

Vol. 22, No. 01

About Kohala, For Kohala

January 27, 2023

An Eagle Scout's Gift



Quentin "Tookie" Hook (right) replaced several rotted signs in Kamehameha Park for his Boy Scouts of America Eagle Project. Many friends and community members helped him accomplish his goal. (Lara Hook)

By Audrey Veloria

The season of Christmas brings thoughts of "gifts." Gifts to give and gifts to receive. Gifts that are concrete or tangible and gifts "intangible" but dear to the heart.

As we travel through Kohala on our regular errands, we move among many Boy Scout Eagle Scout Service Projects, or Eagle Projects, that have improved and beautified our environment or served our

people.

When a Scout decides on an Eagle Project it needs to be planned by the Scout, seeking permission for a specific improvement in his community. He must include a group of individuals willing to help with the project who are led by him and hopefully complete the project before his 18th birthday. Upon completion, the Eagle Project must

See Scout, Page 2

Kohala Pool Update

By Friends of Kohala Pool

There have been multiple breakdowns and repairs of the Kohala Pool pump over the last several years. In late November 2021, the pump broke again. The Department of Parks and Recreation (P&R) then determined, correctly, the pump was beyond repair and the pool was shut down indefinitely. Shortly thereafter, P&R announced that it was not willing to purchase a replacement pump. P&R reported that the focus of its efforts would be on a multimillion-dollar renovation of the entire pool facility. This would be funded and completed at an unspecified time in the future.

The pool would be closed indefinitely. Following this announcement, several members of the Kohala community met in early 2022 and agreed that such a decision was unacceptable. This group of volunteers decided to, at least, try to get the pool opened with a plan of its own. This group relied primarily on both community donations and volunteer labor to do so. Over the next several months, Friends of Kohala Pool was formed and successfully applied to the North Kohala Com-

munity Resource Center to become a sponsored project. This success allowed that all funds raised would be used in efforts to get the pool re-opened in advance of the P&R future plan.

By the end of 2022, \$37,820.86 had been raised. This feat was accomplished via a combination of community-wide, and beyond, donations ranging from 86 cents to many thousands of dollars.

The projected fundraising goal had been achieved! With these funds, a new pump had been purchased and installed with volunteer labor. To ensure adequate water flow, plumbing lines were scoped. In order to replace an old and rusted collar to the holding tank, a new collar was fabricated and waterproofed. A new electrical panel has been ordered and we are now awaiting its arrival from the mainland.

Recently, under the direction of our volunteer pool technician, the large pool filters have been opened and checked. We will now order replacement parts and new sand to get them working properly.

See Pool, Page 4

Two Kohala FFA Members Represent Hawaii at the 2022 Nationals!



Camille Pinho and Kenneth "KK" Matsuda. (Amoo Ching Kainoa)

By Amoo Ching Kainoa

Almost 20 years after the closure of the Kohala Chapter of the National FFA Organization (formerly known as Future Farmers of America) program at Kohala High School, two of our very own Kohala High School students, Camille Pinho and Kenneth "KK" Matsuda, qualified to compete at the 95th National FFA Convention and Expo. The event was held in India-

napolis, Indiana on October 23-29, 2022. There were over 48,000 FFA members that represented all 50 states and two territories of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Close to 70,000 people attended this event, consisting of not only the FFA members but their supporters (advisors, coaches and parents)!

Camille Pinho competed in the Career Development Events, spe-

See FFA, Page 3

Kohala Home Sales and Prices Continue at Historical Highs

By Beth Robinson

Kohala real estate sales in the first half of 2022 looked very much like 2021, both in the pace of home sales and increasing prices. Activity slowed in the second half of 2022, and prices stabilized after two years of rapid growth. In this pattern, the Kohala market mirrored national and statewide real estate trends for 2022.

The number of sales in Kohala climbed from 65 homes in 2020 to a record-breaking 75 homes sold in 2021. The first half of 2022 looked to be right on pace with 2021, with 37 homes sold and the median price increasing a bit to just over \$800,000. The second half of last year things slow down. Rising interest rates and talk of recession combined with simple lack of "inventory" (homes listed for sale) to create conditions for a slowing of the buying frenzy, with only 17 sales for a full-year total of 54 sales (again, compared with 75

sales the year before).

In summary:
54 homes sold in 2022 in Kohala, compared with 75 homes in 2021.

The lowest priced home – a 1,080-square-foot "handyman's special" – sold for \$355,000.

The highest-price sale was \$3,800,000 for a newer, contemporary-styled home on 22.45 acres makai of Hāwī town. This is the second year the highest priced home sale was on acreage outside of a gated community.

The median home sale price rose from \$511,250 in 2019 to \$577,000 in 2020 to \$605,000 in 2021 to \$777,375 in 2022. That median price buys a regular home in Ainakea.

There are currently only 16 homes for sale in Kohala, five more than at this time last year. The least expensive is \$599,000 for a 924-square-foot home in Ainakea. The most expensive is \$4,495,000 for two parcels

See Home Sales, Page 2

Kohala Mountain News
Box 639
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Scout, from Page 1



Quentin "Tookie" Hook replaced several rotted signs at Kamehameha Park for his Boy Scouts of America Eagle Scout project. (Lara Hook)

pass a final inspection, gain final approval and be accepted by both the people that granted permission and the Boy Scouts of America.

Quentin "Tookie" Hook of Troop 1, formerly of Troop 47, decided to

replace several old and rotten signs at the Kamehameha Park Complex as his Eagle Project. In the midst of COVID and experiencing the lack of certain supplies, he began his project.

The type of wood required by the County of Hawai'i was hard to acquire. Much Aloha and Mahalo to Jake Chilton and Sunshine Hardware for their generous donations and contacts to source where this hard-to-find wood is locally milled. Each sign was cut, prepared, routed, painted, and put up after removing the old ones. They were named, as they have been designated to honor some of our community leaders and friends. This unexpected gesture is one of many gifts our Kohala has been given that we may not have even recognized. It is an improvement and a gift to all.

Tookie, along with his parents, Jeremy and Lara Hook, appreciate the help, love and assistance of his siblings, cousins, mentors, awesome friends and Risen Construction. He also thanks the County of Hawai'i for accepting his project idea in the beginning and approving it upon completion.



Tookie Hook (right) stands by one of his newly installed signs with (left to right) his brothers Esaias, Easton and Cullen; and friend D'Angelo, all of whom helped him with his Eagle Project. (Lara Hook)

In the season of giving, may we appreciate what we have a little more and seek to give the gifts of friendship, service and love.

- BSA – Be Sensitive and Aware
 - BSA – Be of Service Always
 - BSA – Be Swift to Act
 - BSA – Be Sincerely Amiable
- Note: Tookie's brother, Eagle

Scout Jarom "Kaimi" Hook, completed his project in May 2019 with help from an awesome crew. They constructed and painted a wall in the Kohala High School tennis court and made signs for both parking lots on campus. Both young men proud of their roots, culture and community.

Home Sales, from Page 1

totaling 141 acres, with farm equipment and a home intended as a farm manager cottage.

Limited Opportunities for Local and First-Time Home Buyers

Many people expected that as interest rates rose, home prices would fall sharply as they did in 2009-2010. That has not yet happened, due to high demand and limited supply. We are still seeing record-high prices for what should be the "affordable" homes in Kohala.

In 2022, an astonishing 39 percent of Kohala sales under \$1 million were all-cash; that figure rises to 52 percent for sales over \$1 million. With so much cash floating around at all price points, and especially higher-end buyer demand being relatively insensitive to interest rate moves, home prices are not trending downward in any significant way. But rising interest rates do affect the ability of local buyers who need mortgages to compete.

Imagine a buyer who qualified for the now average price \$750,000 home with a 20 percent down, \$600,000 mortgage at three percent — a payment of \$2,530/month

which is about what a 2-bedroom rental would be today. That same loan would cost \$3,753/month as of January 2023. Or looked at differently, a borrower who can afford roughly \$2500/month could get a mortgage of only \$400,000 versus \$600,000. Buyers simply cannot find anything for sale at the price they now can afford.

Higher-end real estate buyers are listening to the advice of their mortgage lenders: "marry the home, date the rate." They temporarily get a higher rate mortgage which they can still afford, or pay points for a buy-down product, betting that interest rates will drop in the future. Home sales over \$1 million continue to be mainly, although not entirely, malihini buyers, and the sellers also are either non-resident or returning to the mainland.

Land Sales Continue Strong in 2022

There were 23 sales of vacant land in Kohala in 2022, compared with 27 sales of land in 2021, and 19 vacant lots sold in 2020.

The lowest price paid was \$150,000 for the residential lot in Niuli'i with the challenges and costs of clearing up an old foundation

and clearing before the lot would be ready to build. There were five additional small home lots sold. Prices were \$230,000 for a lot in Hanaula Village, to \$370,000 (above asking price) for a cleared 15,000-square-foot lot on Kynnersley Road.

