



Vol.13, No. 10

October 25, 2014

## The 30th Annual Kohala Country Fair Brings Fun and Excitement

On October 4 islanders came from far and wide to the fairgrounds makai of `Iole for a taste of Kohala living. Fairgoers enjoyed live island-style entertainment, delicious food from organic juices to authentic Thai cuisine, vendors showcasing a variety of arts, local organizations explaining their work in the community, and plenty of fun and games for the kids. The weather was beautiful, perfect for strolling through the booths swaying to the beat of the talent onstage. For more pictures of the Kohala Country Fair, see page 14.



North Kohala Radio volunteer Neal Conan, former longtime host of National Public Radio's "Talk of the Nation," guides a young Kohala girl as she records a short announcement for the future radio station.



Adriana's, specializing in Salvadoran cuisine, came up from Captain Cook to offer burritos hot off the grill.

## Make a Wish Visits Recipient of Kidney Transplant

On September 29, eight-year-old Dominic Faisca of Hawi got his wish: a raceway for a radio-controlled cars right in his own backyard.

Readers of the Kohala Mountain News may remember Dominic's story: He and his sister Julia were both born with cystinosis—a rare, hereditary condition that leads to accumulation of the amino acid cystine in the body. Both children received their desperately-needed kidney transplants within the past two years. Dominic (who prefers to be called Dom) received his kidney in June, just a few months before his new raceway was built.

Make-A-Wish Hawai'i, which grants "wishes" to children diagnosed with life-threatening conditions, was responsible for funding and building Dom's raceway.



—photo by Anna Pacheco courtesy of Make-A-Wish Hawai'i  
Dominic Faisca exudes joy standing in front of his new remote-control (RC) race cars, donated to accompany the new RC raceway built in his backyard by Make-A-Wish Hawai'i. Dom was born with a life-threatening condition for which he received a kidney transplant in June 2014.

They brought in help from Sandbox RC on O'ahu, which runs its own popular raceway, to design the track and manage its construction.

Local businesses and residents came out in force to offer

help. From Edwin DeLuz Trucking bringing in mulch and dirt, Big Island Landscaping supervising construction, the Kohala High School football team lending their strong backs, Mark Kaneshiro building the elevated driver's box above the track, to all the nameless others who did whatever they could manage, the community supported Dom's dream.

Make-A-Wish provided lodging for Dom and his family at the Hilton Waikoloa Village during construction, so Dom had no idea of what was happening

back home. When it was time for the big "reveal" (what Make-A-Wish calls the moment the child sees his wish come true) the Koa Puna Motorcycle Club escorted Dom and his family back home.

Dom's eyes lit up and his face burst into a joyful grin when he first laid eyes upon his new raceway. Choosing one of his three new cars, Dom ascended the steps of his new driver's box to take his first laps as a crowd of eager supporters cheered him on. His grin showed it all as he ran the car around the track, lap after lap.

Having dealt with so many hardships in his short life, Dom reveled in a moment of true bliss, caught up in excitement and forgetting—at least temporarily—what he'd gone through to get there. His wish had been fulfilled.

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## "Boo!" from the Pololu Ghost...Happy Halloween!



*A ghost-like figure rises out of the clouds at Pololu—just in time for Halloween.*

—photo by Lani Bowman

## Parker Ranch Creates Sparks With New Power Grid for Waimea and North Kohala

By Toni Withington

Tired of paying the country's highest electric rates? So is Parker Ranch. And with a new team of alternative energy power experts, the Waimea-based ranch has proposed setting up a new micro-grid to power Waimea and North Kohala.

Using wind, solar and hydro energy the ranch plans to cut electricity bills for everyone on the new grid, which could expand to power the whole island.

"We could beat the utility's rates whether we use their power lines or build our own," says Neil "Dutch" Kuyper, president and CEO of Parker Ranch. Hawai'i Electric Light Company (HELCO) customers now pay the highest electric rates in the country: 42 cents per kilowatt hour.

Kuyper isn't just guessing. In looking for ways for the ranch to cut its own staggering electric bills, the ranch hired Siemens' Power Technologies Interna-

tional (PTI) consulting, Siemens Building Technologies' Pace Energy Services and partner Booz Allen Hamilton to develop an integrated resource plan for the ranch and the surrounding community. Their report was so promising that the ranch formed Paniolo Power, LLC last April.

The Siemens study looked at four alternative technology options with the goal of producing 18 megawatts (MW) of energy by 2019 to power the ranch, Waimea and North Kohala. Another 70 MW could be added to the grid by 2024 to satisfy 75 per cent of West Hawai'i's needs.

To meet that amount of customer demand Paniolo Power is aiming to generate 200 MW of power on its own land. To start the ball rolling the company has issued a request for qualifications (RFQ) for the engineering, procurement and construction of an up to 200 MW pumped-storage hydroelectric system on the ranch. That means solar or wind

generators could use daytime power to pump water from a low elevation reservoir to a high elevation reservoir and produce hydro power as the water moves downhill at night.

The ranch already has reservoirs throughout its 130,000 acres of land spanning 7,000 feet of elevation. The company estimates that the wind resources in North Kohala and Waimea/Lalamilo alone have a potential for generating 400 MW of power.

"If the utility doesn't want our wind, maybe the community does," Kuyper said.

Parker Ranch hired Jose Dizon, who was the general manager of HELCO from 2008 to 2011, to be the general manager of Paniolo Power. With a wide background in engineering and alternative energy, Dizon is expected to move the island toward new energy sources and lower costs faster than he could have at the utility.

The Public Utilities Commis-

sion (PUC) has been pressuring the three power providers—HELCO on this island, MECO on Maui and HEKO on O'ahu—to come up with a plan to lower rates to its customers. The Power Supply Improvements Plan (PSIP) they jointly submitted to the PUC earlier this year shows conversion from diesel to liquid natural gas power plants with alternative sources addressed down the road. In commenting about the utilities' PSIP, Parker Ranch and Paniolo Power told the PUC the plan does not take into account the new business climate of affordable alternative energy sources. Nor does it put the need for lower rates for customers over portfolio returns to the utility stockholders.

Under the PSIP the power company stays "a vertically integrated monopoly that retains ownership and control of both transmission and distribution as well as generation," Paniolo

**See Paniolo, page 3**

**MAHI'AI** Only four lots left!



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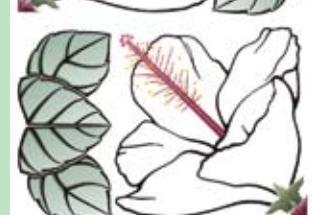
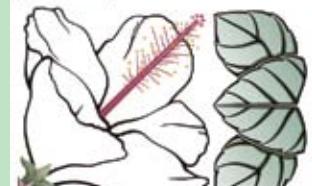
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## High School Students Act as Stewards for Kaiholena

Kohala High School students are assisting with a project to care for coastal lands that were recently preserved after decades of work by the community to protect these areas. The students are designing an interpretive sign that will provide information about the natural and cultural resources at Kaiholena and how visitors can care for them by "leaving no trace."

Students are meeting and learning from individuals who have careers in natural resource management and designing interpretive displays. "The students' work is an important part of stewarding this coast," stated Gail Byrne Baber of Malama Kohala Kahakai, who is coordinating the project with Kohala High School teacher Fern White.

There are several native species that make their home at Kaiholena, and a monk seal often

basks there. This area also has the most numerous intact pre-contact cultural sites in the state. But with the creation of an access road to recently preserved areas, guidebooks have begun to include these coastal places that were previously frequented only by residents.

Several Kohala groups have been working on projects



—photo by Gail Byrne Baber

*Kohala High School students (L-R) Riley Uehana, Tonya Adams, La'iKai Belo-Coito and Kaliko DelaCruz study interpretive signage at Puu Kohola. The students are working with experts to design an interpretive sign for Kaiholena to educate visitors about the area's significance and encourage them to "leave no trace."*

to care for the coastal lands, including Kohala Lihikai and Maikai Kamakani O Kohala.

"Those of us who have been engaged in preserving these lands did so for Kohala's youth and generations to come. It's fitting that these students benefit from and help direct stewardship projects," said Toni Withington, board member of Kohala Lihikai and long-time advocate for coastal preservation.

