



Vol.19, No. 05

About Kohala, For Kohala

May 22, 2020

Hawaii Wildlife Center Reaches 1,000 Patient Milestone

The Hawaii Wildlife Center (HWC) is excited to announce that it has received its 1,000th patient since opening at its wildlife rehabilitation facility in Kapaau. HWC's 1,000th patient is a manu o ku (white tern) from Oahu. It arrived late on May 4, along with two other Oahu patients: a black-crowned night heron and another white tern.

HWC specializes in the rescue and hospital care of Hawaii's native birds and bats statewide. The organization receives patients from all of main Hawaiian Islands and also assists the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands with wildlife projects, training and emergency wildlife response. HWC continues to operate as an essential service during COVID-19. Patient drop-off protocols have been revised to comply with social distancing guidelines.



Source: Hawaii Wildlife Center
The 1,000th patient at the Hawaii Wildlife Center, a manu o ku (white tern) from Oahu, waits calmly as notes on its condition are recorded.

HWC was founded by Linda Elliott in 2004 with the fiscal sponsorship of the North Kohala Community Resource Center and received its own 501(c)(3) nonprofit status in 2006. Construction of the HWC facility in Kapaau, Hawaii Island started in 2008 and the facility opened in 2012. As with many small, home-grown organizations, operations started off gradually then grew as word spread about HWC's wildlife services. In its first full year of operations, HWC saw about two dozen wildlife cases. Annual caseload grew each year to over 200 patients in 2018 and nearly doubling to just under 400 patients in 2019. As of today, HWC has cared for 1,000 patients from throughout the state, including over 40 different species of native birds as well as the Hawaiian hoary bat. In celebration on this milestone, HWC has created a page on its website that shares its wildlife program growth as well as highlights notable wildlife cases through the years. (www.hawaiiwildlifecenter.org/1000patients.html)

HWC aims to serve as a resource to help people and wildlife coex-

See HWC, on Page 2

Documenting Changes to Local Business



Photo courtesy of Theodore Jankowski
Theodore Jankowski paints the Sushi Rock and nearby storefronts while wearing his "coronavirus mask."

Artists' Co-op Hosts Art Music, Poetry and Botanicals



Photo by Dirk Lummerzheim

So much talent in Kohala is celebrated at the Artists' Coop!

Our doors shut tightly on March 13, in cooperation with the mandate. Like all Kohala businesses, we entered the phase of quarantine and social distancing and faced our new normal. We were tasked with covering our rent and utilities with no income. Two months later, our 44 members are holding strong, waiting to return to the Kohala Artists' Co-op to sell art, meet the public and to hold small gatherings of ten in our open 1,200 square foot Great Hall. We have reached out to members and friends to raise funds and they have generously responded. We have been working with the North Kohala Community Resource Center, seeking funding for summer programming. We have

cleaned, gardened painted and sanitized our facility, readying for our re-opening.

Slowly, small groups will begin to privately rent the open space with all protocols and health recommendations in place. We are developing time and space for Frank Cipriani's Kohala Artists' Co-op Music Lab, where he has initiated a youth Latin trio, and Joshua Bowman's Poetry Corner. In one of the studios Amy Gras is making medicinal tinctures for her line of "Coming Home Botanicals," including her "Tea Tree Oil Spray," an antiseptic for our masks.

Presently we have private viewing by appointment of the three art shows now up in our galleries:

- Elijah Rabang's "Watercolor Studies in Nature" - 12 watercolors of amazing creatures, done in meticulous detail and vibrant colors

- Visiting artist Stefan Pastuhov's intimate Kohala plein aire landscapes, mauka to makai

- Brian Dugan's luminous fused glass platters, bowls and elegant sushi serving sets

In anticipation of the restrictions lifting, we are planning to offer three summer theater programs in June for children ranging in age from five to eighteen years old. We are planning a variety of hands-on art and craft classes for youth and young adults. Some of our members will be offering classes in sewing, papier mâché, expressive collage, figure drawing and dance.

Please check our Facebook page for future programs and please support the co-op with holiday and gift giving needs. In addition to wall art and sculpture, we offer handmade mugs and teapots, feedbag aprons, a wide assortment of jewelry, baskets, kitchenware, up-cycled gardening bags and succulents. Finally, in our store we have handmade pet reliquary urns lovingly created by our local vet Melisa Hicks and her husband, Mark.

For appointments and booking, call Cathy Morgan at 960-3597.

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HWC continued from Page 1

ist. Each patient that is successfully returned to the wild contributes to the health of Hawaii's native wildlife populations. HWC sees a wide range of injuries and ailments come into the Center, a majority of which could be attributed to human activities. These include injuries from vehicle or building collisions, entanglement in barbed wire or fishing gear, gunshot wounds, predator attacks, light disorientation, poisoning from toxins like rodenticides, contaminant spills, and even impact injuries from errant golf balls. HWC works to get all patients on an appropriate course

of treatment with the ultimate goal to return patients back to the wild. In addition to wildlife rehabilitation, the Center also serves as a call center that fields hundreds of wildlife calls from the public each year. HWC staff members are available to answer calls seven days a week 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Callers receive immediate assistance and are advised how to best respond.

HWC credits much of its success to its network of partners, volunteers, and supporters. "Living in an island state, it's easy to fall into the trap of thinking that an organization headquartered on one island only has an impact on one island,"

says HWC Founder, President and Center Director Linda Elliott. "In reality, we have patients coming to us from throughout the state and are running programs on multiple islands. We employ a small staff of five, so we are very fortunate to have such a great team of partners and volunteers to help with rescues, stabilization and transport of patients." Hawaii DLNR Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW) staff have also been helpful with wildlife captures and releases throughout the state and DLNR staff bands patients before release whenever possible.

So, what's next? The Hawaii

Wildlife Center says they will continue to provide their wildlife services and grow their programs as needed. Funding for the Center comes primarily from individual donations as well as from service contracts, support agreements, and grants.

"This all started as a dream to save Hawaii's native wildlife, and there's still more work to be done," says Director Elliott. "We hold a great deal of the world's biodiversity in our islands and it is my hope that the work we do and the stories we share will continue to play a role in preventing the extinction of more native Hawaiian species."

Kohala Food Drive Provides Relief for Those in Need



Photos courtesy of Peter Pomeranze
Peter Pomeranze (left) and Drew Chance have teamed up to create the Kohala Food Drive to help families in need. Because of Hawaii's heavy reliance on the tourist industry, downstream effects of the COVID-19 pandemic have been financially devastating for many in the community.

Sushi Rock owner Peter Pomeranze and HD Deliveries owner Drew Chance have teamed up to provide free food for Kohala families in need. At 4:30 each Wednesday, in front of Sushi Rock, they distribute food that has either been donated or purchased with donated funds.

The program started as an idea between the two friends, borne from the desire to do something positive in the face of the COVID-19

pandemic. In the first week, Pomeranze and Chance bought groceries on their own and distributed 25 bags of food. On May 6, at the time of this writing, they are prepared to donate over 100 bags. Unfortunately, they see the need continuing to grow as families struggle to feed themselves and their families due to lost income.

Bags contain a variety of items: from canned tuna, boxed juice and individually wrapped fig bars to



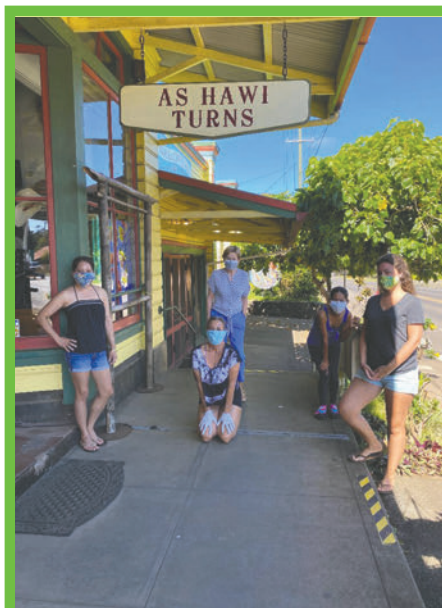
Cars of those picking up food at Sushi Rock line Akoni Pule Highway. At the time of this writing, over 100 bags of food are being distributed per week to community members in need.

home-grown fresh produce.

Donations are accepted on Tuesdays from 2:30-6:30 and Wednesdays from 2:30-3:00. Donations of produce or other perishables are encouraged, but the team asks that these goods be dropped off on Tuesdays and be pre-portioned in

zippered plastic bags for easy distribution.

Those would like to help can either bring food and/or funds directly to Sushi Rock or donate to the project via its Go Fund Me page (<https://www.gofundme.com/f/kohala-food-drive>).



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North Kohala Recycling Updates



Guidelines for acceptable and unacceptable materials are clearly posted.



Bring a truck to the West Hawaii Organics Facility at Pu'u Pohaku to pick up free mulch, loaded into your truck for you.

Story and photos by Holly Algood

Effective April 1, our local transfer stations stopped accepting scrap metals, white goods and green waste. In addition, the HI-5 recycling was discontinued and closed at the Hawi Transfer Station as of March 25. These services were suspended until further notice. Another change is that the hours for glass and cardboard recycling have recently been shortened to 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Here are some ways to continue to recycle during the suspension of the aforementioned local services.

Green Waste

The West Hawaii Organics Facility (WHOF) at Pu'u Pohaku is open for all residents to drop off green waste at no charge. Businesses and professional landscapers are charged to drop off green waste. The charge is \$27.50 per ton.

