

Vol.14, No. 10

October 23, 2015

Gas Station Change in Ownership to Bring New Services

Although the closing of Shige's Service Station in Hawi may have come as a shock, owners Harold and Corrine Higa chose their replacement carefully. As of October 1, the service station on the corner of Akoni Pule Highway and Hawi Hill Road has become Ohana Fuels and Minit Stop.

Ohana Fuels, supplied by Hawaii Petroleum, has locations on Maui and the Big Island. Kimo Haynes, president of Hawaii Petroleum, emphasizes two points of pride for his company. They are happy to report the gasoline they sell is top-tier rated, a high-quality fuel that improves fuel economy. In addition, through their "Fuel Up, Do Good" program, a portion of the money earned from each sale of gasoline is donated once each quarter to support a local non-profit such as the Food Basket on the Big Island, the Maui Food Bank, Hospice of Hilo and Boys and Girls Clubs on both islands.

Along with fuel sales, the new business will include a store, the **See Shige's, Page 3**



Photo by Tom Morse

Kimo Haynes, Harold Higa, Corrine Higa and Lloyd Leong at the ceremony to mark the closing of Shige's Station and the opening of Ohana Fuels and Minit Stop in Hawi, September 30, 2015.

Poetry on the Radio



Photo courtesy of Eila Algood

Eila Algood, host of Women's Voices, with guest and Hawi poet Laura Burkhart in the KNKR 96.1 FM studio, October 7, 2015.



Photo by Christine Richardson

Auntie Jean Matsuda (left) enjoys a laugh with Harold and Corrinne Higa. The Higa and Matsuda families grew up together in Camp 17.

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Maliu Road just mauka of Akoni Pule Highway.

By Cindy Morse

TTM Home Visiting Program's Play Day at the Park

Caregivers from the Tutu and Me Traveling Preschool (TTM) Home Visiting Program joined staff member Lani Bowman at Kamehameha Park on Friday, October 2, for their initial "Play Day at the Park".

Bowman notes, "I came equipped with all sorts of games and activities but was happy to see that our keiki really enjoyed playing with each other best of all. Play Day at the Park gives children in our Home Visiting

Program a chance to get to know other keiki and develop friendship skills. Parents and caregivers really enjoy the opportunity to meet other caregivers who are going through similar experiences, and have a chance to enjoy each other's company while as they supervise their keiki."

After playtime, keiki enjoyed a nutritious snack and then headed off to the North Kohala Public Library. Families were treated to story hour with Aunt

Leilani and made adorable Halloween cats.

"Play Day at the Park is a great way for people to learn more about TTM's new Home Visiting Program and make new friends," added Bowman.

Play Day at the Park will be held on the first Friday of the month from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. and is open to caregivers and their keiki. Caregivers must be present and responsible for their own keiki.

Tutu and Me's Home Visiting Program provides services to caregivers and their keiki ages birth to five years old. The program is free and offers caregivers support as their keiki's first teachers, and provides educational resources from Tutu and Me Traveling Preschool. For more information about the TTM Home Visiting Program or Play Day at the Park, please call or email Bowman at: at 365-3157 or lbowman@pidfoundation.org

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Shige's, continued from Page 1

Minit Stop, offering food such as fried chicken, sandwiches, salads, and bentos prepared fresh on the premises. Food preparation will mean adding a certified kitchen. Hawaii Petroleum vice president of business development Lloyd Leong says that building the kitchen and getting everything ready to open could take up to a year. The new owners plan to keep the same footprint; the Minit Stop will be where the service bays are now.

Four of the Shige's employees have already been hired to work at Ohana Fuels, and there are plans to hire more help from the Kohala community. The new manager is Bridget Maria, transferring to Hawi from Kawaihae.

The Minit Stop offers a loyalty card to allow customers to earn points that can be redeemed for items in the store, as well as a five-cent discount on each gallon of gas purchased at any Ohana Fuels station on Maui or the Big Island. The rewards card is free and can be picked up at any Minit Stop location, along with instructions on how to use it.

There has been a gas station at that corner since at least 1944, with an old photo showing the Aloha Service Station located closer to Akoni Pule Highway.



Photo by Christine Richardson
(Left to right) Jericho Berdon, Kekoa Werden, Cammeson Carlos-Ellazar show their playful protest of the Higa's retirement.



Photo by Christine Richardson
(Left to right) Jordan Kaneshiro and Julius Aleta show their support for the Higa's as employers.

The building was torn down and rebuilt in its current location when Shigeru Higa purchased the station in 1962.

Shige's has been a landmark in and contributor to the community for decades. Harold and Corrine operated the station for 31 years, and Harold's father Shigeru operated it for 22 years before that, for a total of 53 years of service from their family.

It seems their replacement plans to serve the Kohala community in a variety of new ways.

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Kohala Ditch Update

On October 6, 2006, the earthquake that hit Hawai'i Island disabled the agricultural ditch used to carry water to the farms of North Kohala. It seemed an impossible task to fix all that was wrong. However, a group of dedicated community members and ditch users were convinced it could be done.

With the help of the federal and state governments (especially Hawai'i State Civil Defense), Surety Kohala, Kamehameha Schools and the North Kohala community, it was done. In the fall of 2008 those of us whose farms and lives are dependent on the flow of low cost water to make our livelihoods and lives possible had that water flowing to us again. At the time of completion, North Kohala was touted as a "model for community action".

On August 6 of this year, a community group met again. Most of the people attending were present for the weekly meetings of the Ditch Restoration Committee and in addition, representatives of Surety, Kohala Ditch Foundation and Kamehameha Schools were present. The issue before us now is the need to assure the continuation of the water in the ditch and to seek the best entity to manage the ditch as Surety begins to wind down its Kohala operations (a process that will take several years).

At the end of the meeting agreement had been reached on several key points. First, the group

acknowledged the necessity to find a working organization to continue the ditch management. Second, the unanimous decision of the group was to move forward with a local organization to be created by the users of the ditch. To that end, sixteen individuals attended a meeting Wednesday morning, October 14,

that will take several years).

The discussions at the meeting covered many issues. The meeting stayed focused on the need for the ditch community to be proactive to evaluate and decide between the different entities, finding which one will best suit the needs of the agricultural water users. Other issues



Courtesy of Margaret Wille

Kohala citizens concerned about the Kohala Ditch met to discuss future management of the ditch. Decisions for new management must be made as Surety Kohala Corp., the current manager, winds down operations in Kohala.

Front row (left to right) Sheila Ramos, Kije Hazelwood, Margaret Wille, Lani Eubanks, Bill Shontell

Back row (left to right) Jim Pedersen, Kirk Eubanks

regarding the future of the management of the Kohala Ditch. Present were users; prior users; non-users; and representatives of Kamehameha Schools, Surety Kohala and county government. The meeting had been called to begin the process of selecting which kind of entity would be best to manage the ditch as Surety winds down its operations in North Kohala (a process

raised were tabled so that focus could be maintained on this basic decision, which then will allow the discussion of the many other decisions that must be made.

Within the group several people volunteered to become a subcommittee investigating the possible organizational options available, and were charged with reporting back to the group as a whole on the

pros and cons of the various options. That group will begin its work this fall and should report back to the larger group early in 2016. Anyone with a stake in agricultural water from the Kohala Ditch interested in being included in this working group can contact Kije Hazelwood at kiejhaze@yahoo.

No date has been set for the sub-group's first meeting, though it is anticipated to be sometime in November. Anyone interested in staying informed of group meetings, decisions and recommendations should also let Kije know at the above email.

The members of this first exploratory committee are Jeff Allen, Lani Eubanks, Josie Sweeney, Sheila Ramos, Imiola Lindsey, Susan Barnes, Bill Shontell and Kije Hazelwood. Councilwoman Margaret Wille, who attended the meeting, offered any assistance she might be able to give to move the work along.

The community has a great opportunity to move forward carefully and establish the right organization for the users of the ditch. Currently there is the luxury of time and energy to do this right and create the management structure for the ditch that really works. There is time to formulate a plan that meets criteria for the sustainable water use and preservation that will be so necessary in the coming years. All users, ex-users and potential users are encouraged to get and stay involved.