The highest price paid for land could be looked at two ways. The highest price for a single parcel was the County's preservation purchase of an oceanfront property in the Hapu'u to Kapaniaia corridor for the appraised price of \$2,496,000. However, four lots makai of Hāwī, oceanfront and near-oceanfront, sold to a single buyer, for a total of 98.5 acres and a combined purchase price of \$6,120,000.

Puakea Bay Ranch set a record for number of lots sold, five 10-acre lots in a narrow band of prices, \$428,889 – \$450,000. Other notable sales of large acreage included 28.33 acres at elevation on Hall Road. This parcel sold in 2020 for \$589,000. After it was cleared; fenced on three sides; a building pad, garage, and catchment water tank installed; and trees planted; it was sold in 2022 for \$1,575,000.

Forecast for 2023: More of the same

Real estate markets are cyclical but not all cycles are alike. There is still significant demand for Hāwī and Kapa'au homes at all price points, and with limited housing stock and very little new construction, homes prices are unlikely to drop significantly.

For sellers, homes will take longer to sell, but still less time than historically. Homes priced in line with recent sales will attract more showings and offers and sell faster than those with ambitious price expectations.

With so many homes sold to new residents, the rental market will also continue to be tight and rents high. New County proposals to regulate short term vacation rentals may free up some units for the long term rental market in 2024 and beyond.

It continues to be a very difficult time for local buyers in need of housing, whether rental or purchase. If you fall into this category and have not yet completed the Affordable Housing Survey, please go to the website HomesForKohala.com to do so. Documenting the need will assist our efforts to provide longer-term solutions for Kohala people.



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faces, faces,
faces...

FFA, from Page 1

cifically the Employment Skills competition. As this was Camille's first trip to the mainland, it was full of both excitement as well as nervousness. Camille shares, "I was worried about meeting new people and being in a new place. I was in a holding area before my competition from 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and got to meet and talk to the other 50 contestants."

At the awards ceremony I thought I would get something for participating, like maybe a certificate, and was surprised to be one of 15 FFA members from the nation to earn a bronze medal!"

Camille would like to thank Ms. Jackie (Meggs) Snelling and Mr. Snelling, saying "They made me feel good about how I was doing in FFA!" Thank you to my mom Charlene Naungayan "for supporting me and just being happy with all the things that I do!"

She would also like to thank Auntie Jocelin and Uncle Kell for being there in a completely different state, as well as making food and taking them to explore places.

Kenneth "KK" Matsuda competed in the Leadership Development Events, specifically the Creed Speaking competition. Kenneth worked very hard for months to memorize the five-paragraph FFA Creed that was written by E.M. Tiffany back in 1930. The FFA creed competition is not only how well the contestants can recite the creed word for word, but how well they can answer the three questions pertaining to the creed asked by the



Kenneth "KK" Matsuda with his parents Kell and Jocelin Matsuda. (Amoo Ching Kainoa)

judges and how each contestant can respond in an allotted time. Kenneth was one of 42 members in the nation to earn his bronze medal.

Kenneth said, "It was one of my most favorite experiences ever. I got to meet and talk with most of the other contestants in the waiting room, who were all very nice and enjoying their time there. I was able to meet so many people at the convention and now have more friends on other islands that enjoy being in FFA. We all felt like big time celebrities walking through the convention because so many people wanted a picture with the people from Hawai'i or wanted to learn what Hawai'i FFA kids did back home."

Kenneth would like to thank Mr. Dean Snelling, Kohala Agriculture

Educator, and Mrs. Jackie (Meggs) Snelling, FFA Advisor, for "believing in me and encouraging me to compete in the creed competition;" Auntie Penny Alcoran, who helped me with the content of my over 75 possible answers to the practice questions the judges might have asked; Mrs. Tasha Thornton, who helped me with my presentation and articulation of my answers; and Auntie Amoo Kainoa and Auntie Shirley Pasco, for teaching me the meaning of bringing the aloha and mana of Kohala to wherever life may take me! Thank you to Lila-Victoria Fuertes; Kellin Kenji Matsuda; my mom and dad, Jocelin and Kell Matsuda, for all your late nights of practice and belief in me. "I could not have done this without all of your help, love and support!"

Kell and Jocelin Matsuda attended the FFA Nationals and were so proud to be there. They would like to thank the community of Kohala who have supported Camille and Kenneth on this once in a lifetime opportunity to represent not only Kohala but the State of Hawaii at the 2022 National FFA Convention. Camille and Kenneth were able to help the Hawai'i delegation of 15 FFA members from McKinley High School, Waipahu High School and Waipahu Intermediate School bring the mana of Hawai'i when they led the Hawai'i group in an oli called "E Ala E," which means "Arise and Awaken." Every morning they started off the daily event by chanting E Ala E.... It is so amazing to have our future leaders from Kohala light the passion within FFA members from across the United States to be ... Future Strong!! Kell and Jocelin Matsuda shared that it was a chicken skin moment to all who witnessed these 15 individuals come together to welcome the sun on a new day of agriculture every day that they were there in Indiana! They would like to thank Camille and KK for allowing them to witness this once-in-a-lifetime experience with them!

We are so proud of you, and we can't wait to see how you both change the world and achieve your dreams. Keep up the great work!"

This month (just prior to the KMN print date), the Kohala FFA Chapter hosted the District competition for the island of Hawai'i! Good luck to all our Kohala FFA members!

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Pool, from Page 1

Unfortunately, at the beginning of the 2023 new issues arose regarding the newly purchased replacement pump. We are currently working to come up with an effective solution to these challenges. Throughout all these actions and challenges, Friends of Kohala Pool continues to operate within the scope of our original budget. As we move closer to our goal, we will continue to finance this ongoing process with the funds that have been already donated. Below is a list of our 2022 expenditures:

New pump and connecting hardware, \$9,633.79.

Plumbing line snaking and scoping, \$273.80.

Holding tank repair materials, \$949.49.

Supplies for our Fourth of July plate lunch fundraiser (217 plates of kalua pork, etc.), \$700.

Fee to North Kohala Resource Center for processing donations: \$2,342.00.

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$13,899.08

For almost 50 years, the Kohala Pool has been an integral part of our community, providing recreational, instructional, therapeutic and social opportunities for both residents and visitors of all ages. Its absence has been a hardship on many. We look forward to the day when it will once again provide these varied opportunities for the entire community.

Friends of Kohala Pool thanks the generous people of Kohala and beyond for their patience and generous support of our efforts to get the pool re-opened.

In addition to every financial contributor, Friends of Kohala Pool extends our mahalo to the volunteers for their donations of time and labor.

North Kohala Community Development Plan Advisory Group

DATE: Wednesday, January 25, 2023
TIME: 5:00 pm
PLACE: Kohala Intergenerational Center, Kamehameha Park Road, Kapa'au, HI 96755

AGENDA

REPORTS and OTHER PRESENTATIONS

- Subcommittee Reports
- Community Access
- Parks, Water, and Roads
- Utilities
- Affordable Housing
- Growth Management
- Agriculture
- Health and Wellness

BUSINESS:

Our status with the Planning Department.
Discuss how our new informal status is received.
Officers and Membership. January is the month for officer selection and the official beginning of 2-year terms of office.
Sub-group structures. Review/amend the final set of sub-groups.

'Ōlelo Hawai'i for Ianuali (January) Koholā (Humpback Whale)

By Jesse Lucas

Hau'oli Makahiki Hou! (Happy New Year!)

A great way to start the new year is to go for a hele wawae mamao (hike) along our nani kapakai o Kohala (beautiful Kohala coast).

While on your walk, scan the ocean for nā koholā (humpback whales). You might see koholā breaching out of the kai (ocean) or `au (swimming) with their keiki (child). What a kupanaha (wonderful) sight to see, a makua (parent) and keiki playing in the ocean together. Pōmaika'i (good luck) bearing witness to these incredible kumākahiki malihini (yearly visitors).

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HĀMĀKUA-KOHALA HEALTH

Letters

Cyclist Safety

Aloha to the Kohala Community,

From recent trips to Keokea during December, I noticed a tour group sending groups of bicyclists from Kapa'au to Pololū, thinking it is a back road and safe for their riders. Everyone I talk to disagrees, except the nice guide from Backroad Tours. She feels the road is safe and they do worse roads. She told me that the company talked to community members, they've been doing this for years, and they do a safety briefing for their riders.

Residents know the road to Pololū and the Kohala Mountain

Road are our main roads, which are narrow, winding with some blind curves, have minimal shoulders, and some areas have steep drop offs and no guardrails. The cliffs drop rocks, and it gets more challenging in the rain. These are roads we drive with caution. Encountering groups of cyclists is not safe and causes stress for some people who regularly use these roads.

