiving, an event which began in the middle of October and went all the way through the middle of February. Today, our modern culture only observes one day for Thanksgiving, while the Hawaiians observed four months with no wars, anger, gossip or hostility. This was a time to be thankful for the harvest and to share the Aloha with

Kealoha then shared the story of Haloa o ke Kalo. Sky father Wakea and earth mother Papa's first child, Haloa, was stillborn, so they buried him. Shortly afterward a plant shoot appeared in that spot. In the meantime they had another baby boy, which they also named Haloa. So the first child was known Haloa o ke Kalo and the second was known as Haloa o ke kama (the child). His parents instructed Haloa o ke kama to take care

of Haloa o ke Kalo because the way you take care of your brother is how your brother is going to take care of you. There is a significant life lesson in this statement.

Na Kapuna then performed two solo hula to the delight of the audience.

The last cultural lesson was on the Gift of Aloha and what it means. It

does not mean "hello" and "goodbye," although the early missionaries thought

See Makahiki, page 2



—photos by Elsie Carpio

Wahine Seniors Club members dance hula during their 2013 Makahiki Thanksgiving celebration.

L-R: Madeline Kawai, Emily Dewitt, Kayoko Hanano, Suzanne Holland, Faye Yates, Margaret Couttie, and Vivian Moku



Seniors Club member Harry Cabrera dances hula as Kealoha Sugiyama looks on during the 2013 Seniors Club Makahiki celebration.

one another. They engaged in sports, music, dance and merry making. Can you just imagine spending four months under those fun conditions?

After listening to this bit of history, Senior Club members belonging to the Na Kupuna O Kohala hula group danced to the mele "Aloha E Kohala."

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Hawai`i County Passes Historic GMO Bill

By Lisa Andrews

The passage of the "No More GMOs" legislation (Bill 113) elicited a sigh of relief from many Hawai`i islanders—and one of disappointment from many others. This new county ordinance prohibits the open air cultivation, propagation, development, or testing of genetically engineered crops or plants, with exception of existing genetically engineered crops and plants including the papaya industry and the Big Island Dairy located in O`okala, which grows genetically engineered (GMO) corn for their dairy cows. As stated in its preamble: "The purpose of this law is to protect Hawai`i Island's unique and vulnerable ecosystem while promoting the cultural heritage of indigenous agricultural practices. This prohibition is intended to prevent the transfer and uncontrolled spread of genetically engineered organisms on to private property, public lands, and waterways."

Our own District 9 County Councilwoman, Margaret Wille, skillfully authored this bill to be as protective of our community as possible, while being sensitive to those Hawai`i farmers who were already cultivating GMO crops—especially for the already widespread GMO papaya industry. Wille crafted a "passable" bill that would serve to move our island in the direction of more eco-friendly community based and owned farms. One of Wille's main assertions, affirmed by the U.S. Supreme Court in

Maine vs. Taylor (1986), is that the government is not required "to sit idly by and wait until potentially irreversible environmental damage has occurred, or until the scientific community agrees on what disease organisms are or are not dangerous, before it acts to avoid such consequences." The preamble of the Bill goes on to explain that, "The precautionary principle requires that if a new technology poses threats of harm to human or environmental health, the burden of proof is on the promoter of the technology to demonstrate that the technology is safe, not on the public or governments to demonstrate that the technology is unsafe."

On December 5, 2013, Mayor William Kenoi signed Bill 113 and sent a message to the County Council affirming his commitment to the bill's intent. An excerpt reads, "Our community has a deep connection and respect for our land, and we all understand we must protect our island and preserve our precious natural resources. We are determined to do what is right for the land because this place is unlike any other in the world. With this new ordinance we are conveying that instead of global agribusiness corporations, we want to encourage and support community-based farming and ranching."

The Council is now expected to form an ad hoc committee to take an in-depth look at how we move this law forward

in a pono way. Clearly this law epitomizes our state motto: "Ua Mau ke Ea o

ka `Aina i ka Pono"; *The life of the land is perpetuated in righteousness.*

`Iole Rockwall Building Workshop Revives Tradition

On Saturday, December 7, volunteers gathered at `Iole to practice traditional dry-stack rockwall building while restoring historic rockwalls around the entrance to the Bond Homestead. The workshop was led by the lo`i farmers of `Ohua O Na Kia`i No Na Keiki O Ka `Aina, who learned rockwall



building techniques during the construction of `Iole's hale, which was completed in December of last year. —photo and caption by Kerry Balaam

Corrections: In the October 26, 2013 issue, the "Kohala Kai Public Access at Center of AC Meeting" article on page 15, and the November 23, 2013, "Access Group Defends Shoreline Users' Role in Coastal Trail Planning" article on page 2, Jojo Tanimoto was designated as representing an organization; she was speaking only for herself. Also in the November 23, 2013 issue, the "Coqui Coalition Holds Community Meeting" article on page five was incorrectly attributed; it was written by Kim Takata. We apologize for the errors.

Toxic, continued from page 1

were presented, including doing nothing, excavating and removal, and cap with soil or concrete to isolate the contaminants. The most effective treatment is to remove, with a cost estimate of \$484,000—about \$100,000 more than moderately-effective capping. Hawai`i has no facility to accept or handle designated hazardous wastes, but the concentrations of contaminants at this site are sufficiently immobile in groundwater to allow the contaminated soil to be disposed of at the West Hawai`i landfill.

At the meeting homeowners adjacent to the site expressed their anger at having a toxic dump so close. Community members also expressed their concern over contaminated dust spreading during excavation and transport. Dennis Poma of Advanced Compliance

Solutions, Inc. (ACSI), who has been hired to handle the remediation plan, replied that they plan to spray the soil with water during excavation and to cover the open pit when the daily work ends. They will also wet the truckloads and use covered containers. The contaminated soil will be dumped in a special area of the landfill and covered with clean soil each day. Fenix Grange, a toxicologist and supervisor of the cleanup section of the HDOH HEER Office in Oahu, said that the primary pathway for dioxin to affect humans is not by breathing dust, but by children eating contaminated soil (on hands or toys put in mouth) over many years.

Hawaii Island Community Development Corporation (HICDC), a non-profit organization that has built several affordable housing projects on the Big

Island, now owns the property. They have built about 30 units so far and plan on a total of 80, but the project is on hold until this site is addressed. They are applying for a US Environmental Protection Agency grant to help defray the considerable cost. Without some financial support they may not be able to remediate.

There's no telling how many contaminated sites are in North Kohala. This was probably the principal mixing site, but containers and spray apparatus may have been dumped in the cane fields. The Department of Health does not have the resources to comb the area and test for sites. They will, however, come and test potential sites if given an accurate location. If you know of the reasonably exact location of a potential contaminated site, please contact the

DOH (John Peard at the email below).

What You Can Do

Documents describing the site and remediation plan are available at the library and can be viewed/downloaded at <http://hawaii.gov/doh/heer>.

The public comment period for the proposed cleanup actions, as well as the grant application, runs until January 8. Written comments on the proposed soil cleanup actions should be directed to John Peard, Project Manager, HEER Office john.peard@doh.hawaii.gov.

Comments on the proposed cleanup grant application should be directed to Brian Nishimura, Planning Consultant, at btnishi@hawaiiantel.net. Sorely needed are support letters for HICDC's grant application, expressing concern about the site and benefit to the community that remediation would provide.

Makahiki, continued from page 1

so. To conform to the foreign ways, its definition is accepted as such today. But truly, Aloha is to be kind to one another with tenderness. Aloha is unity to be expressed with harmony. Aloha is agreeableness to be expressed with pleasantness. Aloha is humility, to be expressed with modesty. Aloha is patience, to be expressed with perseverance. This is what to "Live Aloha" is all about.

The Seniors were then treated to a Hawaiian luau which Kealoha had asked several of the members to prepare. Besides the kalua turkey they ate lau lau, poi, lomi salmon, chicken long rice, ulu, palau (sweet potato dessert), haupia, and many more desserts.

The take-home message was: remember to be thankful and appreciative during the four months Makahiki Season.

The Kohala Community Athletic Association (KCAA) would like to thank the following sponsors for their generous support for our after-school sports programs for the children of Kohala in 2013

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Kohala Hospital Emergency Room Project Update

By Jess Turnbull

The new Emergency Room (ER) project at the Kohala Hospital is steadily moving forward. The driving force of this project has been the community of North Kohala, and the Kohala Hospital Charitable Foundation greatly appreciates this support.

The first construction action in this project was to open up the interior of the existing area that will become the ER. This normally happens in the course of construction but, in the case of a building this old, this was the first time that the project staff was able to see what they are really working with as a base. In this case, the building was in generally good shape; however, some items still needed to be redesigned after learning from the bare building.

Just before construction started, the project team brought in some new members to help with the specification and building of the project. With this new insight, changes were made

to the plan that will result in a more effective ER. A second project in the adjacent area was also initiated, which will benefit the entire hospital. As can be expected, this change of plan came with the cost of pushing out the completion date.

These changes will add significant functionality to the hospital. Among the changes are the addition of a meeting room that will be—among other activities—used to train hospital staff, as well as a private room for doctors and patients to discuss medical decisions. There will be a waiting room in this area so patients and their families can be comfortable and close to the exam rooms.

At this point, the interior of the ER area has been framed, and work continues on getting the basic infrastructure installed. This phase includes fabricating steel cradles for heavy items and installing electrical, plumbing, medical gas, and air conditioning systems.

When those projects are completed, the walls and ceiling will be closed and fixtures installed.

Currently, a steel fabricator is assembling the steel cradle that will hold the air conditioning unit on the roof. This will help carry the load created by the heavy weight of the unit. The steel fabricator is working closely with the mechanical contractor to make sure that everything will fit together when it is all installed. Once the cradle is installed, the ducting and controls for the air conditioning can be installed.

Electrical and other service contractors will follow the steel and air conditioning work. The ER rooms will each get dedicated oxygen and vacuum lines. Everything will be at hand during a medical procedure, and heavy tanks won't have to be relocated when oxygen is necessary. These contractors are also working together to make sure their systems integrate effectively in the finished hospital.

When all of the necessary systems have been installed in the walls the dry-wall contractor will cover them up, followed by the same systems contractors for another round. This time, they will be installing the fixtures and controls for these systems.

The processes mentioned are, at this time, for the main ER area. The new area, which includes the waiting room, meeting rooms, and another bathroom, is still in the permitting stage. Possibly some of these processes can happen simultaneously, but it is in the hands of the permitting authorities at this time.

This ambitious project has been made possible by the incredible support of the Kohala community. Throughout the project, the Foundation intends to keep you informed. They thank everyone involved and strive to build the best for this community.

Jess Turnbull is the Project Manager for the Kohala Hospital Charitable Foundation.

Christmas Cheer Comes to Kohala Hospital Residents

Story and photos by Sadie Young

Residents of Kohala Hospital gathered for the annual Christmas luncheon, savoring delicious fare prepared by kitchen staff members, who were assisted in serving by both community volunteers and hospital

staff from other departments.

Seasonal entertainment was provided by the woodwinds ensemble Kona Winds, family members Carol and Dennis Gonsalves, who played guitar and sang, and the local hula-dancing aloha Santa, Kealoha Sugiyama. Pastor Steven Hedlund related the Christmas story as residents enjoyed the spirited environment.



Kohala Hospital resident Suse Soares shares aloha with Kealoha Sugiyama, dressed as a festive Hawaiian Santa, as his family members look on during the 2013 annual residents' Christmas luncheon.



The Kona Winds ensemble takes a break from entertaining the Kohala Hospital residents during their 2013 annual Christmas luncheon. L-R: Director Wendy Hindley, Diana Moriarty, Karen Miller, Adrienne Cherry, and David Gomes



Kealoha Sugiyama entertains the Kohala Hospital residents as a hula-dancing, aloha-spreading, sparkly Santa Claus.

Healthcare Group Open to New Members

Oneness in Health is welcoming interested complimentary healthcare practitioners to our "Meet and Greet" gathering. We are opening our doors to expand our base of holistic healers in Kohala and beyond. Oneness in Health is a group of integrative healthcare practitioners whose mission is to "weave vibrant health into the fabric of the Kohala Community through education, community service, and integrative healthcare choices." This networking group is actively recruiting new members on January 21, 2014 from 9 to 11 a.m. at Kokolulu Retreat Center, Hawi.

For more info contact: Tonya Tyler at 339-2432 or Catalina Cain at 889-6206.

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Future KMN Deadlines

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



January

Ad Deadline: 1/10/14
News Deadline: 1/13/14

February

Ad Deadline: 2/7/14
News Deadline: 2/10/14

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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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

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For a twelve month subscription please send your check for \$36, made out to the Kohala Mountain News, P.O. Box 639, Kapa'au HI 96755. Be sure to include a note giving the name and mailing address of the recipient.

Letters—

Dear Readers,

Have you noticed the price of seafood lately? The price of seafood has majorly skyrocketed. Today in your average market it would cost you \$15 to \$18 for a pound of ahi poke. One of my favorite foods is fresh sushi. I eat sushi almost every week—imagine how much that costs a month.

Right now people are catching fish for commercial fishing companies that overfish and ruin our abundant source of fish. Please, eat seafood in moderation.

Save the Fish While Keeping Healthy

If we cut back on eating fish then the big companies will realize that they don't need thousands of fish for only hundreds of people. Also, if there are more fish in the ocean, the price of fish will drop.

There is one more reason to cut back on the fish, and it involves your health. Some fish contain a heavy metal called mercury. Mercury is highly toxic and messes with your brain and nervous system. Some of the effects are memory loss, tremors, vision loss and numbness

of the fingers and toes. Consumption of mercury may also lead to heart disease, which in some cases causes death. Please be cautious, and help the fish survive.

Thank you for your time!
Sincerely,
Sydney Cochran

This contribution is part of the ongoing series of Kohala Middle School student letters. Students in Mr. Anderson's class are encouraged to write persuasive letters about topics that are meaningful to them.

