

Kohala Mountain News

Vol.18, No. 09

About Kohala, For Kohala

September 27, 2019

Kohala Community Food Aggregation Site Realized



Kohala Food Hub Manager Meg "Sunshine" Roberts with a fresh crop of local papaya, ready for processing and distribution, at the newly opened Hub. The facility serves to elevate market access for local farmers while increasing food production and building local educational and economic opportunity.

Story and photo by Sarah Freeman

Hawaii Institute of Pacific Agriculture (HIP Ag) is thrilled to announce the opening of the Kohala Food Hub (KFH). This project is a longstanding dream of multiple community organizations, individuals, funders and legislative stakeholders to create a community food aggregation site in Kohala. Our heartfelt thanks go to the Hawaii Department of Agriculture, Representative David Tarnas, Senator Lorraine Inouye, County of Hawaii Department of Research and Development, State of Hawaii, Ulupono Initiative and 1Heart for their work bringing this dream into reality.

Across the nation, communities are seeing the critical role food hubs play in revitalizing local food systems. Food hubs work to elevate market access for local farmers while increasing food production and building educational and economic opportunity for youth. They serve the community and anchor institutions such as schools, hospitals, food assistance programs, etc.

Over the past three years, we have been working to increase the amount of food going into the Hawaii Department of Education (DOE) Farm to

School Initiative. KFH was created to build community infrastructure for increasing distribution of fresh produce to the program. With the successes of the Kohala Complex Area pilot project and subsequent trial at Mililani High School on Oahu, the state government has decided to roll the Farm to School Initiative out to schools statewide, renaming it the `Aina Pono Hawaii State Farm to School program, bringing it under the umbrella of the DOE's School Food Services Branch.

The DOE created `Aina Pono as a way to combine the Farm to School Initiative with other educational programs, including `Aina Pono Harvest of the Month, test kitchens, meal programs and menu planning. We hope that the KFH facility will enable and empower our community to become growers for the DOE and other markets. We also see this site as critical community infrastructure integral to increasing regional food production, aggregation and distribution.

In developing our systems for the KHF, we decided to use Local Food Marketplace software, the same mobile market system that Sustain-
See KHF, Page 2

Happy 90th Birthday, Shiro!



Photo by Kim Takata

Shiro Takata is laden with colorful lei, given by many who appreciate and love him, at the celebration of his 90th birthday.

By Malia Dela Cruz

Shiro Takata celebrated his 90th birthday with a crowd of Kohala residents on Friday, August 30, at Takata Store. From 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., waves of people came and went, greeting him with fragrant lei and well wishes. Many people consider Shiro their friend, and why not? A person gains a lot of friends during his 90 years of life. Among those who made the drive over to North

Kohala was our very own State Representative David Tarnas.

Shiro's family graciously provided free hotdogs, chips, popcorn, birthday cakes and drinks for everyone who stopped by. The atmosphere was filled with love for Shiro and an appreciation for all that he has done and continues to do for our Kohala community.

Here's to more celebrations, Shiro!

Discover Kohala History

Kohala is steeped in history, both natural and that of its people. This month we take a look at the multi-generational tale of how the Nakahara Stores came to be. See inside to learn more!

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Feed Your Family with Fish and Pork Raised in Your Own Backyard



The Brown family shares produce from their backyard aquaponics system with friends.

Kahua Pa'a Mua is recruiting ten families who are interested in growing fish and pork in their own backyards to participate in the 'Ohana Agricultural Resilience (OAR) training program. If you are interested, please call David Fuertes at 896-0566.

The OAR project will train and equip families to grow fish and vegetables with backyard aquaponics systems and pork with backyard Natural Farming odorless pig pen systems. The project also provides

training, land, equipment and infrastructure for growing taro, sweet potato and vegetables.

Organizers are currently seeking families that want to participate in the project. There will be ten training sessions in subjects such as Animal Husbandry (pigs); Aquaponics; Natural Farming; Hawaiian Staple Crops' Cultivation; Equipment Use and Repair; Food Processing; Food Safety; Agricultural Entrepreneurship; Fencing; and Irrigation. Free backyard aquapon-



Jamiel Ventura and Pukaua Kealoha with a prototype of the backyard Natural Farming deep litter pig system. Families that successfully complete the Ohana Agricultural Resilience (OAR) training will get a free aquaponics or pig system.

ics and pig systems will be given to participant families who commit to attending all 10 monthly training sessions. Families will be able to use some of the food grown during the training and some of the food will be distributed in the North Kohala community through The Food Basket, Hawai'i Island's Food Bank.

The OAR program trains North Kohala residents to grow food for themselves and their commu-

nity. Kahua Pa'a Mua believes that the North Kohala community is strengthened through a family-based approach to training and gives first priority to training multi-generational family units.

Funding for the 'Ohana Agricultural Resilience program is funded by USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Community Food Projects Competitive Grants Program.

Happy 1st Birthday to Kohala FREE Clothing Exchange

Story and photos by Lani Bowman

The Kohala FREE Clothing Exchange celebrated its first birthday on August 9 at the North Kohala Library. Over 50 people attended the event. Mahalo to Naomi Picinich and ohana for the ono-licious vegan carrot cake. It was the hit of the birthday celebration. Mahalo also to those moms who brought snacks to share!

Organizers Reynelle Viernes and Lani Bowman thanked the crowd for their caring participation for the last year. The event has grown in size and spirit. New friends were made, keiki played, adults got to talk story, and all enjoyed their time together.

Our FREE clothing exchange is held once a quarter, usually on the second Friday of the month. Our next exchange will be on November 8 at the North Kohala Library from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

It is important to know that, although this is an "exchange," we want EVERYONE to attend. If you have nothing for the exchange this time, please still come and "shop." We encourage people to please take whatever they can; it helps with the clean up afterwards! We always have lots of left-over clothes. If anyone knows people in need or wants to take more clothing, please come at the end of the event to take more clothing.

Mahalo to Mellanie Lee who takes the extras to those in need in South Kona. She is also willing to deliver clothes to families in need in Kohala if they cannot make the exchange. Please feel free to email me, Lani Bowman, at lbowman@pidfoundation.org with your family's sizes. Please include your contact information so we can contact you.

If you have items to donate,

please contact either Reynelle Viernes at 937-3332 or Lani Bowman at 895-5753. We would be glad to pick up your items. Also, please follow us on Facebook. Search for Kohala Clothing Exchange.



Keiki love picking out new-to-them clothing.

KHF continued from Page 1

able Molokai uses. On the website, farmers and backyard producers can post the produce and/or farm products they have available.

Buyers are able to make purchases within a purchasing window (Friday to Monday). After the purchasing window, growers harvest based on what was ordered. Kohala Food Hub supports the process with order management, receiving, sorting, storing and packing the produce orders for weekly pick-up or delivery.

Currently at the KFH, community members or individuals are able to rent the produce wash-pack facility and/or the walk-in cooler space. When demand increases, we will have access to freezer space as well. Other long-term visions of the space include a certified kitchen for value-added production and an equipment share. We envision the upper bay of the space housing a macadamia nut husker and cracker, a coconut husker, a hammer mill, an awa grinder and a wet mill for poi production.

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Same Canoe's New Veggie Rx CSA with Lokahi Garden Sanctuary

By Marcy Montgomery

Can you imagine getting a prescription for fresh fruits and veggies as a health care option? Same Canoe has been awarded funding to expand its Veggie Rx program to include more people in North Kohala. Qualified participants are invited to join the new October through January 'Food is Good Medicine' education, farm tour and cooking class program, which includes six free boxes of produce, one every other week through the New Year.

Naturopathic physician Richard Liebmann is hosting the educational community supported agriculture (CSA) program at his Lokahi Garden Sanctuary farm in Hawi with an opening launch session on Tuesday, October 8. The free class will be held from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. and pre-registration is required. Registered participants will receive directions to the class location and may qualify for free produce coupons for participating. All ages welcome for enrollment if qualified for Veggie Rx (see below).

Lokahi Garden Sanctuary has been a healing retreat and productive farm center for over 12 years. You can see their great fresh produce and herbs at the Hawi Farmers' Market each Saturday. The new Same Canoe Veggie Rx program is a chance to learn more about where your food comes from and how fresh produce can be a healing and strengthening wellness practice. Richard and his wife, Natalie,



Same Canoe farm-to-fork lunch and cooking demo with Chef Bellec of the Four Seasons at Starseed Ranch, with Hawaii Institute of Pacific Agriculture (HIP Ag).

lead tours on herbal medicine and healthy living around the world and this fall and winter they are opening their doors to the local community to help get more healthy food on local plates – and in our bellies!

Same Canoe is entering its ninth year of hosting the Local Food Challenge program that promotes Buy Local / Grow Local / Eat Local in support of small farms and home gardens. Same Canoe is now one of a handful of programs nationwide testing Veggie Rx services that bring a health practitioner, a farm and local residents together to strengthen the local food system and promote personal wellness. During the summer months, Same

Canoe provided over \$3,600 in support for Hawaii Institute of Pacific Agriculture (HIP Ag) for farm tour and CSA food distribution. The program connects HIP Ag's farm sites to local guests and is helping to launch an ag tourism program for visitors in conjunction with the Four Seasons hotel.

The new collaboration for Food is Good Medicine adds a valuable wellness dimension to the CSA and brings Lokahi's health and agriculture expertise together with Same Canoe's USDA funding and special event coordination to forge a beneficial partnership ready to serve local residents. "Eat Well. Feel Well. Live Well."

You can pre-subscribe for the no-cost CSA or register for the free October 8 introductory class at hawaii@oneisland.org if you are on QUEST insurance, Medicaid, WIC, Veterans Services, SNAP, or are limited income and have a chronic health condition that will benefit from additional fresh fruits and vegetables. Previously enrolled SNAP members of Same Canoe are welcome to enroll in this new program. Value of free services, classes, CSA boxes, and coupons is up to \$420, and is provided at no cost to Same Canoe members thanks to USDA support and Lokahi's educational farm. See www.oneisland.org for more information.

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Friday, Oct. 18

Kohala Branch



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The Changing Face of Recycling

By John Winter

Many of us who care about waste try to divert some of our trash to be recycled. Recycling not only reduces input to our landfill but also results in less consumption of minerals or petroleum to create new containers. But the sorting of mixed recycling is labor-intensive, and America has taken to shipping our recyclables to countries with cheaper labor.

