

Vol. 22, No. 04

About Kohala, For Kohala

April 21, 2023

Coastal Land at Lamaloloa Preserved in Open Space



Photo by Keith Wallis

Lamaloloa, a 35.3-acre parcel adjoining Lapakahi State Historical Park, was purchased this month to be preserved as open space. The acquisition secures the last piece in a 15-mile contiguous section of leeward Kohala shoreline.

By Toni Withington

Coastal land once slated for resort development was purchased this month for open space, effectively preserving a stretch of 15 miles of Kohala's leeward shore.

A 35.3-acre parcel called Lamaloloa, which adjoins Lapakahi State Historical Park, became the last piece of a puzzle to protect the land makai of Akoni Pule Highway between Keawenui and Māhukona. One private beach house is the only permitted structure in that span.

The purchase of Lamaloloa had been pursued for over a decade by five Kohala community groups that have participated in multiple coastal open space purchases.

Funds for the \$2.5 million sale were provided by the National Park Service (NPS) Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail, which will hold title to the land in conservation. The seller, the Gordy family of Latitude 20 Holding Company LLC in Camarillo, California, had owned the property since 2008. Dennis Gordy shared, "We are happy that the National Park Service purchased the property and the land will be preserved forever."

Gail Byrne Baber successfully represented the Kohala groups in the many years of negotiations. Aric Arakaki, superintendent of the Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail NPS, participated locally throughout the process.

"It always takes a village," Byrne Baber said. "Aric Arakaki and Ala Kahakai stepped up at a critical time

with funding and archeological and environmental expertise and the community's support through petitions and letters certainly made a big difference. Of course, these purchases are now possible because folks like Fred Cachola, Toni Withington, Mike Issacs and others who fought development for decades."

"It is a very special privilege for me to have contributed to the Kohala community," said Arakaki, whose Kohala ties to Niuli'i going back to his grandparents and include his father, who was born there and served in the 100th Battalion during World War II.

In the 1980s, then-owner Finance Factors secured zoning for a 5,000-unit resort and golf courses on Lamaloloa and three other parcels along the coast. That plan was criticized by archaeologists and opposed openly by a large group of Kohala residents.

When Finance Factors withdrew its plans and sold the four parcels to private owners, the community opposed, one-by-one, plans for large residences along the coast. Then, using a variety of government and private funding sources, the properties were purchased in open space for protection of the historic and cultural sites and for community access to the ocean. The Ala Kahakai Trail Association was key to the purchase of another parcel at Kaiholena South in 2015.

Private parcels south in Pao'o and north in Lapakahi ahupua'a

See, Lamaloloa Page 2

KHS Golf Team Playing Tournaments



Photo by Harry Taylor

The Kohala High School golf team at the Waikoloa Village course (left to right): Kaliko Domingo, Dante Murry, Elias Pemble, Joshua Kaauwai-White, Jordan Manatan, Dillon Oandasan and Micah Durlfinger.

By Harry Taylor

Golf is back at Kohala High School with seven boys actively participating in BIFF (Big Island Interscholastic Federation) Conference Tournaments. Practices are held weekly at North Kohala Golf Park. The first Conference Tournament the team attended was at Waikoloa Village Golf Course on March 23. The players made a valiant effort and gave it their all against some very good competition from county-wide schools. This is very much a building year for Kohala High, as most of the players are just learning about the sport. Kudos to

the team for showing heart and for supporting each other.

The second event was at Kings Waikoloa and this was a difficult challenge for all. Improvement in game play was evident and, given the difficulty of the course, grit and determination were nice to see.

All this wouldn't be possible without the generous donations of equipment – golf balls, clubs, bags and even shoes – from the community at large. If you would like to donate towards equipment (we can always use decent/used golf balls), feel free to contact Coach Harry Taylor at kohalagolf@gmail.com.

Speed Bumps at Park to Remain

By Toni Withington

They may rattle your teeth and shake your spine, but the tall speed bumps at Kamehameha Park will remain. Because of the many complaints received, including from the Community Development Plan Advisory Group, the County Department of Parks and Recreation remeasured the height of the four new speed bumps at the park. Michelle Hiraishi, deputy director of P&R, said the bumps are in

compliance with the County's standards, albeit at the high end of the scale. Therefore, they will not be changed. At a recent meeting of Mālama Māhukona, the Friends of the Park group that meets monthly to assist planning of that park, Hiraishi said the department will be painting a crosswalk and installing signs and reflectors for the safety of users of Roots Skatepark, which is between the gym and golf course at Kamehameha Park.

Kohala Mountain News
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Penn State Choir Brings Joy and Inspiration to Restart Community Chorus



Dr. Anthony Leach and Penn State's Essence of Joy perform at St. Augustine Episcopal Church in Kapa'au.

Photo by Libby Leonard

By Libby Leonard

On March 9, Penn State choir "Essence of Joy" performed at St. Augustine Episcopal Church to a full house, with some even spilling

onto the church steps.

The group, which consists of 25 singers led by Dr. Anthony Leach, performed an hour's worth of songs from the African and African

American sacred and secular traditions.

The lively group, which is based in State College, Pennsylvania, has traveled to Asia, Europe and other areas of the United States. Audiences have clapped, sung along and often been moved to tears by their performance.

Kohala was the last stop on the choir's tour, which began on O'ahu days earlier. Many of the students said that coming here was the best part of their whole trip and honored St. Augustine's at their recent campus performance by dedicating the concert to them and their hospitality.

St. Augustine's Vicar Jennifer Masada said that the choir embodied the mana of Kohala.

"It captured peoples' hearts and that's what we do in North Kohala, so I celebrate those kinds of moments, and to be able to bring the choir for everyone to experience

that, was really a special opportunity."

After the concert, St. Augustine's graciously hosted a dinner and dessert cooked by Patsy Ching, Ginger Gohier, Eileen Hartwings, Laura La Gassa, Kathy and Ted Matsuda, David Fuertes, Maurine Gomes and Kim Lambrecht.

Kohala's choir guests also got treated to a special hula performance by Vicar Masada, Kumu Hula Leia Lawrence, Jazmin Hicks and Magaly Durflinger.

Masada said she hopes to continue this kind of experience with repeat visits from the choir, other artists, and halaus to bring a series of events that can bring that kind of joy.

After the performance, several people also voiced interest in wanting to restart the community choir and church choir. If you have interest in being kept in the loop, please contact kohalachoir@gmail.com.

Lamaloloa, from Page 1

were purchased in 2010 and 2011 using county, state and federal funds. The Kohala groups repeatedly nominated the Lamaloloa land to the County's priority list for public purchase. It appeared on the list recommended by the Public Access, Open Space and Natural Resources Preservation Commission (PONC) annually since 2013.

Lamaloloa stretches from Akoni Pule Highway to the ocean. It is easily identified because a shipping container was installed on it in 2000. Steps are being taken to remove the container.