Mahalo from Operation Vacation and our Troops

We would like to take this opportunity to give thanks to all in our community who have helped to support our military troops through the Operation Vacation Hawaii program. The final "mission" was just completed last month over Veteran's Day weekend when Command Sergeant Major Toese Tia and his family of five enjoyed three days of R & R in North Kohala.

Over the past four years, nine well-deserving soldiers and their families have been flown from bases in O'ahu and given free, all-expense-paid vacations in Kohala, including accommodations, activities and meals. This would not have been possible except for the generosity of our wonderful local sponsors—

guesthouse owners, restaurateurs, car rental and activity merchants, as well as other individuals who helped pay for airfares—all too many to name in this letter! Each family that participated absolutely loved Kohala, and was so touched by the spirit of community and aloha that was shown to them during their stay.

Now that most troops are being re-deployed out of major combat theaters in the Middle East, our focus going into 2014 will be to continue to support our military through Kohala Youth Ranch and our Paso Fino horse herd, which will provide free equine-assisted activities focusing on reconnecting families and working with

those affected by PTSD.

We hope to continue working with our local Kohala National Guard Alumni to liaison with those currently serving in the Guard, as well as soldiers stationed here in the Big Island at Pohakuloa Training Area.

These good men and women are shining examples for all of us, putting their lives on the line daily and sacrificing time with their loved ones for the defense of our freedoms and way of life. We again thank our Kohala community for recognizing this, for appreciating them and for welcoming them with open arms.

Sincerely,
Joe and Kelly Vitorino

Best Wishes for 2014

Aloha:

The year 2014 will have its share of challenges and opportunities. I'm confident we shall be resilient for the challenges. Mahalo, in advance, for your knowledge and skills for the betterment of our community, and for your willingness to partner with government if and when necessary.

The 2014 State Legislature will convene session on Wednesday, January 15. You can go to www.capitol.hawaii.gov to sign up for hearing notices and

get information about legislators. Many have said providing testimony does not make a difference. I disagree. Each person gives us a perspective we may not have considered. I learn from others involved. If time is limited and you are unable to provide testimony on a specific bill, a phone call would be appreciated.

Thank you for the opportunity to represent North Kohala, South Kohala, and a small portion of North Kona. I'm hopeful we shall make progress

this coming year. We have our challenges ahead of us, including services for our aging population, educating our workforce, sustaining our natural resources, growing local food, access to health professionals, and public safety.

Best wishes for a safe, healthy and prosperous 2014.

Sincerely,
Hawai'i State Representative
Cindy Evans
808-586-8510

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.

Aunty Gerry Vinta Remembered

Story by Fred Cachola

Gerry Vinta Johansen was a true-blue Kohala kama'aina, born and raised at Halaula (up camp), and enrolled at Halaula School until transferred to Kamehameha Schools at the Kapalama campus in Honolulu. Everyone in Kohala knew the Vinta clan. Aunty Gerry has many relatives here in Kohala and elsewhere. She devoted most of her life working at her alma mater and became "aunty" to hundreds of students, and graduates as one of the premier post-high counselors and financial aid specialists. She counseled and guided hundreds of alumni into their first years of college and other post-high



—photo courtesy of Ke Ali'i Pauahi Foundation

Geraldine "Aunty Gerry" Vinta Johansen dedicated 59 years of her full life to supporting Kamehameha Schools.

educational efforts. She was also "aunty" to hundreds of alumni when she worked in the Parent and Alumni Relations office. Her work in the Ke Ali'i Pauahi Foundation is legendary, helping many aspiring students to secure financial aid scholarships from the Foundation and other sources of funding. Kohala is proud to count her as a one our revered and beloved daughters. Aloha e Geri.

The following article and photo have been provided by Fred Cachola, courtesy of Ke Ali'i Pauahi Foundation.

Aloha e Kamehameha 'Ohana,
It is with great sadness

that I write to inform our alumni of the passing of one of Kamehameha's most loved graduates, employees, and supporters, Geraldine "Aunty Gerry" Vinta Johansen KSK'60.

Aunty Gerry began her time at Kamehameha in 1954 as a seventh grader, and over the next 59 years she made it her mission to support the school she loved so much. Her dedication to furthering Pauahi's legacy over nearly 50 years as an employee literally transformed lives in our Hawaiian community. Her love for Kamehameha and the community it serves will forever stand as an example for all of us.

Please keep Aunty Gerry, her husband Albert Johansen KSK'58, their daughters Tanya-Ann Johansen KSK'91 and Michelle "Kahea" Johansen KSK'98, their mo'opuna, and the entire Johansen 'ohana in your thoughts and your prayers as we all bid aloha to our friend,
See Aunty Gerry, page 5

Viewpoint — CDP Action Committee Structure Questioned by Planning Department

By Margaret Wille

In the state of Hawai'i there are no towns or villages, so the first level of government in Hawai'i County is the county council as the legislative branch, and the mayor and his departments as the executive branch. To address the lack of municipal local government, previous mayor Harry Kim and the then county council created Community Development Plan Steering Committees to draft Community Development Plans which, upon approval, would then become law ("ordinances").



Margaret Wille

Consequently, we now have North and South Kohala Community Development Plans (CDPs) and corresponding Action Committees. Based on the framework of its CDP, the North Kohala Action Committee now pursues issues of community concern and provides a forum in which the community can effectively interface with the county level government.

Now it seems the CDP action committees are under attack. The Planning Director recently announced that the

North Kohala CDP (NKCDP) subcommittees as presently constituted (by the Department of Planning, incidentally) are subject to the Sunshine Law and must be organized and run in strict adherence to that law, or restructured in a way that drastically reduces its effectiveness.

At issue is Hawai'i's Sunshine Law, which provides that all committees or commissions that qualify as "Boards" are subject to exacting meeting requirements.

Up until now, these loosely formed groups of community members interested in one CDP issue or another have functioned without a problem. Now all of a sudden the "riot act" has been read, and these groups must come under the Sunshine Law's strict board rules as either a standing committee or an ad hoc committee, or else disband. One can only assume this happened because these community voices at this time are making a difference and are therefore being stomped on by Corporation Counsel's big foot.

Granted, there will always be balance of power issues and, frankly, that is what is going on here. Traditionally the executive branch has sought to consolidate power—and to curb those interests that threatened this consolidation of power. So really this confrontation by the executive branch should come as no surprise. Now the real question is: upon what

authority can the planning director, in collaboration with the Office of Corporation Counsel, decide to harness North Kohala's subcommittees with the Sunshine Law's exacting meeting requirements? Pursuant to this state statute, a group qualifies as subject to this law if it is a "Board" as here defined:

"Board" means any agency, board, commission, authority, or committee of the State or its political subdivisions which is created by constitution, statute, rule, or executive order, to have supervision, control, jurisdiction or advisory power over specific matters and which is required to conduct meetings and to take official actions."

The NKCDP Action Committee subcommittees are however not "created by constitution, statute, rule, or executive order" and do not have "supervision, control, jurisdiction, or advisory power over specific matters...which is required to conduct meetings and to take official

actions." So these loosely formed community groups do not need to be shoved into the above definition of "Boards" as defined under the Sunshine Law, and are therefore not subject to its exacting meeting and agenda requirements.

Bottom line... it is time for the Kenoi administration, though its planning director and its corporation counsel, in a "together we can" approach, to appreciate the value of these district level CDP action committees, as well as the community members who participate in the various subcommittee groups.

NKCDP Chair John Winter comments that, "The Action Committee really appreciates Councilmember Wille's support on this important matter, and was disappointed to learn of the planning director's position. This new judgment, if it holds, will seriously impair the effectiveness of all of the Action Committees on the island."

Margaret Wille is the County Council Representative for District 9.

Aunty Gerry, continued from page 4 schoolmate, colleague, mentor and a true advocate for Kamehameha.

Me ka ha`aha`a,
Keawe Liu
Ke Ali'i Pauahi Foundation

Learn how to use Kohala's New Seed Bank January 8

Kohala's new permanent seed bank will be housed at the Kohala Public Library starting January 8.

Come learn how to make deposits and withdrawals at 3:30 p.m. that Wednesday afternoon. After that date, a free brochure will be available at the library

which will give instructions.

Kohala's seed bank enables community members to share seeds on an ongoing basis. If you have seeds that are viable and you would like to donate them, please come to the session on January 8, or call Travis Dodson at 430-1285.

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Kohala Leads the State in Coastal Preservation

Story and photos by Toni Withington

When Akoni Pule Highway was built in the early 1970s, the word was out that resort and golf course subdivisions would be right behind the asphalt pavers. Indeed, plans for a 1,500-unit resort complex at Kaiholena swiftly got county approval, to be followed in 1993 by the rezoning of Mahukona for a golf course resort and subdivision.

What was first a rag-tag fight to stop the bulldozers has turned into a public land harvest. The 40-year effort by a wide cross-section of the community has put Kohala at the forefront of coastal resource preservation statewide.

The numbers speak loudly. Almost \$14 million has been raised to purchase 213 acres of private oceanfront land for public open space. Another \$1.6 million has been pledged for an additional 36 acres. But that is only the beginning. Eight other projects, totaling 2,651 acres, have been prioritized for public purchase by the county. And negotiations are underway with many land owners to preserve more.

A partnership of five Kohala community groups banded together for many years to fight the permitting of large vacation residences in the leeward shoreline conservation district. From these battles the groups shifted to finding money to buy the land outright. Since then they have used the county's open space program of identifying important lands as a springboard.

Multiple funding sources have been found for most purchases. Money for the land purchases has come from the county's Open Space Fund, the state's Legacy Land Conservation Program, several federal grants, land trusts, and fundraising by community non-profit groups. Major help for two projects was supplied by the Trust for Public Lands. Hawaiian Islands Land Trust has recently pledged help through its Iconic Lands program, which highlighted several Kohala sites.

This month the county Public Access, Open Space and Natural Resources Commission (PONC) announced its annual list of properties to preserve. Eight North Kohala properties are on the list of fifteen. Among them, for the seventh year, is the 434 acres at Mahukona.

More important than the numbers is preserving the rich cultural heritage of the Kohala coast, which has been described as having "the highest den-

sity of pre-contact archaeological sites in the state"—and preserving the fishing spots, surf sites, hiking trails and places to gather shellfish and limu, as well as preserving places to watch the sunset and the whales. For many, a big benefit of preventing development of the shore is protecting the reefs and sea life from soil and chemical runoff.

The historic, cultural and recreational values of the coast were reflected in early efforts by Kohala to draw attention to the district's unique position of being the last stretch of accessible coastline left almost entirely undeveloped. Kupuna Clyde "Kindy" Sproat, William Akau, Marie Solomon and Armstrong Yamamoto led the community to preserve its cultural and natural bounty. A five-page list of endorsements, starting in 1972, includes several petitions with as many as 6,000 signatures, eight resolutions passed by the state legislature, endorsements by numerous community groups and businesses, and support of local cultural associations—including the statewide Hawaiian Civic Clubs.

Focus on the coast was intensified by the county's adoption of the North Kohala Community Development Plan as an ordinance in 2008. The plan, written by the community, calls for historic and cultural preservation, downzoning (reducing the permitted density of construction) of some lands, and creation of a public access trail with mauka-makai connectors from Pololu Valley to Kawaihae. It also calls for the public purchase of four specific coastal lands—two of which, Pao'o and Kaiholena, have now been completed.

When the state Legacy Land program started in 2005 and the county Open Space funding became available in 2006, the five groups pooled resources to write up extensive nominations of



A young girl swings in a tree on the coastal lands recently purchased from private landowners and now designated for public use in perpetuity at Pao'o.

lands, documenting their values for historic, recreational, environmental and open space characteristics. Those groups are Kama-kani O Kohala Ohana—Kako'o, Maika'i Kama-kani O Kohala, Malama Kohala Kahakai, Kohala Historic and Cultural Preservation Group, and Malama Wahi Pana O Kohala. Each year the nominations have to be re-filed, and up to this point Kohala has garnered more than its share of certified impor-

tant lands every year.

The lands purchased so far are: Nu'uuanu at Lapakahi (17 acres); Pao'o, or "Secrets" surf site, (10.6 acres); Kaiholena 1 (151 acres); Kaiholena 2 (77 acres), and Kauhola Point (27.55 acres). The sale pending is Kaiholena 3 (35 acres).

This year the 48 acres at Niuli'i that includes the coastline from Keokea Park to almost Neue Bay and the old sugar mill has been named number two on the County's open space list. The only property ahead of it is Vacationland Trust land in Kapoho, Puna.

Number three is the historic homeland of Kamehemeha I in what is called the Hapu'u to Kapanai Cultural Corridor. It comprises seven parcels with four different owners totaling 167 acres, including the gulch behind Kapanai Bay.

Next from Kohala is number five, all the lands between Mahukona and Kapa'a parks makai of the Akoni Pule Highway—a total of 434 acres. Number seven is Lamaloloa, 35 acres just south of Lapakahi State Park from the highway to the ocean. Right after that at number eight

is a half-acre of grass and banyan trees in the center of Hawi town, part of the site of the farmers market.

Halelua, a 50-acre parcel that spans the distance between Kauhola Point and Hapu'u Bay, is on the county list this year. It includes the seaward part of Halawa Gulch.

Largest of all the nominations is the 1,750 acres of Kukuipahu, the former Parker Ranch land between Puakea and Kapa'a Park. Finally, there is a 166-acre parcel on the leeward coast that includes the coves of Keawenui and Keaweula.

The people of Kohala have invested 40 years into the dream of returning coastal access along the entire coast of the district, just as those elderly enough to remember can tell us about. And yet the process has just begun.

Along with the purchases comes the need for people to steward the land, to keep it clean and the vegetation healthy. Funding for stewardship is available through the recently established county fund for maintenance of open space land, the so-called quarter percent fund. Kohala Lihikai, a community non-profit, has taken steps to qualify for funds. Applications have been submitted for other stewardship grants, with the idea that open space lands will also bring new jobs to the community.



Twice the Kohala community went to the state Land Board to successfully fight construction of large vacation homes at Pao'o. Since the purchase of this land for the public, the surf site "Secrets" will stay forever undeveloped.