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Minit Stop Hawi is coming soon! Minit Stop will be adding a full kitchen and convenience store within the former Shige's building. When it's completed, join us for our famous Minit Stop Fried Chicken, bentos, deli sandwiches, salads, and more! All made fresh daily on-site!

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"When we decided to retire, we wanted to ensure that whomever took over our station would be a good neighbor and community partner. Corinne and I felt that Hawaii Petroleum, with their Ohana Fuels brand and Minit Stop Stores, were the best fit for our friends and family in Hawi. I can now enjoy "retirement" with all the projects I have to finish at home!" - Harold Higa

Ohana
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Letters

Mahalo for Supporting Keiki Yoga

Dear Editor:

Keiki Yoga Kohala would like to thank all those who attended our third annual benefit as well as our hosts, Hawai'i Island Retreat, volunteers and sponsors Under the Bodhi Tree, Outside Hawai'i (Mauna Kea Beach Club), Yoga Centered and our guest teacher Maya Parish.

Attendees enjoyed three yoga classes and a mostly-organic, locally-sourced Indian-themed lunch buffet including homemade chai. Proceeds from the event provide a portion of our budget and will help to cover the stipend for our newest addition to the team, yoga teacher Chelsea Morriss, Yoga Ed certified with a master's degree in early education.

The curriculum is based on the nationally recognized Yoga Ed program which brings physical fitness to kids: increasing their balance, strength and flexibility. The program also helps children self-regulate. On program surveys they often report feeling "more calm" after doing yoga.

KYK is a sponsored project of the North Kohala Resource Center, which provides a tremendous amount of support in locating and securing funding, including several grants. Much of our budget comes from local donations from individuals and businesses alike. We would like to thank our supporters and the NKCRC for helping us continue to share yoga with our community's keiki.

In gratitude,
 Jamie Belmarez
 Chelsea Morriss
 KeikiYogaKohala.com



Photo courtesy of Keiki Yoga Kohala

Chelsea Morriss of Keiki Yoga Kohala instructs third grade students in a pose to practice balance and focus. Currently in its ninth year, Keiki Yoga Kohala brings yoga to more than 350 students and their teachers at Kohala Elementary.

Police Department Update

Make Halloween Safe

The Hawai'i Police Department would like to provide some safety tips for the members of the North Kohala community with Halloween coming up very shortly.

One of the most important safety tips for Halloween trick-or-treating is having an adult supervising children at all times, especially when there is vehicle traffic. Not having an adult looking out or monitoring your children could also be a violation of the law.

Another safety tip for Halloween is making sure that your child's costume is safe for them. Their costumes should allow for easy breathing, should fit right to prevent tripping or heat exhaustion, should allow for clear and unobstructed vision

and be highly visible.

Parents along with children should have flashlights readily available to illuminate walking surfaces at night as well as to provide a warning to motorists of your location from a greater distance. Having glow type sticks attached to your child's costume is another way to increase their visibility at night.

Parents who are driving during Halloween should in turn be aware of pedestrian traffic when driving through neighborhoods and should yield to pedestrian right of ways. Motorist should be patient, expect delays and obey all traffic laws.

Parents and trick-or-treaters should stick to trick-or-treating in neighborhoods that they are familiar and stay away from

homes with poor lighting to prevent falls and injury. Unfamiliar homes can also be dangerous as there might be dogs on the property which may bite unsuspecting children.

Once trick-or-treating is done, parents should examine the candy which their child has received to make sure it was not tampered with and is safe to eat. Parents should also stress to their kids to not eat any candy that has not been checked by them while they are trick-or-treating. Please have a safe and fun Halloween.

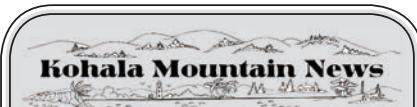
For further information on this month's topic or any other concerns please contact Officer K. Kauahikaua, Jr. at (808) 889-6540, or officerkauahikaua@gmail.com.

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 accommodated.

November Deadlines:
Ads & News: 11/6/2015
Publication date: 11/20/15

December
Ads & News: 12/11/15
Publication date: 12/26/15



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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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County Council Update

From the Desk of District 9 Councilwoman Margaret Wille

Ag Tourism, Ethics Board, Solid Waste Management, Bus Route and Skate Park Top Priorities

DON'T FORGET: TEMPORARY RELOCATION OF THE NORTH KOHALA VIDEO-CONFERRING SITE:

Until January 2016 our North Kohala videoconferencing site will be located at the conference room adjacent to Hisaoka Gymnasium. How about coming in to testify or observe at the next Council Committee meeting day, November 3, or full council meeting on November 4?

Here are some of the items I have coming up at these meetings:

1. Discussion by Director Kanuha on the COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PLANS AND THE ACTION COMMITTEES. How do you think these bodies are functioning? Are you aware that the Planning Department has cancelled every other Action Committee meeting because the Department has other priorities? Let the Council hear from you. (Expected to be before the Planning Committee on November 3 – call for time).

2. AG-TOURISM BILL:

I will be introducing this bill, following up from the previous Council when Council Member Zendo Kern introduced this bill but it never made it out of Council. Some of the issues here are: Should there be one-size-fits-all standards or should standards depend on whether it is a minor or major operation? Should ag-tourism be allowed when the access road is not a dedicated county or state road? Should ag-tourism be allowed when the gross profits from ag-tourism exceed those of the agricultural operation? (Expected to be before the Agriculture, Water, Energy, Sustainability Committee on November 3 – call for time)

3. OTHER BILLS BY COUNCILMEMBER WILLE NOW BEFORE THE COUNCIL:

A. CHARTER AMENDMENT TO CHANGE COMPOSITION OF THE ETHICS BOARD AND THE SELECTION PROCESS:

My bill would advance a Charter Amendment requiring voter approval for a change in the way the Ethics Board is



Courtesy of Margaret Wille
Margaret Wille

composed and how members to the board are selected.

Currently the Mayor appoints all members of the board, subject to confirmation by the Council. There are now a total of five seats on the board, however the mayor has only appointed three members and they are all from Hilo side of the island.

This proposed charter amendment would increase the number of seats to nine. Each council member would propose two candidates and the mayor would have a choice of one of these two candidates, again to be confirmed by the County Council. What do you think? Are you O.K. with the current consolidation of power by the mayor with respect to appoint-

ment of ethics board members? Or do you prefer more diversity, as here proposed?

B. SOLID WASTE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT:

This bill would give the director of the department of environmental management more discretion about trucking of landfill rubbish from transfer stations to one or the other of our landfills. Just because of the way the County's contract with Waste Management is set up, this legislation is expected to save us taxpayers \$50,000 - \$70,000 a month.

NEW BUS ROUTE FOR NORTH KOHALA:

I'm still working on this new bus route, hoping to increase the number of trips per day from what I originally thought possible.

C. MORE FUNDS FOR THE SKATE PARK:

Last term I allocated \$35,000 towards construction of the North Kohala Skate Park. After that the Parks and Recreation Department determined that more funds for labor were needed to make this happen (that department has agree to provide all materials.) At the December 14 council meeting I expect to allocate another \$35,000 for labor costs towards this project. This funding will ensure the project happens – although additional community donations and in-kind assistance will help make this skate park more of a success.

To find out more about the above items or to receive our District 9 Newsletter, call or email my office list:

808-887-2043
Margaret.Wille@mac.com

With much aloha,
Margaret Wille

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The Takata Store History

Republished from Ke Ola magazine, January-February 2013 issue, with permission of both the author, Hadley Catalano, and the publisher.

Shiro Takata had no interest in working in his father's grocery, K. Takata Store, during his childhood in North Kohala in the 1930s and 40s. He'd much rather play sports outside, and as the fourth son of Keizo and Hatsuko Takata, he didn't have the same chores and obligations as his older brothers. "I was the least dependable," Takata joked about his work ethic at the time. "But after I graduated high school in 1948 my family wanted me, no other sibling, to work in the store. I was surprised."

A labor of love, Shiro's parents and older brothers were ready to pass the torch to the younger generation. The store, which today serves as an important narrative and testament to Kohala's resilient history, had already been serving the community for 25 years.