A friend said Backroad Tours sends groups down Napo'opo'o Road where she lives, and when community members asked them to stop this dangerous practice, they would not.

I met with Cindy Evans, who agrees with me about this safety problem. She will be checking with the Department of Transportation's safety office to see what guidelines the county has in place. I believe we need to be proactive to keep our community first, especially in issues of safety. I welcome your feedback on this, as I feel allowing bike tour groups on these roads is not in the best interests of Kohala. We need to put Community First.

Thank you,
Ranee Golden
rgdfly@msn.com

Hawai'i State House of Representatives Update

From the Desk of District 7 Representative David Tarnas

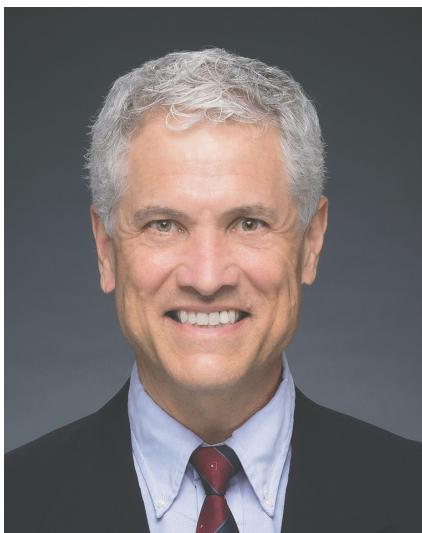


Photo courtesy of David Tarnas
Representative David Tarnas speaks for North Kohala as a member of the Hawai'i State House of Representatives.

Aloha and Happy New Year! I hope that 2023 will be a good year for all of us.

The 2023 legislative session is from January 18 until May 4. During this session, the House is focusing on top-priority issues, such as increasing support for more affordable housing, improving access to mental health services, improving management of our tourism industry to reduce negative impacts on the community and environment, increasing support for natural resource management, and taking substantive steps to improve public trust in government.

As Chair of the House Committee on the Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs, some of the priority bills that will be referred to the Committee will include all the recommendations of the Commission to Improve Standards of Conduct, which was formed by the House to address concerns about public corruption and improve transparency in the legislative process. The purpose of the Commission was to review

all existing state laws and rules relating to standards of conduct of public officers and employees; ensure those state laws and rules contain clear standards, enforcement, and penalties; and provide recommendations to further the goals of the Code of Ethics, lobbying laws, campaign finance laws, and other applicable laws and rules that will increase awareness of, compliance with, and deterrent effects of those laws and rules.

There were over thirty recommendations in the final report to improve the areas of ethics, campaign finance, open meetings, and fraud and criminal prosecution laws. Among the bills that are being considered are ones to increase reporting by lobbyists, limit cash campaign contributions, increase fines for violations of campaign finance laws, increase regulation of certain political action committees, and establish term limits for legislators.

Another major area of work for the Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs (JHA) Committee will be to consider bills which would establish a statewide standard for the requirements for citizens to obtain a concealed carry gun permit, as well as the sensitive places where concealed carry guns would not be allowed.

You have probably read in the local press about the Hawai'i County Police Department developing a process for people to obtain a concealed carry gun permit.

All the other county governments in the State are doing the same. The bill would establish a statewide standard for all Hawai'i residents to follow.

Another issue that will be the subject of legislation considered by the JHA Committee relate to protecting a woman's right to make her own reproductive health care decisions with her health care provider.

This is needed to respond to a

recent U.S. Supreme Court decision which overturned Roe v. Wade and gave states full authority to restrict access to reproductive health care services. Related bills would also include protecting local healthcare professionals who provide care to out-of-state residents who seek their services while visiting Hawai'i.

In addition to these important issues, the JHA Committee will work with the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) to make sure they have the capacity to spend the \$600 million the legislature appropriated to them last session to provide housing to those who are on the waiting list.

The new DHHL leadership is reviewing the spending plan produced by the previous administration and adjusting it to make sure they can achieve this important goal for the DHHL beneficiaries.

The JHA Committee is also working with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) on their legislative proposals including their \$3 million budget request to support beneficiary services.

In addition to the DHHL and OHA budgets, the JHA Committee will also be responsible to review and advise the Finance Committee on the budgets for the Judiciary, the Attorney General, and the Department of Law Enforcement.

There's not enough room in this article to cover the many other bills relating to a wide variety of subjects that will be working their way through legislative committees this session.

Please visit www.capitol.hawaii.gov to find out more about all the bills being considered.

If you have questions or need assistance, please contact my office at 808-586-8510 or email me at reptarnas@capitol.hawaii.gov.

I am grateful to continue serving as your State Representative and look forward to hearing from you. Mahalo!

Future KMN Deadlines

It's important for the Kohala Mountain News to receive ads and news submissions by the following deadlines. Otherwise, submissions may not be accommodated.

February Deadlines
Ads and News: 2/10/23
Calendar: 2/17/23
Distribution: 2/24/23

March Deadlines
Ads and News: 3/10/23
Calendar: 3/17/23
Distribution: 3/24/23

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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January Contributors

Eila Algood, Lani Bowman, Nate Cariaga, Cindy Evans, Friends of Kohala Pool, Joey Gamiao, Randee Golden, Lara Hook, 'Ekela Kahuanui, Amoo Ching Kainoa, April Lee, Jesse Lucas, Wendy Noritake, 'Ohana Niu, Ann Padilla, Beth Thoma Robinson, Brenda Swan, David Tarnas, Audrey Veloria, Diann Wilson, John Winter, Rebecca Woods, Sadie Young, Sadie Young.

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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

County Council Update

From the Desk of District 9 Councilmember Cindy Evans



Councilmember Cindy Evans represents North Kohala as part of Hawai'i County Council District 9. (Courtesy Cindy Evans)

At the forefront this month.....
Housing

Let me start by saying, please share your thoughts and ideas on how to address the lack of supply for individuals and families who want to live in the community where they work, live in the community where they grew up, or live on the land they farm. I have some ideas. I am learning about the current regulations that impact housing supply. In addition, I am looking forward to the recommendations by the North Kohala committee that has formed to address affordable housing.

North Kohala Vacancy
Please consider applying for the Planning Commission. You can find details on the Hawai'i County website. The Planning Commissions' purpose is to advise the Mayor, Council and Planning Director in all matters concerning planning and land use matters; to review and

make recommendations regarding the General Plan, subdivision and zoning ordinances and other planning rules and regulations; to establish planning rules and regulations and to conduct public hearings. There are two (2) Planning Commissions in Hawai'i County; The Leeward Planning Commission covers the judicial districts of North Kohala, South Kohala, North Kona, and South Kona.

District Office
I am pleased to announce two locations in County Park and Recreation facilities. The Kapa'au office is located in the Judiciary Building adjacent to the Senior Center and Police Station (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday). The Waimea office is located in the Waimea Preservation Building, a small building at the lighted intersection adjacent to post office (Thursday). In February I will start

to have office hours in Waikoloa on the third Thursday of the month (except November and December) at the Waimea Community Association community room from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

What you know. I am learning from your experiences and am grateful for your sharing. I do not know what I do not know. This past month what has come up several times is the issue of bicycles on Kohala Mountain Road. Maui has dealt with this, and it is my intention to reach out and determine a path forward that will address highway safety. This is one example. Please tell me your concerns. Write, call, or schedule an appointment. We are here to represent District 9.

Phone number to call and share or schedule appointment is 808-961-8564. Email is Cindy.Evans@hawaiicounty.gov. Take care. Cindy

Kohala Hospital Welcomes New Food Services Manager

By Ann Padilla

Effective January 9, 2023, Kohala Hospital welcomed Christopher Pilanca as their new addition to their dietary team in the role of Institution Food Manager. In his new role, Pilanca will oversee and manage the kitchen and house menus for patients and staff. Pilanca will also work with other

departments to support the hospital in achieving its short-term and long-term objectives.

Before joining Kohala Hospital, Pilanca served six years as a cook and kitchen helper at Kona Community Hospital. During his time, he completed a course to become a Certified Dietary Manager. He also became a Certified Food Protection

Professional through the University of North Dakota, passing the national certifying board for the dietary manager.

Dietary management provides nutritional options for individuals with diet concerns through food service. This practice is essential in hospital settings where proper nutrition and diet are part of a

patient's treatment plan. Pilanca describes this as "healing with food." Pilanca said his vision in his new role at Kohala Hospital includes "providing new and exciting menu items for patients and staff." Another project Pilanca is excited to introduce is "farm to table," where ingredients are sourced from local farms.



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NKCRC Expands Its Staff and Responsibilities

By 'Ekela Kahuanui

It's official.... The North Kohala Community Resource Center (NKCRC) has grown in size!