Besides land conservation, jobs will also be available for cultural interpretation and preservation work on the many historic sites. More than half of

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- Hawaii Tourism Authority and Hawaii Community Foundation awarded \$40,000 to Malama Kohala Kahakai for coastal preservation in partnership with other community groups.
- Hawaii County CPEP program has awarded North Kohala Food Forum \$15,000 toward a North Kohala agri-tourism program.
- HIP Agriculture was awarded capacity-building grants from Dorrance Family Foundation and 'O'io Project.

Our warmest Aloha and best wishes to the North Kohala community this holiday season. We look forward to another great year of supporting projects that benefit the Kohala community.

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Queen's Health Systems to Decide on Affiliation with North Hawaii Community Hospital

Story and photo by Carol Fuentes, Sec. Kahua Pa'a Mua, Inc.

On Monday, November 18, the representatives from Queen's Health Systems (Queen's) of O'ahu held a "Talk Story" Community meeting at the Kohala High School Cafeteria. This was part of a three-community—Honoka'a, Waimea and Kohala—due diligence process to make a final decision whether to enter into a formal affiliation with North Hawaii Community Hospital (NHCH).

Mr. Art Ushijima, CEO for Queen's, was present to listen to community needs and answer any questions from the people of North Kohala. Also present were representatives from NHCH, Kohala Hospital, Kohala Health Center, and Hamakua Health Center. The community was well represented with approximately 75 people of the business sector, Kohala Seniors Club, and concerned citizens in attendance.

David Fuentes, Executive Director of Kahua Pa'a Mua, opened the meeting with a welcome and explained the purpose of this public meeting. He then called upon Kahu Kealoha Sugiyama, who offered a "pule" (prayer) for guidance and wisdom from our ancestors for everyone present. Mr. Ushijima gave a brief history of Queen's Health Systems, his personal 40 years in the healthcare industry and the mission of Queen's: "to fulfill the intent of Queen Emma and King Kamehameha IV to provide in perpetuity quality health care services to improve the wellbeing of Native Hawaiians and all of the people of Hawai'i."

Some questions raised from members of the community were regarding the management of NHCH, making

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the 29 miles of the district coastline is part of the Ala Kahakai Historic Trail, administered by the National Park Service. The management plan for that 175-mile trail, which will eventually ring the island from Kohala to Volcanoes National Park, calls for local stewardship and local decisions to be made by people living along the trail.

All in all, the open coast is expected to be a spiritual, cultural and economic benefit to Kohala. Will those of us alive today live to see it happen? Perhaps, but there is still a lot of work and fundraising left to go.

sure our need for services would be met. Mr. Ushijima recognized the need for more doctors, especially specialty physicians. He assured representation from the local community their needs would be met, however he must follow the rules of IRS, which would require the majority of the board to be Queen's board members or from Queen's. He realizes expectations are high and there will be a need to prioritize a strategic plan. Mr. Ushijima reiterated he was unable to promise specifics at this point but would promise to do his best for the communities. His main purpose for this due diligence process was to explain the process and identify any red flags.



Kohala citizens listen attentively on November 18 as proposed plans for Queen's Health System to enter into a formal affiliation with North Hawaii Community Hospital are discussed at the Kohala High School cafeteria.

Another concern was protocol for referrals to get treatment from a specialized service provider. Mr. Ushijima explained because he was not familiar with the specifics of the situation, he could not give a definitive answer, however he did note a lot of referral delays could be due to the type of insurance coverage a person has. Most insurance companies will require a diagnosis from your general physician before paying for any other specialized tests. Other

concerns arose when audience members spoke of personal experiences of their hospital stays and asked if operations will be affected.

Questions were raised regarding kupunas, or elders, and the level of care, management and outreach they would receive. Mr. Ushijima said similar concerns were raised in the other communities and these were a topic of concern to be discussed and prioritized. He did mention a "Navigator" program recently put in place for outer island referrals to Queen's Medical Center. A nursing staff member is assigned to each case to explain any procedures the patient is going to need, make all travel arrangements to and from the hospital, and coordinate with the patient's doctors here on the Big Island. They have

had very good reports regarding this program.

Another suggestion was to bring a registered nurse or a physician training program to our hospital to address the physician shortages in North Hawaii.

The majority of attendees had a positive attitude and agreed this would be a good affiliation, and that Queen's Health System would be a very welcomed partner to NHCH. Kohala community was in agreement that Queen's, being well established, brings a lot to the table for the betterment of our health services.

Editor's Note: On December 16 NHCH and Queen's entered into an affiliation agreement, effective January 1, 2014. On that date NHCH will become part of the Queen's Health Systems.

Chris' Corner

Basketball Clinic: Skills Used On and Off the Court

By Chris Brown

On Saturday, December 7, I had the pleasure of dropping in on the basketball clinic at Hisaoka Gymnasium. The clinic, for boys and girls ages 5 to 13, was sponsored by the Kohala branch of the Hawaii Community Federal Credit Union, K. Takata Store, and the Kohala Community Athletic Association. It lasted all day, from 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. The coaches of the clinic were all from our district and did a fantastic job in coaching our youth. Mahalo nui loa! We thank them for a job well done!

Coaches in attendance were: Leo Agbayani, Duncan Anderson, Paul Antonio, Ryan Bautista, Sam Carvalho, Chad Castillo, Reeve Cazimero, Kalei Emeliano, Keone Emeliano, Brad Estabilio, Dale Estabilio, Fred Figueroa, Jacob Hook, Earl Hoshida, Jim Pedersen, and Jason Wilson. Each coach received lunch, a shirt and a whistle on a lanyard.

Participants were issued beautiful tee shirts, provided with energy drinks and offered a super bento lunch prepared by Fig's Mix Plate restaurant at a special low price. Thank you Fred and Traci!

The clinic focused on learning the fundamentals of basketball but, even more importantly, on lessons of life:

learning to listen, showing respect, showing appreciation, and saying "thank you." As an encouragement for this last aspect of the clinic (remembering to be thankful) each participant was asked to write a thank you note to the person of his or her choice. The young athlete was also given a check for \$10, which could be cashed only at Takata Store, when turned in with the note that the child had written.

The Credit Union donated many items, including 12 Rock basketballs, 16 mini-balls, four travel bags and three cash prizes.

It is hoped that "Coaching the Kohala Way" will continue. The clinic organizers want to hold similar clinics for baseball and football in 2014. They are looking for people who would be willing to sponsor such events. Any ideas in this regard would be welcomed by Chai Wilson at the Credit Union.

Sports are important in the experiences of youth and can be significant stepping stones in learning life skills. Kids learn discipline, how to work with a team and how to be good team players—skills which carry over into job preparation and execution.

Special thanks to Kekai Nakamura of Parks and Recreation and Chai Wilson, the chairman of the event.

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North Kohala CDP Action Committee

By Lynda Wallach

At the North Kohala Community Development Plan Action Committee (NKCDP AC) meeting on November 25, AC chair John Winter posed several questions to Duane Kanuha, the new county planning director, on issues of ongoing concern to the AC and the community. Most were prompted largely, though not exclusively, by the controversy surrounding the public access plan for Kohala Kai. The first concerned the Planning Department's policy regarding the extent to which they take into account recommendations from the AC and the Public Access subcommittee on shoreline access issues. Kanuha stated that recommendations must come from the AC, as that is the officially recognized body, and not from the subcommittee. He further stated that the recommendations are included in the county's deliberations. When questioned why the subcommittee was not included in site visits to Kohala Kai and Upolu East, Kanuha responded that the application is an old one and decisions regarding Kohala Kai were made prior to his becoming planning director, but that in the future the AC would be noti-

fied of upcoming shoreline access site visits.

Winter said that the subcommittee will be proposing a set of procedures to be followed by the department, the AC, and AC subcommittee when a shoreline access issue arises. After approval by the AC, these procedures will be sent to the department for review. Kanuha agreed that having something in black and white will definitely help the process.

Kanuha made the point that the AC was not involved because the Kohala Kai subdivision was begun in 1999 (before there was a CDP). Joe Carvalho, a member of the subcommittee, said that even if a project was begun years ago the AC needs to be notified when the access plan comes up for final approval. Toni Withington, from the audience, also took issue with Kanuha's point. She said that although in 1999 the owner had been required to submit a public access plan within six months, one was not submitted until May of this year. Winter agreed that when something new is introduced into an old project, the issue is renewed and CDP AC should be included in any ensuing discussions. He said that this should be

AG-ACTION Subcommittee Needs Members!

By Frank Cipriani

The NKCDP AG-ACTION subcommittee needs a quorum (5) of committed subcommittee members to meet monthly to address and take ACTION on the various issues regarding agricultural development in North Kohala. Subcommittee meetings will be scheduled when a quorum is formed. Interested individuals, civic organizations, and the farm community should contact: Frank Cipriani (808) 333-8026 or frankcipriani@biofarmshawaii.com. **Support Kohala Agriculture. IMUA.**

part of the procedures to be developed by the subcommittee. Withington also expressed the hope that the North and South Kohala ACs and the developer could work together on a solution to the public access issue at Kohala Kai before the County Council makes its final decision on the subdivision.

Winter also asked Kanuha whether the department could have a procedure to notify the CDP ACs of both districts when a shoreline access issue arises close to the border of two districts. An example is Kohala Kai, which is in North Kohala but impacts the residents of South Kohala.

Finally, Winter brought up a request from the Coqui Coalition that a brochure, written by the coalition, be provided to builders and contractors when a building permit in North Kohala is issued. It would explain that almost all major coqui outbreaks have come from building projects where coquis have hitched rides on building materials or contractors' vehicles coming in from Puna, and would ask that builders listen at night for the sound of the frogs so an outbreak can be stopped early on. He said that there have been 232 coqui outbreaks in North Kohala, which have only been stopped by the effort and contributions of local residents.

There was some discussion between Winter and Rosalind Newlon of the Planning Department about the proposed NK CDP website and whether the federal requirement that it be accessible to the visually impaired means that it must be electronically accessible, or whether the requirement can be met in some other way. Newlon said she would do further research.

The Growth Management subcommittee has requested that various land use documents be made available to the AC in digital format so that they can be

received in a timely fashion. Newlon said she would work with the AC and the planning director on that.

Joe Carvalho reported that there will be vehicle access to Upolu East on the east side of the runway access, so the public can still use Upolu Road to get most of the way there. A parking lot is planned for an area about 100 feet from the cliff. Regarding Kohala Kai, the main issue still to be resolved is mauka-makai access.

Collin Kaholo of the Affordable Housing subcommittee said he needed to have assurances that water meters would be available if he was able to obtain land for affordable housing units either east in Hala`ula or on the west side of Hawi. Jon Adams said that, historically, affordable housing has had priority and if land is obtained, water meters should be made available. Additional concerns about water availability were brought up by Sheila Ramos from Makapala. She stated that the owners of agricultural land in her area have a problem getting both county water and ditch water. She added that a report put out by the Department of Water Supply in 2004 stated that by 2020, 75 percent of North Kohala's water supply had to be upgraded, though she had not seen evidence that there have been any upgrades to date.

Susan Fischer of the Power, View Planes, and Erosion Control subcommittee introduced Carter Collins, who spoke of his vision for a 20- to 30-year project using sugar cane lands for large scale, ground-mounted solar and water catchment.

Finally, Frank Cipriani of the Agriculture subcommittee reported that aquaculture is now part of the high school curriculum, and the green house is being rebuilt. He is still looking for

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'Iole Says Mahalo to Volunteers



'Iole Mahalo Quigong

—photo by Kerry Balaam

Over 80 Open House attendees gathered at 'Iole ahupua'a December 18 to celebrate teachers and volunteers who give their time to the land and community. Boyd Bond started the morning with a tour of the Historic Bond Homestead, then a slide show highlighted 'Iole's 2013 events and projects while Hawaiian weaving, qigong, and yoga teachers offered demonstrations of their classes held weekly at 'Iole. The Lim 'Ohana provided entertainment during lunch catered by Sweet Potato Kitchen, and honorees received gift certificates for Riskey Farms produce.

Kathie Babben



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Wille and Green Speak about Promoting Sustainability through Healthy Environments

By Deborah Winter

Sustainable Kohala concluded its free 2013 Sustainable Saturday series with presentations by State Senator Josh Green, M.D., and County Council Representative Margaret Wille, J.D., on December 14 at the Kohala Intergenerational Center.

Green, an emergency room physician at North Kohala Hospital and named Hawai'i Physician of the Year in 2009, served two terms as State Representative and was elected to the State Senate in 2008. He now chairs the Senate Committee on Health.

Green spoke about two challenges to the future of health care in Hawai'i. First is delivery of care, a national issue here in the U.S., where health care costs twice what it costs in other industrialized countries. Although Hawai'i has historically had one of the lowest rates of uninsured individuals, and now has the best health in the nation, we have both a critical shortage of health care providers and severely under-equipped hospitals. The state of Hawai'i has been working hard to implement the Affordable Care Act, which promotes access to care. Tragically, Hawai'i's Health Care Director Loretta Fuddy, who provided important leadership on its implementation, as well as improving health of Hawaiian citizens, died in a plane crash December 12. The state's health care community is mourning her loss.

The second challenge Green discussed was toxic environments. Green believes pesticides, processed food laden with preservatives, genetically modified (GMO) foods, and environmental toxins likely impact and increase chronic disease, developmental disabilities, and other syndromes such as Parkinson's and Alzheimer's disease. He is concerned that environmental toxins affect

and damage nervous system function by weakening myelin sheaths, the fatty covering of nerve cells that insure that nerves fire efficiently. Green pointed out that if agrochemicals, tobacco, and alcohol were eliminated, we'd need far fewer physicians.

Green also discussed the inordinate costs of keeping people alive during their last few months, in comparison to costs for preventive health care for younger people. It's relatively cheap to educate people about how to take care of themselves, especially as they approach middle age, but preventive health care programs have recently been cut. The acute care model is not economically sustainable and will be replaced by a preventive and primary care system in which patients choose health promoting behaviors to maintain and improve health.

Ironically, Green had to leave the session to answer a call at the Kohala Hospital Emergency Room—but he returned to join Councilwoman Margaret Wille for questions and discussion.

