

Kohala Mountain News

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April 24, 2026

Tool Library Unveils Expanded Space, New Workshops for 2026



Photo by Clark Jones

Harry Taylor, tool library manager, conducts a stained glass workshop.

By David Gibbs

The North Kohala Tool Library (NKTL) is celebrating a major milestone with the expansion and reorganization of its community space, making it easier than ever for residents to access the tools they need for home projects, repairs and creative pursuits.

The continually improving layout reflects months of thoughtful planning and hands-on effort from manager Harry Taylor and the amazing volunteer tooligans. Shelving has been redesigned, tools are more intuitively grouped, and signage is in the works to guide members quickly to what they need.

Whether you're tackling home or auto repair, starting a garden, or experimenting with a new craft, the refreshed space removes barriers, simplifies the borrowing process and is somewhere people can come not just to borrow tools, but to imagine what they can build next.

The expansion underscores NKTL's mission to increase access, reduce waste, and build community resilience by sharing resources. With over one thousand tools available—from basic hand tools to specialized equipment—members can borrow most items at no cost, saving money while reducing the

See Tool, Page 2

Kohala Heritage Center Awards Bestowed



Photos by Malcom Askew

Kohala Heritage Center honorees Kauai Nakamura and Toni Withington.

By Lynda Wallach

On April 2 Toni Withington and Kauai Nakamura were showered with lei and thanks from the Kohala community. They are the first two recipients of the Kohala Heritage Center's new annual award, "Ka Mea Hana No Ka Pono 'O Kohala," which means "One Who Works for the Benefit of Kohala."

Mark Kinoshita introduced the evening's event, held outdoors at the new STEM Center Courtyard at Kohala High School, where the round tables were elegantly set for the dinner to come. Audrey Veloria offered the pule, and Pat Ako, Board President of the Kohala Heri-

tage Center, shared that the mission of the Center is "to collect, preserve, promote and celebrate the diverse history of North Kohala" and that the award is given to honor those who have "created and worked for the benefit of Kohala, humbly and with earnest care for our community, by perpetuating the heart of 'āina and our culture."

Toni Withington was then introduced by Bill Graham, who described a few of the many projects Toni has given her time and attention to over the years, from protecting Kohala from overdevelopment in the 1980s, to her unstoppable

See Awards, Page 2

KHS Wins at FFA Statewide Competition

On February 26, the Kohala High School FFA club competed at the statewide competition held at Konawaena High School. Kohala FFA placed in several categories, including agricultural demonstrations of chicken processing and calamansi pickling. Pickled calamansi is a traditional Filipino condiment with a complex flavor profile created by fermenting the fruit.

In October 2025, the club competed at the 98th Annual National FFA Convention & Expo in Indianapolis, Indiana. After eight hours in the arena, evaluating eight differ-

ent horses, they placed in the top 10 for horse evaluation.

Dean Snelling, a Kohala High alumnus and natural resources teacher, leads the FFA club at Kohala High. It is one of the largest chapters in the state. The school did not have an FFA club when Snelling was a student but six years ago, when he returned as a teacher, he started the club.

Snelling says that career and technology education pathways have been revitalized in Hawaii's public education system. Kohala High has four paths from which stu-

dents can choose: culinary, nursing, construction and natural resources.

Snelling teaches natural resources, where students focus on agriculture and get hands-on experience. Part of that experience is belonging to the FFA club. He sees this education is critical in two ways. Firstly, the students must

know where their food comes from. Secondly, students must have a way to engage with businesses, have internships, work on projects and participate in clubs like FFA.

Beginning in 1928 as the Future Farmers of America, in 1988 the organization changed its name and is now known as the National FFA Organization.

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Awards, from Page 1



Guests enjoying the dinner prepared by students from the KHS Culinary Arts Program.

determination to protect Kohala's coastline. It is because of her tireless

efforts that so much of our coastline has been preserved for future gen-

Tool, from Page 1

need for unnecessary purchases.

Community members are encouraged to stop by, explore the new space, and learn how to become a member. Many first-time visitors are surprised by both the breadth of available tools and the simplicity of the borrowing process.

In addition to the physical improvements, NKTL is also launching an exciting new workshop series that will run throughout 2026. Beginning this spring, workshops will be held every third Saturday of the month from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., offering hands-on learning opportunities in a supportive, community-centered environment.