While we continue the work we've done for the past 20 years to support many active community projects, we're excited to announce that we've added two new team members, Kathy Matsuda and Tiana Alcoran-Miyamoto, as well as additional responsibilities.

In addition to remaining at the Fukada Building, we now hold the lease for the former Kohala Village HUB property and plan to expand programs and manage the facility's rentals to help support the operating costs for the Resource Center. This community resource is called the Kohala Resilience Hub.

The Kohala Resilience Hub is part of an island-wide network designed to coordinate, collaborate and build a more connected and prepared community.

Kathy Matsuda has taken on the role of the Kohala Resilience Hub's



North Kohala Community Resource Center has added two new positions. (Left to right): Current Board Member and volunteer Ross Pagat is joined by new hires Kathy Matsuda, Kohala Resilience Hub Coordinator, and Tiana Alcoran-Miyamoto, Kohala Resilience Hub Facilities and Events Coordinator. ('Ekela Kahuanui)

Coordinator.

She will work to help Kohala people survive as well as thrive. This includes providing connections to services to help families

meet basic needs for health, wellness, and emergency preparedness.

Tiana Alcoran-Miyamoto is now the Resilience Hub's Facilities and

Events Coordinator. She will be servicing clients in need of spaces to hold events, meetings, classes, and programs. She will also coordinate community events such as the Night Market, Movie Night at the Barn, and annual holiday activities.

NKCRC would also like to acknowledge Ross Pagat, who's been instrumental in getting the attention of Vibrant Hawai'i.

While in his role as School Community Coordinator for Partners in Development, he facilitated the distribution of "Keiki Care Packs" and the helped develop first iteration of the Resilience Hub during the pandemic.

He remains as one of NKCRC's most valued volunteers and a dedicated board member.

Here's wishing everyone a healthy and vibrant makahiki hou!

For more information regarding programs and rentals, please call Kathy or Tiana at 808-889-5312 or email them at Tiana@northkohala.org or kathy@northkohala.org

Are You Prepared for the Next Emergency?

By John Winter

According to Civil Defense, Hawai'i Island experiences more types of disasters and weather threats than any other county in the United States. We are a big island with limited resources. North Kohala is particularly isolated from assistance and resources in an emergency.

Due to a limited number of emergency responders, everyone needs to do their part to help keep families and property safe and secure. We can make a difference by preparing in advance. It is important to know what we can expect, how to prepare, what resources are available and how to contact them. Don't get caught by surprise by the next earthquake, storm, flood, tsunami, fire, etc.

Here are a few things to consider:

- Develop a Family Emergency Plan that includes your special needs and pets. Exercise your plan (fire drill, evacuation drill, smoke detector test, check first aid kit, check evacuation kit, etc.)
- Know where your family will

meet if a disaster occurs.

- Check your smoke alarms. Replace old batteries and any alarm over 10 years old.

- Know where your local fire department, police station, emergency evacuation shelter and hospital are located.

- Have a list of emergency numbers near or stored in your telephone.

- Prepare your home for high winds, heavy rain and earthquakes. Know safe parts of your house or property to shelter. Know where your community emergency shelters are and local evacuation plans. For earthquake damage prevention, secure top-heavy and tall household items such as a water heater or TV to the wall or floor.

- Have at least two ABC-type fire extinguishers in your home. Shake fire extinguishers once a month to keep powder from clumping in the bottom.

- Learn how to safely turn off your electricity, propane tanks and water.

- Prepare by having at least 10 days of food, water and disaster

supplies ready, including special needs and pet care items. Have a Preparedness Kit, First Aid Kit and a Family Go-Bag.

- Consider a neighborhood emergency and communication plan. To what disasters is your neighborhood particularly vulnerable? Be aware of neighbors with special needs.

- Know your first responder resources. Did you know that North Kohala has a volunteer Community Emergency Response Team (NK-CERT) that is trained in disaster response and first aid?

CERT is a program managed by the Hawaii County Civil Defense Authority. CERT provides you with the knowledge and skills to prepare for and properly respond to an emergency. People who complete the free CERT training gain a clear understanding of the potential threats to their home, workplace, and community and more importantly know what steps need to be taken to properly respond to an emergency to reduce losses of life and property. NK-CERT is severely understaffed right now due to the

pandemic and loss of members due to age or leaving the area. Please consider joining NK-CERT as a service to your family, neighborhood and community. Training is free and you will receive an equipment backpack. There will be an Emergency Preparedness meeting on Thursday, February 9, at 5 p.m. in the Kohala Intergenerational Center to discuss these issues and more. If you are interested in how to be better prepared or if you wish to learn more about joining CERT, please attend.

An online training is available. CERT volunteers must take this, but anyone can participate at home without joining CERT. It is suggested that one person from each household take it so they will know what to do in an emergency and take care of their family.

Please call or email John Winter (808-854-5021, winterj@whitman.edu) or Kathy Matsuda (808-889-5312, kathy@northkohala.org) if you are interested in taking the online training (and/or a future CERT physical training and becoming a member of North Kohala CERT).

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The Nai'a of Māhukona



Dolphins playing with leaves. (Wendy Noritake)



Mama dolphin with baby and leaf. (Wendy Noritake)

By Wendy Noritake

If you swim or snorkel the bay at Māhukona on a regular basis, you're bound to encounter the most magnificent and intelligent creatures in the ocean. These are the dolphins, or "nai'a," as they are called in Hawai'i. The type most seen in our local waters are spinner dolphins, or odontocetes, belonging to the toothed whale family.

The first time I swam with spinner dolphins was on a scuba diving trip in March of 2002, many years before the current regulations protecting the dolphins of Hawai'i went into effect. We were having breakfast on deck of the Kona Aggressor live-aboard while anchored in Manuka Bay when spinner dolphins began leaping

out of the water. They were doing numerous rotations and gyrations before crashing into the ocean. The captain told us to jump in and make big splashing movements, which would draw their attention and make them come over to have a look. Sure enough, they swam to us, giving me the thrill of a lifetime. I witnessed a dolphin using its flipper to scratch the back of another dolphin directly below it. Others swam fast and close, squeaking as they went by. I was surprised and fascinated to see so much rubbing and stroking taking place between them.

In May of 2020, we had to park in Māhukona's upper dirt lot due to the COVID lockdown and walk to the wharf to swim. My buddy Helen

White Olsson and I found ourselves alone, not a person in sight. It was an eerie Monday morning, which normally held dozens of swimmers and their cars on the wharf. There were none when we arrived.

We decided to swim anyway. Off the wharf, not far into the bay, pods of spinner dolphins approached and surrounded us. The sleek, white and gray muscular bodies slowly came alongside, their beautiful small eyes looking directly at mine. These were resting dolphins who moved gently, only half the brain awake. They unhurriedly moved together in groups of twos or threes or as many as twenty-five or forty. Some made squeaky noises and others crackling sounds. They swam at all levels of the water

column. In total, there were at least one hundred dolphins.

After what seemed like an eternity in heaven, I became chilled and we swam away, not to disturb their "sleep." The only other human on the dock was Patti Ann Solomon, caretaker of Māhukona. She spoke excitedly because she hadn't seen so many dolphins in the bay in years. She explained that they were there because there were no people. As with so many lockdown stories of wild animals entering cities and towns because people weren't around, the dolphins felt free to come back and claim their resting spot.

As locals and tourists have

See Dolphins, Page 9

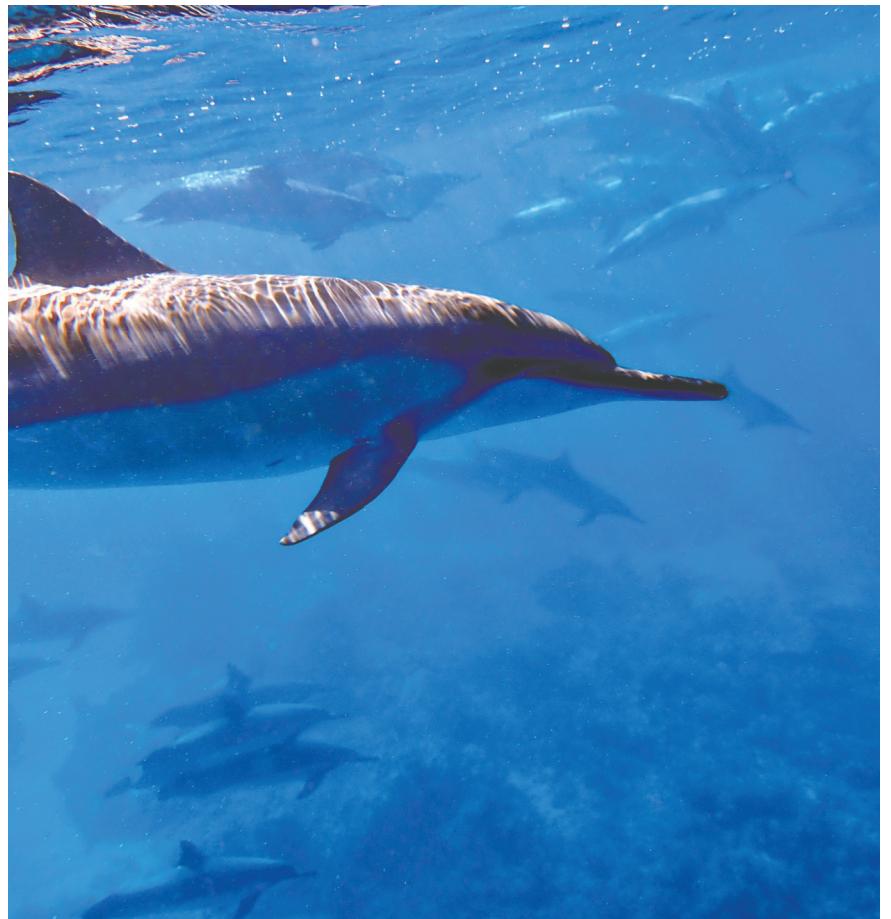
SUNSHINE HARDWARE "Ā'Ā" ILLUSTRATED BY KRISTI KRANZ