K. Takata Store, founded in 1923, by Keizo Takata, a few storefronts down from the old Hamada Hotel. A year or so later, Takata purchased the foreclosed hotel, and expanded his clothing store to a grocery store.

The store's history (which was compiled by Kim Takata and the North Kohala Cookbook Committee) dates back to the beginning of the 1900s, after John Hind engineered the construction of the Kohala ditch to feed

his sugar cane fields at Hawi Mill and Plantation in Ho'ea. It was shortly after the community began to experience a vast modernization with improved roads, hydroelectric plants, and electricity that a young Japanese salesman settled in Kohala. Keizo Takata, selling imported traditional kimono, went door to door at the camps offering his wares until he met his future wife Hatsuko Fujimori, who was working as a server for the Hind family. The couple soon married in 1922 and Keizo, speaking little English, found his perfect match in his intelligent and hard-working wife. A year later the blossoming businessman opened a small shop, selling kimono in the town center of Hawi (where the Cherry Blossoms building

stands today).

Keeping up with the changing times, the couple soon adopted Western ways and supplied the developing community with more up-to-date styles and footwear, and began offering canned goods and small merchandise items. Aware that the Bank of Hilo had recently foreclosed on the two-story Hamada Hotel down the street, Keizo seized the opportunity to purchase the broken down, collapsing building. And with the help of his wife, who translated and negotiated the sale, the pair settled and signed on the property while expecting their fourth child. Wasting no time, the duo renovated the building and opened

See Takata, Page 8



K. Takata Store, founded in 1923, by Keizo Takata, a few storefronts down from the old Hamada Hotel. A year or so later, Takata purchased the foreclosed hotel, and expanded his clothing store to a grocery store.

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Takata, continued from Page 7
K. Takata Store, servicing the Kohala community in what is now the Bamboo Restaurant and Gallery in Hawi town. "There were plenty of people and activity in Kohala at that time," Shiro Takata recalled, noting that his parents raised their seven children in the store, living in the old hotel. "Nobody traveled so we did the majority of our business at the plantations. We would drive to camps in our old Ford truck, take orders, and make deliveries."

Originally the store was designed for counter service, customers would enter and order items displayed on shelves. Over the years the Takatas, taking note from growing businesses in Hilo, adapted to a self-service shop, selling strictly groceries. While the store was running at full speed, Pearl Harbor had a devastating impact on the family. Keizo, being Issei, not an American national, was forced into a Japanese internment camp on the mainland. The eldest son was drafted into the war, leaving Hatsuko and the six remaining children to run the store and manage on their own. "In an attempt to make more money, my mother began making kimono again for the new service men, as a designer gift for them to take home to their girlfriends and wives," Takata said. "When my father returned he wasn't the same, he has lost his drive and ambition and my mother became the new 'boss'."

So upon Shiro's graduation and his parent's call to duty in the family business, he picked up the slack, taking over for his elder brothers who were burnt out on the business. "I thought to myself, if I'm going to be stuck here, I might as well make the most of it and do the best I can," as he explained how he adopted the motto, 'Everyone should leave the building smiling.' Armed with a new objective, it took Shiro only a few years to meet Clara Ogi, the owner of Pualani, a beauty shop a few storefronts down, who would make his life and business even more successful. In the mid-1940s Clara, not yet

20, with the help of her brother's money from the family's coffee farm in Holualoa, bought a closed beauty shop in Hawi and soon transformed it into a gainful commercial operation.

The couple wed in 1955 and continued to work at their respective jobs, while living in the Takata store building. Two years later their first son, Rayton, was born, followed by Jerry in 1959. During this time it became increasingly difficult to conduct business in Kohala due to the closure of Māhukona port (items

"She made the business possible, she was my biggest supporter," Shiro said of his wife, who helped the store thrive with her friendly demeanor, community investment, and love of the family business. "My mother was the backbone of this store," Jerry, who is now the store manager and purchasing agent explained of his mother, who won the 2011 Citizen of the Year award from the North Kohala Merchants Association. "My father did the business end, however this store was

they followed a similar path to his own, taking up a later interest in the store and observing the day-to-day activities of the business, an interest that made their father happy. The business grew and developed and in 1992 the Takata family relocated the store to a family property a short distance from their current location, up Akoni Pule Highway.

The new building brought with it a fresh face to the grocery store, ample parking, a wider range of products, and a larger volume of merchandise for the isolated neighborhoods of Kohala. "We were very excited about the change, never could have imagined it. We wanted to be the best convenience store we could be," Shiro said. "People here are so appreciative of the business; this is the joy of serving this community." Takatas have been acting as any good business in a small town would, supporting the youth of Kohala, providing donations, and offering a Banzai Card to support community projects. The small mom and pop shop has clearly expanded, now offering locally grown produce, a variety of stock according to customer demands, and employs 20 people, including the next Takata generation, Rayton's son Jake.

"There is a lot of hard work that goes into this store," Jerry explained. "Like the past in Kohala, we never know what the future will bring. We have loyal employees and customers and we are proud to be able to serve Kohala as a community store."



From left, Shiro Takata, brother Masa, mother Hatsuko, brother Takuji, father Keizo, and former Governor George Ariyoshi – circa 1979.

were now trucked from Hilo). Keizo and Hatsuko were ready to retire to O'ahu and kept insisting that Shiro buy the business. It was Clara who took her earnings from Pualani Beauty Shop and invested in Takata Store.

my mother's life. She worked here every day, and had to retire in 2012 due to her health, or she would have kept on working." When Jerry and his brother returned from college on the mainland, Shiro explained that



November is Wild about Fruit & Mushrooms!

Plant Sale: Fruit trees and shrubs, Sat., Nov. 7 at the Hawi Farmers' Market, 8-noon

Take a Walk on the Wild Side Food foraging walk and talk with author Sunny Savage, Niuli'i, 9-noon, Sun., Nov 8th

Flavor of Hawaii Farm Tour, Hawi, 9-11:30, Thurs, Nov. 12th

Chocolate Chocolate! at Hawi Block Party, Sat. Nov. 14, 7th annual Hawaii grown and crafted delights

Library Film Night: 'Fruit Hunters', fruit share 6:30pm, film 7pm, Mon. Nov 16th. Bring favorite and exotic fruits to share.

Grow Your Own Mushrooms, 1pm Sat, Nov. 21st, Kokolulu Farm

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Co-op Grows Taro, Makes Poi and Kulolo for North Kohala

Story and photos courtesy of Palili 'O Kohala with contributions from James Koshiba

At the turn of the 20th century, it's estimated that more than 2,000 acres of taro were in production throughout Hawai'i. Today, there are about 360 acres in cultivation.

The number of taro farms has continued to decline in the past decade with about 100 taro farmers growing commercially throughout the state.

Most farmers cultivate taro in the traditional wetland style, in a lo'i. Most taro cultivated for poi in Hawai'i is grown in the wetland style.

Wetland cultivation has many advantages, but it also has drawbacks. Inputs including water, fuel and fertilizer are expensive, and have increased in price in recent years. Pests like the apple snail, which thrive in water, have plagued wetland crops.

In the past, taro was heavily cultivated in the valleys of North Kohala, where there was ample water, but ancient Hawaiians also grew "upland" or "dryland" taro in the Kohala region.

In North Kohala, most of the water rich valleys not as accessible as they once were for farming wetland taro, especially on a commercial scale. This makes farming dryland taro a practical approach to increasing the amount of taro grown in the community.

There is a statewide shortage of taro for making poi. Commercial poi producers import about 1.8 million pounds of taro per year, primarily from Fiji, but also from China, Cook Islands, Western Samoa and Tonga.



Members of Palili 'O Kohala prepping huli to plant after harvest.



Kohala poi, the finished product of local dryland taro production and processing.

The Palili 'O Kohala project believes that it is important to grow taro and make poi for the community of North Kohala—for food self-sufficiency, health and to strengthen community and culture.

The Palili 'O Kohala project is growing Hawaiian varieties of taro on dryland, using Natural Farming techniques.

Natural Farming uses no chemicals and creates inputs (natural fertilizers) using microorganisms from the soil with other natural and easy to acquire ingredients.

