



Vol.15, No. 03

March 24, 2016

Niuli'i Coastal Land Dedicated to Cultural Preservation



Photo by Toni Withington

Niuli'i lands now under stewardship of The Kohala Center include islets off the coast.



Map courtesy of County of Hawai'i

Allene Wong and David Eckles have gifted the outlined land to The Kohala Center for long-term protection and cultural stewardship. The land was on the County's 2015 Public Access, Open Space and Natural Resources Commission (PONC) priority list for public acquisition.

By Toni Withington

Lands along almost the entire coast at Niuli'i have been donated to The Kohala Center, a Waimea-based non-profit organization dedicated to long-term protection and cultural stewardship of land. The 48-acres span about a mile of the cliff coast from Keokea Park to Neue Bay near Pololu Valley.

Allene Wong and David Eckles gifted the land to The Center in January. It includes 25 acres of coastal conservation land and 23 acres of

agricultural land around the site of the former Niuli'i sugar mill and terminus of the Mahukona to Niuli'i Railroad.

"We are excited to know that the property will thrive under the stewardship of The Kohala Center, realizing its full potential for the benefit of Hawai'i's communities," Wong said in a news release.

The Center plans to partner with the community to turn the agricultural land into "a thriving native food forest, production of tradi-

tional Hawaiian crops, and a venue for cultural practice and spiritual rejuvenation."

"On the conservation land we would like to bring the existing

hala forest to its full potential and look at cultural and educational programs with full community participation," said Keawe Liu, a

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On The Radio with the Pinay Show



Carmela Rich (left) and Analisa Marcom (right) are hosting a new program, *The Pinay Show*, on Kohala's local radio station, KNKR 96.1 FM.

Story and photo by Eila Algood
Our community radio station is KNKR, 96.1 FM, and its first bilingual show is *The Pinay Show*.

In Tagalog, the language of the Philippines, the word pinay means woman of Filipino descent.

The hosts of the show are Carmela Rich and Analisa Marcom, who both moved to Hawai'i from Bohol in the Philippines. Each Thursday from noon until 2 p.m. they will play music from a variety of Filipino artists, such as Charice and Dan Byrd, mixed with American Love Songs from the 80's and 90's, like Celine Dion and ABBA.

The show can be heard on the radio by dialing in to 96.1 FM or, if outside of Kohala, it can be streamed by logging onto KNKR.org. Carmela arrived thirteen years ago, is a single mom who works as a waitress and has four children. Her motto is, "Follow and do the things you are passionate about." Analisa arrived four years ago, is married with three children and has deep love for cats and dogs. The two women met in Hawai'i and have become good friends, sharing a love of music. Their show offers listeners a joyful experience. Kohala is fortunate to have these amazing women on the air.

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Do Good, Do Well!

Story and photo by Chris Helmuth
Local North Kohala residents Rick, Hazel and Ivy McEvoy, joined by Naomi and Stella Brooke, recently did their part on our beautiful Kohala Coast by painting over the graffiti on a water well storage container that can be seen on makai side of Highway 270.

There have been temporary signs placed on the container promoting local radio station KNKR

96.1 FM, informing travelers where the station signal can be picked up, as well as the availability of the 35 acres of ag/conservation land where the well container sits.

Preliminary talks are underway with the Hawaiian Island Land Trust and local preservation organizers to explore the sale and preservation of this land immediately south of Lapakahi State Historical Park.



(Left to right) Naomi Brooke, Hazel McEvoy, Ivy McEvoy, Stella Brooke and Rick McEvoy prepare to paint over graffiti on a shipping container located in view of Highway 270 travelers on the Kohala Coast

Land, continued from Page 1

spokesman for the center.

"Many people have offered ideas, but we do not want to move too fast. We want to engage the community and have as many people involved as possible," Liu said. Soil testing of the parcel around the former mill site is a first priority. Parts of the mill foundation and portions of the railroad turntable still exist on the property.

The land was donated under the center's Ainaho'i Program, which aims to "return lands that were once productive, that sustained the people who lived on and near them, to abundance, so that they may nourish the cultural, spiritual and nutritional needs of today's island communities," said Dr. Kamana-ikaalani Beamer, president and CEO of The Kohala Center, which was founded in 2000.

Besides the donation of land, Allene Wong has for years supported the Center's programs, including the Kahiau Micro Loan Program. "She believes strongly in helping traditional farmers," Liu said.

At Wong's request, the center also plans to turn over ownership of the Japanese Cemetery on Keokea Park Road to the Kohala Hongwanji, which has been caretaking the cemetery for many years.

The Niuli'i land has been the focus of community efforts to purchase it for open space preservation

since 2011, when it was first nominated to the County open space priority list and named the number three priority for public purchase. It has remained on the list each year since, currently priority number five on the list selected in 2015 by the Public Access, Open Space and Natural Resources Commission (PONC). In December the County Council passed a resolution authorizing the Finance Department to enter into negotiations with the land owners.

The five Kohala community groups that annually nominate coastal lands to the PONC list are focusing this year on three projects under the title Kula Iwi O Kamehameha - The Homelands of Kamehameha. These include the north coast from the already-preserved Kauhola Point (Lighthouse) to Neue Bay. Currently the Hapu'u to Kapanai Cultural Corridor is listed at the top of the County's priority list, followed by the Vipassana lands at Halelua.

"We are celebrating the donation of the lands at Niuli'i, not only because of the preservation and stewardship offered by The Kohala Center, but also because it means we can focus our attention on the purchase of the other privately held lands along this four-mile stretch of our north coast," said Gail Byrne Baber, head of Malama Kohala Kahakai, one of the nominating groups.

John Cruz to Headline 'A Great Way to Love Kohala' Event at Puakea Ranch

The North Kohala Community Resource Center (NKCRC) will host its third biannual fund-raising event at historic Puakea Ranch on Saturday, May 7 from 5:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Back by popular demand, John Cruz and David Gomes will provide entertainment.

Attendees will be treated to pupu and dessert samplings from many of Kohala's finest restaurants: from the Center's own North Kohala "backyard" there will be delicious food

selections from Sushi Rock/Trio, Bamboo, Kings View Café, Gill's Lanai, Local Dish, Sweet Potato Kitchen, Kohala Coffee Mill and the Kava Kafe. They are also honored to welcome samplings from Merriman's, Pau, Café Pesto, Tommy Bahama Café, Da Fish House (Laau's), Pueo's Osteria, Mauna Kea Resort and Angela Zink Catering.

There will be live and silent auctions providing opportunities to bid on an abundance of items including a David Gomes ukelele, recreational activities, fine dining, artwork by known local artists and much, much more.

This year's event will recognize the contributions of Monty Richards and Kohala's entire ranching community to the area's rich cultural heritage. Proceeds from 'A Great Way to Love Kohala' help fund the administration of the nearly 100 projects that benefit from the support and fiscal sponsorship that NKCRC provides.

These projects include the Kamehameha Day Celebration, Kohala High School Project Grad, Kohala Radio, the Hawi Farmers' Market, the Bond Memorial Library Restoration, Kohala 4-H Club and many others. NKCRC is a 14-year-old nonprofit run by three employees and an all-volunteer Board of Directors.

Located at 56-2864 Akoni Pule Highway, Hawi, Puakea Ranch is a beautifully restored private guest ranch that was formerly the home of the Yoshio Kawamoto family. Four historic bungalows are now available as guest rentals. NKCRC is grateful to have this beautiful private property made available for this event.

View photos of Puakea Ranch at www.puakearanch.com. The ticket price of \$65 includes food, entertainment and two complimentary drinks.

A limited number of reserved tables are available. Call 889-5523 for more information, to purchase tickets and to reserve tables.

Visit www.NorthKohala.org to learn more about NKCRC.

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Roots Skate Park Project Still Moving Forward

Story by Richey Riggs

The committee is excited to begin construction, but making use of County funding is a delicate

We would like to clarify that the donation from Councilwoman Margaret Wille's budget is designated specifically for the labor costs. That

Roots Skate Park Committee has been a local volunteer effort dedicated to this project for over nine years and looks forward to the completion of an exceptional youth facility for the community of Kohala.

Again, we would like to thank Councilwoman Margaret Wille and the County of Hawai'i Parks and Recreation Department Director Clayton Honma and Deputy Director James Komata for their dedication to the project.

In addition we are grateful to all of our local contributors from the Kohala Lions Club, the Russell Family, the Dorrance Family, the Kohala Merchants Association, and Susan and Dudley Carvalho, who presented to and secured funding from the Aqua Engineers ESOP Committee.

These contributions and supporters of Roots Skate Park's local fundraisers and events are the force that will help to bring the second phase of the skate park to the community. Please make a difference in your community by supporting activities that keep kids focused and passionate about something that forces one to keep trying, to persevere.

Skateboarding provides a healthy alternative to media-based distractions and encourages substance abuse prevention in a social, community and exciting recreational environment.

Watch our new promotional video produced by Keith Nealy Productions of Kohala. (<https://vimeo.com/146890005>)

To learn more about the project go to skate4roots.wordpress.com.



Photos by Robin Christman

Young skaters grow facial hair while waiting for the completion of the second phase of Roots Skate Park.

process. Plans have to be submitted and approved. The budget has to be adhered to and a timeline must be set. Bids from Hawai'i contractors have to be submitted, and that is another setback in moving forward.

Roots Skate Park Committee is dedicated to be working with a local Kohala contractor to submit a bid to the County of Hawai'i Parks and Recreation Department.

means the allotted \$35,000 pledge from Parks and Rec is to be used for materials.

The original second phase conceptual design will have to be modified to work with less material if additional funding can not be secured. The committee is seeking additional funds from the community and is optimistic about the challenge at hand.



Kimberly Lepold sells Roots Skate Park items at the Hawi Block Party November 14, 2015.

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Emergency Bypass Road in the Spotlight

Story and photo by Toni Withington

Government officials in Hilo heard the pleas of the community to legitimize the use of Pratt Road when an emergency closes traffic on Akoni Pule Highway. Three members of the Subcommittee on Parks, Water, Roads of the North Kohala Community Development Plan (NKCDP) met with Warren Lee, director of the County Department of Public Works; Sal Panem, district engineer of the State Department of Transportation, and Daryl Olivera, administrator of Civil Defense on March 7 to discuss the possibility of diverting traffic to the former cane haul road.

John Winter, chairman of the NKCDP Action Committee and a member of the subcommittee, said the meeting opened up a good working relationship with the departments and will hopefully ease traffic blockage during emergencies. Both the department heads and the subcommittee came away from the meeting with tasks to move closer to the goal.