The groups that participated in the effort to preserve Lamaloloa

are Mālama Kohala Kahakai, Ka Makani O Kohala 'Ohana, Mālama Na Wahi Pana O Kohala, Maika'i Kamakani O Kohala and the Kohala Community Access Group.

Chris Helmuth is a local real estate broker who worked with the seller throughout the process. "It was great to work with Chris Helmuth who shared with the seller what he learned from community members about the significance of the land and the unique opportunity to collaborate with the Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail," Byrne Baber said. "It always takes a willing landowner to create these win-wins." She extended a mahalo to the former landowner, the Gordy family, and to Helmuth.

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NKCDP Advisory Group March 29, 2023

After calling the March 29 meeting of the CPD Advisory Group to order, John Winter, the group chair, turned the meeting over to the reports from the subcommittees.

The first report was from Jack Hoyt of the Affordable Housing Group. He said that the group received 275 responses to a survey they conducted to determine North Kohala's affordable housing needs. Several of the respondents said that they had pre-qualified for housing loans but that currently there was no housing available that they could afford. HICDC-Self-Help Housing was encouraged by Kohala's readiness for the next phase so the group is hopeful that the project will receive more emphasis with respect to other HICDC projects. The next phase of Self Help will consist of 40 lots priced at \$300,000 - \$350,000 with 40-year mortgages, which will help to lower the monthly payments.

The group is also looking for opportunities to help keep Kohala families in their existing homes and to promote a process for once again enabling 'ohana homes. Hoyt stated that there are approximately 300 vacant homes in Kohala that are not tied up in probate and they are investigating which of those might be added to the existing housing stock.

The group heard from the developer of the Hāwī Nani project, a 33-acre parcel makai of the highway

on the Kona side of the first phase of Self-Help housing. Although the project was on the back burner during the COVID years, he is now working with the County Planning and Water Supply departments to get it moving again.

The plan is for 21 affordable units and regular 20 lots at market value. Previously the availability of water meters had been an issue, but the County has said that water meters would be available for the affordable housing units. Water for the remaining parcels would be the responsibility of the developer. The developer has said he is willing to be flexible about pricing the affordable units, counting on his profit coming from those sold at market value.

The Affordable Housing group will continue to have a booth at the monthly Night Markets to keep gathering data. They also discussed affordable housing on a 90-minute program with Tani during her show "Tani's World" on KNKR.

Maya Parish of the Agriculture Group said that the North Kohala Agricultural Visioning/Planning event was a wonderful event with exceptional community turnout and participation, excellent County facilitation and many partners and sponsors coming together to make it happen. The purpose was to hear from the community and update the CDP vision. Attendees showed a willingness to work together and

help one another. The only disappointment was that only one of the large landowners in Kohala came to the event. The group will be processing the visioning results and then will be reaching out to share them with the community.

Joe Carvalho of the Community Access Group reported that Pololū still needs another steward for the weekends. He also said that PONC (Public Access, Open Space and Natural Resources Preservation Commission) now owns the coast all the way from Hapu'u to Kapanāia. Fred Cachola had been instrumental in making this happen and he got the good news two days before he passed. The group wants to put together a stewardship group for the land from Lighthouse to Hapu'u.

The contested case regarding the Hawaii Island Retreat grant of public access easement is likely not to be settled until this summer. The owner has committed to the group to make any requested modifications to the Grant of Easement (GOE) and access plan which the group will review and return with their proposals before April. The Growth Management Group is working with them to ensure that the public access documentation for the property complies with County standards.

Kohala Lihikai has initiated a project of continued restoration at Upolu Airport focused on planting

vegetation to control erosion and adding additional check dams, if necessary.

All the lots at Kohala Kai near Kawaihae are back on the market. The group drafted letters to the County and the brokers encouraging them to restart negotiations over their previous commitments regarding conservation easements and new ocean access.

The Growth Management Group has begun reviewing the compiled recommendations for changes to the zoning and subdivision codes that were brought forth during the online open session. They will be working with other subgroups to submit recommendations that are consistent with the NKCDP and current housing conditions in North Kohala. They will also be looking at proposed changes by others that are not in Kohala's interests.

The Health and Wellness Group discussed updates to CERT training. There are four new Community Emergency Response Team members. Twenty members is the minimum goal for our area. Over half the attendees in the last CERT training class in Waimea were from North Kohala. Additionally, a \$5,100 grant through Cindy Evans for emergency supplies and equipment has been approved.

John Winter of the Parks, Roads, Erosion Control and View Planes Group reported that the new pump

See NKCDP Page 2

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NKCDP, from Page 1

at the pool is now working and the new electrical panel will be installed soon. New sand and filters were scheduled to arrive in two days but replacing the old filters and sand may take some time.

Three large trees were blown down at Māhukona during the recent wind storm. The Local Boyz volunteered to help replace a dugout structure at Kamehameha Park that was destroyed at that time. Contracts are also being advertised to replace the gutters at Keokea Park Pavilion. Money is available and a committee is being formed to address wind-proofing the Hisaoka Gym roof (Kohala's designated emergency shelter) and

to fix the overhead lighting problems at Kamehameha Park.

The State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) is still holding up the demolition of the pavilion at Māhukona.

Complaints continue about the forty-one patches across Akoni Pule Highway in Halaula made by the trenches dug last year for the Department of Water Supply (DWS) waterlines.

The group will check with DWS and County Roads to see who is scheduled to resurface the highway and to check the status of the resurfacing of the highway to Pololū Valley. To counter a dangerous driver visibility problem where Holy Bakery Road meets the high-

way in Kapa'au, County Roads will be asked to add painted lines to accent an existing "no parking" area that is frequently used.

The Utilities Group reported that construction of the well and reservoir at Halaula are complete and the system has been successfully cleaned. It will be put on-line after it has been inspected. The timing for that is uncertain. The pump at Makapāla went down on March 14 because of a power outage. The tank was drained by use and DWS began trucking water from a hydrant in Halaula to fill the tank.

Parts for the custom pump must be fabricated on the mainland so the pump will probably be down for at least three months. In the

meantime, residents of Niuli'i and Makapāla are advised to use water sparingly. The timing of the inspections is being investigated.

The subgroups do the real work of supporting the goals of the CDP and they all welcome new members. Community members are encouraged to get involved in a group that interests them and also to attend the meetings of NKCDP Advisory Group where issues affecting Kohala are reported on, and input is encouraged. Subgroup meeting times and places can be found on the calendar page in this paper. The next meeting of the Advisory Group will be at 4:30 on Wednesday, April 26, at the Kohala Intergenerational Center.

North Kohala Community Development Plan Advisory Group

DATE: Wednesday, April 26, 2023
TIME: 5:00 pm
PLACE: Kohala Intergenerational Center, Kamehameha Park Road, Kapa'au, HI 96755
AGENDA

ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

Kohala residents are encouraged to attend and voice their opinion on issues. They may even recommend actions and suggest subjects not presently addressed.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

(Please see accompanying article on issues being addressed.)