As living standards increase in many of those countries, they produce more of their own waste and most have taken to refusing our ever-increasing shipments. The result is new limitations on recycling options. The fine volunteers from Zero Waste Big Island had a stall at 'Aina Fest this year and I learned a lot from them. In particular, recycling zeal is not enough. Improper recycling (putting in unsuitable stuff) may be worse than not recycling at all!

Here is what can and cannot presently be placed in your mixed recycling containers:

Plastic: #1 and #2 jars, jugs and bottles ONLY. Remove all caps, covers and lids.

No #3-7 categories (#5 no longer recyclable).

No clamshell or tray containers.

No plastic bags, plastic wrap or plastic packing materials.

No Styrofoam.

No pesticide or herbicide containers.

No plastic toys, utensils, hangers, furniture, etc.

Bottom line: If it isn't shaped like a jar or bottle, throw it away.

Paper: Flattened cardboard, newspaper, magazines, general paper, junk mail, paperboard (e.g.

cereal or cracker boxes), cardboard tubes and egg cartons.

No shredded paper.

No waxed paper or containers, no parchment.

No napkins or tissue.

Glass: ONLY jars and bottles. Separate HI-5 first. Remove all caps, covers and lids.

No glassware or cookware.

No windows or glass panes.

No light bulbs.

Metal: ONLY cans and lids (even food cans with plastic lining). Separate HI-5 first.

No Aluminum foil or pans (even if clean).

No spray cans.

No foil bags.

Rinse out all recyclables and put them in your bin loose (not in a plastic garbage bag). Again, placing any items listed in the NO categories can make an entire shipment unrecyclable and is worse than not recycling at all! IF IN DOUBT THROW IT OUT!

We have limited space on our landfill. You can make a big difference by being mindful of your waste habits and following the "5R's":

Refuse. Don't use or buy single-use plastics such as cups, bags, utensils or straws.

Reduce. Consider simplifying your life a bit and buy only what you really need.

Reuse. Before tossing something into the trash, decide if you can reuse or repair it. Shop at and donate to thrift stores. Carry your own water container and avoid buying water in plastic bottles.

Recycle. Choose products that come in recyclable packaging.

Rot. Compost whatever you can.

North Kohala Dentist Welcomes Young Patients

Joseph Coleman, DDS and his team are the "driving force" behind the big, brightly-colored dentist office on wheels, the Amazing Tooth Bus. From their unique facility at Hāmākua-Kohala Health's Kapa'au clinic, they provide a full range of dental services for kids up to age 20.

Originally from Washington state, Coleman has spent half his life in Hawai'i, starting out as a hiking guide who also loved to surf.

While a student at University of Hawai'i, a fellow hiker made him aware of the critical need for medical professionals in the Islands, and Coleman refocused his studies on Dentistry. He's been working on the Bus for Hāmākua-Kohala Health (HKH) for the last two years.

Like many health professionals, Coleman encourages people to come and see him before they experience a problem.

"I get the feeling people underestimate the value of oral health," Coleman said. "We sometimes get people who only come in on an emergency basis, when they're in a lot of pain.

As we take care of the issue, I also look around in their mouth and may see all kinds of other problems. I'd love the chance to take care of those kinds of before the patient has to go through another emergency."

Coleman encourages preventative maintenance in simple ways.

"I try to teach people when to brush their teeth and how," said Coleman. The best time to brush is right before bed, even more important than brushing in the morning. This gives your teeth and gums a break for eight hours; it gives your teeth all that time with no exposure to carbohydrates, no sugar... Then I suggest you spit out the extra toothpaste and let the leftover toothpaste stay in your mouth so it can work overnight."

The Amazing Tooth Bus was inspired by Hawai'i Island's critical need for affordable and accessible dental care for the low-income uninsured and under-insured people. At present, they accept HMSA, HDS, private insurances and (Medicaid) QUEST, and have a sliding fee scale for children without dental insurance.

Hāmākua-Kohala Health would love to expand its dental services and broaden its reach to communities.

"The more people who come to see us, the more likely it is that we can stick around," Coleman said. "How many dentists accept QUEST? Few to none.

We receive grant funding, and the granting agencies want to see more patients come in.

It's better for them, better for us, better for the patients. It's a kind of positive reinforcement mechanism all around."



The Amazing Tooth Bus has plans to begin a rotating schedule, serving both North Kohala and Waimea communities. At present appointments are available in Kapa'au on Monday and Wednesday 9 a.m. - 6 p.m., and Saturday 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., by calling 808-889-5453 or 889-6236. Emergency same-day visits may be arranged.

'Ōlelo Hawai'i for Kepakemapa (September)

By Jesse Lucas

Pehea

Pehea means how. Pehea 'oe? (How are you?) is the common thing to ask when greeting someone. If you are greeting a large

group of people, you could ask, "Pehea 'oukou?" A common answer to this question is "Maika'i au" (I am good).

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Letters

'Āina Fest Raises Funds for Agricultural Education

The 10th Annual 'Āina Fest, hosted by the Hawaii Institute of Pacific Agriculture (HIP Ag), was held at the Kohala Village HUB on Saturday, September 7, and attracted approximately 1,600 people. We thank all in our community who contributed to the event's success, including North Kohala sponsors and supporters Kohala Village HUB, Sunshine Hardware and Sushi Rock.

We also thank additional event sponsors: The Wave 92FM, Hawaii Department of Agriculture, Mauna Kea Beach Hotel, Ulupono Initiative, Island Naturals, Hawaii Electric Light, Natural Investments, Guayaki, Show Systems Hawaii, Big Island Coffee Roasters, and Hawaii Johns and event supporters: Tropical Dreams, Merriman's, Hawaii Forest & Trails, KTA Waimea, The Kohala Center, Kona Brewery, Southwest Airlines, Hawaiian Airlines, Ola Brewery and Mokulele Airlines.

'Āina Fest has been rooted in regenerative principles from its initiation. This year, Center for Getting Things Started and Pedal Power collaborated with us to reduce our carbon imprint through stationary bike riding to generate electricity,



Closing Blessing with (left to right) Pua Case, Paul Izak, Nahko, Trevor Hall, Amber Lily and Tubby Love. Photo by Heather Brovsky

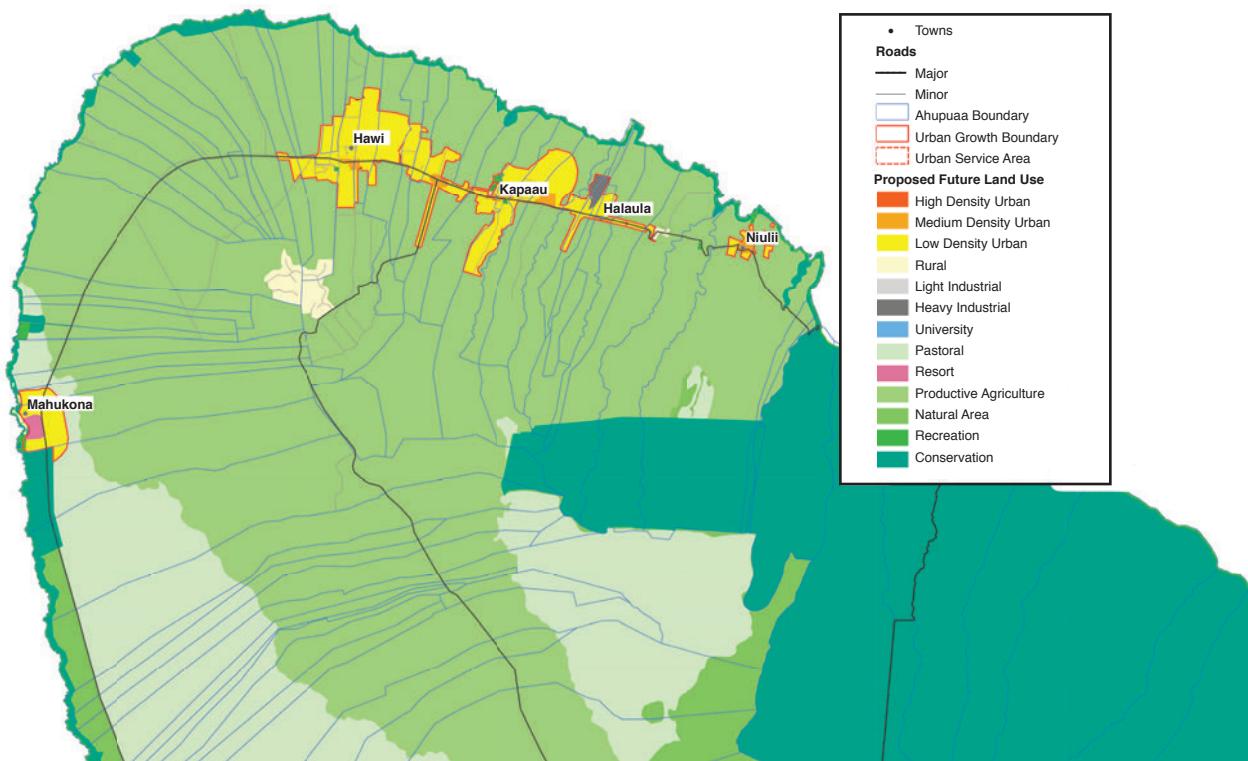
composting and carpooling. Fruit Tree Planting Foundation donated 34 fruit trees and led a fruit tree planting activity. We were honored to host agricultural leaders for a powerful panel discussion on farming and food sovereignty focused on climate change, natural resource management and building resilience.

Event proceeds will fund HIP Ag's K-20 youth education initiatives including in-school gardening and nutrition workshops, farm

field trips, Kohala High School Farm Mentorship & Internship Program, and a post-secondary Farm Apprenticeship program. HIP Ag will also offer the Mahi'ai Scholarship Award for the third year running, distributing a total of \$1,750 among Kohala high school students who demonstrate the deepest dedication to their school's gardens.

Mahalo nui loa to the event's performers, educators, committee leads, volunteers, vendors and attendees!

General Plan Update Needs Your Input



The Draft General Plan Future Land Use Map shows proposed land use zoning in North Kohala. This and other topics critical to the future of Kohala will be outlined in the upcoming revision to the General Plan. Your input on the Plan is welcome.

Aloha friends, The County of Hawaii's General Plan is the comprehensive policy and planning document for the long-range development and management of the Island of Hawaii.

It describes how the county addresses everything: Economic, Energy, Environmental Quality, Natural Hazards, Historical and Cultural Sites, Esthetics, Housing, Public Facilities, Utili-

ties, Recreation, Transportation, Land Use, Agriculture, Commerce, Industry, Open Space, Public Lands, Resorts, etc.