Funding for installing the interpretive sign and stipends for the students comes from the Hawai'i Tourism Authority's Natural Resources Program. Questions about this project can be directed to Malama Kohala Kahakai, a project in its tenth year with the North Kohala Community Resource Center, at kohalakahakai@gmail.com.

### Paniolo, continued from page 2

Power said in written testimony to the PUC. Separation of the job of generating power from the job of sending it to customers would be a better model, the report said.

While Parker Ranch's published Case Study for Modernizing the Grid talks about the creation of a whole new minigrid that would include both generation and distribution, it leaves

open the possibility that Paniolo Power could work with HELCO on the latter.

"Parker Ranch got involved because its leadership realized there had to be an alternative," the publication says. "It will take all parties, regulators, utilities, governments and customers coming together to find a solution" that can be a win for the utility, the ranch and the communities of Waimea and Kohala.

## Public Meeting about Paniolo Power

Top officials from Parker Ranch and Paniolo Power will meet with the North Kohala community on Thursday, November 13, at 5:30 p.m. in the Kohala High School cafeteria. They will explain plans to create a new and separate microgrid of electric power for the ranch as well as the communities of Waimea and North Kohala.

Speakers will include Neil "Dutch" Kuyper, president and CEO of Parker Ranch, and Jose Dizon, general manager of Paniolo Power.

The informational meeting has been arranged by the Power, Viewplanes and Erosion Control Subcommittee of the North Kohala Community Development Plan.

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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.

**November**

Ad Deadline: 11/17/14  
News Deadline: 11/10/14

**December**

Ad Deadline: 12/5/14  
News Deadline: 12/5/14



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

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**Current Circulation 3,800**

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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**From the Editor's Desk —****Colorful Opportunities for Kohalans with Cameras**

Since color printing began last month, the Kohala Mountain News packs a lot more visual punch. We're excited about the new look and would like to use it to the greatest advantage. So here's an offer for you....

Life in Kohala is beautiful. Let's capture that beauty and share it with each other on the pages of KMN. We're opening a space for you, our readers, to submit visual images that capture your eye and you think others would enjoy, too. Just snap a shot whenever the mood strikes and send it in with your name and one line describing the scene. We'll feature one

image in each month's issue. We ask that the subject be one of natural or scenic interest rather than things like people or pets. Send one in and see your art in print.

And one more thing...the coconut wireless covers a lot of ground, but sometimes not all information can be found when it's desired. To that end we're trying out a section called, "Ask Kohala." Here you can pose questions about Kohala you think fellow Kohalans might be able to answer. And if you happen to have the answer to a question, let us know! Check out our first question by Richard Elliott in this month's issue.

**Letters—****Support Margaret Wille's Re-Election**

To the people of North Kohala:

The reason I am for Margaret Wille's re-election is that she stands up for farmers like me, and for the whole local community, here in North Kohala.

Whenever I go to meetings and events that support sustainable agriculture, Margaret is there and always will listen and work for better Kohala agriculture. She supports the little guy, not just corporate-funded schemes that will hurt the long-term sustainability of local agriculture.

One of the big issues for me is labeling of GMO (genetically modified organism) products. A large percentage of my customer base, which is the local people of this area, does not want to eat anything GMO. And that is their

right, I think. But if the products are not labeled as GMO, the people will not be able to choose to not purchase them.

I will not grow GMO products, but if I did we would easily lose 20 percent or more of my local customers—and rightfully so.

We need a labeling law that will allow customers to choose. Margaret Wille is trying to bring rationality to our community. She is trying to help the development of local farms based on sustainability and right laws.

Margaret Wille works very hard for our community. I urge you to vote for Margaret Wille.

Thank you,  
Peter Risley  
Risley Farms

**Column: Ask Kohala****Dorito Salad**

Aloha Kohala,

I have eaten Dorito Salad at several places—usually Dorito Taco Salad, which has hamburger and uses Catalina dressing. But here it's meatless, and the dressing is a white, sweet dressing a little like poppy seed dressing without seeds. I have heard that several people take credit for the recipes. Can anyone confirm who and when the recipe came about? I've heard it's a local creation. Just wondering....

Aloha,  
Richard Elliott

*Editor's Note: If you have an answer, or would like to pose a question for Kohala readers, write our Ask Kohala Column in care of the Kohala Mountain News.*

**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.*

**Mahukona Algal Hazard Update**

By Craig Williams

As one of the many frequent users of the Mahukona County Park swimming area I was shocked and saddened to read in a past edition of Kohala Mountain News about Dr. Alan Thal's severe hip injury, which he sustained at the "swimming pool ladder landing" at Mahukona Park. The "landing," until recently, was often coated in a heavy blanket of algae, and a number of users, including yours truly, have met with very dangerous falls, scrapes, twists, sprains and many other physical maladies.

Having noticed, since Dr. Thal's fall, a few continuing light growths through the ensuing weeks, I decided in mid-September to contact the County Department of Parks and Recreation to

inquire whether any measures had been put in place to remedy the problem.

On speaking with Mr. Jason Armstrong, Public Information Officer for Parks and Recreation, and relating the sad history of mishaps at the landing, he responded with shocked disbelief! No one in his agency, to his knowledge, was aware of any problems at Mahukona and certainly not about Dr. Thal's injury. Consequently I passed on to him a copy of the Kohala Mountain News article mentioned above for his edification. He immediately expressed his concern over Dr. Thal's current condition and bade me to convey his department's sympathy and condolences.

We discussed at length various remedial measures, especially long

term solutions such as the installation of fiberglass grating, which I am personally familiar with. He assured me that he would be very proactive regarding our North Kohala concerns, and that the algal growth problem would be investigated and corrected immediately—initially by periodic scrubbing to be followed by perhaps longer-term corrective action.

Since speaking with him, and using Mahukona on numerous occasions, I have noticed that the "landing area" is spotless, and whoever is attending to the maintenance and cleaning is doing one hell of a job!

If anyone reading this happens to notice an algal reoccurrence please contact me, Craig Williams, at 889-0515, and I will once again

**See Mahukona, page 5**

## County Council Update—

### Legislative Update from the Desk of Councilwoman Margaret Wille

**COUNTY FINANCES GENERALLY:** Both in North Kohala and around District 9 generally, a major portion of the County funds available at my discretion is being used to fund park projects—from skate park construction—to irrigation systems—to bleachers—to adult fitness equipment—to material for uniforms—to park maintenance tools. Likewise, much of the bond funding available to North Kohala is slated for park repairs. However we are still facing a major problem: the lack of staff. There are many vacant positions in the Parks and Recreation Department. Although the next fiscal year does not start until July of 2015, October and November of this year are when the administration looks to the departments to plan out the next budget. What



I am getting at is that we must make funding of sufficient park positions a priority for the 2015-2016 budget. We will continue to rely on community volunteers as stewards of one or more park or recreation programs, but sufficient county park staff is essential.

Another department with a great need for more staff is the wastewater division of the Department of Environmental Management. Just to avoid potential federal EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) fines will cost us many millions of dollars.

Our principal source of income is property taxes, but with the high cost of living on this island we need to lower property taxes, not raise them. So given that the law requires a balanced budget,

what should be our plan? We need to all weigh in on this question.

First of all, the hotel tax, or TAT (Transient Accommodation Tax) revenue is our second-largest source of income. For the past few years the counties have been short-changed their due with regard to these TAT revenues. Originally the state only retained a small fraction of these TAT revenues, simply as an administrative fee. Over the years the state has reduced this county funding source rather than reaching out to create its own new revenue streams. Then several years ago, when the economy plunged, the state gutted the TAT revenues and even imposed a cap on the counties' share of this revenue source, yet promised to remove the cap on the counties' portion when the economy improved. Well, the economy improved last legislative session, yet the cap on the counties' revenues was only adjusted slightly higher, not removed. However, our State legislators are not the only ones to blame. Last legislative session, the counties did a poor job of lobbying for their portion of the TAT revenues, and instead pushed for the authority to raise the GET taxes by way of a county GET surcharge. I opposed that. So my point here is that this coming year we need

to work with our state legislators and insist on removal of the cap on the counties' portion of these TAT revenues. This is something we need to do: the county council, the mayor, and all of us as individual constituents. We all need to reach out and insist on removal of the TAT county revenue cap. Otherwise here we are, as a county, providing the lion's share of the infrastructure and services needed by tourists, but limited in terms of the amount of this "tourist" tax revenue we receive.