- Affordable Housing - Addresses the housing needs for families in Kohala.
- Agriculture - The future of agriculture in our area.
- Community Access - Exploring ways for Kohala residents to have more mauka and makai access.
- Growth Management - Addresses zoning, permits and variance requests and how they affect us.
- Health and Wellness - Addresses Kohala health care infrastructure and emergency response.
- Parks, Roads, Viewplanes and Erosion Control - Addresses many infrastructure problems and projects.
- Utilities - Addresses all utility and waste stream issues.
- Investigatory Subcommittee on Re-zoning and Agricultural Property Tax Rates - Works on Kohala input to the ongoing County reassessment of zoning and agricultural tax rate reduction criteria.

BUSINESS

Our status with the Planning Department.
Note new meeting dates: the FINAL Wednesday of each month.

PUBLIC INPUT AND AGENDA SUGGESTIONS FOR THE NEXT MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Zebra Dove on Nest



Photo by Diann Wilson

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Letters

Toxic Herbicides Still Used

To the Editor:

Many Kohala residents are becoming increasingly concerned about the spraying of glyphosate-based herbicides (such as RoundUp) that is still routinely carried out on public roads on the Big Island in spite of increasing evidence that these substances are dangerous to human health. These glyphosate-containing sprays contaminate ground water, seep onto our private property, and become airborne. There are now multiple official reports about the carcinogenic effects of these products, and there was recently a \$2.4 billion lawsuit for individuals who ended up with lymphoma from using RoundUp and other bio-inhibiting sprays.

We have learned a lot recently about the very real dangers presented by the spraying of these carcinogenic weed-killers, and we are increasingly alarmed when walking our dogs in North Kohala or driving around the wider area to see that, in spite of the growing public concern about chemical weed control, it is still happening all over our beautiful North Kohala community. We hope that folks will be willing to show their support! Public concern about this issue continues to escalate, as more and more people are experiencing the devastating tragedy that cancer brings upon a family and its extended community. As consumers, we may have the power to purchase only organic foods, but as long as

our roadsides and waterways are sprayed with these carcinogenic herbicides, all Hawaii residents are exposed to the life-threatening toxins they contain. It seems only reasonable to expect that the safety of our population should be protected by laws that take into account the hugely significant health impact of such chemicals. We have confidence in the power of the people, but we also know that the people, historically, have been forced to generate that power through their own determination. We hope you will join us in standing up against this threat to the health of our families and loved ones.

Sincerely,
Summer Kirson

Hawaii Island Retreat

When I travel, I like to read local papers, so I was surprised to read there is opposition to modestly expanding Hawaii Island Retreat. My family and I first stayed there years ago and were so moved by the setting and accommodations we have returned. As most locals know, Doctor Robert Watkins and his wife Jean Sunderland – who’ve lived in the area for close to 50 years – tenderly built the beautiful facility over the past 25 years. It is magical.

I have lived and worked in some amazing places – Alaska, Colorado, Iceland – and never have I seen such committed stewards of the land.

They have no equal and would never do anything to dishonor the beautiful land they have nurtured.

Expanding the Retreat should be embraced, not fought. It’s not as if they are building a skyscraper or the next Mauna Kea resort. They seek to expand from 16 to 36 by using small bungalows that blend seamlessly into the surroundings. Instead of a yoga retreat having 15 people, now 25 may attend. Other than selfish – perhaps hidden – agendas, there is no reason not to embrace the simple, mild, tasteful, reasonable expansion of this local treasure that brings folks like me

to town to discover the culture and spend money in local shops.

And the ultimate irony is if they used all their land for agricultural purposes instead, that would create far more noise and disrupt the land far more than having a few more cars roll down the dirt road each day.

Jean and her now recently departed husband Dr. Watkins more than paid their dues over the past half century in the area. Embrace and thank them for their hard work, don’t unnecessarily fight them.

- Bill Choslovsky
Chicago, IL

Racism

Racism. Sadly, racism is happening in Kohala Middle School. My name is Ethan James Viernes Millet and I’m a lot of things, like a student and someone who watches from the sidelines. For the past couple of months, I’ve been hearing and seeing acts of racism. However, what is racism, and can we stop racist behavior?

Discrimination is a common word to describe racism, discrimina-

tion towards certain races. Racism is hatred towards different races in a place, in this situation at Kohala Middle. This school is supposed to be a safe community for students. However, I don’t think this school is as safe as it could be. Some of the other students don’t either!

To stop feelings of being unsafe, we need to spread awareness about racism in this school, that racism is not cool, and that it needs to be

stopped! To educate us students about how racism should be left in the past, we need more communication. This world is already problematic. Do we really want racism to be one of those big problems? Let’s all be kind to each other!

In conclusion, racism is starting to become a big thing in this school, and it needs to stop.

Sincerely,
Ethan James Viernes Millet

Harassment in Hawai‘i

Hello, my name is Faith, and I am a student from Kohala Middle School. I decided to write about harassment in Hawai‘i.

Harassment is a serious thing all around the world. Harassment in the workplace of Hawai‘i has

high percentages: a 2019 survey showed that 52 percent of women and 42 percent of men get harassed. Harassment has many forms and it can be very dangerous. I wanted to spread this word so everyone can know what’s going on in some of

the workplaces in Hawai‘i. Help me spread the word all around to eliminate harassment. Thank you for reading and listening to my letter.

Sincerely,
Faith Grace Ramos

Hawai‘i State House of Representatives Update

From the Desk of District 7 Representative David Tarnas

Aloha! The legislature is now moving into the final month of session when the House and Senate Committees will be negotiating the bills passed in different drafts in each chamber. I appreciate all the input I have received from constituents about these bills which will help guide me during these negotiations.

In my article today, I would like

to highlight two recent events I attended in Kohala that exemplify what is so special about our community – the Kohala Agriculture Visioning event and the celebration banquet for the Kohala High School Boys Basketball Team winning the State Championship.

On March 25, I joined many Kohala residents who gathered at Hisaoka Gym to discuss and envi-

sion the future of agriculture in Kohala. This meeting was organized by many individuals and organizations including the North Kohala Community Development Plan Subcommittee on Agriculture, Kahua Pa’a Mua, Kohala Food Hub, the County of Hawaii and many others. The event featured many nonprofits and government agen-

See HIRep Update , Page 6

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.

