

Vol.17, No. 01

About Kohala, For Kohala

January 26, 2018

Kokua Puerto Rico Fundraiser a SUCCESS!



Kohala residents from diverse groups got together to hold a car wash fundraiser with the intention of helping victims of Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico. At day's end, they had raised enough money to purchase 59 Luci floatable solar lamps to brighten the lives of those who are still living without electricity.

Story and photos by Lani Bowman

A group of concerned Kohala residents, from St. Augustine Episcopal Church, Tutu and Me Home Visiting Program and other community members, held a car wash for Puerto Rico on November 4 at the St. Augustine parking lot.

A few dedicated participants, including adults and young people, washed cars for three hours in hopes to raise a little money for our island friends in Puerto Rico. To their amazement, they made almost \$500 in that short a time. It

did help that a tourist with a very filthy jeep came in! We charged him less than the rental agency would have. Thanks to Albert Santiago, who does car detailing, we received a substantial donation for washing his FILTHY vehicle.

With more donations arriving after the car wash the group raised \$630. They were able to purchase 59 Luci floatable solar lamps. The group was fortunate to network, thanks to Kathy Jakielski, with someone in Puerto Rico. They were

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Affordable Land and Housing for Farm Families

Hawai'i has the highest agricultural land costs in the nation, creating the greatest capitalization challenge for Hawai'i farming families and a significant barrier to getting more farmers farming and increasing food security.

Although short-term leases are readily available, they generally do not support farmers building equity in the land they are farming, and most prohibit the farmer and farm families from living on the land. Often, ground leases can have unfavorable terms with arbitrary performance standards that don't protect farmers' interests. Some have short-periods (less than 10 years), which may or may not be renewed. All of these issues put farming families' investments of time, money and infrastructure at risk.

Additionally, leases and licenses typically don't account for the value of soil-building that is critical to sustainability, nor the unique under-

standings and intellectual property specific to the land that farmers develop.

Surveys of farm communities show virtually unanimous conviction that farmers need to be able to live on the land to adequately protect crops, equipment and infrastructure from theft, vandalism and invasive species, especially feral animals like goats and pigs.

Farming without building equity and commuting to a field are unstable situations for farm families where personal energy and finances are expended with a high risk of losing that investment.

The Kohala Center recently concluded a project that researched the role agricultural land trusts that include affordable housing could play in addressing this issue. As part of the project, farmers, ranchers, and representatives from both govern-

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Two High School Seniors Take Aim at Becoming the First Kohala Radio Broadcasters

The brand-new year brings hope of new opportunities and good fortune. The same goes for two Kohala Radio student interns from Kohala High School, Danny O'Donnell and Bohdi Amar.

They plan to present their very own show, "Catching the Vibe," on KNKR community radio before the end of the school year. It will feature modern music along with reports from high school athletics and other activities.

"We were warmly received by the radio station and look forward to being on the air," said Bohdi. Both students have been interning at Kohala Radio during the first semester of the school year.

Learning how the station works and getting familiar with the equipment needed to do a show has been a big part of their

training. Their goal is to be the first two certified disc jockeys (DJs) from Kohala High School.

"We just want to put out music which will appeal to the younger generations in our town," says Danny. "We also want everyone to enjoy our program and hear about activities happening in our high school at the same time," he added.

"One of our primary objectives at KNKR has always been to offer local students a chance to learn broadcasting and be on the air," said Cecily Deville, the station's intern coordinator. "We've had interns before, but these are the first two who have set a goal to be DJ's. We are really proud of them."

KNKR listeners should be on the lookout for new information and promos about "Catching the Vibe," coming soon at KNKR.



Photo by Bob Martin

Danny O'Donnell (left) and Bohdi Amar, the first high school DJs-in-training at KNKR, have completed a semester of their year-long internship at Kohala Radio. They plan to host their own show, "Catching the Vibe," by the end of the school year.

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ment agencies and land trusts provided their input about the problem and potential solutions.

"A number of people have been brainstorming ways to solve the land affordability and housing problem for farm families, including Kohala County Councilman Tim Richards, who has put considerable thought into moving a solution forward," shared Elizabeth Cole, Director for Strategic Projects for The Kohala Center.

In September of 2017, folks from around the island and the state traveled to Kohala to discuss the project's research findings and the work of other stakeholders in Hawai'i on this issue. Kohala rancher and agricultural leader David Fuertes joined the meeting and noted, "There was some lively discussion. Not everyone agreed with all the ideas. My hope is that we do find a way to make land and housing more affordable for young people born and raised in Kohala who want to farm."

The primary topic discussed in September by the working group was how agricultural and community land trusts could increase affordable access to land and housing in which farmers could build equity. See the graphic below for land trust definitions.

Land Trust Definitions

- Conservation Land Trust** – usually nonprofit that supports protection of land uses such as habitat, view planes, open space, cultural sites, agriculture, etc. Government agencies can also include land trust functions such as preserving ag land or historical sites.
- Ag Land Trust** - dedicated to preserving agricultural land. Doesn't typically include housing.
- Community Land Trust** – nonprofit provides lasting community assets, affordable housing, commercial spaces for local businesses, etc.

Image by Gail Byrne Baber

Project Coordinator Gail Byrne Baber explained, "Our research indicates that instead of borrowing from what we assumed were numerous examples of agricultural land trust models on the mainland, Hawai'i can help to inform an emerging

national movement to secure affordable land and housing for farm families, as few land trusts have a deep history of combining conserving land for farmers with affordable housing, traditionally provided by community land trusts (CLTs)."

The project acknowledged that Hawai'i has a long history of land trusts, where land is held for the benefit of the public or specific beneficiaries to support agriculture, homes, education and protection of open spaces, ecological functions

- Lunaliilo Trust, 1874
- Bishop Estate, 1887
- Queen Liliuokalani Trust, 1911
- Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, 1920
- The Nature Conservancy, '60s, Hawaii office in 1980
- Kohala Community Land Trust, 1998
- Conservation trusts founded on Kauai, Maui, Oahu, and Hawaii islands late '90s early 2000s. Trust for Public Lands opens office.
- Hawaii County Research & Development host workshops on Community Land Trusts, 2006
- Ala Kahakai Trail Association, 2008
- Hawaii Islands Land Trust, 2011
- Affordable Farms Maui, 2011
- Kohala Lihikai, 2011
- Housing and Land, 2017

Image by Gail Byrne Baber

and habitat and cultural and archaeological sites. Hawai'i organizations with land trust functions and their date of origin are listed in the "Land Trusts in Hawai'i" graphic, including two Kohala nonprofits.

The project also examined exist-

ing regulations to determine if any legislative changes are required at State and County levels for various models.

Representative Cindy Evans offered to vet any concerns regarding state laws. "Housing for farm families is critical. We've talked a lot about worker housing, but clearly farm families are having significant housing challenges in addition to affordable land – especially young and new farm families." Representatives from the County's Research and Devel-

We don't necessarily have to change any laws to move a project forward," shared Ka'u farmer Kyle Studer.

Suggested parameters for designing a model for Hawai'i Island include ensuring farmers can live on their farms, and can build and extract equity; long-term 99-year ground leases that can be renewed and passed on to children; and restrictions that keep the land and housing affordable in perpetuity, and in the hands of farmers.

A preferred model includes utilizing and building on existing expertise and capacity.

The process plays out in three major steps:

1) Existing conservation land trusts and nonprofits (e.g., Hawai'i Islands Land Trust, Kohala Lihikai) or government agencies secure ag land through leases or fee simple ownership.

2) These entities lease the land to a housing community land trust.

3) Programmatic support for farmers is provided by existing farmer training and mentoring programs (e.g., HIP Agriculture, The Kohala Center's Beginning Farmer Rancher Program) and housing counseling services (e.g., Hawai'i Community Assets or a new CLT).

One of the missing components to implementing a model quickly is an active community land trust to implement the housing component. "Kohala's community land trust, founded about 18 years ago, has been inactive for a number of years," shared Byrne Baber. "I'm hopeful the community land trust recently founded by Pete Hoffmann, and Hale O Malama Community Housing Land Trust formed by One Island, will provide an entity that could assist with creating an agricultural land trust down the road."

The project identified several next steps including researching and identifying the key design components for affordable farmer housing and coordinating an ag land trust pilot project.

Julie Ann Cachola, whose family is from Kohala and a planner for the Department of Home Lands, was enthusiastic about the project outcomes. "It's always helpful to gather folks from across various disciplines to solve a problem.

Personally, it was gratifying to connect with the diverse expertise all focused on making land and housing affordable for farm families."

Model for Whole Farm Preservation for Food Security

To provide food security a farm must have land, housing, infrastructure and food products.

Community land trusts can partner with government soil conservation programs and conservation land trusts to create food security.

HOUSING for Farmer & Farm Workers
Farmer owns/has equity in house and all buildings on the land. Land beneath house is community owned and leased to farmer. Land lease ensures house is occupied by a farmer.

LAND Conservation
Cropland may be privately owned or community owned. Easement reduces land value/price and restricts use.

Whole Farm Preservation = Foodshed Conservation

Farm INFRASTRUCTURE
Farmer owns buildings, fences, etc. Land beneath infrastructure is community owned and leased to farmer. Land lease ensures farmer has access and equity, and reduces debt.

Food PRODUCTS
If cropland is community owned the land lease may specify good agriculture practices and production of food for regional markets.

501(c)(3) Community Land Trust or Conservation Land Trust presents education programs, receives gifts of money and land, and may hold easements. An easement permanently removes the land owner's development rights in order to protect natural resources like soil.

State Agriculture Preservation Program may fund/hold farmland easements.

501(c)(2) Community Land Trust holds title to the land, sets terms of occupancy, administers the 98-year land lease, receives land rent and allows farm owner to have equity. Community ownership of the land reduces the farmer debt, increases farm viability and ensures farms produce food for regional consumers.

Image courtesy of Schumacher Center for New Economics

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Carwash, continued from Page 1

able to send the lanterns to one of the most devastated and remote areas in Puerto Rico. The following are excerpts of emails:

11/15/17 I just returned from Puerto Rico, where I traveled to the devastated municipality of Utuado in the central mountain range. Utuado is one of our poorest populations and one of the hardest hit by Hurricane María. Almost two months after the tragedy, there are still isolated communities receiving aid by helicopter. Those with working roads are seeing very little help. You will appreciate the scale of the devastation in the video that I have attached.

The earth slid in an unprecedented scale in the mountains, burying roads, taking out homes, and obliterating infrastructure. It will be very many months before the neighbors in these areas will see electricity and running water, let alone the rebuilt agricultural activity upon which they rely for work.

12/13/17 I just returned from San Juan and had the opportunity to sit with Pastor González. He wanted me to relay to you that he has been largely uncommunicated by email, but he hopes to write to you as soon as his computer and service are restored. We are beyond thankful for your effort on behalf of the residents of our little island.

I was surprised about how little things have changed in the one month since I had been there last. Every single light that you ordered will make a big difference in a family's life.

Big hug, Luly

What more can be said! Thank you Kohala for your support!

Kohala Senior Citizens Club



Photo by Lani Eugenio

Kohala Senior Citizens Club 2018 Officers

Front row (left to right): Roan Okamura, Director, County Elderly Services Division; Leo Guitang; Arlene Ohta, Treasurer; Faye Yates, President

Back row (left to right): Madeline Gonsalves, Assistant Treasurer; Sandie Torres, 2nd Vice President; Carma Carvalho, Secretary; Margot McFedries, 1st Vice President; Lana Lewis, Acting Director; Paul Kurpita, Sergeant at Arms; Kalani Heineke, Sergeant at Arms; Margaret Couttie, Sergeant at Arms

Story by Lynda Wallach

Each Monday morning at 9:00, members of the Kohala Senior Citizens Club come together to enjoy one another's company, celebrate birthdays and holidays and to hear speakers from county, state and federal agencies, as well as special interest groups, speak on a variety of topics of interest.