Next we need to get serious about seeking and securing more grants. Perhaps the Research and Development Department should contract with grant writers who would be paid a percentage of any grant received. I do try to advise District 9 organizations and individuals of significant current grant opportunities.

There are also many county programs that would help our farmers, ranchers and restaurants. Examples include the "Eat Out in October" resolution I sponsored and the initiative I am sponsoring to designate November as "Buy Big Island Produce" month. Also, I have given some thought to making December our "Big Island Grass-Fed Beef" month. It is definitely time for us all to brainstorm

**See CC Update, page 6**

**Mahukona, continued from page 4**  
contact the proper authorities.

Here I wish to offer a personal observation. I am a great supporter of our Parks department and believe they do one heck of a job with their limited resources and budget. This support also extends to all of our county services. I know that most, if not all, civil service employees go to their

usually unsung jobs with the best intentions to serve the public to the best of their abilities.

Please, the next time you see a civil service employee, whether it be at a park or the transfer station or even the policeman giving you a ticket, take a moment to smile and say MAHALO for your efforts. I guarantee you it will be much appreciated.

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## Biddy Basketball in Full Swing

Story and photo by Tom Morse

Jointly sponsored by the Kohala Community Athletic Association and the County of Hawai'i Department of Parks and Recreation, seventy-five Kohala children ages five to eight are playing games each Monday and Wednesday afternoons at the Hisaoka Gym. The all-volunteer program is led by Paul Antonio, Jr. along with fourteen coaches. Players play for free and are supplied uniform shirts courtesy of the Kohala Branch of the Hawai'i Community Federal Credit Union. The name "biddy" refers to a little chicken.



*Courtside action in the five-to-six age bracket of Kohala's Biddy Basketball.*

**CC Update continued from page 5**  
new, fun and economically important ideas.

Again I ask what more can we do to balance our county budget without oppressive tax policies. One idea the council considered but voted down last term was to allow some kind of high-stakes bingo here or a lottery where the purchaser of the lottery ticket can designate what fund would receive the lottery player's winnings. Yes, there is opposition to any kind of gaming, but it is still an idea worth considering—though this might be a state program, not a county program.

There are also ways to lower our expenses that need county support. One such program to cheer about is Parker Ranch's Paniolo Power plan for both North and South Kohala. True, its off-grid plan won't happen overnight, but when it does launch, both North Kohala and South Kohala will have much at stake.

We also need to consider embracing a solid waste program that is focused on recycling and

composting, possibly with a pay-per-bag for landfill trash program, so as to avoid the high cost and long term financial risk of a mass burn incinerator.

Bottom line is we will all need to work together to address our collective county finances, and we had best start in on county budget discussions as soon as possible. **District 9 Contingency Relief Funds:** Upcoming Fund allocations will be given to North Kohala's Community Anti-Bullying Campaign; the School Garden Curriculum Programs at the North Kohala Elementary School, Middle School, and High School; a Community Composting Project; the Coqui Frog Project; an Ag Remediation program; the Wildlife Center; and the new North Kohala Radio Project.

For more information about any of the above matters or other council business, please call my office at 808-887-2043.

With much aloha,  
Margaret Wille  
Councilwoman for North  
and South Kohala

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## November is Buy Hawai'i Island Produce Month!

On October 15, the Hawai'i County Council passed Councilmember Margaret Wille's Resolution #550, "A Resolution to Promote Agricultural Sustainability by Naming November as Buy Hawai'i Island Produce Month." In this way, as an island 'ohana, we can support our farmers by limiting our purchase of fruits and vegetables to those grown on this island.

So when you reach for grapes or other off-island grown fruit and vegetables, INSTEAD divert your hand to the direction of the many fruits and vegetables that are locally grown.

Use this month to familiarize yourself with some local produce you may not be familiar with or accustomed to preparing.

Enjoy a month of "US – SUSTAINABILITY!"

## Additional District 9 Contingency Relief Fund Allocations

On October 15 the County Council passed three resolutions sponsored by Councilwoman Wille which are directed to North Kohala:

**Resolution 541:** \$2,000 grant for the North Kohala Coqui Coalition

**Resolution 542:** \$2,000 grant to the North Kohala Wildlife Center

**Resolution 543:** \$2,000 grant

to the North Kohala Resource Center for a local radio station

In November the council will vote on an additional resolution impacting North Kohala school garden programs. It would allocate \$3000 to the North Kohala public school system to support its school garden programs in the amount of \$1000 each to the elementary, middle and high schools.



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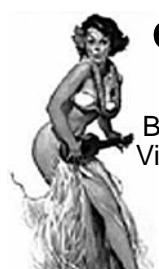
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## Stealing Rocks = Stealing History

By Toni Withington

Rock walls can be beautiful, but not at the cost of losing our history and culture. A recent event has shed light on a practice that has been going on for years: the stealing of rocks from undeveloped Kohala coastal lands for commercial masonry. Just recently, a locally-owned Kona company was caught piling rocks from historic sites for transport to rock wall building projects.

The incident triggered an outcry from Kohala groups involved in preserving historic sites and coastal access, and a determined drive to put a stop to the rock stealing. Lands along the leeward North Kohala coast have been identified as having the highest concentration of culturally valuable pre-contact historic sites in the state. Millions of dollars have been spent purchasing land to protect against development and disruption of the thousands of registered sites and the hundreds of ancient trails and burials along the coast.

On the morning of August 27 a crew of Hawaiian trail experts and an archaeologist from the Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail staff were searching for signs of the ancient Ala Loa, the trail that once

from six to over a hundred stones, some of which came from historic walls and the edging stones of the ancient trails.

The trail crew called the state enforcement office (The Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement, or DOCARE) of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) and Hawai'i County Police Department. Both agencies responded and interviewed the two men, who admitted they had been stacking rocks the previous day as well. The men were issued a warning to stop.

"Sites are being dismantled, trails are being dismantled. They are hauling away our history," said Rick

Gmirkin, the ranger for the Ala Kahakai Trail. In trying to locate and map the Ala Loa we are finding only craters where the rocks were once placed as margins for the compacted trails.

News of the incident has raised angry concern among Hawaiian groups in Kohala. The North Kohala Community Access Group

has started two projects— one to work with the DLNR to put signs along coastal unpaved roads pointing out that stealing rocks is a crime. Private owners of coastal lands will also be offered help at protecting sites. In addition, the access group wants to undertake a public information drive to bring attention to the stealing of rocks from historic sites, and to warn people who pay to have rock walls built to be fully aware of where the stones are coming from.

Taking material or altering historic sites or burials is a violation of state law subject to fines of \$500 to \$25,000 per day, forfeiture of equipment and transportation as well as a 10-year ban from all state and county construction projects.



—photo by Keith Wallis

*Hikers inspect one of 18 piles of rocks taken from or near historic sites along the Ala Loa (ancient trail) on state land near Red Hill. The rocks were stacked by employees of a Kona masonry company.*

circled the island. Crossing state-owned land between Kahua and Kioikalani ahupua'a they found several acres of land that had been picked over very recently, leaving only holes where stones had been. They came across two men, who said they were from Puna, stacking rocks for retrieval by a Kona masonry company. They found 18 piles of stones ranging in number

## Annual Craft Fair Recruiting Vendors

The Annual Kohala Holiday Craft Fair is slated for Saturday, November 29, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Crafters and food vendors are invited to contact Teresa Marques at 889-7117 for more details. The annual event is hosted by three clubs at Kohala High School; non-sponsoring clubs will perform and have booths. The deadline for vendor applications is Wednesday, October 29.

The Kohala Village HUB is a local, community-based non-profit organization whose goal is to provide services and space that support our community's needs.

The HUB is committed to incorporating the community's input now and continuously, so that it supports and enriches the community as a whole.