The subcommittee met with representatives of the Hawai'i County Police Department in January to begin the process.

The only highway through town east of Kapa au was blocked three times in 2015, once for about 12 hours. Many people living east of the blockages were kept from

going to work or returning home. Fortunately, there were no emergencies during those times.

Attending the meeting in Hilo were subcommittee members Winter, Toni Withington and Carter Collins. Other attendees were Dave Hirt (of Margaret Wille's office), Pete Hoffmann and David Tarnas.

Leading up to the meeting the subcommittee prepared a detailed map and database of Pratt Road ownership, conducted a survey of adjoining owners, held a meeting with owners and conducted a publicized open meeting to hear community ideas for emergency use.

All parts of Pratt Road from Hawi to Niuli'i have been inspected and photographed by subcommittee members, and they were able to tell officials that, except for passage through one gulch, the entire 15 miles of former cane haul road could be available for an emergency bypass with minor maintenance.

"We anticipate that during any single emergency, only a limited section of Pratt Road would be used to move local traffic around the blockage," Winter said. Pratt Road is connected by roadways to Akoni Pule Highway in many places along its route.

In earlier meetings, landowners expressed a willingness to have Pratt Road used during declared

emergencies, but they did not want open access. Owners concerns of liability issues and control of traffic to residents only were discussed at the Hilo meeting. Assurances were made that liability and traffic control has been, and will continue to be, covered.

The issue of maintenance triggered several questions that more research by the departments will be needed to answer. For the most part, government funds can't be used for privately owned land. But Public Works Director Lee said he will have department lawyers look into when maintenance has been used to maintain emergency bypasses in the past.

He pointed to agreements that have been made in Puako and Waikoloa for emergency roads.

Lee congratulated the subcommittee for doing the legwork to bring the issue to the attention of the County and State as well as Civil Defense, since this has been a problem in almost all districts of the island. Puna district is particularly impacted by lack of a secondary road, he said.

The subcommittee stressed the need for information to assure the community that Akoni Pule Highway bridges are able to handle flooding and earthquakes. Sal Panem, head of the State division that controls the highway, said all bridges are inspected every two

years, and the Kohala bridges have passed inspection. He agreed to give the subcommittee a report on the functionality rating of all the bridges.

Another question was whether a declaration of emergency is needed to divert traffic, and who is authorized to issue one. Panem said a declaration is needed only for a longer-term diversion of traffic. For the most part the County can divert traffic for the safety of residents who are stranded when a bypass can be safely identified.

There are about 12 gates along Pratt Road. The police have authority to cut open gates in an emergency, but with a communication system in place between owners and agencies, this method could be avoided. The subcommittee agreed to work on a network for opening gates when needed.

Finally alternatives for re-opening the one break in Pratt Road – at Waiohia Gulch in Halawa – were discussed. Even without a bridge or causeway at Waiohia, the subcommittee has identified a mauka route that might be used to cross the gulch.

A report on the meeting was presented at the NKCDP Action Committee on March 14. The Subcommittee on Parks, Water, Roads meets on the last Wednesday of the month at 5 p.m. at the Senior Center.

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Letters

Mahalo for Support During Transition

Dear Editor,

Sunday, February 28, 2016, was the Memorial Service for Jeffrey Lee of Hawi. We would like to send our hugs of Mahalo to North Hawai'i Hospice and all the community 'ohana who assisted us in dealing with the loss of our husband and father.

Jeffrey was a solid anchor of our family. His gift of Spiritual healing was experienced by us and many others, some who wrote notarized affidavits of its effects upon them.

Jeffrey was a man who could fix anything. He loved golfing, cooking, playing games and fishing.

He is survived by me, his wife; his daughters, Christina Lee and Jasmin Michelle McCracken; and his grandchildren, Leo Lai Oin McCracken and Jaia Lee McCracken.

Mahalo,
April Lee

HI State House of Representatives Update

Improving Medical Marijuana Program in Hawai'i

The House of Representatives sent House Bill 2707 HD1 to the Senate, aiming to improve the operation and oversight of the state's medical marijuana program.

"We are on the path to opening medical marijuana dispensaries," said Representative Cindy Evans. "It's imperative we advance this bill to improve current law. Once opened and operational, I am sure more amendments will be considered in the next legislative session."

House Bill 2707 HD1 is written to allow health care professionals and advanced practice registered nurses to qualify a patient for medical marijuana. The bill amends various definitions and provisions to Act 241,

2015, establishing procedures and restrictions regarding medical marijuana dispensary operations, products, paraphernalia, data collection, transportation, and testing.

The Department of Health will collect information on quantities of marijuana cultivated and dispensed; the number of qualifying patients; geographic areas where marijuana is cultivated and consumed; prices of marijuana and its related products; employment opportunities related to marijuana; economic impact of marijuana cultivation and sales; and de-identified aggregated data.

"In the end, we must work to ensure low-income families and those without transit have access to

medical marijuana," says Representative Evans, "and we must ensure the affordability for everyone that needs the medication."

At the time of printing, the Senate will have sent House Bill 2707 HD1 back to the House of Representatives for consideration, where it will go to conference to work out the differences between the Senate and House.

For up-to-date information on House Bill 2707 HD1 visit www.capitol.hawaii.gov. Enter "HB2707" in the column on the left, and click "Add." For assistance on accessing the Hawai'i State Capitol website contact the Public Access Room at 808-587-0748.

Police Department Update

Another Home Improvement Scam Threatens Community

Hello North Kohala!

In a previous article I informed this district of a scam in which a company that specializes in paving roadways would approach a residence and inform the resident that they have leftover asphalt and that they could pave the resident's driveway for a cheap price.

However, when the company conducts the paving, they inform the resident that the project will take more asphalt than they realized and the resident will have to pay more in order for the job to be completed. If the resident does not continue to pay the higher price, the company will leave the driveway partially paved, causing an inconvenience to the resident or property owner.

Currently there is a situation similar to this. There is a group of people - most of its members are believed to be from out-of-state - which is going from house to house offering services such as home improvement and paving. The group informs the resident that they can do projects such as build a deck or lanai, place a new roof,

etc. all for a set price. If the resident likes the offer, the group will then inform the resident that they will need to collect the money up front prior to starting the project.

There have been complaints that the group either will not complete the job and then informs the resident that more money is needed in order to complete the project, or they complete the project in a manner which is not what the resident and group agreed upon, thus leaving the resident unsatisfied.

There has been a complaint in which the group had not completed a project and the resident asked to see the group's license or any type of documentation indicating that the group is a legitimate business operating in Hawai'i, and the group refused to show any credentials.

It appears that the majority of the group's targeted residents are the elderly.

The Hawai'i Police Department wants to inform you that this is a real situation and it is happening near North Kohala. It would be advisable, if approached by this

group, to ask for documentation and identification prior to agreeing to accept services.

A further recommended step is to ask others to see if this group has a good standing, such as asking a friend or a friend of a friend. You could use Google to see online reviews of the group, or inquire with the Hawai'i Better Business Bureau to see if the group or company is accredited.

Use your own judgment when confronted by this group. Remember, you should never have to feel that you are obligated to pay for services you do not need, or pay someone for a project that you want someone else to do. Notify police should you feel that you are possibly in danger by the actions of the group.

With that said, I bid you peace and aloha.

Officer Kauahikaua, Jr.
North Kohala Community Policing Officer

E-mail: kapelieli.kauahikaua@hawaiicounty.gov or officerkauahikaua@gmail.com

Correction

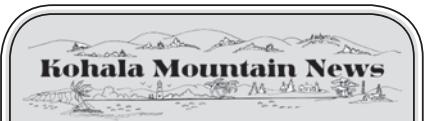
Mahalo to Kohala Village Inn for providing a reduced rate to the visiting veterans from Wishes for Warriors, as described in the February issue. Their name was inadvertently left out of the story.

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.

April Deadlines:
Ads & News: 04/08/2016
Publication date: 04/22/16

May Deadlines:
Ads & News: 05/13/16
Publication date: 05/27/16



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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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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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CDP Action Committee Welcomes New Members

Story by Lynda Wallach

John Winter, chair of the North Kohala Community Development Plan (NKCDP) Action committee (AC) opened the March 3 meeting by introducing three of the four new members of the AC.

Lehua Ah Sam is Executive Director of The HUB and did her masters thesis on the NKCDP; Ben Ney is a local business owner who was born and raised in Kohala; and Jack Hoyt is a builder, contractor and longtime resident of Kohala. The fourth new member, who was not able to be present, is Richard Elliott, proprietor of Paradise Postal. Ah Sam will serve on the Public Access subcommittee, Ney on Power, View Planes and Erosion Control, Elliott on Growth Management and Hoyt will resuscitate Affordable Housing, where he had worked for many years with Colin Kaholo. The committee then went on to re-elect John Winter as chair. Faye Yates was elected as vice chair. There are still two open seats on the AC and anyone wanting to get involved in seeing that the community's stated goals are fulfilled is urged to apply.

Sienna Byrne from Kohala High School then gave a presentation on the work of a group of students on the Upolu Airport Soil Erosion Control Project. Gayle Byrne, who introduced the presentation, stated that it was part of an effort to get high school students involved in stewarding some of the Kohala coastal lands being preserved through the effort of many individuals and groups in Kohala. Sienna

noted that soil was washing into the ocean and was motivated by a desire to care for the land and the ocean. She and three of her classmates decided to become involved in this project. She told how they had learned about various erosion control techniques, decided to build containment ponds, built them, and are now monitoring the structures' effectiveness. She said that one the most important things they learned was that, even without expensive or fancy equipment, they could make a difference. Fern White, who guided the students in this project, stressed the importance of connecting students with their community. The program was supported by Malama Kohala Kahakai and was the senior project of two of the students.

Susan Fischer, a member of the Public Access, Open Space and Natural Resources Preservation Commission, explained the process by which sites are recommended to the commission and then prioritized and selected for presentation to the mayor for possible acquisition. Any citizen can suggest properties for acquisition, and Fischer passed out forms that are used for that purpose. Suggestions should be submitted to the commission by June so they can be reviewed, prioritized and sent to the mayor by the end of the year.

Winter then reviewed last year's list of Capital Improvement Project proposals. Topping the list were improvements to the facilities at Mahukona and Kapa'a and upgrades to Kohala's potable water systems. The subcommittees were

asked to review the list and, at the next AC meeting, make recommendations for changes to the list that the full committee will vote on.