WHOF at Pu'u Pohaku is located at about one mile south of the turnoff for the Waikoloa resorts and shops. It is on the left when traveling toward Kona from Hawi. The facility recycles green waste into compost, which is free and will be loaded into your truck for free. WHOF Pu'u Pohaku is open Monday through Saturday from 7:15 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Remember, if your green waste is clean (not diseased or bug-ridden), consider composting at home. Composting lets you stay at home and create a valuable additive for the garden.

Scrap Metal

Scrap metal recycling is available at Big Island Scrap Metal, located at 74-589 Honokohau Street in Kona. They charge \$0.05 per pound for recycling metal and white goods. Refrigerators are a higher charge at \$55 for a standard to large refrigerator and \$35 for mini fridges. Big Island Scrap Metal is open Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and Saturday from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. For more information, call 808-854-4530.

tion, call 808-854-4530.

HI-5 and Specific Scrap Metals

Atlas Recycling will take HI-5s, scrap aluminum, copper and brass, and will pay you for them. They do not take any scrap ferrous/iron metals or white goods. They are located in the Kona Industrial Area at 74-5600 Alapa Street. Atlas Recycling's new hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. For more information, call 808-329-6868.

For ongoing and the most current recycling and local transfer station updates, visit www.hawaiiiz-erowaste.org.



Signs direct drivers bringing greenwaste for composting to the unloading area



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Pili a Pa'a Public Health Coordinator Dr. Mike Colson with his Kohala High School Medical Assistant class.



Kimara Pasco (left) and Princess Reynolds learning how to take blood pressure.



Students don personal protective gear.
Left to right: Faith Knappe, Tiani Perez-Fisher, Alain Medieros, Sean Levine, Zoe Meikle, Grace Todd (obscured) and Mya Finau

Story and photos by Pam Mauro
Kohala High School juniors and seniors were offered a unique opportunity this year by the Part-

ners in Development Foundation's Pili a Pa'a Program. Students could register for a year-long Medical Assistant (MA) Training course that

could lead to a MA Certification by the Hawai'i Department of Health. This course was a first-of-its-kind offering to high school students in the state. Classes were held remotely with a medical professional instructor. The Pili a Pa'a Program's Public Health Coordinator, Dr. Mike Colson, collaborated with NHERC (UHH) and Island CPR to develop

the course. Kohala High School will celebrate its first graduation class of eleven MA trainees this year. Pili a Pa'a also sponsors Medical Assistant and Certified Nurse Associate (CNA) certification training to Kohala residents throughout the year. For more information, please contact Dr. Mike Colson at 808-315-1532 or drmikocolson@gmail.com.



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Letters

Kids Say the Darndest Things

Being semi-confined at my home during these trying and stressful times, I find that a little humor can help. Therefore, I want to share with your readers one such humorous incident. In 1971, I didn't realize how lucky I was to be offered a teaching position at Kohala Elementary School. Forty-three and one-half years later, in 2014, I retired.

One of the subjects I enjoyed the most was music. I wanted to pass on to my students what my parents gave to me.

We were a musical family. My mother played the piano and had a beautiful voice. She sang on the radio in the 30s and in a chorus at the Hollywood Bowl. My father also played the piano and my two

brothers played the violin and the French horn. I played the cello. We were not a wealthy family and my parents sacrificed to give us music lessons. I wanted to pass this on to my students.

Every year I played my cello for the entire elementary at our Christmas program and for a few fifth-grade graduations. When I encounter former students, many of them ask if I still play the cello. I can't express how much I appreciate the fact that it made such an impression on them. So, where is the humor, you ask? Get ready, here it is.

Once a week I taught music to the entire second grade. Besides singing songs, studying the instruments and writing notes on the

staff, I exposed them to the world of opera. They saw videos of famous singers and excerpts from different operas. So here it is. Some of the students went back to their homeroom teacher and told her they learned about OPRAH! Out of the mouths of babes! One final thought: I am so proud of Kohala Elementary students. Whenever I see them, I find that they are polite and well-spoken. I applaud you and your parents. These children have gone on to wonderful jobs in teaching, optometry, the military, x-ray technology, hotel work, cashiering at Lowe's and Home Depot, etc. It touches my heart that they remember me and my cello (and OPRAH.) -- Mary Lou Griesser

Spirit of Aloha is Alive and Well in Kohala

Dear Editor,

During this challenging time, many families in our own community have been struggling to make ends meet, especially those hit with being laid off since mid-March. The compounding factor in their dilemma was not receiving any unemployment benefits until today. Thankfully, there have been Big Island Giving Tree's Fresh Food Drive, Kalahikiola Church's Soul Soup Distribution, Sacred Heart's Food Basket, St. Augustine's Community Meal, Sushi Rock's Food Drive and other businesses such as Kona Fish Company, Suisan, and Y. Hata, which offered discounted food boxes for distribution throughout April and May.

Despite this new normal with "stay at home" orders, social distancing and wearing of masks, there have been touching stories from those who were in dire need of help. One comes to mind of one person with the most generous heart stepping up with Takata Store gift certificates to people who never expected them.

All the recipients that were given the gift certificates never received any unemployment benefits yet due to the Unemployment Insurance Division's own challenges. But this act of kindness came at the right time, which gave them the glimmer of hope they needed to make it through another day. Some call it a miracle, others call it an

answered prayer while others call it lucky. However you see it, you cannot deny the divine intervention that brought it all together in such a beautiful and timely way.

We have an amazing community that pulls together whenever any one of us is in need. I'm sure there are countless other stories of those who have been moved by the unexpected kindness of friends or anonymous donors that came at the right place, at the right time. Sharing these stories only uplifts and encourages us all. It is so wonderful to live in a special place like Kohala, where Aloha resides in its community.

Warmly,
Malia Dela Cruz

KMS Letters

Mr. Duncan Anderson teaches seventh grade at Kohala Middle School. Every year he asks his students to choose a problem on Hawai'i Island they would like to help solve. Students spend the earlier part of the school year researching and doing projects related to their chosen topic. Toward the end of the year, the students are charged with bringing their message out to the community in whatever way they see fit. Part of that goal can be accomplished by writing a Letter the Editor for publication in the Kohala Mountain News. The following are some of those letters.

We Must Preserve Hawaiian Culture

Aloha Mai Kakou,

'O Christine Kimball kou inoa phia. Hele au i ke kula ki'eki'e 'o Kohala Middle School. My name is Christine Kimball. I go to Kohala Middle School. Hawai'i is facing a huge problem, the loss of Hawaiian Culture.

Uniting together and joining hands is the only way to accomplish this huge task of preserving Hawaiian culture. Representing our culture, for the beautiful thing it is, means we must take care of this practice for future generations to come. Preserving Hawaiian culture helps us to understand the 'āina we were grown from and understand how to make that 'āina flourish for others to come.

Around 60 years ago, Hawai'i's residents outnumbered the tourists by two to one. By the 2000s, tourists outnumbered residents by six to one and they outnumbered Native Hawaiians by 30 to one. Tourism raises our cost of living. The high cost of living in Hawai'i has made the native people leave their homes in search of a better economy. The Papahānaumoku ("she who gives birth to islands") is now called "real estate." The place, people, culture, even our identity as a native person are for sale. This issue has left a huge impact on Hawaiian culture. But we can still save and protect our culture. For one, we can add more culturally related things in schools, along with more events celebrating Hawai'i and our 'āina in our community.

E mālama 'ia nā pono o ka 'āina e na 'ōpio. The traditions of the land are perpetuated by its youth.

Mahalo nui loa,
Christine Kimball

Vaping is Dangerous

Dear Editor,

My name is Irish Valdez. I am a seventh grader who attends Kohala Middle School.

My concerning topic is vaping. Vaping is the inhaling of a vapor created by an electronic device. They have cartridges that usually contains nicotine.

Recent studies report serious lung damage in people who vape and even some deaths. Vaping can damage vital immune system cells and may be more harmful. They found vapor caused inflammation and impaired the activity of alveolar macrophages, cells that remove potentially damaging dust particles, bacteria and allergens.

The outcome I want to see is fewer people vaping. People who are innocent of vaping can get lung cancer or lung damage from secondhand vaping. Don't do it!!!!

Sincerely,
Irish Valdez

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.

June Deadlines
Ads and News: 6/12/20
Calendar: 6/19/20
Distribution: 6/26/20

July Deadlines
Ads and News: 7/10/20
Calendar: 7/17/20
Distribution: 7/24/20

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

www.kohalamountainnews.com

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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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Kohala Mountain News
P.O. Box 639, Kapa'au, Hawai'i
96755

KMS Letters

Nasty Fish

Dear fishing community,
Hi, my name is Aukai Viernes and I am 12. I will be writing about ciguatera.

Are you a local fishermen or do you just fish for fun? Do you know about the disease ciguatera that is infecting our local fish? Do you even know what ciguatera is? It causes a food-borne illness (food poisoning) and it's caused by eating the infected fish. It's only found in coral reefs. Try to cook the fish well to get rid of ciguatera.

I hope for the word to spread and that more local fishermen are aware so fewer people get sick from eating the infected fish.

Thank you for your time.
Sincerely,
Aukai Viernes

Too Many Drugs in Hawaii

Hi, my name is Elias of Kohala Middle. Do you want to become a crackhead? No? I didn't think so. Only lolo people wanna be crackheads. Too many people in the Hawaiian Islands are out here tweaking and stoned out of their minds.

Drugs are getting bigger and more powerful, which is leading to more deaths. Just recently, one of my family members died on an overdose of drugs. People said even kids my age in Alaska and all over the world are drinking and snorting paint, sharpies, etc. (Dumb kids.) It is so sad what this world has come to; drugs don't affect just you, they affect your family, friends and the people around you.