<p>LA, WAT'S COOKIN'?</p>	<p>I WAS THINKING OF BEING ONE "VOLUNTEER."</p>	<p>WAT IZ DAT?</p>	<p>U KNOW... HELP PEOPLE AND ORGANIZATIONS FOR FREE</p>
<p>GET PLENTY KŪPONO STUFFEEZ GOING ON AND I CAN KOKUA</p>	<p>KOHALA IS KE'ELE, BEING ONE 'Ā'Ā WILL MAKE IT EVEN BETTER!</p>	<p>BECOME ONE 'Ā'Ā! YOU'LL FEEL MAIKA'I AND KOKUA OTHERS, TOO</p>	<p>DAT'S HAU!</p> <p>SUNSHINE TRUE VALUE HARDWARE KALA CORP</p>

Dolphins, from Page 8



Dolphins eyeing author. (Wendy Noritake)



Dolphin rear guard. (Wendy Noritake)

since flocked back to the wharf, I'm happy to say I can still find dolphins surrounding me unexpectedly. Usually, they are sprinting past, hurriedly on their way somewhere. I've noticed that they tend to come in groups or waves. One pod may swim past, and a few minutes later, another group will appear. I've had up to four pods swim by, but in far smaller numbers than two years ago.

I've often observed a large pod of 25 or 30 often consisting of all sizes of dolphins including their babies, with at least one dolphin trailing behind. This dolphin seems

to be rounding up stragglers or getting the juveniles who were off playing games back in line. These rear guards often come over to check me out, making sure that I'm not doing something I shouldn't be.

As a free diver, I take the snorkel out of my mouth to avoid an accidental intake of water, and this allows me to smile while diving. Swimming over our reefs, I can't help but grin at the schools of yellow tangs, goldring surgeonfish, and Moorish idols, who let me swim with them and don't seem afraid at all. This is when I truly feel like a fish. The dolphins, which are mam-

mals, are no exception. They swim over to see a smiling face, or maybe it's my teeth that intrigues them. They sweep in close and look at me, usually from one eye, perhaps wondering what a strange being is this in the water with them.

Recently, a large pod of dolphins approached three of us swimming at Māhukona. There were all sizes of them including babies. A number of nai'a had a yellow-orange leaf on their flippers. They dropped the leaf by leaning to one side. Meanwhile, from behind, another dolphin picked it up with a flipper or nose and sprinted away. These dolphins

were obviously not resting or sleeping, but quite active as they moved like professional basketball players, fast and precise. It was a pleasure to witness this sporting event. Even the babies were in on the fun. Later, I saw a video where dolphins were playing a similar game of catch, but with a plastic bag.

Why do spinner dolphins spin? No one really knows. It's believed that they do this to communicate with each other or to remove irritating remoras (sucker fish) or parasites. Maybe they're just having fun. Since dolphins hunt at night in the

See Dolphins, Page 10

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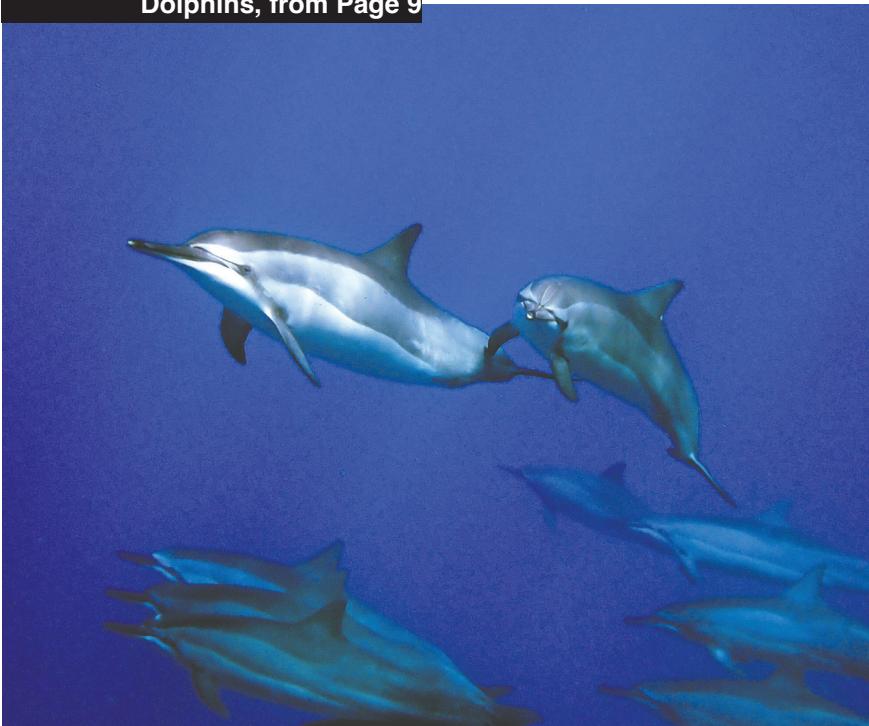
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Dolphins, from Page 9



Dolphins eyeing author. (Wendy Noritake)

deep ocean for squid and fish, they may use the spinning along with echolocation to keep each other apprised of where they are or where the food is.

The spinning begins under the water with a couple of turns, but once they break the surface, they can do as many as seven rotations. We are lucky whenever we see them at Māhukona because this species is the only one that spins.

Our spinner dolphins are agile, charismatic, communicative, graceful, and smart. They seem to lure groups of tourists and individuals who want to see and swim with them. However, their numbers are threatened, mostly due to intrusions to their resting habitat, people in the water, or heavier vessel traffic in harbors and channels. It is up to us to protect and keep the nai'a safe and healthy by allowing them to adequately rest undisturbed by humans.

Since September 28, 2021, it is against the law to approach a dolphin in the water. Our spinner dolphins are coastal creatures who hunt and feed at night in the open and deep waters at sea and then come to rest in the nearshore waters in the mornings and during the day.

The bottlenose dolphins (like Flipper) tend to live in deeper water farther from the shoreline.

As with all wild animals, they need their energy to hunt and to care for their young. They shouldn't have to defend their pods or be chased and harassed by hordes of boats (commercial and recreational), kayakers, paddleboarders, swimmers, and drones. The spinner dolphin's natural enemy or predator is the shark. Disturbing the nai'a resting site increases their exposure to sharks.

Under this Marine Mammal Protection Act, we cannot be within 50 yards (150 feet) of a dolphin or pod. If approached by the nai'a, we must leave them alone as we move slowly away, allowing them to pass. NOAA Fisheries are proposing to establish area closures during times when the spinner dolphins are resting in their usual habitats.

This regulation already restricts some areas between 6 a.m. and 3 p.m. daily such as parts of Kealahou, Honaunau, Kauhako (Ho'okena), and Makako Bays on Hawai'i Island. We can report violations and emergencies to: NOAA Marine Wildlife Emergency Response Hotline: (888) 256-9840. The best number for all protected marine wildlife emergencies and enforcement is Option 6 on the hotline.

May we all be good caretakers of Māhukona and the nai'a - in remembrance of Patti Ann Solomon.

Local Photographer Shows Work



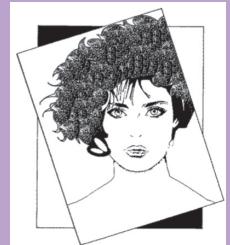
Local artist Donna Maltz discusses her artwork at her recent show at the Kohala Artists Cooperative. "Inspired by Nature" was attended by over 40 local art lovers, who were treated to delicious pupus and a reading by Donna from one of her inspirational books. (Diann Wilson)



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Artwork by Susan Grant



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A Solution from the Heart: Kin's Domains

By Joey Gamino and Rebecca Woods

We need more housing for the residents of Kohala! We also need to be eating more locally grown food. One solution is a "Kin's Domain." A Kin's Domain is a homestead site where a family plants a living fence of trees and bushes around the perimeter. Inside their Domain, they install a pond; plant food forests, orchards, flower and vegetable gardens; build a house; and keep bees and animals, all with the intention of passing this land down to future generations. They use organic gardening methods and manage water, energy, and waste in sustainable, innovative ways.