Wille spoke about her work on sustainability issues. She was elected to represent North Kohala to the County Council in the last election and is currently chairing the council's Committee on Agriculture, Water and Energy Sustainability.

Wille began by noting how difficult it is to address long term health and environmental issues like climate change and preventative health care, since our attention is easily sidetracked to acute problems. She spoke about the importance of considering sustainability as the intersection of long term economic, environmental, and cultural well-being, as the Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Plan did in its 2005 document.

Wille then discussed her work on Bill 113, the "anti-GMO" bill, which bans open air use of genetically modified crops on the Big Island (with exemptions for papaya farmers). After several revisions, the bill passed the County Council on November 9 with a 6-3 vote, and Mayor Billy Kenoi signed it into law on December 5. There will be a 90 day registration period for any farmer

growing GMO crops. An ad hoc committee will sustain attention on follow-up issues, and Wille encouraged those who are concerned about GMOs to contact her office for more information at 887-2043.

In October, Kaua'i passed a bill

many international treaties. She emphasized that we all have a stewardship responsibility to protect and promote the health of our island for both current and future generations.

Several other sustainability issues were then discussed with audience participation: the importance of re-implementing a green waste facility in North Kohala; the recent attempt of the County to undermine subcommittees in the Community Development Plan (CDP) process; the question of whether gray water technology is legal; and financial limitations to promoting sustainability. Green noted that the State now has a \$900 million surplus, so it cannot use financial hardship as an excuse to ignore environmental health issues.

While Wille and Green work on different levels of government, represent different districts, and focus on different dimensions of sustainability, both agreed to the importance of clean environments for promoting sustainable health and food supply.

They also spoke repeatedly about the power of the local citizenry to change public policy. Noting that resilience lies in small and medium sized farms promoting plant and ethnic diversity, Wille underscored Kenoi's point and encouraged public participation in local agriculture issues.

One critical place where public input is desperately needed is on the North Kohala CDP Action Committee, namely the Sustainable Agriculture subcommittee which desperately needs members. Subcommittee chair Frank Cipriani announced that the subcommittee will not meet again until people volunteer to participate. Ironically, in the midst of huge public concern about GMO crops, our local subcommittee is flagging for lack of participation. If you are interested in volunteering for the Agriculture subcommittee, contact Frank at 333-8026.

The 2014 free Sustainable Saturday series will begin February 8 at 'Iole. Sustainable Kohala and One Island will co-sponsor a workshop on gray water technology from 1 to 5 p.m.; mark your calendars. And mahalo for your support and participation in the 2013 series.



—photo by Peter deVries

(L-R) Councilwoman Margaret Wille confers with Bobbie Bryant while State Senator Josh Green listens to Lisa Andrews after sharing concerns about environmental health at the Sustainable Kohala's Sustainable Saturday session on December 14, 2013.

requiring agricultural companies to disclose their use of GMOs and pesticides. Alluding to Kaua'i, Kenoi said that "with [Bill 113] we are conveying that instead of global agribusiness corporations, we want to encourage and support community-based farming and ranching."

The bill drew huge public attention: 594 people signed up to testify—(22 of whom testified from North Kohala on the first day of the second hearing), thanks to the new video conferencing facility at the old Bank of Hawai'i building in Kapaau which Wille helped facilitate.

GMO technology has not been subjected to Food and Drug Administration testing for health safety. Wille therefore noted that the premise behind the bill is the Precautionary Principle: if an action has a suspected risk of causing harm to the public or to the environment, the government should act cautiously and the burden of proof that it is not harmful falls on those taking the action. The European Union has adopted this principle as a statutory requirement, as have

CDP, continued from page 8

people for his subcommittee who are interested in furthering agriculture in Kohala. If you are a farmer or interested in agricultural growth and support in North Kohala, please consider joining this subcommittee. Call Frank Cipriani at 854-1170.

The next meeting of the CDP AC will be on January 13, 2014, at 5 p.m. in the Kohala Senior Center. Members of the community are urged to attend.

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Kohala VEX Robotics hosts TMT Big Island VEX Robotics League Championships

Folks from all over the Big Island converged in Kohala on November 30, 2013. They came to watch, cheer and enjoy the day at Kohala High School's gym for the season championships for the TMT Big Island VEX Robotics League. The league season was comprised of four dates of robotics competitions at four locations with twenty-four teams vying for a chance to go to the state finals. Twenty-four teams, coaches, and



—photo by Art Kimura

Kohala Middle School Excellence Award winners (L-R) Morgan Swan, Jada Hook, Joseph Pasco, Jarom Hook, (Evan Lawrence missing), along with mentors Fern White and Alvin Kawamoto (far right) and Cheryl Cabrera (back row), enjoy the moment after winning the most prestigious VEX Robotics competition award.

families filed in early to pass inspection and check out the craft fair in the cafeteria. The weather was wonderful! Spirits were high! Kohala's teams had been prepping the gym floor, game fields, and pit areas the evening before and early that morning. Could they hold up to the rankings they held going in to the last section of seeding rounds? Could they make it to States? Could they rise above the challenges?

Teams qualify for States by winning the Excellence Award or becoming a Tournament Finalist or Tournament Champion—a total of just five slots for the Big Island. Hawaii Island historically has had strong teams in the high school division with several world championships qualifications over the years. Complicating things, and typical of engineering processes, the VEX robotics competitions involve winning through tiers

in order to advance to the top.

After 576 seeding matches over four dates and locations, the top eight teams select their alliances for the double-elimination final matches. The top seed this year was Hilo High, followed by Kealekehe High. Kohala Middle VEX teams, 4119A & 4119B, were third and fourth, respectively, placing them in a position to select each other! A berth for States was looking possible. Kohala High School teams, 2460 & 2460A, were ranked 13th and 14th.

The finals are run in quarterfinals, semi-finals and then finals. The quarterfinals brought out the best in all teams. Kohala's 2460A, with its alliance team 2455 Honoka'a, upset Kealekehe's second-ranked teams 3880 & 3880A in the first match. Unfortunately, Kealekehe came back to win the second and third match of that round. Kohala's 2460A was done.

The quarterfinals for the higher ranked alliances began with Kohala Middle facing off against the Hilo High-Honoka'a alliance. Team 4119A & 4119B advanced by winning two matches, 62-26 and 56-32. Parents were out of their seats as Kohala Middle advanced!

The first semi-finals matches were between top seeds Hilo1378-Waiakea1056C alliance versus Waiakea Intermediate382B-Hilo1056A alliance; the first match was won by the higher ranked 1378-1056C alliance. However, competition became intense when the latter upset the top seed in the second match and then went on to win again, eliminating the top seed and advancing themselves to the finals. The Waiakea Intermediate & Hilo parents were out of their seats!

The heat was on as the second set of semi-finals began. It was number two Kealekehe versus number three Kohala Middle. 4119A & 4119B upset the giants of Kealekehe High 66-53! Kealekehe was not happy and returned with a 56-48 win over Kohala Middle. It was do or die for both teams to advance. Despite

Kealekehe's hanging robot in autonomous mode, Kohala middle won the autonomous bonus. At stake were the berths to States, since the four teams in finals qualify. One could not tell who was going to win in the back and forth movements of the obstacles; Kealekehe cornered one of the middle school robots but the other continued to score. In the end, with a score of 54-48, Kealekehe advanced.

While the matches raged on the two main fields, a side field was set for practice and skills challenges. Teams were taking up to three



—photo by Lara Hook

Kohala Middle School teams challenge Kealekehe in the VEX Robotics semi-finals rounds.

attempts at two types of skills challenges: programming and robot. The skills challenges involve one minute of a single robot scoring obstacles. The robot operates autonomously in programming; a driver operates the robot in robot skills. The skills ranking count towards the Excellence Award, and a possible trip to States if a team already has a spot and wins at the league level.

The official results for the TMT Big Island VEX League are...

Teams qualifying for CREATE U.S.



—photo by Lara Hook

Kohala VEX Robotics mentors Alvin Kawamoto, Fern White, Cheryl Cabrera, and Eric Dela Cruz are all smiles for the success of their teams.

Open VEX Championships & Hawaii State VEX Championships:

Excellence Award:

4119B Kohala Middle School
Tournament Champions:

1056A Waiakea High-382B
Waiakea Intermediate

Teams qualifying for Hawaii
State VEX Championships:

Tournament Finalists:

3880A Kealekehe High-3880X
Kealekehe High

Programming and Robot Skills:
382B Waiakea Intermediate

Throughout the matches three impartial judges interviewed and observed all the teams. Kohala schools were also represented in the Judged awards, with 4119A Kohala Middle School winning the Energy Award, and 2460A Kohala High winning the Design Award (which qualifies them for CREATE U.S. Open VEX Championships).

At the end of four months of league play including hundreds of matches, Kohala's teams did, in fact, qualify both for States and U.S. Nationals.

The Excellence Award is the most prestigious award in VEX. It involves a compilation of points for rank in seeding rounds, programming skills, and robot skills, as well as judge's scores that are based on interviews and observation. Kohala Middle School 4119B earned the highest points overall. Consider it the MVP of robotics!

Team 4119A goes to Hawaii

See Robotics, page 11

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Children's Art for the Community Going on Display at Library

By Chris Larson

Kohala Mission School artists have been busy creating, and in January they will display their creations at the North Kohala Public Library. The pieces from this school year exhibit a wide variety of art styles, media and artistic personality. The artists range from age 5 to 13. The public is encouraged to visit and enjoy. Each project has been made with various materials, cultural perspectives,

with a spirit of community.

At Kohala Mission School, many activities bring different ages together. This is true with the art class, where both classrooms join once a week to receive instruction from Mia Kolly, volunteer art teacher. Kolly was raised in Kailua-Kona and earned her B.A. in Art in Chicago. "As these students work in a group manner, I've been so impressed

Robotics, continued from page 10
VEX State Championships for its high rank in Robot Skills. Kohala High's team 2460A qualified for State Championships because of its Design Award.

The Design Award is presented to a team that demonstrates an organized and professional approach to the design process, project and time management and team organization. A winning team is able to describe how it implemented an efficient and productive design process to accomplish the project goals. One of the main missions of the VEX Robotics Competition is to help students acquire real world/life skills that will benefit them in their academic and professional futures. The engineering notebook is a way for teams to document how robotics competition experi-

ence helps them better understand the engineering design process, while also practicing a variety of critical life skills including project management, time management, brainstorming and teamwork.

Kohala VEX robotics is a 21st Century Community Learning Center after-school program that meets twice weekly. Kohala VEX Robotics is also an NKCRC project. The participants design, build, program and drive robots. They are required to maintain journals and an engineering notebook of sketches.

TMT representative Sandra Dawson remarks, "This is one of the most fun and inspiring programs that TMT is involved in. The engineering and math they use in designing the robots, the computer skills they demonstrate as they program them, and the strategic thinking that underlies the entire tournament are great training for the students."

Congratulations to Kohala High School VEX team members: Dela Cruz, Zebadayo Bartholomy, Josh Page, and Coach Eric Dela Cruz; Congratulations to Kohala Middle School team members: Jada Hook, Jarom Hook, Evan Lawrence, Joseph Pasco, Morgan Swan and Coach/Mentors Alvin Kawamoto and Cheryl Cabrera. For more information on Kohala's VEX robotics programs, contact Program Coordinator, Ms. Fern White at 889-7117.



—photo by Art Kimura

TMT representative Sandra Dawson (back row, far left) presents the Energy Award to the Kohala Middle School team: Jada Hook, Jarom Hook, Morgan Swan, and Joseph Pasco. Also pictured (back row, L-R) are Judges Wayne Iokepa and Janet Graupman, and Hawaii State Representative Mark Nakashima.



—photos by Mia Kolly

at the respectful and positive environment. They encourage each other's unique creative abilities, especially when a friend seems stuck or frustrated. The older students smile and affirm the younger ones, and the younger ones show their admiration." Because it is a small school, Kolly manages to coach each student individually. Mr. Larson and Ms. Stroud, both full-time teachers, assist Kolly during class.

The community aspect is a distinctive hallmark of Kohala Mission School. The vivid 4-foot by 5-foot butterfly mural on display at the campus had virtually no help from adult hands. Each child was given a piece of the puzzle and chose their own colors, and then as a class pieced it together, rearranging the separate elements until it made sense.

Students are encouraged to see beauty in raw materials, both found objects and in nature. They work with as many simple media as possible, which is not too difficult in Kohala, says Mia. "Though the school gives generously toward an art budget, I know their vision includes providing low tuition, and so I aim to be as resourceful as possible." You might find her tearing up cardboard boxes claimed from Takata's, or collecting foliage on the side of the road for leaf paintings or Thanksgiving flower arrangements that students bring home to their families. The vision begins with the idea that art is a way of life. "Each child has endless unique ways of discovering through creativity, and blessing their families and communities in the process."

Art has been a bridge for Kohala Mission School students into history as well as indigenous cultures. The scratch

art projects began with a teaching about the engraving process on copper plates, examples of Albrecht Durer's 17th century works and the history of the making of our modern dollar bill. Handprint and dot paintings were an exploration into Australian aboriginal culture. Last year students listened to drum beats while thumbing through pictures of Kenyan Maasai warriors. They then created pictures of the people with detailed jewelry, shield motifs, and lions in the background. Culture is a way to broaden their worldview, says Kolly. After traveling to over

20 countries she believes that art is a kind of unifying language. "These art-making experiences are like building blocks to a larger worldview, and they develop graciousness to those immediately around us."

We live in one of the most culturally and naturally rich places on the planet, and we have so much to copy or collage from outside. The public can get a view through the children's eyes in the beach scene collages also on display. Please visit the library next month and call Chris Larson, the school's principal, at 889-5646 with any questions about the Kohala Mission School and its art program.



Kohala Mission School students bring creativity to their artistic works with an array of tools and media. Their artwork will be on display at the North Kohala Public Library in January.