There is so much bad things I can list about drugs, but I just hope the level of drugs goes down.

Sincerely,
Elias Pemble

Cyber Bullying

Hey Editor,

I'm Sai, a seventh grader at Kohala Middle School. As you see in the title, the problem I will be talking about is cyberbullying. Let me explain what exactly cyber bullying is. Cyber bullying is when someone anonymously posts bad stuff about you or starts to anonymously text you things like that you're nothing, or nobody likes you, or you have no friends. This is all cyber bullying.

Did you know that if this happens to someone then that person might commit suicide or isolate themselves? Another fact is that girls get cyber bullied more than boys. Cyber bullying happens most at the ages of 12-17. I chose this because my best friend was getting bullied. It went so far that they sprained his knee. So, I wanted to cover all the different types of bullying and do something and show people, so people stop bullying. Bullying is just like murder. The outcome that I would like to see is cyber bullying rates go down.

Sincerely,
Sai Hook

Mental Illness

Dear residents of Kohala,

Aloha, my name is Laurie. I attend school at Kohala Middle School. I will be explaining a real issue, mental illness. Mental illness can be defined as something in your brain that affects your mood, thinking and behavior. One hundred and sixty five thousand adults in Hawaii have been diagnosed with a form of mental illness.

Some signs of common mental illnesses are significant change in sleep patterns, extreme sadness, change in eating patterns, etc. Some common mental illnesses may include, but are not limited to, clinical depression, anxiety disorder and bipolar disorder.

In conclusion, if we work together we can acknowledge and help those with mental illnesses.

Sincerely, Laurie Trivett

Vaping is Not Safe

Dear Editor,

Hello, my name is Gabriel Emeliano. I'm a seventh grader at Kohala Middle School. I will be writing to you about vaping. Did you know that in 2017, self-reported current use of e-cigarettes among Hawaii's high schoolers reached 35 percent, which is more than the U.S national high school rate? Vaping is presented as a safer alternative to conventional cigarettes, and while this is controversial, it is still not safe because it still contains harmful chemicals and nicotine, which is an addictive chemical, which draws people back into vaping.

We need people to stop vaping, so we can all be healthy. If people continue to vape, not only will they be affected but people around them will be prone to secondhand smoking.

Mahalo, Gabriel Emeliano



Join us for a community visioning and mural project in Hawi. 1Heart HUB in collaboration with local artists is creating a mural at the site of the old HUB PUB, to honor Kohala's present and future vision for Food, Arts, Culture, and Ecology.

Please tune in to our social media channels @Kohala Village Hub on how to get involved or email: Raven@KohalaVillageHUB.com for more info.

We look forward to making beautiful art with you!

Follow us to learn more:

www.facebook.com/kohalavillage/
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Viewpoint

Information and opinions expressed in viewpoint articles are the responsibility of the author and do not necessarily reflect the position of the Kohala Mountain News or its staff.

Whiling the Time Away



Cleaning, sewing, reading and practicing yoga represent a few options for staying both busy and productive during time spent at home.

Story and photo by Diann Wilson

We have had more time on our hands than usual lately. Social media, magazines, and news channels have all provided us with numerous ideas about how to spend these spare moments. Some of their ideas are good, others... not so much. Here is one person's take on what works (and what doesn't).

Exercise

On day seven of staying at home, I stepped onto the bathroom scale and quickly realized that exercise might be a wise activity for me to pursue. Was it really possible to gain five pounds in a week without trying?

I started my regime by joining my husband on his morning dog walk. This form of exercise had the added benefit of us occasionally running into someone else walking their dog. Staying the acceptable distance of six feet apart, it was a chance to talk face-to-face with

someone other than each other and the dog.

When walking got old, I tried doing some yoga and stretching on my own. I'd planned an hour-long session, but found that I was checking my watch after just five minutes. So, I was delighted when one of the local yoga instructors offered a weekly online class.

After just one session, I had sore muscles, which proved to me that I had not been pushing myself very hard when working alone. The class was going to be my go-to activity until one day while lying in relaxation pose on my living room, I glanced to my right just long enough to spot the dust balls on the hardwood floor under my love seat - time to move on to my next activity.

Clean

I originally wasn't sure why anyone would use their newfound free moments to clean, but my yoga experience solved that mystery. After tackling the floor under my loveseat, I removed all of the clothes from my closet and wiped down the floors, walls and ceiling before replacing the clothing in a color-coded order. Next, I sterilized base boards by crawling around the living room on my hands and knees. Then, I washed windows and cleaned screens. It was when I took out all of my plastic containers and the hodge-podge of lids from my kitchen drawer, that I paused, and then shoved them back in the drawer. That was enough cleaning for me. Perhaps it was time to try yet another way to spend my time.

Read

I love to read and have a shelf full of books that I've purchased over the years at garage sales. I

pulled the first on off the shelf and sat down to read. The book was depressing. I've often thought that most good literature is dark. I was not in the mood to read something that wasn't at least a little uplifting. I shelved that book and selected one by my favorite humorous author. I cracked the cover and... I'd read it before.

I'm not one to read books twice, so I put it in a pile of books to donate. I found other items throughout the house that I could donate. I bagged up my goods, grabbed the car keys, and then realized no donation sites were open. On to activity number four.

Crafts

Sewing is my craft of choice. If I'd had elastic, I would have made facemasks, but it was in short supply, so I got to work on making some lovely Hawaiian napkins with fabric I had set aside a while back. I measured and cut and realized I had purchased enough fabric to make five napkins. Not four, not six, but five. I have no idea why I had bought fabric for five napkins, but I had, so I made five napkins.

When I dug a little deeper in my sewing stash, I found fabric for two napkins. At least it was an even number, but I had no idea why I thought I might like orange plaid napkins. I still made them, as I find it quite satisfying to be able to point at something and say, "Look what I made," but sewing napkins was getting a bit tedious.

Music

I have always enjoyed music and since I was spending so much time sewing, I thought it would be nice to listen to my favorite songs and maybe it would make sewing be less boring.

I unplugged my antique CD player, and my husband helped me move it to my sewing area in the shed. I plugged it in, pressed play, and out streamed Christmas music. I guess I hadn't used it for a while. I pushed several buttons and replaced the Christmas CDs with Iz and Hawaiian Slack Key Guitar music. I hit the play button once again and started to hum along to Somewhere Over the Rainbow. I must have been engrossed with my sewing, because it took a while for me to realize that there was no more music coming from the player. I tried the on button, the off button, and a different electrical outlet. Nothing.

Next

I stepped outside, took a deep breath, and gazed at the blue sky. I listened to the birds chirping. I inhaled the scent of pikake and thought that in these difficult times, I am so grateful to be in such a beautiful place. I reflected on my gratitude for my neighbor who had offered to pick up groceries for me when I was self-quarantined due to recent travel. I fondly thought of my friend who had dropped off bananas and protective gloves for me to use. I took a moment to appreciate the local artist who had given me two face masks made out of her painted silk. I smiled, thinking of the people I have never met, who donated money at my farm stand for the Food Basket.

I tried the CD player once again but was met with a whir and then nothing.

It may be broken, but we are not. Join me in staying active, staying at home and being safe. Let's all be grateful that we live in Kohala, and that we have time to while away.

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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.

Relative to COVID-19, there are many concerns that remain unanswered, including the reopening of our community parks, beaches and greenwaste stations. Please know that your concerns are being heard and we are continually working with the County Administration to seek solutions. Being that these are unprecedented times, we are being considerate of the Administration knowing that they are faced with revolving decisions like never done so before. We appreciate your understanding and patience as we all continue to maneuver through the reality of this pandemic. Here is some information that we are able to provide you at this time.

Kapa 'a Beach Park Water Tank

Kapa'a Beach Park has a new water tank! Some months back

the Senior Citizen group from Kohala contacted me and said that they were having a plumbing problem at Kapa'a. Prior to the pandemic, many of our kupuna have enjoyed visiting Kapa'a but the toilet facilities were always out of order. In a stopgap method to quickly address this issue, our County Department of Parks and Recreation had installed portable luas. Unfortunately, these were only serviced once a week and thus causing them to be unsanitary. My office looked into this and discovered the water tank was beyond repair. In order to bring the plumbing properly back online, a new water tank would have to be purchased and installed. Working closely with the County Parks and Recreation Maintenance Division, we were able to use District 9 Council Contingency Funds for the purchase and installation of the required water tank and equipment. This is a potable water system and requires a final inspection and certification before going online. We were able to get this work done during the COVID-19 "Stay-at-Home" order so that when the time arrives for the reopening of County parks, Kapa'a Beach Park will be ready to go! Big shout out to County Parks and Recreation Director Roxie Waltjen and Parks Maintenance Manager Jason Mattos and his crew for getting the work done!

Māhukona Wharf

On May 6, Mayor Kim issued Emergency Rule No. 4 that identified the reopening of specific businesses and opened up certain parks for outdoor exercises including for walking, jogging,

and running. In addition, Rule 4 identified three parks for passage or direct access to the ocean, one of them being Māhukona Wharf – not including the park section. Pursuant to the sign affixed at the gate at Māhukona, it states the following: Effective IMMEDIATELY, by order of the Director of Parks and Recreation, this County park and the facilities thereat are closed INDEFINITELY to ALL persons for ALL access and uses, with the following exceptions: DAILY 7 a.m. through 5 p.m. only for: 1) Access to/from the ocean to engage in active exercise; 2) Access to/from the ocean/shoreline to engage in active fishing/gathering for food; and 3) Use of restrooms/showers. Although Māhukona is far from ideal in its facilities (as structures have been deemed uninhabitable), this provision by Mayor's Emergency Rule No. 4 allows for our residents to utilize the area for the allowable activities as stated on the posted sign and as outlined above. This is a great step forward for our residents who frequent and enjoy Māhukona.