Entertainers, both local and from throughout the island, often come to share their talents.

But Monday meetings are only one part of the myriad activities in which members of the Senior Club are engaged. This year, for example,

many of them participated in the Ukulele Festival in Hilo, May Day in Kona, Bon Dance in Hilo and excursions to Panaewa Zoo, Nani Mau Gardens and the Big Island Candy Company. The Kohala team took first place at the Senior Ground Golf Tournament in Kona. There are game days, exercise and picnics at Kamehameha Park and on the last Monday of every month there is Bingo, one of the group's favorite activities. Prizes of household items and non-perishable foods are donated by members, their families and friends. Karaoke singing and potluck happen most Friday

evenings at 6:00, ukulele lessons are held on Wednesday mornings at 9:00 and Bon dance lessons take place every other Tuesday at 10:00 a.m.

Holidays such as Halloween and Valentine's Day are celebrated with entertainment, crafts and potluck lunches, with dishes supplied by Kohala's incredible kupuna cooks and bakers. A wonderful and often hilarious time is had by all. There is also a big end-of-year function. This year it was the Sunday Brunch Buffet at the Mauna Kea Beach Hotel.

Members of the Senior Club are also active in providing community service, such as singing and dancing hula for the patients in long-term care at Kohala Hospital, manning the visitor information desk at the Senior Center and assisting with Food Basket distribution.

The Kohala Senior Citizens Club, which has been in existence for more than 30 years, is under the auspices of the County of Hawai'i Elderly Activities Division. Anyone 55 years of age or older is welcome and encouraged to join. Dues are \$25 annually.

The purpose of the organization is to encourage social unity and closer relationships among the elder members of our community. Gathering for social events and assisting the Elderly Services Division with service projects keeps Kohala's kupuna active and an integral and important part of the Kohala community.

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CDP AC Completely Staffed After Bringing on Five New Members



Photo by Lani Eugenio

Members of North Kohala's 2018 Community Development Plan Action Committee (CDP-AC)

Seated: Beverly Blake, Jeffrey Coakley, Lehua Ah Sam, Jack Hoyt, Jack Olson

Standing: Councilman Tim Richards, Planning Director Michael Yee, Planner Keiko Mercado, CDP-AC Chairman Steve Hoffman, Vice Chairman Keone Emiliano, CDP Planner LeAna Gloor, Planner Eric Cook

Missing: Benjamin Ney, Richard Elliott

By Lynda Wallach

At its first meeting of 2018, the North Kohala Community Development Plan Action Committee (NKCDP AC) welcomed five new members: Beverly Blake, Jeff Coakley, Keoni Emiliano, Steve Hoffmann and Jack Olson. With continuing members Richard Elliott, Ben Ney and Jack Hoyt, who, though eligible for retirement, volunteered to extend his service, the AC is completely staffed with nine members for the first time in several years. Certificates of appreciation were presented to retiring members John Winter and Lani Eugenio, and to continuing member Jack Hoyt, along with thanks for their dedication and service.

Later in the meeting, Steve Hoffmann was elected chair and Keoni Emiliano was elected vice-chair.

At the November AC meeting, the committee voted to disband the NKCDP AC subcommittees. The requirements of the Sunshine Law had often restricted the ability of the subcommittees to accomplish

their objectives in a timely fashion. Some of the previous subcommittees – such as Community Access, Growth Management, Affordable Housing and Water, Parks and Roads – will continue to exist as community partnership groups. Members of the community are encouraged to form additional community partnership groups to attain specific short term or long-term objectives without being subject to the Sunshine Law. They will be able to get support from the AC and the Planning Department and make presentations at AC meetings. To get on an AC meeting agenda, a group need only submit a description of its agenda items to the Planning Department at least six days prior to a scheduled meeting.

The report from the Growth Management Group addressed the concern expressed in the CDP that if the County continues to allow for increases in non-agricultural activities – such as guest ranches, venues for weddings and other overnight accommodations – the

County should commit to considering the impacts that decision has on infrastructure demands. The group plans to organize a meeting with a speaker from the County to address this issue sometime in the future.

The Public Access Group is dealing with several issues, and Toni Withington presented some of them to the AC. They continue working, along with Growth Management, to get a larger parking lot at Pololu Lookout. She also reported that the Department of Transportation will pave from Kohala Middle School to the Amakua Gulch. On another issue, community members met with representatives from Parker Ranch, which is looking to sell the land it owns at the end of Old Coast Guard Road, including the parking lot. They asked if Parker Ranch would be willing to donate it to the community, but were told no. The parking lot is used extensively for fishing, whale watching and other activities, and there is a big concern that if it were sold into private hands, regaining access would

become an issue. The Public Access Group, along with others, is working with Kamehameha Schools, the Ala Kahakai Trail Association and the Hawai'i Island Land Trust on possible solutions.

John Winter reported that the Water, Parks and Roads Group continues to work with the property owners along Pratt Road for the use of the road as an emergency bypass. The owners have stated that they would be willing to allow emergency access, but most do not want more than rudimentary maintenance that preserves the rustic nature of the road. Nor are they willing to relinquish their property to the County. The Group also addressed the issue of the apparent discrepancy in allowing overnight camping at Keokea Beach Park for some groups but not others. They were told by the current director of parks and recreation that camping there is very restricted and only allowed under special circumstances. Winter reported that the monthly meetings between a representative from Parks and Recreation and the various Friends of the Parks regarding improvements and maintenance at the parks have been very successful.

The Group hosted a community forum to discuss the State Department of Transportation's plans for maintaining Akoni Pule Highway with Dan Smith, DOT's Big Island District Engineer. He was brought to the meeting by Representative Cindy Evans. Residents' concerns centered on the dangerous conditions at Amakua Gulch, the Pratt Road bypass and the yield sign at Walaohia Gulch.

Jack Hoyt of the Affordable Housing Group presented various approaches to the affordable housing problem, including land trusts and "tiny houses." With land trusts, people can purchase their homes but not the land. They are also restricted as to when they can sell their home and for how much, the purpose being to keep the homes affordable. Michael Yee, Planning Director, clarified that small homes can be built on agricultural land if they are related to farming activity. He also said that he is hoping to put together a housing summit before the end of the year to bring together the multiple affordable housing groups on the island to share ideas. He also is trying to get the County to allocate funds to put together a housing functional plan focusing on the segment between very low income and high cost housing.

CDP AC meetings will continue to be held every other month because of limited Planning Department resources; however, the committee pressed County Planner LeAna Goor for a February meeting to discuss AC objectives for the coming year. The public will be informed if and when that meeting is to take place. Meetings have also been changed from the second to the third Monday of every other month. The next meeting will be on Monday, March 19, at 5:00 p.m. at the Hisaoka Gym Conference Room. Members of the community encouraged to attend.

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Letters

Neon Sign is Offensive

Dear Madam,

I am writing to the paper to share publicly my outrage at the new lighted sign they have placed at the main entrance to our community. There is a desire in the community to have no neon or flashing signs advertising enterprises, and they have acquired an exemption based on the fact they will use it to announce emergency notifications.

Luckily these are few and far

between, and I can assure you I and most people don't need the sign to notify us. There are many channels already existing for emergency notifications, and in a small community like ours our own personal communication networks exist so I find this reason irrelevant.

So now I am forced to view their religious messages flashing at me in multiple colors every time I pass this sign, as is everyone else. I find

this offensive. It sends the wrong message about the diversity and quiet nature of our community.

It lights up the night with very bright, strong, colorful and moving lighting. I accept the right to free speech but feel this is over-stepping the mark. I am hoping they'll please show more respect for our community by removing this offensive and inappropriate sign.

Regards, Helen White

Neon Sign Out of Character with Hawi

Dear Madam,

I write to express my disappointment that the county has seen fit to allow the KOA/Seventh Day Adventist School to erect a sign that is entirely out of character with the rest of Hawi.

The mini Las Vegas neon that greets visitors to our little town is not in any way in keeping with the tenor of our little plantation-style community. The sign is garish, ugly and inappropriate. The flash-

ing light show near the heart of our little community is just not who we are. The school suggests that it was done as a community service, that the sign serves to inform the community in emergencies.

The suggestion that we should seek information from a sign downtown in emergencies is entirely ridiculous. I have never seen the sign display anything but low-level proselytizing. The use of this spurious justification to obtain a permit

for a hideous piece of gaudy advertising comes perilously close to contravening the Ninth Commandment. I should note that while I am a life-long atheist I have absolutely no objection to the sign outside the Catholic church more or less across the road from the school's obnoxious display.

The school and the county need to recognize that they have made an egregious error and take it down.

Regards, Mike Olsson

False Alarm

On Saturday, 13 January 2018, the State of Hawai'i and, consequently, the entire United States got a reality check about bombs. Yes, it was a false alarm and yes, as a resident of Hawai'i Island in the State of Hawai'i, I'm grateful that it was. However, it gave us all a rare opportunity to get a tiny, tiny glimpse of how the rest of world feels.

We drop bombs daily from our military drones on countries we are not at war with, countries that have not attacked us or even threatened us, and we do it because we can. We do this even though we keep electing presidents that promise to get us out of endless war. We want the oil, precious minerals, forests or cheap labor these countries have, without having to pay for them, and we have the might to take it from them without negotiating.

It's called regime change, a unilateral U.S. policy involving extreme measures that destroys lives and infrastructure of countries we perceive to not be cooperating. We'll just bomb them. This is important. Those of you who thought your lives were ending can now imagine how countries in the Middle East and elsewhere live every minute of every day, in fear of their families' and their friends' total destruction. I live on the West Coast of Hawai'i island and every few days we witness the gods of war in action as their cargo planes make deafening circles called "touch and gos" around our tiny

airport. These machines are huge, loud and polluting, yet we can't give them up. Instead, we use our country as a preparatory ground for foisting our will upon the rest of the world. This is lesson one.

Lesson two is clearer. Those of us who received the alert were told to take shelter. Now, assuming the missiles were carrying nuclear weapons, taking shelter is a ridiculous instruction. I was in grade school in the 50s when our government told us to get under a table and pull our sweaters over our head in case of a nuclear attack. (Russia was supposedly the threat then.) Citizens were instructed to dig bomb shelters and, in fact, that's where the phrase "with enough shovels" began. It was ridiculous then and it's ridiculous now. That was when I learned firsthand that the government was willing to lie to its citizens in order to protect the military/industrial/corporate complex.

We have a president who has just recommended an increase in the United States' nuclear arms. For what purpose, it's unclear. We already have more than anybody, plenty to destroy the entire planet. President Obama, for all his feel-good speeches about nuclear disarmament, was quietly constructing a smaller, more "usable" fleet of nuclear bombs so that we could annihilate a portion of the world, supposedly without affecting ourselves. Another ridiculous idea, unsupported by any real thought,

that has the effect of bloating the already immense military budget. A destructive budget that is bankrupting the country while support for its citizens and upkeep of its infrastructure are consistently short changed.

The final lesson is about human error. Human error is what all of these catastrophes are about. Human error in the inception of the problem and human error in the correction. Both of these occurred in Hawai'i on the 13th and they will occur again as long as there are humans. It becomes important to realize this because, even with the increasing usage of AI [artificial intelligence], humans will have the final say and they are going to make mistakes, have emotional issues, forget things, be physically unable to act and sometimes just be lazy. Whoever's finger is on the button can make a mistake. For instance, what if a soldier in one of our remote launch sites (underground and in the dark) saw the alert and assumed that our country was being attacked and launched a counterattack (we've come close to those scenarios before). Then it's "That's all, folks."