After years of hard work and many hands in the soil, the Palili 'O Kohala project is now set to harvest and process about 100 pounds of taro per week for the community.

The families in the Palili 'O Kohala Cooperative are processing the taro into poi and kulolo for sale in North Kohala.

Poi made from dryland taro has different characteristics than poi from wetland taro. The color is lighter, and it does not go sour (ferment) in the same way. Poi from dryland taro is best eaten fresh, as opposed to allowing it to ferment.

In addition to working towards North Kohala's food self-sufficiency goals, the Palili 'O Kohala project was formed in order to educate the community about farming with Natural Farming techniques, and to create economic opportunity through agriculture for Kohala's people.

Look for the Palili 'O Kohala sign on the side of the road. To be notified about our sales dates, or to place a large order, please call Jaime Lee Drew at 756-8181 or go to <http://www.kahua-paamua.org/poi-kulolo>.




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Medical Marijuana Meeting Highlights Risks

Story and photo by Kyle Combes

On September 29, a group of concerned Kohala citizens gathered at the Kohala High School cafeteria to discuss what they saw as very pressing issue. Facilitated by Jeff Coakley, the discussion featured guest speakers from the state and local government, as well as the testimony of two Kohala students. Others in attendance included District 9 Councilwoman Margaret Wille and mayoral-hopeful Pete Hoffmann.

All had gathered to discuss the passage of a new bill, which many felt infringed on their right to self-govern and presented a potential threat to their community.

The bill in question was HB321, which addressed the perceived issue of medical marijuana inaccessibility to those in need. According to statistics presented by the Coalition for a Drug-Free Hawai'i, out of the 13,937 total patients holding medical marijuana licenses statewide, 318 patients could not grow their marijuana for one reason or another. On the Big Island alone, 12 out of 5,415 patients were unable to grow. The bill was designed to address this issue.

Signed into law as Act 241 on July 14, the bill provides for two dispensary licenses to be issued on the Island of Hawai'i. Each license holder would be able to operate two production centers for growing marijuana, with each center containing a maximum of 3,000 plants. Licensees would also be able to operate two retail dispensing sites at locations other than the production centers.

Production and retail locations are required to maintain twenty-four hour security measures, and a real-time computer software system will be implemented to monitor sales and supply levels. Additionally, the Department of Health will be in charge of establishing and enforcing laboratory testing standards for the produced marijuana. All dispensaries are prohibited from selling their product until July 15, 2016.

The evening began with a few words from Councilman Dennis "Fresh" Onishi, who brought up one of the primary objections some

have to the law. As passed, the bill does not provide the counties with any power to decide where the dispensaries are allowed to be located. Many view this as the state government infringing on the rights of the counties to self-govern.

Councilman Onishi was followed by Hawai'i Police Chief Harry Kubojiri. According to a national survey on drug use and health in 2013, Kubojiri said, Hawai'i ranked seventh overall for highest marijuana use rate by adolescents age 12 to 17. Chief Kubojiri also noted the increasing prevalence of fatal car accidents due to the use of drugs other than alcohol.

Next Keith Kamita, Chief of the Narcotics Enforcement Division at the Hawai'i Department of Public Safety, led attendees through a PowerPoint presentation explaining Hawai'i's current medical marijuana program and what it allowed.

Under the current law, individuals with a medical marijuana license can grow up to seven plants and possess four ounces of processed marijuana at any given time. If a household consists of multiple licensed individuals, then each individual is allowed to grow the specified amount.

Mr. Kamita continued his presentation by covering some of the ways in which the concentration of the psychoactive compound delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) in marijuana can be increased.

One particular method he covered was one used to produce what is known as butane honey oil (BHO). By employing this method, Kamita's team was able to take a sample of marijuana containing 20% THC and produce a gooey, honey-like substance containing 90% THC. Under the current medical marijuana law, "four ounces" does not specify a difference between a marijuana leaves and concentrated BHO. Four ounces of this, he said, "would get this whole room [of approximately 80 people] high twenty, maybe thirty times." However, Mr. Kamita noted, the use of butane to refine marijuana is strictly prohibited under the dispensary act.

Mr. Kamita then turned over the spotlight to Alan Shinn, Executive

Director of the Coalition for a Drug-Free Hawai'i. Mr. Shinn proceeded to cover the dangers of marijuana abuse, including the fact that adolescents with developing brains are far more likely to become addicted to the drug than adults are.

One in six kids become addicted, Shinn said, as opposed to one in eleven adults. He also presented a graph showing the levels of THC versus time from 1960 to 2008. In the 1960s, marijuana contained less than a half of a percent THC.

Today, according to a recent Forbes article, certain strains in Colorado have reached nearly thirty percent THC, a sixty-fold increase. Concentrations of cannabidiol (CBD), the purportedly therapeutic compound, have remained largely the same over time.

Mr. Kamita also mentioned that the legalization of medical marijuana has been correlated with an increase in the usage of the substance for recreational purposes. This, Kamita deduced, illustrates that when a drug starts being called a "medicine," any negative associations with the drug start to diminish.

Another concern surfaced when Mr. Kamita brought up the stipulation in the bill that a dispensary license applicant must maintain control over \$1,000,000 at all times plus an additional \$100,000 per retail dispensing location allowed under the approved license. This, Kamita said, would make it a game for businessmen who were only in it for the money.

Following Mr. Kamita, Representative Andria Tupola (R-D43) expressed her frustrations with regard to the State political system. She spoke about how she felt that the Hawai'i State government was too Oahu-centric and how, in passing this bill, it was focusing on the needs of the few (those who were unable to grow) at the expense of the many.

Rep. Tupola also noted that some of those seeking to establish dispensaries have now run into a roadblock when trying to obtain legal guidance. These issues stem from a recent formal opinion released last month by the Hawai'i Supreme Court Disciplinary Board,

which advised Hawai'i lawyers against assisting in the establishment or operation of medical marijuana dispensaries. Since marijuana is still illegal on the federal level, the Board warned that such actions could be seen as assistance in committing a federal crime.

Next Rep. Tupola turned the microphone over to two Kohala students. Viviana Anthony-Cox recounted the tragic story of her godfather, who after suffering for many years due to lung problems caused by smoking marijuana was hit by a car while trying to escape his pain with more marijuana.

Viviana was followed by Hoku Pagan, who expressed her concerns with making the drug more socially acceptable and potentially easier to obtain. She was worried that marijuana would become a gateway drug for some, in the same way that it had become for her friends. "A lot of my friends have actually...almost died in the last couple of years, leading up to different drugs." She didn't want to see more people she cared about gain access to the drug and get hurt.

After the students were finished, Councilwoman Margaret Wille took the floor to mention how she was already working to solve problems due to existing drug presence. Councilwoman Wille also said she believed the community, through the county, needed a say in the regulation and control of matters pertaining to the medical marijuana dispensaries. Pete Hoffmann also vowed that this would become a central issue if he were elected mayor.

With the presentations concluded, it was time for Q&A. One attendee asked whether the requirement to control such a large sum of money in order to apply for a license would bring drug lords and the like to the island.

Rep. Tupola and Mr. Kamita explained that the bill required applicants to be a five-year Hawai'i resident and for the dispensary to be held by fifty-one percent local interests. Mr. Shinn also assured her that cartels tended to deal with more lucrative businesses such as those involving methamphetamine, pro-

See Medical, Page 11

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Medical, continued from Page 10
 titution, sex trafficking and gambling. Another audience member asked for clarification on whether or not the bill strictly allowed medical marijuana. Mr. Kamita explained that there was no definition for "medical marijuana" and that the bill did not distinguish between varieties of cannabis. The bill did, however, specify that the Department of Health would be in charge of establishing laboratory testing standards with which the produced marijuana would need to comply.

After Q&A, Coakley led a brainstorm ses-

sion for a community action plan. Aside from the usual petitioning

of legislators and taking to social media, it was suggested that the

Community Development Plan be amended to specify how the com-

munity would like to see Kohala's agricultural land used. A clause could be added stressing, for example, the importance of bringing Kohala closer to sustaining itself with local agriculture. Another suggestion, brought up by Rep. Tupola, was to require that a public hearing be held before permitting the construction of any dispensary infrastructure. This would be taking a page from the liquor license application process and would allow community members to voice their opinions regarding the location of any proposed growth centers or retail outlets.