### We want to hear from our North Kohala Community

We are interested in hearing about our community's needs regarding:

- Economic Growth Through Agriculture
- Small Business Entrepreneurship
- Food Culture and Preferences of Kohala
- Building Community Collaborations and Partnerships with Community Organizations

**Please complete all surveys by November 8, 2014 and be entered for a chance to win gift certificates from local businesses**

For any questions, feel free to contact us at [food@kohalavillage.org](mailto:food@kohalavillage.org), 889-0404, 55-514 Hawi Road, Hawi, HI 96719



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or fill out a paper survey at the  
new Kohala Village HUB  
(Kohala Village Inn lobby)**

# Kohala's Gardens Beautify Our Landscape and Enrich Our Lives

By Anne Fojtasek

Gorgeous gardens don't have to have straight rows and uniform spacing, although some do. Part of what makes Kohala gardens so spectacular is their diversity and uniqueness, embracing all kinds of layouts and garden techniques. Like patterns embedded in a tapestry, the many styles of gardens in our district add to the richness, color and beauty of the land. And many of these works of art also contribute to the food we eat!

People often dismiss their gardening efforts as being unimportant. "I only have a few pots of herbs; that's all the growing I do," they say. Or, "This little frame isn't big enough to produce much." But every little bit helps, especially in these tough economic times, and even a small effort can yield big returns, in terms of flavor, nutrition and beauty. When asked why they garden, people mention the satisfaction they take in working the earth and the exercise that gardening provides—burning calories to produce calories, as the



*Jesus Solis displays papaya, pineapple, bananas, guava and fresh eggs from his yard. He also grows citrus, liliok, tomatoes, avocados, mangos, coconuts, and figs.*

—photo by Megan Solis  
a long chain of humans who mastered (or tried to master) the art of producing enough food to support their families. It gives us the magical sense of making something from nothing, or, at least, nothing but some tiny seeds and the ground which will be under our feet whether or not we



*Mary Beth and Sebastian Bartlett inspect one of their frames and find a watermelon. Mary Beth says grass in the frame protects the melon from the sun and helps keep it from losing too much moisture.*

saying goes.

Gardens offer a sense of connection to our planet and to other people who garden, and they confer this benefit twice over: both when we labor to make something grow and again when we view the results. Gardening takes us back to our roots in a very primal way. Our ancestors grew food to survive; at one time, most people gardened because they had to if they wanted to keep eating. Gardening puts us in touch with our place in

choose to plant something in it.

We all know that plants grow in the ground, but that in no way lessens the wonder and enchantment of seeing something we planted grow and flourish and produce, whether it be something to eat or something to admire for its loveliness. Working the earth calls to us, and answering that call gives a singular fulfillment.

In spite of the wide variety of gardening styles we use, Kohala gardeners have found some tricks and techniques that work for many people. Lots of gardeners, for example, have discovered the effectiveness of mulches, both to keep weeds at bay and to help prevent loss of moisture from the soil on hot summer days. "Mulching



*—photo by Bonnie Stevenson  
Bonnie Stevenson's garden grows a variety: kalo, bananas, turmeric, hibiscus, ginger, papayas, herbs, arugula and other salad greens.*

is essential," says Bonnie Stevenson, who uses her compost and even weeds she pulls to mulch her crops. She also finds that comfrey makes a good mulch—and she can blend it to make a poultice to apply to wounds and bruises. Another handy method is using larger plants to shade the smaller ones. "My arugula is happy in the shade of my papayas," Bonnie says.

**O r a n g e C l e g h o r n**  
mulches with grass clippings from her lawn but has also discovered that pieces of roofing tin can serve as a kind of mulch for an area where she wants to eliminate weeds before planting a new crop. She swears by the use of coffee grounds on her tomatoes; coffee grounds are good for lots of plants, but they do



*—photo courtesy of Melody Moore  
In addition to flowers, Melody also grows vegetables in her garden.*

**See Gardens, page 9**

**Kathie Babben**  
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**THE COQUI CORNER**

Several sites around North Kohala are active with coquis.

**Keokea Gulch and Niulii**

Coquis in this gulch are not as populous as before, but seem to have spread out covering more area, including Niulii. This is by far the worst problem we face in getting complete control of coquis.

**Pratt Road • Hawi Hill Road • Kapiko Estates**

The residents of Kapiko Estates have purchased their own back pack sprayer, and they take turns spraying the coquis on their own property. We congratulate them on their pro-active response and encourage others to follow their example!

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**Gardens, continued from page 8**

something special, she says, for tomatoes. And she has learned that the soil-sifting screen she uses to make a fine, soft dirt for small seedlings works well in a pinch for keeping cats and chickens out of a newly planted area until seeds there have a chance to grow.

Various people use wooden frames to contain mini garden plots, for different reasons. Gayle Harper is trying a new method with her frames to keep critters away from her plants: fastening sandpaper to the top edge. Slugs are said to dislike the rough texture of the sandpaper and won't cross it to get at the plants within. "I haven't had much experience with this method yet," she says, "but I'm trying it out, and so far, so good."

Gayle says she's also heard of putting salt or copper pennies or copper wire along the top edge of the frames to deter slugs.

Mary Beth and Scott Bartlett have a series of frames in their yard, containing



*Melody Moore doesn't need a pond to raise water lilies and water hyacinths; a large pot serves beautifully and can fit anywhere.*

asparagus, pineapples, watermelons, hot peppers and other crops. The frames help deter their dog from getting into the plants inside. And Laura Burkhart has used a small chicken wire fence in her frame to keep her chickens out. Fencing an entire yard can be expensive and a lot of work, but almost anyone can fence a frame, and this small, contained area can house a surprising number of plants. Laura also builds up the soil inside the box to produce a healthy growing environment.

Not everyone can farm on a large scale, but that needn't prevent us from growing part of our food. These Kohala gardeners and many others are helping to propel us toward the Eat Locally Grown

*Sat Carpio works in his pineapple patch, while his wife Elsie maintains a beautiful vegetable and flower garden on their Maliu Ridge property.*



—photo courtesy of Elsie Carpio

goal of 50 percent food self-sufficiency by 2018—and making Kohala more beautiful while they do it.



—photos by Melody Moore

*Orange Cleghorn waters the cosmos that bloom under her papaya trees. Tomatoes, lettuce, kale and peppers share space in her garden with ornamental plants.*



## Q & A with OUR COUNCILWOMAN MARGARET WILLE



**What 1st Term Accomplishment Are You MOST PROUD Of?** No question, the highlight of this term was opening the County Council video conferencing site in Kapa`au. There is great wisdom and forward thinking among the residents of North Kohala, and now, by way of the North Kohala video conferencing site, that mana`o is being shared island-wide and helping county government make better decisions for our future. The second most significant accomplishment was also in North Kohala: securing the funds to build out our new skate park.

**What's the MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE About Which You and Your Opponent DISAGREE?** The most pressing issue about which we disagree is whether the County Council should commit to a 20- to 30-year, \$125 million-plus mass burn incinerator contract, to burn our trash **versus** getting behind our ZeroWaste resource management policies and implementing serious materials recovery, recycling, reuse, and composting programs. My opponent supports the mass-burn incinerator. I stand for the ZeroWaste option creating high-value, cutting-edge green jobs and protecting our keiki from the air pollution, toxic ash residue and huge taxpayer debt that would accompany the proposed mass-burn incinerator.

**Honolulu SUPERPACS Are Spending Hundreds of Thousands of Dollars In Support of Your Opponent and In Attacks Against You. What's Up With All Their Off-Island Money Trying to Take Control of Our North and South Kohala Council Seat?** Yes, off-island big money shadow groups aim to buy control of our local government, by way of false and misleading ads, push polls and other negative campaign tactics. I am hopeful that an overwhelming majority of District 9 voters will see through the tricks of these big-shot powerbrokers and their anointed candidate and **reelect me** so I can continue working hard as the independent voice for North and South Kohala.

**VOTE TO RE-ELECT MARGART ON NOVEMBER 4TH!**

Paid for by Friends to Elect Margaret Wille 65-1158 Mamalahoa Highway Suite #8 PMB229 Kamuela, Hi, 96743

## Keiki Education Happens During Fall Break at 'Iole

The 'Iole ahupua'a was alive with children learning, laughing, and exploring this fall break. From October 6 to 10, sixteen 4th and

was rooted in Native Hawaiian cultural practices, with activities including oli, ha'a, hula, kalo farming, coconut frond weaving,



*Planting ipu for the next G.R.A.C.E. Learning Journey class.*

5th graders participated in Kohala Institute at 'Iole's first G.R.A.C.E. Learning Journey program, a five day educational immersion experience. G.R.A.C.E. stands for the five core values at Kohala Institute: Gratitude, Respect, Accountability, Courage, and Engagement. Throughout the program, students were invited to investigate what these values mean to them, to their community, and to the world around them through active exploration of a living classroom, the 'Iole ahupua'a.