I view the false alarm as a wake-up call for us all. It's a grand illustration of the fact that we cannot fight our way to peace. Time for a real change in the way we choose to use our power.

Kije Hazelwood
Hawi, HI

Consider More Thoughtful Fireworks

My intent is not to offend anyone. Instead, it is to give us some food for thought. The subject is fireworks which are used to celebrate New Year's, Fourth of July, etc. Instead of looking forward to these holidays, I dread them. What I object to is not so much the fireworks, but the amount of time they are ignited. It usually lasts for hours

and days before and after the holiday. I propose that there be a one hour time limit for the use of fireworks. While considering this, let's think about how fireworks have a negative impact on others. Those affected range from war veterans, to those who are ill or disabled, and to animals who cringe and hide from the noise. And let's not forget the

danger of fire and injury.

I would prefer to ban them, but I do believe in compromise. The next time there is a holiday with fireworks, could we use some restraint and keep them to a minimum? Blast away for one hour and then stop. If nothing else, think of the money you will save.

Mary Lou Griesser

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.

February deadlines:
Ads and News: 2/9/18
Publication date: 2/23/18

March deadlines:
Ads and News: 3/9/18
Publication date: 3/23/18

Kohala Mountain News

www.kohalamountainnews.com

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

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

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Letters

Hospital Residents Benefit from Community's Goodwill

Kohala Hospital Activity Department extends mahalo nui loa to our wonderful community members and groups that knit together, creating amazing quality-of-life experiences for our facility residents and patients.

Our appreciation goes out to our faithful volunteers, friendly visitors, family members, church and special groups, St. Augustine's Thrift Shop, the hospital's Auxiliary and Charitable Foundation, the North Kohala Public Library, Kohala High School, the Ka'ahumanu Society, Senior groups, the Credit Union and Student Credit Union. Members of these groups worked diligently to amass donations of paintings, flowers, plants, craft supplies, clothing, funding, holiday gifts and treats far too numerous to mention.

Many blessings to you all for a healthy, joyful and prosperous New Year.

The Kohala Hospital Activity Department



An abundance of holiday gifts were donated to the Kohala Hospital residents to bring them comfort and good cheer. Kohala High School students raised funds to buy much of what is laid out on the table before three of the residents.

Kohala Little Free Pantry

Aloha Kohala,
We need generous and kind Kohala residents to help stock and



Courtesy of Kohala Little Free Pantry
The Kohala Little Free Pantry is open for all to come by and take what they need, or leave what they don't need and can offer to share with others. Pantry organizers are looking for more volunteers to help maintain the site Wednesdays through Sundays.

monitor the Kohala Little Free Pantry, located to the left of the Hello Again second-hand store and Minnie's in Kapa'au.

The Pantry is open 24/7 and acts as a supplement to the Food Basket, which distributes twice monthly to those in need. Anyone can drop by the Pantry at any time to leave items or take what is needed.

We have individuals or groups covering Mondays and Tuesdays, and would love to have others helping Wednesdays through Sundays. The job involves dropping by during the day or evening to donate and/or stock some non-perishables, hygiene supplies and fresh fruits and veggies. We also ask that volunteers remove any perishing product and tidy up.

We have a Facebook page: Kohala Little Free Pantry. Please join in and add friends who may be able to assist. It's a community effort to care for those in our community with needs. Since November, use of the Pantry has been heavy, which may leave little for others in need.

Would you like to help out in some small way to bless others as we have been blessed?

Mahalo nui loa and wishes for a happy, abundant New Year!

Sadie Young
Lani Bowman
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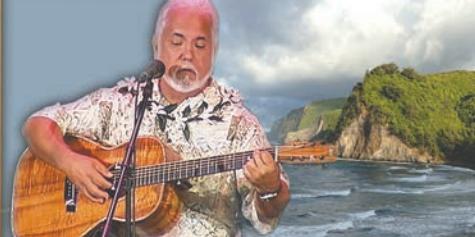
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County Council Update

From the Desk of District 9 Councilmember Tim Richards

*Aloha and a Happy New Year to everyone!
I want to give you a brief update of some happenings in our county.*

County Council and State Legislature

As many of you are aware, our Hawai'i State Legislature convened this month, on January 17. The government interaction that you deal with on a day-to-day basis here in our county is a blending between both County and State functions. This blending of efforts between the two entities is what affects all of our daily lives. Seeking that synergy and efficiency is always a challenge, but ongoing communication with our area representation, both in the State House and Senate, is key. I have been having regular communications with Senator Lorraine Inouye and House Representative Cindy Evans with the goal of supporting each other's intent and initiatives. A couple of quick points. Representative Evans sponsored a bill for a Tiny Home initiative to support agricultural worker housing last session and the County Council supported this effort with a resolution cosponsored by Council Member Jen Ruggles and me. Though the legislation passed State House and Senate votes, the governor did veto it, saying we already have this ability in our County. I am currently working with a farmer

in our district to construct a 'Tiny Home Agricultural Housing' complex, as we are told this is possible under our current County ordinances. We are in the process of testing this, and Representative Evans' legislation will be there to help support this project. I am also working with Senator Lorraine Inouye, as she is putting together a statewide sustainable transportation forum on our island that would be important to our county. My office is working with hers to help facilitate the organization of that meeting. Stay tuned!

Community Development Plan Action Committee (CDP AC)

Recently, a great effort has been put forth by the County Planning Department to try to fully staff the Community Development Plan Action Committees. It is my firm belief that these groups are invaluable resources for expressing some of the current wishes and needs of the community. As your elected official, I seek the input and priority lists from these groups to help guide my initiatives. I have attended meetings and/or met with members from North Kohala and understand the top priority is to have Mahukona County Park upgraded. Although nothing moves quickly, efforts will be concentrated in promoting these community desires.

Vacation Rental

There has been a great deal of

conversation and speculation about upcoming regulations as they pertain to the vacation housing rental industry in our county. This is not just an initiative in our county, but really all counties statewide. On the



Photo courtesy of Tim Richards
Councilmember Tim Richards represents North Kohala as part of Hawai'i County Council District 9.

one hand, many people use a vacation rental of their personal housing to increase their own income and standard of living. On the other extreme, out-of-state or absentee owners have invested in housing here to be part of the vacation rental industry. Concerns over changing the fabric of community with too many vacation rentals balanced against a potentially successful

business for a local owner will be the challenge. East Hawai'i has relatively few guest accommodations, as compared to West Hawai'i. Recognizing the need for rental availability for East Hawai'i is equally important. As we get closer to governing legislation and regulation, conversations will need to be had concerning infrastructure impact and needs, general excise tax, transient accommodation tax, community and economic impacts. Look for these conversations to be starting sometime in the first quarter.

Real Property Tax, Transient Accommodation Tax (TAT), General Excise Tax (GET)

As you are aware, last year saw an increase in our County real property tax rates, except in the home owner category. There was also a substantial increase in the fuel tax. Though our county collects a great deal in the way of TAT, our allotment has been capped at approximately \$19 million annually. (The state is projected to collect over \$500 million in TAT for 2017.) Though I did support the increase in the tax rates, I did not support the increase in the fuel tax, as we already had a balanced budget. I did not believe we worked hard enough to control our \$491 million budget. With the next year budget expectation of being over \$500 million, my concern is how we will fund it without putting more of a burden on our communities.

Recently, our state legislature authorized the counties to allow up to a 0.5 percent increase in GET for the counties. Kaua'i has taken a novel approach for the increase of their GET, while offsetting the income with a reduction in fuel and real property tax rates. On any given day, approximately 20 percent of the people on the Big Island are tourists. Their daily spending habits are substantially higher than our residents. We may actually be able to shift some of this tax burden from our residents to our visitors. I am in the process of working these numbers to try and understand if this is a good direction for our people.

As always, it is a great privilege to continue to serve as your Councilman and I look forward to our future together.

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Kohala Real Estate Market Healthy In 2016

By Beth Thoma Robinson R(B)

The residential real estate market in the Kohala was healthy in 2016, with 20 percent more homes sold than last year and prices edging upward. There were 36 sales – ranging in price from \$245,000 to \$1,150,000 – compared with only 30 homes sold in 2015.

Market Strength Continues in Under \$600,000 Range

In both 2015 and 2016, most of the real estate activity was in the moderate price range of the homes listed, a total of 24 sales. While the lowest-priced residential sale was \$245,000 in 2016, compared with \$153,000 in 2015, the median sales price of a home in the Hawi and Kapa`au zip codes remained steady at \$445,500.

As 2017 begins, affordable homes are scarce, with two listings in escrow below \$350,000 and only four active listings at that level. A typical Kohala home for sale in this price point would be a plantation-era house of less than 1,000 square feet, with price level reflecting the degree of renovation that has been done.

Homes that sell in the \$400,000-\$600,000 price range in neighborhoods from Hawi to Halaula are usually newer, larger and may have larger lots or even small acreage (but no or little ocean view).

Upper End Sales in Kohala: Homes on Acreage

All but two of the eleven residential properties sold over \$600,000

were homes on at least one acre and as much as eight acres. Among the properties sold in 2016 were several that had been on and off the market for several years, but that finally found the right buyer at \$800,000 last year.

There were only two home sales in Hawi/Kapa`au over \$1 million, in contrast with five in the previous year. One was a beautifully built, older property with two homes on three acres right in Hawi town that sold for \$1,090,000. The other was a nearly new home on three acres in Kapa`au, which sold for \$1,175,000. In keeping with the national trend of downsizing, the larger of these two homes was only 2,036 square feet.

As 2017 begins, there are four homes in escrow over \$600,000, but only one over \$1 million. That leaves us with a continued imbalance, as most of the sales activity is at the lower end of prices, while most of the inventory is at the higher end. There are only 11 residential listings under \$600,000 and 21 homes listed at higher prices, including five homes over \$2 million at Puakea Bay Ranch.

Fewer Land Sales in 2016 But Prices Edge Higher

Only 12 parcels of vacant land changed hands in 2016, compared with 22 lots in 2015. Prices ranged from \$165,000 for a 15,000-square-foot lot on Kynnersley Road, to \$960,000 for 44.6 acres at the top of Kapa`au Rd. The large acreage had been purchased for only \$600,000 in 2013.

The first sales at the new Hawi Nani subdivision in Hawi were recorded with pricing around \$600,000 for these 20-acre parcels with a well providing ag water. In general, preference continues for ag-zoned land outside of gated communities. A 10-acre parcel sold for \$325,000 in Puakea Bay Ranch.

Land sales are starting out strong in 2017, with some significant oceanfront parcels in escrow. However, there is still plenty of undeveloped land for sale in Kohala, a total of 34 active listings. The most affordable are the vacant lots in the Hanaula Village neighborhood, asking around \$205,000. The highest priced listing is \$18.5 million for 498 acres. The property consists of 11 parcels, three of which are oceanfront.

Farm Fresh is Best – Local Food News

By Marcy Montgomery

February launches an expanding Same Canoe Local Food Project, bringing new funding and new customers to support North Kohala's farmers and food retailers. Locations partnering with Same Canoe are: Hawi Farmers' Market, Kohala Grown Market, and Takata Store – three great places to find delicious "Farm Fresh is Best" foods from local growers. Local chefs and instructors will also be offering tastings and demos to feature delicious traditional and new ways to prepare local foods.