Concerned citizens and public officials meet to discuss Act 241, which provides for legal marijuana production centers and dispensaries on the Big Island.

Front row (left to right): Verna Cannon, Cheryl Rocha, Jeffrey Coakley, Ku'ulei Perez, Lani Eugenio
 Back row (left to right): Chief Harry Kubojiri, Representative Andria Tupola, Beth Mehau, Hoku Pagan, Viviana Anthony-Cox, Alan Shinn, Keith Kamita

Missing from picture: Councilman Fresh Onishi, Nani Svendsen, Micah Hood

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Weekly Events in NOVEMBER

MONDAY			
7PM		Al-Anon meeting with Laura	Lower Level, Walker Hall, St. Augustine's 884-5833
7PM		Narcotics Anonymous	Wylie Hall, 'Iole Road, Kalahikiola Church 889-6703
8AM	9:15 AM	Hatha Yoga with Morgan Cassidy	in the White tent, 53-496 'Iole Rd 889-5151
5:30PM	6PM	Insanity Classes with Ross Pagat	Solid Rock North Church 989-0966
TUESDAY			
9AM	10:30AM	Sitting Meditation with John	Meditation Hale, 53-3988 Akoni Pule Hwy 889-5151
WEDNESDAY			
7PM		Alcoholics Anonymous	Wylie Hall, 'Iole Road, Kalahikiola Church 889-6703
THURSDAY			
7PM		Narcotics Anonymous	Wylie Hall, 'Iole Road, Kalahikiola Church 889-6703
8AM	9:15AM	Vinyasa Flow Yoga, with Maya Parish	in the White tent, 53-496 'Iole Rd 889-5151
2PM	4PM	Traditional Hawaiian Weaving with Aunty Mele Waikiki	in the White tent, 53-496 'Iole Rd 889-5151
4PM	5PM	Beginning Hula with Aunty Mele Waikiki	in the White tent, 53-496 'Iole Rd 889-5151
5:30PM	6PM	Insanity Classes with Ross Pagat	Kamehameha Park Complex 989-0966
FRIDAY			
10AM		Preschool Story time (Not Nov 13)	North Kohala Library 889-6655

Email weekly calendar listings to kmncalendar@hotmail.com

A Safe, Healthy and Drug Free Life is Everyone's Business!

Join Council Member Margaret Wille, members of the Hawai'i County Police Department including Vice Lt. Sherry Bird and a police narcotics specialist, BISAC (Big Island Substance Abuse Council) and representatives for the Hamakua Kohala Health Center to help combat drug abuse.

The meeting will include a brainstorming session on how the community can provide more support to those on the front line dealing with our drug crisis.

The meeting will be Friday, October 23, at 5:00 p.m., at the Kohala Intergenerational Center at Kamehameha Park in Kapa'au. For more information please call 887-2069.

\$253,000 Grant to Aid Expanded Behavioral Health and Substance Abuse Treatment

Hamakua-Kohala Health will now expand behavioral health and substance abuse treatment services with ongoing funding from the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).

An initial grant of \$253,000 will renew annually to facilitate Hamakua-Kohala Health's outreach and treatment programs at its Honoka'a and Kohala primary care centers.

"This is great news for North Hawai'i as Hamakua-Kohala Health can now better address the critical need for expanding behavioral health services and its community outreach and treatment of substance abuse," said CEO Irene Carpenter.

Hawai'i ranks twenty-second

in the nation for the prevalence of suicide. While the state's overall suicide rate is decreasing, the rate of suicide in Hawai'i County is increasing. On the Big Island, 29.8 percent of teenagers report depression, 16.9 percent report suicidal thoughts, 15.2 percent made plans for suicide and 10.7 percent attempted suicide, according to the State's Youth Risk Behavior Survey Module, 2011-2013.

"The fact that suicide is increasing in North Hawai'i—particularly among young people—is a public health emergency," said Carpenter. "We are fortunate to have a great behavior health team that provides services to one or two suicidal patients per week—but we need

to grow our treatment resources and identify people with substance abuse before they show up as suicidal."

"Within an hour of receiving notice of the HRSA grant, our Human Resources department began recruitment of an additional psychologist, a certified substance abuse counselor and an outreach coordinator," she added.

County Council Representative Margaret Wille applauded Hamakua-Kohala Health's expanded ability to focus on this critical issue. "Many of us have brothers, sisters, cousins, friends and neighbors who are addicted to meth and other dangerous drugs. We want to point to services in our local community that can help them make the change

to a drug-free, healthy and productive life," she said. "We can now enthusiastically point to Hamakua-Kohala Health as the support services that can help them make this change."

A Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), Hamakua-Kohala Health's mission is to provide primary health care to the under-insured and uninsured, primarily the Quest population. Hamakua-Kohala Health, with its roots in the Hamakua Sugar plantation clinic, is celebrating its 50th year of service to the community. Today it serves more than 7,000 patients from Kohala, through Waimea and along the Hamakua Coast to the northern tip of the North Hilo District.



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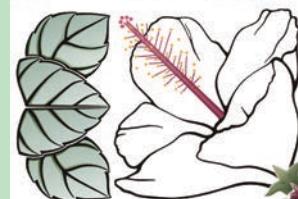
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Emergency Use of Pratt Road Advances

Story and photo by Toni Withington
 Three times this summer, traffic on Akoni Pule Highway was blocked for hours and hours. Being a one-road community can sometimes be a pain. Fortunately this month moves were finally made to get privately owned Pratt Road designated for emergency use when traffic on the highway has to be diverted.

"From Niuli'i to Hawi there has got to be some emergency access that can be relied on," John Winter, chairman of the Community Development Plan (CDP) Action Committee, told a group of 21 people gathered to seek solutions.

"Action, not words; that's what we need," added Sarah Pule-Fujii.

Both are members of the Water, Parks and Roads Subcommittee of the CDP, which held two meetings within this last month to build community consensus on what steps to take.

The first meeting, held September 30, was specifically for land owners along Pratt Road, the old cane haul road that runs parallel to the highway. Nine owners representing 14 of the land parcels along the road gave their ideas and expressed their concerns about using the road during emergencies.

The second public meeting, held October 14, brought together land owners and people who had been stranded by the emergencies to talk about possible solutions. Problems ranged from liability and maintenance

to traffic control. Solutions suggested were finding a variety of alternative roads, pulling together to locate help in the private sector and bringing the right government officials here to coordinate emergency plans.

The subcommittee began work on this issue last year by mapping the route and sending a survey to the 39 owners of the almost 60 lots on and alongside Pratt Road. The owners who responded generally favored controlled emergency access, but some had serious con-



Twenty one people attended a meeting to discuss the emergency use of Pratt Road and other possible bypasses. The meeting was held by the Water, Parks and Roads subcommittee of the Community Development Plan Action Committee.

cerns about liability and maintenance.

At the meeting with owners, the subcommittee was challenged to use its clout with government to make sure Akoni Pule Highway, its

bridges and its gulches are maintained well enough to avoid flooding and landslides where possible.

Winter explained that the CDP, which is a County ordinance, calls for establishing emergency bypass roads and specifically mentions Pratt Road, which originally spanned the distance between Upolu and Niuli'i. The Action Committee also has the job of recommending where the county spends funds in the North Kohala district.

Margaret Wille, Kohala's County Council member, challenged the

road, the responsibility for emergencies usually falls to the County. Although privately owned, portions of Pratt Road have at times been used during emergencies. But it has locked gates in some places, is overgrown in others and has a washed-out causeway in the Waiaohia/A`amakao Gulch. Discussions at both meetings favored traffic control that would limit emergency traffic to area residents.

"This is a health and safety issue," Margaret Wille said. "When people can't get to or from their homes, we must make the effort." She pointed out that the County built a second road in Puna when lava threatened to isolate some residents.

The consensus of both meetings was to focus on a bypass road for people living from Halawa to Pololu. Pratt Road, though overgrown in places, still exists from Waiaohia to Niuli'i.