May Deadlines
Ads and News: 5/12/23
Calendar: 5/19/23
Distribution: 5/26/23

June Deadlines
Ads and News: 6/9/23
Calendar: 6/16/23
Distribution: 6/23/23

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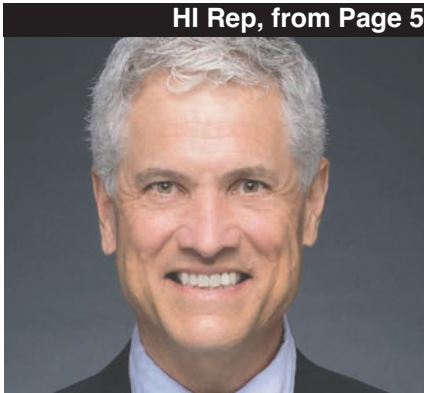
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Letters to the Editor and Viewpoint articles must address issues affecting North Kohala and be accompanied by the author’s name, address and telephone number. Letters and Viewpoints are subject to editing, and shorter submissions will receive preference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

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HI Rep, from Page 5

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

cies who provide services, information and resources for farmers, ranchers, landowners and anyone in the agriculture community.

After hearing from numerous speakers about the importance of agriculture to our community as well as the history of agriculture in Kohala, the participants joined focus groups to talk about specific issues including housing, production, food access, water, land, and farmer wellness. The discussion in these focus groups were led by facilitators from the Hawaii County Departments, including Research and Development and Planning. The input gathered from these groups will be compiled and analyzed to help guide the organizers to craft a vision document for the community to use.

Another major achievement was celebrated on Saturday, April 1, with a banquet for the community to honor the Kohala High School Cowboys Boys Basketball Team as the 2023 Hawaii High School Athletics Association (HHSAA) Division II Basketball State Champions! This outstanding group of athletes made us all proud of their determination and team work to win this title.

At the event attended by the players, coaches, their families and friends, Mayor Roth congratulated the team and thanked all the parents and families for their support. He acknowledged that the team's success was only made possible by the steadfast support from all the families and the dedicated coaches. The Governor's Representative for West Hawaii, Ililani Foree, also passed on the congratulations from Governor Josh Green to the team.

This was especially important to Governor Green because of his long history of working in Kohala and his friendship with many Kohala families. Then it was my turn to honor the champions.

On behalf of the State Legislature, I presented a congratulatory certificate that I cosponsored with Senator Tim Richards which was signed by over fifty State Representatives and State Senators. All these legislators from across the State wanted to honor Kohala High School for this outstanding achievement. The official Legislative Certificate of Congratulations was presented to Coach Kihei Kapeleli to display at the high school and each team member and coach received their own copy of the certificate to take home.

Throughout this season, the Kohala Cowboys Boys Basketball Team members showed steadfast dedication, perseverance, and hard work, and it paid off in the most rewarding way possible. I told the team that they are an inspiration to our entire community, and we are very proud of them. The entire legislature wishes each of the team's players continued success in their future endeavors.

Kohala is a very special place with a strong community spirit that was on full display at both events. Our residents showed up in strong numbers and pulled together to help plan the future of agriculture in Kohala, which is so important to sustain our community, feed our people, and support our farms and ranches. Our community also showed up to congratulate the outstanding achievements of our Kohala High School Cowboys Basketball State Champions. Their thrilling victory brought joy to everyone in our Kohala community. These two events showcase that by working together, our Kohala community accomplishes great achievements.

It is an honor for me to represent Kohala in the State House of Representatives. As we near the end of the 2023 legislative session, please share your concerns or ideas about legislative bills or community issues by contacting my office at 808-586-8510 or emailing me at reptarnas@capitol.hawaii.gov. You can also subscribe to my regular e-newsletter by going to bit.ly/reptarnas-signup. I am always grateful to hear from you anytime. Mahalo!

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)

Repeatedly this past month, the subject of conversation has been capacity. I appreciate the comments, suggestions and insights into our communities of North and South Kohala regarding roads, sacred sites, agricultural water, locally grown food, wastewater treatment, potable water, military footprint, animal shelters, renewable energy, emergency preparedness, senior housing, workforce housing, health

care and more. We all know there is change, growing demand and growing concerns. I am listening and considering how policy can make a difference.

Your council has started the annual process of developing and approving next year's budget. By June 30, the Council and County Administration will negotiate budgets for next year, one for operations and one for capital improvements. Keeping in mind the capacity to provide government services, I will be looking at training, technology, expertise and accessibility.

Good news: the County District 9 office located at the Judiciary Building in Kapa'au now has the capacity to provide live remote testimony. You can still testify from home or office by Zoom, and now you have the option to testify in person from the District Office. In May, the County Council meets for official business on May 2, 3, 16, 17 and 18. Agendas will be posted at hawaiicounty.gov. Go to "Our County" then "Council Meetings" to check out the agendas. For convenience, Council rules now allow for testimony on any agenda items at the beginning of the meeting.

If you have questions or comments, please call 808-961-8564 or write to cindy.evans@hawaiicounty.gov. Take care.

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Culture Night at Kohala Night Market: Philippines



Filipina ladies in their traditional dresses.

Photos by Kathy Matsuda



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Rebecca Bartholomy.

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COMMUNITY MEETING Pololū Trailhead



The State Department of Land and Natural Resources, Division of Forestry and Wildlife, is engaging the community to plan for the Pololū Trailhead. The trailhead has been attracting an increasing number of visitors to the Pololū Lookout and to the valley floor, which has resulted in detrimental environmental, cultural, and social impacts to both the valley and the nearby rural community. Their consultant, Townscape, is hosting a community meeting to introduce the Pololū Trailhead Planning Project, share findings on the vision and issues for the trailhead, and gather input from the community on potential solutions to address these issues.

IN-PERSON

**Thursday April 27, 2023
at 5:00 PM**

Kohala Intergenerational Center
 54-382 Kamehameha Park Rd.
 Kapaau, HI 96755

VIRTUAL

**Tuesday May 2, 2023
at 5:00 PM**

Log on at: **zoom.com**
 Meeting ID: 879 2728 5236
 Password: pololu

Dial-in: (669) 900-6833 (Audio only)
 Meeting ID: 879 2728 5236
 Password: 785321

For more information please contact:



Jackson Bauer
DLNR DOFAW
(808) 657-8041
jackson.m.bauer@hawaii.gov



Gabrielle Sham
Townscape, Inc.
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Visit bit.ly/pololu_planning for more details on the project.

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Kohala Agriculture Vision Brings Community Together to Plan Sustainable Future



Photo by Art Brochet

Community members join hands to sing "Aloha 'Oe" at the close of the event.

By Libby Leonard

The 2023 Kohala Agriculture Vision event took place on March 25 at Hisaoka Gym with the intention of creating a strategic plan and vision of the future of Kohala's agriculture.

Organized by the CPD agriculture subcommittee and co-spon-

sored by the County of Hawai'i and nonprofits Kahua Pa'a Mua and Vibrant Hawai'i, the event had over 270 registered participants alongside 21 service providers wanting to support farmers, ranchers, landowners and others interested in agriculture.