Families who create Kin's Domains are focused on healthy lifestyles and ensuring the best possible future for their children. When each family actively reconnects with the land and regenerates the earth, the world will be transformed into a prosperous, beautiful place to live. There are already hundreds of Kin's-Domain-type settlements throughout the world, with many families living self-sufficiently. Kin's Domains address all 17 of the UN Sustainable Development Goals while requiring minimal financial resources or external inputs.

We believe this is a viable way for communities to support their

people in acquiring land for the establishment of Kin's Domains, and we want to share this idea with the world. We created 'Ohana Niu in 2021 as a 508(c)(1)(A) organization with the intention of creating food and housing security for the people of Kohala while honoring the sacredness of the land and the people. In October of 2022, 'Ohana Niu started a petition asking residents if they would support the creation of Kin's Domains in Kohala. Over 150 people agreed that this could be a practical solution to the food and housing crisis we are currently facing here.

Most signatures were gathered at the Hawi Saturday Farmers Market and the Free Fruit and Seed Share at St. Augustine's on Wednesdays. Kin's Domains can address the CDP goal for Kohala to supply at least 50 percent of its own food. Additionally, the low density of homes surrounded by orchards and gardens will also ensure we keep Kohala, Kohala.

We are happy to announce that 'Ohana Niu is now partnered with the North Kohala Community Resource Center and we look forward to future collaborations. To learn more about the work we are doing to create food and housing security in Kohala, scan the QR code with your camera or visit our

website: <https://ohana-niu.square.site>. We are interested in connecting with partners who share this vision and want to make it happen.

To contact us directly, please email hawaiiicoconutfamily@protonmail.com. Mahalo, we look forward to working with you.



The 'Ohana Niu organization strives to create food and housing security of Kohala. Part of their efforts include free fruit and seed share. ('Ohana Niu)

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Santa's Elves Visit Kohala Hospital for Healing Merriment



Santa's elves visit Albert Santiago and others at Kohala Hospital for healing merriment. (April Lee)

By Reverend April Lee

"Merry Christmas to ALL"...

That was the theme when singers from The Temple of Spiritual Healing and Education took to the streets of Kapa'au on Sunday, December 18, for our second year of Christmas caroling and sharing treats with our North Kohala Community.

The singers first stop was to serenade our fire fighters and policemen. As Nick Meyers and his wife Jennifer said, "We love visiting the police officers and firemen. We are not professional singers, but they love us. The firemen joined in singing louder than we did."

Then we visited the homes of some shut-in residents who appreciated our merry band. At the North Kohala Hospital, the hospital staff was very gracious and welcoming. They organized having the patients

in the activities room. Singer Nancy Clements did antics that put smiles on their faces. The accompanying photo is especially poignant... Albert Santiago had been glum about losing the lower half of his leg. Her delightful spirit and "genuine elf" suit brought him into a Christmas joy he shows here.

Susan Mitnick has healing in her songbird voice. I felt the church choir participation of my youth thrilling me again. I told them, "We can't wait until next year when we see you again." We have been back since the caroling. If you have time to visit there, your spirit of sharing your love will be very appreciated. Check the website for the hours and protocols here: www.kohala.hhsc.org Be sure to mālama the hospital staff, they deserve it.

"...and to all, a good night." - Lyrics by Ron A. Frame

WEEKLY EVENTS IN FEBRUARY 2023					
DAY	START	END	EVENT	VENUE	CONTACT
M-S	7AM	8AM	AA DAWN PATROL	ZOOM	889-5675
M-S	8:30AM		NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS	RAINBOW CAFE	
MON	9AM		SENIOR CLUB @ CIVIC CENTER	KOHALASENIORS@GMAIL.COM	
	10AM	3PM	BIG ISLAND SUBSTANCE ABUSE COUNCIL	THE HUB	969-9994 X860
AL ANON MEETINGS ON ZOOM HTTPS://WWW.AL-ANONHAWAII.ORG/MEETING-SCHEDULES					
TUE	8AM	9AM	NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS	KAMEHAMEHA PARK NEAR SKATE PARK	805-452-9501
	8AM	9AM	TAI CHI WITH PETER BEEMER	OUTSIDE HISAOKA GYM	895-0737
	8AM		YOGA/PILATES BEGINNER CLASS	CALL FOR LOCATION	333-8275
	4:30PM	6PM	BELLY DANCE FITNESS	CALL FOR LOCATION	238-6111
	5:30PM	7PM	PICKLE BALL	HISAOKA GYM	333-8712
	6PM	8PM	TABLE TENNIS/PING PONG	OLD COURT HOUSE	889-1099
	6PM	7PM	FREE RMD TAIKO CLASSES	WALKER HALL	895-2025
WED	10AM		STORY TIME	NK PUBLIC LIBRARY	889-6655
	12PM	3PM	THRIFT SHOP	ST AUGUSTINE'S	889-5390
	2PM	4PM	OPEN GUIDED ART STUDIO	ARTISTS' CO-OP	960-3597
	3:30 PM	4:30PM	RMD TAIKO CLASSES (NOT 1ST WED)	HUB HALE	889-0404 EXT. 104
	4:30PM		KOHALA CARES FOOD DRIVE	HUB PARKING LOT	ALOHAPETER@YAHOO.COM
	6PM	7:30PM	SEIBUKAN KARATE ACADEMY	HISAOKA GYM	889-1828
	7PM		SPIRITUAL HEALING SERVICE	54-3876 AKONI PULE STE 4	989-5995
	7PM		ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS	WYLIE HALL, 'IOLE	889-6703
THU	8AM	5PM	COMMUNITY HARVEST	DRAGON HEART FARM	
	8AM		YOGA/PILATES BEGINNER CLASS	CALL FOR LOCATION	333-8275
	9AM	10:15PM	HEALING CIRCLE FOR ADDICTS	NANI'S GARDEN	805-452-9501
	4PM	6PM	THRIFT SHOP	ST AUGUSTINE'S	889-5390
	5:30PM	7PM	PICKLE BALL	HISAOKA GYM	333-8712
	6PM	8PM	TABLE TENNIS/PING PONG	OLD COURT HOUSE	889-1099
FRI	8AM		NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS MEETING	WILEY HALL ON IOLE	805-452-9501
	8AM	9AM	TAI CHI WITH PETER BEEMER	OUTSIDE HISAOKA GYM	895-0737
	10AM	3PM	BIG ISLAND SUBSTANCE ABUSE COUNCIL	THE HUB	969-9994 X860
SAT	8AM	12PM	FARMERS MARKET	THE HUB	313-338-7090
	10AM	11PM	FREE GOLF LESSONS	NORTH KOHALA GOLF PARK	KOHALAGOLF@GMAIL.COM
SUN	8AM		YOGA/PILATES BEGINNER CLASS	CALL FOR LOCATION	333-8275
	6PM	7PM	SEIBUKAN KARATE ACADEMY	HISAOKA GYM	889-1828
	7PM	8PM	RECOVERY DHARMA MEETING	HUB BARN	805-452-9501

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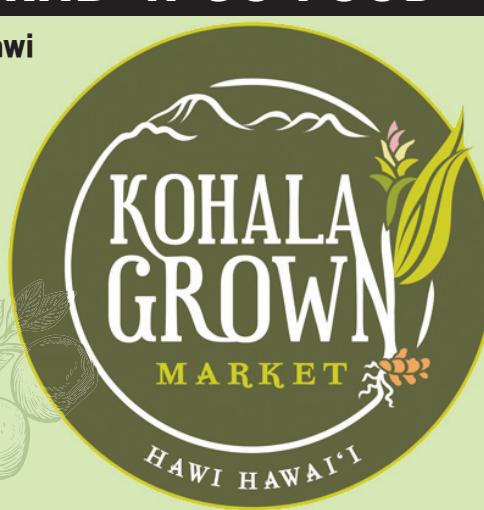
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MAHALO MAHALO MAHALO

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*me ka hakahaka,
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Ultra-Distance Runner Completes 260-Mile Race Around Big Island



Ultra-distance runner Lumin Zhong stops for hydration/nourishment set out by Dave Young (pictured) and his wife Sadie Young. Zhong completed the 260-mile Go Big footrace around the Big Island on January 3, 2023. (Sadie Young)

By Sadie Young

Lumin Zhong, a 24-year-old young man from China, was on the Big Island recently to run in the Go Big 260-mile footrace around the island. It began in Hilo on Saturday, December 31, at 5:00 a.m. and ended four days later at the same time.