Over the next two years, the program is integrating nutrition resources and classes from the Hamakua-Kohala Health clinic, healthy food workshops, fun farm tours, and keiki activities in the school and at the Hawi Farmers' Market. Participating farms and food sellers at the Farmers' Market include: Blue Dragon Farm (and their CSA), Dylan and Maggie's Farm, Lokahi Garden Sanctuary, Sage Farm, HIP Ag, Teo's Produce, Tess's Produce, and Alma's Garden.

A great new feature of the program is AmeriCorps "Healthy Futures" support, which provides funding to create five island positions that increase the outreach and education services of Same Canoe. This growth in local services brings expanded month-round support to North Kohala. The Same Canoe local lead and AmeriCorps member is Anna Flint, a sustainable farming advocate with both farming and farmers' market skills that are a great match for Same Canoe. She is assisted by Lisa DeSantis. The

AmeriCorps team members will be helping out at school and community gardens, interviewing farmers to assist with marketing their products, serving seniors delicious foods, gleaning and distributing unwanted fruits from local trees, and enrolling SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) participants in a free coupon program.

Also new this year are "Same Canoe Plate" events planned at different locations to feature fun and tasty ways to expand our uses of locally grown produce. Over the coming two years, \$300,000 in Same Canoe produce incentive coupons for North and West Hawaii are being funded by the USDA to encourage SNAP/EBT (Electronic Benefits Transfer) households to buy more local produce and support local farms. SNAP participants can qualify for \$160-\$320 in buying power and education program invitations. Classes, workshops and farm tours will engage all participants in exciting new ways to understand and enjoy farm fresh foods. Diabetes prevention programs offered through Hamakua-Kohala Health are a valuable way Same Canoe SNAP participants can enroll through the clinic to receive the highest (\$320) level in coupons and services.

Same Canoe education programs are open to all North Kohala residents and are designed to put into intentional action our community's enduring commitment to supporting local farms and eating healthy foods. This year's by line is "Eat Well. Be Well. Live Well" for all ages.

Free SNAP Produce Coupons Available Starting Feb. 17

If you are a SNAP/EBT household, you can sign up February through December at the Hawi Farmers' Market on the third Saturday of the month, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., starting February 17.

Sign-up and shop at Kohala Grown Market on the fourth Fridays, 12-4 p.m., starting February 23.

A full day of sign-up support is being offered at Takata Store, the 3rd of each month, starting March 3, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. and 3-6 p.m.

Enroll in February and get a free pass to the Same Canoe Plate cooking demo and tasting on February 25.

Coupons can be used at all three shopping locations, any day, through early 2019. Requires a valid, active EBT card to enroll.

See www.oneisland/samecanoe to learn more or email hawaii@oneisland.org.



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North Hawaii Community Hospital Welcomes Community Collaboration

By Leslie Nugent

North Hawaii Community Hospital (NHCH) hosted a community talk story on Monday, December 15, to share about the offerings of the hospital, learn about the needs of the community and explore opportunities for collaboration.

NHCH officially opened its doors in 1996, however the legacy of what we see today dates back to 1900 when Lucy Kalanikumaikiekie Henriques and her cousin Lucy Peabody shared a vision of improving healthcare in North Hawaii. With a long history of dedicated service to the people of North Hawaii, NHCH became a part of The Queen's Health Systems in 2014. The Queen's Health System is a not-for-profit corporation established in 1985 to bring expanded healthcare capabilities to the people of Hawaii

and the Pacific Basin. The Queen's Health Systems mission is to fulfill the intent of Queen Emma and King Kamehameha IV to provide, in perpetuity, quality healthcare services to improve the wellbeing of Native Hawaiians and all of the people of Hawaii.

The President of NHCH, Cindy Kamikawa, MS, RN, NE, emphasized three key components that the shift to becoming part of the Queen's Health Care System brought to NHCH. Those included first and foremost bringing the values from Queen's; second, taking care of and building trust amongst employees; and third, stabilizing the physician staff.

NHCH emphasizes the importance of relationships and how we can build together as a community, which is why they called together

this talk story event. NHCH reached out to Kahua Pa'a Mua, a North Kohala based non-profit founded by David and Carol Fuertes, whose mission is to enhance communities through economic, conservation/preservation, social and educational programs for youth and adults.

Community members in attendance were able to ask questions and learn more about the services offered at the hospital to include greater specialty care, consistency of physicians and nurses, as well as connection to the Queen's Health System.

Many things that were requiring patients go fly to Oahu are now able to be addressed and cared for right in Waimea in an environment that welcomes families, has no limit on number of visitors and no restrictive visiting hours.

Gary Goldberg, MD, and Chief Medical Officer at NHCH shared his vision that "the future of medicine is being rewarded for keeping people healthy, not only managing people when they are sick. This is just the beginning and we need each other." There was also conversation around ways to collaborate with the Kohala Hospital as well as the Kohala Clinic. Liana Honda, the Native Hawaiian Health Manager at NHCH emphasized the important role of educating staff about cultural practices and making sure the hospital is a place that is welcoming and can be trusted.

A key message throughout the conversation was the value of communication, and the interest of NHCH and the Queen's Health Care System to welcome community feedback.

Fear Not Art: Kohala CoLab Opens February 10

By Marcy Montgomery

Kohala artists, dancers and musicians are rising to share the community's cultural gifts in new and exciting ways in February. Galleries are developing a Second Saturday early evening showcase with receptions and artists talks, spearheaded by Tiffany's Art Agency.

Musicians are planning a concert event to bring Kohala's gifted performers together in a planned 'Prayer for Peace' event with 15 acts at Kamehameha Park. The Hula Hālau O Kukui Aloha O Kohala is performing at the Kava Café as a fundraiser. Music is planned for the Hawi Farmers' Market.

A band of creative pranksters are installing a 4-hour CoLab Pop-Up in downtown Hawi with music, sculpture, painting and tarot reading under the provocative theme of 'Fortunes Told.' And Mila is performing at the Bamboo Restaurant.

Does that sound like a lot of art and music for a month? Well, it is actually all happening on ONE DAY - Saturday, February 10! This shared outpouring of love for the arts and for the people of Kohala is a spontaneous expression of many different artists and groups. From the center of Hawi to Kamehameha Park in Kapa'au, fun, independent,

locally created arts activities will be underway during the morning, afternoon and into the evening on the second Saturday of the month.

One of the common challenges both Kohala artists and community members are concerned about is how to widen access to the arts for Kohala residents.

How do we learn what is happening, when and where? Not all events are able to have advance notice to be listed in the newspaper, and details change, so how best can we create a central, flexible, easy information center about the Arts?

After listening to this repeated concern, a solution was suggested. Artists and cultural groups are now invited to use their own Facebook page to 'like' www.facebook.com/KohalaCoLab.

Then each time an arts event is posted to an individual artist's or a group's page, it can easily be shared to the Kohala CoLab page, creating a central events showcase to easily view multiple delightful arts events.

This virtual collaborative (i.e., CoLab) is a new public commons, where the community-at-large is welcome to come view a variety of arts event announcements and reviews, featured all in one location.

Anyone can also 'like' and follow the CoLab page and see timely cultural arts news on their own Facebook page as well. Given recent changes in Facebook news delivery, the more people who share news from, or comment to, CoLab the easier it will be to find it on Facebook.

Kohala CoLab Goal: increase visibility of the Arts in Kohala.

The CoLab page is a community building service of The Heart of Kohala, a local project that fosters artistic collaboration and is gathering feedback from a diversity of artists and residents about their Cultural Arts needs and activities - all with the goal of uncovering a shared community vision of the future of the Arts in Kohala. Check out the fun CoLab Pop Up along Akoni Pule Highway in Hawi on Saturday, February 10, 4-8 p.m. and come have your 'Fortune Told.'

Schedule of Events

Saturday, February 10, Arts Activities in North Kohala

Tiffany's Art Agency Artist Reception, Hawi 5-7 p.m.

Prayer for Peace Concert, King Kamehameha Park, Kapa'au, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

"Love and Light" with Hula

Hālau O Kukui Aloha O Kohala, Kava Café, Hawi, 5-9 p.m.

"Fortunes Told" CoLab convened by Heart of Kohala, Hawi, 4-8 p.m.

Mila at Bamboo Restaurant, Hawi, 6:30-9:30 p.m.



Photo by Malia Welch
Mila will be performing at Bamboo Restaurant on Saturday, February 10, as part of an all-day schedule of various arts activities in North Kohala.

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Partnerships for Community Access

Story and photo by Toni Withington

Kohala is fortunate to have a dedicated bunch of people working to expand public access to the shore and mountains. During the past decade, about eight miles of trails along the ocean have been opened officially and several mauka-makai roads have been added.

Open access was felt to be a right during plantation days, but what followed were fences, gates and "Kapu" signs. Legally restoring public access legally has been the mission of the North Kohala Community Access Group (NKCAG) for eleven years. It has taken a lot of concentrated energy and persistence to make trails and roads legally available. Even so, the group continues to push for more projects on its long "want list."

The Access Group formed in 2006 as the Public Access Focus Group, tasked with writing the access chapter of the North Kohala Community Development Plan (NKCDP). Because that ordinance sets such high expectations for restoring access, the group expanded and continued meeting monthly under the leadership of Ted Matsuda. The monthly agenda and minutes of the group reach 79 participants in the community, government agencies, landowners and the landowners' representatives, spelling out the status of each of the dozen-or-so projects under-way.

One change was to call itself "community" rather than "public" access in order to reflect its primary emphasis on the rights of fishermen, gatherers and traditional users of many sites. No one in the group, it appears, wants to turn hard-fought-over access to visitors and eco-tours.

The gold standard for achievement is finalizing a Grant of Public Access Easement agreement between Hawai'i County and a coastal land owner. This defines the location, signs, maintenance and time of day the trail or road can be used by the public. The many provisions for these agreements were spelled out in the settlement of a lawsuit between the County

and Surety Kohala when it subdivided much of its land almost 20 years ago. The access was required, but legal documentation for many of these subdivisions has been delayed, along with trail construction.

In 2017, two easement agreements were accepted by the County – a coastal trail at Ainakea and a road access at Halaula.

So far, the Community Access Group has helped pass access agreements for the section of trail between Hapu'u and Kapanai Bays (with four land owners), from Honopueo to Ainakea (with four



The Pahoa Beach trail near Hawi provides hiker access through green, windswept hills. Trails like this one have been mandated by County action, but still need legal documentation being pursued by the North Kohala Community Access Group.

land owners), and at Ho`ea (with two land owners).

On the group's agenda now are similar agreements at Halelua, Pahoa Beach (Hawi), Upolu East and Pu'uepa. Despite continued pressure to complete the agreements, the County Planning Department has not moved on them in over a year, much to the group's frustration.

The County is also using Grants of Public Access Easements as condition of subdivision approval on coastal land not involved with Surety Kohala. The agreement at Kohala Kai, near Kohala Estates, has been approved by the County Council and is available to the public. However, the Access Group

is waiting for legal paperwork creating a conservation easement over all the land from the Ala Loa to the ocean. The easement will be held by the Ala Kahakai Trail Association.

Just north of that, the public access over a proposed subdivision called Kohala Shoreline, makai of Kohala Ranch, is going through a contested environmental review process. Several Kohala groups and individuals, including the NKCAG, called for changes in the plans for a nine-lot subdivision in comments to the Planning Department. The landowner's challenge to the County's deferral will be heard by

the Board of Appeals next month (February). The Access Group has continued to advise its staff on signs and problems with the trail. Both the group and Na Ala Hele are working to improve the trail's safety and health, as well as the congestion at the lookout and trail, in cooperation with three other sub-groups of the NKCDP Action Committee.