The Plan is being updated and revised and you will have several opportunities for public input as the new draft develops.

This is the first Plan revision to follow full implementation of the local Community Development Plans, and how well our local CDP is integrated into the next General

Plan is of major concern.

Only by tight integration of the CDPs into the Plan can our local voices be officially heard and addressed.

The general plan can be downloaded at www.hiplanningdept.com/general-plan/gp2040. After reviewing the document, you are welcome to submit your comments at generalplan@hawaiicounty.gov.

Thank you, John Winter

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.

October Deadlines

Ads and News: 10/11/19
September Calendar: 10/18/19
Distribution: 10/25/19

November Deadlines

Ads and News: 11/8/19
October Calendar: 11/15/19
Distribution: 11/22/19

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

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

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Hawai'i State House of Representatives Update

From the Desk of District 7 Representative David Tarnas

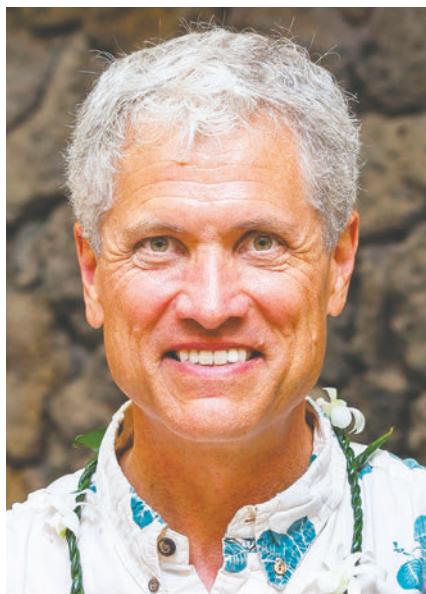


Photo courtesy of David Tarnas Representative David Tarnas speaks for North Kohala as a member of the Hawai'i State House of Representatives.

Last month, I reported on State Department of Transportation projects affecting our highways and harbors. This month's updates come from projects within our Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Watershed Conservation

The DLNR Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW) spearheads conservation and restoration projects in support of the State's goal to protect 30 percent of priority watersheds statewide by 2030. Much of the forest on the northeastern part of the Kohala peninsula is considered priority watershed because the forest

supports many native plants and animals and creates a high-yield aquifer recharge zone, which is the source of municipal and agricultural water in Kohala and Hamakua.

This past session, the Legislature allocated \$12.5 million for watershed protection initiatives, including for several projects in the upper Kohala Mountains.

The Watershed Partnership Program within DOFAW supports the Kohala Watershed Partnership, which unites Kohala Mountain's public and private landowners around common watershed protection goals.

DLNR-DOFAW and the Kohala Watershed Partnership protect native forests in Kohala by building and maintaining ungulate-proof fences to protect remote areas of native forest from non-native animals (pigs, etc.).

Pigs are a primary source of native plant loss and topsoil erosion in these forests, and preliminary research shows they also increase forest susceptibility to Rapid 'Ohia Death (ROD). Hunting also helps reduce pigs' impacts. Areas prioritized for protective fencing are generally remote forests not frequented by the public, where pig populations are unchecked by hunters.

Agricultural Water Study

The DLNR oversees the North Kohala Agricultural Water Study and the proposed development of an exploratory well for agricultural water supply in North

Kohala. The development of an agricultural water source was funded by a \$2.5 million capital improvement plan (CIP) appropriation in the 2019 Legislative Session.

This project is being executed by the State, in close consultation with the Hawaii County Department of Water Supply (DWS), because the exploratory well, if successful, would eventually become a production well for potable water supply.

The plan would be for agricultural water users to purchase DWS water at discounted rates. The study consultants, Waimea Water Services and Akinaka & Associates, held a public meeting in Hawi on August 30 to provide an update on the findings and continuing work of the Agricultural Water Study group.

This update presentation and the consultants' draft report is available on the project website: <https://dlnreng.hawaii.gov/projects/north-kohala-agricultural-water-study>.

I encourage you to check out the site, review the presentation and draft report, and share your comments with the study team.

Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation (DOBOR)

At Puako Boat Ramp, resurfacing, paving, and drainage improvements are still awaiting Grading Permit approval from the State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD).

Unfortunately, we hear this from many permit applicants right now: "we are waiting on

SHPD approval, and everything stops until then...."

The reality is that SHPD is currently understaffed, so they are not able to process permits as quickly as they would like. I am looking into what we can do in the job recruitment effort to get these vacant SHPD positions filled.

At South Kawaihae Small Boat Harbor, new boat ramp construction is currently underway and moving forward on schedule.

A contract is also now in place with Isemoto Contracting Co. for the construction of water lines connecting the new bathrooms at South Kawaihae to the Kawaihae Road water main. Construction on the water line connection is projected to begin in October.

Paving and drainage improvement plans for North Kawaihae Small Boat Harbor are now being reviewed by DOBOR. Although this project is expected to be bid out in September, construction will not begin until paving and drainage improvements at Puako Boat Ramp are complete, because North Kawaihae will need to remain open while Puako is closed for construction.

Plans for breakwater repairs at North Kawaihae are also now being reviewed, following the completion of a Wave Investigation Report from consultant Oceanit in July.

The breakwater repair project will await the allocation of funding in the coming fiscal year.



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County Council Update

From the Desk of District 9 Councilmember Tim Richards



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

Aloha! Once again, it is time for the monthly update from our office.

Affordable Housing Opportunities in Council District 9

The time is NOW! One of the biggest shortages in our county is access to affordable housing. Many of us know of generations of families living in one house because the younger generation does not have access to housing that they can afford. It is estimated that we need over 20,000 affordable units by 2025. As a county, we are way behind in building to address this need. The logical solution was to have started building a long time ago. The next best time to start is NOW.

The definition of "affordable housing" is defined by a percentage of the average median income, or AMI. The AMI schedule is published by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Develop-

ment (HUD) and can be found at the County of Hawai'i website at <https://www.hawaiicounty.gov/departments/office-of-housing>. AMI ranges are from the lowest, at 50 percent of the AMI, to the highest, at 140 percent of the AMI. What this means is the price of your home or rental is based on the amount of money you make and the size of your home or rental. This translates into what is an affordable house payment or rental payment. If this is sounding confusing, it is. The long and the short of it is, the price of housing to meet affordable needs is based upon a schedule produced by HUD.

The only way a developer can obtain the benefits of building affordable housing is if the program fits the county's criteria. One of the biggest challenges in our county is our infrastructure costs. Yes, construction costs can be relatively high but the infrastructure costs – land, services including water and roads – are where we run into a great deal of problems and obstacles to keep housing affordable. Under state law 201H, some accommodations are made to developers as far as minimizing some of infrastructure requirements.

Anything that pertains to safety and health cannot be minimized, however road widths, easement widths, sidewalks, etc. can be reduced to cut down some infrastructure costs thereby allowing affordable housing to be built.

Although this is not an easy task by far, there are a few developers still willing to work with the County of Hawai'i to assist with our island's housing needs. Currently in Council District 9,

North and South Kohala, there are approximately five projects that could potentially bring affordable housing to our communities. If we get them all done, we could conceivably have 2,000-plus new units and homes in the next 10 years. Paradoxically, it is easier to build luxury homes than it is affordable housing. My office is working very diligently with some of these developers to see if we may be able to get this done for our community.

County Of Hawai'i General Plan

As you may have seen in the news, and perhaps even participated in via attendance at a listening session, our County Planning Department is going through the update of the County of Hawai'i General Plan. This is a process whereby the Planning Department goes out to various communities to listen to questions and concerns to capture their direction and hopes for their respective communities. The General Plan we

are currently functioning under was authored in 2005. Under our County Charter, the General Plan is to be updated every 10 years. We are currently running a few years behind, thus the push to get this update accomplished as soon as possible. This document will help guide the future and direction of our county and the planning needed going forward. Currently, it is far from complete. Please go to www.hiplanningdept.com to review the current General Plan and the draft of the updated version, and to follow the updates. It is important to remember that this is just a draft at present, and it will be going through additional edits before it will be presented to the County Council for acceptance. If you have any concerns regarding the draft, you can communicate those concerns directly to the Planning Department or my office.

As always, it continues to be a great privilege to serve as your Councilman.

Exploring the Life of Kamehameha the Great: Part 1 of 3

What: *Kamehameha's Youth, Training and Rise as a Warrior, 1754 – 1785*

Who: *Boyd Bond*

When: *Mon, Oct 21, at 6:00 p.m.*

Where: *North Kohala Public Library, 54-3645 Akoni Pule Hwy, 808-889-6655*

Admission: *Open to all, free admission*

North Kohala Public Library presents the first of a three-part series of "talk story" session on the Life of Kamehameha the Great, with local storyteller and historian Boyd Bond.

In Part 1 of 3, Bond will discuss Kamehameha's youth. "From the beginning, the life of this young chief promised to be a violent one! Ordered assassinated at birth, Kamehameha was hidden away by loyal Kohala Ali'i and raised in isolation until adolescence, when the immediate threat to his life passed."

Call North Kohala Public Library at 889-6655 for more information. All programs are subject to change. If you require an auxiliary aid or accommodation due to a disability, please contact the library at least 7 days before the program date.

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North Kohala Senior Club Marks 50 Years



Photo by Lynda Wallach

Members of the North Kohala Senior Club gather on the steps and lanai of their meeting place, the Senior Center, to mark 50 years since the club's inception.

By Lynda Wallach

On Monday morning, August 19, members of the North Kohala Senior Club gathered at the Senior Center in Kapa'au to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the North Kohala Senior Club. It was started by Naevas Santiago in 1969 as an outgrowth of the Kohala Senior Softball Club. He wanted to keep our retirees active and engaged in the community, so the members

of the softball club reached out to others on the island who wanted to play softball. That was the beginning of the Hawaii County Kupuna Softball League and the first three senior citizen clubs. Since then the club has provided a place for our kupuna to come together to receive and share important information on such things as elderly services, special activities and health care, and to become involved in the

island community through various volunteer opportunities. But, perhaps most importantly, it is a place where seniors can come to enjoy each other's company; to celebrate holidays, birthdays, family and the joy of living in a place as beautiful as Kohala; and to share music, great food and good old-fashioned fun.

The Senior Club musicians opened the festivities, playing a series of favorite songs to an over-

flow crowd with many in the audience joining in. Several of the members are accomplished hula dancers and they entertained the group with some lovely hulas. Then it was time for a bit of cachi cachi, with David Tarnas and Tim Richards doing their best to keep up with Belma Rulan and Connie Bautista.