I saw a request in Facebook for anyone willing to help in the different districts as, due to speaking little English, he hadn't understood it was a "support yourself" venture. Other runners had one to three vehicles for aid and support the entire distance.

Our island aloha really came through with folks putting out hydration and snacks every four miles and handing off his gear to someone from the next area.

He was expected to reach Kohala on Monday. Three of us offered to assist – Kenneth Yamashita Jussame to meet him in Hāwī town with hydration/snacks, my husband and myself at our place above Hāwī on the Mountain Road, and a third who offered whatever was needed. We were unable to get in touch with the third volunteer to confirm assistance that day.

Kenneth and his family stepped up, going to Kawaihae to pick up Lumin's gear and meeting Lumin and those who had assisted him through the Kona to Spencer Park stretch.

David Young, my husband, and

I prepared and put out nine hydration/snack stations from Kohala Ranch along the coast, up Kynnersley and over Kohala Mountain Road to upper Kohala Ranch, where his Waimea host left drops.

Lumin's headlamp was losing power and he wasn't able to locate the drop in the dark at the 15-mile marker out of Hāwī. Kenneth went out with supplies and a charged battery. He planned to stay up past midnight, when Lumin was expected to arrive in Hāwī.

We made a few more drops, to be safe, and met up with Lumin at the 19-mile marker out of Hāwī, where he was standing with a nice couple. They had stopped after recognizing him from my Facebook posts and shared needed hydration and snacks.

We were concerned about his run all night over the Mountain Road and made drops every two, rather than every four, miles. Good thing, as the next day we noted that some of the snacks had been ripped open and eaten by critters.

We were relieved to hear he was located by his next helper a few miles from Kohala Ranch at around 3 a.m. He continued the rest of his journey, running day and night, to make it to Hilo a half hour before the cut-off time, which meant running alone through the big gulches on the highway in the dark.

What a trooper; what island aloha!

The Call By Eila Algood

It was late
It was dark
When she called

I went; we went
To see her from afar

Excitement bubbled out
Like a freshly opened
Bottle of sparkling water

It was later
It was darker
The next call

I went; we went
Hours of traffic
To get close to her

Exuberance gushed
Like water from
A broken gutter
During a rainstorm

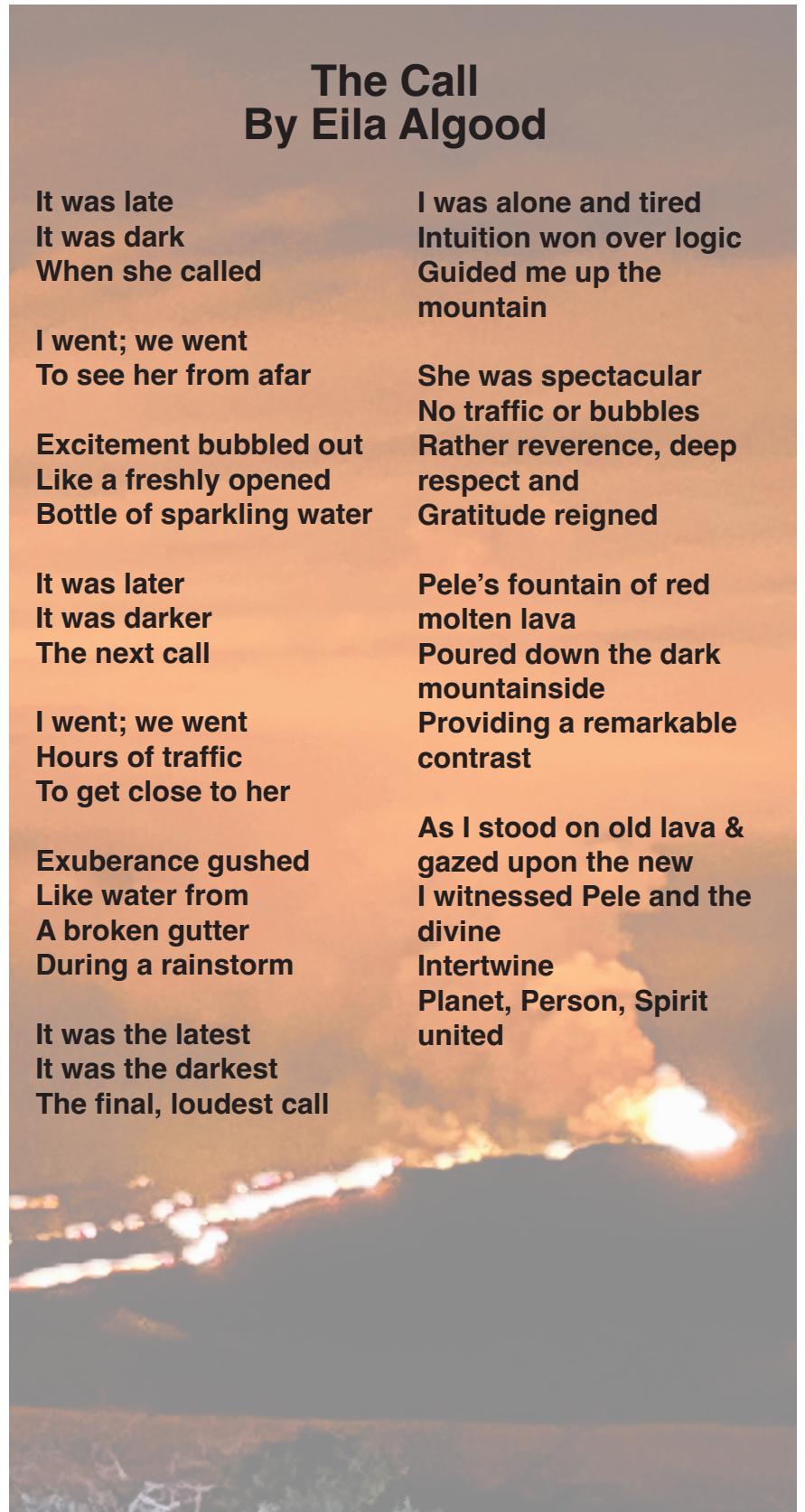
It was the latest
It was the darkest
The final, loudest call

I was alone and tired
Intuition won over logic
Guided me up the
mountain

She was spectacular
No traffic or bubbles
Rather reverence, deep
respect and
Gratitude reigned

Pele's fountain of red
molten lava
Poured down the dark
mountainside
Providing a remarkable
contrast

As I stood on old lava &
gazed upon the new
I witnessed Pele and the
divine
Intertwine
Planet, Person, Spirit
united



Lava flows from a heart-shaped origin. (Eila Algood)

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FB livestream at 9:00 AM
Vicar Jennifer Masada presiding
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Service 7 PM
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(Kapaau Vet Bldg behind Ackerman Gallery)
Rev. Lee 808-889-5505

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Sunday 7 a.m. • 9:30 am
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Adoration: 1st Friday 6:30 - 7:30 pm
Rev Elias Escanilla
Telephone 808-889-6436

**KOHALA HONGWANJI
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February Service
Sunday, Feb. 19, 10:00 am
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† Prayer time Tuesdays at 11:30
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Kapa'au 1/4 mile past the statue
www.kalahikiolacc.com
info@kalahikiolacc.com

Kohala Girls Basketball v. Honoka'a

On January 10, the Kohala Cowgirls Varsity Basketball team nearly prevailed in a tight game against the Honoka'a High School Dragons. Final score 40-38, Honoka'a.



Camille Fuentes (13) protects the ball and plans her next move while teammate Halia Perez-Bobek (12) moves in to assist. (Nate Cariaga)



Kailani Valenzuela-Conte drives past the Dragons' defender. (Nate Cariaga)

KHS Alumni Records Available

By Brenda Swan

Kohala High School has consolidated cumulative school records for students that attended between 1981 and 1990. To pick up your original copy of cumulative records, which may include medical records, school picture, an unoffi-

cial transcript and graduation information, please call Maile Akamu at (808) 313-6701 between 7:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. The deadline to schedule a pick up is Friday, March 3. All records will be destroyed shortly thereafter.