The Access Group has worked with the Airports Division and Kohala Lihikai since 2010 to open and maintain the mile-long trail makai of the Upolu Airport runway. Members have also participated in restoration of native plants, sign painting and building erosion-control dams.

In conjunction with the Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail, many Kohala organizations have conducted trail cleanups and projects to educate the public about responsible activity around historic and cultural sites.

In 2017, Kohala Lihikai and the NKCAG were granted the assistance of National Parks System experts in planning out next steps for promoting the comprehensive trail system spelled out in the NKCDP, which includes a coastal trail from Pololu to Kawaihae with connecting mauka-makai roads and parking. The grant also offers help in determining whether portions of the Mahukona to Niuli'i Railroad easement can be used in the future for a trail.

To accomplish the goal of the long coastal trail, the NKCAG several years ago established a database of all coastal properties and has an on-going project to map the coast with computerized geographic information system (GIS) software to keep track of the status of access for each parcel. This project may be the first of its kind in Hawai'i for a rural district.

The Access Group holds advertised meetings every month on the first Wednesday at 4:30 in the old Judiciary Building in Kapa`au. The meetings are open to the public. Anyone interested in access issues is also encouraged to join the email network of the group by contacting imuakohala@gmail.com.



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Taking Care of Coastal Open Spaces

Story and photos by Toni Withington

This is the third in a series of three reports.

Turning private coastal lands into public open spaces is only

community.

So far, the efforts have sparked trail restoration, coastline clean-ups, planting native vegetation, sign-painting by middle school art classes and erosion-control

corporation called Kohala Lihikai to take on stewardship of lands and educational programs to encourage Kohala youth to pursue careers in resource management. Joe Carvalho is

High School Teacher Fern White was instrumental in the success of this project.

In other areas, Kohala Lihikai has helped introduce students to the cultural craft of hapai pohaku,



A sign painted by the Kohala Middle School art class greets visitors to the Upolu Airport restoration area. Kohala Lihikai organized community groups and students at the Middle and High Schools to restore vegetation to a mile-long stretch of coastline makai of the runway.



Students in Kohala Middle School's art classes, including this Period 3 class, have been part of the region's coastal restoration efforts. They designed and painted interpretive signs, which identify native plants used in coastal restoration projects and advise visitors to stay on established trails, aiding in the plants' protection.

the beginning of the vision of kūpuna who want to "Keep



The interpretive sign at Kaiholena was designed and installed by Kohala High School students. The land was acquired for open space by the Ala Kahakai Trail Association.

Kohala, Kohala." The real work of conservation – protecting historic and cultural sites, saving the reefs from pollution and restoring native vegetation and wildlife – has only just begun. And these activities will become more and more an engine for educational opportunities and jobs within the

projects by high school students. Many more projects and additional funding to power them are in the works.

Hawai'i County has taken giant steps in starting community-based conservation of coastal lands by creating the 2% Open Space Fund.

Kohala has used this fund and other sources for the past decade to turn 367 acres of land from private to public (see reports in November and December issues of the Kohala Mountain News, www.kohalamountainnews.com).

In 2012, Hawai'i Island voters created an additional fund from 0.25 percent of the property tax revenues raised each year to steward the lands acquired by the Open Space Fund. It's called the Maintenance Fund and is administered by the Department of Parks and Recreation.

In anticipation of tapping into those funds, the five community groups that have been working for decades on coastal preservation formed a 501(c)(3) non-profit

president of the board of directors, which also includes Fred Cachola, Toni Withington, Sarah Pule Fujii, Gail Byrne Baber and Ralph Galan.

Not even waiting for the County funds to be available, Kohala Lihikai has taken on other stewardship projects using a variety of funds and a lot of adult and student volunteer work. Since 2011, the group has been partnering with the State of Hawai'i's Airports Division to maintain the trails and restore vegetation to a mile-long stretch of coastline makai of the Upolu Airport runway. Hundreds of native bushes and ground cover starts have been planted on the once-bare-soil cliffs, which had been stripped of vegetation by recreational vehicles and high winds. Interpretive signs identifying the native plants were designed and painted by Kohala Middle School art students. Kohala High School students also designed and built sediment check dams to protect shoreline reefs from polluting soil runoff. The dams are now pockets of green vegetation. Kohala

or stone wall building, from kūpuna skilled in that specialized craft, during a restoration project at Lapakahi State Historical Park. At Hapu'u and Kapanai on the North Coast, the nonprofit has helped identify the importance of historic heiau and assisted landowners there in cleaning up after vandals and squatters. The group shares native plant restoration information and ideas with Pono Pacific, an outfit hired by Kamehameha Schools to re-plant and restore Akoakoa Point, near Pololu Valley.

Malama Kohala Kahakai, in partnership with Kohala Lihikai, has applied for grants from the maintenance fund to undertake stewardship of the Open-Space-Fund-acquired leeward coastal areas of Pao'o and Kaiholena.

With those funds, the groups intend to undertake a program of clearing brush and non-native vegetation from the lands to prevent future wildfires from damaging historic sites. A crew of Kohala youth has already been trained in both that task and

See Spaces, Page 12

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Spaces, continued from Page 11



Workers from multiple generations come together to plant starts of native species at Upolu Airport on this January 2015 volunteer work day. Starting in 2014, more than 800 native plants have been added to the ground cover along the trail makai of the runway.

chainsaw safety through funding secured by Malama Kohala Kahakai and Kohala Lihikai, in partnership with the Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail.

The grants will also be used to bring professional archaeologists and resource managers to the high school to guide students.

These experts will help students undertaking projects to identify what needs to be done to protect the historic importance of the Ala Loa and thousands of cultural sites, and to understand the impact on the land of people who use it for fishing, gathering and recreation.

At Kaiholena, middle and

high school students have toured the land that was acquired for open space by the Ala Kahakai Trail Association. The students designed and installed the interpretive sign on the coastal trail-head there.

Kohala Lihikai also works closely with the North Kohala Community Access Group (NKCAG) in encouraging government agencies and land owners to legalize trails and access roads to the ocean. (See Partnerships for Community Access in this issue of the Kohala Mountain News.)

No decisions on projects or trails have been, or will be,

See Spaces, Page 13



SITES TREATED IN DECEMBER:

- KAPIKO ESTATES, KAAUHUHU ROAD GULCH,
- "TOOTH BUS" AT KOHALA HEALTH CENTER,
- KALAKAHIKIOLA CHURCH (IOLE),
- TRANSFER STATION, KOHALA NURSERY,
- OLD NURSERY TOP OF KYNNERSLEY

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WEEKLY EVENTS IN FEBRUARY 2017

MON	6:30AM	7:30AM	AA DAWN PATROL	KAMEHAMEHA PARK	889-5675
	9AM		KOHALA SENIOR CLUB MEETING	OLD COURTHOUSE	895-2094
	5PM	6PM	INSANITY CLASSES WITH ROSS PAGAT	SOLID ROCK NORTH CHURCH	989-0966
	6PM	6:30PM	FREE RMD TAIKO CLASSES	HISAOKA GYM	895-2025
	7PM		AL-ANON MEETING WITH LAURA	KOHALA MISSION SCHOOL CAFETERIA	
	7PM	8PM	REFUGE RECOVERY - BUDDHIST PRINCIPALS TO RECOVERY FROM ADDICTIVE SUBSTANCES OR BEHAVIORS	CLAY HOUSE (BEHIND THE HUB)	464-4411
TUES	6:30AM	7:30AM	AA DAWN PATROL	KAMEHAMEHA PARK	889-5675
	9AM	10:30AM	CHAIR YOGA	INTERGENERATIONAL CENTER	880-0583
	10AM	3PM	HAWI FARMERS' MARKET		
	5PM	6PM	MEDITATION COURSE	INTERGENERATIONAL CENTER	917-293-3427
	5PM	6PM	INSANITY CLASSES WITH ASHLEE CHEEK	SOLID ROCK NORTH CHURCH	989-0966
	6PM	7PM	TABLE TENNIS/PING PONG	OLD COURT HOUSE	889-1099
WED	7AM		WALK WITH A DOC	KAMEHAMEHA PARK	889-1570
	1:30PM		AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES FOR ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL FEB 7 : WII GAMING FEB 14 : VALENTINE CRAFTS FEB 21: LEGO BUILDING FEB 28: MOVIE: DESPICABLE ME 3 (PG)	NORTH KOHALA LIBRARY	889-6655
	6PM	6:30PM	FREE RMD TAIKO CLASSES	WALKER HALL	895-2025
	6PM	7:30PM	SEIBUKAN KARATE ACADEMY	HISAOKA GYM	
	7PM		ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS	WYLIE HALL, 'IOLE ROAD	889-6703
THURS	6:30AM	7:30AM	AA DAWN PATROL	KAMEHAMEHA PARK	889-5675
	3:30PM		NA 'IMI IKE; HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE STUDY GROUP	NORTH KOHALA LIBRARY	889-6655
	5PM	6PM	MEDITATION COURSE	INTERGENERATIONAL CENTER	917-293-3427
	5PM	6PM	INSANITY CLASSES WITH ROSS PAGAT	SOLID ROCK NORTH CHURCH	989-0966
	6PM		TABLE TENNIS/PING PONG	OLD COURT HOUSE	889-1099
	7PM	8PM	NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS	LOKAHI TREATMENT CENTER	
FRI	10AM		PRESCHOOL STORY TIME AGES 2-5	NORTH KOHALA LIBRARY	889-6655
SAT	7AM	8AM	AA DAWN PATROL	KAMEHAMEHA PARK	889-5675
SUN	10AM	11AM	SEIBUKAN KARATE ACADEMY	HAWI FARMERS MARKET	

EMAIL WEEKLY CALENDAR LISTINGS TO KOHALACALENDAR@GMAIL.COM

THE HUB WEEKLY SCHEDULE

SUNDAYS 9A - 10:30A YOGA (BEGINNER) - HUB HALE 10:30A - 12P YOGA (INTERMEDIATE) - HUB HALE 4:30P - 5:30P TANGO (BEGINNER) - HUB HALE 5:30P - 6:30P TANGO (INTERMEDIATE) - HUB HALE	6:30 - 7:30P BELLY DANCING
MONDAYS 8:30A - 9:30A ASHTANGA VINYASA OPEN LEVEL - HUB HALE 9A - 1P EARLY LEARNING (AGES 3-5) - HUB CLUB 3:30P - 4:30P YOUTH CAPOEIRA (AGES 6 - 12) - HUB BARN 7P - 8P REFUGEE RECOVERY - CLAY COTTAGE	WEDNESDAY 8:30A - 9:30A PILATES PLUS - HUB HALE 9A - 1P EARLY LEARNING (AGES 3-5) - HUB CLUB 3P - 5P AFTER SCHOOL ART (ALL AGES) - HUB CLUB 6P - 8P GUIDED OPEN STUDIO (CERAMICS) - CLAY COTTAGE 7P - 8:15P TAI CHI
TUESDAY 9A - 11:30A TODDLER MUSICAL GROUP (AGES 18 MO - 3YRS) - HUB CLUB 9A - 10:30A TAI CHI - HUB HALE 4P - 5:30P JAN'S YOGA (BEGINNER) - HUB HALE 4:15P - 5P KEIKI BALLET (AGES 3 - 6YRS) - HUB BARN	THURSDAY 9A - 11:30A TODDLER MUSICAL GROUP (AGES 18 MO - 3YRS) - HUB CLUB 4P - 5:30P JAN'S YOGA (INTERMEDIATE) - HUB HALE
	FRIDAY 9A - 11:30A EARLY LEARNING (AGES 3-5) - HUB CLUB 9A - 10:15A TAI CHI - HUB HALE 4:30P - 5:30P YIN YOGA THE HUB WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Prayer for Peace Music Festival Planned

By Wilbur Boyle

On Saturday, February 10, the North Kohala Musicians For Peace are hosting a day of acoustic guitar and ukulele music and song by a few of the many talented musicians residing in North Kohala.