The opening entertainment was

See Seniors, Page 9



Photo by Gordon Duarte

The current North Kohala Senior Club Board of Directors.

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Seniors continued from Page 8



Photo by Gordon Duarte

Evalani Kawai uses a leaf to be sure only the celebrating seniors, no flies, get to enjoy the abundant feast.

followed by remarks and presentations by several county and state government officials.

After congratulating the group, Charlie Brown, program director for the County Office of Elderly Activities, presented lei and bells to the club board of directors.

The bell presented to President Faye Yates was to help her call the group to order without (hopefully!) having to raise her voice. Yates acknowledged and thanked Roann Okamura, director of Elderly Recreation Services, her staff and all others who support the seniors, including those who volunteer to drive those who are in need of transportation.

Barbara Shim Kossow, deputy managing director of the office of the mayor for West Hawaii, delivered a message from Mayor Harry Kim offering congratulations, thanks and aloha on behalf of the people of Hawaii Island. Yates, in

turn, thanked the County for its support, adding, "All seniors are special, and we have worked hard all our lives and deserve everything we can get."

Kauai Paleka-Kama, Program Director Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), praised the group for the 115,000 hours of service they provided to the community last year.

She was followed by Councilman Tim Richards, North Kohala's representative on the County Council. He read a list of the past presidents and presented a certificate of recognition to the club from the council recognizing, congratulating and honoring all presidents and members past and present. He jokingly told the group that, "When Faye calls, I make it a point to be there."

Then Seventh District State Representative David Tarnas told the group that the Kohala Senior Club



Photo by Lynda Wallach

Representative David Tarnas (left) and Councilman Tim Richards dance catchi catchi with Belma Rulan and Connie Bautista, respectively, at the North Kohala Senior Club's 50th anniversary celebration.

sets a high bar for other senior clubs throughout the state. He said that Kohala is well known for being independent, but if they want something, they will let you know.

The speeches were followed by more beautiful music from a ukulele group led by Irma DiCenzo. Finally, Charlie Brown presented awards to the oldest members: Dora Carvalho and Joe Cazimero, both in their 90s, and to the youngest members: Kalani Heinicke, Carla Orellana and Paz Rivera.

Then it was time for lunch, and what a feast it was! The kupuna of North Kohala are known for their

great cooking skills, and for this celebration three long tables were laden with delicious pupus, salads, soups, various kinds of rice and main dishes and desserts of every kind.

It was the perfect ending to a wonderful celebration and to the beginning of the next fifty years.

The Club sends a big mahalo to Shiro Takata and family, the North Kohala Resource Center, Nakahara Store, Joan Channon (Bamboo Restaurant), Arakaki Store and to all those in our community who support the Kohala Senior Citizens Club.

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The Nakahara Stores

By Tom Morse

In 1951, Castle and Cook decided to divest itself of two sugar-company stores: one in Halaula and one in Hawi. They were purchased by the Nakahara family of Paauilo.

The First Generation

Minezo Nakahara came to Paauilo in January 1895 from a small fishing village in Japan, expecting to work on the sugar plantation. When he arrived, they told him that they had already filled their quota. He had the choice of returning to Japan on a ticket paid by the sugar company or remaining in Hawaii on his own. He chose the latter.

In 1907, he married Kiyo Kawamoto, also originally from Japan. Noticing that Filipino families used a fish sauce on most meals, he arranged with an importer to have a supply of dried, salted fish shipped to him from Japan. When the fish are ground and fermented, a paste called bagoong results. Minezo began selling this product.

His wife saw that the sugar workers would often get soaked in the regular rains along the Hamakua Coast. She purchased cheap fabric, sewed long-sleeved shirts and soaked them three times in linseed oil, a process that she had learned in Japan. The resulting "raincoats" sold briskly.

With these two products and some grocery items, the couple opened the first Nakahara Store, located in Paauilo, in 1908. They were helped by a loan from a tanomoshi: a small group of Japanese in that area that pooled their monies to lend to people they trusted.



Kiyo and Minezo Nakahara

Source: Nakahara Family

The Second Generation

Minezo and Kiyo had eight children – four girls followed by four boys. Minezo made it clear that each of the boys were expected to work in the store. When they came of age, he wanted each to have his own store.

In 1939, the oldest son, Shoichi, married Ayako Kawamoto of Hakalau.

But World War II intervened with the family's plan. Because the oldest son had attended a military high school in Japan, the U.S. Government sent him to an internment camp in Hawaii. The second son had been visiting his great-grandmother in Japan when the war broke out. Being a U.S. citizen, he was given the choice of either going to prison or joining the Imperial Japanese Navy. He became a sailor. The third son served as a Medic for the 442nd Regimental Combat Team of the U.S. Army. He would return home with two Purple Hearts. The youngest son became an interpreter for the U.S. Government.

When the war ended, the second son remained in Japan. The other three sons returned home safely.

Around 1945, Shoichi bought the Hayashi Store in Union Mill from his sister, Mrs. Kimiko Hayashi. The Nakaharas subsequently sold this store to Hideo Naito. Mr. Naito later moved the store to Akoni Pule Highway, where it still stands, next to Aloha Gas.

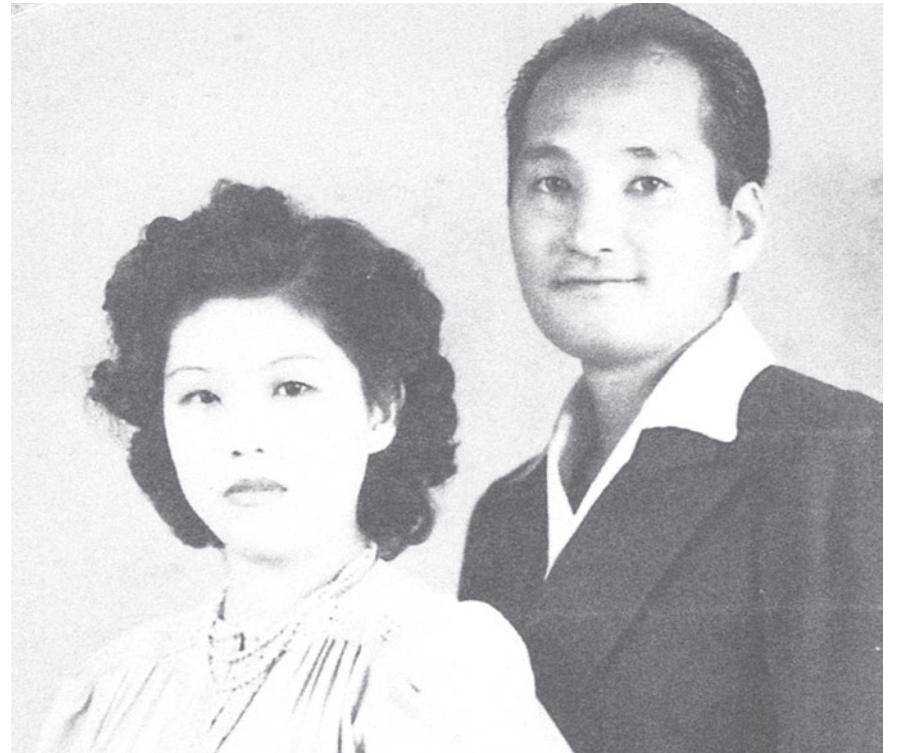
In 1951, the family bought the Kohala Sugar Company's two plantation stores in Halaula and Hawi and named them M. Nakahara Stores. Shoichi, the first son, managed the store in Hawi while Stanley, the fourth son, managed the store in Halaula.

One daughter, Masako, managed the store in Paauilo and Thomas, the third son, managed another former plantation store in O'okala on the Hamakua Coast.

All four were M. Nakahara stores.

In 1957, Stanley took over management of the Hawi store, while continuing to manage the Halaula store. The Halaula store closed when the sugar company sold and moved the Halaula Up Camp and Down Camp housing in the early 1960s.

See Nakahara, Page 11



Ayako and Shoichi Nakahara

Source: Nakahara Family

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Nakahara, continued from Page 10

In 1963, Stanley left the Hawi Store. Shoichi's wife, Ayako, became the store manager.

The O'okala store closed in the 1990s and the Paauilo store closed in 2001. The Hawi store is the only one still in operation.

The Third Generation

Shoichi and Ayako had two sons, Richard and Howard. Today, Richard and Mary Rose Nakahara run the Hawi store.

Richard grew up in Hawi; he lived with his parents in a house on Akoni Pule Highway. When he was four years old, his grandfather, Minezo, told him that he would be expected to work in the family store.

In 1957, Shoichi moved the family to Hilo, where he became a bank manager. Richard graduated from Hilo High School, then spent a year at Hilo College and then two years at the University of Hawaii - Manoa.

While he was in college and money was tight, he went to work as a meat cutter for Safeway Stores in Honolulu. In 1968, he was drafted into the U.S. Army. He was on the verge of being sent to Vietnam, but the U.S. Government began to de-escalate the war during his second year in the service.

Discharged after completing his two years of service, he returned to the University of Hawaii to earn his degree in finance.

In 1973, as a young man fresh out of college, he ventured out with some friends and lived in the Philippines for five years, hoping to establish a business in manufacturing organic fertilizer. However, because of the worldwide oil crisis in the 1970s, the business plans did not materialize.

While in Manila, he met Mary Rose Ramos, who was studying to be a nurse at The University of the City of Manila. The courtship lasted four years.

Richard returned to Hawi to help his mother run the Hawi store in 1977. Kohala Sugar Company had closed its last mill four years earlier, in 1973. The population of Kohala had been declining for several years, as jobs were no longer available due to the eventual closing of the sugar company. The Hawi store's sales declined during the 1970s and did not improve until the population began to grow again after the opening of the large Kohala Coast hotels in the early 1980s.

In 1980, Richard returned to the Philippines to marry his then-fiancée, Mary Rose, who by then was working as a registered nurse in Manila.

Mary Rose joined Richard in Hawi in 1980. Richard's mother retired and Mary Rose became part of the family business at the Hawi store.

The Hawi store operated from two separate buildings: one for groceries and one for dry goods. For many years, the U.S. Postal Service's Hawi branch operated in a very small space next to the entrance to the store. The dry goods business closed in 2016 and the post office relocated to that building.

The Hawi store has been in continuous operation for 68 years.