Ah Sam reported that the Public Access subcommittee is looking into the question of whether the old railroad in Kohala was built by the Hawaiian Kingdom government or by private interests and how this affects the question of public access. She also said that, since many makai properties are being sold on parcels that had public roads with access to beach lands, documentation is needed to determine who is accessing what and when, and how important is it for the community to maintain these access points. She said that this has been done for major access points but not for more localized ones, including those in mauka areas.

Winter, reporting for Parks, Water and Roads, said the leaks in the Hisaoka Gym roof have been fixed and the burned out lights at Keokea have been replaced.

He also said progress is being made toward opening Pratt Road as an emergency bypass. Members of the subcommittee have identified two places on the road that need trees removed and one culvert that has been washed out, but otherwise, some heavy mowing might enable cars to use the road. Members of the subcommittee met with various county officials in Hilo to pursue remaining questions regarding this issue but he is upbeat about the outcome. The Department of Water Supply is working with the owner of the Halaula well property

to purchase the property but the two parties have not yet been able to agree on a price. Winter said he has received assurances from the Water Department that when the Halaula well comes on line, probably not for another one to two years, the moratorium on water meters will be lifted.

Lani Eugenio said the Agriculture subcommittee is working to promote the CDP goal of Kohala locally producing 50 percent of the food it consumes by 2018, and she also expressed concern that a medical marijuana growing facility in Kohala would impinge on this goal by using valuable land and water resources.

Finally, Faye Yates reported that the Historic Sites and Cultural Preservation subcommittee is investigating the possibility of getting signs along the Akoni Pule Highway that would identify the major gulches in Kohala using their Hawaiian names. They also talked about seeing whether kupuna in the community would be willing to share cultural and historical information that they could record and use to create documentation, which would be kept in a place available to the community. After the recent incident of vandals defacing historical signs and places in Kohala, they decided not to recommend putting up signs at places of historical significance.

The next meeting of the NKCDP AC will be held on Monday, May 9, at 5:00 p.m. in the North Kohala Senior Center. Members of the community are urged to attend.



PLANS BEING MADE FOR KAMEHAMEHA DAY IN NORTH KOHALA

A day of celebration will once again be held in North Kohala on Saturday, June 11, the date Kohala traditionally pays respect to King Kamehameha and enjoys special community events. The theme for Kamehameha Day this year recognizes Kohala's respected elders: "E Pūlama I Na Kupuna - Treasure our Kupuna."

In true dedication to the importance of this celebration, new community members have

stepped up to fill the spots on the Kamehameha Day Committee and do the detailed preparations needed to organize this many-faceted event. Included in current plans will be the annual ceremony at the Kamehameha Statue, beginning at 6:00 a.m. This year will feature multiple halau offering ho'okupu. The parade will begin at 9:30 a.m. and the Ho'olaulea at Kamehameha Park will start at 11:00 a.m. Food,

entertainment, and educational displays and activities will be offered till 4:00 p.m.

This annual event provides community members a chance to participate in many ways, from making lei for the statue to working that Saturday to provide information, food, or entertainment. For groups wanting to participate in the parade, please contact Shay Vandzant at 756-4942. Applications for food and craft booths

will be available on April 11 by contacting either Michele Kawai at 333-4387 or Kau'i Nakamura at 333-0628.

Make sure to mark your calendars to be in North Kohala for Kamehameha Day to celebrate the life of Kohala's "#1 Son" and enjoy the community where he was born. Further information about this year's celebration will be included in future editions of KMN.



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County Council Update

From the Desk of District 9 Councilwoman Margaret Wille

A COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE: On March 16 the Council considered my bill proposing a Charter Amendment to let the voters decide (on the November ballot) whether to establish a County Department of Agriculture. The rationale is that if we want agriculture to be a priority we should prioritize agriculture by establishing a department at the county level. As currently drafted, this Agricultural Department would include a director, a nine-member County Commission of Agriculture, and any necessary staff.

A COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND CULTURE: On April 5 the Council will consider my proposed Charter Amendment to establish a County Department of Conservation and Culture. In addition to the director there would be two boards within the Department – a Conservation Commission and a Cultural Commission. Both commissions would be composed of nine members, with one member from each council district.

Establishing these Charter-level commissions would again signify priority status of environmental well-being, including giving consideration to global warming and sea level rise. The Cultural Commission would address a broad range of cultural issues relating to history, site and artifact preservation, place names and language, and socio-cultural well-being generally inclusive of the arts.



Photo courtesy of the Office of Margaret Wille

Kealoha Sugiyama was honored at the Senior Volunteer Recognition Day on February 19 for his service to North Kohala.

Pictured (left to right): Councilwoman Margaret Wille, Kealoha Sugiyama and Barbara Kossow (representing Mayor Billy Kenoi)

Inquire of my office to check on the status of these two bills or regarding any other County legislation.

NON-PROFIT GRANTS: As a Hawai'i County councilmember, I work on many projects – not just writing legislation and attending numerous community meetings. One council program I am participating in for the first time this year

is the Council's Non-profit Grant Ad Hoc Committee. In the budget, the Council approved \$1.5 million for grants to non-profit groups to support their work in communities around our island. I am one of the four Council members on this ad hoc committee.

Island-wide, 144 non-profits applied this year for these grants. In total, they requested close to six mil-

lion dollars. Our ad hoc committee then spent three days interviewing all of the applicants, and on March 11 we finalized our recommendations for the full council to vote on in April or May. The funds will become available as of July, 2016. Each applicant who receives a grant will submit a mid-year report and a year-end report to ensure the funds were spent for the purpose and items that had been designated in the applicant's grant proposal.

I was very impressed by the caliber of this year's non-profit applications. It was a challenge deciding how to allocate the limited funding available. However what struck me most was how few applications came from non-profits in my District 9, or more generally from North Hawai'i. For this reason I am determined to make a point of getting out the word about the availability of these grants and making sure North Hawai'i non-profits take better advantage of this funding source. Please contact my office my office for more information about this County grant opportunity. Also, if you do not already receive my newsletter and wish to receive more information about current grant opportunities, please sign up for the newsletter (where we list the contact information for possible grant opportunities).

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



Mountain Road Ranch Granted to The Kohala Center

A 60-acre ranch at Keawewai, near the summit of Kohala Mountain Road, has been donated to The Kohala Center, a Waimea-based non-profit organization, to help restore native forests. The ranch will also be used for education and community outreach programs, according to a center news release.

Waimea resident Jim Posner

donated the land through the center's Ainaho'i program, which focuses on the long term stewardship of land. In this case, emphasis will be placed on the restoration of native forests, a function of the Kohala Watershed Partnership, another center program.

"The Keawewai site will eventually serve as the hub of The Center's agricultural and educational

initiatives, and offer community organizations a natural and peaceful environment for personal and professional growth. An existing structure on the property will be converted into a certified commercial kitchen available for use by community food producers," the release said.

The facility will be known as Ainaho'i at Keawewai. The word

ainaho'i is interpreted by the center to mean "it is indeed that which feeds us."

"I want the land to be a productive and welcoming place for the purposes of conservation, propagation, education, expression, communion and 'funion,'" said Posner. "I feel that The Kohala Center is ideally suited to steward the ranch to the next level."

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Access Group Looks at Railroad Right of Way

Once the backbone of transportation in Kohala, the old railroad right of way came back to life at a meeting of the North Kohala Community Access Group on March 2. Talk among the 21 people who attended centered on whether the easement under the rails, which once ran from Mahukona Harbor to Niuli'i, might once again be used -- this time for recreation.

Revitalizing the railroad bed for its historic preservation and heritage values has long been discussed among residents, but this time experts in establishing trails shared their knowledge about places that have converted rails to trails. The bottom line was: it will take a lot of consensus among community and land owners to achieve the goal.

Meredith Speicher, a planner for the National Park Service Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program, opened the discussion by talking about successful projects of converting train tracks and cane haul roads to trails on Kauai, North Shore O'ahu and Maui.

In 2010 Speicher wrote a draft report for the Hawai'i Island Trails and Railway Preservation Project. In it she researched the old railroads in North Kohala and Ka'u. New interest in Kohala has motivated her to

finalize the report. She asked for people with information about the railroad to share it with her or the Community Access Group.

She pointed out that the North Kohala Community Development Plan section on Public Access identifies the railroad bed as a future trail. It also has strong recommendations for historic and cultural preservation.

The Kohala railroad was initiated by an act of the Hawai'i legislature in 1878 and supported by King Kalakaua, who appointed his cabinet member Samuel G. Wilder to develop it. Hawai'i Railroad Company was founded in 1880 and the trains began running in 1884 carrying passengers, mail and freight. It did not carry any sugar, according to Speicher's report. In 1897 the company was disincorporated and the new company, Hawai'i Railway, was sold to the four principal plantations, which used it for hauling sugar beginning in 1899. It continued to run on shorter and shorter lines until cane hauling ceased in 1955.

The question of whether the Kohala railroad bed is public or private was a main topic of the next speaker, attorney Tom Pierce of Maui. Pierce recently argued the

widely reported case of whether or not the Haleakala Trail -- the old road to the summit -- is public. The court ruled in favor of the public and that access is being opened for recreational use.

The Highways Act of 1892, signed by Queen Liliuokalani and the legislature, says that all accessways "opened, laid out or built by the government" at that time were declared to be public trails, Pierce indicated.

The next question is whether it was used enough to prove that it was a public trail, not just a prescriptive easement. Pierce then described the history of the Haleakala Trail and how the case, brought by the Sierra Club partnering with the State, was able to convince the court that a trail exists even if you can't see it, even if the government or adjoining land owner moved it, and even if the government traded it for other land.

"There used to be greater respect for trails and their sanctity," Pierce said. "Only now are we seeing some return of understanding how important trails are to our lives." The need for enhanced respect for trails was amplified by Dr. Richard Stevens, a trail expert who completed a survey of the many North Kohala ancient and current trails in the 1990s.

Pierce encouraged the audience to work closely with land owners along the trails and rights of way. He pointed out incentives that can be offered to owners. "Everyone benefits from cooperation. Everyone benefits from trails," he said.

Speicher also said working with land owners to address their concerns from the beginning is very important. She said all the owners along the Kauai and Maui trails are now pleased to have them nearby, even if they resisted at first. But it took a lot of work, she said.