The place-based curriculum

ipu planting, and makahiki games. Many of the students shared that being immersed in Native Hawaiian cultural practices was very meaningful to them and allowed them to feel a connection to their ancestors.

The custom curriculum for the program, which paired each value with a naturally occurring element, also included lessons in a number of different fields of study. As part of the Respect/Earth curriculum, students hiked in Waianaia Gulch, learning about stewardship and plant and animal identification,

and spent time in Bond Forest during a lesson about natural farming. They took part in a leadership workshop during the Courage/Fire module, and explored empathy through

theatre, movement, and poetry exercises while studying Gratitude and Space. Other highlights included teamwork challenge games, a scavenger hunt, soccer, meditation, improvisation, and reflective writing and drawing.

Students spent the week strengthening friendships and forming new ones, with eleven participants

ticipants and had the chance to be mentored by their facilitators.

The next G.R.A.C.E. Learning Journey, with similar curriculum geared toward 7th and 8th graders, will be offered at 'Iole during the upcoming spring break.



*The youth give their all in the Makahiki game tournament.*



*G.R.A.C.E. participants enjoy a scavenger hunt.*



*The kids learn about agriculture and culture through kalo.*



*Auntie Mele Waikiki teaches the children how to weave with coconut fronds.*



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## "Conscious Agriculture" Education Inspires Local Students

You may be familiar with the bright-eyed and enthusiastic permaculture interns who staff the Hawai'i Institute of Pacific Agriculture (HIP Ag) fruit and vegetable stand every Saturday morning at the Hawi Farmers Market. (If not, consider stopping by!) But are you aware of the work HIP Ag is doing with our keiki and island families, too?

Since its inception six years ago, HIP Ag has developed a variety of programs to foster the life skills needed to create a sustainable world. In addition to its permaculture internships for older students and continuing support for school gardens, HIP Ag works with North Kohala and other island schools to teach local keiki and families how to live in health and harmony on our planet. Instruction includes both ancient knowledge—second-nature to our forbears—and recent best practices to overcome the damage caused by the Industrial Age. HIP Ag teaches practical skills for farming, gardening, animal husbandry and soil and water conservation, as well as the mindset required to thrive in our changing world. Dashielle Kuhr, HIP Ag's director, describes their mission as fostering "conscious agriculture."

HIP Ag's Ha Ike Pono Field Trip program teaches sustainability through place-based learning at its diverse two-acre Polynesian garden located at 'Iole. Over 600 students participated last year, the first full year of operation at 'Iole. The field trip program has served students ages K through 12 in public, private, or homeschooled classes and summer programs, including Kohala Elementary School, Honoka'a Elementary School, Honoka'a Middle School,

Hawai'i Preparatory Academy Middle School, Kamehameha Schools and Kanu O Ka 'Aina. Students work in small groups and are guided through two to three different hands-on learning

trip experiences. An exciting planned expansion of HIP Ag's educational programs is to offer on-going farming experiences for older students interested in pursuing a farming career, followed

by apprenticeships under trusted island farmers to ensure that young farmers are fully prepared to succeed.

Support for HIP Ag's programs comes from a combination of private donations, grants and fund-raising—primarily through the annual Kohala 'Aina Festival, which is coming right

The 'Aina Festival will start with a Permaculture Convergence from 1 to 5 p.m., aimed at catalyzing sustainability island-wide. The Convergence will feature rotating workshops by island experts in Soil Fertility, Beekeeping, Seed Saving, Community Design, Plant Medicine and Hawaiian Culture, with additional informational tents to visit throughout the day. HIP Ag is excited to be introducing the first annual Young Farmers Forum this year, an event that will bring together student representatives from area high schools and working farmers from across the island chain to explore sustainable agriculture as an economically viable career path.

The Harvest Celebration will begin with a blessing and keynote speeches at 5 p.m. HIP Ag is preparing to feed an astounding 1,000 people from the land with a 100 percent locally sourced menu—perhaps the largest feast from entirely local food in North Kohala since the days of King Kamehameha. This traditional Hawaiian feast will feature the talents of several well-known island guest chefs including Casey Halpern, Executive Chef at Cafe Pesto; Allen Hess, Chef de Cuisine at the Mauna Lani Canoe House; and Executive Chef Donna Maltz. There will also be fresh coconuts, juices and snacks available at the Niu Lani Juice Bar throughout the day.

Again this year the Festival will offer music all day. Headliners include Nahko, a nationally renowned folk/rock singer with Hawai'i Island roots, and Hawai'i's own Ooklah The Moc. Other performances by Cas Hayley, Tubby Love, Kaahale and the Isness, DJ Conscious Riddims and other special guests will maintain the island mood. The line-up rounds out with hula from Halau Kukui Aloha o Kohala and African Drum and Dance. All proceeds will support HIP Ag's 2015 youth programs.



—photo by Maya Parish

*Students from Honoka'a Middle School gather with their Hawai'i Institute of Pacific Agriculture instructors during their Ha Ike Pono field trip in March 2014.*

modules during the four-hour session. Topics include plant identification, traditional uses and propagation of Hawaiian canoe crops, composting, nutrition, career opportunities, water and plant cycles, agroforestry and restoration.

This past year HIP Ag also launched an overnight farm camp-out program for middle school and high school students. Students visited HIP Ag's Halawa residential campus to laulima (work together), to malama (care for) the 'aina (land), and learn about sustainability. Camp-out students then harvested and prepared a 100 percent locally grown feast from the farm, enjoyed an evening campfire and spent the night. In the morning they visited sacred Kapanaia Bay for a history lesson and swimming.

Plans for 2015 are focused on working with STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) teachers to develop an integrated K through 12 curriculum to be offered in school classrooms, augmented by the hands-on field

up on November 8 at the site of the Kohala Country Fair. The 'Aina Festival marks the beginning of the makahiki season with a cel-



*HIP Ag students learn about the usefulness of mulch.*

bration of local harvest, young farmers and the growing movement for island-wide food sovereignty. This year's festival is much expanded and features a line-up of international and local musicians; educational workshops; a 100 percent locally grown Hawaiian style feast; and a Keiki Tent with age-appropriate workshops, fun, and interactive activities for all ages.

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## Weekly Events in November

Please note these events meet every week.

- |     |   |
|-----|---|
| Mon | 7 pm, Al-Anon mtg., lower level, Walker Hall, St. Augustine's, Laura, 884-5833.   |
| Mon | 7 pm, Narcotics Anonymous, Wylie Hall, Kalahikiola Church, 'Iole Road.  |
| Tue | 8-9 am, Heart's Reflection Sitting Meditation Group, Meditation Hale, 53-3988 Akoni Pule Hwy, mauka, east of hospital, by donation, 889-5151.   |
| Tue | 2:30 pm, Kendama Club, free, North Kohala library, 889-6655.  |
| Wed | 7 pm, Alcoholics Anonymous, Wylie Hall, Kalahikiola Church, 'Iole Road.   |
| Thu | 8-9:15 am, Vinyasa Flow Yoga w/ Maya Parrish, all levels, by donation, white tent at Kohala Institute at 'Iole, 889-5151.                       |
| Thu | 2-4 pm, Hawaiian weaving w/ Mele Waikiki (alternating coconut frond & lauhala), by donation, white tent at Kohala Institute at 'Iole, 889-5151. |
| Thu | 4-5 pm, Beginning Hula w/ Mele Waikiki, by donation, white tent at Kohala Institute at 'Iole, 889-5151.   |
| Thu | 7 pm, Narcotics Anonymous, Wylie Hall, Kalahikiola Church, 'Iole Road.  |
| Fri | 10 am, Preschool Story Time, free, North Kohala library, 889-6655.  |

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

## Learn to Make Bokashi

Calling all farmers and gardeners! St. Augustine's Green Faith Committee will be hosting a bokashi-making workshop on November 12 from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Walker Hall in Kapa'a. Bokashi is Japanese for "fermented organic matter." Cost is \$10, and participants will receive a bag of bokashi. Please call church office at 889-5390 to register, or call Lani Bowman at 889-5852 for more information or to register.