At the event, participants broke

out into sessions in the priority areas of Water, Land, Production, Food Access, Energy, Housing and Farmer Wellness to identify issues, needs, strengths and potential solutions.

Neutral County facilitators each area led interactive discussions while information was gathered

that would later be used for a community plan.

Prior to the breakout sessions, Bob Agres, Deputy Director of Research and Development, gave an overview of the agenda. David Fuenes, of co-sponsor nonprofit Kahua Pa'a Mua, and Leslie Nugent

See Vision, Page 9



Photo by Brilla Rose

Graphic Facilitator Susi Watson in action at the Agriculture Vision Event.



Photo by Brilla Rose

Guest speaker Sa'o Vaefaga gives a speech to the community.



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The illustrated culmination of Kohala's Agriculture Vision by Susi Watson.

Photo by Art Brochet

of North Kohala Resource Center followed.

Both spoke about how the event was building off a CDP sustainability plan from ten years ago, and that this time they wanted Kohala voices to help dictate the goals so necessary actions can be taken to create what's next.

Boyd Bond then gave a presentation on the evolution of agriculture in North Kohala from pre-contact through to current times.

The two final speakers were Kenneth "KK" Matsuda and Sa'o Vaefaga. KK participates in Kohala High School's FFA program and spoke about the importance of agriculture being spread to youth.

Sa'o is a Native Hawaiian cultural practitioner and taro farmer and his passionate, inspirational speech provided direction for the Visioning.

"Part of being a leader is people knowing that you put this place and people before yourself," he said. "If we're here talking about visioning, with respect to my ancestors, who grew food on this land for thousands of years and sugar for over a hundred, this is our village to make an attempt to determine the longevity of our vision, of our children, of this land."

He spoke of the realities of how expensive land is and that it's time to hold peoples' feet to the fire in

terms of truly making this place sustainable.

"As everybody breaks out into visioning, really think about the longevity of your vision and who it is that you represent. I'm here for my kids' kids' kids," Vaefaga said, later adding "It's that type of love, it's that type of teaching that we need for this place, for our best effort to move forward. Restoring integrity to our community, to our food that is medicine in every way you understand."

Once Vaefaga left the microphone, the crowd of participants were told to disperse to their areas of interest, while a wide variety of service providers stood nearby with

their resources.

"It's amazing to see the community come together in this way, to hear the voices from all different sectors," said Maya Parish, who was representing Kohala Food Hub as a service provider.

Some of the other providers were from U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency, the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, the National Farm Jobs Program, Hawai'i Green Earth Recycling and others both local and state-wide.

Several participants crowded nearly every area identifying lots of ideas and challenges. Many were

See Vision, Page 10

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Vision, from Page 9

concerned about land access and farmer housing.

“Without access to land and housing for farmers, I just don’t see how we can have a flourishing agriculture system. [There] have to be more creative ways to give people access to land,” said Madeline Ross, Kohala chapter president of Hawai’i Farmers Union United.

Flipboards were dedicated not just for farmer housing but housing overall, and recorded participants’ needs for more affordable and self-help housing, and for Council reps to push for more funding.

As for farmworker housing, there were calls for technical assistance to help navigate it as well as potential tiny house resources, subdividing ag lots for farming, and other ideas.

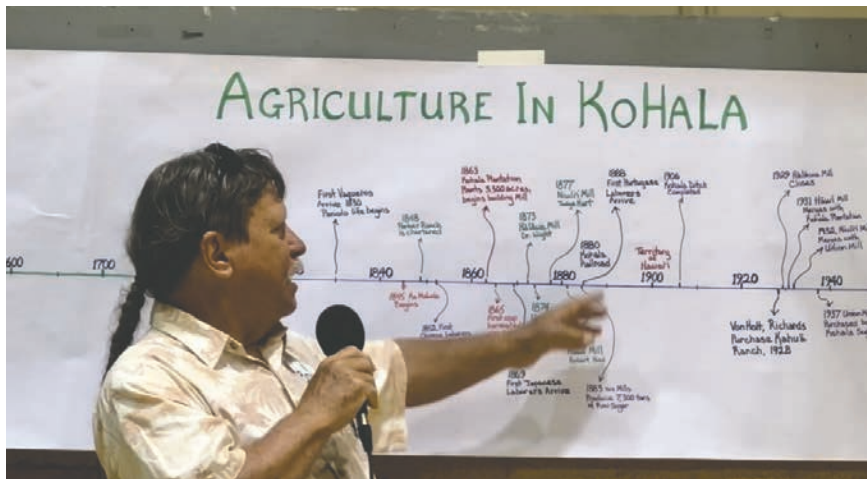
In other areas, participants’ Post-It notes indicated interest in more community gardens, ag zoning, living wages for farm workers, certified kitchens, the restoration of the Kohala Ditch; and encouraging more backyard production, local foods in schools, and better handling of farmers’ mental well-being.

There was also a call in nearly every section to return to Indigenous foodways, including more Native Hawaiian culture on all lands, watershed restoration and revitalization, and to return to the ahupua’a systems.

The ahupua’a is the ancient system of land management and food production that involves land divisions that stretch from mountain to sea, including entire watersheds, with each ahupua’a meeting the entirety of needs for the local population in each division.

According to community participant Keala Kahuanui, the way to create that interdependence in that model “means we need to talk to each other, to build that relationship and trust, and this is a great space to do that,” she said.

Kahuanui spent her time in the



Historian Boyd Bond gives a history lesson about the evolution of Kohala Agriculture.

Photo by Brilla Rose



Uncle David Fuertes of Kahua Pa’a Mua smiles in front of Food Access station.

Photo by Brilla Rose

Food Access priority area.

“My food access dream is to eat more of our foods from home, especially our traditional foods,” she said. Kahuanui’s passion is food preservation, which is a science she began mastering after being a voyager on the Hokulea.

She said when we know where our food comes from, “that it’s beyond just our nutritional value, it’s our emotional value, our spiri-

tual value and our root connection to each other, the food and place.”

She shared that she wanted to do free workshops on food preservation so others can learn to do it. Jennifer Masada, the vicar at St. Augustine’s who was also sitting in Food Access, chimed in that they had a certified kitchen she could use, and a place to host the workshops, which made them both excited.

This type of real-time solution seemed to happen often throughout the sessions, with landowners wanting to grow food to increase food security with food banks, the Food Hub, and other solutions.

Rancher Davey B. Fuertes spent his time in Land as a priority area, saying that land is a challenge for him right now and needs more of it if he wants to retire raising cattle.

Currently, his operation is mostly to feed his family, but hopes someday to have 300-400 more acres and said in the facilitation process that he met some new landowners who were willing to share some of their land.

He was also excited to connect with service provider ‘Io Processing, the new family-owned meat processing facility in Kona.

Up until now there have been no meat processing facilities and ranchers have been forced to ship their meat to neighboring islands or Texas to get their meat processed for sale.