Kohala resident Carter Collins, organizer of the Solar Matters project and a member of the access group, encouraged the Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail staff at the National Park Service to bring the speakers to Kohala. He said he is looking for solutions to provide more trails and bikeways in Kohala and along the coast.

The North Kohala Community Access Group is a subcommittee of the North Kohala Community Development Plan (NKCDP) Action Committee. Its task is to implement the goals and strategies of the NKCDP. The group meets monthly on the first Wednesday at 4:30 p.m. at the Senior Center. The public is invited.

A Family of Seniors

Photo and caption by Lani Eugenio



The Oshita family: Andy, Shigeru, Jane and Marcia.

Two generations of the Oshita family enjoy their membership in the Kohala Senior Citizens Club. WWII Veteran Shigeru Oshita, 98, is a staunch member along with his wife, Jane, who celebrated her 93rd birthday on February 16. Their son Andy and his wife Marcia are in their 60s and attend the Seniors' meetings, which have guest speakers, entertainment and food... a great place to socialize for anyone 55 years and older. The \$25 yearly dues are worth the rejuvenating shot every Monday from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

BY VIRGINIA FORTNER

BEGINNING 2016

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HCC-Palamananui Culinary Program Scholarships Available

The ACF Kona Kohala Chefs Association is offering Discovery Culinary Scholarships to prospective culinary students hoping to attend Hawai'i Community College (HCC)—Palamananui.

Geared to students who have never enrolled in the HCC culinary program, the scholarships are for \$1,000 each. Eligibility criteria include a transcript showing the candidate has maintained a 2.5 or better GPA, a list of community culinary related involvement, a 500-word essay, two letters of recommendation and a completed scholarship application form.

Forms can be downloaded at www.konakohalacheffs.org. Anyone needing help to apply for the scholarship can contact Chef Patti, 895-1967.

Email completed eligibility criteria to Dr. Carol Whitaker at Whitaker@rocketmail.com or mail to Kona Kohala Chefs Association at P.O. Box 1268, Kailua-Kona, HI 96745. Submissions must be postmarked by April 1, 2016 to be considered.

What Is Happening To Kohala?

Story by Jeff Coakley

Kohala is no longer that sleepy, easy going community that it has been for the past decades. There have been reported home invasions taking place during the day and night! Pololu Valley, as well as pockets of Kohala towns, are becoming toilets by campers and homeless people living in the gulches and along the streams. Recently, a stranger drove up to a house and asked to use the restroom.

The residents denied him entrance to their home, then he refused to leave. The police had to be called and a chase ensued, resulting in the desecration of a historic cemetery.

Also, there are scammers around asking people if they want their yards or house cleaned or repaired, as they scope out what they can steal. Hawai'i County Prosecutor Mitch Roth, our last speaker at the Kohala Community Association meeting, warned us about what could happen in our communities with the passing of the new marijuana bill and how it has contributed to the increase of homelessness in Colorado.

On another note, our Hawai'i County Council asked Hawai'i state legislators to allow counties to tax the marijuana dispensaries to help offset the anticipated costs for more police and social services. Thus far, the state legislators have denied the requests and the Council has hinted that they may have to raise our property taxes to offset the costs for the projected increase in services.

Interestingly, our state representatives were the only ones allowed to vote on the marijuana issue, but we as homeowners will have to pay for the potential consequences for their poor planning and vision. Hmmm.

Another concern is Kohala's resources. At one time, the residents of Kohala prided themselves on their ability to live off the land and ocean. Not so today, as many of our coastal resources have been severely depleted.

What are the causes for this depletion and what can we do about it...if anything? The Kohala Community Association, at the request of concerned citizens, will be sponsoring a meeting

at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, March 28, at the Kohala High School Cafeteria. Speakers will include:

- Kohala/Waimea Police Captain Cortez on crime activity in our community and Neighborhood Watch Program

- Mr. John Kahiapo, Department of Land and Natural Resources, on Maka'i Watch Program

The Kohala Community Association will continue to respond to resident concerns and meet those hard and controversial issues head on. It's our community and it is time for us to step up to the plate and ask ourselves, "What can we do about this? How can I help?"

Kohala Community Association Meeting
Monday, March 28
6:30 p.m.
Kohala High School Cafeteria

Participate in keeping Kohala Kohala!

Veterinary Tips

Health information for pets by Robin Woodley, D.V.M.

Dogs, cats and kids share a lot of fun and play together. They can also share some parasites that are not so much fun to get.

In the last six months, the detection of hookworm infections in Kohala dogs has increased dramatically. These worms are easily eliminated by the correct medication, once they are diagnosed. Please take a stool sample into your veterinarian to have it checked.

The adult hookworm has six teeth that it uses to attach to the lining of the intestines. Hookworms get their food by sucking blood from the dog or cat. The female worms lay eggs, which pass out in the dog's stool.

The larva can infect a new host in several ways:

1. Penetrating directly through the skin (on any part touching the ground),
2. Being in the dirt that is licked off when the animal is cleaning itself, or
3. Being in prey, such as a rat or an insect like a cockroach, that an animal eats (both dogs and cats are infected this way).

The new host is not always a pet. It can be a rodent or bird, but the pet will become infected if it eats the infected host. This is the common way cats get infected.

Hookworms are particularly dangerous to puppies and can suck enough blood to kill them.

Hookworms can be transmitted from the mom through her milk (though this does not happen in

cats). There is a special worming program to prevent transmission in this way by the mother.

Because puppies are so susceptible, it is recommended to begin de-worming puppies at two weeks of age.

Hookworms can infect people, big or small, if they go barefoot in areas contaminated with larvae through feces.

Cleaning the Environment

Hookworm eggs do not survive cleaning with bleach. Using four tablespoons of bleach in a gallon of water to wash dog runs. This will kill eggs. Do not use full-strength bleach, as it will burn the dogs' paws and is very toxic if accidentally licked. The eggs in grass die in a few months, and keeping grass

very short eliminates them sooner.

Summary

De-worm all puppies starting at two weeks.

De-worm outdoor cats twice a year.

Have adult dogs' stool samples checked twice a year and use a monthly de-wormer.

Wash dog runs with diluted bleach if a sample is positive.

Keep the grass short.

Clear droppings from the yard daily.

Wear shoes when playing in yards shared by dogs and cats.

Hawai'i has a year round problem with hookworms. Protect your pets and your family by testing for these parasites and treating your pets.

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Talk Story with Vivian Moku

Story and photo by Helen Nahoopii
Vivian Moku and I meet at the restored Nanbu Courtyard for coffee. Her gentle smile and warm aloha fills the air amidst the garden's peaceful setting.

She is slight in stature and spry in her step. The origins of her name are from the Latin word "viv" which means "to live." Vivian Mae Villamil is the daughter of Filipino migrant farmers who settled in the farm community of Pahoia since the 1920's. Her father was a luna (manager) in the sugar cane industry until his retirement. Her earliest memories there are of doing chores.

Daily, she cooked, cleaned and harvested vegetables from the garden for one pot meals that fed her large family of eleven members. Three grandparents, her mom and dad and seven siblings shared a small home. Her dad always stressed the value of an education, and Vivian embraced both social and academic responsibilities along with her familial obligations. At age seventeen this spirited girl caught the eye of a newly hired teacher, Harris Moku, at Pahoia High School.

Vivian was a very popular and outgoing cheerleader. "I was kinda loud," she laughs. She lights up as we begin to speak about the good 'ole days. Our conversation brings a smile to her face and a warmth to her heart. "Once we realized we had feelings for one another we went to the principal's office and told him. It was not okay for teachers to be dating students. His advice was for us to be discreet with our affections," said Vivian. Harris and Vivian married soon after her graduation. Vivian tells the story of how Harris called midday from work and asked what's for dinner. "Steak!" she responded. When he sat down for dinner that evening, to his surprise there was a bowl of cabbage on the table. "Where's my steak?!" he shouted. She spooned up the cabbage and responded, "There!" Sliced up between the cabbage were bite sized pieces of steak. Her thrifty ways as a young girl cooking for a large family was something different for her husband. Within

the next year she gave birth to their first son, Robbie (Butchie Jr.). A couple of years after marriage Harris was offered an opportunity to return to his childhood place, the North Kohala area, to be a football coach at his alma mater. Surprised, Vivian asked, "What about my mother?" Harris replied, "Cut those apron strings," she says. Her youthful optimism would show itself again and again. Moving to Kohala would be Vivian's first time to experience loneliness.

She had always been surrounded by school friends, her large extended family and the villagers in Pahoia's farm community. Now, she was eight months pregnant and ready to give birth to her second child when they made the move to Honomakau, where the teachers housing was located. Private thoughts of possibly having a girl helped her loneliness subside as she prepared to have her second child. Vivian recalls, "It was another boy, Samuel. He was the cutest baby. He had dimples, like small impressions pushed into a lump of freshly baked bread dough! Such joy filled my heart. I will keep him!" She laughs out loud. Vivian's forever spirited demeanor pressed on towards managing a bigger household. They soon became involved in community sports and had an active nightlife. She recalls the famed movie theaters in the downtown district. "I went to see 'Jaws' at the Hawi Theater. So fake, that shark...yet it stays in your mind. I did not want to go into the ocean after that," she says. One day Anna and Abraham Mills

came over to her truck after a high school football game. He was head custodian at the school and knew Harris.

They quickly became friends. "We could not afford our own TV so we would go to their home to watch. Can you imagine that today!"



Vivian Moku

she exclaims. We both agree that nowadays there is an excess of screens and gadgets in every home. Happiness struck again with the birth of a beautiful girl, LiAnne. She was the apple of her dad's eye. Vivian and all three children would go to church every Sunday. One day, her nine year old daughter asked, "How come we got to go to church and daddy no need?"

"I going, I going," Harris exclaimed as he climbed out of bed that morning to respond to his daughters query. Harris continued to join the family that Sunday and every Sunday since.

Vivian felt going to church brought the family closer together. The Moku children would attend Kamehameha School in Honolulu as boarders. Inter-island plane fares were just twenty five dollars so they could afford to go to the kids' sports, music and other special holidays events. "We lived in the teacher housing at Kohala High School. It was thirty five dollars a month with a renewal of the lease every two years.

Eventually the rent increased to sixty five dollars and Harris suggested they purchase and build their own home. They had an opportunity to buy afford-

able land after the closure of the sugar plantation in Kohala in 1975. They settled on a piece of land in the Kaauhuhu Homestead area. The kids did well. Butchie went onto college and Sam was a carpenter.