Credit: Tom Morse
Mary Rose and Richard today at their home in Hawi

Mary Rose and Richard have two sons: Lee, 38, and Ron, 29. They each graduated from Kohala High School. Both graduated from colleges on the mainland and now live and work in Las Vegas.



Source: Nakahara Family
Ron, Lee, Mary Rose and Richard Nakahara



Source: Nakahara Family
Ayako and Mary Rose Nakahara in 1985

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Kohala Sports

Family Fun at Kohala Golf Park



Photo by Marcus Douglas

Wide open space and fields of green surround golfers at Kohala Golf Park.

About four months ago, I was out and about with my kids just looking for something different to do with them that day. We were doing our usual Kamehameha Park playground to pool to around-the-park bike ride, like a lot Kohala folks like to do. However, while riding bikes we were just about to ride past the sign to the golf course when my daughter said, "Let's play golf."

So... we detoured down the road to the amazing greens, where the road dead ends at a cute little old caddy shack. The course starts and ends there at the "caddy shack" (there was no caddy, though). When we approached the shack, we met a local Kohala man. He grew up here and is a fine golf course volunteer, to say the very least. He happily outfitted the kids and me with the proper clubs and even gave us all a little lesson on the putting greens. Thanks in part to him, we had a great day on the greens, and we will be back to play again soon.

Come out and play a round or two of golf in North Kohala. The golf park's easy to use website says, "We would love to see you! Become a volunteer!" If you would like to give volunteer a try, call Deborah at 808-365-6580.

Want to play? Just go to Kamehameha Park in the heart Kapa'au,

drive beyond the gym and past the skate park on your right and the basketball courts on your left, then slowly go through the gate at the golf park entrance. Cash and checks are all greatly appreciated golf course donations.

I found the Facebook page to be a great resource, with information from other golfers and locals who use the park on a regular basis. Search for "Kohala Golf Park" on facebook.com.

Mark your calendar. January 12 is "Free Golf Day" at the Kohala Golf Park. You can sign up, along with the other 39 guests already registered, on their Facebook page. See you there!

The cost is kept low to encourage the community to get out and play golf regularly. Daily rate for ages 17-54 is \$12, or \$20 with clubs. Seniors (55 and older) are \$10, or \$15 with clubs. Kids 16 and younger play free. Membership is \$600 per individual, \$500 per senior. Family membership is \$1,000 and includes two adults, 17 and older. Golf clubs are available for rent for \$8 a day for adults and \$5 for seniors; clubs for kids are free. Renting a golf cart costs \$8 per round for adults and \$5 for seniors. Open 8:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., weather permitting. Find out more at www.kohalagolfpark.org.

WEEKLY EVENTS IN OCTOBER 2019

DAY	START	END	EVENT	VENUE	CONTACT
MON	6:30AM	7:30AM	AA DAWN PATROL	KAMEHAMEHA PARK	889-5675
	9AM		KOHALA SENIOR CLUB MEETING	CIVIC CENTER	895-2094
	9AM	1PM	EARLY LEARNING WITH CATHY MORGAN	HUB CLUB	889-0404
	3PM	3:45PM	CAPOEIRA - 3-6 YEARS	HUB BARN	889-0404
	4PM	5PM	CAPOEIRA - YOUTH	HUB BARN	889-0404
	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	
TUES	6:30AM	7:30AM	AA DAWN PATROL	KAMEHAMEHA PARK	889-5675
	9AM	10:30AM	CHAIR YOGA	INTERGENERATIONAL CENTER	889-0583
	9AM	10:30AM	TAI CHI	HUB HALE	889-0404
	9AM	11AM	TODDLER PLAYGROUP AGES 1.5 - 3	HUB CLUB	889-0404
	10:30AM	11:30AM	ALTAR YOUR YOGA	HUB HALE	
	2:45PM	3:30PM	KEIKI BALLET 3-7YEARS	HUB BARN	889-0404
	3PM	5PM	SCRABBLE FOR TEENS & ADULTS	NORTH KOHALA LIBRARY	889-6655
	5PM	6PM	MEDITATION COURSE	INTERGENERATIONAL CENTER	917-293-3427
	5PM	6PM	INSANITY CLASSES WITH ASHLEE CHEEK	SOLID ROCK NORTH CHURCH	989-0966
	5:30PM	8:30PM	INTRO TO CERAMICS & OPEN STUDIO	HUB CLAY COTTAGE	889-0404
	6PM	7PM	TABLE TENNIS/PING PONG	OLD COURT HOUSE	889-1099
	6:30PM	7:30PM	BELLY DANCING - TEEN-ADULT	HUB HALE	889-0404
WED	7AM		WALK WITH A DOC	KAMEHAMEHA PARK	889-1570
	8:30AM	9:30AM	PILATES PLUS	HUB HALE	889-0404
	9AM	1PM	EARLY LEARNING WITH CATHY MORGAN	HUB CLUB	889-0404
	1:30PM	3:30PM	AFTERSCHOOL LEGO® CREATIONS	NORTH KOHALA LIBRARY	889-6655
	1:30PM	3:30PM	TEENS X2 SOCIAL 11-19 YRS	ARTISTS' CO-OP	989 5995
	1:30PM	2:15PM	KEIKI HIP HOP	HUB BARN	889-0404
	2PM	4PM	OPEN GUIDED ART STUDIO	ARTISTS' CO-OP	783-1158
	2:30PM	3:30PM	YOUTH HIP HOP	HUB BARN	889-0404
	2:30PM	3:30PM	YOUTH BEGINNER BALLET	HUB HALE	889-0404
	5:30PM	7:30PM	CERAMIC SERIES	CLAY COTTAGE	889-0404
	6PM	6:30PM	FREE RMD TAIKO CLASSES	WALKER HALL	895-2025
	6PM	7:30PM	SEIBUKAN KARATE ACADEMY	HISAOKA GYM	889-0404
	7PM		ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS	WYLIE HALL, 'IOLE RD	889-6703
	THU	6:30AM	7:30AM	AA DAWN PATROL	KAMEHAMEHA PARK
9AM		11AM	TODDLER PLAYGROUP AGES 1.5 - 3	HUB CLUB	889-0404
10AM			QIGONG - CALL 530-277-8756	KAMEHAMEHA PARK	
10:30AM		11:30AM	ALTAR YOUR YOGA	HUB HALE	889-0404
4PM		5:30PM	JAN'S YOGA - INTERMEDIATE	HUB HALE	889-0404
5PM		6PM	MEDITATION COURSE	INTERGENERATIONAL CENTER	917-293-3427
5PM		6PM	INSANITY CLASSES WITH ROSS PAGAT	SOLID ROCK NORTH CHURCH	989-0966
5:30PM		8:30PM	CERAMICS -GUIDED OPEN STUDIO	HUB CLAY COTTAGE	889-0404
6PM			TABLE TENNIS/PING PONG	OLD COURT HOUSE	889-1099
7PM		8PM	NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS	LOKAHI CENTER	889-5099
FRI		9AM	11AM	TAI CHI - ALL	HUB HALE
	9AM	1PM	EARLY LEARNING WITH CATHY MORGAN	HUB CLUB	889-0404
	10AM	10:30AM	PRESCHOOL STORY TIME AGES 2-5	NORTH KOHALA LIBRARY	889-6655
SAT	7AM	8AM	AA DAWN PATROL	KAMEHAMEHA PARK	889-5675
SUN	9AM	10:30AM	YOGA WITH JAN - BEGINNER	HUB HALE	889-0404
	10AM	11AM	SEIBUKAN KARATE ACADEMY	HAWI FARMERS MARKET	889-0404
	10AM		WEST AFRICAN DRUMMING CLASS	LAVARROOTS PAVILLION	987-4243
	10:30AM	12PM	YOGA WITH JAN - INTERMEDIATE	HUB HALE	889-0404
	11AM	12:30PM	WEST AFRICAN DANCE CLASS	LAVARROOTS PAVILLION	987-4243
	4:30PM	5:30PM	TANGO - BEGINNER	HUB HALE	889-0404
	5:30PM	6:30PM	TANGO - INTERMEDIATE	HUB HALE	889-0404
	6:30PM	7:30PM	REFUGE RECOVERY	CLAY COTTAGE	889-0404

EMAIL WEEKLY CALENDAR LISTINGS TO: kohalacalendar@gmail.com

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Kohala Sports

Cowboys Football Hits Hard Against Pahoa



Courtesy of MJ Macaspac

MJ Macaspac completely wraps up and takes down the Pahoa offense.



Photo by Marcus Douglas

Kohala defensive lineup rushes the HPA quarterback.

“Come on boys, you can do it!” screams one excited football fan at the pigskin playoff spectacle where the contentious Kohala Cowboys high school football team is in full action against the Pahoa Daggers.

With a 1-1 record, the team is looking cohesive this year. I really like how the players all support each other out there. “They play every play with heart,” reports an excited fan from the cheer section.

Kohala played its first game this season against the mighty Hawaii Preparatory Academy (HPA). The

HPA game had a great start for the Cowboys, with an amazing 80-yard touchdown run by Zhane Ellizar-Ching.

Unfortunately, that would turn out to be the only scoring drive by the Cowboys. The final score was Cowboys 6, HPA 45.

However, the Cowboys bounced back fast in their next game, played at home, against the Pahoa Daggers. The Cowboys defeated the Daggers 31-18.

One Cowboys team member said that, “the Daggers played hard

and we really [like] good opponents.”

One thing that stands out in Kohala is the high-quality coaching. Football Coach Chad Atkins has set up a great program this year, one that fosters each player’s mind, body and spirit. I see him at school checking in with teachers and helping the players get their school work done. I see Coach encouraging players to do well, serve their community and family, and to work hard. The most telling feature of Coach is year-long dedication to his players.

I see him teaching them how to play football just about all year, whether it be in the classroom, on the school field, or at Kamehameha Park for spring training.

The next game for the Cowboys is against Ka u Trojans. This team gave us a real beating last year, but Zhane Elizar-Ching has different plans for the Trojans this year. When Zhane was asked if they are going to beat the Trojans, he nodded gently and said, “Yeah.”

Keep up the great effort and Go Cowboys!

Cowgirls Volleyball Serves Up Family fun

The Kohala Girls Volleyball games are a great way to enjoy the evening with your family at the newly designed Kohala High School gym. They are off to a rough start this season and could always use a local boost of Kohala-style fan enthusiasm. Kayla Joy Juan Kealoha, the team’s captain and its only senior player, thinks that, “Our team’s strengths are leadership and spirit; we need to work on better communication.” One freshman player says, “I really like it; it’s a lot of fun.”