Hawi

As most of us know, with COVID-19 came the closure of many businesses and facilities, including restrooms island-wide. To alleviate the growing concern of the lack of restroom facilities in Hawi, particularly for our homeless population, I contacted our County Department of Parks and Recreation who agreed to install one A.D.A.-compliant Port-a-Potty at the location where the Farmer's Market has previously been held. We appreciate the quick response by the County to provide for the needs of our com-

munity.

Greenwaste Service For Residential Users

After much discussion with constituents and the County Administration, we are happy to announce that effective May 9, 2020, the greenwaste service for residential users will now be available at the Waimea Transfer Station on Saturdays, Sundays, and Wednesdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Although we are happy with the addition of this service in Waimea, we are still advocating for the reopening of such a service in North Kohala. Stay tuned!

BRIDGES

In my continual quest for enhanced agriculture and food self-reliance for Hawai'i, I was able to develop a program entitled BRIDGES that supports local agriculture and in turn, feeds our people.

Big Island Rural Agricultural Industries, Distribution & Growing Enterprise Strategies (BRIDGES) is a program with a simple concept: support local agriculture production by supporting the agricultural economy. Specifically, maintain the local production chain and model by funding the purchase of local agricultural food and other products that in turn are donated to recognized and appropriate community organizations for distribution to our residents in need. This program is being administered by the Hawai'i Farm Bureau with public and private funding going towards the purchase of agriculture commodities. Once we get through the worst of the stay-at-home order, we will need to rebuild our economy. Maintaining rather than starting fresh will help our agriculture stabilize and then show its importance as we move into recovery phase. If you are a farmer or rancher and want to participate or an organization needing food to distribute and want more information, please contact my office.

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

We welcome you if you have no insurance or have been laid off.



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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.

As our community continues to feel the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, I am writing this month to share some expectations for the State Legislature and the state economy, moving forward.

The situation keeps changing rapidly, and the State and County responses adapt in turn to fit the evolving public health situation. I continue to provide updates by email newsletter each week to help our community stay informed during this crisis. I encourage you to view all my previous email newsletters and sign up to receive these updates at bit.ly/reptarnas-signup.

Economic Forecast

As too many members of our community know firsthand, the temporary closure of businesses and the tourist economy has taken a tremendous toll on our local businesses and job market.

The House of Representatives has formed a Select Committee on COVID-19 Economic & Financial Preparedness with a focus on planning for Hawai'i's economic recovery. The Committee meetings, which are being held remotely as of this writing, are aired publicly on 'Olelo Community Media and online. You can view the meeting schedule, read committee documents, and find out when and where to view the hearings through the Hawai'i State Capitol website,

www.capitol.hawaii.gov.

This Committee has also formed the Hawai'i COVID-19 Public Health Recovery Task Force, a collaboration of government, business, healthcare and non-profit leaders, who are developing an approach to measure and manage a phased recovery to a "new normal." They are developing a plan to establish safeguards and systems (such as COVID-19 screening, testing and contact tracing) to ensure public health during the economic reopening and recovery.

To learn more about the House Select Committee's activities, read their plans and other documents, and find out when and where to view their meetings, please visit the House Select Committee's website through the State Capitol portal, www.capitol.hawaii.gov.

You can also find a wealth of resources and information through the State's Recovery Navigator at recoverynavigator.hawaii.gov. I encourage you to visit this site to learn more about available resources for individuals, families, businesses and non-profits. This site also provides contacts for community members to submit their ideas for Hawai'i's economic and community recovery.

Legislative Forecast

The Legislature was forced to suspend its session in early March to prevent the further spread of COVID-19. The Legislature plans to reconvene for two weeks in mid-May to pass a revised State budget to address a significant projected budget shortfall of over \$1 billion and to expand the State's debt ceiling so we can borrow funds from the federal government to continue to pay unemployment insurance claims and pensions. My goal is to reduce the budget by cutting lapsed funds, vacant positions, and autho-

rizing the State to receive and spend federal funds allocated to the State through the CARES Act, rather than first cutting salaries or implementing furloughs for State workers.

Good news in Kohala

I am also glad to share some recent good news from Kohala. In early April, Governor David Ige released State Capital Improvement Project (CIP) funds totaling \$125,000 for renovations and upgrades to the cottage used for on-call staff at Kohala Hospital. Built in 1939, the cottage provides housing on-site for Emergency Room staff, an on-call laboratory technician and occasional traveling medical staff. This funding will help the hospital continue to upgrade to support the front-line medical staff who are so dedicated to keeping our community safe and healthy.

In early May, the State Department of Education awarded \$220,000 to a construction contract

for walkway flooring repairs and recoating at Kohala Middle School, Building A. I am glad to see this repair project moving forward, supporting local construction jobs while improving the school infrastructure.

Another piece of good news in the current crisis is that we are all learning new ways to connect from a distance. Virtual Town Halls are the new "live" in-person! I encourage you to "Follow" my Facebook page, @reptarnas, to be notified of these opportunities to connect virtually. I also continue to respond to questions and comments from the community and welcome your contacts.

Please reach me at (808) 586-8510, or reptarnas@capitol.hawaii.gov, with your questions and comments.

I am honored and grateful to continue to serve our community during this time. Mahalo!

Public Library Now Offers Virtual Programs

What: Virtual Library Programs
Who: North Kohala Library and The Hawaii State Public Library System (HSPLS)
Where: www.librarieshawaii.org/virtual-programs
Admission: Free

While our community has been doing a great job of staying at home, our public librarians have been hard at work to develop new virtual resources for our community. Join some of your favorite Children's Librarians as they read their favorite stories in "Storytime at Home," or learn how to create something new - like homemade playdough, bottle cap bugs or custom magnets - with "HSPLS Creates."

Simply go to librarieshawaii.org/virtual-programs to learn more. More stories and learning opportunities will continue to be added.



Source: Hawaii State Public Library System

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HFUU Actively Pursuing Solutions to Secure Fresh, Local Food



Kohala farmers help provide food security by growing a variety of items to nourish our residents. The current economic situation has brought attention once again to the precarious nature of our island's reliance on imported food.



A Kohala field grows a variety of foods, with staggered plantings to enable extended harvest times.

Story and photos by Donna Maltz

If you are not familiar with the Hawaii Farmers Union United (HFUU), now is a good time to become so. HFUU assists with a multitude of smallholder, diversified family farms that implement regenerative eco-logical techniques in growing and raising a resilient, vital and productive agricultural system to better feed the people of Hawaii. There are 13 HFUU chapters throughout the state, and one of them is right here in Kohala.

In the midst of a global pandemic, and with food scarcity a threat, there has never been a more urgent time to pay attention to this issue. COVID-19 has brought to the world's attention that food security is at risk.

The shutdown of our state has kept coronavirus numbers among the lowest in the U.S.A. Economically, Hawaii has been hit the hardest in our nation, with 35 percent unemployment. Over 225,000 people are jobless. The tourism industry has been the backbone of the economy, which proves to be unsustainable in a pandemic. There has never been a more press-

ing time to take action to secure our basic needs, especially for food security.

Hawaii imports approximately ninety-two percent of its food, according to the United States Department of Agriculture.

The rest of our food is imported traveling thousands of miles on huge gas-guzzling barges before finally ending up on our plates. University studies have estimated there's only an 11-day supply of food in the state at any given time.

According to the Hawaii State Legislature, "Hawaii's reliance on out-of-state sources of food places residents directly at risk of food shortages in the event of natural disasters, economic disruption, and other external factors beyond the State's control." Greater consumer demand and pressure on political leaders is imperative for food security, but we also need the land and water to produce our food.

Hawaii provides all we need in terms of rich soil, water and acres of arable land to secure our food needs. But with the highest start-up and production costs in the country, growing more Hawaii farms

and food is a challenge. This is compounded by limited access to water, affordable land for farmers, especially land with housing. Most of the best farmland is privately- or state-owned and often lease terms are not favorable for farmers, discouraging long-term investment in infrastructure required to grow Hawaii's food supply.

According to a Hawaii Agricultural Land Use study released on February 17, 2016, Hawaii has been through a dramatic change in agricultural land use over the last 40 years, with the passing of the plantation era in both sugar and pineapple production. In 1980 there were 350,830 acres in crop production, 85 percent of which was tied to sugar and pineapple.

In 2015, total crop acres dropped to just 151,830 acres, with only 28 percent of that being sugar and pineapple. In 2017, when Hawaiian Commercial & Sugar Company

(HC&S) plantation closed on Maui, sugar was still the largest crop in the state, with 38,800 acres. The seed companies were the second-largest land users, with 23,720 acres on four islands. Commercial for-

estry, primarily on Hawaii Island, was close behind with 22,860 acres. Macadamia nuts, again mainly on Hawaii Island, was the fourth largest crop at 21,545 acres. All of the top four crops were grown primarily for export purposes. Diversified crops are grown on 16,900 acres statewide.

This category includes a wide variety of leaf, root, and melon crops, most of which is consumed locally. More than half of all diversified crops in the state are grown on Oahu. (Read more about the Hawaii Agricultural Land Use Study at <http://hdoa.hawaii.gov/blog/main/nrsalus2015>.)