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Kohala High Treated to Powerful Performance

Story by Koa Bartsch

Schools today are struggling to discover new methods that effectively limit the frequency of bullying. Schools use videos, workshops, and various other campaigns to educate young people about the ills that bullying so often produces. A new front, the internet, is an additional place where many youth are subjected to this immature behavior.

Kohala High School (KHS) is dedicated to providing a safe and harmonious learning environment for their students. As a result, the school has an overarching focus of anti-bullying for this current school year. KHS uses various methods, including some that are enumerated above, to make the harmful effects of bullying known. As part of this theme, the school's Student Council/Leadership class arranged for a special guest to speak and perform at our assembly held on December 6.

Jon Pritikin caught the attention of many as he tore telephone directories, bent rebar with his teeth, rolled up frying pans, and snapped baseball bats in a demonstration of his amazing physical strength—and it all tied into a story that brought tears to many eyes.

Pritikin, a well-known motivational speaker, began his performance with

demonstrations of physical strength to the astonishment of students and faculty alike. After the crowd settled, he gathered their attention and continued on to speak of a young boy, a boy who would be the continuous subject of scorn because of his severe learning disability. The boy endured endless taunting, ridiculing, and bullying from his school peers and neighborhood children on a daily basis. He would struggle through callous words spit straight from the mouths of his own teachers, people that were supposed to help him. Each day the boy would eat, friendless, under the same tree. The audience fell silent. There was not a single utterance from a single mouth. The sheer sadness and dejection had everyone's attention firmly riveted. With the crowd's undivided attention Jon revealed that the boy, in fact, was him.

"Don't ever believe a lie when someone tells you you're not special; hear me today. You're not an accident and you're not a mistake, but you have a purpose on this planet," said Pritikin, voice bellowing with enthusiasm yet soft enough to convey the sincerest empathy. He continued, "And if anybody, anybody in your life, especially someone who's supposed to take care of you, has hurt you, I just

want to say this: I'm sorry, because you don't deserve that." These were just a few of the heartwarming words that Mr. Pritikin had to offer.

Pritikin concluded his performance by calling up KHS freshman Bradlee Estabilio, whose mother helped to connect Pritikin to Kohala's Student Activities Coordinator, Ms. White. Estabilio then helped count down to the bat-breaking stunt, which Pritikin executed with ease.

After the assembly, a multitude of students gathered around the dynamic guest, taking pictures, asking for autographs, and thanking him for his truly touching speech.

The assembly was an example of another successful event for the KHS student leadership. Kohala High, so



—photo by Chaslyn Yamamoto

KHS Student Council/Leadership class poses for a picture with guest speaker Jon Pritikin and his family.

Back row: Rhonda Pritikin (Jon's wife), Jon Pritikin, Samara Shaw, Mark Edwards, Ramon Cubangbang, Jayden Lewis, Kahuliau Kaai. Front Row: Jaden Pritikin (Jon's Daughter), Prince Perote, Koa Bartsch, Katie Rix, Eloisa Obero, Fern White (SAC).

grateful to have the opportunity to host Pritikin, continues its effort to bring events to students that are exciting, engaging, and meaningful.

Kohala High Swim Team Finalized With Three New Members

By Kassie Kometani

Courtesy of *Ka Leo Na 'Opio*

The Kohala High School swim team saw an increase in numbers for the 2013

winter season. Returning members include sophomores Jayven Amonance, Ford Clark, Damien Kaholo, Yuki Zbytovsky, and junior Kassie Kometani.

But this year three new brave students decided to go out for the sport. Those members are sophomore Isaiah Villacorte-Carvalho and juniors William Perez and Erin Gonzales.

Head coach Jeffrey Coakley is happy to see new faces at the pool. Swimming is a difficult sport to start up, so he commends their determination. This year Coakley is assisted by his son, Daniel Coakley. Daniel has much experience as a high school swimmer, as well as swimming in college and internationally. Jeff Coakley knows Daniel will add years of swimming knowledge to the team.

The swimmers had a huge setback early in the season when the Kamehameha Park pool's pump room flooded. The pool was closed for two and half weeks, but HPA generously allowed the high school team to use their pool for training. When the pool

reopened the team commenced practice with rigor. They have begun incorporating dryland training, which includes running and strength exercises. Gaining strength and technique is a goal of the two coaches, and they are pushing the swimmers hard.

The first meet was held at Hilo High School on November 23, but not all swimmers were able to attend. The Kohala swimmers have been training hard and are excited for the upcoming season. Unfortunately, the girls do not have enough swimmers to have a relay, but the boys will be able to compete in the various relays.

The best of luck is wished to the Kohala High Swim Team. E Ala E Na Paniolo!

Ka Leo Na 'Opio is the online newspaper for Kohala High School. See more at www.kaleonaopio.com.

KES "Reading Warriors" Headed to Newbery Quiz Bowl

Story and photo by Rose Mae Watterson

A group of Kohala Elementary School (KES) fifth graders known as the "Reading Warriors" is preparing to compete in The Silver Anniversary of The Annual Big Island Newbery Quiz Bowl.

The Bowl will be held at the Kea'au Kamehameha Schools campus on Thursday, April 24, 2014. This will be KES's first time to participate in this reading incentive program, which promotes reading of the American

Library Association's Newbery Award winners.

Students diligently meet with their advisor, Melody Delostrico, throughout the week during school days to review 40 selected Newbery Award winning literary works, e.g. Peterson's *Bridge to Terabithia*, Sperry's *Call It Courage*, de Angeli's *The Door in the Wall*, and Vanderpool's *Moon Over Manifest*. Only five students can represent KES as a team, and there are currently 12 Warriors.

L-R: Camille Helmuth, Mya Finau, Sydney Byrne, Sydney Wiernicki, Grace Todd, Mrs. Delostrico, Piliilai Kaai, Grace Akau, Kyle Weyrick, Elijah Delostrico Standing
L-R: Karylle-Cheyene Oandasan, Kaleena Cordero, Kimara Scherville Pasco



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| Dasani Water 24 pk. - 500 ml. 2/8 ⁹⁹  | Coca Cola 12-pk Cans 12 oz. All Types 2/10 ⁴⁹  | Delmonte Whole Kernel or Creamed Corn 14.75 - 15.25 oz. 2/2 ²⁹  | Delmonte Spaghetti Sauce All types 24 - 26.5 oz. 99¢  | Marie Callender Dinners Assorted 13 - 19 oz. 4 ⁵⁹  | Totino Party Pizza All Types 9.8 - 10.7 oz. 3/4 ⁹⁹ | |
| Coral Chunk Light Tuna Oil or Water 5 oz. 2/1 ⁹⁹  | Crisco Oil vegetable or canola 48 oz. 3 ⁴⁹ | C & H Granulated Sugar 4 lb. 3 ¹⁹ | Libby Vienna Sausage 18 pk./4.6 oz. 7 ⁹⁹  | Banquet Family Entree Assorted 25 - 27 oz. 2/8 ⁹⁹  | Mama Bella Garlic Bread 14 oz. 3 ⁹⁹  Reg/Parmesan | |
| Roxy Lunkow Long Rice 8 pk. 2 ⁰⁹ | Roxy Dried Cuttlefish 2 oz. 2 ⁰⁹ | Nissin Top Ramen 3 oz. 3/99¢ | Post Honey Bunches of Oats Almond/Reg. 14.5 oz. 2 ⁹⁹  | S&S Saimin Ohana Pack 9/4.5 oz. 4 ⁶⁹ | Tyson Chicken Boneless, Skinless Thighs 40 oz. 6 ⁹⁹ | |
| Magic Flake Sandwich Crackers 10.58 oz 1 ⁸⁹ | P'Nuttlles Toffee Peanuts 6.5 oz. 1 ³⁹ | Betty Crocker Pancake Mix All Types 37 oz. 2 ⁶⁹ | California Pizza Kitchen Pizza 13.9 - 15 oz. 6 ⁹⁹ | Eggo Waffles Select Types 12.3 oz. 2 ⁹⁹  | Gorton Fish Fillets or Sticks 24.5 oz. 6 ⁹⁹ | |
| ABC Assorted Fruit Bites 10.5 oz. 1 ¹⁹ | Precious Giant Top Shellfish 15 oz. 8 ²⁹ | Meadow Gold POG or Passion Orange Nectars 1 gal. 3 ⁷⁹  | Meadow Gold Drinks or Teas 64 oz. 99¢  | Meadow Gold Ice Cream 1 gal. 6 ⁹⁹  | Meadow Gold Novelty Ice Cream or Sandwich Bars 6 pk. 2 ³⁹  | |

Grocery

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Aloha Shoyu, reg./lite, 64 oz. | 5 ⁷⁹ |
| Bumble Bee Pink Salmon, 14.75 oz. | 3 ²⁹ |
| California Ranch Olive Oil, 16.9 oz. | 6 ⁹⁹ |
| Campbell Cream of Mushroom Soup, 10 oz. | 2/2 ¹⁹ |
| Carnation Coffeemate, assorted, 15 oz. | 4 ⁹⁹ |
| Delmonte Asparagus, 15 oz. | 2 ⁷⁹ |
| Delmonte Diced Mangoes, 4/4 oz. | 2 ³⁹ |
| Delmonte Fruit Cocktail/Peaches, 29 - 30 oz. | 2 ³⁹ |
| Delmonte Pineapple Juice, 46 oz. | 2 ²⁹ |
| Delmonte Tomato Sauce, 8 oz. | 2/1 ⁰⁹ |
| Diamond Bakery Cookies, assorted, 2.5 oz. | 99¢ |
| Diamond Bakery Saloon/Cream/Graham Crackers, 8 - 9 oz. | 2 ⁹⁹ |
| Diamond Bakery Soda Crackers, all types, 13 oz. | 3 ²⁹ |
| French's Mustard Squeeze, 14 oz. | 1 ⁹⁹ |
| Golden Grain Spaghetti, 16 oz. | 1 ⁹⁹ |
| Hershey's Baking Cocoa, 8 oz. | 3 ⁷⁹ |
| Jif Peanut Butter, 18 oz. | 2 ⁹⁹ |
| Kingford Cornstarch, 16 oz. | 2 ¹⁹ |
| Kraft Macaroni & Cheese, 7.25 oz. | 2/2 ⁹⁹ |
| Libby Corn Beef Hash, 15 oz. | 2 ⁹⁹ |
| Lion Coffee, all types, no decaf., 10 oz. | 4 ⁹⁹ |
| Lipton Onion Soup, 2 ct. | 1 ⁶⁹ |
| McCormick Black Pepper, 4 oz. | 3 ⁷⁹ |
| Momoya Kim Chee Mix, 15.87 oz. | 9 ⁹⁹ |
| Motts Applesauce, 23 - 24 oz. | 2 ²⁹ |
| Mum's Mushrooms, pieces and stems, 4 oz. | 1 ⁴⁹ |
| NOH Seasoning Packets, 1 - 2 oz. | 1 ³⁹ |
| Pillsbury All-purpose Flour, 5 lb. | 2 ⁷⁹ |
| Shirakiku Bamboo Shoot Tips, 8.5 oz. | 1 ³⁹ |

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|---|-----------------|
| Shirakiku Korean Nori, 3 pk. | 1 ³⁹ |
| Shirakiku Sesame Oil, 5.5 oz. | 3 ¹⁹ |
| Western Family Apple Juice, 64 oz. | 2 ⁹⁹ |
| Western Family Creamer, 35.3 oz. | 3 ⁹⁹ |
| Western Family Egg Noodles, 12 oz. | 1 ⁶⁹ |
| Western Family Hot Cocoa Mix, 10 ct. | 1 ⁸⁹ |
| Western Family Pitted Olives, 6 oz. | 1 ³⁹ |

Natural Foods

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Back to Nature Cookies, 6.4 - 12 oz. | 3 ⁴⁹ |
| Garden of Eatin' Chips, 16 oz. | 3 ⁹⁹ |
| Let's Do Organic Coconut Cream, 7 oz. | 1 ⁹⁹ |
| Lundberg Grain, 2 lb. | 4 ⁶⁹ |
| Muir Glen Tomatoes, 28 oz. | 2 ³⁹ |
| RW Knudsen Organic Juices, 32 oz. | 3 ²⁹ |

Dairy

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| Meadow Gold/Viva Cottage Cheese, 16 oz. | 3 ³⁹ |
| Meadow Gold Yogurts, 6 oz. | 10/6 ⁹⁹ |
| Silk Soy Milk, 1/2 gal. | 4 ⁴⁹ |
| Horizon Organic Milk, 1/2 gal. | 5 ⁹⁹ |
| Big Island Poultry Grade A Large Eggs, Mainland Shell Protected, per dozen | 2 ⁹⁹ |

Meats

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| USDA Chuck Steak, per lb. | 6 ¹⁹ |
| Island Range Top Sirloin, per lb. | 7 ²⁹ |
| Foster Farm Value Pack Chicken Thighs, per lb. | 2 ⁰⁹ |
| Frozen Pork Butt, bone in, per lb. | 1 ⁸⁹ |