There will be two stages set up at Kamehameha Park on the space between the swimming pool and the gymnasium, with youth hula halau performing throughout the day on one stage while the musicians will

be set up on the other.

Admission is free.

This is a community event and there are plans to serve food prepared by volunteers from the community.

There will be no vendors of any kind and you will not be able to spend any money at this festival. Bring your lawn chairs and coolers (no alcohol), and make yourself comfortable to enjoy an entire day of

See Music, Page 13

Spaces, continued from Page 12

made without consultation with Kohala's kūpuna and Hawaiian cultural groups. Because the lands have not been protected by people responsible for guarding the cultural treasures of coastal lands, Kohala has seen many artifacts and spiritual sites raided. The latest peril is the stealing of

to prevent the dismantling of historic sites.

Working outdoors, on the land and in the schools, is expected to increase greatly this year. Kohala Lihikai and the NKCAG are encouraging more people of all ages to get involved. It will take many different skills to begin what will become a long-term effort, one aimed at the creation



As part of a Senior Project, students at Kohala High School designed and constructed sediment check dams at Upolu Airport. The dams obstruct the path of fast-moving water, cutting soil erosion and protecting shoreline reefs from polluting soil runoff, while trapped water encourages regrowth of native species.

stones from government and private land by masonry contractors and backyard stonewall builders.

Some historic sites near Jeep roads have been picked apart and destroyed by rock poachers. Kohala Lihikai and the NKCAG have brought this problem to the attention of enforcement agencies, but more public education and selective signage is needed

of sustaining jobs for our young people.

To explore what you can do, attend any of the open meetings of the North Kohala Community Access Group, which meets the first Wednesday of every month at 4:30 p.m. at the old Judiciary Building (next meeting is February 7) or write to imuakohala@gmail.com.

Music, continued from Page 12

song, dance and music.

The park opens at 7 a.m. Stage performances begin at 9 a.m. with a Hawaiian blessing.

The focus of the festival is to share music with the thought of a more peaceful world in our hearts. Peace can be found in North Kohala and we are all blessed to be living here in this particular place and time.

Imagine for a moment if you and your family lived in other places on the planet...for example, Syria. Or perhaps in Israel or Mexico or Chicago, Illinois. These are not safe places and doubtful if there be much peace.

The Prayer for Peace Music Festival is not about suggesting answers to address the lack of peace in the world. Nor is it about pointing out the causes of conflict.

It is about providing a peaceful day of music, perhaps even a few moments of joy, as we gather together on this day in beautiful North Kohala to contemplate within ourselves, peace.

The idea for this festival started on August 21 of last year, when the Syrian government used poison gas to attack a village. I watched a video of children at the school in that village spread out on the ground, twitching in the throes of death. It still brings tears to my eyes, even as I write this, to think about what I saw and to remember how heavy my heart felt that day.

Until that day, I had held the belief that there was not much that just one individual can do to change "the way things are." Besides, who

has time to contemplate the world's problems? Most of us have our plates full with our jobs or businesses, making the house payment, raising children and honoring our commitment to family and community.

It made me think. The children in Syria deserve to live in peace, just as much as my own children do.

I now believe that each and every one of us has the ability to help improve "the way things are."

Peace is not just about seeking relief in the war-ravaged places on earth. Peace begins inside each one of us. We work towards peace in our family, towards our neighbors and also use peace to listen to those who may disagree with us.

A great man once said, "We may not agree with all that they say or like everything that they do, still they are one of us and we are all in this together."

There are 15 musical acts scheduled to appear at the festival. With so many talented musicians in North Kohala, it is a pleasure to present those who have volunteered to perform at this festival.

John Keawe, Amber Westerman, Austin Ray Hall, Elaine Losey, Mahina, Joannie Collins Music, Mila, Sonia and Sean, Babylon, Llosh and Found, Sheila Winter, Bluegrass Jack, North Shor, Wendy Hindley with David Gomes, and more.

Our stage time does not allow us to accommodate any additional musical acts. Thank you.

For more information or to volunteer to help with the festival, please text or call Wilbur Boyle, the event coordinator, at 808-345-9915.



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Kohala Sports

KCAA Pitch-Ball and Tee-Ball Season Starts Up

The 2018 KCAA Pitch-Ball and Tee-Ball season has started and the baseball and softball players of tomorrow are on display on Veterans Field on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 4-5 p.m. Thanks to the generous donation by Takata Store, each of the 72 players and coaches on seven teams will have a team jersey to wear.

The games usually run an hour, or three innings, whichever comes first. Eager coaches, players and parents arrive at the field for warm-ups and then games start promptly at 4 p.m. In pitch-ball, coaches pitch up to five or six pitches with a firm safety baseball to their own batters; everyone in the lineup hits. When a side is done hitting, they switch sides. No score is kept on this level – it's all about the fun of playing the game.

In tee-ball action, a softer safety baseball is placed on top of the tee as each batter in the lineup gets their turn to hit. The team hits until everyone in their lineup has had

their chance at bat. This may take a few minutes, or maybe even a half an hour, depending on the skill level of the team at bat. However, mid-season is usually around when players develop enough know-how to speed up the game and make it more enjoyable for spectators. Again, on this level, no score is kept, and the emphasis is on having fun and experiencing the game – and, of course, the parent-provided snacks afterward (isn't that the reason we all played tee-ball?).

Anyway, KMN Sports would like to thank all the volunteers that help make these games possible: parents, uncles and aunties, kupuna, `ohana and, especially, the coaches.

This year, the tee-ball (T=tee-ball) and pitch-ball (P=pitch-ball) coaches are: T1-Ashton Salas; T2-Ryan Kreps; T3-Keone Mackillop; T4-Sam Johnson; P5-Brandon Carvalho; P6 Scott Schmidt and P7-Savanna Sims. Mahalo for all the time you dedicate to the keiki of Kohala!



Photo by Donovan Aiona

Coach Carvalho and his Pitch-Ball team for 2018.

Front row (left to right): Mateo Miller, Saydee Kawai, Alayah Wilson, Hana Kreps, Chaedon Kawai and Hunter Javillonar

Back row (left to right): Brayden Bruno-Carvalho, Na'i Rivera, Maraea Akana and Sheldon "Oni Boy" Emeliano

KCAA T-BALL & PITCH-BALL SCHEDULE 2018

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SECOND TEAM LISTED IS HOME TEAM		MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
JAN 29- FEB 1	GAMES	P7/P5-C		P7/P6-C	P6/P5-C
		T3/T1-D	T2/T4-D	T3/T2-D	T1/T4-D
FEBRUARY 5-8	GAMES	P5/P6-C		P5/P7-C	P7/P6-C
		T1/T2-D	T3/T4-D	T1/T3-D	T4/T2-D
FEBRUARY 12-15	GAMES	P6/P7-C		P6/P5-C	P7/P5-C
		T2/T3-D	T4/T1-D	T2/T1-D	T4/T3-D
FEBRUARY 19-22	GAMES	P7/P5-C		P7/P6-C	P5/P6-C
		T3/T1-D	T2/T4-D	T3/T2-D	T1/T4-D
FIELD LOCATIONS:		HEAD COACHES:			
C - DIAMOND NEAREST PLAYGROUND		T1		ASHTON SALAS	
D - DIAMOND NEAREST THE GYM		T2		RYAN KREPS	
		T3		KEONE MACKILLOP	
		T4		SAM JOHNSON	
		P5		BRANDON CARVALHO	
		P6		SCOTT SCHMIDT	

Kupuna Softball Starting Up in January 2018

The Kohala Kupuna and the Kohala Local Boy'z will be starting up their 2018 season in the Hawai'i Kupuna Softball League this month. For Kohala, the 2016 Hawai'i State A Division Softball Champions, it will be a stiff challenge once again in Hawai'i Kupuna Softball Division 1 play. Meanwhile, the Kohala Local Boy'z will be playing some fun competition in Hawai'i Kupuna Softball Division 2.

The Kohala Kupuna started the 2018 season at Kona Old Airport Park versus the perennial state championship contenders, Kona Gold. Next weekend, February 3, Kohala will be hosting another championship contender in the Hilo Pomaka'i. Kohala then visits Onipa'a on February 10, hosts Kua'aina on the 17th, then ends February by visiting the Onomea Rangers on February 24.

In March, Kohala Kupuna starts off by hosting Pueo on March 3 and then visits Ku'ikahi on the 10th, hosts the Honomu Rockets on the 17th and the Kona Legends on the 24th, and

ends March by traveling to Pahoa to play the Punatics on March 31. Kohala's home games are played at the Kamehameha Park Main Diamond and Veteran's Field (Mauka-C Field).

The Local Boy'z also started their season last week by hosting a new team to the league, the Black Lava Vapes of Kona. The Local Boy'z then travel to Waimea to play Pu'ukapu next week (February 3), travel again to Honoka'a on February 10 to challenge Pohaku III, host the Waiakea Seniors on February 17 and finish February by hosting Ka Nani O Honoka'a on the 24th.

In March, Local Boy'z visits Tsunami on the 3rd, hosts Pu'uwai Opio on the 10th, visits Kupuna Pride on the 17th and hosts Hui O Na Kolohe on the 24th and the Kona Warriors on the 31th.

Catch the Kohala Local Boy'z in action this season on the Veteran's Mauka-C Field or on the Kamehameha Park's Main Diamond.

Stay safe, have fun and good luck to all of our senior softball players!

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Kohala Sports

Ka Moku O Keawe Makahiki Games Held in Waimea

On Saturday, January 20, Kohala Elementary and Halaula Middle School students participated in Ka Moku O Keawe Makahiki games in Waimea from 7 a.m. until pau at Waimea Park. It was a community event including Hale 'Āina-Healthy Food Booths, Hale Ola-Health and Wellness and Culture Tents and the Ho'okūkū Kahalui-Makahiki Games Championship, all being done on the Waimea Park field. The Makahiki Games were divided into Nā Pā'ani No'Eau: The Skill Games and Nā Pā'ani Ikaika: The Strength Games.

On January 12, Halaula Middle School teachers Duncan Anderson and Wendy Nickl visited the Kohala Elementary campus with 10 middle

school students to demonstrate some of the Makahiki games that they were about to experience at the Ka Moku O Keawe Makahiki Games. They set up and conducted six game stations for fourth and fifth graders. For the privilege of representing both Kohala Elementary and Middle Schools, students participated in these demonstrations and the interested students signed up to travel to Waimea with both Mrs. Nickl (Halaula sixth through eighth grades) and Miss Jessica Bautista (Kohala fourth and fifth grades).

Results are not available at press time, but will be in the February Kohala Mountain News Sports report.



Photo by Donovan Aiona

Fifth graders Kalia and Sydnie Marquez demonstrate how to play "Hakamoā" – the one leg up, one-handed wrestling game – on January 12 at Kohala Elementary School. The students were participating in the practice session before the January 20 Makahiki games in Waimea.

Call for applications to the Manuel Family Scholarship

The Manuel Family Scholarship is putting a call out for applications from graduating seniors of Kohala High School (KHS) for its annual scholarship award.