“There’s a real demand and need, and you don’t know how much until you really get involved in agriculture,” said ‘Io Processing owner Nichole Kanda.

Farmer and rancher Bill Wong also voiced the importance of processing and certified kitchens to create food security for everyone and at the end of the day reflected about growing up in Kohala and what food security meant to him.

Both of Wong’s parents worked on the sugarcane plantations, with his father being third generation sugar, and Great Grandfather coming from China to build the railroad that linked the six sugar mills that once existed.

He said when the plantations closed in 1975, he saw the fear in his parents’ faces not knowing where they would work, what they would eat or how they would sustain themselves, but said step by step everyone figured it out, and

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Vision, from Page 10

there was a lot of sharing what was grown in each other's yards.

For David Fuertes, as a teacher, who moved here from Kauai in 1975, he also could recall the fear on his students' faces when the horn of the last sugarcane truck drove through town. It was then, he said, that he wanted to dedicate his life to figuring out how to bring more food production to Kohala.

It was also the impetus of why he was motivated to meet with the County and Vibrant Hawai'i to have the event, which he hoped provided a comfort zone for dialogue, connections and to collectively come up with the next steps to better Kohala's agriculture endeavors.

Throughout the event, graphic facilitator Susi Watson drew a large mural that synthesized everyone's ideal vision for the future. At the top was one of Fuertes' favorite sayings: "What is culture without agriculture?"

The event was followed by The Taste of Kohala, which featured local vendors and music by Kū Ma'ema'e and Hō Aloha.

The responses gathered during the event will be compiled and a follow-up event will be scheduled to share the results of the visioning for community feedback and review.

If you would like to be added to the listserv, please email kohalaagvision@gmail.com.

Community Service by Local Boyz

By Shirley Garcia Nakamura

The recent windstorm on Wednesday, March 8, blew down the third base dugout at the Shiro Takata Baseball field at Kamehameha Park. When that happened, the park was closed until the debris of the dugout could be contained. The Local Boyz Kūpuna Softball Team have offered to do a community service project to clear and repair the dugout. The team comprises many retired talents: contractors, electricians and plumbers that are very competent in getting this job done in a minimum amount of time and with all the materials donated.

The County Parks construction crew said it would help if they would break down and clear the debris. At 8 a.m. Sunday, only four days after the windstorm, Local Boyz went to the park to dismantle and clear the remains of dugout. They finished the job within 45 minutes. To date, several County departments have been to the field measuring and assessing what materials will be needed. Materials have been ordered and County supervisors have assured Coach Steve Nakamura that the dugout will be repaired before the softball/baseball season is over.

See Service , Page 12



Photos by Shirley Garcia Nakamura
A photo timeline of the dismantling of the old dugout and construction of the new one at Kamehameha Park by Kohala's kupuna softball team Local Boyz.

**'Ōlelo Hawai'i for `Apelila (April)
Hau`oli Lā Honua (Happy Earth Day)**

By Jesse Lucas

Hau`oli Lā Honua (Happy Earth Day). Lā Honua is on `Apelila 22nd. `Apelila (April) is also the designated mahina (month) for lā`au kama`āina (native Hawaiian plants). Native plants are those that arrived to Hawai'i prior to po`e (people). These plants arrived to Hawai'i by wind (makani), water (wai) or birds (manu). There are also plants that are indigenous, which means they are found here as well as other places in the world. Lastly, there are other special plants known as wa`a (canoe) plants that arrived to Hawai'i by Polynesian wayfinders. These plants include mai`a (banana), kī (ti), and kalo (taro). `Apelila is a great month to aloha (love) and mālama (care for) our beautiful honua.

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Tim Holschuh APRN is a Family Nurse Practitioner and joined the Hāmākua-Kohala Health team in December 2022. For the past 22 years, Tim has worked in the Hamakua Community caring for the acutely ill population.

Tim is passionate about health care and education. He believes that with prevention and access to health care, quality of life can be greatly improved. A primary care provider (PCP) is at the precipice of change in people's lives. With education about prevention and treatment, the patient may be empowered to take control of their medical future. Tim has been recognized for helping people during difficult times. He graduated from the University of Phoenix and as an adult learner he is passionate about providing opportunity for those that want to stay in Hawaii to be educated.

In his spare time, Tim enjoys DIY projects and working on the farm. Tim lives in Hamakua with his wife Sue and daughter Hailey. We are thankful and grateful to have Tim as a part of our Hāmākua-Kohala Health 'ohana.

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Service, from Page 11

Members of the Local Boyz team take pride in the maintenance of the Shiro Takata Baseball field.

They have taken it upon themselves to sod the field in preparation for the baseball season as well as repair the first base dugout and reinforce the foundation of the concession area.

Some members have also fixed wobbly tables and given the interior a fresh coat of paint.

Another issue at Shiro Takata Field is the lack of field lights. Back in 2015 a windstorm knocked out the lights at the field. Kohala was once the place with many nighttime functions that involved the whole

community. One of the functions was the Local Boyz Mixed League Softball, which was held every summer. It included about six to eight local teams playing twice a week in a softball tournament. This was Local Boyz' major fundraiser for State Tournament travel to outer islands. The park was filled with families and spectators who came to enjoy the games as well as the Local Boyz concession.

The county did start repairing the lights; however, because of misunderstandings, repairs have ceased. Local Boyz, as well as Friends of the Park, have asked County representatives for help and they are looking into it.



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Artwork by Susan Grant

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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
	4:30PM		RMD TAIKO CLASSES	HUB HALE	889-0404 EXT. 104
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
	4:30PM		KOHALA CARES FOOD DRIVE	ST AUGUSTINE'S	ALOHPETER@YAHOO.COM
	5:30PM	7PM	PICKLE BALL	HISAOKA GYM	333-8712
	6PM	8PM	TABLE TENNIS/PING PONG	OLD COURT HOUSE	889-1099
WED	10AM	11AM	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
	2PM	3PM	LEGO CLUB 05/03 & 05/17 BOARD GAMES: 5/10 & 5/24	NK PUBLIC LIBRARY	889-6655
	3:30 PM	4:30PM	RMD TAIKO CLASSES (NOT 1ST WED)	HUB HALE	889-0404 EXT. 104
	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	TOUCHING THE EARTH 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
	9:30AM	10:45AM	YOGA	HUB HALE	202 746 0439
	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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**Local Boyz
Kūpuna Softball
2023**

The Local Boyz are Kohala's team in the Kūpuna Softball League. Their current record is eleven wins and five losses. Twenty-two teams play on the Big Island from January through June. A tournament for this island will be held in July, followed by the state tournament in August.