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| Oscar Mayer Value Shaved Meats 16 oz. 3 ⁸⁹  | Oscar Mayer Meat Wieners 16 oz. Wieners, Bacon Franks, Smokies 14-16 oz. 2 ⁷⁹ | JFC Sugatami Nori 10 ct. 2 ⁴⁹ | LKK Oyster Sauce 17 oz. 1 ⁹⁹ | LOVE'S Hearth Bread Assorted 24 oz. 4 ⁴⁹ | LOVE'S Kid's Choice Bread 24 oz. 3 ⁹⁹ |
| Oscar Mayer Bologna / Cotto Salami 16 oz. 2/4 ⁹⁹  | Oscar Mayer Lunchables with Smoothie 8-13oz 2 ⁸⁹  | Kikkoman Soy Sauce 6 ⁹⁹ 1.25 qt. | Dynasty Chow Funn 20 oz. 2 ⁴⁹ |  Nabisco Chips Ahoy or Belvita 9.5-13 oz. 2 ⁹⁹ | Nabisco Ritz/Wheat Thin Chips 8.1 oz. Ritz Crackers 9.5-13.7 oz. 3 ⁴⁹  |
| Kraft Chunk Cheese all types 5 ⁹⁹ 16 oz.  | Philadelphia Brick Cream Cheese 2 ¹⁹ 8 oz.  | Mae Ploy Sweet Chili Sauce 1 ⁹⁹ 10 oz. | Wel Pac Chuka Soba 6 oz. 2 ⁰⁹ | Perrier Sparkling Mineral Water 25.3 oz. 3/4 ⁹⁹  | Quaker Oats Quick or Old-fashioned Oatmeal 42 oz. 3 ⁵⁹ |
| Cool Whip Whipped Topping All types 12 oz. 2/5 ⁰⁰ | Tombstone Pizza 11.5-12 oz. 4 ⁷⁹ | Palm Corned Beef 11.5 oz. 5 ¹⁹ | Tropics Salad Dressing 12 oz. 3 ²⁹ | Pepsi 12 oz. cans 24 - pk. 8 ⁹⁹  | Malt o Meal Dyno Cereal 12 oz. 2/4 ⁹⁹ |
| Frank's Foods Frankfurters 16 oz. 2/6 ⁹⁹ | Frank's Foods Portuguese Sausage 12 oz. 3 ⁴⁹ | Trader's Choice Shiofuki Kombu 1.5 oz. 3 ²⁹ | Sun Butane Cartridge 7.8 oz. 1 ⁹⁹ | Libby Corned Beef 12 oz. 4 ³⁹  | Hawaiian Springs Water 1.5 liter 79¢ |
| Blue Bunny Ice Cream 56 oz. 4 ⁹⁹  | Tyson Chicken Wings 4 lb. 11 ⁹⁹ | Armor All Tire Foam 20 oz. 4 ⁵⁹ | Maui Kiawe Charcoal 8 lb. 9 ⁴⁹ | Powerade Drinks All Types 32 oz. 10/7 ⁹⁹ | Yuban Coffee 29-31 oz. 8 ⁹⁹ |

Freezer/Deli

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Athenos Feta Chunk Cheese, 8 oz. | 4 ³⁹ |
| Athenos Hummus, 7 oz. | 2 ⁵⁹ |
| Bailey Ground Pork, 16 oz. | 2 ⁹⁹ |
| Banquet Fried Chicken, 26 - 28 oz. | 7 ⁸⁹ |
| Bays English Muffins, 6 ct. | 3 ¹⁹ |
| Birds Eye Steam Fresh Vegetables, 12 oz. | 2 ⁵⁹ |
| Carolina Ground Turkey, 16 oz. | 2 ⁴⁹ |
| Chef America Hot Pockets, 4 oz. | 2/2 ³⁹ |
| Dreyer's Fruit Bars, 6 - 12 ct. | 3 ⁹⁹ |
| El Monteray Burrito, 8/4 oz. | 4 ⁹⁹ |
| Farmbest Butter, 16 oz. | 3 ⁶⁹ |
| Flavor Pac Blueberries, 16 oz. | 4 ⁸⁹ |
| Frozen EZ Peel Shrimp, 31/40, 2 lb. | 12 ⁹⁹ |
| Frozen Mussels, 1/2 shell, 2 lb. | 9 ⁹⁹ |
| Hormel Ham Patty, 12 oz. | 2 ⁷⁹ |
| House Firm Tofu, 14 oz. | 1 ⁹⁹ |
| Inland French Fries, 2 lb. | 3 ²⁹ |
| Marie Callender Pies, assorted, 28 - 38 oz. | 9 ⁹⁹ |
| Melona Ice Cream Bars, 8 ct. | 6 ¹⁹ |
| Menlo Lumpia Wrappers, 16 oz. | 2 ⁹⁹ |
| Minute Maid Orange Juice, 12 oz. | 2 ⁴⁹ |
| Pillsbury Buttermilk Biscuits, 7.5 oz. | 2/1 ³⁹ |
| Shedd's Country Crock Margarine, 15 oz. | 2 ⁵⁹ |
| Smuckers Uncrustables, 8 oz. | 2 ⁵⁹ |
| Tillamook Chunk Cheese, 8 oz. | 3 ²⁹ |
| Tyson Boneless, Skinless Tenderloins, 40 oz. | 8 ⁹⁹ |
| Yoplait Yogurt, 4 - 6 oz. | 2/1 ³⁹ |
| Zippy Meals, 20 - 24 oz. | 5 ⁹⁹ |

Produce

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| Amano Kamaboko, 6 oz. | 1 ⁹⁹ |
| Cello Potatoes, 5 lb. | 3 ⁵⁹ |
| Onions, yellow, round, per lb. | 89¢ |
| Pineapple, whole, per lb. | 89¢ |

Non Foods

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| Alley Cat Food, 3.15 oz. | 2 ⁹⁹ |
| Dixie Heavy Duty Plates, 45 ct. | 2 ⁷⁹ |
| Gain Dish Liquid, 24 oz. | 2 ³⁹ |
| Hefty Foam Plates, 8-7/8 in., 50 ct. | 3 ¹⁹ |
| Kingford Match Light Charcoal, 6.7 lb. | 7 ⁴⁹ |
| Reynold Foil, 30 sq. ft. | 3/4 ⁹⁹ |
| Sparkle Paper Towels, single roll | 2/2 ³⁹ |
| Western Family Plastic Wrap, 200 sq. ft. | 2 ⁵⁹ |
| Zest Soap, 3 pk. | 2 ⁵⁹ |
| Ziploc Freezer/Storage Bags, gallon, 15 - 20 ct. | 3 ³⁹ |

Beer/Wine/Liquor

| | |
|---|------------------|
| Budweiser, 18 pk., bottles or cans | 15 ⁹⁹ |
| Coors, 30 pk., cans | 23 ⁹⁹ |
| Corona, 12 pk., bottles | 14 ⁹⁹ |
| Heineken, 12 pk., bottles | 13 ⁹⁹ |
| Natural Beer, 24 pk., cans | 16 ⁹⁹ |
| Rolling Rock, 30 pk., cans | 20 ⁹⁹ |
| Steinlager, 12 pk., bottles | 11 ⁹⁹ |
| Columbia Crest, 750 ml. | 9 ⁹⁹ |
| Folie Menage, 750 ml. | 8 ⁹⁹ |
| Bacardi Rum, 750 ml. | 12 ⁹⁹ |
| Crown Royal, 750 ml. | 22 ⁹⁹ |
| Early Times, 750 ml. | 8 ⁵⁹ |
| Jim Beam, 750 ml. | 11 ⁹⁹ |
| Jose Cuervo Tequila, 750 ml. | 14 ⁹⁹ |
| Karkov Vodka, 1.75 liter. | 12 ⁹⁹ |
| Smirnoff Vodka, 750 ml. | 12 ⁹⁹ |

St. Nicholas Tells Story of Santa Claus at St. Augustine's Church

St. Augustine Episcopal Church was visited by St. Nicholas (portrayed by John Cole) on December 6, 2013. December 6 is the anniversary of the death of St. Nicholas and is a feast day of celebration.

The story of St. Nicholas was presented by John Cole, Reverend Canon William Rhodes from Phoenix, Arizona, and by Reverend Joe Parish from New York.

Children learned the story of the real St. Nicholas and how children today call him Santa Claus. St. Nicholas was born to a wealthy family during the third century. His parents raised him to be a devout Christian. St. Nicholas gave all that he had to the poor, the sick and the suffering. He had a great love for the children and was known to be the protector of children.

St. Nicholas (John Cole) led the children to James Walker hall, where they colored ornaments to hang on the Jesse Tree.

The Jesse Tree helps parishioners to connect the custom of decorating Christmas trees to the events leading to Jesus' birth. The children decorated the Jesse Tree with ornaments that represent people, prophecies, and the events

leading up to the birth of Jesus.

The evening ended with a pizza dinner, and children were given cookies and a gift certificate to shop at St. Augustine's thrift shop on Sunday. The Thrift Shop was open just for the children—no



—photo by Kathy Matsuda

The keiki of St. Augustine's Episcopal Church pose with the Jesse tree displaying ornaments they colored.

adults—so they could buy gifts for family members and have them gift wrapped. Children also brought canned goods to give to our local food bank.

Mahalo to Reverend Canon Bill Rhodes; Reverend and Mrs. Joe Parish; John Cole; Lani Bowman; and to the children, parents, and guardians who attended the Feast of St. Nicholas.

Library Hosts Traveling Cello Chamber Orchestra

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

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

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

Voice of the Wood plays in public schools throughout their home base of Denver, Colorado, and considers con-

tacts with children to be a primary focus of the chamber players.

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

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

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

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

GATCHA Middle School Students Serve Our Community

A free car wash for veterans in November and baking cookies for our community service agencies in December were highlights of the GATCHA (Global Awareness Toward Creating Helping/Healing Attitudes) participants at Kohala Middle School. GATCHA is an after school program sponsored by the 21st Century Learning Grant.

"Our intent is to have students think and care beyond themselves and realize there is a larger community to be involved with, first Kohala and Hawaii, then expanding globally," reports Lani Bowman, Program Coordinator.

Students have searched the internet for potential pen pals from other countries, participated in bonding and experiential activities and have watched several movies relating to helping.

Art-n-Eat is a creative and rewarding activity whereby students create scenarios from various food items and then have them for snacks.

The group plans to visit Mauna Lani Bay Hotel to see the Christmas trees that many non-profit and community

groups decorated. Bowman adds, "I hope that the students will not only be able to experience the holiday festivi-



—photo by Lani Bowman

To celebrate Veterans' Day and our local veterans, GATCHA students held a car wash just for veterans and washed their cars for free.

*L-R Front row: Shelly Keawe, Nicholas Quinn, Lehua Cambra, and Lorna Chong
L-R Back row: Iokepa Carvalho, Kaid Nickl, and Darlene Chong*

ties, but will become aware of the multitude of service agencies that are here on the Big Island."

Sustainable Papermaking in Kohala

By Marcy Montgomery

Papermaking is an ancient art, and artist-in-residence Susan O'Malley is bringing it to North Kohala as an enjoyable way to have a satisfying hands-on, green lifestyle experience. Paper has been part of human cultures for thousands of years, and the traditional kappa cloth of Hawaii is a similar fiber art form. Working with One Island's 'Same Canoe' programs, O'Malley teaches how to turn local plant fibers into wonderful paper products. She uses methods that follow ancient papermaking traditions from around the world and also explores innovative new ways to incorporate plant fibers and paper into her fine art pieces.

Before each papermaking workshop, Susan invests up to 40 hours in collecting, peeling, pounding, pressing, cooking and preparing fiber that will then become the paper pulp for the workshops. Plants used in the workshops

may include: banana, cotton, wauke (a Polynesian mulberry used for kappa cloth), bird of paradise, shell ginger, royal palm, heliconia, monstera, flax, and hau. What a great discovery of sustainable papermaking!

For the months of January through March, One Island is hosting 'Water—the Source of Life' educational programs and is offering hands-on learning, film nights, field trips and Kohala Water Story presentations.

Part of the Water series, the next papermaking workshop in North Kohala will be Saturday, January 25, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost for the workshop includes all materials to make flat and dimensional paper works of art; fees are \$55 per person, \$100 for couples, \$25 for students under 16. Registration for the workshop and information about the calendar of Water programs are available online at www.oneisland.org or by email to hawaii@oneisland.org.

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Community Comes Out in Support of Local Permaculture

Rockin' good music, hula and belly dancing, delicious local food, educational opportunities, and a grateful community could all be found at `Iole Hawai'i, the old Bond Estate, on November 16. Each was there in support of local agricultural sustainability at

who then take their skills back home, a stronger local program will deliver the benefits of this education in our communities.

Modeled after natural systems, "Permaculture (permanent agriculture) is the conscious design and maintenance of agriculturally productive systems which have the diversity, stability and resilience of natural ecosystems. It is the harmonious integration of the landscape with people providing their food, energy, shelter and other material and non-material needs in a sustainable way." -- Graham Bell, *The Permaculture Way*

Permaculture enriches, rather than depletes, the soil used to grow crops. By using non-extractive practices the cost of food production decreases, the nutrient value of food increases, and land can be farmed for generations because the farmer works with, not against, nature.

Dashiell Kuhr, Executive Director and Instructor, and his wife Erika Kuhr, CFO and Integrative Nutrition Instructor, pour their energy into creating a thriving community. Their work promotes local independence and health, whether physical, environmental or financial.

With no reference to machetes, farming is risky. The financial reality of becoming a farmer often deters youth

from pursuing this essential career. With traditional methods, the capital costs of start-up are daunting. Expensive machinery, large plots of land and significant quantities of imported fertilizer drive the costs, and financial exposure, to levels many cannot tolerate.

HIP Ag's solution to our dwindling population of upcoming farmers is to teach permaculture. By learning how to farm without such heavy capital investment and financial risk, youth will be more apt to become farmers, our local food supply will flourish and the `aina will be enriched in the process. Current plans include offering local elementary students one day at the farm annually and middle school students a day with



Executive Director Dash Kuhr, holding daughter Kumari, welcomes event attendees.

an overnight stay. High school students would be more involved, working with HIP Ag throughout the year and completing a project using permaculture principles by the end of the year.

Diverse and sustainable local food, financially stable farmers, and a community supporting itself: that's a lot to be grateful for.



—photos by Kyle Combes

Hiccup Circus aerial acrobat Isla Ellis holds a split, supported by an aerial silk suspended from a tree. The young athlete twisted, turned and flipped for the crowd at the 2013 HIP Ag fundraiser.

Hawaii Institute of Pacific Agriculture's (HIP Ag's) annual fundraiser. Although their current programs successfully draw interns from across the globe, HIP Ag's sights are focused on promoting local knowledge of permaculture by increasing their current outreach to elementary, middle and high school students, exposing more children to this sustainable agricultural method. Rather than educating travelers to Hawai'i

Kohala Mountain News Can Be Found Online

Since our newspaper began a web site in 2011, online readership has grown steadily. We now receive over 2,000 visits every month to our website (in addition to the 3,600 paper copies distributed). If you have a friend or relative living outside Kohala, consider letting them know they can read the full edition free of charge each month by going to www.kohalamountainnews.com. All monthly editions from 2011 to 2013 are available.