Their daughter LiAnne was talented and smart and worked at a few different jobs, including as a bank teller and a telephone operator. In 1979 she won the coveted title as Miss Filipina Hawai'i. Later, she would marry a Kailua-Kona boy, Brian Bochar, and then had two incredible children, daughter Kehaulani and a son Kekaimalie. LiAnne earned her teaching credentials at the University of Hawai'i and found challenge and joy in working with "kids at risk".

She really believed these children just needed encouragement, something LiAnne had given to countless kids as a teacher. As life happens, Vivian received a phone call one day. It was LiAnne with some unexpected news. "Ma, I have four lumps in my breast!" She was just thirty four. "I had noticed she was looking thinner," remembers Vivian, "but she still was her usual energetic self. We never worried. By the time she noticed the changes in her body it was too late. It took two years of illness and two years in remission. Sadly, in 1990, she passed away. Do you know that song 'Crying on the inside while laughing on the outside'?"

Months after she was gone people would say, 'You need to get over this tragedy. It's time to get out and get involved.' Many offered kind words for me and their intentions were good. I can honestly say now...you never just 'get over it.' The memory of losing a child so young is always with you. She was so much fun. I miss her every day. "When alone, I feel as though I could easily crawl up into a ball and give up, but I realize quickly that I have an important purpose: to be here for my grandchildren.

Sometimes I give important motherly advice that I know my daughter would want me to share," she says. After sixty-two years of marriage, Vivian's husband Harris left the earthly realm at the age of ninety.

See Vivian, Page 11



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Senator Dr. Josh Green, Kohala Emergency Room Doctor

Interviewed March 2016

Story by Elaine Christianson

This is the fourth in a series of interviews of the Kohala Hospital Emergency Room Physician staff conducted by Elaine Christianson, secretary of the Kohala Hospital Charitable Foundation Board. Dr. Green serves in the Kohala Hospital Emergency Room.

Christianson: By way of background, after residency at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, I read you joined the National Health Service Corps and were awarded a scholarship to pay off medical school loans, on the condition that you commit to a four-year term.

Dr. Green: Yes, that's luckily what brought me to Hawai'i. I became the sole family physician, and ER physician at Pahala Hospital, in the Ka'u district for approximately eight thousand inhabitants. Disturbed by the challenges of the methamphetamine drug problems and shortage of physicians, I decided to run for office and work at another level to improve health care. I was elected to the Hawai'i House of Representatives and now serve as Senator for District 3.

Christianson: How do you juggle your political duties and your medical duties?

Dr. Green: Sleep deprivation! I am in the Capitol during session and come up to do ER work here in Kohala on weekends. Wearing both hats keeps me connected to my medical profession and at the same time aware of what the larger health care needs are for the State. I fought for additional resources for Kona and Kohala Hospitals, and introduced bills to provide coverage for rape victims, children with autism and cleft palate, and other health related bills.

Christianson: Is it easier to save a

life, or pass legislation?

Dr. Green: It's much easier to save a life! Passing legislation requires navigating a lot of landmines and dealing with people with differing agendas and ideologies, and can take years. Saving a life, we are all working towards the same end.

Christianson: I was interested to read about Senate Bill 3064, which re-structured Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) - Kohala being one of their 14 Hawai'i State owned hospitals - to allow partnerships with a private entities in Hawai'i. Recent examples are Queens Medical Center with North Hawai'i Community Hospital, and Kaiser Permanente Medical Care Program with Maui Memorial Medical Center.

Dr. Green: Because we have a large sector of people on Medicare and Medicaid in this rural area, we will always be underfunded for our safety net system, so creating partnerships, with a strong preference for Hawai'i-based entities, is something we need to consider.

Christianson: Who are the possible partners?

Dr. Green: There are three, actually: Hawai'i Pacific Health, Kaiser Permanente, and Queens Medical Center. The highest probability is Queens. That way we could possibly have a new Kona Hospital triangulating care with Kohala and Waimea.

Christianson: I heard an interview you did with Dr. Linda Rosen, the CEO for HHSC who was responsible for creating the trauma care system statewide.

Dr. Green: Yes, we passed the tobacco tax to help fund this. Consultations with specialists over the Internet save a lot of time and expense. I've been pushing legislation this year to mainstream TeleHealth - using technology to send images for consultations with outside experts. This translates into giving people

better care and helps solve problems of smaller populations, distance to care, and shortage of doctors. But, I can say that compared to experience in India and in my hospital work in Swaziland, Kohala Hospital is an incredible upgrade.

Technology aside, there is no

substitute for face-to-face, hands-on diagnostics. As my mentor said, "Look at the patient."

Christianson: I heard an interview with you by Bob Martin at the North Kohala radio station about Dengue Fever. What comments do you have?

Dr. Green: I was concerned right from the get-go because we knew a lot of people didn't come to get tested, and if it continued its rapid growth we would not be able to get ahead of it. To date we have not seen any cases in North Kohala and the outbreak seems to be slowing down. But because the mosquito is the same for Dengue and Zika virus, I have been pressing the Department of Health to take this seriously. We don't have the capacity to deal with a large outbreak.

Christianson: Let's talk briefly about money. How much did the State contribute in 2015 to subsidize the hospitals in HHSC?

Dr. Green: A hundred million dollars - about 20% of the budget - which we hope to reduce over the next decade by 10%.

If we were to modernize all of the hospitals in this system, it would cost about a billion dollars. That's why we need to look at the partnerships we've discussed.

Christianson: Over the course of this conversation you have reassured me that you are committed to keep Kohala Hospital open, and in fact that was the reason the Kohala Hospital Charitable Foundation was created: to raise funds and keep our hospital functioning. Clearly a billion dollars is beyond the scope of our Foundation (chuckle) but we thank you for your efforts in support our mutual goal, both as a physician and a legislator.



Photo courtesy of Josh Green

Dr. Josh Green serves as a North Kohala Hospital Emergency Room physician and Hawai'i State Senator, District 3.



Vivian, continued from Page 10
He had lived a life of achieving many things. He was very proud that he served as a World War II Army soldier and that he completed college at Portland State University. He was raised in Niuli'i and returned to his hometown to teach and be a football coach at

North Kohala High School. Everyone who met Harris would praise his good nature and remember his strict disciplinary ways. Life continued to offer up challenges. Three months after her husband was laid to rest her son Robbie would die of a serious heart condition. Vivian mourned once again

and pressed on. Today she keeps her oath to be here for the others. Vivian lives life as her name implies. She stays busy with the local senior citizens club and serves as a volunteer at the Hawi Sacred Hearts Church. She continues to serve her most important purpose: to spend as much quality time as

possible with her grandchildren and great grandchildren. If you know of someone who has lived in the North Kohala area for a long time who would share their story, please contact the editor at Kohala Mountain News with your name and the person's name and contact information. Mahalo!

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10th Annual Trash Bash Adding Theatrical Performance

The Kohala Trash Bash team, the Kohala Village HUB, and Lava-Roots Performing Arts are collaborating in the production of the 10th Annual Trash Bash, designed to be the best Trash Bash ever. It will feature an art exhibit from April 15 to May 8 at Luke's Room at the Kohala Village Hub and an amazing theatrical performance, the "Mystique du Plastique, A Folly of Plastic Unwrapped", at 7 p.m. at the Kohala Village HUB barn on April 30.

The Trash Bash event is a non-profit project sponsored by WasteStream and The North Kohala Community Resource Center. WasteStream is a 20-year-old volunteer-driven organization of committed residents experienced in providing recycling sort stations and promoting environmental education for the community. The Kohala Village HUB is providing space for the event as well as sound and lighting technicians so that the fashion show performance can take on a new theatrical dimension.

The exhibit of Trash Art will offer art made from upcycled trash. These works are created by artists from all over the Big Island, and will feature many Kohala artists. There will be a reception on Saturday, April 30, at 5 p.m. for the artists.

Following the reception Michal Carrillo, Artistic Director of Lava-Roots Performing Arts, will direct an exciting new multi-dimensional performance. It will display trash fashion made by local and world-renowned "trashion" designers. "Trashion," as it's lovingly called, is trash that is re-purposed and given new life as fashion. The event will also incorporate storytelling and choreographed dance from different traditions, including African, Hip-Hop and Hula.

Advance sale tickets for "Mystique du Plastique" will be available starting April 1 for \$15 at Kohala Coffee Mill, the HUB lobby and Elements Jewelry and Crafts in Hawi. Tickets at the door will be \$20. There is limited seating. The HUB

WEEKLY EVENTS IN APRIL 2016			
MONDAY			
7PM		AL-ANON MEETING WITH LAURA	KOHALA MISSION SCHOOL CAFETERIA 895-2094
9AM		KOHALA SENIOR CLUB MEETINGS - AGE REQUIREMENT 55 PLUS	OLD COURTHOUSE
5:30PM	6PM	INSANITY CLASSES WITH ROSS PAGAT	SOLID ROCK NORTH CHURCH 989-0966
7PM	8PM	NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS - LIVING CLEAN - DISCUSSION	CLAY HOUSE (BEHIND THE HUB)
TUESDAY			
8AM	9:30 AM	HATHA YOGA WITH MORGAN CASSIDY	IN THE WHITE TENT, 53-496 IOLE RD 889-5151
9AM	10:30AM	SITTING MEDITATION WITH JOHN	MEDITATION HALE, 53-3988 AKONI PULE HWY 889-5151
WEDNESDAY			
7PM		ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS	WYLLIE HALL, IOLE ROAD, KALAHIKOLA CHURCH 889-6703
THURSDAY			
8AM	9:30AM	VINYASA FLOW YOGA, WITH MAYA PARISH	IN THE WHITE TENT, 53-496 IOLE RD 889-5151
5:30PM	6PM	INSANITY CLASSES WITH ROSS PAGAT	KAMEHAMEHA PARK COMPLEX 989-0966
7PM	8PM	NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS - 12 STEPS & TRADITIONS	CLAY HOUSE (BEHIND THE HUB)
FRIDAY			
10AM		PRESCHOOL STORY TIME FOR AGES 2-5 (APRIL 22, SPECIAL READING READINESS)	NORTH KOHALA LIBRARY 889-6655
SATURDAY			
8:30AM	4PM	CERT TRAINING	WAIMEA 889-6901
SUNDAY			
6PM	7:30PM	CELEBRATE RECOVERY - HOSTED BY ADAM & MELINDA ANAKALEA	SOLID ROCK NORTH CHURCH 640-8590

EMAIL WEEKLY CALENDAR LISTINGS TO KMCALENDAR@HOTMAIL.COM

will provide a cash bar at the event. The Trash Bash will support the Kohala Elementary School Discovery Garden Program, which teaches children about gardening and earth

stewardship. Last year, the Trash Bash proceeds funded a paper-recycling program at the elementary school. Through the purchase of a shredder and bins for each

classroom, used paper is now being composted and incorporated into the school garden. The Trash Bash Committee hopes to do more for the Discovery Garden this year.