- Top row (left to right): Ben Bruno, Harry Cabrera, Matthew Roxburgh
 Fifth row (left to right): Jim Trump, James Lincoln, Greg Chilton
 Fourth row (left to right): Eddie Kise, Steve Nakamura, Mel Ako, Andrew Stevens
 Third row (left to right): Stan Gonsalves, Guy Nakamura, Steve Maeda
 Second row (left to right): Ted Matsuda, Gary Tocatlian, Jim Scancellia
 Front row (left to right): Greg Galan, Alterry Murai, Kelly Asai



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Community Cardboard Shred Brings Together All Ages for the Environment



Cardboard Girl (Xylie K.H. Correa) and Evan Lam of Circle Pack on shred day.



John Winter, Evan Lam of Circle Pack and youth volunteer at the March 25 community cardboard shred.

By Libby Leonard

Outside the Hisaoka Gym after the Kohala Agriculture Vision Event, Touching the Earth Farm (TTE, formerly Dragonheart), in collaboration with Sustainable Kohala, brought back the organic waste station they had over the summer at the Kohala Reunion.

However, this time they didn't just field food waste from the event's Taste of Kohala marketplace, but also the community's cardboard waste. With the help of the mobile shredding company Circle Pack, they transformed this cardboard into something useful for farmers.

According to the Environmental Protection Agency, paper and cardboard are the largest components of municipal solid waste in the United States with nearly 70 percent recycled, while the other 32 percent was either incinerated or left in landfills, where it releases methane as it decomposes. Methane is one of the leading greenhouse gas contributors to climate change.

Since we lack our own recycling

facilities in Hawai'i County, our cardboard – if it doesn't end up in the one landfill we have left – gets shipped to Asia, which is also costly.

Because of this, Circle Pack's Evan Lam found a solution that not only helps get rid of the waste stream, but is sustainable to the environment and helps farmers, while bringing communities together in the process.

Founded in 2020, the company travels to several partner organizations, where residents and area businesses drop off clean cardboard to be shredded by community volunteers and given away as mulch or composting materials for farms and gardens.

This time, with Nany Zepeda of TTE at the helm, Circle Pack came to Kohala.

"Our hope is to continue spreading compost culture in our community, and continuing to build opportunities to collaborate with individuals, organizations, and businesses to create regenerative systems to deal with organic waste (cardboard, food and green waste)

and build healthy communities and soils," said Zepeda.

Cardboard not only helps sequester carbon in the soil, but as it decomposes, it supplies essential energy to the microbes, improving soil quality and structure, making it an easy and affordable option for those in agriculture. The cardboard in its shredded form composts more quickly.

Zepeda put out a call to the community to drop off cardboard at the farm over several days leading up to the event. They amassed hundreds of pounds. Then, with the help of Deborah Winter, Sustainable Kohala was able to provide volunteers to shred at the event. However, thanks to some of the skateboarding youth passing through, they gained a few more enthusiastic volunteers.

According to Art Brochet, shred volunteer and Sustainable Kohala board member, the kids were riding around on their skateboards picking up trash and got curious about Lam's machine. They asked if they could help run it.

"The adults handled cutting the cardboard up and taking the tape off of it, and the kids handled the rest," Brochet said. He added that kids are very entrepreneurial and the ones who helped were curious to learn about what happens to the cardboard and the cardboard's uses.

Brochet said he first learned about it when he was talking with Sustainable Kohala and was astonished at how much interest people have in the product, wondering where he could get more of it again. He said that with the lack of recycling facilities "why can't we use it locally because once it's shredded, it's pretty valuable stuff?"

Some people visiting the event picked up an armful and immediately went home to put in their garden beds.

There was also another youth superhero guest: Cardboard Girl, donning a cardboard crown and outfit. According to Deb Winter, Cardboard Girl (Xylie K.H. Correa) is enthusiastic about solving environmental concerns of all kinds.

Winter also added that in the 1980s, where she lived it was the youth that learned about recycling in school and brought it home to the parents. Lam didn't bring his scale this time, but he eyeballed the amount of cardboard that was shredded and said it was probably around 400 pounds. In other areas he shreds, like South Kona, they easily do 1,000 tons.

While Lam likes doing community shreds, he has hoped Circle Pack would be a stepping stone for communities to start running their own shreds with machines they own themselves. So far, shredding has been adopted on Moloka'i, Maui, Honolulu and Los Angeles, all of whom credit Circle Pack for inspiration.

"The challenge of managing our waste resources responsibly, and for the benefit of our

communities, is best when it happens bottoms-up and with lots of participation. We're rarely able to take the opportunity to invest in solutions for ourselves and [our environment doesn't] have time to covet solutions," Lam said, adding that taxpayer money is being wasted, and we need to find solutions to benefit our citizens sooner than later.

Zepeda, who is also running a composting operation out of the farm with community food waste, wants to raise money to get a community-owned cardboard shredder in Kohala, saying that the farm is also developing pilot projects and partnering with Hawai'i-wise initiatives to collect data on what it looks like for our local community to recycle organic waste.

"We are open to having conversations and engaging with other partners and mentors in all the levels possible to make this initiative happen," she said.

Besides that, she says everyone can contribute and help to build compost culture. If you'd like more information, call 808-987-8359 or email nany@touchingtheearthfarm.com.

Take Care of Hawai'i & the Planet

Start with REDUCE
Reduce your waste. If you really don't need it, don't buy it.

REUSE or donate

RECYCLE at County Recycling & Transfer Stations

Flattened corrugated cardboard & brown paper bags

Clean items only!

Glass jars, jug & bottles

Scrap metal

Appliances

Why?
Greenwaste in the landfill becomes methane gas, the most potent gas heating the planet.

Greenwaste

- Put greenwaste in the designated bins or
- Take to the County's mulch facilities in Hilo and Pu'uana'hulu.

Methane gas

Residential use only!

Other options are available for businesses, non-profits and agencies.

See www.HawaiiZeroWaste.org for more information.

We Can Do It!