KHS Student Credit Union Carolers Entertain and Uplift

Story and photo courtesy of *Ka Leo Na `Opio*

Students from the Kohala High School Student Credit Union are dressed in their caroling outfits and ready to sing their hearts out with fun and famous Christmas jingles. Members spread Christmas cheer to patients at Kohala Hospital on December 18, 2013.

Ka Leo Na `Opio is the online newspaper of Kohala High School. Read more at www.kaleonaopio.com.



(Back row, L-R): Marrissa Lawrence, Kohala FCU senior teller Andrea Hori, Melanie Sahagun, Summer Murai, Isabel Steinhoff, Alexis Matundan, Genevieve Boyle, Kassie Kometani, and Ella Boyle
(Kneeling, L-R): Josiah Adams, Koa Bartsch, and Kohala FCU manager Lakme Nishie

To advertise in the Kohala Mountain News call Tom at 345-0706



Kohala Baptist Church

Located on Akoni Pule Hwy across from Makapala Retreat

Sunday Services

'Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.'
(Matthew 11:28)

9 am

Adult Bible Study/Kids on Mission

10:15 am

Worship Service/Sunday School

Pastor Steven E. Hedlund (808)889-5416
www.kohalabaptist.net

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
Hawi, Hawai'i • The Welcoming Church
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Sunday 7 a.m. • 9:30 am
Communion Mass: Mondays at 7 am
Weekday Mass: Tuesday - Friday at 7 am
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Rev. Robert Schwarzhaupt
Deacon Thomas Adams
Telephone 889-6436

St. Augustine's Episcopal Church
Kapa'au, North Kohala • 808-889-5390
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7:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. - Holy Communion
Children's Sunday School & Fellowship Brunch
6:00 p.m. - Holy Communion
Thrift Shop Hours:
Weds: 12:00 - 3:30 • Thurs: 4:00 - 6:00
4th Saturday: 10:00 - 12:00
Free Community Meal:
4th Saturday of each month: 11:00 - 12:30
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Advocates Struggle to Protect Ala Loa Trail at Kohala Kai

Story and photo by Toni Withington

The county Planning Department and the developer of a high-end subdivision along the leeward coast ran into heavy opposition this month for the approval and building of a man-made trail instead of using a centuries-old coastal trail for public access.

Trail advocates say moving the trail from what has been described as the ancient Ala Loa ("the long trail"), the around-the-island-trail, sets a precedent that violates Hawaiian rights. That concern, and a host of other complaints against the public access plan for the 11-lot coastal subdivision, surfaced in a series of meetings in North and South Kohala.

The controversy comes late in the game for Kohala Kai LLC, developer of the subdivision which has been on and off for 14 years in the Planning Department. The last step needed for final approval was County Council acceptance of the Grant of Public Access Agreement. But Resolution 140 13 was challenged at a council committee meeting in August, and again with a large turnout of opposition earlier this month.

Problems with public access at Kohala Kai were discussed at meetings of the North Kohala Community Development Plan Action Committee (NKCDP AC), the Community Access Group, and a special meeting called at Spencer Park to promote dialogue between the developer and plan opponents in Kawaihae.

The County Council Finance Committee hearing on December 3 brought forth statements from the CDP Action Committee, the Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail leadership, trail advocate group E Mau Na Ala Hele, the Kailapa Homeowners Association, and many individuals who stated that the jeep road at the subdivision is the ancient Ala Loa and should be the location of the public access trail.

About 30 people testified—10 from the new videoconferencing facility at the old Bank of Hawaii building in Kapa'au—and all opposed the trail built by Kohala Kai. The resolution was postponed by the Committee to its meeting on December 17.

Councilwoman Margaret Wille criticized the Planning Department for keeping the access plan under wraps until

the last moment, stating, "The planning directors, all of them, for 14 years were abominable in this case. They failed to listen to the Department of the Interior (Ala Kahakai). They failed to contact the

CDP groups and Hawaiian groups." Wille agreed to try to work out differences between the department, the land owner, and the community before the next hearing.

The Finance Committee met in executive session with their attorneys and decided at least one thing: the council is not the agency to decide where the Ala Loa exists. "It's not our job," said Valerie Poindexter, chair of the committee.

Charlie Anderson, representing Kohala Kai, said the company had met all the conditions set out by the Planning Department and the permits issued. Attorney Steven Lim, also representing Kohala Kai, told council members they would meet with Wille to discuss changes.

With the intent to allow all sides of the issue to be heard, Jojo Tanimoto of Kawaihae organized a community meeting at Spencer Park. Representatives of several groups put together a statement of the issues, which detailed other problems brought out at the council hearing with regard to the public access plan and the Grant of Public Easement. Anderson and Lim declined to attend.

"The Planning Department failed to identify the jeep road at Kohala Kai as the Ala Loa," the statement reads. "Passage of the resolution will set a dangerous precedent in favor of exclusive, private coastal development and destroy a segment of the Ala Loa trail," said Diane Kaneali'i of Kawaihae.

The NKCDP, a county ordinance, says shoreline trails should preferably

be on the Ala Loa or traditional trails.

The statement goes on to say Kohala Kai constructed a shoreline trail away from the Ala Loa prior to submitting a Public Access Plan and prior to Plan-



Kohala Kai subdivision entrance, the site of public parking for access to the mauka-makai trail leading to the shoreline, lies 100 yards from the trailhead. The site is a topic of dispute between the developers and local access advocates.

ning Department review and approval, in violation of the Special Management Area permit. Location of the trail lacked any public review.

The Planning Department allowed Kohala Kai to build a private golf cart path over the known Ala Loa as well as build a recreational center and

canoe "hale" for exclusive residential use, even though they are not included in Kohala Kai's permit applications.

The proposed hale site is a known significant archeological site, according to testimony by Mike Isaacs of the North Kohala Historic and Cultural Preservation Group.

Other problems with the public access plan were pointed out in testimony. The size of the easement, originally set at 20 feet wide, had been cut to 10 feet wide. The trail description, which started at "a minimum 6-foot wide walking area with a graded earthen surface" was changed to "a cleared or constructed earthen surface."

Several testifiers pointed out that Kohala Kai's public parking, supposedly "in close proximity to the mauka-makai trail," is provided 100 yards away from the trailhead and requires walking on the paved skirt of Akoni Pule Highway for 160 feet.

Although the State Historic Preservation Division required them, easements to preserve reasonable access to cultural, historic, and burial sites were not provided, the statement said.

At the meeting in Kawaihae, the groups involved prepared a list of solutions to the public access plan which would correct the problems and not set a precedent by moving the Ala Loa.

Conference Drumbeats Bond Hawaii and Guinea

Lavaroots Performing Arts hosted the First Annual Merveilles Hawaii Drum and Dance Conference in North Kohala, in November. Students from around the country, along with Kohala community members, came to experience the incredible teachings of six West African Master Teachers and our own Kohala teachers: Hope Keawe, Leia Lawrence, Sala von der Heyden and Bobby Hoyt. Daily classes offered West African dance, Tahitian dance, hula, yoga, African drumming, and song.

The conference is a sister conference to the long running Camp Merveilles Colorado, created by The Kissidugu Foundation founder Fara Tolno. It is named after the Ballet Merveilles, of which Tolno was lead drummer of for nine years under the tutelage of his teacher, Kemoko Sano.

The conference was a five day event and, if you live out by Keokea, surely you heard the drums. Lavaroots founder, Michal Anna Carrillo, hopes that next year you will be inspired to join in on a class and be part of the bringing together of Polynesian and African cultures. If the drums aren't your thing, she humbly asks for your blessing.

Lavaroots Performing Arts and Tolno have been working in collaboration on a number of projects here in Hawaii, one of which was a dance performance shared in October at the Kahilu Theatre. This performance reached over 900 students from our island communities, including the first graders of Kohala

Elementary.

Carrillo has long taught hip hop and creative movement at the elementary school and is dedicated to bringing



*—photo by Jade Beall
Michal Anna Carrillo and Adrienne Van Berg of Lavaroots Performing Arts, along with students from our community and afar, dance in a class taught by West African Master Teacher Fara Tolno.*

arts and education to the youth. She is on the Board of Directors of the Kissidugu Foundation and is headed back to Guinea this winter to finalize the land purchase for the creation of The Kissidugu School of Dance, Music & Education. There is a natural bridge from Hawaii to Guinea, as they are directly on the other side of the globe. The land of Guinea is much like the Big Island of Hawaii; the same plants and climate are found in each, and the same practices of farming and building can easily be implemented there. Lavaroots is excited to foster this bridge and bring people together in the spirit of dance, music, sustainability and culture.

Let us empower the youth of all backgrounds to find success and know we are one planet and together we can thrive. Happy Holidays!

For more information visit www.lavaroots.com. All are welcome to get involved, anywhere from taking a class to traveling to Africa to help build the school.

Yay!! Happy Hour @ *bamboo*

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- Kona Beer-Battered Crispy Onion Rings
- Crispy Chicken Wings
- Polenta with Creamy Pesto
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Artist Rayven Medeiros Creates Fantasy and Manga

Have you noticed the new signs out in front of the Seconds to Go thrift shop, or the tattoo shop in the Cherry Blossoms Building? If so, you've seen the work of one of Kohala's hidden artistic talents, Rayven Medeiros.

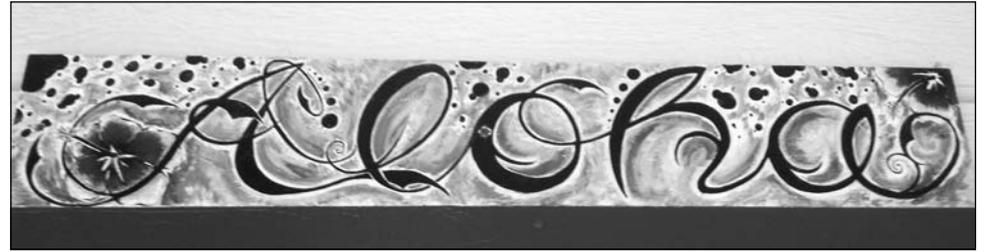


Showing more of her fantasy style, Rayven Medeiros' fictional Butterfly Geisha's kimono is spawning butterflies, somewhat resembling a butterfly itself. The artist's style of "merging" brings out hidden animal elements of humans.

Now graduated from Kohala High, Medeiros began her love of art long before kindergarten. Encouraged by her mother, an accomplished artist in her own right, Medeiros explored the world of art by finger painting and drawing on anything and everything she could—including walls of the family home!

Her mother's Cherokee blood and skills in painting skulls influenced Medeiros' gravitation toward what might be considered more dark elements in art: skulls, mythical monsters, and peoples' inner beasts. According to Cherokee legend, each person has one or more inner animals, parts of their personalities that come out at different times. Medeiros captures the essence of this philosophy with her own style, which she dubs "merging." The animal and human forms both appear on the same body, each occupying its own rightful space.

Appreciating multiple aspects of each person, Medeiros explains, "Not everything dark or scary is evil. There's always another side to it." Skulls represent the turning of life; from death comes a rebirth of new



—photos by Rayven Medeiros

Timeless greetings of aloha welcome visitors through the doorway graced with Rayven Medeiros' original art.

life. Even monsters like Godzilla are motivated by the desire to protect their young.

In addition to merging Medeiros is enamored with manga, the Japanese comic style. She uses her imagination to create original characters, each with

a distinct personality, and will be releasing her burgeoning collection of original comics in the future. Interestingly, Medeiros prefers black and white drawings to color, pointing out that oftentimes color will dictate an emotion while black and white leaves more interpretation to the viewer and thus can elicit a wider range of feelings.

Medeiros specifically captured the warrior sentiment in her jaguar logo designs used by her junior and senior year Kohala High School classes. Prior to that, she won first place in tee shirt design in each of her three years at Kohala Middle School.

Continuing to build her skills, Medeiros has become certified and licensed as a tattoo artist, bringing the flowing and three-dimensional techniques of tattoo to her drawings.

Next time you're driving through town, slow down and appreciate the original art on the signage right in front of you, created by one of Kohala's hidden talents.



The new thrift shop in downtown Hawi is marked with a sign created by Rayven Medeiros. The artist captures the tropical flavor of the island with 'ohi'a lehua and monstera foliage.

KES Spelling Bee Winners Advance to District Competition

By Rose Mae Watterson

Congratulations to fourth grader David Jimenez and fifth grader Kyle Weyrick, winners of the Kohala Elementary

School's 2013-2014 Spelling Bee. David's winning word was "imbibe" and Kyle's winning word was "equinox."

The students will represent KES at

the Hawai'i District Spelling Bee on Saturday, January 18, 2014, at Hawai'i Preparatory Academy's Gates Performing Arts Center. Mahalo to the spelling bee's organizers, pronouncer Chris Brown, and judge Janet Lam. Special thanks to coach Debbie Wilner, a part-time fourth grade teacher who helped students prepare for the spelling bee during their lunch period. She is now coaching students who will represent KES at the district level.

Kyle Weyrick (left) and David Jimenez (right) are all smiles after winning the Kohala Elementary School's 2013-2014 Spelling Bee.



—photo by Rose Mae Watterson

Tlingit Carver Shares Art, Stories and Cultural Knowledge

Story and photo by Elizabeth Bauer

Norman Anda Jackson, Alaskan Tlingit master carver and metalworker, visited Kohala Elementary School on November 22. He brought totem carving tools and works in progress to demonstrate his art to

the mesmerized 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th graders. He used multimedia to share photographs of his work, which resides in museums around the world including the British Museum, the Smithsonian, the Berlin Museum, and the Field Museum in Chicago. He also sells his work in several prominent galleries.

Jackson told the children some of the ancient stories of the Tlingit people, stories reflected in his totems, masks, Shaman rattles, carved halibut

hooks, and silver and gold engraved bracelets. Students also learned about the pan-Pacific connections of the ancient myths in stories from New Zealand, Hawai'i and Alaska. He demonstrated his handmade carving tools and answered the many questions of the students, all of whom hoped he would return next year to visit again.