I had the chance to grab a shot of the girls raising money at the football game selling delicious shave ice. My kids loved it, of course. Good luck, girls! Go get ‘em!



Photo by Marcus Douglas

*Front row (left to right): Mia Furtes, Myiesha Emeliano, Kayla Joy Juan Kealoha, Tian Reyes-Akana, Skyla Vanzandt
Back row (left to right): Ethan Thomas, Teige Lorenzo-Akamu, Rayanna Baldos, Rheann Matundan, Megan Hoopai, Angelina Pertore, Jaylah Kekoa, Waiulu Kawai-Poliahu, Zoe Mikel, Neighton Bell*



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Kohala Sports

Little Biddy Ballers Bring Big-Game, Smooth-Shooting Skills



Photo by Marcus Douglas

The Rockets

Front row (left to right): Luis Gomez, Chaedon Kawai, Lexi Isabel, Bradd Carvalho and Jimmy Lau.

Back row (left to right): Coach Kahiau and Coach Elijah

The new Biddy Ball season is underway and there is still time to make a couple games for some local action and fun. The kids are doing well, and their skills are sharp. I went to two games and must have seen at least 30 shots go in before I stopped counting altogether. The 10-minute halves are great and each team rotates the players every five minutes so everyone gets to play a lot ball out there. It feels good to see the kids, coaches, community members, and families all out there enjoying their time together playing sports.

A special thanks goes out to the KCAA staff, as well as the gym staff that keeps everything running

smooth for our community athletes, instructors, and enthusiasts. We will see all the action over the next couple issues of our newspaper so keep an eye out for the Biddy Ballers update next issue. This issue includes photos of four of the six teams; next issue will have photos of the other two teams (The Warriors and The Pink Panthers).

I especially like seeing the excellent sportsmanship throughout the games and at the end of each game. Great effort everyone.

Next Games in October:
October 1: Kings vs. Panthers, Rockets vs. Ballers
October 3: Lions vs. Panthers, Rockets vs. Warriors



Photo by Marcus Douglas

The Kohala Kings

Front row (left to right): Cayde Carvalho, Peyton Hoshida and Kaysen Nakamura

Middle row (left to right): Joey Giltner, Jr.; Kaimi Loo; Sky Carvalho and M.J. Hastings Back row: Coach Brycen Carvalho



Photo by Marcus Douglas

The Lions

Front row (left to right): Lena Kolly, Bram Douglas, Toby Ongoy, Hunter Lau, Ethan Francisco, Kam Cazimero, Thaid Keyes and Adrian Howard
Back row: Coach Alexandra Douglas



Photo by Marcus Douglas

The Li'l Ballers (left to right): Coach Justin Cabanting, Jayden Galindez-Santiago, Blade Crabbe, Khloe Luga-Benedicto, Ishen Salvador-Libron, Darius Duque, Jasmine Cambra, Isabella Cabanting, Kaylee Estabillo and Coach Toni McPeek

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THE COQUI CORNER

During August, eradicating crews and volunteers worked hard at the Transfer Station, Iole, Union Mill, the Union Market area, Pratt Road, and in Makapala. Numerous residents treated coqui in their yards and near their homes.

Mahalo to the volunteers, property owners, and the individuals that are helping to keep their neighborhoods quiet.

For ideas and strategies on how you can help to control the coqui population in Kohala, call the **COQUI INFORMATION LINE AT 889-1777**

Mahalo to the State and County for supporting our efforts

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Kohala Sports

Roots Skate Park Continues Expansion, Eyes Reigniting After-School Education Program

Roots Advocates for Youth, the organization behind Roots Skate Park, is working hard to bring a new sports education and recreation resource to the community. The expansion of the current skate park will bring its overall area to roughly one-half acre. However, the skate park's property extends beyond that border.

Roots is also looking to reignite their after-school skate education programs in the near future. They want to incorporate Kohala Middle School's UPLINK programs. Roots has a shipping container to host programs but needs a roof to cover the container in order to create a teaching and learning space.

Roots organizer Richey Riggs says, "The UPLINK skate park mentorship program first started a few years back, when Janette Snelling was the middle school principal and we used a 21st Century grant." The school and the grant helped the kids do the artwork on

the park grounds and the grant also helped to get skateboards and helmets and pads for kids to teach skateboarding. "This is the kind of stuff we would like to continue and just need donations and volunteers to get it going successfully," says Riggs.

For information on volunteering or donating cash or other resources, contact Richey Riggs at skate4roots@yahoo or P.O. Box 956, Kapa'au, HI 96755. You may send a tax-deductible check made out to "Roots Advocates for Youth" and 100% of your donation will go to the skate park. The North Kohala Community Resource Center also hosts grants for the Roots Skate Park. If you would like to support two local community organizations with one donation, you can visit their website at www.northkohala.org or stop by their office at the North Kohala Welcome Center, located on the makai side of Akoni Pule Highway at the main entrance to Hawi Town.

Swim Team Hosts Meet at Kohala Pool



Photo by Marcus Douglas

On September 14, (left to right) Rhysie, Mari Nori and Eric all prepare to warm-up for the big swim meet at Kohala pool.

Ag Water System Proposal Gains Players, Funds

By Toni Withington

The possibility that Kohala may gain an independent agricultural water system inched out of the study phase last month with the possibility of seeing a system in place now looking more likely.

New players and an infusion of an additional \$3 million have been thrown into the equation.

About seventy Kohala residents showed up at the Kohala Village HUB on August 30 to hear John Richards present his final report on the state-sponsored North Kohala Agriculture Water Study.

Besides reporting that Kohala has abundant sources to provide water to farmers, he said the next steps are already underway for finding a way to get it to farmers at a reasonable cost.

What is being proposed is a cooperative effort between farmers and the State's Water Commission and Department of Agriculture, as well as the County's Department of Water Supply (DWS).

Top administrators and engineers from those departments attended the meeting. Richards announced that overseeing the next steps on the ground in Kohala will be Scott Enright, the former head of the Department of Agriculture, who will be acting as liaison and coordinator.

"There is plenty of water," he said. "Let's get it where we want it to go."

Senator Lorraine Inouye, who has been pushing for and lining up funds for the project, said this year an additional \$3 million has been designated for ag water, mostly from legislature, but also from the County.

"If Kohala's goal is to have agriculture, we should stick to it and promote State agriculture lots for small farming," she said.

The next phase will be pulling together a local organization to run the water system, which will eventually be independent of the potable water system provided by DWS. It may also include drilling an exploratory well for ag water near the best farming land.

The long term (over three years) system will include integrating multiple water sources – the Kohala

Ditch, springs, wells and even possible catchment systems – to supply both small and large agriculture businesses.

"As a first step, to get water to small farmers right away, the Department of Water Supply will be temporarily expanding its allocation of water units to farms through its system at agricultural rates," Richards said.

This is to keep the existing farmers' operations viable until more pipelines can be installed for a larger system. Agriculture in Kohala will need to expand to support an independent system.

"We need to farm farmers, to get young people into farming. That is our biggest challenge," he said.

As far as action goes, the first step outlined in the study is to set up an Intergovernmental Agreement between the Department of Land and Natural Resources, the Water Commission, the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Water Supply.

The next step is to form a non-profit and quasi-governmental organization, here in Kohala, capable of planning, building and managing a water system.

The third step recommended relates to integrating existing water sources with "mid- and high-level sources" such as springs, state and federal wells and possibly Kehena Ditch.

Inouye pointed out that the thirteen exploratory wells dug by the USGS in the 1990s might be used and help facilitate federal grants for developing transmission lines.

As for a possible organization, the study points to the recent legal setup of the Kohala Ditch Co-op, Inc., which is expected to take over running the ditch water system from the Kohala Ditch Company, a subsidiary of Surety Kohala Corp.

The Co-op is made up of smaller co-ops formed around each of the lateral pipelines off the water source.

Each pipeline association is represented on the board of the main co-op. The ditch is currently taking water from Honokane Valley, but could be supplemented with water from some of the 30 springs and 50

See AG Page 17

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KOHALA MONTHLY CALENDAR OCTOBER 2019