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*More Fair Photos . . . continued from page 1*



Valerie Barnes and Richard Liebmann of Sustainable Kohala tend to the silent auction.



The TJ Local Cuisine 'ohana keeps island cooking local.



*So many choices! It's hard to make a decision.*



A little boy enjoys a pony ride, one of many Kohala Country Fair attractions for keiki.



Organic farmer Cab Baber of Island Herbs Ag (right) shares information with fair goers on Bokashi, an effective micro-organism soil amendment and compost accelerator he's been producing on-island for 16 years.



Jeannievie and Leo Woods, owners of the new Kohala Grown Market and Farm Tours, display some of the locally grown produce they provide for sale every day in downtown Hawi.



A young visitor from Hilo swings in the North Kohala sun.



A young lady enjoys trying on bracelets with beautiful decorations.



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## Unblock Your Creative Flow Through Drawing Class Series

Inside each one of us is an artist. That artist either expresses freely or is simply dormant. How many of us have said to ourselves, "I can't draw," and just given up on our inner artist? With the natural beauty that surrounds us in North Kohala, we have more than enough inspiration to express ourselves creatively.

Learning to draw is simply re-learning how to see, or rather, unlearning the limited way that we observe the world around us. By relaxing our eyes and opening our minds, we choose to let go of limiting beliefs about what we are looking at. We can then rediscover light and shadow; we see colors hiding within other colors; we see the gracefulness of lines. As our ability to see comes alive so,

too, does our ability to translate what we see into a work of art. You owe it to your inner artist to give it the expression that it craves.



—drawing by Krisztina Samu

*Figure of a nude woman drawn by artist Krisztina Samu. Samu will be teaching drawing classes in Kohala in November 2014.*

participate is 18, and course fee is \$120. Included with your course fee are a pad of high quality drawing paper, an art board, Conté crayons and kneaded erasers, as well as a live (yes, nude) model. You WILL discover your inner artist, guaranteed.

Instruction will be provided by Krisztina Samu, who is a life-long artist as well as a licensed acupuncturist (unblocking the flow

of qi). Krisztina graduated from the San Francisco Art Institute in 1991 and before that attended Pratt Institute, The Moore College of Art and The Hussian School of Art. She has won numerous awards and scholarships for her artistic work and is also the graphic designer for the North Kohala and Waimea Business Directories. For more information or to register, call 938-8410.

## Kohala High Senior Celebration Coming to Keokea Beach Park

Kohala High School classes of 1969 to 1975 will be having a Senior Celebration with the "Attitude of Gratitude" at Keokea Beach Park Pavilion on Saturday, November 1, from 4 to 10:30 p.m.

We will have a live band to rock with; potluck pupus are requested.

Classmates, spouse, or guest are welcome to attend at the cost of \$10.00 per person attending.

*"Though the years may come and go and our faces change, still our hearts will hold thy memories of Kohala High."*

Please come and share the memories. If some aren't worth

remembering, you have a chance to create a new and happy one to cherish.

We have already lost a fair number of classmates over the years. It would be so good to reunite with you, and you will be counted in a fabulous turnout.

Send your name and \$10.00 for each person attending to:

Nani  
Box 172  
Hawi, HI 96719

If you can't make up your mind until the last moment, please still come. You can pay at the celebration.

## Live Manger Scene: Come Participate in the Story of Christmas!

Calling all churches, organizations and individuals to participate in this "CHRISTmas" story.

We need "actors," singers, builders, bakers and helpers for this effort. We are looking at two to three evenings prior to Christmas (tentatively December 18 and 19) to stage the Nativity scene.

We will need people to stand in for the parts (no talking or acting necessary). It would be fun to have some live, well-behaved animals and children. Does anyone have an infant? We also need musicians to play and sing carols. Homemade cookies would be a great addition to this outreach event.

The plan is to have the scene on the lawn of St. Augustine church in Kapa'a. People will drive in, stop, look at the scene, be served cocoa and cookies in their cars and leave. Those wishing to leave their cars will be directed to parking areas. We would also like to hand out a flyer with Christmas services.

Please contact Lani Bowman with information on services, people to help and other ideas at 889-5852, 895-5752 or lanibow@gmail.com.

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## KOHALA CALENDAR

### November

- 1 Sat 8:30 am, "Walking in the Wild" guided silent walks w/ Gavin Harrison, at `Iole, by donation, sign up by 8:30, call `Iole at 889-5151.
- 3 Mon 6-7 pm, CDP Growth Management Subcmte. Mtg., public invited, old Bank of Hawaii bldg., Kapa`au.
- 3 Mon 7 pm, Al-Anon mtg., every Monday, lower level, Walker Hall, St. Augustine's, Laura, 884-5833.
- 5 Wed 10 am, Homeschool Wednesday, ages 6-9, North Kohala library, 889-6655.
- 5 Wed 4:30-6:30 pm, CDP Public Access Subcmte. Mtg., Senior Center, Ted, 889-5801.
- 6 Thu 6-9 pm, Green Drinks Hawi, Kava Kafe, organic networking & pupus, Forrest, 987-2365.
- 6 Thu 6:45 pm, Kohala Hawaiian Civic Club Membership Drive., Kamehameha Park Gym conference rm., Pua, 895-7345.
- 8 Sat 1-9 p.m., 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Kohala 'Aina Festival, workshops, music, local grown feast, fundraiser for HIP Ag, \$20 adv./\$25 at door, 12 & under free, makai of 'Iole Rd., Kapa`au, tickets at <http://kohalaaina2014.bpt.me/>.
- 10 Mon 2 & 6 pm, Jewelry making with Sid Nakamoto, free, North Kohala library, 889-6655.
- 10 Mon 5-6:30 pm, CDP Action Cmte. Public Mtg., Senior Ctr., Kapa`au.
- 11 Tue 11 am, Veterans Day Ceremony presented by Kohala National Guard Alumni, Hisaoka Gym, public welcome.
- 12 Wed 8 am, No. Kohala Merchants Association Mtg., Resource Center, public invited, Richard, 889-1112.
- 12 Wed 5-6:15 pm, CDP Power, Viewplanes & Erosion Control subcmte. mtg, public welcome, Senior Ctr, Susan, 882-7611.
- 13 Thu 6:45 pm, Kohala Hawaiian Civic Club Membership Drive., Kamehameha Park Gym conference rm., Pua, 895-7345.
- 15 Sat 4:30-6:30 pm, Free Grindz--Hot Meal, under the Hawi Banyans, bring a friend, Kohala Baptist Church, Sondra, 889-5416.
- 17 Mon 4-6 pm, Parks & Rec Girls Age Group Softball Clinic, ages 9-14, Mon/Wed thru Dec 19, register Nov 3-14, free, Kamehameha Park, 889-6505.
- 19 Wed 10 am, Homeschool Wednesday, ages 6-9, North Kohala library, 889-6655.
- 19 Wed 4-5 pm, Thanksgiving Baking and Cards w/ Parks & Rec, register Nov 3-14, all ages, free, Hisaoka Gym, 889-6505.
- 20 Thu 1:30-2:30 pm, Kohala Hospital Auxiliary Mtg., Hospital Pavilion, new members welcome, Dixie, 889-5730.
- 22 Sat 11 am-12:30 pm, Free Community Meal, St. Augustine's Walker Hall, Thrift Store open 10 am-12:30 pm.
- 25 Tue 5 pm, CDP Parks, Water & Roads Subcmte, public welcome, Senior Ctr., [andi@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:andi@hawaii.rr.com).
- 25 Tue 6:30-8:30 pm, 'Talking Story about Death and Dying,' open forum, Kokolulu Cancer Retreat, Bobbi, 238-5681, Stephen, 328-2452.
- 26 Wed 4-5:30 pm, Restorative Yoga Therapy w/ Carla Orellana, by donation, Kohala Institute at 'Iole, 889-5151.
- 26 Wed 2:30 pm, Youth book and movie discussion group, "Holes," by Louis Sachar, grades 4-7, North Kohala library, 889-6655.
- 27 Thu 11 am-1 pm, Gospel of Salvation Church's Annual Thanksgiving Luncheon, Walker Hall at St. Augustine Episcopal Church, public welcome.
- 29 Sat 9 am-2 pm, Kohala Schools Annual Holiday Craft Fair, handmade crafts, baked goods, novelty items, shop & support our schools, KHS cafeteria, Teresa, 889-7117.