The first workshop, an Introduction to Stained Glass, will take place on May 16. Participants will learn foundational techniques and leave with their own handcrafted piece of stained glass artwork. Future workshops will cover a variety of practical and engaging topics, including knife sharpening; a "power tool petting zoo," where participants can try out different tools; bike maintenance; and more.

Workshops are offered with a suggested donation of \$25 per person. Due to the hands-on nature of the sessions, capacity is lim-

ited, and participants are required to pre-register at least one week in advance. Those interested can reserve a spot by calling or texting 808-213-7779 or by emailing manager@nktl.org.

The expanded space and new programming mark an exciting chapter for the North Kohala Tool Library as it continues to grow as a hub for skill-building, sustainability, and community connection.

Finally, NKTL would like to extend a warm mahalo for the continued support through generous grant funding from the Dorrance Family Foundation and the Atherton Family Foundation. It is with their generous support along with community-supported program revenue—including membership donations, individual donations, tool and materials sales, tool loan and late fees—that NKTL is able to continue to provide this unique and valuable service. This is the only tool library on Hawaii Island.

For those looking to start a project, learn something new, or simply see what's possible with the right tools, just drop in. NKTL's doors are open Monday and Tuesday 4-6 p.m., Thursday 8 a.m.-1 p.m. and Saturday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. We look forward to seeing you!

erations, he explained. It is a rare issue of the Kohala Mountain News that does not have at least one article by Toni informing the community of the work she and the many groups she is affiliated with are doing to keep Kohala Kohala. Toni was then presented with a beautiful handmade quilt, by Audrey Veloria, and enthusiastically applauded by all present.

Kumu Hula Kauai Nakamura was then introduced by Michael Clement, President of Na Kupuna O Kohala hula halau. He related how community service has always been an important part of Kauai's life, beginning in grade school when she helped both sets of grandparents in feeding the homeless, volunteering at hospitals, and helping the disabled.

Later, she made helping the community her career through her job in State Social Services. All along she has shared her love of hula and Hawaiian culture with the keiki, opio, and kupuna of Hula Halau Kalaniumi A Liloa and Na Kupuna O Kohala, as well as

overseeing multiple years of King Kamehameha Day events, and May Day ceremonies in the schools. Kauai too received a beautiful handmade quilt from Audrey Veloria, and the enthusiastic applause of all present.

After the awards, a wonderful dinner was served by Kohala High School Culinary Arts students, who had also prepared the meal, under the direction of Traci Figueroa. Two salads and three main courses were served family style to each table, followed by a plate of cupcakes in several delicious flavors.

As a tribute to Toni and Kumu Kauai, the dancers of Na Kupuna O Kohala performed three hulas and then James Hustace, our County Council representative, closed the celebration by adding his congratulations to the two honorees. After a wonderful evening the crowd rose, joined hands and sang together Hawaii Aloha.

Mahalo to the volunteers who made the event such a success and to Sharon Hayden, vice president of the executive board, for her tireless work on behalf of the Center.

NKCDP Advisory Group Agenda

Date: Monday, May 4, 2026,

Time: 4:30 p.m.

Place: Senior Center (behind the statue)

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 adjacent NKCDP Meeting Notes for information on issues currently being addressed.)

Affordable Housing - Housing needs for families in Kohala.

Agriculture - The future of agriculture in our area.

Community Access - Ways for Kohala residents to have more mauka and makai access.

Growth Management - Zoning, permits, and variance requests and how they affect us.

Health and Wellness - Kohala health care infrastructure and emergency response.

Parks, Roads, View Planes and Erosion Control - Infrastructure problems and projects.

Utilities - Utility and waste stream issues.

NEW BUSINESS

PUBLIC INPUT AND AGENDA SUGGESTIONS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

ANNOUNCEMENTS



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April 2026 NKCDP AG Meeting Notes

By Lynda Wallach

There were fewer reports than usual from the subcommittees at the April 6 meeting of the North Kohala Community Development Plan Advisory Group (NKCDP AG), as several meetings had been canceled because of the kona low storm. **Affordable Housing** did meet and Jack Hoyt reported the meeting was devoted to preparing for the 'Ohana Fun Day which, unfortunately, was also canceled. The event will now become part of a Community Resilience Fair, which is being put together by the County, in partnership with community partners, Civil Defense and Hawaiian Electric. Our County Council representative, James Hustace, is working with all the parties to schedule the fair for the end of August. At that time, the group intends to present an updated affordable housing survey with questions focusing on apartment/home rental affordability. The group also plans to have a sign-up sheet for a financial seminar for self-help applicants. Applicants currently need to take an online course followed by a test, but the group believes an in-person class would be more helpful. The group has created a handout which consolidates the seven-page self-help application on the Hawaii Island Community Development Corporation (HICDC) website down to two pages. The handout is available at the Kohala Community Resource Center, but the Center does not handle or help with the applications.