This was Jackson's first visit to our island, and he commented on feeling the powerful *mana* (supernatural or divine power) of Kohala, even before he was told this was King Kamehameha's birthplace. It was his people who gifted the huge spruce logs to construct Hawai'i's first modern voyaging canoes.

Mr. Jackson presented the school with a beautiful print of "Man Riding the Killer Whale." Those wishing to view some of his striking works will find them on his website, www.NormanJackson.com.



Alaskan Tlingit master carver and metalworker Norman Jackson explains stories of the Tlingit people, Hawai'i, and his impressive artwork as Kohala Elementary fourth graders' listen in rapt attention.



THE COQUI CORNER

Sites Treated: • Kohala Village Inn • Keokea Gulch
Site Reported: (not yet located) • Halawa Homestead

Keokea Gulch is now under control. It has cost the Coalition over \$13,000 and will be regularly monitored for another year.

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT! Please consider making your end-of-year, tax-deductible contributions to the Kohala Coqui Coalition. Tax-free Donations through North Kohala Community Resource Center
P.O. Box 519 Hawi, HI 96719

Help Keep Kohala Coqui Free!

Coqui Hotline: 889-5775

Josiah Adams Qualifies for Championship Meet

Story and photo by Melody Neitfeld
 What a great Cross Country season for Kohala High School's Josiah Adams! He can be so proud of finishing no less than 6th place among a pack of over 200



Runner Josiah Adams set a new Kohala High School Cross Country record for the three-mile event at 16:34.06.

runners at the Big Island Interscholastic Federation (BIIF) meets and the BIIF championship meet. The strategic BIIF championship performance easily qualified him for the state championship meet and pits him next to the top 160 Hawaii state qualifiers. Josiah placed a remarkable 13th at the Hawaii High School Athletic Association (HHSAA) event and finished less than one second behind the BIIF champion, Ian McQuate.

Equally impressive was Josiah breaking the three-mile KHS record set by Bobbie Sheetz in 2001.

Cross country running is distinguished as a highly disciplined sport. As an honor student, Josiah undoubtedly aligns with this sport both on and off the course. He has made Kohala High so proud. Congratulations!

Strut Your Stuff and Help Prevent Chronic Illness in Hawaiians

One Holistic Place, an organization dedicated to preventing chronic illness in the Hawaiian population, is hosting the Big Island's Got Talent Fundraiser on February 15th at the Kawaihae Canoe Club from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Our third annual event will showcase talented adult and keiki performers from around the Big Island. There will be ten keiki performances and ten adult performances with prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. Spaces are still available. To sign up, call Rachel Allen at 756-3883 or email OHPtalent@gmail.com by January 4.

An extraordinary lineup of talent has already signed up to perform. Performers are traveling from North Kohala, Kamuela, Kona and Hilo. Among the returning performers are Christi Bell-Donnelly, Jonathan Brooke and Kira Ledward. Christi will be defending her first place title for the third year in a row. Last year's talent judge, Billy Rodrigues, stated that Christi has the best voice on the island! Christi, a Waimea elementary school teacher, Kawaihae canoe paddler, and mother initially appears quite timid—until she belts out blues songs

and Beyoncé hits. It's a performance not to be missed!

Rique Rose, a professional Las Vegas show and cruise ship performer, lit up the Kahilu theatre with his powerful singing voice and stage presence. If his show isn't on the road, he'll be back at Big Island's Got Talent. Jorge Ayala has been honing his stand-up comedy act, and Aleili will perform a sacred belly dance along with her group from Kohala. Thirteen-year-old Isaiah Salmoiraghi, who delivered an impressive performance of "A Hard Day's Night" at last year's show, will return to defend his keiki title.

OHP needs your support to help improve health disparities on the Big Island. One community together can make a difference! Join One Holistic Place in sharing your heart and talent on February 15.

Proceeds for this event go toward One Holistic Place to fund outreach programs for teens and young adults. Visit our website at www.OneHolisticPlace.org to learn about us and our classes, and view photos and videos of past events.

KOHALA CALENDAR

January

- 2 Thu 6-9 pm, Green Drinks Hawi, Kava Kafe, organic networking & pupus, Forrest, 987-2365.
- 3 Fri 10 am, Preschool Story Time series, ages 2-5, every Fri., North Kohala library, 889-6655.
- 4 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.
- 5 Sun 10:30 am, Metaphysical Church: "Will We Have a Brighter Tomorrow?" Kohala Yoga, 54-3877 Akoni Pule Hwy, Rev. Lee, 889-5505.
- 6 Mon 6-7 pm, CDP Growth Management Subcmte. Mtg., public invited, old Bank of Hawaii bldg., Kapa`au.
- 6 Mon 6:30 pm, "Voice of the Wood" Cello Chamber Players concert, free, North Kohala library, 889-6655.
- 6 Mon 7 pm, Al-Anon mtg., every Monday, lower level, Walker Hall, St. Augustine's, Laura, 884-5833.
- 8 Wed 8 am, No. Kohala Merchants Association Mtg., Resource Center, public invited, Richard, 889-1112.
- 8 Wed 5 pm, KHS SCC mtg., rm. D-24, parents & community welcome, 889-7117.
- 8 Wed 5-6:15 pm, CDP Power, Viewplanes & Erosion Control subcmte. mtg, public welcome, Senior Ctr, Susan, 882-7611.
- 13 Mon 5-6:30 pm, CDP Action Cmte. Public Mtg., former Bank of Hawaii bldg., Kapa`au.
- 13 Mon 6-8 pm, Kohala's water history w/ Boyd Bond, 1st in series, for location call 328-2452 or email Hawaii@oneisland.org.
- 13 Mon 6:30 pm, "He Lei, He Aloha, This is a Lei of Love" celebration of Queen Lili`uokalani's legacy, ages 12-up, free, North Kohala library, 889-6655.
- 14 Tue 11 am, Adult book discussion group, "Born to Run," by Christopher McDougal, North Kohala library, 889-6655.
- 15 Wed 10 a.m. Homeschool Wednesday, ages 6-10, free, North Kohala library, 889-6655.
- 16 Thu 1:30-2:30 pm, Kohala Hospital Auxiliary Mtg., Hospital Pavilion, new members welcome, Dixie, 889-5730.
- 18 Sat 9 am-1 pm, Treasures Helping-Hand Store, Assembly of God, Hawi Rd., free meal: 10 am-1 pm, 889-5177.
- 18 Sat 4:30-6:30 pm, Free Grindz--Hot Meal, under the Hawi Banyans, bring a friend, Kohala Baptist Church, Sondra, 889-5416.
- 19 Sun 10:30 am, Metaphysical Church: "If Goals We Must Have," Kohala Yoga, 54-3877 Akoni Pule Hwy, Rev. Lee, 889-5505.
- 20 Mon Martin Luther King Jr. Day, schools, government offices closed.
- 21 Tue 9-11 am, Oneness in Health meet & greet gathering for holistic healers, free, Kokolulu Retreat Ctr, Hawi, Tonya, 339-2432 or Catalina, 889-6206.
- 21 Tue 11 am, The Whole Life Book Club discussion of "Mutant Message Down Under," by Marlow Morgan, North Kohala library, 889-6655.
- 21 Tue 3:30 pm, Kohala Elem. SCC mtg., rm. 12, public invited, 889-7100.
- 22 Wed 4:30 pm, KMS SCC mtg., library, parents & community welcome, 889-7119.
- 25 Sat 11 am-12:30 pm, Free Community Meal, St. Augustine's Walker Hall, Thrift Store open 10 am-12:30 pm.
- 25 Sat 6:30-8:30 pm, Film: Blue Gold - World Water Wars, Walker Hall, Kapa`au, see oneisland.org for details.
- 28 Tue 5 pm, CDP Parks, Water & Roads Subcmte, public welcome, Senior Ctr., andi@hawaii.rr.com.
- 29 Wed 10 a.m. Homeschool Wednesday, ages 6-10, free, North Kohala library, 889-6655.

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

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Elementary Students To Create World Peace

World Peace has come to Kohala...in the form of an innovative and compelling game.

At the beginning of 2013, Susan Lehner, the administrator of the World Peace Game in Kohala, began weekly meetings with a group of high school homeschoolers and with weekly email conversations with John Hunter, creator of the World Peace Game. Throughout the summer, the group worked to build the board—a 4-foot by 4-foot by 5-foot plexiglass structure—and to design and build the four countries.

Under the guidance of John Hunter and the World Peace Game Foundation, the group was able to create a game that follows his exacting specifications, while adding creative touches unique to Hawai'i experiences and to the imaginations of the high school students involved. The



—photos by Kyle Combes and Sage Nicholson
World Peace Game administrator Susan Lehner gives instruction during construction of the game board. Students building the game board are all Kohala homeschoolers.

L-R: Ziggy Bartholomy, instructor Maureen Combes, Elana Andrews, Susan Lehner, Kyle Combes, Max von Keudell, Brandon Andrews, Gregory Kim, Ryan Combes.



Mick Miller and Ryan Combes work on creating a country for the terrestrial layer of the World Peace Game.

students worked hard to create world scenarios with current implications, and in the process they learned much about real crises facing us in the world today. While these high school students have been studying geography on a weekly basis, their understanding expanded greatly as they contemplated the sorts of things—political, environmental, and geological—that could, and do, create havoc in the world.

Involving students in the creation of the game provided a depth to the project that John Hunter himself has lauded

as a very positive addition. The homeschool community in Kohala of appropriate age (ages 9 through 13) has become its biggest champion.

Since only one game (the original in Virginia) had been built before the Kohala group started, and due to the size of the game, it was a real challenge to create a structure that was stable and mobile, said Lehner. Also, since none of them had actually seen an entire game played, they relied heavily on John Hunter's input via email to create the game scenarios, the countries, and all the materials for the board.

It was decided the game would best serve the community if housed at the new public library, in a separate room.

With the blessing of the head librarian and the entire staff, the World Peace Game now resides where it can be seen by the whole community. Schedules are currently being created with Kohala Elementary School to bring those students on a weekly basis to play. The game will be launched with a group of homeschool students in January as organizers coordinate with the elementary school to set up play for fourth-graders in early 2014. Also in January, John Hunter's movie, "World Peace and Other Fourth Grade Achievements," will be shown at the public library. Watch this newspaper and bulletin boards around town for dates and time.

Funding was provided by The Dor-



Kyle Combes, Max von Keudell and Elana Andrews lay out rough sketches of World Peace Game countries. The sovereign states must be designed to fit on the game board while having specific attributes such as relative size, topography, and resources.

rance Family Foundation, The Bill Healy Foundation, The Stevens World Peace Foundation, the Kohala Ranch Development Corporation, and private donors. The game is part of the North Kohala Community Learning Center, which is a sponsored project of North Kohala Community Resource Center.



Gregory Kim shows off a cut-out of a newly-created country, which will be part of the World Peace Game board. Kim and his classmates designed components for the multi-layered game board, which includes terrestrial, sea floor, aerial and outer space features.

Program to Celebrate Queen Lili'uokalani

North Kohala Public Library will host a special program celebrating the enduring legacies of Queen Lili'uokalani at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, January 13, 2014.

"He Lei, He Aloha, This is a Lei of Love" celebrates Queen Lili'uokalani's music, her love of homeland and complete dedication to the needs of her people. The queen expressed her aloha through her actions and the examples she set.

Meleanna Aluli Meyer—artist, art educator, filmmaker, and descendent of the queen's confidant Emma Nawahi—will narrate a 45-minute participatory program, including readings from the queen's autobiography, performance of her songs, and a seven-minute film vignette inspired by the queen.

This program is presented in libraries throughout the state, sponsored by Native Books/Na Mea Hawaii, Queen Lili'uokalani Trust, Hui Hanai, Hawaiian Airlines, Alexander and Baldwin, King Kamehameha V Judiciary History Center, Pu'uhonua Society and the Iolani Guild of the Episcopal Church in Hawai'i. It is appropriate for ages 12 and up.

The Kohala Community Athletic Association would like to thank the following volunteer coaches for a successful 2013 in our after-school sports programs for the children of Kohala.

Volleyball

Berta Garcia
Renee Gonsalves
Nick Lorenzo
Keone Emeliano

Girls Softball

Renee Gonsalves
Joby Amaral
Mike Regan
Kelby Kaaekuahiwi

Jiu Jitsu

Kahana Cordeiro

Football

Earl Hoshida
Mahi Vaefaga
Koa Anthony
Sao Vaefaga
Nario Libron
Noa Yamamoto
Kamon Kupukaa
Kalei Kealiha
Joey Kawau
Vern Karratti
Keone Emeliano
Brycen Caravalho
Itchy Igarashi
Aric Hoshida

Boys and Girls Basketball

Keone Emeliano
Reeve Cazimero
Sam Carvalho
Jake Hook
Brad Estabillio
Renee Gonsalves
Duncan Anderson
Kekai Nakamura
Kalei Emeliano
Toma Raymond

Biddy Basketball

Keone Emeliano
Ian Gutierrez
Kalei Emeliano
Paul Antonio
Ryan Baustista
Laurence Kauka
Kealan Figueroa
Braddah Keyes

T-Ball and Pitch Ball

Jake Hook
Lydell Matsu
Laurence Kauka
Nino Ka'ai
Tammy Elarco
Mahi Vaefaga
Sao Vaefaga
Koa Anthony
Alexis Peleiholani
Jame-Lee Drew
Leo Agabayani
Earl Hoshida
Keone Glory
Eddie Valenzuela
Darryl Pagud
Noa Yamamoto
Chad Castillo
Chai Wilson
Jeremy Hook

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Kohala through youth sports



One Island Presents

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January - April 2014

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Special Events

Kohala Water Story with Boyd Bond, Jan 13th, 6:30 pm

Film Night: Blue Gold Jan. 25th in Walker Hall, 6:30 pm

Papermaking Jan 25 - 26

DIY Grey Water hands-on workshop at 'Iole Feb. 8, 1 - 5 pm
RSVP to hawaii@oneisland.org

www.oneisland.org 328-2452