The Trash Bash is as much about the love of art as it is the love of the 'aina. Art and Fashion are vehicles to change perceptions, raise awareness, and increase appreciation for the Earth's precious resources and how they are used.

More information can be found online at www.kohalatrashbash.com, or by contacting Karen Rosen at (808) 896-3429.

WasteStream and the Trash Bash event are fiscally sponsored by North Kohala Community Resource Center.

Tax-deductible donations to the Trash Bash event can be made by check payable to NKCRC, P.O. Box 519, Hawi, HI 96719 with WasteStream Trash Bash noted on the memo line, or at www.northkohala.org/projects/current-project-summaries/donate-to-waste-stream-recycling/.

Be sure to like them on Facebook at <http://facebook.com/kohalatrashbash>.



Photo courtesy of The Trash Bash Committee

Dee Chapon, Maggie Fromahder, Colleen Nevins, Alvita Soleil, Karen Rosen and Rebecca Parks model their 2009 Trash Bash creations.



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Holokū Pageant and Luau on March 26 in Hawi

A luau fundraiser will be taking place on Saturday, March 26, from 4 to 8 p.m. at the Kohala Village Hub. This event will feature a showing of beautiful Holokū, the traditional Hawaiian gown created after the arrival of the missionaries.

Those in attendance will be able to see some exquisite creations by Rebecca Rocha, with thanks extended to Stanford and Sonya Rocha for sharing some of this collection. Mrs. Rocha was known for her skill as a seamstress. Everyone is invited to wear their Holokū; a changing room will be provided.

There will also be entertainment by local musicians and a special

dance presentation by some Kohala High School students. Along with all this entertainment, the cost of \$15.00 includes a Hawaiian plate for dinner. Food is also available for take out.

This benefit supports Na Kupuna 'O Kohala hula halau and the Kamehameha Day Committee. The Kohala Village Hub is helping to sponsor this event, which will take place at the Hub's Barn.

Most tickets have been pre-sold, yet some may be available at the door or from members of the halau or Kamehameha Day Committee. Your support of the Kamehameha Day celebration and this group of senior dancers is appreciated.

Unique Recycled Clothing Hits Kohala

North Kohala resident Amanda Shoemaker loves to recycle. Having developed a strong sense of fashion during years of working in retail clothing stores, she combined these distinct facets of her personality to create a recycled-fashion design business.

Contrary to what one might imagine, Shoemaker didn't grow up sewing. Five years ago she was gifted an old sewing machine, which had been salvaged by movers. Her mom taught her over the phone how to thread the needle. Curious and experimental, she started making curtains for herself, gradually learning how to sew more and more complex items.

Her modus operandi is simple, yet complex. She finds interesting garments at thrift shops and imagines using them to either repair other old garments or to be repaired themselves. Many treasured finds come from Mama's House pop-up thrift store in Kohala, where she works three days per week.

Stains on a pair of solid denim shorts might be covered by a salvaged piece of print fabric. A dress on its way out could be refashioned into an apron with a frilly edge and unique button detail. A shirt with a yellowed collar might have the stained collar covered with quintessential aloha material and unexpectedly pick up a matching pocket made of the same pattern.

Shoemaker especially favors styles of the '70s and '90s featuring bold prints, patterns and colors. These styles are especially popular with the younger set in Hawai'i.

Shoemaker has found a niche with t-shirt grocery bags, which are old - many times colorful and unique - T-shirts sewn together at the bottom with the neckline fashioned into handles. Owners appreciate that they're light, sturdy and expand to carry a generous load. Shoemaker appreciates that one more piece of fabric with some life left in it has become a unique work of art.



Photo courtesy of Hawaii Island Retreat
This red Holokū is owned by Jeanne Sunderland and is on display at the Hawaii Island Retreat.



File Photo
Amanda Shoemaker displays a shirt she saved from being sent to the dumpster. She finds items of clothing with stains and holes and gives them new life with creative repairs.



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Paul Breese Named Living Treasure of Hawai'i

Story by Kaid Nickl

Some of you may know Mrs. DeMercer-Breese, the former elementary school teacher.

But do you know her husband, Paul Breese, or his legacy?

Because of Paul's immense impact in Hawai'i, on February 13 he was named a Living Treasure of Hawai'i, along with four other honorees. Paul received his award from Bishop Eric Matsumoto and President Pieper Toyama, both of Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawai'i, before an audience of over one thousand people at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom. Mrs. DeMercer-Breese and many other family members and friends were present when Paul received his award.

Paul's mark in the islands starts with a zoo. He was the first appointed Director of Honolulu Zoo in 1947. While working at the zoo, he created many breeding programs to diversify the zoo with even more animals. The types of animals he worked with included giraffes and Galapagos tortoises.

After his long stand as zoo director, he is currently a director emeritus of the Honolulu Zoo, where he passes on his vast knowledge of public relations and government agencies to visitors.

To add on to this prestigious level of commendations, he is a former chief of the State of Hawai'i Wildlife Branch, and a former chairperson of the Hawai'i State Nene advisory committee. He played a vital role in

preventing the extinction of these precious birds through the combined efforts of the Honolulu Zoo, private landowners and the state of Hawai'i.

me a calendar with reptile photos and a book all about the curious creatures. He helped spur my interest in nature and biology, and I'm sure many

thanks to this "living treasure".

And best of all, he and Mrs. DeMercer-Breese live right here in Kohala!



Photo courtesy of Paul Breese
On February 13, 2016 Paul Breese (center) was named a Living Treasure of Hawai'i by the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawai'i. Pictured with Breese at the celebration are his wife, Mrs. Jean DeMercer-Breese and Governor David Ige, one of the invited guests.

But wait, there's more! Mr. Breese is also a former vice-chairperson of the Conservation Council of Hawai'i. This organization made the resolution to the state legislature to make the nene the official bird of the territory of Hawai'i, and eventually the official state bird of Hawai'i.

Paul served our country as a naval officer in the South Pacific Theater in WWII.

Paul Breese influenced me positively when I was a child. He noticed that I expressed a fond love for nature (more specifically, reptiles), so he gave

others can say the same. Both Mr. Breese and Mrs. DeMercer-Breese helped educate me, as she was my third grade teacher.

Paul and Mrs. DeMercer-Breese are authors of a book titled "Honolulu Zoo: Waikiki's Wildlife Treasure 1915-2015."

Paul Breese was and is a man of amazing intellect and curiosity. His keen attention to preserving animals in their natural habitat means that Hawai'i's wildlife continues to prosper today. Countless people now are educated in the wonders of nature,

Community Emergency Response Team Training Offered

By Sadie Young

There will be a free basic Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training offered this year in Waimea on four consecutive Saturdays beginning April 9 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. This will be the only training in our area this year.

The importance of emergency training is crucial to every family in our easily isolated North Kohala with limited infrastructure. People who complete the free CERT training gain a clear understanding of the potential threats to their home, workplace, and community. The training teaches how to prepare family, home and neighborhood to be more ready when (not if) disaster strikes. This includes earthquake, hurricane, fire, solar flares, and other potentially life threatening disasters.

The CERT program teaches basic disaster response skills:

- *fire safety
- *light search and rescue
- *team organization
- *disaster medical operations

Contact John Winters at 889-6901 to sign up or for more information.



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In The Service to Our Beloved
Jeffrey Lee,
we'd like to honor with a loving Mahalo, the following who assisted in the last month of his physical life:

North Hawai'i Hospice:
Kaiki Gunderson, RN Megan McCaffrey, MSW, LSW
Kristin Wohlschlagel, RN, CHPN
Christine Richardson, RN Marshall Cacoulidis, HA
Sandie Rossi, HA Sandee Moiha, HA

Hospice Volunteers & Community Ohana:
Jim & Leah Land Jim & Darlene Scancella
Eileen Hartwings Fara Boisvert/Sage Farms
Peter DeVries Mellanie Lee
Kathie & Keith Kurpita
Deborah & John Winter

You touched our lives with your Love-In-Action, April Lee, Christina Lee, our oldest daughter, without whose skilled assistance I wouldn't have been able to cope & Jasmin McCracken, our youngest daughter.

Lions Club Grants Awarded

The Kohala Lions Club is pleased to announce the winter recipients of their Community Giving Grants, all local organizations that benefit and support our community. A total of \$3,250 was awarded.

- Camp Mana, a day camp for about 40 youth cultivating inner wisdom, creativity and interpersonal skills

- Kohala Civic Club, sponsoring Kamehameha Day parade and activities

- Kohala Coqui Coalition, preventing the spread of invasive coqui in Kohala

- Kohala Elementary School's Discovery Garden, involving gardening skills for students and family participation

- North Kohala Student Cultural Enrichment Program, providing 400 Kohala Elementary and Kohala Middle School students with attendance at Kahilu Theatre performances, artist-in-school puppetry and mask making, cultural and science field trips, Kid Pan Alley's music writing and performing program

- Kohala Ride Wild Club, promoting paniolo culture, providing emotional support and equine skills for children in addition to animal rescue

- Kohala Trash Bash, cultivating attention to reducing trash and enhancing creativity through its upcoming 10th anniversary event

- Kohala Unupa`a and Ocean Warriors, offering fifth through seventh graders a free summer camp to promote Hawaiian culture,

intergenerational relationships and care of the `aina

- Kohala VEX Robotics, a hands-on STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art and math) program for middle and high schoolers, preparing for travel to national competition

- LavaRoots Performing Arts, targeting all fifth graders at the Discovery Garden with emphasis on health; fresh foods; and African drumming, music and dance

- Project Grad, offering free and safe celebration of Kohala High School graduation with this year's seniors traveling to Disneyland

The next grant application period will be open in July 2016.

Kohala Lions Club is the local branch of Lions Club International, a civic club founded in 1917 that focuses on children, community and health programs, especially sight, hearing and diabetes awareness. In addition to community grants, the Club serves the community by providing vision screens to school age children, eyeglass recycling, the "Sight is Beautiful" art contest, the Flag Day program at Kohala Elementary, highway cleanup and sponsorship of Kohala High School's Leos Club. The Kohala club raises funds for community giving through two primary events: the Mother's Day Pancake Breakfast on May 8 and a summertime yard, steak and bake sale. To learn more about the Lions Club, purchase Mother's Day breakfast tickets or get an application for a grant, contact Chris Brown at 884-5122.