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

## AVID Helps Aspiring KMS Students

"Got all my notes ready with summaries"; "Good thing we did that math tutorial this week 'cause it's hard in that class"; "Ok, what was the title of that science lab we did this week? I need to add it to my assignment log"; "Did you finish your TRF (tutorial request form)?"

Sounds like the sweet music of students taking school seriously! That's what happens every week in Kohala Middle School's AVID elective classes. Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) is a global nonprofit organization that operates with one guiding principle:

**Hold students accountable to the highest standards, provide academic and social support, and they will rise to the challenge.** Started 30 years ago in one class in San Diego, California, with 32 students, AVID is now an international program that helps hundreds of thousands of students across the United States and worldwide.

Kohala Middle School's AVID program started in 2004. Recruitment is held every spring for promising 7th and 8th graders who meet the following criteria: would be the first generation in their family to attend college, in a group traditionally underrepresented in college, has high academic potential and family support for college aspiration, and has the desire and determination to succeed in a college and career pathway. Interviews are conducted, and students who would benefit from the AVID program are enrolled in the year-long AVID elective course.

In the AVID 7th and 8th grade

elective classes, students receive daily instruction and support to prepare them for college from a trained AVID elective teacher. Mrs. Jennifer DeSilva-Stevens is the AVID elective teacher at Kohala Middle School. AVID also impacts students school-wide as academic strategies like writing to learn, inquiry, collaboration, organizational skills, and critical reading (WICOR ) are taught in all classes by teachers who have been trained to use AVID strate-



—photo by Jenny Stevens

*The Kohala Complex Schools held an AVID 'Ohana Night on September 23 at the Kohala High Cafeteria. Kohala Middle School was well-represented, including the AVID students pictured above: Kyle Weyrick, Jada Hook, Morgan Swan, Grace Akau, Malia Donner, Sadey Alip, Kanoa DelaCruz and Emily Akau.*

gies in their specific content areas. In addition, all 6th graders at KMS are enrolled in a quarter long AVID strategies class that teaches them organizational skills, Cornell note taking, and goal setting.

If you have questions about the AVID program, please call Kohala Middle School at 889-7119 and ask to speak to Jenny DeSilva-Stevens, or Wendy Nickl, AVID school coordinator.

*This article is part I in a series about the AVID program at Kohala Middle School. Look for our next article in the November newsletter.*

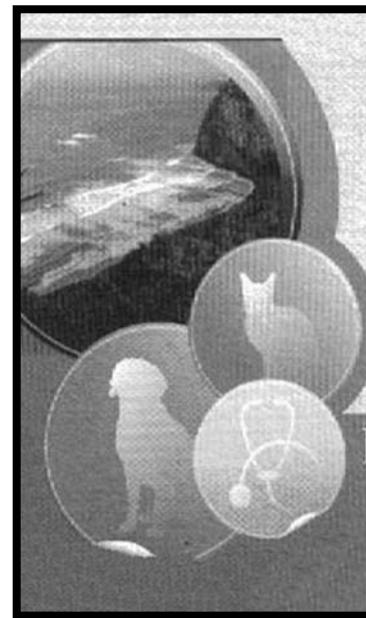
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MON-WED-FRI  
8:30-NOON / 3-5 PM



## "Got Pono?" Contest for All Students K-12

Kohala Unupa`a, with the County of Hawai`i's District Contingency Fund grant, is hosting a "Got Pono?" project for all school-age children from October 20 through November 20. The project, in keeping with October's Anti-Bullying/Domestic Violence Awareness Month theme, will include a poster and bumper sticker contest. Youth are invited to use their creative talents in writing and drawing to design their unique poster and/or bumper sticker to depict being pono, especially in the way we treat others.



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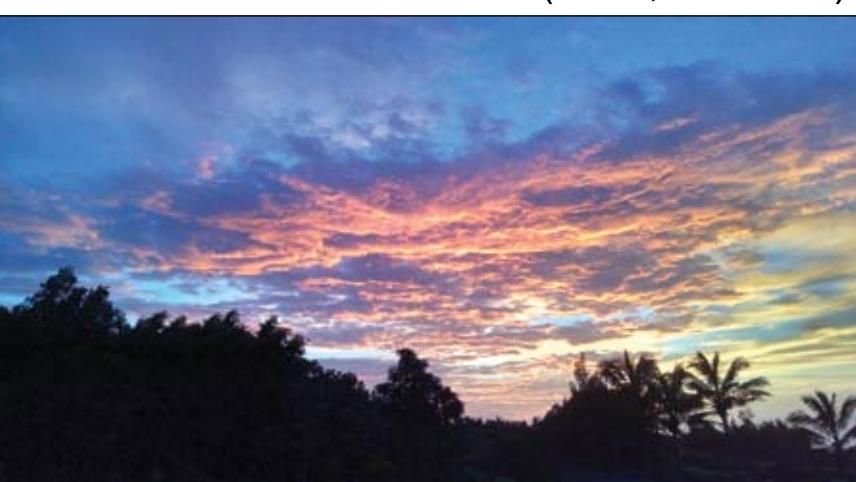
The phrase "Got Pono?" must be used. Catchy phrases, poems or thoughts are good!

Posters are to be 8 ½ inches by 11 inches in size, and bumper stickers must be 3½ inches by 8 ½ inches. Artwork should be clear and replicable. Designs and verbiage on bumper stickers should be large enough to be read from a distance. Youth may submit multiple entries, and all must be submitted by November 20. Pick-up will be arranged with schools; homeschooled or others please call contacts below for pick-up.

A \$100 first-place prize will be given to winners in four age groups (grades K to 2, 3 to 5, 6 to 8 and 9 to 12). One overall winner for each the poster and bumper sticker contest will be chosen, and their prize will be \$150. The overall winners will also have their work replicated and displayed throughout Kohala, the county and possibly the state! Winners will be announced, and prizes will be awarded at a mahalo ceremony in the beginning of December—date to be announced.

For more information please contact Kohala Unupa`a Director Amoo Kainoa-Ching at [jkching64@yahoo.com](mailto:jkching64@yahoo.com) or Lani Bowman, Project Coordinator, at [lanibow@gmail.com](mailto:lanibow@gmail.com), 889-5852 or 895-5753.

## The Hurricane That Wasn't (Here, At Least)



—photo by Tom Morse

Considering that Hurricane Ana had been predicted to move in our direction on Saturday, October 18, the weather was remarkably cooperative on the evening of October 17. The winds were still as this stunning photo was captured at sunset from Maliu Ridge.

## Kohala High School Soon to Offer College Courses on Campus

Kohala High School was recently awarded an Early College High School Program Grant from Hawai`i P-20 Partnerships for Education and the Harold K.L. Castle Foundation. Of the 26 proposals reviewed by the selection committee, Kohala High was one of the twelve schools selected from across the state.

The three-year grant will provide students with access to two college courses in year one and four courses in both years two and three. Students will have the opportunity to earn 30 college credits over the three-year period, meaning that they could conceivably graduate from high school with one year of college completed. Grant sponsors will cover the costs of tuition, fees and books for the first year and the majority of the costs in the next two years. The University of Hawai`i at Hilo and the Hawai`i Community College are serving as college partners. After this year, the goal will be to offer all courses during the regular school day. All courses will be offered as dual credit that will apply to both the high school

and college transcript.

For this academic year, one 100 level course is planned for the spring 2015 semester for students in grades 11 and 12. Another course will be offered in summer 2015 for interested 10th and 11th graders. The exact courses to be offered will be determined shortly. The focus will be in offering courses to meet the general core requirement at most colleges and/or pathway for industry certification.

Kohala High School's vision, "Creating a community of college- and career-ready, lifelong learners" aligns with the school's firm commitment to solidify a pipeline to higher education for students. "Ultimately, the school's goal is to have students possess college- and career-ready skills when they culminate their high school career," comments Principal Janette Snelling, "and this grant presents an exciting prospect to provide students with access to opportunities to build their confidence for college success."