Kohala's Self-help Phase 3 in on hold since it is planned to follow Waimea's self-help project, which has been delayed.

Annalene Williams reported that the **Agriculture** subcommittee met with the CEO of 'Iole. Five years ago, the New Moon Foundation donated 'Iole to the Hawaii Community Foundation. 'Iole is a collaboration between HCF, University of Hawaii and Arizona State University. They only started working on the property in 2023. A project is being discussed that would identify surplus water at 'Iole which could supply a pipeline from 'Iole to the Meadow Gold Dairy. 'Iole has three water sources: the Bond tunnel, Hapahapai stream, and the Watt tunnel. All are above the ditch and could feed into it during rainy times. 'Iole could donate their seasonal amounts of excess water. Now, excess water is only watering cane grass, an invasive species, so capturing and using it would be a better option. There are also other water sources that could be identified to feed into this pipeline. Meadow Gold Dairy, currently the only operating dairy in Hawaii, needs water to grow feed for their cows. Meadow Gold would install and manage a four-to-six-inch pipeline. In time, small farmers could be able to tap into the pipeline. 'Iole also said it would be amenable to the creation of a community garden on its property. All of this is in the early conceptual stage.

North Kohala farmers are encouraged to join the Farmer's

Union. There are benefits to being a member. You can join by signing up on their website; dues are \$50 per year.

Toni Withington, reporting for **Community Access** said that \$1,000,000 may be appropriated for improvements at Pololū lookout. The squatters are gone from Hapu`u-Kapanaia but they left two cars and lots of garbage. The group has a project to digitize all the maps of North Kohala. They will be offered to the Heritage Center and to the library for community availability.

John Winter said that the **Utilities** subcommittee discussed the stalled microgrid project in light of the power outages that resulted from the recent storm. It was suggested that a letter be sent to the HECO executive director at the state level highlighting the effects of the repeated outages in our area on the public, particularly on healthcare facilities, businesses and elders. In addition, future scheduled outages for maintenance on the Kohala Mountain Road line will have similar disruptive effects. The group will meet with HECO representatives at their next meeting.

The group plans to contact the Solid Waste Division of the Department of Environmental Services to find out the cost of transferring greenwaste from North Kohala to the landfill. This will highlight the savings to the County of a local greenwaste processing facility in our area. A letter would then be written to the Division of Solid Waste to

propose that they use some of the savings to underwrite the Aikane start-up.

Winter also reported for **Parks, Roads, Erosion Control and Viewplanes** (PREV). He said that Councilman James Hustace and the Parks and Recreation deputy director met with the public on March 11 to discuss the delays experienced in rehabilitating Māhukona Park, especially considering the \$20,000,000 estimated cost to rebuild the pedestrian bridge to Coconut Island that the mayor seems already to have allocated.

There is an issue with the proposed changes to high school and elementary school intersection. The changes would result in a minor encroachment on DOE property. There are also issues between the high school and elementary school and the elementary school principal doesn't want traffic close to the fence line. The proposal is being withdrawn for the time being until everyone can come to an agreement on how to alleviate congestion. A meeting of all parties is planned.

Water is flowing at Lapakahi. It is for the irrigation of native plants that were planted on March 9 near the visitor center.

Times and places of the subcommittee meetings can be found in the calendar section of this paper. Committees are always looking for new members so consider volunteering.

The next meeting of the NKCDP AG will be on Monday, May 4, at 4:30 p.m. at the Senior Center.

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Project Saint Damien



Image by Justin Weiss

The statue of St. Damien, as modeled by the sculptor Jay Warren, in its planned location at Sacred Heart Hawi.

Story by Lee Rivera

We have some exciting news! Sacred Heart Parish Hawi is in the midst of planning

Project St. Damien: Pathway to Molokai. To give you a little sneak peek, we anticipate laying a foundation and are in the process of purchasing a life-size bronze statue of St. Damien. The first payment has already been sent.

We aspire to create a walking area with bricks engraved with names in honor or in memory of your loved ones, set within a peaceful garden environment where you may sit, pray, and meditate. This project will be located fronting the highway on the hill next to our church.