Keone McKillop, a member of the Action Committee, challenged the community to not wait for government action, but to seek private companies and local groups to do the work of clearing and upgrading the road.

The State Highways Division has already funded a landslide prevention project at Makapala. The subcommittee's next outreach is to the mayor and specific department heads in the State and County dealing with emergency and highway issues.

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Checklist of 30 Things You Can Do To Save Money

Courtesy of Hawaii Energy

Refrigerator:

1. Set refrigerator temperature between 37°F and 40°F and 0°F in the freezer.
2. Fill the empty spaces with food containers (can be empty) to reduce the amount of warm humid air from that will fill the refrigerator every time the door opens.
3. Clean and vacuum the coils and filters.
4. Check the rubber seals on the door by using dollar bill.
5. Get rid of 20+ year old refrigerators and freezers.

Water Heater:

6. Set the water heater temperature to 120°F.
7. Wash and rinse clothes in cold water.
8. Shorten the amount of time for taking showers by two minutes.
9. Take cooler showers so you don't steam up the bathroom.
10. Install low-flow shower heads.

Kitchen Appliances:

11. Use a microwave to heat food instead of using the stove.
12. Match pot and pan size to burner size and keep the lid on.
13. Use a toaster oven when possible instead of using the oven.
14. Do not preheat your oven unless baking. If you do need to preheat, then 10 minutes is usually a long enough time.

15. Instead of opening the oven door to check on foods, use the light instead to keep the heat from escaping.

Bathroom:

16. Turn the water off when scrubbing during showering.
17. Fix leaky faucets.
18. Take showers instead of tub-baths.
19. Take shorter showers.

Bedrooms:

20. Hang two layers of curtains to reduce the heat from entering.
21. Use a ceiling before using an air conditioner or a floor fan to keep cool while sleeping.

Others:

22. Use compact fluorescent light (CFL) bulbs or light emitting diodes (LED) bulbs.
23. Use a power strip to eliminate energy vampires.
24. Wash full loads of clothes in cold water.
25. Set correct water level on washer.
26. Hang clothes instead of using the dryer.
27. Activate "sleep" features on printers and office equipment.
28. Use motion detecting switches on outdoor LED lighting.
29. Use ceiling fans instead of an air conditioner.
30. Use a timer on water coolers and Internet modems/routers.

Saving Energy and Money in Your Home

By John Winter

Here's the bad news: our electricity rates are by far the highest in the nation, nearly triple the national average (34 cents per kilowatt hour, kWh, whereas residents of Washington state pay less than nine cents). But here's the good news: We stand to save more than those on the mainland by making small adjustments to our electricity lifestyles.

Most of us on the Big Island draw power from the HELCO grid. Unlike other commodities in our lives, such as gas or food, we cannot comparison shop and pay in advance for what we consume. We use our electricity first and then pay whatever is charged at the end of the billing cycle. And we are charged plenty!

On October 10 Sustainable Kohala, in their Sustainable Saturday Series, hosted Helen Wai of the Hawai'i Energy Program, who travelled from Honolulu and braved the Ironman road impediments. Helen is not only a wonderfully dynamic and entertaining speaker, but she also shares something near to our hearts: how to save money on our electricity bills.

Did you know that 1.5% of your electricity bill goes into a fund

called The Public Benefit Fund?

This reporter suspects that HELCO did not create this fund out of the goodness of their hearts. It turns out that this fund is created by our Public Utilities Commission. The program's core mission is to "educate, motivate, and incentivize residents and businesses to adopt energy conservation behaviors and efficiency measures." The program plays an important role in helping to achieve Hawai'i's goal of reducing total electricity usage by 30 percent or 4.3 billion kilowatt hours (kWh) by 2030, as part of the Hawai'i Clean Energy Initiative.

For example, are you still using some of your old incandescent light bulbs because they still work and you're waiting for them to burn out before replacing them with a compact fluorescent lamp (CFL) or light-emitting diode (LED) bulb? A 60 watt incandescent bulb can be replaced by a 13 watt CFL or an 11 watt LED bulb with the same light output (measured in lumens) and save you about \$20-24 a year! So you may think you are saving pennies by not throwing away a perfectly good bulb, but you're actually throwing away dollars!

When you shop for a new bulb (hopefully tomorrow), look at the

package and notice the light output (lumens) and the color. Soft, yellowish light is around 2700 K (degrees Kelvin, a measurement of color) and bluer daylight tone is around 5000-6500 K.

Also note the wattage. Many packages will tell you the actual watts consumed and probably also the equivalence to familiar incandescent bulbs. We are used to thinking of bulb brightness in terms of incandescent wattage, an aging concept. For example, if you want to replace a 60 watt incandescent bulb with an "equivalent" LED, the package may say something like, "60 W replacement, 11 W" meaning it will use only 11 watts to shine as brightly as an old 60 watt bulb. It's best to start looking for number of lumens called out on the packaging to get the brightness level you need.

Helen handed out a very informative brochure which showed us, among other things, where our electricity money goes. Lighting, for example, typically represents about 16 percent of our bill, and appliances about 36 percent (more if you still have an old non-Energy-Star fridge...like that incandescent lightbulb, replace it now).

Helen's handout also had an informative quiz (fortunately, she

gave us the answers). For example, did you know that if you have a habit of leaving your fridge door open while you pour your milk on your cereal or assemble your meal, it could cost you up to \$16 a year? A typical bathtub holds 40-50 gallons of water and a daily hot bath, if you have an electrical hot water heater, can cost you \$338 a year? And "vampire power" (power keeping your microwave clock on or your computer on standby all the time) represents about 10 percent of your electricity bill. Do you have children using an Xbox or other game consoles? Is it left plugged in? Unplugging it when it's not in actual use can save you hundreds of dollars each year.

The final two pages of the handout were a check-list of things you can do to save money on your electricity bill and other conservation tips. You can get a copy of the handout from Helen Wai or ask questions by emailing itsyourmoney@hawaii.rr.com.

At the end of her very informative talk, Helen gave each member of the audience a free LED bulb. She also supplied Sustainable Kohala with two energy monitors that you can put in outlets and then plug any appliance in to measure how much power it draws. This is very useful to find out what your old fridge is wasting or how much power your coffee maker or microwave uses on standby. You can borrow one from Sustainable Kohala by e-mailing sustainablekohala@gmail.com.

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The Story of Greenbank (A Halloween Story)



By Elaine Vinta Murota

As a child growing up in Kohala in the 1940s, I was always fascinated by the aura surrounding the old Greenbank estate in Halawa. My sister Mae and I would go with our parents to buy eggs from an old Chinese man who was the caretaker at Greenbank.

We turned off the main road and traveled the long, narrow dirt road to a huge house that had once seen better days. The house appeared unoccupied...or so we thought.

We would peer into the lower windows and see beds and other pieces of furniture in the rooms. The caretaker lived in a tiny cottage apart from the main house. He told us a deliciously spooky story of how, "on certain nights," he would hear a piano being played and laughter coming from the house.

When we went to check, all was quiet, and nobody was there.

On one visit, we walked down a nearby gulch and came upon an old graveyard. The gulch was dark and gloomy, with sunlight filtering through the tall trees. A blanket of decaying leaves covered ground. The air was stifling and filled with an eerie, dreadful silence.

I felt *arrepiado* (Portuguese for

"chicken skin"). I had this weird feeling that we were not alone, like we were being watched. I sensed a presence, yet we could see no one. Needless to say, we did not linger long enough to find out, but high-tailed it outta there.

Years later, I read about the history of the old house in the book Kohala Aina. In the 1870s, a Scotsman named James Wight and his wife Jane built a Victorian mansion and called it Greenbank. They had twelve children, six of whom died when they young. Wight died in early 1900s, and wife died a few years later. That would explain the graves that we saw in the gulch.

Mrs. Wight's will specified that Greenbank was not to be touched until the family's last descendant died, hence the old furnishings in the house. The Wights owned a Grand piano and loved to throw lavish parties. Do you suppose those were the sounds the caretaker heard nearly a century later?