Photo by: North Kohala Community Resource Center

Campers in the 2015 Kohala Unupa`a Summer Camp enjoyed intergenerational relationships while learning about Hawaiian culture and care of the `aina.

New Nutrition Program Coordinator for Seniors Takes Reins

Story and photo by Lani Eugenio

Renee Gonsalves has replaced the retiring Jeanine Mattos in the Kohala Senior Center's Nutrition Program. She applied for the position because she wanted to work closely with our kupuna, and she knew a majority of them throughout her residency of 30-plus years in Kohala.

"I'm privileged to work with such a humbled group of people and I look forward to the years ahead with them! It will be a great learning for me!"

Check in with Renee. She has great things planned for the Senior Nutrition Program!



Renee Gonsalves is the new coordinator of the Senior Nutrition Program at the Kohala Senior Center. She has taken the position formerly held by Jeanine Mattos, who recently retired.

Democrats of Hawai'i Presidential Preference Poll (Caucus)

Saturday, March 26
Kohala Elementary/High School Cafeteria

Registration starts at 12 noon
Polling and Voting starts 1:00 p.m.
Polling and voting are guaranteed to be open until at least 1:30, or longer if pollers who have not yet cast their preference are present.

The Presidential Preference Poll will be followed by voting for precinct officials and delegates for county and state conventions.

Poll participants must be registered to vote and be a member of the Democratic Party.

Register to vote and join the Democratic Party in-person March 26, or in advance online at: <https://olvr.hawaii.gov> and <http://hawaiidemocrats.org/join/>

Online pre-registration is highly encouraged to avoid standing in line.

Computers to pre-register and/or join the Democratic Party are available at North Kohala Public Library Monday 12 noon to 7:45 p.m. and Tuesday through Friday 10:00 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.



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KOHALA MONTHLY CALENDAR APRIL 2016

	DAY	START	END	EVENT	DESCRIPTION	VENUE	PHONE
MAR 26		12PM		DEMOCRATS OF HAWAII PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE POLL (CAUCUS)	REGISTRATION STARTS AT 12 NOON, POLLING AND VOTING STARTS 1:00 PM	KHS CAFETERIA	
MAR 28	MON	6:30PM	8PM	NORTH KOHALA COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION MEETING	CONTACT JEFF COAKLEY	KHS CAFETERIA	443-8687
4	MON	3PM	04:30PM	NORTH KOHALA PARENT SUPPORT GROUP	SUPPORTED BY N. HAWAII COMMUNITY CHILDREN'S COUNCIL	KING KAMEHAMEHA PARK	989-4894
11	MON	4PM		ADULT & TEEN POETRY GROUP		NORTH KOHALA LIBRARY	889-6655
12	TUE	11AM		ADULT READING DISCUSSION	"WORLD MADE BY HAND" BY JAMES KUNSTLER	NORTH KOHALA LIBRARY	889-6655
12	TUE	4PM	5PM	FLAG FOOTBALL REGISTRATION	AGES 5- 15	HISAOKA GYM	895-1939
12	TUE	6PM		HAWAII FARMERS UNION UNITED	6PM POTLUCK, 7PM PRESENTATION. FOR EVERYONE INTERESTED IN GOOD FOOD, NOT JUST FARMERS	KOHALA VILLAGE INN BARN	889-5715
14	THU	4PM	5PM	FLAG FOOTBALL REGISTRATION	AGES 5- 15	HISAOKA GYM	895-1939
15				KOHALA TRASH BASH ART SHOW	AT THE KOHALA VILLAGE HUB THROUGH MAY 8	LUKE'S ROOM	896-3429
19	TUE	10AM		ADULT & TEEN WRITER'S GROUP		NORTH KOHALA LIBRARY	889-6655
19	TUE	2:30PM		AFERSCHOOL ACTIVITIES	ELEMENTARY & MIDDLE SCHOOL - LEGO BUILDING	NORTH KOHALA LIBRARY	889-6655
20	WED	1:30PM		AFERSCHOOL ACTIVITIES	ELEMENTARY & MIDDLE SCHOOL - GAMES	NORTH KOHALA LIBRARY	889-6655
23	SAT	10AM	12PM	THRIFT SHOP	AT ST. AUGUSTINE CHURCH	NEXT TO WALKER HALL	889-5390
23	SAT	11AM	12:20PM	COMMUNITY MEAL	AT ST. AUGUSTINE CHURCH	WALKER HALL	889-5390
25	MON	06:30PM		DOCUMENTARY FILM	BACK TO THE GARDEN	NORTH KOHALA LIBRARY	889-6655
26	TUE	5PM	6PM	CDP SUBCOMMITTEE	POWER, VIEWPLANES, & EROSION CONTROL, CONTACT SUSAN FISCHER	OLD COURTHOUSE	882-7611
26	TUE	2:30PM		AFERSCHOOL ACTIVITIES	ELEMENTARY & MIDDLE SCHOOL - STOP MOTION VIDEO PRODUCTION	NORTH KOHALA LIBRARY	889-6655
27	WED	4PM	5:30PM	RESTORATIVE YOGA THERAPY CLASS	WITH CARLA ORELLANA, CERTIFIED YOGA THERAPIST, BY DONATION	THE HUB	889-5151
27	WED	5PM		PARKS, WATER & ROADS SUBCOMMITTEE	MONTHLY MEETING	OLD COURTHOUSE	882-7611
27	WED	11:30 AM		YOUTH READING AND MOVIE CLUB	SECRET GARDEN	NORTH KOHALA LIBRARY	889-6655
27	WED	10AM		UH STATEWIDE CULTURAL EXTENSION PROGRAM	STORYTELLER, MARGARET READ MACDONALD	NORTH KOHALA LIBRARY	889-6655
30	SAT	5PM	7PM	KOHALA TRASH BASH ART SHOW RECEPTION	AT THE KOHALA VILLAGE HUB	LUKE'S ROOM	896-3429
30	SAT	7PM		KOHALA TRASH BASH PERFORMANCE	MYSTIQUE DU PLASTIQUE	KOHALA VILLAGE HUB BARN	896-3429

EMAIL CALENDAR LISTINGS TO KMNCALNDAR@HOTMAIL.COM

Library to Screen "Back to the Garden"

North Kohala Public Library will show the documentary film, "Back to the Garden" at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, April 25. The film has been featured in film festivals in Seattle, Maui, Berlin, and Tel Aviv. It is being shown in Kohala by special permission from the filmmaker.

In 1988, filmmaker Kevin Tomlinson filmed and interviewed a group of back-to-the-land "hippies"—living off-grid, insulated and isolated from mainstream culture.

In 2006, he tracked down his subjects again to find out what had become of their families' utopian plans and dreams.

The film captures a time-lapse view of these back-to-the-landers told with moving personal stories of non-conforming tribal families—with lots of freedom but little cash, of unflinching political activism in the midst of small-town, rural America, and of hippie kids who today ask whether 'free love' was really free.

Travel writer Rick Steves calls this, "A flat out wonderful film... a vindication of flower power idealism. It reminds us of the enduring values of simplicity and self-reliance."

For additional information on this presentation at North Kohala Public Library, contact Janet Lam at 889-6655.

Library Hosts Every Child Ready to Read Program

A special pre-school storytime focused on reading readiness will be held at 10 a.m. Friday, April 22,

for children ages 2 to 5 and their parent(s) or caregiver(s).

Adults will learn early literacy practices that help prepare children to develop reading skills when they start school.

Attendees will listen to stories, solve puzzles, and play games that help stimulate early learning skills, such as listening, talking, singing, writing and playing.

All children who attend will receive worksheets, stickers and a book to bring home.

For more information, call Leilani Silver at North Kohala Public Library, 889-6655.

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Kohala Kowbotics Relocated, Headed To World Championships

Kohala VEX Kowbotics (Robotics) is headed to the World Championship Competition. Team 2460 will compete along with approximately 800 teams in Louisville, Kentucky from April 20 to 24. Over 15,000 teams from around the globe competed all season to earn a berth at Worlds. Hawai'i VEX high school teams were given only six VEX-EDR slots to Worlds, and Kohala High is the only Big Island high school that qualified. Team 2460, lead by Kaimi Hook, Johnette Emeliano, Chris Asagra and Chyenne Book placed third at States. They also won the Excellence award at St Joseph's tournament in November and the Design award at Maui's tournament in October.

Skills challenges are offered separate from Alliance competitions. Team 2460A – Joshua Page and Kaliko Delacruz – placed fourth overall for Programming in Hawai'i's season. Although the team did not earn a Worlds slot, the two seniors will travel with the team to Kentucky.

Kohala Kowbotics is an after-school program that meets twice weekly, year round. Students problem-solve, create, design, build and operate their robots.

The program faced another major challenge this year in having to relocate. In 2012 the electric-car-turned-robotics shop – the old Quonset hut on campus – was condemned and demolished. In the midst of a six-week building challenge for FIRST robotics, the team squished itself into the old auto shop that was used in part for the regular school day. Shared space did not work and a new solution was needed.

In summer of 2011, prior to the demolition of the Quonset hut, Alvin Kawamoto was mentoring the VEX middle school team and working with students in a portion Ms. White's classroom on the high-school campus. He sought an arrangement with the Old Bond Memorial Library, and a small monthly fee to the Hawai'i State Library was agreed upon. The robotics program also paid the not-so-small monthly electricity bills that fluctuated as the programs increased.

The middle school teams moved

to the Old Bond Memorial Library. In their rookie year they qualified for the World Championships and competed in Anaheim in 2012.



Photo by Cheryl Cabrera

Joshua Page, Chris Asagra and Johnette Emeliano scrub the floor of the new robotics team shop, which used to be an auto shop.

The high school teams qualified as well, and they went on to St. Louis for the FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) World Championships. Upon return, all the VEX teams moved into the library, since continuing the program in the auto shop was not feasible.



Ninth grader and world-championships-bound team member Kaimi Hook (right) chats with two visitors from Minnesota who dropped into the robotics shop in January simply because they saw lights on. Fascinated by the students and program, they stayed for over an hour. The woman is a retired librarian and was grateful to see an old library used for such creative work, and the man a retired engineer who would have loved to experiment with robots in school.

sible.