For more information, parents should contact the school at 889-7117.

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## Kohala Reunion 2015 Calling for Historians, Classmates and Family

With the Kohala Reunion 2015 less than 10 months away, organizers are calling for help in preparing for the four-day celebration. Held every five years, the event fills the Kamehameha Park Complex with music, food, historic exhibits, games, crafts, tours of the community and more. It draws former Kohala residents and family members back and shares Kohala's rich history with the new generations.

Announcement of the July 3 to 6 dates in 2015 was sent to every North Kohala mailbox and to outside former attendees a few months ago; registration forms will be mailed and available by email next month. The busy organizing committee is seeking help in several areas.

Since some Kohala High School graduating classes and many local families choose to time their reunions with the event, special spaces are made available near the activities for the convenience of groups. Six sites are still available. Spaces for tents up to 20 feet by 20 feet can be reserved by contacting Kathy Matsuda at 889-5801 or Dennis Matsuda at 333-2724.

The Hisaoka Gym will be filled with historic and cultural displays, and each day will focus on a major era. Because the year 2015 will mark the 40th anniversary of the closing of the sugar plantation, a new era of Kohala's history

will be featured on the third day, called the Post-Plantation Period – 1975 to Present. Not too much has been published or collected about this time period, so people with an interest in history or a collection of photos and memorabilia are encouraged to work with a small group assembling material for the display on the gym walls and tables.

"Lots has happened during this time: the Kohala Task Force; the return of ranching, orchards and nurseries; the native Hawaiian cultural revival; the environmental fights over diesel power plant and the water line for the resorts; tourism and adventure tours; saving the coastline; many new businesses. These all need documentation to add to our rich history," said Toni Withington, a member of the reunion committee. To add to this project, contact her at 884-5476.

Day One of the reunion will highlight Hawaiian culture and history prior to 1778, and the missionary, ranchers and farmers era. Day Two will feature the Plantation Era, 1863 to 1975, and Day Four will focus on Kohala's future.

For information on setting up additional exhibits in the gym on historic or current activities, contact Fred Cachola at 753-8896 or Leilani Scovel at 884-5037.

To drum up interest in the July reunion, a Pre-Reunion Pot-

luck Lunch is being planned for O'ahu on February 15. Anyone who identifies with Kohala in any way is being invited. The event will be held at Aiea State Park at the top of Aiea Heights Drive from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Organizers

are encouraging Kohala folks to spread the news to relatives, classmates and former Kohala residents on O'ahu. For more information or questions about the luncheon, contact Fred Cachola at 735-8896 or Connie Chun at 623-9581.

## Car Wash Helps Fund O'ahu Swim Meet

By Vickie Kometani

*Mahalo Kohala for supporting Liquid Aloha Aquatics' car wash and yard sale fundraiser. We hoped that Ironman day, October 11, might be a good day since Akoni Pule was closed...and we were right!*



—photo by Ann Marie Wolin

Thanks to St. Augustine Episcopal Church for providing the location and to everyone who brought their cars and trucks, wandered the yard sale, or ate a delicious chocolate covered banana.

The team will be using their hard-earned monies to attend the next state swim meet coming up this December on O'ahu.

Pictured L-R are Ashtin Hart, Michelle Weyrick and Kai Birdsall.



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## KHS Girls Enter Swim Season with Strong Team

The Kohala High School swim season begins November 17, 2014 and runs until February 22, 2015. This year the girl's team will feature senior Kassie Kometani, the BIIF (Big Island Interscholastic Federation) 50-yard freestyle champion, along with veteran USA swimmers junior Yukie Zbytovsky and freshmen Marvelanne Clark and Naomi Ney from the Liquid Aloha Aquatics swim team. These girls have been swimming together for the past five years as USA swimmers, and this will be the first year of being together on the high school team. They are hoping to make a big splash in individual as well as relay team events. They want to thank the Kohala community for supporting their fundraisers throughout the years, providing them the opportunity to attend off-island meets.



—photo: Lani Eugenio

L-R: Junior Yuki Zbytovsky and senior Kassie Kometani, Big Island Interscholastic Federation 50-yard freestyle champion, will be swimming together on the 2014-2015 Kohala High School swim team. Team members Naomi Ney and Marvelanne Clark are not pictured.

The Kohala High girl's relay swim team will probably be one of the teams to watch this BIIF season with these veteran swimmers. Kassie's specialty is the freestyle and butterfly events; Yuki can swim butterfly, breast stroke, back stroke and freestyle; Marvelanne specializes in back stroke, breast stroke and freestyle; and Naomi is solid in breast stroke and freestyle.

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**Dr. Jonny's Health Tips:**

Are artificial sweeteners better than real sugar? Absolutely not! The most common artificial sweetener is aspartame. Aspartame was originally approved for human consumption by the FDA in 1981 with great controversy. Several studies at the time recommended that it not be approved, but the FDA decided to allow it in dry goods. Also known by names such as Nutri-sweet and Equal, there have been 90 recorded adverse reactions to aspartame including headaches and death. Anyone that is not diabetic should use natural sweeteners like honey. If you are diabetic, a great natural alternative is stevia.

**For more information, contact Dr. Jonny at Kohala Chiropractic 938-3888**

## Positive Action Planned to Combat Crystal Meth in Kohala

It is of no surprise to many of us that the drug "crystal meth" (crystal methamphetamine, or "ice") is once again rampant in our community. After years of advocacy work through TEAM Kohala, Kohala Coalition Against Drugs and others the problem seemed to decline. Recently, some have stated that "the ugly dragon is rearing its head, this time with a vengeance." Users of this most-addicting drug are becoming younger and younger, dealers are closer to home, more families are being broken apart and crime is on the increase. Many of us say enough is enough! Many of us also remain in denial and shame because of this drug.

It is time to come together as a

community. We in the faith community feel it is imperative to join in prayer. We need to pray not in condemnation for those who have allowed the drug to be a part of their life but rather in love. We need to combat, as people of faith, the demonic hold this drug has on our families, friends and community.

All people of faith regardless of religious affiliation, if any, are invited to join in prayer. The first event will be on Wednesday, November 5. You are invited to fast and pray that day, holding all those in our community with addiction to crystal meth and ice dealers in prayer. A one-hour prayer gathering from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. will be held outside

understanding, we will come to better know our role as stewards of Kohala's natural resources.

Space is limited, and registration is required to participate in the workshop. You can register at kalanicoakley@yahoo.com or call 987-2298. All participants are invited to attend a pre-dive workshop; please call for details. This workshop is funded by the Hawai'i Tourism Authority through a grant secured by Malama Kohala Kahakai.

## Spear Fishing Workshop Will Teach Hawaiian Cultural Practices

Local spear fisherman and waterman Jeff Coakley will offer another spear fishing workshop October 31. "Community-based stewardship is proving to be an effective way to manage fisheries around the Pacific and here on this island," says Jeff.

The class will share proper spearing techniques and the cultural attitudes of taking only what is needed to feed one's family. Jeff feels that with education and

## Library News

### Making Jewelry at the Library



Jewelry artist Sid Nakamoto will demonstrate a simple and beautiful jewelry design for the next North Kohala Public Library Adult and Teen craft program on Monday, November 10. Sid will offer two sessions of the same program—at 2 p.m. and at 6 p.m. Materials will be provided for participants to create their own jewelry pieces. Due to the popularity of Sid's jewelry workshops, a limit has been placed on the number of participants. Call the library at 889-6655 to register for the afternoon or evening session of this program.

North Kohala Public Library's adult and teen craft programs are free, and materials are donated by the artist or the Friends of the Library. The library is located adjacent to Takata Grocery Store in Kapa'au.

Please call the library three weeks in advance of the program if you require a sign language interpreter or other special assistance.

Kamehameha Gym in the courtyard. Please bring a chair if you are not able to stand, also an umbrella if it's rainy. The group will be led in prayer. This is not a gathering to discuss the problem, vent or share testimonies. It is a gathering of people of faith to raise our voices to pray for the bondage this drug has on our loved ones, friends and community members to be lifted!

Hopefully people in attendance will choose to continue this effort, to lift up those whom we love who are enslaved by this drug. We need to work together in love for the good of our community, loved ones and our children's future! There is no formal group or religious affiliation in charge.



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