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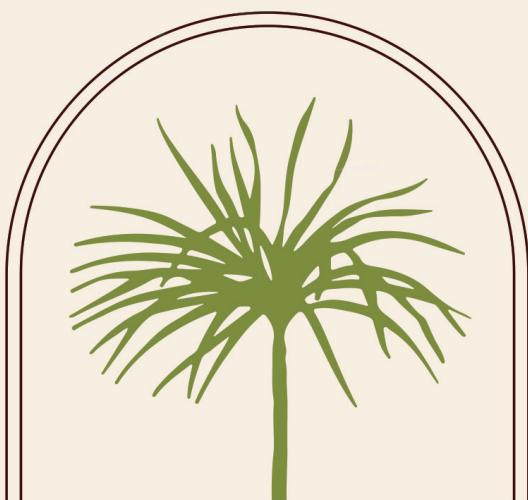
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MONTHLY CALENDAR FEBRUARY 2023

DATE	DAY	START	END	EVENT	DESCRIPTION	VENUE	PHONE (ADD 808)
1/28	SAT	8:00 AM	1:00 PM	MALAMA I KE KAI	COMMUNITY BEACH CLEAN UP	MAHUKONA	443 8361
1/29	SUN	8:00 AM	3:00 PM	MALAMA I KE KAI	COMMUNITY BEACH CLEAN UP	KEOKEA	443 8361
2/1	WED	2:00PM	3:00PM	LEGO CLUB	KIDS CAN GET CREATIVE WITH LEGOS!	NK PUBLIC LIBRARY	889-6655
2/1	WED	4:00 PM	7:00 PM	KOHALA NIGHT MARKET	VENDORS & ENTERTAINMENT	HUB MURAL	
2/1	WED	4:30 PM		CDP	KOHALA COMMUNITY ACCESS GROUP	THE HUB	IMUAKOHALA@GMAIL.COM
2/1	WED	7:00 PM		TEMPLE OF SPIRITUAL HEALING	GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP	54-3876 AKONI PULE STE 4	989-5995
2/2	THU	4:30 PM		CDP	AGRICULTURE SUB-COMMITEE	THE HUB	IMUAKOHALA@GMAIL.COM
2/4	SAT	8:00 AM	1:00 PM	KOHALA COMMUNITY FARMER'S MARKET		KAMEHAMEHA PARK	225-3666
2/4	SAT	8:00 AM	11:00 AM	FILL A BAG	THRIFT SHOP	ST AUGUSTINE'S	889-5390
2/4	SAT	6:00 PM	8:00 PM	ART SHOW OPENING NIGHT	ME, WE AND THEE BY CATALINA CAIN	ARTISTS' COOPERATIVE	854 1058
2/6	MON	5:00PM	6:30PM	CHESS CLUB	BEGINNERS AND VETERAN PLAYERS WELCOME!	NK PUBLIC LIBRARY	889-6655
2/8	MON	1:30PM	2:30PM	ALGEBRA TUTOR	BRUSH UP ON MATH SKILLS? A TUTOR CAN HELP!	NK PUBLIC LIBRARY	889-6655
2/8	WED	5:00 PM		CDP	GROWTH MANAGEMENT GROUP	INTERGENERATIONAL CENTER	IMUAKOHALA@GMAIL.COM
2/9	THU	2:30PM	3:30PM	SIGN LANGUAGE CLASSES	ALL EXPERIENCE LEVELS WELCOME.	NK PUBLIC LIBRARY	889-6655
2/9	THU	5:00 PM		EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS MEETING	CERT	INTERGENERATIONAL CENTER	854-5021
2/13	MON	5:30PM	6:30PM	TALK STORY: HAWAIIAN LUNAR CALENDAR	EXPLORE THE HAWAIIAN LUNAR CALENDAR!	NK PUBLIC LIBRARY	889-6655
2/14	TUE	11:00AM	12:00AM	BOOK CLUB	JOIN THE DISCUSSION OF THE NIGHT WATCHMAN BY LOUISE ERDRICH	NK PUBLIC LIBRARY	889-6655
2/14	TUE	6:00 PM		HAWAII FARMERS UNION UNITED	FACEBOOK.COM/KOHALACHAPTERHFUU/	THE HUB	KOHALA.HFUU@GMAIL.COM
2/15	WED	2:00PM	3:00PM	LEGO CLUB	KIDS CAN GET CREATIVE WITH LEGOS!	NK PUBLIC LIBRARY	889-6655
2/15	WED	3:30 PM		CDP	UTILITIES GROUP	INTERGENERATIONAL CENTER	IMUAKOHALA@GMAIL.COM
2/15	WED	5:00 PM		CDP	PARKS, WATER ROADS GROUP MEETING	INTERGENERATIONAL CENTER	IMUAKOHALA@GMAIL.COM
2/16	THU	9:00 AM	11:00 AM	SACRED HEART FOOD BASKET		SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH	889-5115
2/17	FRI	5:00 PM		CDP	HEALTH & WELLNESS GROUP	THE HUB	IMUAKOHALA@GMAIL.COM
2/17	MON	5:30PM	6:30PM	JEWELRY CLASS	JEWELRY MAKING FOR ADULTS. RSVP REQUIRED.	NK PUBLIC LIBRARY	889-6655
2/18	SAT	8:00 AM	1:00 PM	KOHALA COMMUNITY FARMER'S MARKET		KAMEHAMEHA PARK	225-3666
2/22	MON	1:30PM	2:30PM	ALGEBRA TUTOR	BRUSH UP ON MATH SKILLS? A TUTOR CAN HELP!	NK PUBLIC LIBRARY	889-6655
2/22	WED	4:00 PM		RESTORATIVE YOGA THERAPY CLASS	WITH CARLA ORELLANA - BY REQUEST	CALL FOR LOCATION	238-6111
2/22	WED	5:00 PM		CDP	ADVISORY GROUP MEETING	INTERGENERATIONAL CENTER	IMUAKOHALA@GMAIL.COM
2/23	THU	2:30PM	3:30PM	SIGN LANGUAGE CLASSES	ALL EXPERIENCE LEVELS WELCOME.	NK PUBLIC LIBRARY	889-6655
2/27	MON	2:00PM	3:00PM	JEWELRY CLASS	JEWELRY MAKING FOR ADULTS. RSVP REQUIRED.	NK PUBLIC LIBRARY	889-6655

Email monthly calendar listings to: kohalacalendar@gmail.com



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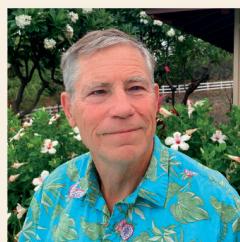
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Olena Gallery Features Local Artwork



Camille Dugan works on some of her sea glass jewelry pieces in the 'Olena Gallery studio.



Dirk Lummerzheim, Linda Watson and Jill Backus in the new 'Olena Gallery in Hāwī.

By Diann Wilson

There is a new art gallery in Kohala, that is giving local artists a chance to collectively show their works in an updated space. Olena Gallery opened for business on November 4, 2022 and has been quite a success.

The artist owned gallery is the brainchild of six North Kohala residents, who originally met as members of the local artist cooperative. When the old Wishard Gallery closed, the six seized the opportunity to open their own unique gallery in that space.

Their primary goal was to not only show and sell their own art, but to provide a forum where talented local artists could show and sell their work.

The owners are Linda and Mike Watson of Kapaau, Brian and Camille Dugan of Kapa'au, and Jill

Backus and Dirk Lummerzheim of Makapāla. Linda creates and displays Hawaiian-themed tableware. Mike creates carved wall sculptures. Brian's specialty is fused glass plates, wall art and jewelry. Camille specializes in paintings and jewelry. Jill adds pottery and ceramic sculptures to the mix. Dirk serves as business manager.

The group had to move quickly when the property at the intersection of Akoni Pule Highway and Hāwī Rd became available in October of last year. The artists worked relentlessly to remodel the interior of the space while also creating more of their art to display.

When brainstorming a name for the new gallery, the six considered several ideas. Because their focus was on local artists, they wanted a Hawaiian name. The group decided on 'Olena, which is Hawaiian for

turmeric. Local artist Susan Grant designed and painted the gallery sign which is in front of the building.

'Olena gallery has many unique characteristics. The building is also Brian Dugan's glass studio, where he can be found creating various sized small glass trays and jewelry. In addition to the creations of the owners, they feature art from only other Big Island artists. These guest artists are all known to the owners, so the gallery owners are well-informed about all the work that is on display. And, while many art galleries have just paintings, this one has a large variety of all handmade items ranging from greeting cards to bowls, vases, jewelry, pottery and wall art.

Other North Kohala artists whose work is on display in the gallery include Ella Boyle, Susan Grant,

Kristen Jorden, Carolyn Lanchester, Melody Moore, Kimi Vaka'uta, Keith Wallis and Helen White. Their work includes paintings, drawings, art prints, wall hangings, cards and ceramic wall art.

Olena Gallery is open seven days a week from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Staffed only by the owners, customers are sure to find a knowledgeable person to show them around. In addition to the art on display, custom pieces can be created for all who are interested.

'Olena Gallery is at 55-498 Hāwī Road with the entrance on Akoni Pule Highway. They can be contacted through olenagalleryhawi@gmail.com and are on Instagram at @olenagallery.4636. They are actively looking for additional artists and encourage those who are interested to stop by with pictures of their work during gallery hours.

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