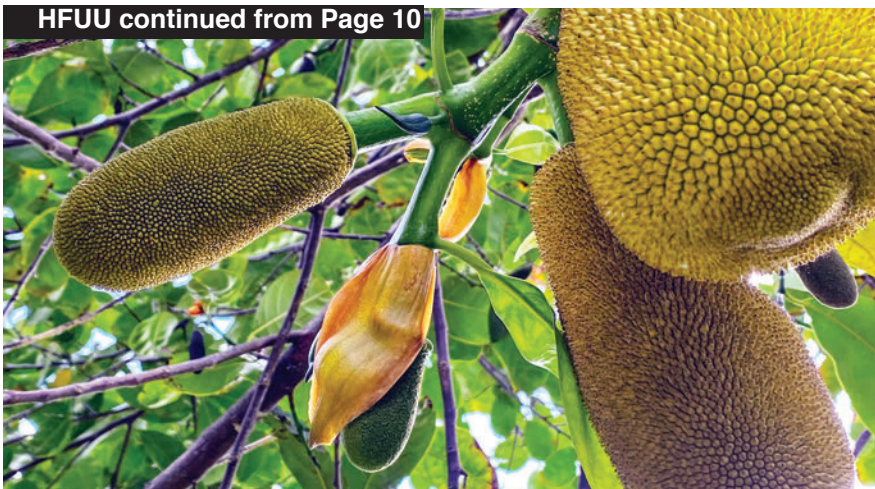
A standard formula for a family of four wanting to produce the majority of their food is somewhere between 2 and 10 acres. The Food and Agricultural Organization estimates this number much higher, at 17 acres per person, for complete self-sufficiency. With over 200,000 people on the Big Island, we are in desperate need of farmland and farmers if we are to have any food security.

There are many people and **See HFUU, on Page 11**

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HFUU continued from Page 10



The jackfruit tree bears the largest fruit of all trees; it can be eaten either unripe or ripe. Its leaves are also edible, and the taste of the fruit's seeds has been compared to that of Brazil nuts or chestnuts.

organizations, as seen in a well-documented article in last month's Kohala Mountain News, that show us how we are pulling together to address the crisis to get food to our people. I'm not sure how much of the food is local, but it looks like the effort to provide more Hawaii-grown grinds is front and center.

At a recent Kohala Chapter board meeting, the board agreed to reach out to people wishing to farm, but are in need of land, and landowners in an effort to work out an equitable plan to grow more food for our island. It becomes a win-win. The landowner benefits from the agricultural tax break and supporting everything they can to secure Hawaii residents have food; willing and able farms have a place to plant their seeds of change. Done right, under the guiding mission of the HFUU, we can plant the seeds of change so our keiki can be proud of our efforts.

If you are a landowner willing to discuss this meaningful opportunity, or one of the many farmers in need of land, please contact Donna Maltz at 808-884-5633.

Our local chapter is very much alive and growing with a new board of directors committed to the HFUU mission. President Dash Kuhr is joined by board members Donna Maltz, Naomi Melamed, Yvonne Leiser, Cab Baber, Jeff Goodwin and Tricia Storie. The Kohala Chapter has been in existence since 2014, providing monthly meetings and ag-related educational programs.

On May 12, the HFUU Kohala

Chapter put forth its first online educational program, focused on the vital relationship between bees and trees, with featured speakers Dawn Barnett, Mariah Barnett and Jeremiah Morgan. This panel-style presentation highlighted the need to practice responsible stewardship of these essential players of healthy ecosystems.

Our next scheduled chapter meeting will be on June 9. We are planning a tremendous online concert featuring several local musicians, some of whom are also farmers. Join us for nourishment of your Heart and Soil. This event is free and open to everyone.

In July, we are planning an open political forum with a large selection of candidates, vying for the positions of County Commissioner, Mayor, Representative, and State Senate to discuss their official positions on agricultural and food security on our island.

In addition to our monthly chapter meetings, we are pursuing ways to fund the planting of 10,000 fruit trees that would help contribute to food security. We need the trees, land and landowners who are willing and excited to be part of the solution.

We would appreciate your input and for you to join us to help feed Hawaii; it will take a collective effort. If you wish to participate in any way to help, whether through HFUU membership or otherwise, please email Kohala.HFUU@gmail.com or join us on Facebook at HFUU Kohala Chapter.



The pineapple industry may be gone from the island, but small farms and home gardens throughout Kohala still produce the intensely sweet fruit.

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Talk Story with Ilea



Ilea Bain, PsyD, is a clinical psychologist at Hamakua-Kohala Health.

"I thought I had my life together but now that I'm alone in quarantine, I realize I just had a job to distract me from myself." – Anonymous

From societal holes and weaknesses to family and personal issues, I have been listening to the dark shadows emerge from what no longer works.

This quarantine has brought many of our sore spots – personal and collective – front and center. Many of us can now see with painstaking clarity the gaping holes in our societal fabric that we have tried to patch up haphazardly or have completely turned away from dealing with altogether.

And in gaining greater awareness of what is weak and out of balance, we have a rare opportunity.

A collective chance to pause and sit with ourselves as we wait for the murky storm water to settle. We have been thrashing around so distracted and overstimulated for so long that, up until now, we barely took notice of how our ways of being affect the clarity and quality of our water. Now that we are gazing into it, do we still like the reflection we see?

Thankfully, through any breakdown, comes opportunity for breakthrough. Connection.

Resilience. Purpose and direction. So long as we choose to look at it with open eyes and open hearts.

So long as we turn our anger and distress over what is not working into catalysts for creative, adaptive responses. So long as we don't merely stick our heads back in the sand when this is all over just because we think it's easier and more convenient. Just because we want to feel "normal" again. Just because change feels threatening and scary.

I have personally been using this time to listen and reflect. Carefully focusing my energy on aligning more deeply with my values and priorities in order to choose better, more heart-centered ways of walking in the world, for myself and my community.

Even in the strange land of social distancing, we are so much more connected than is ever adequately recognized or honored by Western culture. How do we want things to look when society really starts back up again? The power to make small changes that add up, collect, and eventually become great changes over time is in our hands in every moment.

We vote every day with our dollar and the choices we make. We give power to what we focus on and prioritize. I hope you'll join me in reflecting on your personal imprint and whether or not it feels aligned with your heart, your deepest values, and your vision for our future when things begin to move forward again.

Want to participate in this column? I invite you to write to me about your stories and concerns of the heart and mind that you would like to hear more about. Each month I will select a story or theme and respond in this column. I will not disclose any names or identifying information in my public response. This dialogue does not replace actual mental health treatment but it's a good place to start. Please write your inquiries or stories to talkstorywithilea@gmail.com.

North Kohala

A Small Community with Big Aloha

Mahalo to The North Kohala Community Resource Center and the network of other organizations, community groups and individuals who are working together to support our community needs. Visit their website at northkohala.org to learn more about how you can donate or help!



Community spirit is something we can all relate to as it speaks to one thing we all have in common...HEART. Contact me to learn more about North Kohala!

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WEEKLY EVENTS IN JUNE 2020

EVENTS SUBJECT TO CHANGE DUE TO HEALTH CONCERNS

DAY	START	END	EVENT	VENUE	CONTACT	
MON	6:30AM	7:30AM	AA DAWN PATROL	KAMEHAMEHA PARK	889-5675	
	9AM		KOHALA SENIOR CLUB MEETING KOHALASENIORS@GMAIL.COM	CIVIC CENTER		
	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	
	5:30PM	8:30PM	OPEN STUDIO	CLAY COTTAGE	889-0404	
TUES	6PM	6:30PM	FREE RMD TAIKO CLASSES	HISAOKA GYM	895-2025	
	7PM		AL-ANON MEETING	KOHALA MISSION SCHOOL	895-2094	
	6:30AM	7:30AM	AA DAWN PATROL	KAMEHAMEHA PARK	889-5675	
	9AM	10:30AM	TAI CHI	HUB HALE	889-0404	
	9AM	1PM	KEIKI HAWAIIAN CULTURE & CUSTOMS	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	
	5PM	6PM	BUTIFITNESS	HUB HALE	889-0404	
	6PM	7PM	TABLE TENNIS/PING PONG	OLD COURT HOUSE	889-1099	
WED	6:30PM	7:30PM	BELLY DANCING - TEEN-ADULT	HUB HALE	889-0404	
	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	2:30PM	BEGINNER BALLET	HUB HALE	889-0404	
	2PM	4PM	OPEN GUIDED ART STUDIO	ARTISTS' CO-OP	783-1158	
	2:30PM	3:30PM	YOUTH BEGINNER BALLET	HUB HALE	889-0404	
	5PM	6PM	TAI CHI	HUB HALE	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	889-5675	
	9AM	1PM	KEIKI HAWAIIAN CULTURE & CUSTOMS	HUB BARN	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 MEETING	WILEY HALL ON IOLE	805-452-9501	
	FRI	9AM	11AM	TAI CHI - ALL	HUB HALE	889-0404
		9AM	1PM	EARLY LEARNING WITH CATHY MORGAN	HUB CLUB	889-0404
9AM		10:15AM	TAI CHI	HUB HALE	889-0404	
9AM			HEALING CIRCLE FOR ADDICTS, ALCOHOLICS	NANI'S GARDEN	805-452-9501	
10AM		10:30AM	PRESCHOOL STORY TIME AGES 2-5	NORTH KOHALA LIBRARY	889-6655	
3:30PM		4:30PM	YOUTH HIP HOP	HUB BARN	889-0404	
SAT		7AM	8AM	AA DAWN PATROL	KAMEHAMEHA PARK	889-5675
		10AM	11AM	QI GONG	HUB HALE	889-0404
SUN	9AM	10:30AM	YOGA WITH JAN - BEGINNER	HUB HALE	889-0404	
	10AM	11AM	SEIBUKAN KARATE ACADEMY	HAWI FARMERS MARKET	889-0404	
	10AM	11AM	WEST AFRICAN DRUMMING CLASS	ARTISTS' CO-OP	987-4243	
	10:30AM	12PM	YOGA WITH JAN - INTERMEDIATE	HUB HALE	889-0404	
	11:30AM	12:30PM	WEST AFRICAN DANCE CLASS	ARTISTS' CO-OP	987-4243	
	3:30PM	5PM	CRYSTAL ALCHEMY SINGING BOWL SOUND BATH - BI-WEEKLY	HUB HALE	889-0404	
	4:30PM	5:30PM	TANGO - BEGINNER	HUB HALE	889-0404	
	5:30PM	6:30PM	TANGO - INTERMEDIATE	HUB HALE	889-0404	
6PM	7PM	DHARMA RECOVERY MEETING	HUB PURPLE COTTAGE	452-9501		

Hawaii Votes by Mail

By the Hawaii Office of Elections
The Office of Elections' mission is to provide secure, accessible and convenient elections to all citizens statewide.