The Manuel Family, long-time residents of Kohala, have three children – Ron, Jocelyn and Roger – who all graduated with honors from KHS and attended mainland colleges. The children started the scholarship in honor of their parents, Romualdo and Martina Manuel. Now in its fifth year, the scholarship fund seeks to help students achieve their dream of going to college. Says Jocelyn, "The three of us were fortunate to get financial support for college from many sources. We want to give back to our community and help Kohala students go to college."

The Manuel Family Scholarship is open to all graduating

seniors of KHS with at least a 3.0 GPA who are enrolling full-time as a freshman at a two- or four-year college or university in 2017-18. Preference will be given to students who demonstrate financial need. Applications are due on March 30, 2018. Scholarships are in the amount of \$500 - \$1000.

The Manuel children started a second scholarship, the Ho'omau Award, with the help of Dr. Lori Ann Kim of Waimea, daughter of Brian and Marion Kim of Kohala. Ho'omau, which means to persevere, is a teacher-nominated award that is given to students who have overcome hardships to achieve their goal of attending college. For applications to the Manuel Family Scholarship, please see Melody Nietfeld, the KHS counselor, or email manuelfamilyscholarship@gmail.com.

Thoughts About The Watershed

In the last several months, a select group of seventh grade students from Kohala Middle School studied watersheds. Under the direction of teacher Maureen Appleton, students learned facts about how watersheds collect fresh water, along with understanding the many threats to watershed health and possible solutions. Community partner Ilene Grossman of The Kohala Center guided student learning through classroom visits, activities and trips into the field. Students explored the Kohala Forest Preserve cloud forest, collected data and helped remove invasive ginger, which displaces native plants in the forest. Students also worked with Chantal Chung of the University of Hawai'i Sea Grant College Program to build a gutter outflow energy disperser behind Waimea KTA. The energy disperser was designed to help slow the rapid flow of storm water into the Waikoloa Stream and reduce erosion and, therefore, silt from entering the ocean coastlines.

Students shared their learning with friends and family through

a presentation of drawings, slide shows and a hands-on model of a watershed. Kohala Middle School strives to present educational standards through place-based and hands-on learning in order to create budding stewards of its community. The following are some of the students' thoughts after having participated in the project.

From Dazlynn Perez:

There's a beautiful quote that says, "Ue ka lani, ola ka honua." The author of this quote is Mary Kawena Pukui and what she means is when heaven cries, the land lives. So, when it rains the plants get water and the people and animals get water to drink or use. Fresh water is important to have when needed, so people should save water and take care of our watershed. In order to make sure Hawai'i has fresh water, people need to take care of our watershed by solving problems.

The health of the watershed is important to people because we need it to survive. Yet, there are problems. One threat is oil from

See Water, Page 16



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KOHALA MONTHLY CALENDAR FEBRUARY 2017

DATE	DAY	START	END	EVENT	DESCRIPTION	VENUE	PHONE
2/2	FRI	4 PM	7 PM	KHS FIRST FRIDAYS	CRAFT AND LOCAL FOOD VENDORS	KHS	889-7117
2/3	SAT	8 AM	12 PM	KHS SWIM TEAM FUNDRAISER	CAR WASH AND LAULAU PLATE FUNDRAISER	ST AUGUSTINE'S CHURCH	
2/5	MON	6 PM	7 PM	GROWTH MANAGEMENT GROUP	MEETING	BANK OF HAWAII BUILDING	
2/5	MON	6:30 PM		HAWAII'S HISTORY WITH BOYD BOND	MYTHS & LEGENDS OF PRE-CONTACT HAWAII	NORTH KOHALA LIBRARY	889-6655
2/7	WED	4 PM		COMMUNITY ACCESS GROUP	MEETING	SENIOR CENTER	IMUAKOHALA@GMAIL.COM
2/10	SAT	9 AM	6 PM	PRAYER FOR PEACE MUSIC FESTIVAL	15 LOCAL ACTS, FREE ADMISSION SEE PAGE 12 & 13 FOR DETAILS	KING KAMEHAMEHA PARK	345-9915
2/10	SAT	9 AM	4 PM	KOHALA GOLF PARK REOPENING	FUN TOURNAMENT & OPEN HOUSE	KOHALA GOLF PARK	365-6580
2/10	SAT	5 PM	9:30PM	KOHALA COLAB	ART & MUSIC : TIFFANY'S ART AGENCY ARTIST RECEPTION, HAWI 5-7 P.M. "LOVE AND LIGHT" WITH HULA HĀLAU O KUKUI ALOHA O KOHALA, KAVA CAFÉ, HAWI, 5-9 P.M. "FORTUNES TOLD" COLAB CONVENED BY HEART OF KOHALA, HAWI, 4-8 P.M. MILA AT BAMBOO RESTAURANT, HAWI, 6:30-9:30 P.M.	HAWI	FACEBOOK.COM/KOHALACOLAB
2/12	MON	3 PM	5 PM	NORTH KOHALA PARENT SUPPORT GROUP	SUPPORTED BY N. HAWAII COMMUNITY CHILDREN'S COUNCIL	KINGS VIEW CAFE	989-4894
2/13	TUE	11 AM		ADULT READING DISCUSSION	A PRAYER FOR OWEN MEANY BY JOHN IRVING	NORTH KOHALA LIBRARY	889-6655
2/13	TUE	6 PM		HAWAII FARMERS UNION UNITED	6PM POTLUCK, 7PM PRESENTATION. FOR EVERYONE INTERESTED IN GOOD FOOD, NOT JUST FARMERS	THE HUB	889-5715
2/13	MON	6 PM		HAWAII WRITERS GUILD	LOCAL AUTHOR READINGS	NORTH KOHALA LIBRARY	889-6655
2/17	SAT	4:30 PM	6:30PM	FREE GRINDZ HOT MEAL	KOHALA BAPTIST CHURCH	BANYAN TREE	889-5416
2/18	SUN	10:30 AM	2 PM	CHINESE NEW YEAR FESTIVITIES	LION DANCE, HISTORICAL TALK, FORTUNE TELLING, POT LUCK LUNCH AND FUNDRAISER	TONG WO SOCIETY	889-5723
2/20	TUE	10 AM		ADULT WRITER'S GROUP		NORTH KOHALA LIBRARY	889-6655
2/21	WED	5 PM		PARKS, WATER & ROADS GROUP	MONTHLY MEETING	OLD COURTHOUSE	ANDI@HAWAII.RR.COM
2/22	THUR	6 PM	6:30PM	PRAYERS AROUND THE PEACE POLE	ALL ARE WELCOME, REGARDLESS OF RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION	ST AUGUSTINE'S CHURCH	895-5753
2/24	SAT	10 AM	12 PM	THRIFT SHOP	AT ST. AUGUSTINE CHURCH	NEXT TO WALKER HALL	889-5390
2/24	SAT	11 AM	12:20 PM	COMMUNITY MEAL	AT ST. AUGUSTINE CHURCH	WALKER HALL	889-5390
2/26	MON	2 PM & 6 PM		SIMPLE JEWELRY CRAFT	WITH SID NAKAMOTO: CALL TO REGISTER	NORTH KOHALA LIBRARY	889-6655
2/28	WED	4 PM	5:30 PM	RESTORATIVE YOGA THERAPY CLASS	WITH CARLA ORELLANA, CERTIFIED YOGA THERAPIST, BY DONATION	THE HUB	889-0404

EMAIL CALENDAR LISTINGS TO KOHALACALENDAR@GMAIL.COM



Kohala Churches



<p>Kohala SDA Church WHERE FRIENDSHIP MEETS FELLOWSHIP</p> <p>Saturday Services: Sabbath School: 9:30 AM Divine Service: 10:45 AM</p> <p>Potluck-Fellowship Lunch every Sabbath 55-3361 Akoni Pule Highway, Hawi HI (808)889-5646 Kohalasda.com</p>	<p>Kalahikiola Congregational Church Service every Sunday Morning at 9:30 followed by pupus & fellowship Prayer time Tuesdays at 11:30</p> <p>Iole road of Akoni Pule Hwy. in Kapa'au 1/4 mile past the statue www.kalahikiolacongregationalchurch.com 889-6703</p>
<p>Gospel of Salvation Kohala Kokoiki Road Service: Sunday 9:00 AM Adult Bible Study: Monday 6:30 PM Prayer Meeting: Friday 6:30 PM Pastor Ilima Moihā www.gos-kohala.org</p>	<p>Kohala Baptist Church Across from Makapala Retreat <i>'Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.'</i> (Matthew 11:28)</p> <p>Sunday Services Adult Bible Study/Kids on Mission 9 am Worship Service/Sunday School (for children of all ages) 10:30 am Pastor Steven E. Hedlund (808)889-5416 Follow us on  Kohala Baptist Church</p>
<p>Sacred Heart Catholic Church Hawi, Hawai'i - The Welcoming Church</p> <p>Masses: Saturday 5 pm Sunday 7 a.m. - 9:30 am Weekday Mass: Monday - Friday at 7 am Adoration: 1st Friday 6:30 - 7:30 pm Rev Elias Escanilla Deacon Thomas Adams Telephone 889-6436</p>	<p>St. Augustine's Episcopal Church Kapa'au, North Kohala Sunday Services: 7am - Holy Eucharist (quiet Mass) 9am - Holy Eucharist Children's Sunday School & Fellowship Brunch Thrift Shop Hours: Weds: 12 - 3:30pm • Thurs: 4 - 6pm 4th Saturday: 10am - 12pm Free Community Meal: 4th Saturday of each month: 11am - 12:30pm Vicar Diana Akiyama www.staugustineskohala.com • 808 889 5390</p>

Water, continued from Page 15

a car. The oil from the car goes in to our watershed, then we drink the water and the oil goes into our body. So, we have to stop car oil from getting into our watershed by building natural filters to limit the amount of oil that goes into our streams.

Another threat is rubbish. When people throw rubbish on the side of the road it ends up in our watershed. Therefore, people who throw rubbish on the side of the road should get a fine. It goes into the streams and in our water. Some things we can do to stop rubbish from getting into our fresh water is to use a storm drain or rain garden, or plant ahuawa grass, so rubbish cannot get into our watershed.

To sum it up, there are many problems, but there are also many solutions. Maybe if people pay

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St. Augustine's Annual Keiki Christmas Shopping Spree



Keiki finish their shopping spree at the St. Augustine Thrift Shop with treasures chosen especially for their loved ones. The church gives gift certificates to shop at the thrift shop to keiki who attend its Feast of St. Nicholas event earlier in the month.

Story and photo by Lani Bowman

On December 9, St. Augustine Episcopal church hosted a "Keiki Shopping Spree" at their thrift shop. Keiki ages 3-12 were able to shop in the thrift shop by themselves while parents/caregivers

enjoyed beverages and snacks on the lanai.

The intent of the shopping spree is for children understand the meaning of Christmas and the meaning of giving at Christmas. There were adult helpers to

guide the children in their choices. However, what can one say when a 3-year-old boy says, "Yes, my daddy really likes dinosaurs!" We just hope they played with them together!

This year one little boy insisted his grandma would REALLY want a rather dilapidated bird house. Despite the adult's coaching, the keiki was steadfast on his decision and the bird house it was!

The fun part about this "shopping spree" is the elves who wrap the gifts for the keiki! After an hour of shopping, exhausted keiki beamed when they took their "spoils" to show their parents. The joy on their faces while saying, "I got to do this on my own for YOU!" is priceless!

Keiki who attended the "Feast of St. Nicholas" at Walker Hall all on December 6 received \$3 gift certificates to spend at the shopping spree.