There are several ways you can contribute:

1. Cash or check: Deliver in person or mail to Sacred Heart Hawi, P.O. Box 220, Hawi, HI 96719. Please make checks payable

to Sacred Heart Hawi and note Project St. Damien on the envelope or memo line of the check.

2. Online: Visit <http://bit.ly/4m4UiLK>

We are also selling engraved bricks in two sizes:

- 4x8-inch engraved brick for a donation of \$250
- 8x8-inch engraved brick for a donation of \$500

These are the same bricks as those laid at the former Bond Memorial Library. Order forms are available at the entrance of our church or through our parish office.

Please note that Sacred Heart Church is a 501(c)(3) non-profit entity and your donation is deductible to the full extent of the law.

Our projected completion date is May 10, 2027, in honor of the St. Damien Memorial

Feast Day.

Thank you in advance for your support!

Kohala Easter Sunrise Celebration 2026



Photo by Steven Hedlund

James Ka`ai and Kale`a Perez perform at the Sunrise service.

By Mark Blair

The Kohala Ministerial Association, composed of several Christian churches of Kohala, hosted their annual Resurrection Celebration at Māhukona on Easter Sunday, April 5. More than three hundred worshippers gathered to honor Jesus Christ, who rose from the dead two thousand years ago. It was a beautiful morning.

We heard a powerful sermon preached by Pastor Kawika Kihara of the Gospel of Salvation and a testimony of life transformation by Jason Van Housen of Kalahikiola Church. We were led in songs of

praise by Pastor Jared Miyamoto and Daniel Diego of Overflow Church. Musical offerings were shared by Trisha Lashlee of Kohala Baptist Church and James Ka`ai and Kale`a Perez from Gospel of Salvation. An offering of \$1,423 was collected and given in full to the Convoy of Hope for their relief work following the floods in our state, and to International Christian Response to provide Farsi language Bibles for the fast-growing Christian church in Iran. After the celebration we enjoyed a hearty breakfast, which was provided by the members of the churches.



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Letters

KHC Recognition Dinner Kudos

Aloha,
On April 2, I had the pleasure of attending the Kohala Historical Center's first annual recognition dinner honoring members of the community who have given of themselves for the betterment and perpetuation of the culture of

Kohala.
We were treated with dinner by the KHS Culinary class, led by the talented Traci Figueroa. The food was delicious and followed by kūpuna hula. It was so inspiring to see this event utilize intergenerational partnerships in our com-

munity. Kudos to the students and Traci's skilled mentoring, as well as to the Board of KHC – great job.
I hope this event will continue for many years to come!

Mahalo,
Christine Richardson

Mahalo Hawaii County Parks and Recreation



Photo courtesy of Claire Trester

The swimming community and our many visitors who swim, dive and snorkel at Māhukona Beach Park want to extend a heartfelt Thank You to the welding crew who traveled from Hilo to repair the ladder on March 31. Pono Nakamura, our North Kohala Parks and Recreation district manager, was present to oversee the repair. The ladder is now more solid and stable than ever, just in time for the summer season.

Mahalo Nui.
See ya out there,
– Claire Trester

Post Office Locker Storage Times

Aloha, Kohala community:
We've lived here since 2005, long enough to remember the long lines at the Hawi post office before parcel lockers made pickups quick and easy.

Lately, though, many lockers are

being left occupied for days, sometimes longer. When packages aren't picked up promptly, those lockers can't be used for others—and the strain falls on both neighbors and our hardworking postal staff.

A simple reminder: please pick

up your packages as soon as you can. It keeps things moving for everyone and helps the system work as intended.

Mahalo for your consideration—and for taking care of the small systems that support our community.
– Bela Johnson

Amazon Shipments to Kohala Post Offices

Dear Editor:

I recently had an Amazon shipment returned to Amazon by the post office because my P.O. box number appeared only on the second line of the mailing address. It turns out that the address reader

used by the post office only reads the first line of my address. If the box number does not appear on the first line, the item is returned to Amazon.

As many of my Amazon orders are shipped by U.P.S., I had my

street address on the first line and my P.O. box on the second line. My postmaster advised that I revise the first line of my address to read:

Street number, followed by #xxxxxx box number. For example:
1234 Hiwahiwa Street, #190667
– Tom Morse

Handy Tip

I have been inundated with cardinals constantly flying into my house windows. These birds like to see their reflection in the windows. Consequently, the noise and dirty windows have been bothering me

for over a year. I have tried various remedies, but nothing has worked. Then I stumbled upon a solution.