Am I registered to vote? When will I receive my ballot? As the 2020 Elections approach, Hawaii voters are preparing to cast their ballots for the Primary Election on Saturday, August 8, and the General Election on Tuesday, November 3.

The 2020 Elections will be the first time our Primary and General Elections will be conducted entirely by mail, statewide, and no traditional polling places will be established. Instead, all registered voters will automatically receive a ballot in the mail.

Unlike the U.S. Census, where information and surveys are mailed to every street address, voters must register to vote. When registering, voters must provide their residence address to determine the contests that they are eligible to vote for, and their mailing address to receive their ballot.

In preparation for mailing ballots to each registered voter, over the past year election officials have sent out a series of election mailings. These mailings have served a dual purpose of announcing the transition to elections by mail and confirming every voter's registration. If there is an issue delivering a voter's election mailing, the voter

must update their registration to be mailed a ballot to ensure the security and integrity of the elections.

To ensure you will receive your ballot in the mail, check your voter registration status by contacting the Office of Elections. By law, ballots cannot be forwarded through the mail to an alternate address. If you have moved to a new residence, changed your mailing address or your name, you must update your voter registration. You can update your voter registration using the Online Voter Registration System by logging in with your Hawaii Driver License or Hawaii State ID. Any voter can also submit a Voter Registration Application to their County Elections Division. Additionally, if you will be away from the islands for an upcoming election, you can request an absentee ballot be sent to wherever you are.

As a registered voter, you should be on the lookout for your mail ballot packet starting July 21 for the Primary Election, and October 16 for the General Election. This mail ballot packet will include a personalized, postage-paid return envelope; ballot secrecy sleeve; voting instructions; and ballot. If you do not receive your ballot, contact your County Elections Division to request a replacement.

To cast your ballot, just mark your ballot, place it in your return envelope, and sign the envelope.

Return your voted ballot to your County Elections Division as soon as possible to ensure it is received by the close of voting on Election Day. Voted ballots must be received by the County Elections Divisions by 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 8, for the Primary Election and Tuesday, November 3, for the General Election.

Upon receipt, County Election Officials validate your ballot by matching the signature on the return envelope against the signature with your voter registration. If the signatures match, your ballot

will be counted. If the signatures do not match, you will be notified by County Election Officials and have up to five business days after Election Day to correct it.

During these uncertain times and to ensure the health and safety of our communities, we are encouraging voters to stay and vote at home. To learn more about voting by mail or to check your voter registration, visit elections.hawaii.gov or contact the Office of Elections at 1-800-442-VOTE (8683) or your County of Hawaii Elections Division at (808) 961-8277.

Surfing the Winds

By Diane Revell

Gentle breezes, birds bob and sway
Limbs on trees they ride
Strong gales, tree boughs wave
Birds surfing high
Tree top branches whiplash about
Birds on limbs, ride it out



Credit: Diane Revell

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Electrical Contractor C-26351



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NORTH KOHALA COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER

Congratulations to all KHS Class of 2020 Graduates! We are proud of you! Wishing the best of luck to our graduating youth director Kaya-Lee Galan!

To learn more about current food resources and the Feed Kohala initiative please visit Northkohala.org

Our online store is OPEN featuring beautiful books and music from Kohala

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

www.northkohala.org

A great way to love Kohala!

Keiki Receive Free Face Masks

In an effort to continue to promote free virtual tutoring for the Kohala District Schools, Pili a Pa'a replacement teachers Mana Pasco, Kealii Carvalho and Pam Mauro brainstormed a plan that not only promotes enrichment tutoring but is also a community service.

The team got donations of scraps of Hawaiian fabric and thread, cut and sewed face masks, and distributed the face masks – packed in baggies – to keiki.

Along with a mask, each baggie

contained a flyer with information about virtual tutoring. Distribution took place outside the school cafeteria with the assistance of many community partners.

Pili a Pa'a is a project of the Partners in Development Foundation (www.pidf.org).

For more information regarding free virtual tutoring, or if your child needs a face mask, please call or email Pam Mauro at 808-896-6154 or pmauro@pidfoundation.org.



Photo by Tricia Coito

Educators and volunteers helped distribute face masks and information about virtual tutoring by Pili a Pa'a, a project of the Partners in Development Foundation.

Left to right: Pam Mauro, Mana Pasco and Ross Pagat (Pili a Pa'a); Lani Bowman (Tütü and Me)



Photo by Pam Mauro

A sample of masks made for the keiki.



Photo by Ross Pagat

Liam Pagat



Photo by Lani Bowman

Tom Loomis, Elizabeth Pickett, and their son Laith sport new masks.

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 Eliminate home energy and water waste with the Home Home Efficiency Kit by Hawai'i Energy

\$5
HOME EFFICIENCY KIT
 + FREE SHIPPING

SAVE UP TO \$300 ANNUALLY ON YOUR UTILITY BILL! THIS KIT INCLUDES \$40 WORTH OF ENERGY-EFFICIENT PRODUCTS.

Kit Includes:
 4 total 60W replacement A19 (2 -2700k & 2 - 5000k), 1 Kitchen Aerator, 1 Tricklestar Power Switch, 2 Bathroom Aerators

Savings based on two occupant household.

County Parks Working With State Administration to Reopen Safely

The following is an excerpt of an online conversation with James Komata, Deputy Director of Parks and Recreation.

KMN: Aloha Mr. Komata. What can you tell us about gradually opening county parks? North Kohala residents have been pretty good about obeying the rules, staying at home except for necessary trips for supplies and mail, and we wear masks. But exercise is also important, for both mental and physical health. Will most county parks be opening soon? Will there be a phasing in of permissible activities?

JK: We are cognizant of the needs and wants of many people around our island for access to our parks to engage in physical exercise as is encouraged and authorized, in concept, by Governor Ige's standing supplemental proclamation on the COVID-19 emergency. Mayor Kim and our department also wholeheartedly concur that there is tremendous value in encouraging and supporting the physical health and mental wellbeing of all members of our community. This is why, in Mayor Kim's recently executed Emergency Rule #4, we have specified a total of 12 beach parks that allow access to the ocean for active exercise only and 6 parks that allow for active solitary exercise such as walking, jogging and running. We are already working on the next round of parks being considered for active exercise only access. However, there is currently no timeframe set for implementation.

KMN: As we understand it, people can transit parks to swim (without loitering on the beach) and they can engage in some activities either individually or in pairs from the same household. Here in Kamehameha Park people could resume walks, or toss a frisbee, play golf or tennis in household pairs. Is Parks and Recreation considering these steps in their early deliberations?

JK: Please understand that our challenges in opening parks in a manner that is safe and responsible to the public and our employees are myriad. First and foremost, we need to ensure our capacity to adequately

maintain the parks that are considered for restricted reopening that includes both sanitation and sanitization efforts. Mayor Kim has placed a specific emphasis on actively combating the spread of the virus through our parks by proactively sanitizing common-touch surfaces throughout our parks and public spaces. Second, we must consider the potential of a park for, and the proclivity of its typical userbase to gather and engage in unauthorized and undesirable uses/activities. For instance, playgrounds, gyms, weight rooms, swimming pools, tennis courts, etc. are still not allowed to open for use under Governor Ige's standing proclamations. Third, we are challenged throughout our department with employee shortfalls, where our employees are facing real difficulties with the closure of schools, lack of childcare options, lack of adult daycare options, or they themselves have underlying conditions that make them especially vulnerable to the COVID-19 disease. Fourth, social distancing requirements have affected the efficiency of our operations in ways that are too numerous and complex to explain here. Fifth, it has been our experience that, while the vast majority of persons respect park rules and policies, there are still numerous individuals that willfully and repeatedly violate said rules. Also consider, while police officers are charged with enforcement of laws and rules in parks, they generally have higher priorities than repeatedly responding to nonconforming behavior in parks.

As I hope you can tell from this response, we do not make decisions without seriously considering all aspects of each park's impacts. Kamehameha Park's reopening, even if on a limited basis, presents many challenges yet offers significant opportunities and benefits for the community. It is currently on the list for consideration in the next round of parks where access for active exercise would be allowed. However, as noted earlier, we have not set a timeframe for that decision.