Fast-forward to the present day, the three Kohala Kowbotics programs – VEX-EDR, VEXiq, and

floors were scrubbed several times – in March 2015 and again this February. The process involved the State of Hawai'i Department of Education protocol for removal of hazardous materials and non-operational items. Several functional items were transferred to Kealekehe High via the Department of Accounting and General Services. The move is complete but set-up continues.

When asked how the team feels about the move, Program Coordinator Ms. Fern White explains, "The robotics team members are adjusting to the "new" old auto shop as our work space. However, we have many memories of our 21st century work right across from the statue of our King Kamehameha. We believe he would be proud of how we carried Kohala to California, China, Japan, Florida, Missouri and more. We will miss the pop-in visits of curious tourists amazed that our little town has youngsters so advanced and in-touch with a global view. Much Aloha to the Old Bond Memorial Library as we knew it."

Fundraising for travel to World Championships continues. Kohala Robotics, a project with North Kohala Community Resource Center, has raised enough for hotel, portions of air travel, and entry fees of \$850. They still need funds for supplies, shipping robots, programming updates and the balance of air travel for the team.

This STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art and math) program offers activities related to VEX-EDR and VEXiq each Mondays and Wednesday evening. The competition season begins and ends each April. Next season the program increases to two VEXiq teams, three VEX EDR teams and possibly an FRC team.

The annual complimentary dinner to say Mahalo to the community of supporters and to share students' learning will be on May 11. The team urges the community to mark their calendars and join them in celebration. For more information contact Ms. Fern White at 889-7117.

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Teshna Hart Earns Third Overall at Poetry Out Loud State Championships

Congratulations to Teshna Hart for her outstanding performance in Poetry Out Loud competitions, winning at Kohala High School and placing third at the state-level competition.

Hart was the only female finalist and the only public school finalist. Hart, co-coached by Ms. Petruzzi and Hart's AP English teacher Ms. Fern White, worked beyond the school day to prepare. Last year Gabrielle Bartolome represented Kohala High. She, too, was the only female to go to the third round, and the only public school student who placed in the finals. Way to go Cowgirls! Getting to the final rounds back-to-back is tough.

Poetry Out Loud is a National Recitation Contest. Created by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation, Poetry Out Loud is administered in partnership with the State Arts Agencies of all 50 states, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico. At the Hawai'i State competition the chair of Poetry Out Loud traveled from the mainland to be one of the judges and present awards. Poetry Out Loud uses a pyramid structure that begins at the classroom level, advances to a school-wide competition, then state competitions and, ultimately, to national finals.

Hosted by Kohala High Speech

Club on January 22, the following twelve students bravely recited poems from memory: Sadey Alip, Michael Bartolome, Chyenne Book,

Three judges – Principal Janette Snelling, Senior English Teacher Sam Peterson, and Writer's Group Community Member Michael Foley

ence, voice and articulation, dramatic appropriateness, evidence of understanding, overall performance and accuracy. The results at the school level were: Teshna Hart, Champion; Chyenne Book, First Runner Up; and Kamaile Gusman, Second Runner Up. Hart continued to the state competition held February 21 on O'ahu, with expenses sponsored by the Kohala Speech Club.

At the state level the contest consists of three rounds with cumulative scoring. Every participant recites his/her first and second poem choices. In the third round, only the three students with the highest cumulative scores read their third poem.

The state champion receives \$200, with another \$500 going to his/her school for poetry materials. Runners-up get \$100, with \$200 going to their school. In addition, the state winner receives an all expense paid trip to the national competition in Washington, DC.

Poetry Out Loud awards over \$100,000 in prizes to students and schools at the state and national levels. The Poetry Out Loud program has many affiliations, including the National Endowment for the Arts, The Poetry Foundation, the Hawai'i State Foundation on Culture and the Arts, and the Honolulu Theatre for Youth.



Photo by Miriah Petruzzi

Kohala High eleventh grade student Teshna Hart (center) shares her celebration with Ms. Fern White (left) and Poetry Out Loud judge and renown local author Marie Hara (right) at the reception following the Hawai'i state competition, where she won third place overall.

Whitley Francisco, Dalton Franco, Kamaile Gusman, Teshna Hart, Maui Hook, Kumulani Kaai, Chloe Kalua'u, Kuaha'o Kawaaauhau, and Brittany Shimono.

– scored the performances according to national guidelines and rubrics. Scores were then immediately tallied and results announced. The criteria included physical pres-

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Lio Lapa`au to Offer Complimentary Volunteer Training

Fern White, Professional Association of Therapeutic Riding, International (PATH) certified instructor, will conduct 16 hours of volunteer training for those interested in equine assisted therapeutic riding.

The complimentary volunteer training is required for volunteers to work with clients who participate in therapeutic riding offered at Lio Lapa`au, the Healing Horse and Healing Horses Hawai'i.

Interested individuals may sign up via Lio Lapa`au website contact form.

The training will take place in May and June.

Professionals in the health industry are welcome. Held on-site on Kohala Mountain Road, class enrollment is limited to 12 participants. Lio Lapa`au.

Therapeutic riding serves clients with mental, physical or emotional challenges.

Teens at risk can participate in the High on Horsemanship six-week program offered every summer and winter break.

Go to liolapaa.com to get more information via the contact form.

Speech Club Celebrates Dr. Seuss Day, Serves Green Eggs and Ham

Every year the Kohala High School Speech Club (KHSSC) celebrates the joys and benefits of reading aloud. This year there were two activities.

First, complimentary "Green Eggs and Ham" were served March 2 during recess. Sixty five complimentary, lovely little bowls of fried rice, green eggs and Spam were enjoyed by students. Servers were Kayla Lewis, Chris Asagra and Tanya Adams. Other speech club members made recess deliveries to teachers and staff.

Second, on Friday, March 4, KHSSC mem-



Photo by Maile Hawkins
Chris Asagra (rear left) and Jashel Jose (rear right) of the Kohala High School Speech Club joined Youth Services Librarian Leilani Silver (center) in reading Dr. Seuss books to preschool keiki during their weekly story hour.

bers went to North Kohala Public Library to read aloud selected cuttings from Dr. Seuss books during the preschool keiki's weekly story hour. Chris Asagra and Jashel Jose, along with advisor and coach Ms. Fern White, entertained the toddlers and their `ohana.

Community service projects are integral to the function of Speech Club, where students give to the community while improving their public speaking skills.

For more information, contact Advisors Mr. Sam Peterson or Ms. Fern White at Kohala High.

AVID Recruitment for 2016-2017 Underway

AVID is an academic, regularly-scheduled elective class held during the school day. It is based on writing as a tool of learning, the inquiry method, and collaborative grouping.

The three main components of the program are Academic Instruction, Tutorial Support and Motiva-

tional Activities.

Research indicates that 97 percent of students with three or more years of AVID stay in college and graduate from college on time. Time in the AVID elective class makes a difference. Want to be fully college ready? Join or return to AVID.

Recruitment for the AVID elec-

tive for next school year is underway. Registration for high school courses will be in mid-April. Parents interested in more information or how to enroll their children may contact AVID Teachers Mrs. Kehau Hedlund or Mrs. Deb Okubo, or AVID Site Coordinator Ms. Fern White at (808) 889-7117.

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KMS Students Meet with Governor Ige and Golf Legend Tom Watson

Story and photos by Mike Frailey

Three Kohala Middle School (KMS) students had the unique opportunity to sit down and talk story with Governor Ige and gold legend Tom Watson at the annual Boys to Men (B2M) fundraising event held at Hualalai Resort. The three students are participants of B2M Hawai'i at KMS, which is part of a national mentoring project with over 6,000 youth and mentor participants across the nation. In North Kohala, B2M is at both middle and high schools. KMS UPLINK media club interviewed Mr. Kevin Cochran of Boys to Men Hawai'i at his office at KMS. Cochran is the national Boys to Men organization's secretary, lead mentor in Kohala and the Behavior Health Specialist at KMS. In the interview with KMS UPLINK media club, Cochran shared that B2M is, "...a group mentoring project where we bring men from the community in every week to sit with young men in our school to help the young men become the men they want to be."

Students asked Cochran, "What do you do in Boys to Men?" Cochran said, "Every week we circle up. At

KMS, we have four adult male mentors who come in and sit with up to 22 young men. We talk to them about things that are important in their lives. We have a wide range of discussion topics. We may discuss how do you use your power as a

discuss social issues like bullying, conflict resolution, and drug use."

In response to being asked about how students can participate, Cochran replied "Boys to Men is open to every young man, but there is limited amount of space so it is

said, "Boys to Men has helped me to be more personally accountable for grades, and that is why I started attending UPLINK, to get help with my homework." Carl, an eighth grade student at KMS, responded with, "Boys to Men helps me to make better decision and want to do better in school so I can join the military when I graduate." B2M student participants were also asked to give a one word description of what B2M means to them. Answers included, "Responsible, brotherhood, safe, trust, fun, discussions, grades, support."

Boys to Men Hawai'i is rapidly expanding. B2M Hawai'i started at Waimea Middle School in 2013-2014 school year. The program has since expanded and is now servicing seven schools on Hawai'i Island. B2M hopes to expand to Maui then all Hawaiian Islands. With this rapid growth, B2M is need of adult male mentors.

If you have one hour a week to serve your community and want to be a mentor to young men in your community, please contact Kevin Cochran, 877.814.0457/ email: kcochran2u@gmail.com



Golf legend Tom Watson and Governor Ige attend the Boys to Men Hawai'i annual fundraiser at Hualalai Resort.

man? How do you view women? How do you treat the women in your lives? How do you become the man you want to be and what's stopping you?"

Mike Frailey, a part-time teacher who participates as an adult mentor adds, "We also talk about school concerns, grades and offer any support to help the young men do better in school. Additionally, we

a first come, first awarded system. The program is open to youth from 12-18 years of age. We are, actually, looking at a program on how to best support our graduating 18 year old."

In a separate interview with B2M student participants, UPLINK media club asked student participants what B2M means to them. KMS seventh grade student Kyle



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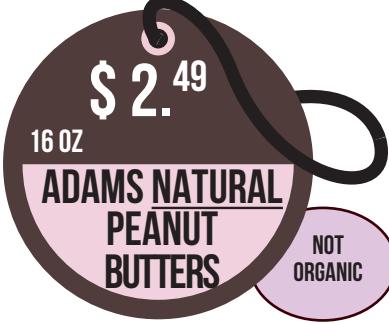
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