Staple screens to the outside of the windows. It is barely noticeable, and the window can be cleaned by

removing the bottom staples, then reattaching them after cleaning. Since I have done this, those beautiful but pesky birds have gone. I'm left with peace and quiet, and clean windows.

– Mary Lou Griesser

Hawai'i State House of Representatives Update

From the Desk of District 8 Representative David Tarnas

As the 2026 legislative session enters its final stages, all bills approved by the House crossed over to the Senate for their consideration, while the House is considering all the bills that were approved by the Senate. After this stage, any bill approved by the House and Senate in different forms will be considered by joint House-Senate Conference Committees to negotiate a final version that will then return to both chambers for a final vote. Any bill that is passed in the same form by House and Senate is sent to the governor for approval into law or veto. Vetoes can be overturned by the legislature by a vote of the House and Senate.

Last month's article provided details on bills passed by the House regarding ethics, campaign finance reform, elections and other "good government" bills. This month's article provides an update on bills passed by the House relating to Native Hawaiian affairs that support housing, cultural preservation and community support. The measures, developed by the House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, have now been transmitted to the Senate for its consideration.

At the beginning of the legislative session, when the House majority highlighted its priorities for the year, advancing policies that sup-

port Native Hawaiian families and communities was one of our major themes. To that end, the House Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs Committee has approved legislation that provides sustainable sources of funding to the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, supports the interagency working group responsible for calculating the pro-rata share of ceded land revenues that must be paid to OHA, expands the successorship eligibility for Hawaiian Homeland leases, and strengthens the support for programs relating to Hawaiian culture and language.

The following measures
See HI Rep update on 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: 5/8/26
Calendar: 5/15/26
Distribution: 5/22/26

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

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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ABOUT US

Publisher/Ad Sales Manager
Tom Morse ☎ 345-0706
ltmorse@aol.com

Managing Editor
Maureen Garry ☎ 494-4237
kohalanewseditor@gmail.com

Layout & Calendar Editor
Annalene Williams ☎ 339-4951
kohalacalendar@gmail.com

Bookkeeper
Jill Kupitz ☎ 896-2332
jillkupitz@gmail.com

April Contributors

Malcolm Askew, TryLyn Corotan, David Gibbs, Mary Lou Griesser, Steven Hedlund, Tucker Henderson, James Hustace, Bela Johnson, Clark Jones, Amoo Kainoa, Min Su Kang, Kawika Kihara, Kohala High School, Dalin Ka'imi Loo, Tamryn Lorenzo-Akamu, Tom Morse, Christine Richardson, Lee Rivera, Leilani Silver, David Tarnas, Claire Trester, Kimi Valenzuela, Lynda Wallach, Justin Weiss, John Winter, Toni Withington.

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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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HI Rep, from Page 5

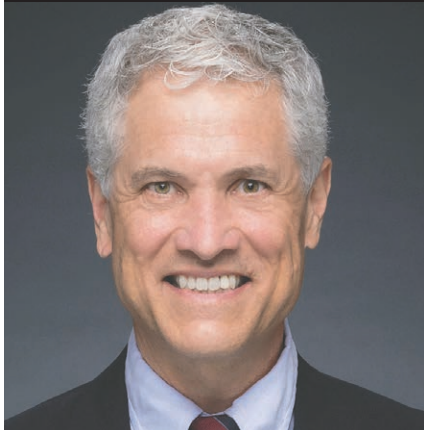


Photo courtesy of David Tarnas Representative David Tarnas speaks for North Kohala as a member of the Hawai'i State House of Representatives.

HB2309 HD1 amends the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1920, as amended, to include sibling's children as qualifying relatives of lessees for the purposes of lease transfer and lease successorship, in the same manner currently allowed for spouses, children, grandchildren, and siblings.

HB2433 HD1 requires that priority be given to the language of a law that aligns with the intent of the Legislature if there is a difference between the English and Hawaiian versions of the law that is material to its interpretation.

HB2046 HD2 establishes and appropriates funds for the 'Olelo Hawai'i Commission to coordinate and promote initiatives that support the use of 'Olelo Hawai'i. Sunsets 12/2/2030.

HB2438 HD3 establishes the Hawaii Cultural Trust within the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism. Establishes an income tax credit for contributions made to the Hawaii Cultural Trust and qualified Hawaii cultural organizations, under certain conditions. Establishes a special number plate for motor vehicles to support the Hawaii Cultural Trust. Applies the income tax credit to taxable years beginning after 12/31/2026.