Hawaii Writers Guild Announces Publication of the First Issue of its Online Literary Review



Credit: Hawaii Writers Guild
"Latitudes" is the Hawaii Writers Guild's new online literary review.

We knew many technical details would have to be worked out during publication and that it would likely be a time-consuming process the first time through."

Despite the tight restraint on the number of selections, the diversity of the pieces is broad and should appeal to many readers. The fiction pieces range from a story about the assassination of President Kennedy to a science fiction tale set in 1969 about a girl who is catapulted into an alternative universe, where Hawaii is ruled by Japan.

The nonfiction offerings range from an account of one author's "escape" from Alcatraz during the Native American occupation of that island in the early 1970s, to another author's years-long research into the story of her uncle, who served with the all-Japanese Nisei 442nd Regimental Combat team in Italy and France during World War II.

In addition to appearing in print, three of the four poems have been recorded and may be heard as well as read, an option the group hopes to expand to more pieces in future issues.

Although the Guild was formed on the Big Island, it now has members from Oahu, Kauai, Maui and Molokai as well as members who live on the mainland but write about Hawaii or have other connections to the islands.

Guild members whose work will appear in the first issue live in Colorado, California and on Kauai, as well as on the Big Island.

In addition to those already mentioned, members of the editing collective include Jim Gibbons, Bob Lupo, Michael Foley and Jan Asch.

Hawaii Writers Guild, which has recently achieved status as a nonprofit organization under IRS Code section 501(c)(3), is proud to provide this journal to the public at no cost for their reading pleasure during this period of sheltering at home.

To find Latitudes on the Guild website, go to www.hawaiiwritersguild.com, click on the dropdown menu header "MORE...", then click on "LITREVIEW FIRST FINAL."

Hawaii Writers Guild announces that the first issue of "Latitudes," its new online literary review, is on its website and available to the public.

Publication culminates a year of planning and work by members of the Guild, led by Laura Burkhart, a Guild member from North Kohala. Duncan Dempster, the Guild's webmaster, took on the job of designing the format and laying out the first issue.

"We put out a call to our 65 members, asking them to submit their best writing for consideration. More than one-third of our members submitted works of fiction, non-fiction, poetry and drama for a total of 52 submissions," reported Guild president Diann Wilson.

Members of the editing collective selected pieces for the first issue in a two-step process, without knowing who the authors were. Ultimately, 16 pieces were selected for the inaugural issue—five pieces of fiction, five pieces of nonfiction, one craft essay, one ten-minute play and four poems.

"Many more of the pieces were deemed worthy of publication," Joy Fisher, a member of the editing collective, said, "but Laura suggested we limit the number for this first issue."

KOHALA VET CLINIC

Adjacent to Aloha Gas
Akoni Pule Hwy, Kapa'au
Open M-F 8am - 5pm
Sat 8am - 12pm
889-6405
Dr. Daryl Stang
rokuhawaii@gmail.com

THE COQUI CORNER

Aloha, I hope everyone is safe and well. Our eradication efforts have been affected by the coronavirus and funding. We have worked at Union Market, Union Mill, the perimeter of the golf course at Kamehameha Park, and a few other places. That is far less than what our eradicators usually accomplish.

Please continue to eradicate "backyard coqui" and help keep the neighborhoods where you live quiet. With the quarantine, and our funds running low, we really appreciate your help.

For information about materials and methods of coqui control check us out at our kohalacoquicoalition.org website, or search for us on YouTube. You can also call the

COQUI INFORMATION LINE AT 889-1777

Mahalo to the State and County for supporting our efforts.

Tax-deductible donations are gratefully accepted through: NKCRC, P.O. Box 519, Hawi Hawaii 96719

KOHALA MONTHLY CALENDAR JUNE 2020

**ALL EVENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE
DUE TO CURRENT HEALTH CONCERNS**

DATE	DAY	START	END	EVENT	DESCRIPTION	VENUE	PHONE
6/3	WED	4:00 PM		KOHALA COMMUNITY ACCESS GROUP	MEETING	SENIOR CENTER	IMUAKOHALA@GMAIL.COM
6/3	WED	4:30 PM		NKAG MEETING		OLD COURTHOUSE	889-0404
6/6	SAT	10:00 AM	12:00 PM	RECYCLE PLASTIC	CLEAN AND REMOVE LABELS, ORGANIZE ACCORDING TO #: 1,2,4 OR 5	HUB PARKING LOT	LAVAROOTSGMAIL.COM
6/8	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
6/9	TUE	6:00 PM		HAWAII FARMERS UNION UNITED	6PM POTLUCK, 7PM PRESENTATION. FOR EVERYONE	THE HUB	KOHALA.HFUU@GMAIL.COM
6/12	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
6/20	SAT	4:30 PM	6:30 PM	FREE GRINDZ HOT MEAL	KOHALA BAPTIST CHURCH	BANYAN TREE	889-5416
6/24	WED	4:00 PM	5:30 PM	RESTORATIVE YOGA THERAPY CLASS	WITH CARLA ORELLANA, CERTIFIED YOGA THERAPIST, BY DONATION	THE HUB	889-0404
6/24	WED	5:00 PM		PARKS, WATER & ROADS GROUP	MONTHLY MEETING	OLD COURTHOUSE	889-6238
6/25	THU	4:30 PM	6:00 PM	THRIFT SHOP	AT ST. AUGUSTINE CHURCH	NEXT TO WALKER HALL	889-5390
6/25	THU	4:30 PM	6:00 PM	COMMUNITY MEAL - TAKE OUT	AT ST. AUGUSTINE CHURCH	WALKER HALL	889-5390
6/25	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
6/27	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
6/28	SUN	3:00 PM	4:30PM	AQUARIAN UNIVERSAL METAPHYSICS	DISCOVER ANSWERS TO "UNANSWERABLE" QUESTIONS.	AINAKEA SENIOR RES.	882-7047
6/30	TUE	06:30 PM	09:00 PM	BELLY DANCING		HUB BARN	889-0404

Email monthly calendar listings to: kohalacalendar@gmail.com

Hawi Jodo Mission 2020 Obon Cancelled

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic we are experiencing, and after careful consideration of the safety and well-being of the Kohala community, the Hawi Jodo Mission has decided to cancel the 2020 Obon service and festival. This event was scheduled for August 1, 2020. Hawi Jodo Mission extends deep gratitude to the community for its support of this special celebration, when we gather to honor our ancestors. We look forward to an end to the pandemic and a full recovery for all.



Kohala SDA Church
WHERE FRIENDSHIP MEETS FELLOWSHIP
 Saturday Services:
 Sabbath School: 9:30 AM
 Divine Service: 10:45 AM
 Potluck-Fellowship Lunch every Sabbath
 55-3361 Akoni Pule Highway, Hawi HI
 (808)889-5646
 Kohalasda.com

Kalahikiola Congregational Church
 Service every Sunday Morning at 9:30 followed by pupus & fellowship
 Prayer time Tuesdays at 11:30
 Iole road off Akoni Pule Hwy. in Kapa'au 1/4 mile past the statue
 www.kalahikiolacongregationalchurch.com
 889-6703

Kohala Baptist Church
 Across from Makapala Retreat
 'Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.'
 (Matthew 11:28)
Call 895-2035 if you would like to join us for our virtual online meetings Sundays at 10 AM
 Pastor Steven E. Hedlund (808)889-5416
 Follow us on Kohala Baptist Church

Gospel of Salvation Kohala
 Kokoiki Road
 Service: Sunday 9:00 AM
 Adult Bible Study: Monday 7 PM
 Prayer Meeting: Friday 7 PM
 Pastor Ilima Mo'ina
 www.gosp-kohala.org

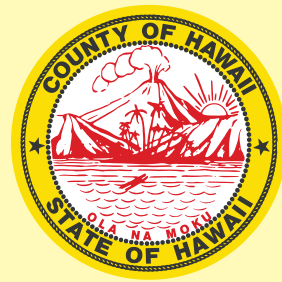
St. Augustine's Episcopal Church
 Kapa'au, North Kohala
 Our worship services have been cancelled.
 Thrift Shop is closed through May 31st. The Thrift Shop is not currently receiving donations.
 Community Meal will be served as "take out". Please watch for the Community Meal announcement on our banners on the church property.
 Be Safe. Stay Well.
 God's peace be with us all.
 www.staugustineskohala.com • 808 889 5390

Hawai'i County supports small business.

Find resources at www.hawaiicounty.gov/covidbusinesshelp

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
 Hawi, Hawai'i - The Welcoming Church
 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

KOHALA HONGWANJI SHIN BUDDHISM
 No temple activities are scheduled until at least May 30 due to the stay at home order and Covid-19. Please go to the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii YouTube channel to watch uplifting Dharma messages.
 We are all in this together!



Hawai'i County is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

St. Augustine's Community Meal: Serving Our Neighbors

By Kathy Matsuda

Thank you to the St. Augustine's Outreach Committee and all the volunteers who made the Community Meal a success, including Flora Brown, Susan and Peter Denman, Becky and Ludwig Simmet, Lopaka, Francine and Chevez Decker, Melanie Sahagun, Sam Cash, John and Cindy Sakai, Kathy and Ted Matsuda, Deacon Lani Bowman, Nancy Clement and Vicar Diana Akiyama. We served 200 meals in 40 minutes at the drive-through at St. Augustine's on April 30.