On a trip back to Kohala in 1991, we drove to Greenbank only to find a padlock on the gate blocking access to the long and narrow path. I often wonder if, "on certain nights," the sounds of a piano and laughter can still be heard at Greenbank.

Library Anniversary Celebration Planned

The Friends of the North Kohala Library are inviting the Kohala community to the library's fifth birthday celebration from **3 to 5 p.m. on Monday, November 2.**

Following an opening blessing by Kealoha Sugiyama, Leia Lawrence's keiki hula halau will perform a selection of dances.

Slack Key artist John Keawe will provide an afternoon of musical entertainment along with hula performances by his wife Hope and granddaughters Naomi and Shelly.

Kohala High School students will also be sharing their musical talents. In the library yard, keiki will enjoy a variety of activities, including a bouncy castle, games and prizes. Of course, everyone is invited to enjoy birthday cake and refreshments.

Roam through the library to enjoy displays of the many memorable events in the new library as well as in the historic Bond Memorial Library. A short video of the Great Huki Puke – passing of the books to the new library – will be shown in the library meeting room.

The North Kohala Public Library opened in November 2010. With a larger facility and a community meeting room, the library has also been able to offer many programs that would never have been possible in the quaint Bond Memorial Library.

Programs have included music concerts to standing room only audiences, storytellers, Hawaiian history lectures and educational programs related to Hawai'i's fragile environment. Children's story times, after school programs and summer programs meet regularly.

The library is open Monday noon to 8 p.m.; Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Friday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The library is staffed by Librarians Janet Lam and Leilani Silver, Library Assistant Joleen Soares, Janitor Patsy Pasco and Student Helper Jake Palacay.

For additional information on the library and the anniversary celebration, call the library at 889-6655.



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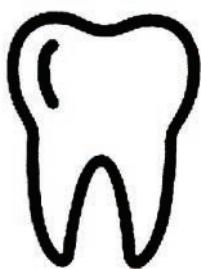
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6:30 contest, dance to follow

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KOHALA CALENDAR NOVEMBER 2015

2	MON	5:30PM	7:30PM	Kohala Parent Support Group Meeting	The Cottage @ the HUB	895-3578
2	MON	3PM	5PM	5th Anniversary Celebration Food, Games & Music	North Kohala Library	889-6655
3	TUE	TBA		Council Committee Meeting Day With Margaret Wille, North Kohala Video Conferencing Site	Conference room adjacent to Hisaoka Gym	
4	WED	2:30PM		Afterschool Activities Dance - elementary and middle school	North Kohala Library	889-6655
4	WED	TBA		Full Council Meeting With Margaret Wille, North Kohala Video Conferencing Site	Conference room adjacent to Hisaoka Gym	
6	FRI			NKCRC Online Auction Starts View items and submit your bids at www.32auctions.com/nkcrc2015	North Kohala Community Resource Center	
7	SUN	9AM	1PM	Kalahikiola Church Bazaar Rummage Sale, Baked goods, Silent auction, Plants and produce	Kalahikiola Church	
8	SUN	9AM	12PM	Take a Walk on the Wild Side Food foraging walk and talk with author Sunny Savage, Niuli'i RSVP	hawaii@onesiland.org	
8	SUN	6:30PM		Kissidugu West African All Stars Drumming Dance & Performance	The Hub	
9	MON	5PM		NKCDP AC Meeting North Kohala Community Development Plan Action Committee	Old Courthouse	323-4770
9	MON	6PM		Poetry Group Sharing and Discussion	North Kohala Library	889-6655
10	TUE	6PM		Kohala Farmers' Union 6pm potluck, 7pm speaker. Non-farmers welcome too	Kohala Village Inn Barn	889-5715
10	TUE	11AM		Adult Reading Discussion Any books by Oliver Sacks	North Kohala Library	889-6655
10	TUE	4:30PM	7PM	Community Meeting With The Director of the Department of Transportation	Kahilu Town Hall	
11	SAT	8AM	12PM	Plant Sale Fruit trees and shrubs at the Hawi Farmers' Market	Same Canoe	
12	THUR	9AM	11:30AM	Flavor of Hawaii Farm Tour Hawi, hosted by Same Canoe Local Food Challenge	www.oneisland.org	
14	SAT			Chocolate Chocolate! at Hawi Block Party Order in advance to secure the local Hawi bar from Madre Chocolate	hawaii@onesiland.org	
14	SAT	4PM	10PM	Block Party Live Music, Food, Vendors, Merchants	merchants@gmail.com	
16	MON	6PM		Film: The Fruit Hunters Local Fruit Pot Luck	North Kohala Library	889-6655
21	SAT	1PM	4PM	Grow Your Own Mushrooms Workshop Kokolulu Farm, RSVP online	www.oneisland.org	
24	TUE	5PM	6PM	CDP Subcommittee Power, Viewplanes, & Erosion Control, contact Susan Fischer	Old Courthouse	882-7611
25	WED	4PM	5:30PM	Restorative Yoga Therapy class with Carla Orellana, Certified Yoga Therapist, by donation	in the White tent, 53-496 Toile Rd	889-5151
25	WED	5PM		Parks, Water & Roads Subcommittee Monthly Meeting	Old Courthouse	882-7611
25	WED	2:30PM		Afterschool Activities Book discussion, "Crispin & the Cross of Lead" by Avi	North Kohala Library	889-6655
28	SUN	11AM	12:20PM	Community Meal At St. Augustine Church	Walker Hall	889-5390
28	SUN	10AM	12PM	Thrift Shop At St. Augustine Church	Next to Walker Hall	889-5390

Email calendar listings to kmncalendar@hotmail.com or call 339-4951.

KOHALA RADIO SCHEDULE, KNKR 96.1FM

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
7AM	Funkle Greg's Morning Mess	Uncle David's Big Show	Cosmic Cowgirl	Uncle David's Big Show	Cosmic Cowgirl	Working Hard or Hardly Working	Those Were Da Days
8AM							
9AM	Funkle Greg's Morning Mess ENCORE	Riding Home	Your Kohala Connection	Women's Voices	Eco Talk	Riding Home	Live Music Showcase
10AM							Kohala Kine Sports Show
11AM							
12PM	Those Were Da Days ENCORE	Working Hard or Hardly Working ENCORE	Uncle David's Big Show ENCORE	Cosmic Cowgirl ENCORE	Uncle David's Big Show	Cosmic Cowgirl	Women's Voices ENCORE
1PM							
2PM	Kohala Kine Sports Show ENCORE	Riding Home ENCORE	Riding Home ENCORE	Cosmic Cowgirl ENCORE	Uncle David's Big Show	Cosmic Cowgirl	Your Kohala Connection ENCORE
3PM							
4PM	Riddimwize ENCORE	Riddimwize	Marieke's Music Mix	Dugg in Your Ear	The Surfing Cowboy	Dugg in Your Ear	Eco Talk ENCORE
5PM							
6PM							

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Gospel of Salvation
Kohala
Kokoiki Road
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 Adult Bible Study: Monday 6:30 PM
 Prayer Meeting: Friday 6:30 PM
 Pastor Ilima Moihā
www.gospelofsalvationkohala.org

Kalahikiola Congregational Church

Service every Sunday Morning at 9:30 followed by pupus & fellowship

Prayer time Tuesdays at 11:30

Iole road of Akoni Pule Hwy. in Kapa'au 1/4 mile past the statue

www.kalahikiolacongregationalchurch.com
 889-6703

Kohala Baptist Church
 Across from Makapala Retreat
 Sunday Services 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

St. Augustine's Episcopal Church
 Kapa'au, North Kohala • 808-889-5390

Sunday Services:
 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. - Holy Communion
 Children's Sunday School & Fellowship Brunch

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
 Vicar Diana Akiyama
www.staugustineskohala.com

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Weekday Mass: Monday - Friday at 7 am
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Rev Elias Escanilla
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Kohala Senior Named Semifinalist in National Merit Scholarship Program

Story and photo courtesy of Hawai'i Preparatory Academy Kohala resident Jordan Virtue, a senior at Hawai'i Preparatory Academy (HPA), has been named as a semifinalist in the 61st annual National Merit Scholarship Program. She will continue in the com-

and teaches sixth grade religious education classes before mass each week at Sacred Heart Parish in Hawi. She also is a summer volunteer at the Kohala Tennis Center, where she coaches children and offers free tennis clinics at Kamehameha Park.