DATE	DAY	START	END	EVENT	DESCRIPTION	VENUE	PHONE
10/2	WED	4:30 PM		NKAG MEETING		OLD COURTHOUSE	889-0404
10/2	WED	4:00 PM		KOHALA COMMUNITY ACCESS GROUP	MEETING	SENIOR CENTER	IMUAKOHALA@GMAIL.COM
10/4	FRI	6:00 PM		SENIOR CLUB	MOVIE NIGHT - ALL SENIORS WELCOME	KOHALA CIVIC CENTER	895-2094
10/7	MON	6:00 PM	7:00 PM	GROWTH MANAGEMENT GROUP	MEETING	BANK OF HAWAII BUILDING	854 4888
10/8	TUE	11:00 AM	12:00 PM	BOOK GROUP	THE ISLAND OF SEA WOMEN BY LISA SEE	NORTH KOHALA PUBLIC LIBRARY	889-6655
10/8	MON	5:00 PM	8:00 PM	CHESS CLUB	JOIN THE LIBRARY'S CHESS CLUB	NORTH KOHALA PUBLIC LIBRARY	889-6655
10/8	TUE	6:00 PM		HAWAII FARMERS UNION UNITED	6PM POTLUCK, 7PM PRESENTATION. FOR EVERYONE	THE HUB	KOHALA.HFUU@GMAIL.COM
10/8	TUE	6:30 PM	8:00 PM	AGRICULTURE (CSA) PROGRAM LAUNCH	SAME CANOE VEGGIE RX PROGRAM	LOKAHI GARDEN	WWW.ONEISLAND.ORG
10/12	SAT	10:00 AM	3:00 PM	KOHALA ARTISTS' CO-OP COMMUNITY SWAP MEET	SET A TABLE AND SELL, SWAP OR TRADE GOODS	ARTISTS' CO-OP	430-3131
10/14	MON	3:00 PM	5:00 PM	NORTH KOHALA PARENT SUPPORT GROUP	SUPPORTED BY N. HAWAII COMMUNITY CHILDREN'S COUNCIL	KINGS VIEW CAFE	989-4894
10/14	MON	6:00 PM	7:00PM	ANCIENT MEDICINE IS NATURAL MEDICINE	JOIN DR. ARDOLF TO LEARN MORE ABOUT ANCIENT MEDICINE	NORTH KOHALA PUBLIC LIBRARY	889-6655
10/15	TUE	10:00 AM	12:00 PM	WRITERS' GROUP	CULTIVATE YOUR CREATIVE SIDE BY JOINING OUR WRITERS' GROUP!	NORTH KOHALA PUBLIC LIBRARY	889-6655
10/19	SAT	10:00 AM	3:00 PM	KOHALA FILIPINO FESTIVAL	CELEBRATE THE FILIPINO CULTURE, PAGEANT, FOOD, FASHION, AND ENTERTAINMENT	HISAOKA GYM	756-0188
10/19	SAT	4:30 PM	6:30 PM	FREE GRINDZ HOT MEAL	KOHALA BAPTIST CHURCH	BANYAN TREE	889-5416
10/21	MON	6:30 PM	8:00 PM	HAWAIIAN HISTORY LECTURE	WITH BOYD BOND	NORTH KOHALA PUBLIC LIBRARY	889-6655
10/23	WED	5:00 PM		PARKS, WATER & ROADS GROUP	MONTHLY MEETING	OLD COURTHOUSE	889-6238
10/24	THU	6:00 PM	6:30 PM	PRAYERS AROUND THE PEACE POLE	ALL ARE WELCOME, REGARDLESS OF RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION	ST AUGUSTINE'S CHURCH	895-5753
10/26	SAT	9:30 AM		TRADITIONAL TATTOO FILM FESTIVAL	VISIT WWW.TRADITIONALTATTOOFESTIVALHI.COM FOR SCHEDULE	THE HUB	889-5151
10/26	SAT	10:00 AM	12:00 PM	THRIFT SHOP	AT ST. AUGUSTINE CHURCH	NEXT TO WALKER HALL	889-5390
10/26	SAT	11:00 AM	12:20 PM	COMMUNITY MEAL	AT ST. AUGUSTINE CHURCH	WALKER HALL	889-5390
10/26	SAT	5:00 PM	8:00 PM	KOHALA ARTISTS' CO-OP ART PARTY	GALLERY SHOWCASE, THEATER PERFORMANCE, FOOD AND BEVERAGE VENDORS, LOCAL MUSICIANS	ARTISTS' CO-OP	960-3597
10/29	TUE	6:30 PM	9:00 PM	BELLY DANCING		HUB BARN	889-0404
10/30	WED	4:00 PM	5:30 PM	RESTORATIVE YOGA THERAPY CLASS	WITH CARLA ORELLANA, CERTIFIED YOGA THERAPIST, BY DONATION	THE HUB	889-0404
10/30	WED	5:45 PM	7:00 PM	TAI CHI		HUB HALE	889-0404

Email monthly calendar listings to: kohalacalendar@gmail.com



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 Pastor Ilima Moihā
 www.gos-kohala.org

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 Minister will be at the temple from 12:30 - 2 pm on service days to talk story with interested individuals

RMD Kohala-Waimea Completes Akatsuki Study Tour 2019

Ag continued from Page 15



Photos by Leslie Hokoana

Members of Ryukyukoku Matsuri Daiko Kohala-Waimea and Kauai at the Okinawa Kariyushi Beach Resort.

By Kathy Matsuda

Fourteen members of Ryukyukoku Matsuri Daiko Kohala-Waimea and Kauai had the privilege of attending The Akatsuki Study Tour 2019 from June 14-24. We were excited to visit the roots of Ryukyukoku Matsuri Daiko and meet its founder, Takeo Medoruma. We learned four new songs, including Nada Sou Sou, the choreography of which was made especially for Hawaii. We later performed it, on August 31, at the Okinawan Festival on Oahu. We value the opportunity that was given to us to learn from these instructors and the lasting friendships that were created.

We also visited the mayor of Urasoe, Mr. Tetsuji Matsumoto. Hawaii-boy Shea Yamaguchi, Coordinator for International Relations, was our tour guide. The mayor was

very welcoming, and we got to sit in his meeting room and talk story with him. They presented us with a gift bag of places and activities in Urasoe.

The food in Okinawa was amazing. We ate at the Hateruma Dinner Theatre and got to see our friends Ayumi Yonaha and Atsushi Yamashiro performing. Ayumi & Atsushi performed at RMD Kohala/Waimea's 10th Anniversary and Ko Ryukyu concert in July of 2018. They performed Keali'i Reichel's Ka Nohona Pili Kai, which is the Hawaiian version to Nada Sou Sou. It was special to have them sing in Hawaii and then to hear them again in Okinawa.

We worked on our new shishi (lion dog), Kanai (wishes come true) Kahukoa (Brave Protector). His head was made in Okinawa and his

body will be made from hau from Hawaii Island. Kanai Kahukoa will join us in the 2020 Okinawan Festival. Mahalo to Hui O Lailima for the grant we received to bring two instructors from Okinawa to help us work on our shishi after our trip.

Mahalo to Sensei Akemi Martin for organizing The Akatsuki Study Tour 2019. Mahalo to North Kohala Community Resource Center and the Atherton Family Foundation for helping us with its funding. This was a memorable trip that took a lot of us back to our Okinawan roots. This trip also prepared us for Okinawan Festival, as we got to share the songs we learned and perform them for the very first time.

wells documented in the study.

"The strategy would be to link sources with users and re-establish a regional system," Richards said.

While the system as proposed would service the lands from Upolu to Pololu, Bob Matsuda of the DLNR told several attendees from Kailapa in Kawaihae that if the Kohala system is successful, his department could look at a separate water system for Kawaihae in conjunction with the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

State Representative David Tarnas congratulated Sen. Inouye on her persistence in pushing for study and funding the system and pledged his help in the State House for carrying it forward.

Also participating in the presentation was David Barnes, Richard's co-worker in Waimea Water Services. From the DLNR, besides Matsuda, were Chief Engineer Carty Chang and Project Manager Brandon Kim. Keith Okamoto, Chief Engineer of the DWS, was there along with Deputy Kawika Uyehara and Engineering Division Head Kurt Inaba.

The North Kohala Agriculture Water Study is 82 pages long with 150 pages of additional material. It is available online by going to the DLNR Engineering website (dlnr-eng.hawaii.gov) and clicking the "Projects" tab.

For questions or comments, John Richards can be reached at resources@waimeawatersystems.com or by calling (808) 885-5941.



Ryukyukoku Matsuri Daiko Kohala-Waimea and Kauai members, joined by Sensei Akemi Martin, stand with a statue of Toyama Kyuzo, the Father of Okinawan Immigration. Kyuzo helped many Okinawans migrate to Hawaii.



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Kohala Shines at Annual Kupuna Hula Festival



Photos courtesy of Na Kupuna O Kohala

The wahine of Na Kupuna O Kohala.

By Lynda Wallace

By 4:00 in the afternoon on Wednesday, September 11, a line had already formed outside the auditorium of the Sheraton Kona Resort and Spa at Keauhou Bay. Everyone had come to share their love of hula at the 37th Annual Kupuna Hula Festival and to show their support for the eighteen participating halau from Japan, Okinawa, Moloka'i, O'ahu, Maui and Hawai'i Island. The theme of this year's festival was "Kū Kilakila Nā Mauna O Hawai'i Pae 'Āina" - "Standing Majestic are our Mountains of our Islands."

Each of the halau had spent months preparing for this event and Na Kupuna O Kohala was no exception. Under the leadership of our Kumu Kauī Nakamura and our Alaka'i Michael Matsu, members of

Na Kupuna, whose ages range from 60 to 82, spent many hours, often three days a week, for the past several months perfecting our dances. Add to that the time spent in fundraising activities and other performances and it is easy to see how membership in the halau requires a serious commitment. But that commitment is paid back many times over in the love and support for one another and the joy of dancing together that the members share.

The first night of the competition features the solo performances. This year our wahine (female) soloist was Maydean Bowman, whose lovely hula was "Hualālai, Ku'u Mauna ē." Our kane (male) soloist, Kealoha Sugiyama, offered a lively and intricate interpretation of "Ka Nani A'o Kilauea." The solo performances

were followed by the International Ho'olaulea, which gives the competing halau the opportunity to just have fun. The 27 members of Na Kupuna O Kohala, dressed in black with purple pareu, made a striking sight as they performed "Ola'a Beauty," a waltz-like tribute to the small purple flower of the same name.

Thursday night showcases the group performances. Our wahine were first, dancing to "Nou Ku'u Pu'uwai e Kahua," a beautiful, original song and a tribute to the beauty of Kahua on Kohala Mountain, written by our musicians U'i Lorenzo and John Keawe, Jr.

The kane group performed "Nā Kuahiwi 'Elima," which speaks of the five mountains of Hawai'i Island and Maui: Mauna Loa, Mauna Kea, Hualālai, Kohala and Haleakalā.

Finally, the whole group took to the stage again for a rousing performance of Haleakalā Hula.

Then came the waiting for the judges' decision, always a source of some anxiety. Though we all believe that the festival is about having fun and sharing our love of hula, we all hope to have our efforts recognized. On Thursday evening, they certainly were! Kealoha Sugiyama came in second in the kane solo division and Na Kupuna O Kohala placed first in both the kane group and mixed group divisions! The point-spread between our kane and the second-place winners was 30 points! This was an especially exciting evening for three of our dancers, who were participating in the competition for the first time.

Though the dancers are the ones on the stage, the award largely belongs to our Kumu and Alaka'i. They choreographed the dances, designed the costumes, dealt with all the details and, over the course of many often-frustrating months of practice, brought us to this point. Much of the credit must also go to our incredible musicians: U'i Lorenzo; John Keawe, Jr.; Ray Dela Cruz; and Joel Anderson. Thank you!

Special thanks go to those without whose support and aloha none of this would have been possible: Michele Kawai and Hala Acob for providing our lunches and dinners and for always smiling and being so gracious; Jen Keawe for her make-up artistry; Titi Keawe for the cards she made for each of us to bring us luck; Gladys Alip, Joellyn Tadio and Jack Salvador for our costumes; Kathy Anderson for helping wherever help was needed; and those who made our lei and hairpieces. Mahalo to you all. Mahalo to our North Kohala community for always supporting us, and mahalo nui loa and all our aloha to Aunty Ethel Yamamoto for continuing to be an inspiration to us all.

When asked why he thinks we did so well this year, Sugiyama had this to say, "It all began with the theme, and because the theme of this year was honoring our sacred mountains and Hawaii is so blessed with Mauna Kea, Mauna Loa, Hualalai and Kohala, it was easier for me and my hula brothers and sisters to be connected to the Mauna. And with all the things that are happening at the Mauna it just felt that the Mauna was crying out for support. And so, for us honoring the Mauna, this year was such a treat and a blessing."