Thank you to all the volunteers who made 385 face masks to give away at our Community Meals and to anyone else who needed one. Our mask makers are Kathy Matsuda, Wendy Andrews, Gregoria Sahagun, Melanie Matsuda, Juliana Ruiz, Marsha Carreon and Terri Boren Chappell.



Community members drive up to volunteers at St. Augustine's Episcopal Church and pick up their portion of the monthly community meal, packed to go. *Photos by Vicar Diana Akiyama*



Busy volunteers made 385 masks to give away.



Wendy Andrews with her new mask.



Kathy and Melanie Matsuda with their "baby," Mochi.



Gregoria Sahagun and Juliana Ruiz sew masks.

"One Island One Heart"

Bob Fitzgerald

for Mayor

bobfitzgeraldformayor.com **808-430-4674**

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Cool Summer Savings Include Double the Rebate for North Kohala



Source: Hawaii Energy

Since you're spending more time at home, you're likely using more energy just to power through your daily activities. That means it's more important than ever to be vigilant about when and where in your home you're using energy, so that you're only paying for what you need.

As we head into summer, now is the perfect time to prepare to beat the heat. In Hawaii, as much as half the energy used in your home can go toward cooling - no surprise as high temperatures are year-round. Pair that with Hawaii's energy costs being the highest in the nation, and you could be spending a ton of money just on cooling your home each year.

Luckily, there are plenty of ways to eliminate energy waste and still keep cool! The most cost-effective way is to open the windows or utilize fans, which on average cost just \$0.01/hour in comparison to the AC, which costs \$1/hour. This may not sound like much, but don't forget it adds up! If you have AC, we recommend keeping it turned off whenever it's not needed. If you have to use it, use the energy saver mode and set the tempera-

ture to what's comfortable but not cold. Make sure to also close your windows and doors so the cool air doesn't escape.

If you're looking to purchase new cooling equipment, Hawaii Energy has many rebates to reduce your upfront costs. Look for the ENERGY STAR® label - the gold standard for energy-efficient appliances that not only saves you money, but also last longer and require less maintenance.

Currently, you can get a \$50 rebate towards the purchase of a new ENERGY STAR® -certified window AC. If you also trade in your old window AC, you'll get a \$100 rebate towards that purchase. Hawaii Energy will even make sure that AC is recycled properly.

Besides cooling, did you know that water heating is another area of high energy usage? Easy ways to cut back on your hot water usage are to take shorter showers or wash your laundry with cold water. You could save even more by using the sun in your favor and switching to a solar water heating system. Switching from an electric water heater to a solar water heater can save you up to 40 percent on your electric bill per year, plus you'll be eligible for state and federal tax credits. Usually the rebate is \$750, but for a limited time we've doubled it for North Kohala residents and you will now get a \$1,500 rebate!

By taking advantage of these energy-efficient appliance rebates, you can greatly offset upfront costs so you can see the benefits that much quicker. To see a list of all rebate offers, go to hawaiienergy.com/rebates.

There are also plenty of other areas in your home that use more energy than needed. To learn about other ways to reduce your home energy usage, go to hawaiienergy.com/tips.

Food Basket Distribution Continues Despite Challenges

On April 16, many people came forth to help at the North Kohala Drive-Up Food Basket Distribution at Sacred Heart Catholic Church's Damien Hall. Mahalo to the volunteers that offered their time and energy to help the Kohala community during the COVID-19 pandemic.



Photos courtesy of Kohala Food Basket



KA LA CORR PRESENTS:
 "COUQUI"
 THE LIFE AND TIMES OF KA AND LA, MENEHUNE COUSINS OF KOHALA
 ILLUSTRATED BY KRISTI KRANZ

Panel 1: KA: "EH, KA! WHAT'S UP WITH DA MACHETE?" LA: "GET ONE COUQUI IN MY YARD DRIVING ME !! CRAZY!!"

Panel 2: KA: "ONLY ONE FROG, YOU GOING CRAZY?" LA: "YEAH, CUZ, I KNOW IF GET ONE, BUM BYE BE PLENTY"

Panel 3: KA: "SO, WHAT'S YOUR PLAN?" LA: "TONIGHT I GOING CLIMB DA TREE AN WHEN HE STARTS COUQUIING I GOING WAK HIM!!"

Panel 4: KA: "WHOA!! ONE CROOKED WAK AND WE GOING HAVE TO CALL YOU "THREE FINGA KA!!" MO BETTAH WE GO SUNSHINE, GET ONE SPRAYER AND CITRIC ACID, AND WE GO SPRAY DA BUGGAH!"

Panel 5: KA: "I NO LIKE NOTHING TO DO WITH ACID!!" LA: "DIS NOT LIKE BATTERY ACID - NO HURT PEOPLE OR MENEHUNE, BUT GOING KILL DA COUQUI!"

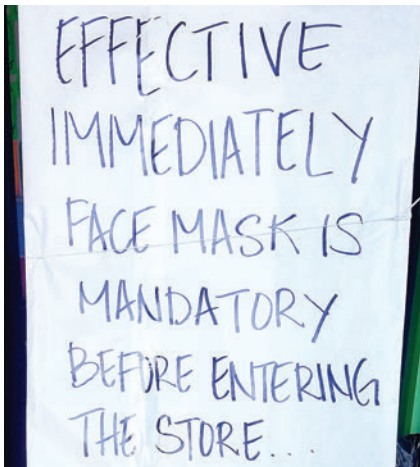
Panel 6: KA: "WE GO GET DA STUFFS, TONIGHT I COME YOUR HOUSE AN SHOW YOU HOW"

Panel 7: KA: "EH, TANKS, LA! WE GO DO UM DA RIGHT WAY!"

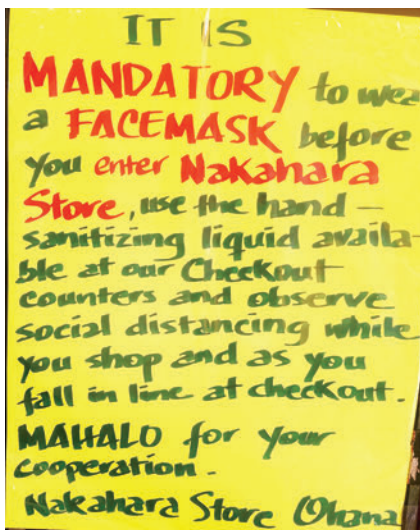
Panel 8: KA: "BROUGHT TO YOU BY SUNSHINE TRUE VALUE HARDWARE DAY'S HAU!!"

Local Grocers Serve Customers with Safety in Mind

Safety measures have been put in place at Takata and Nakahara Stores to help stop the spread of SARS-CoV-2, the novel coronavirus.



Photos by Tom Morse
Takata Store checkout now includes a plastic shield separating masked shoppers from the masked cashier, and a reminder to wait behind the yellow line until called forward to the conveyor belt.



Nakahara Store has a new, clear barrier at the checkout counter, with windows for transactions with masked employees.

Pawdemic

By Eila Algood

*The cats meow "feed me now!"
Unaware of anxiety in the air.
Their life hasn't changed
Since the pandemic began.*

*The dogs lay tucked up to my legs.
The only change they've observed
Are their mummies at home
more often
To cuddle and love them.*

*Shift perspective from fear
To adventure and acceptance,
As a virus restricts humans
Our freedom to move.*

*Conversations inevitably include
Corona related topics:
Food availability and facemasks,
Six feet apart and stay home.*

*I'm aware of the latest news
But choose to focus on inner peace,
Proper nutrition and moving
my body
After, of course, I feed the noisy cats.*

*I gaze out to the pale blue sky
Where no fear exists,
Reminded that life is but a dream
And I'll wake soon enough.*

*I seek enjoyment as I write a poem
Converse with loved ones
Who now have time to talk,
And pet my happy dogs*

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— Cindy Evans
Former State Representative
North Kona, North Kohala, South Kohala

Primary Election: August 8, 2020

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Hawaii's Earlier Epidemic

By Tom Morse

The bubonic plague, also known as the black plague, was introduced into Honolulu in October 1899 by an offloaded shipment of rice, from a ship which had also been carrying rats. The plague infected eleven people in Chinatown.

The response by the Board of Health included incinerating garbage, renovating the sewer system, putting Chinatown under quarantine and, most of all, burning affected buildings.

All trade with the islands was suspended under international

protocols. The city's health officials began by implementing quarantines around the district where the first victims died. Those quarantines failed to contain the disease.

Not knowing what else to do, the Board of Health decided to set fires in the infected areas. Forty-one were set and, on January 20, 1900, winds picked up the fire and spread it to other buildings.

The fire burned out of control for 17 days and scorched 38 acres of Honolulu. There were another 31 controlled burns after the incident. The 7,000 people who had lived in

the incinerated district—almost all of whom were Chinese, Japanese or Hawaiian—not only lost everything, but found themselves forced into ad hoc quarantine camps under armed guard until April 30. A total of 40 people died of the plague.

The first human case of plague on the island of Hawaii was recorded in February 1900 in Hilo and rapidly spread from Hilo south to Keaau and north to Lapaohoe, with human cases being recorded in these areas up to May 1918.

By March 1910, the spread of

plague was detected as far off as Honokaa. A rural form of the plague persisted on the islands of Maui and Hawaii for a significant length of time.

The total number of human plague cases recorded in all of Hawaii in the early 1900s was 410, of which 375, or 91.5 percent, were fatal. The island of Hawaii had 155 cases in Hilo and Hamakua. Only 10 recovered.

In Kohala, Dr. Benjamin Bond (son of Elias Bond) examined new arrivals at Mahukona for symptoms of the plague.

Takata

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