The Feast of St. Nicholas is traditionally held at Walker Hall yearly on December 6. This event teaches keiki about St. Nicholas, who eventually evolved into Santa Claus. Crafts and activities, as well as dinner, are provided for keiki ages 3-12. Mark this day on your calendar for next year. Parents/caregivers can enjoy a little time to themselves, maybe even enough for a quick date!

Water, continued from Page 16

more attention, then we would have clean water to use and drink. If we had clean water we would have healthy fish and animals.

From Riley Perez-Neves:

"There is life in the water from the clouds. When the heavens cry the land lives."

-- Mary Kawena Pukui, 1983.

This means that when the heavens cry, it is raining and the land sustains life. The quote relates to my topic because water is important to our human race and animals without water will die and other living creatures will die also. People should protect our watershed and protect it with all their life.

The health of the watershed is vital to our access to fresh water. Yet, there are several threats to our watershed, such as ginger, pigs and erosion. For example, erosion from pigs causes the earth's crust to break down because the pigs dig into the soft ground and cause weeds to grow.

Another threat is ginger, which is very invasive to our Hawaiian Islands. What ginger does is crowd out Hawaiian native plants' space and water. In the end, there may be threats but at least there are ways to resolve them in the future.

There are things that we can do to stop the threat and promote our access to fresh water. To reduce

See Water, Page 18

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for upcoming County Convention on April 28 and the State Convention on May 25 and 26. The 2018 DPH State Convention will be held here at Waikoloa Hilton. This will be the first time in 30 years that the DPH State Convention will be held on a neighbor island!



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Water, continued from Page 17

erosion, we should plant more native plants so their roots hold the soil together. We can plant native plants such as ahuawa to minimize the amount of erosion. Another solution is to minimize and restrict access for animals that cause erosion. What we could do is hunt the pigs or restrict access to the watershed. To protect our watershed, these are just a few

make sure Hawai'i has fresh water people need to pull non-native plants and filter the oil.

Water is getting minimized by the minute because many threats to the watershed. One threat is oil. For example, oil is making fresh water dirty.

Another threat is non-native plants. Non-native plants are competing with native plants for water. With too many non-native

our watershed is poor livestock management. Because of the wild pig population and wild cattle population bacteria such as leptospirosis get into our watershed and cause sicknesses in all living species.

Water is valuable to everyone's needs so let's all put our heads together, the community, ranchers, farmers and businesses and make our waters clean. Maybe

parks.

In conclusion, our `aina is very special to us, so we need to take care of it by recycling and throwing away our trash away so it doesn't pollute our freshwater or ocean.

From Elijah Tabiolo:

There is a beautiful quote that is "Hu'ea i kai na piha 'a moe wai o uka," printed in Olelo No'eau (Mary Kawena Pukui, 1983). In the same way washed down to the sea are the stones from the streambeds of a person who, like torrents, leaves no scandal untold.

The water washes to the sea, along with the rocks. I get fresh water when it rains and the rain goes into a reservoir. Then it goes through a pipe and into a water tank and through a filter and into three smaller tanks and then into the house in order to make sure Hawai'i has fresh water for people to keep clean and for the next generation.

The health of the watershed is vital to our native plants. Yet, there are many threats to our watershed. One threat is the non-native plants are taking over native plants. For example, the ginger is taking over the native plants causing the native plants to die. Another threat is that there are erosions and no vegetation left on the road. For example, the wild animals walk back and forth on the material and the heavy rain washes it away.

There are many ways that we can help reduce the negative impact on our land that our watershed is located on. By planting more native plants it will reduce the negative impact of non-native plants damaging our watershed. Some plants such as kalo, ohia and ahuawa plants are perfect to restore our watershed. Installing rain gardens at the end of waterspouts it will help slow the fast-moving water and holds the soil in place. For example, the rain gardens on our school campus uses the water to grow native plants.

We have to try every day to protect our watershed from getting damaged by water, wild animals or other things. The watershed is where we get all of our drinking water and water that we use to live. If people could change their negative habits Kohala could have more water.



Photo by Maureen Appleton

Students pose with the energy disperser that they helped build behind Waimea KTA. Left to right: Maureen Appleton (KMS teacher), Riley Perez-Neves, Elijah Tabiolo, Dazlynn Perez-Rivera and Ilene Grossman of The Kohala Center

things that can be done to protect the watersheds. Fresh water is life. Clean fresh water is our most important resource. Without fresh water we will not only have no fresh water to drink but how would we grow our food? Fresh water is essential to our health, food sources and to our Earth's ecosystem.

So, everyone should do what should do what they can to protect and save the watersheds.

From Tyler VanZandt:

Fresh water is life!!!! Clean fresh water is our most important resource. Without fresh water we will not only have no fresh water to drink but how can we grow our food? Fresh water is essential to our health, food sources and to our Earth's ecosystem. In order to

plants, all the water could be soaked up from the watershed. These are some of the things that could reduce fresh water.

There are many things that could be done to reduce the negative impacts of the threats in the watershed.

One solution is to minimize oil is people could reduce the number of vehicles driven at the watershed. DLNR could limit the vehicles that go in and out. Another solution to non-native plants is that we could pull non-native plants. We could get groups of people to go up to the watershed and pull non-native plants.

There are many ways that we can resolve this problem. We created the problem so we can resolve it. Another pollutant to

one day we can walk through the beautiful valleys and drink clean pure Hawaiian waters from the palm of our hands!!! Mahalo.

From Karmelo Ramos:

Our watershed has been devastated by the following huge problem. The health of the watershed is vital to our access to fresh water.

Yet trash created by careless humans is destroying our watershed. Some examples of trash are chip bags and candy wrappers, which end up in our drains and clog up the pipes or end up in our ocean.

One solution that can help our watershed be trash free is people need to learn to recycle and never dump their trash on our `aina. Kohala could get more trash cans and put them at the beach and

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The Best Kept Secret, the Kohala High School Swim Team!

By Jeff Coakley

For the past five years the Kohala High School swim team has qualified for the State High School Championships. This year is no different, making it six years in a row since swimming was brought back in 2012.

The Girls' Relay Team

These girls have qualified in the 200-yard medley relay, 200-yard freestyle relay and the 4x100-yard freestyle relay. To qualify in the 200-yard medley relay, each of the four swimmers must swim one of the competitive strokes of either backstroke, breaststroke, butterfly or freestyle. In the other relays, each swimmer only needs to swim freestyle. Coach Elysia has been instrumental in helping the swimmers with their technique and condition-



Photos courtesy of Kohala High School

Kohala High School Swim Team
 Top row (left to right): Coach Jeff, Naomi Ney, Reece Hooten, Marvelanne Clark and Coach Elysia
 Bottom row (left to right): Oscar Ka'awa-Culp, Sydney Wiernicki, Mashayla Gusman, Bayleigh Wiernicki and Dayten James-Foree



Kohala High School relay swimmers.
 Bottom row (left to right): Freshman Sydney Wiernicki, Senior Mashayla Gusman and Senior Bayleigh Wiernicki
 Top row (left to right): Senior Naomi Ney, Senior Reece Hooten and Senior Marvelanne Mary Clark

ing workouts. By the second meet of the season the relay team already had State qualification times!

Up and Coming Sprinters!

Two of Kohala's first-time high school swimmers are having an impact on the Big Island Interscholastic Federation (BIIF). Freshman Sydney Wiernicki has already qualified for the State championships in the 50-yard freestyle, 100-yard freestyle and 100-yard backstroke. She is a mere 0.04 seconds from qualifying in the 200-yard freestyle, as well as helping her relay team to qualify in all three relay events.

On the other hand, Oscar, a sophomore, who has never swum a competitive stroke in his life, is challenging the fastest BIIF swim-

mers in the league. He could very possibly be the BIIF champion in the 50-yard freestyle.

The team would like to thank the Kohala community for their support of our fundraisers and to once again ask for your support. We will be having a car wash and laulau plate fundraiser on February 3 at St. Augustine Church from 8 a.m. to 12 noon. The monies raised will allow us to represent Kohala High and the Kohala community at the State Championship meet to be held at Kihei, Maui on February 9-10.

Our laulau plate will feature pork laulau, lomi salmon, chicken long rice, haupia and rice. And while you enjoy your meal, we will wash your car for a modest donation. Swim team members will be pre-selling tickets and hope you will support this worthy cause.

Mahalo! Go Kohala, Go Kohala High School!



Kohala High School sprinters
 Sydney Wiernicki (left) and Oscar Ka'awa-Culp.

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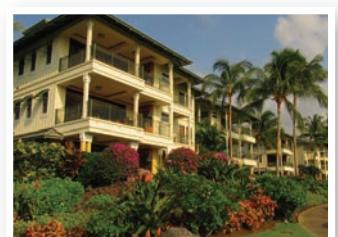
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To find out more, please
 contact Linda Morabito:
 PH: (808) 593-6381
 Email: lindam@hmcmtg.com



Kolea



Mauna Lani Resort Association



Kohala Waterfront

Growth and Opportunity at Kohala Village Hub

Story and photo by Randee Golden

The Kohala Village Hub has grown and expanded in many ways during the last three years, with additional services, programs and activities planned for 2018. Major accomplishments this past year include further renovations to the inn and facilities, increased service at The Pub at Kohala Village Hub and a variety of community programs, classes and activities provided by the Hub's nonprofit, Feed Hawai'i. It's a great time to eat, play and stay in the heart of Hawai'i.

The Pub now offers a full-service bar, along with breakfast, lunch and dinner served Wednesday through Saturday.

Entertainment is also offered on Friday and Saturday nights from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

A brunch with a buffet, as well as menu service, is available each Sunday from 9 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., including live music from 11 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Currently, Sunday Mana'o is featured, sharing classic and contemporary Hawaiian music.

Many of these changes are due to the new general manager, Craig Leeper, who is the head of operations for both the Inn and Pub at Kohala Village Hub. Craig has over 40 years of experience in the Hawai'i hospitality industry, including work as general manager for the King Kamehameha Resort in Kailua-Kona as well as the vice

president of operations for Wyndham Resorts in Hawai'i. Craig has a strong sense of service to community and he brings fresh ideas and years of hospitality work to North Kohala.

The Hub's nonprofit, Feed

Hawai'i, is also experiencing change, as "Mahalo and Aloha" was bid to Lehua Ah Sam on January 5 for her time spent as the Hub's executive director. Her work and leadership has helped to develop and evolve the Hub's inn, pub

and non-profit since 2014. Lehua's current priority is focusing on the upcoming birth of her first child.

She will remain in Kohala, working part-time with the voyaging organization Na Kalai Wa'a on their grant from the Administration for Native Americans, which is funding crew training and community development with the double-hulled canoe Makali'i.

The Hub is looking for a new executive director for their non-profit entity.

They hope to find someone familiar with this unique community who has the skills, desire and proven experience to lead Feed Hawai'i into the next phase of fulfilling their mission. Contact hr@kohalavillagehub.com for more information on the position. Meanwhile, Feed Hawai'i will continue to offer a variety of programs, classes and activities led by staff members 'Ekela Kahuanui and Michelle Kawai.

For questions regarding the Inn or Pub at Kohala Village Hub, please contact the Hub's front desk at 889-0404. Inquiries about classes or hosting events at the Hub can be directed to the program team at programs@kohalavillagehub.com. 'Ekela and Michelle can help you create a unique Kohala experience for your guests and company. Everyone at Kohala Village Hub wishes you a happy and healthy New Year.



The Kohala Village Hub bids "Mahalo and Aloha" to Executive Director Lehua Ah Sam for all her work as they welcome General Manager Craig Leeper to the staff.

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