Jordan Virtue of Kapa`au has been named a 2015 National Merit Scholarship Program semifinalist. Three Hawai'i Preparatory Academy seniors earned the honor this year. (Left to right) Will White, Jordan Virtue and Tristan Kilkenny

petition for 7,400 National Merit Scholarships, worth more than 32 million dollars, which will be offered next spring.

Virtue, the daughter of Rodger and Melissa Virtue of Kapa`au, is very involved at school and in the community. At HPA, she is an English teaching assistant, co-president of the Spanish Club and a member of Cum Laude Society and the varsity swimming/diving and tennis teams. In her community, she is an altar server and lector at her church

and teaches sixth grade religious education classes before mass each week at Sacred Heart Parish in Hawi. She also is a summer volunteer at the Kohala Tennis Center, where she coaches children and offers free tennis clinics at Kamehameha Park.

About 1.5 million juniors in more than 22,000 high schools entered the 2016 National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the 2014 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT), which served as an initial screen of program entrants. The nationwide pool of semifinalists, representing less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors, includes the highest-scoring entrants in each state.

To be considered for a Merit Scholarship Award, semifinalists must fulfill several requirements to be eligible to advance to the finalist level of the competition. About 90 percent of the semifinalists are expected to attain finalist standing, and about half of the finalists will win a National Merit Scholarship, earning the

Kohala Hospital Residents' Wish List

The resident patients of Kohala Hospital love a good time. The activity program is always looking for volunteers, friendly visitors and entertainers of all sorts. They would love to find a blues musician or two to jam with one of the residents who plays guitar and harmonica well.

Wanting to keep up with their community, the residents have expressed interest in listening to programming on the local radio station, KNKR 96.1 FM, but do not have personal radios. A donation of small radios for individual bedrooms would make a world of difference to them.

Contact Activities Coordinator Sadie Young at 889-7918 with ideas for visiting, entertaining and donations.

Social Media Helps Selling and Bartering Between Neighbors

To help Kohala reuse items with some life left in them, avoiding landfill trash and reducing the cost of living, Dr. Jonny and Heidi Roberts have started a free, closed Facebook group. Members post what they'd like to buy, sell or barter and work out the details between themselves. Kohala residents can request to join the group by going to facebook.com, searching on the phrase "Kohala Buy, Sell, or Trade" and clicking the green "Join Group" button.

Community Meeting Focused On Highways With State Department of Transportation

State Representative Cindy Evans and Senator Lorraine Inouye are hosting a community meeting with the director of the Department of Transportation to discuss highways throughout the Kohala region of Hawai'i Island.

When: Tuesday, November 10
Where: Kahilu Town Hall, Kamuela (across from Kahilu Theatre)
Check in from 4:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Meeting from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Director of Transportation Ford Fuchigami will bring his highways team to meet and greet the community.

This will be an opportunity to discuss how the department communicates with the community, what issues are specific to Kohala communities, and how the department makes decisions and decides priorities given the involvement of the federal government.

"I believe this is a good opportunity to help bridge the communication between our communities and O`ahu," says Representative Evans.

If you have questions, we encourage you to send them no later than November 4. Otherwise, we encourage you to submit your questions during check in.

Contact:
Office of Representative
Cindy Evans
(808) 586-8510
seninouye@capitol.hawaii.gov
Office of Senator
Lorraine Inouye
(808) 586-7335
repevans@capitol.hawaii.gov

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Student Musician Shares His Talent and Prepares for His Future

Story by Mellanie Lee

Your timing was good if you visited Nanbu Courtyard Café during the last two Friday mornings of September, as you would have been entertained by the wonderful keyboard music of Kohala High School student Kuha`o Makana Kawaauhau. This talented 19-year-old musician, who happens to be blind from birth, entertained the audience with his wide repertoire of music.

Kuha`o grew interested in keyboards at age nine and began to play piano at age 12. Although he has had some piano lessons, he is basically self-taught and plays by ear. This gifted artist can play most anything he hears, with the ability to creatively embellish the music.

In addition to Hawaiian selections, Kuha`o enjoys playing jazz, blues and reggae. With a passion for his culture, he would like to be fluent in Hawaiian so that he could write new Hawaiian music for his `ohana, as well as work with other Hawaiian musicians to learn new rhythms and words.

Kuha`o shared that his family heritage includes Hawaiian, Chinese and a bit of German. He stated that his Hawaiian

roots have influenced his music, inspired by many of his talented relatives.

"When I play Hawaiian music, it is to honor the spirits of past ancestors. I dedicate my



Kuha`o Kawaauhau (left) played keyboard at Nanbu Courtyard Café, courtesy of owner Carol Matsuhara (right), in September. The Kohala High School student has been blind from birth and plays by ear.

music to them in order to revive and bring back the Hawaiian language and cultural practices," Kuha`o stated.

When Kuha`o was 13 years

old he learned to play hymns on the organ at the Church of the Latter Day Saints in Waimea, where he still sometimes plays. Organ music inspires this young man because he feels it is uplift-

ing, especially for those who are weak and sick. Kuha`o feels that music gives people a sense of power and strength to overcome any challenges or hard times

they may face in life.

Kuha`o also enjoys blowing the conch shell and playing drums. He is also currently learning how to read Braille music.

Nanbu Café owner Carol Matsuhara shared that she has really enjoyed having Kuha`o perform. He has brought in happy customers, and her only wish is that he could play for longer hours.

This student is performing at different Kohala community venues as part of a Work Study Program designed to give him experience for his future. He will graduate from high school in 2017 and hopes to develop a career in music. This young man is well on his way, as Kuha`o already has quite a following on YouTube. Find him at www.youtube.com/user/kuhaocase.

Kuha`o currently has two dreams – to play live broadcasts and concerts and to play the organ for the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. Kohala folks will be able to enjoy watching this musician grow in his skills as he plays for the local community.

The community is invited to come support this young man and enjoy his talent. Kuha`o

See Kuha`o, Page 19

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Elementary Students Learning Music Basics

Kuha`o, continued from Page 18 takes requests, and if he does not know the song, he will learn it and play it next time around. Since he is blind, audience mem-

bers are requested to introduce themselves to Kuha`o when requesting a song. His charming energy as well as his enjoyable music is sure to bring a smile.

Every Thursday 120 kindergarten, first grade and second grade students from Kohala Elementary School (KES) take a short walk with their teachers to the Kohala High School (KHS) band room. There instructor Adrienne Cherry corrals their youthful energy, directing them in age-appropriate sequential movement and music-development exercises to awaken their innate musical abilities.

endeavors. First instruments are the children's voices, singing songs with simple intervals. Then they progress to songs with more complex pitches and use a variety of percussion instruments. Children will be learning recorders soon and have started learning some piano. Classes are 30 to 40 minutes in length. North Kohala Community Resource Center secured a grant



Kuha`o Kawauhau plays the keyboard for customers at the Nanbu Courtyard Café.



Photo by Adrienne Cherry

Kohala Elementary School students sit on the mat during Adrienne Cherry's weekly music class. Cherry uses her extensive experience and education in childhood musical development theory to direct children in activities that seem like play, but foster musical ability.

Upcoming performances:

Nanbu Courtyard:

Fridays – October 23;
November 6, 13, 20 – 8:30 to 9:30 a.m.

Sushi Rock:

Friday – October 16 – 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

Kohala Library:

Tuesdays – December 1, 8, 15 – 11:15 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
(playing background Christmas music)

Through what might seem to be just games to an uneducated onlooker, Cherry implements a carefully designed program to train young brains and bodies for more complex musical

from the Bill Healy Foundation to fund the program. KES Principal Danny Garcia and KHS Principal Janette Snelling worked together to share resources for the benefit of Kohala's keiki.



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Palili 'O Kohala is a project of Kahua Pa'a Mua. Funding support provided by the USDA Farmers Market Promotion Program, Dorrance Family Foundation and County of Hawai'i County Council.