MONTHLY CALENDAR MAY 2023

DATE	DAY	START	END	EVENT	DESCRIPTION	VENUE	PHONE
4/27	THU	5:00 PM		POLOLŪ MEETING	COMMUNITY MEETING WITH TOWNSCAPE & DLNR	INTERGENERATIONAL CENTER	BIT.LY/POLOLU_PLANNING
5/1	MON	5:00PM	6:30PM	CHESS CLUB	ALL AGES WELCOME!	NK PUBLIC LIBRARY	808-889-6655
5/2	TUE	5:00 PM		VIRTUAL POLOLŪ MEETING	COMMUNITY MEETING WITH TOWNSCAPE & DLNR.	ZOOM	BIT.LY/POLOLU_PLANNING
5/3	WED	4:00 PM	7:00 PM	KOHALA NIGHT MARKET	VENDORS & ENTERTAINMENT	HUB MURAL	
5/3	WED	4:30 PM		NKCDP	KOHALA COMMUNITY ACCESS GROUP	INTERGENERATIONAL CENTER	IMUAKOHALA@GMAIL.COM
5/3	WED	7:00 PM		TEMPLE OF SPIRITUAL HEALING	GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP	54-3876 AKONI PULE STE 4	989-5995
5/4	THU	4:30 PM		NKCDP	AGRICULTURE SUB-COMMITTEE	KOHALA FOOD HUB	IMUAKOHALA@GMAIL.COM
5/6	SAT	8:00 AM	1:00 PM	KOHALA COMMUNITY FARMER'S MARKET		KAMEHAMEHA PARK	808 225-3666
5/9	TUE	9:00 AM		NKCDP	AFFORDABLE HOUSING GROUP	POMAIIKA`I CAFE	IMUAKOHALA@GMAIL.COM
5/9	TUE	11:00AM	12:00PM	BOOK CLUB	WHEN ALL IS SAID BY ANNE GRIFFIN	NK PUBLIC LIBRARY	808-889-6655
5/9	TUE	6:00 PM		HAWAII FARMERS UNION UNITED	FACEBOOK.COM/KOHALACHAPTERHFUU/		KOHALA.HFUU@GMAIL.COM
5/10	WED	5:00 PM		NKCDP	GROWTH MANAGEMENT GROUP	INTERGENERATIONAL CENTER	IMUAKOHALA@GMAIL.COM
5/11	THU	2:30PM	3:30PM	SIGN LANGUAGE CLASSES	ALL EXPERIENCE LEVELS WELCOME.	NK PUBLIC LIBRARY	808-889-6655
5/17	MON	5:00PM	6:30PM	BEGINNER SEED SAVING	LEARN THE BASICS OF SEED SAVING. PRESENTED BY THE KOHALA CENTER.	NK PUBLIC LIBRARY	808-889-6655
5/17	WED	3:30 PM		NKCDP	UTILITIES GROUP	INTERGENERATIONAL CENTER	IMUAKOHALA@GMAIL.COM
5/17	WED	5:00 PM		NKCDP	PARKS, ROADS VIEW PLANES GROUP	INTERGENERATIONAL CENTER	IMUAKOHALA@GMAIL.COM
5/18	THU	9:00 AM	11:00 AM	SACRED HEART FOOD BASKET		SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH	889-5115
5/18	THU	4:00 PM		NKCDP	HEALTH & WELLNESS GROUP	KAMEHAMEHA PARK SMALL PAVILLION	IMUAKOHALA@GMAIL.COM
5/20	SAT	8:00 AM	1:00 PM	KOHALA COMMUNITY FARMER'S MARKET		KAMEHAMEHA PARK	225-3666
5/22	MON	5:30PM	6:30PM	TALK STORY: HAWAIIAN LUNAR CALENDAR	LEARN ABOUT THE HAWAIIAN CALENDAR.	NK PUBLIC LIBRARY	808-889-6655
5/25	THU	2:30PM	3:30PM	SIGN LANGUAGE CLASSES	LEARN EXACT ENGLISH AND AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE! ALL EXPERIENCE LEVELS WELCOME.	NK PUBLIC LIBRARY	808-889-6655
5/26	WED	2:00PM	3:00PM	KEIKI CRAFT	MAKE A MARSHMALLOW CATAPULT!	NK PUBLIC LIBRARY	808-889-6655
5/31	WED	4:00 PM		RESTORATIVE YOGA THERAPY CLASS	WITH CARLA ORELLANA - BY REQUEST	CALL FOR LOCATION	808 238-6111
5/31	WED	4:30 PM		NKCDP	ADVISORY GROUP MEETING	INTERGENERATIONAL CENTER	IMUAKOHALA@GMAIL.COM

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Plantation Days

By Jacob Zane

This story was originally printed in the April 2009 issue of the Kohala Mountain News.

Growing up, there are lots of fond memories. Like playing basketball on concrete floor, bare feet. Like our parents smoke cigarettes, but the only difference was we made our own with papaya leaves "dry." Also banana leaves, roll with newspaper. We made our own toys. We made tops from guava trees, made yoyo with empty spool, made tractor, too—rubber band was used, made kite with bamboo, and newspaper paste was poi or rice. We played marbles.

There were lots of games—guess hand, ring, fish, and jump hole. Made our pea gun with clothespins, jump rope with the girls and jacks, too. If we didn't have jacks, we use stone pebbles. Tic-tac-toe—broom sticks. Telephone—two sausage cans tied with string; sardine cans for walking—we made stilts. I remember chewing sugar cane, riding cane trailer before it reach the scale. And we use to catch bullfrogs and put the cigarette in their mouth. They would inhale the smoke until they burst.

I use to shine shoes for 25 cents. That was in 1942. Lots of servicemen come over. We use to make those shoes shine like dress shoes. We use to burn the bristles of our polish brush. They would buy us lunch at Luke's Place—meal would be steak, about half-inch thick, and French fries, too. Eventually, the



Jacob Zane with the kau kau tin he used to take to work at the plantation.

Kohala Lions Club made us a shoe-shine stand.

And I use to help my auntie in the restaurant Akona Chop Suey. I use to turn over the dough for the saimin, and my cousin would use the bamboo to flatten the dough. The bamboo was about four inches diameter and six to seven feet long, lying across the table. At the end of the bamboo, they put a rope and anchor it to the floor. You sat on top of the bamboo on the other side, sideways like riding a horse. I'd be turning over the dough while my

cousin was flattening it, because he was bigger than I was and weigh more. Then my auntie would slice it into strips. They use to boil the pork butts for the soup paste. You can't beat homemade kine!

Every summer during high school, we would work in the cane field, hoeing grass. Working in the plantation was really hard. The fun working was sharing lunch pail, called kau kau tin, and also swimming in the gulch. The boss would fall asleep, and when he woke up, it's past 12:00 p.m., and he would

blow his whistle. Everybody would run up the bank and go back to work.

After high school, I work plantation for five years. I would wake up five a.m. Use to ride the plantation truck about 6:30 by the Hawi Post Office. Get to our destination and start working hoeing grass until it was lunch hour. Then we would make a circle about six or eight of us and take out our kau kau tins. The tin had two parts, rice in bottom. In top, meat or sausages. We open the cover, keep whatever we want, and pass the tin around. I would have all kine of food in my kau kau tin at the end of the line. Those was plantation days.

I work night shifts, irrigation overhead. We had to move aluminum pipes at night whether it was raining or muddy, we had to do our job. I work sugar mill, stacking and filling sugar in bags, and when mill break down, I had to go fire room clean ashes. Talk about hard times.

Living away from plantation was really different. I use to live in Honolulu. Everything there was fast-going, cars and buses passing every day. Plantation days was just trucks and very few cars. Horses, too. I think you can't beat those days, you take everything one day at a time. Parties was almost every weekend, either wedding or birthdays. They use to serve us food, we didn't have to go and get our own. They would have their own orchestra, and everyone would dance and have a good time.

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