The kane of Na Kupuna O Kohala.

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NKCRC Leadership Meets to Set Future Direction



Photos by Christine Richardson

Many of the North Kohala Community Resource Center's founding directors gathered for the recent Board Retreat (left to right): Dennis Matsuda, Lani Bowman, Gino Amar, Bob Martin and Nani Svendsen.

The Board of Directors and staff of the North Kohala Community Resource Center recently held a Board Retreat to revisit their mission and community work in North Kohala.

Their current Directors were joined by many of the original founding Directors, as well as retired Honorary Directors Joe Carvalho, Alida Adamek, Amy Meyer Sullivan and David Gomes and past and present Youth Directors for a lively discussion about what they have accomplished and to tackle the question, "Where do we go from here?"

Those present reinvigorated NKCR's mission to support successful community projects that benefit North Kohala by providing education, training and bridges to funding. They want to support projects that bring the community closer together. From after-school and in-school programs to agriculture; environmental, land and cultural preservation; and even our own low-power FM radio station; NKCR's diversity truly represents so many positive aspects of this community.

Board President Vicky Kometani divided the 18 attendees into three groups to talk about what they love about Kohala and NKCR. A resounding consensus included loving Kohala for the people, the Aloha spirit, the land, rural living, the 'ohana and hanai families, the

culture, its tolerance, and most importantly, the feeling of being "home."

What they love about NKCR are sponsoring homegrown projects, teaching life skills, providing opportunities, local focus, dependability, serving as a conduit for visions, and its multigenerational perspective.

Some other discussions included identifying new directors, engaging youth and kupuna, increasing outreach into the community and stewarding the old Fukada building - NKCR's home for the past 10 years.

The Resource Center is 17 years old and the leadership hopes it will go on for many years to come. They have sponsored 185 improvement projects, raised over \$14 million nonprofit dollars for Kohala and currently have 88 projects under their fiscal umbrella. NKCR's current active directors are Vicky Kometani, Chris Brown, Liz Bautista, Gino Amar, Kim Takata, Wendy Nickl, Kelly Ah Hee and Michelle Kawai. Their current youth directors are Kaya Lee Galan, Morgan Davis, Grace Todd and Sydney Wiernicki.

If you want to learn more about NKCR, stop by the office at the Kohala Welcome Center or call 889-5523.

The staff is always happy to "talk story" and help in any way they can.

Kohala Welcome Center Looking to Welcome New Volunteers

Would you like to help support Kohala's successful community projects while enjoying fun, social time with people who come to visit? Then volunteering a few hours per week at the Welcome Center might be for you.

Located on Akoni Pule Highway at the western entrance to Hawi, the Welcome Center is often the first stop for tourists driving up to North Kohala. Many guide books and Hawaii Island resorts tell their guests of the beauty and lore of Kamehameha the Great's birthplace and the visitors come excited to enjoy the treasures of our town.

Stepping through the front door, they are greeted by art, books, historical displays, memorabilia and a friendly volunteer waiting to answer their questions.

Two such volunteers are Anny Medve and Chris Brown. Anny began volunteering about five years ago. She says it's a natural fit for her. All her life she's worked with the public, having retired from a long career in the airline business. Chris has been a guide for about two years, having finally retired from teaching at Kohala High School for 38 years! He also loves working with the public and helping them appreciate what Kohala has to offer.

Annie tells of Ironman contestants that stay after the race, taking time to relax enjoy the island; people who hail from unexpected places, such as Uzbekistan; or people who come for food they've heard about - one man from Germany joking that he had come over 5,000 miles to eat sushi in Kohala!

Chris says it's not hard to know how to guide the visitors, because people who come usually want to know about the major points of interest.

The King Kamehameha Statue and the tale of how the original statue - not the replica made after the original sank in a shipwreck - ended up in Kohala always fascinates. They appreciate directions to and descriptions of Pololu Valley, Keokea Beach Park and adventures such as fluming, ATVs, horseback riding, zip lines and snorkeling. And of course, they always want to know where to eat. Chris says he loves to recommend the resort guests go

back home the 'long way' via Kohala Mountain Road, so they can catch the spectacular views.

Before guests leave, though, volunteers invite them out back (near the clean, spacious restrooms) to put a pin in their hometown on the oversized wall map. At this point, the map is so densely pinned in some areas there is hardly room for any more pins, but people love to make their mark. They are also invited to purchase memorabilia such as a t-shirt, hat or book, or perhaps make a donation to the North Kohala Community Resource Center, housed in the same building.

What's the connection? The Welcome Center was built 10 years ago with the intention of producing enough income to offset the Resource Center's expenses in rent, insurance, utilities, etc. and steward the building, making improvements as funds allowed. At that time, Executive Director Christine Richardson raised \$100,000 to fund building the Welcome Center, and ever since its opening day the donations collected there have allowed the Resource Center to focus on raising monies for community projects, not overhead.

What are the benefits of volunteering at the Welcome Center?

It's gratifying, knowing you are giving gifts of time and, because of your actions, money to your community.

You get to interact with people from all over the world, learning about other lands and cultures, expanding your horizons.

You commit to a shift, so you get out of the house and into the community, which can help retirees avoid spending too much time at home.

You re-appreciate Kohala, seeing how impressed the visitors are with what has become commonplace to you.

There's no long-term commitment. Shifts are three hours long, either Monday through Thursday from 9:30-12:30 or 12:30-3:30; or Friday from 10:00-1:00. You don't even have to take a weekly shift; fill-in volunteers are also welcome.

If you'd like to learn more about volunteering, call Christine Richardson at 889-5523 or email the Center at denni@northkohala.org.

NORTH KOHALA COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER

We are pleased to sponsor the Kohala Elementary School Kindergarten and Preschool Playground Project. Please consider a donation to this project which will help build a safe, new playground for our keiki.

Our **ANNUAL ONLINE AUCTION** goes live on **OCTOBER 18TH**, be sure to check out the great prizes and make your bids before the auction closes on the **28th!**

You can sponsor our projects and the Center with a tax-deductible donation to NKCR, P.O. Box 519, Hawi, HI 96719 • 889-5523 •

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Kohala Filipino Festival Planned



Photos courtesy of Kohala Filipino Club
The Miss Kohala Filipina Contestants (left to right) Johnette Emeliano, Krisha-Marie Bautista and Grace Todd adorn their shoulders with the traditional alampay, or dress wrap.

By Jessica Bautista

For the second year in a row, the Kohala Filipino Club will be hosting the Kohala Filipino Festival. The festival will be held at Kamehameha Park, in front of Hisaoka Gym, on October 19 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Last year, the festival honored the elders of Kohala with Filipino ancestry for their hard work and contribution to our community. This year the festival will feature a Kohala Filipina Pageant, highlighting some of Kohala's proud young ladies. The young Filipina contestants include Johnette Emeliano, Grace Todd and Krisha-Marie Bautista, all of whom are vying for the crown of Miss Kohala Filipina.

The festival will also feature

entertainment by the Filipino ladies of Kohala, the University of Hawaii (UH) Filipino Studies Program, Romel Dela Cruz and Friends, Norman Arancan, UH Visayan Club, a Filipino fashion show, an animal auction of a weaned pig and lechon (roasted) pig, an igad (coconut grating) relay and, of course, the balut eating contest!

There will be a variety of vendors offering foods to satisfy your Filipino food cravings.

This year, the Kohala Filipino Scholarship fundraiser will be door prizes from our generous sponsors. Prizes include round-trip tickets from Hawaiian Airlines, rides from ATV Outfitters, gift certificates from local businesses and more.

Tickets are \$1 and can be purchased in advance from pageant contestants and at the event. You must be present to win.

Proceeds will benefit the Kohala Filipino Scholarship Fund.

We would like to give a special thank you to our donors who have contributed to this year's and last year's festival: Takata Store, Arakaki Store, Nakahara Store, Bamboo Restaurant, Ackerman Galleries, Sunshine Hardware, Peggy Wills, Hawaiian Airlines, Kai 'Eleu Designs, ATV Outfitters, Hinokawa Electric/Rod's Repair, the Fuertes family, the Garcia family and Mauna Kea Beach Hotel.

Please come celebrate the Filipino culture and enjoy the pageant, food, fashion, and entertainment.

Film Festival to Highlight Traditional Tattoo Cultures

Free Screenings will Showcase Indigenous Arts at the Kohala Village HUB

Hawaii's first traditional tattoo film festival will be held at the Kohala Village HUB in Hawi from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 26. Eleven free screenings will highlight indigenous arts and resilience throughout the world with a focus on Pacific and Arctic cultures.

The event is a featured component of a four-day Traditional Tattoo Festival, sponsored by Kohala Institute and supported by grants from Hawai'i Tourism Authority Community Enrichment Program and Hawai'i Council for the Humanities. A diverse panel of visiting international tattoo artists will share ancient traditions from indigenous communities worldwide.

Lars Krutak, renowned tattoo anthropologist and co-curator for the festival, has chosen a comprehensive schedule of documentaries equally designed for viewers new to traditional tattoo as well as experts in the art.

Krutak hosted the "Tattoo Hunter" documentary series on the Discovery Channel and travels the world to research and experience varied art forms of body modification.

"Every traditional method of tattoo application is tedious, and those men and women who mastered the practice plied human skin

with ancestral designs to assert identity, religious beliefs, rites of passage and other life accomplishments," Krutak says. "In essence, tattooing expressed what it meant to be human."

Krutak selected 11 films to be shown throughout the day. The films are the highlight of the Traditional Tattoo Festival's Saturday cultural fair in downtown Hawi. Live music; food vendors; and kapa, lauhala and wood carving demonstrations will also take place on the Kohala Village HUB's six-acre grounds, says Joël Tan, event organizer and manager of the GRACE Center at Kohala Institute.

"The film festival offers a compelling glimpse of both the ancient and future practices of traditional tattoo," Tan says. "The Traditional Tattoo Festival itself focuses on inclusivity. We hope to dissolve colonial divisions and reaffirm interrelatedness between indigenous peoples. Given generations of oppression and cultural suppression across indigenous cultures, we now have a significant need to preserve and share traditional and ancient knowledge."

For a detailed schedule of events and information about the Traditional Tattoo Festival's two-day symposium with international artists and presenters, visit www.TraditionalTattooFestivalHI.com, phone 808.889.5151 or email hubfortheheart@gmail.com.

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