HB2047 HD2 amends the process for hiring the Executive Director of the Aha Moku Advisory Committee. Specifies that the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources is responsible for the appointment, oversight, and

administrative authority over the Executive Director of the Aha Moku Advisory Committee. Requires any formal position, recommendation, or advisory action of the Aha Moku Advisory Committee to be adopted at a duly noticed public meeting at which a quorum is present. Amends the reporting requirements of the Aha Moku Advisory Committee.

HB2104 HD2 extends the time to fill vacancies that occur during an Island Burial Council member's term. Provides per diem compensation in the form of a stipend for Island Burial Council members. Revises the Island Burial Councils' quorum for business to be a majority of the appointed council members.

HB2582 HD1 amends the membership and responsibilities of the Public Land Trust Working Group established under Act 226, SLH 2022. Requires the Working Group to submit four reports to the Legislature: a first interim report regarding Act 178, SLH 2006, financial reporting and accounting; a second interim report regarding the public land trust inventory; a third interim report that includes a preliminary draft of findings and recommendations regarding Act 178 financial reporting and accounting and the public land trust inventory; and a final report that includes proposed legislation. Authorizes the Office of Hawaiian Affairs to provide administrative support to the Working Group in coordination with a third-party consultant.

HB2584 HD1 temporarily

increases the total amount of public land trust revenues transferred to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, while reaffirming the State's obligation to the twenty per cent pro rata share pursuant to the Hawaii State Constitution.

My articles over the next couple months will include summaries of the major bills approved by the legislature during the 2026 legislative session. As always, I welcome your input and suggestions on legislation. Please contact me by email at reptarnas@capitol.hawaii.gov or by phone at 808-586-8510. Mahalo for allowing me to serve as your State Representative!

approved by the House have crossed over to the Senate.

HB2049 HD3 restructures the conveyance tax to a marginal rate system for the sale of properties with residential use, adjusts the tax for multifamily properties to reflect value on a per-unit basis, and applies a cost-of-living adjustment to conveyance tax rates. Allocates revenues from conveyance tax collections. Allocates a portion of conveyance tax collections to the Dwelling Unit Revolving Fund to fund infrastructure programs in areas that meet minimum standards of transit-supportive density. Allocates a portion of conveyance tax revenues to the Hawaiian Home Lands Trust Fund.

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Kohala Artists Coop
May 2nd opening party
Featuring Chris Sweeney
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Art, stories, laughter, music & pupus at the Kohala Artist's Coop, from 6-8pm, May 2nd, 2026, across from the Kapaau post office

Pickling & Fermentation Workshops
in the Walker Hall kitchen at St. Augustine's Church
Saturday, June 6 8:00 am - 4:30 pm
Friday, June 26 8:00 am - 4:30 pm
Seats fill fast! Please scan to register.
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County Council Update

From the Desk of District 9 Councilmember James Hustace



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

Aloha Kohala!
This spring, a series of powerful storms affected many communities throughout the state. If you experienced damage from the recent kona low systems and haven't yet reported it, please contact the Hawai'i County Civil Defense Agency. The recent storms unfortunately forced the cancellation of the 'Ohana Fun Day at Kamehameha Park. My office is working with partners to reschedule this resilience-focused event to later this year. Mahalo for showing up for

one another during this time.

Over the past few weeks, I've had the privilege of acknowledging many outstanding individuals and groups across our community. Most recently, I had the opportunity to honor Toni Withington and Kai Nakamura at the Kohala Heritage Center's Ka Mea Hana No Ka Pono 'O Kohala event. Their dedication to preserving Hawai'i Island's cultural and natural resources continues to benefit the Kohala community. Through advocacy and cultural leadership, they exemplify stewardship and a deep connection to place.

Last month, the Council passed Bills 127 and 128, which I co-sponsored with Councilmembers Kierkiewicz and Kagiwada, respectively. Bill 127 proposed the creation of a Construction Code Commission to provide guidance and recommendations on building safety and efficiency standards. Although the mayor vetoed this measure, we will be revisiting this discussion. Bill 128 established a third tax tier for higher-value, non-owner-occupied residential properties. As we approach budget discussions, we will review tax rates for this category along with the new long-term rental tax classification.

At the beginning of April, I introduced Resolution 513 to support a conservation easement for

the Kealoa Family Lo'i in North Kohala. This effort would protect an important agricultural and cultural site while supporting ongoing educational and community use. We are also actively continuing our discussions on the General Plan and will be considering legislation about our short-term rental system with Bill 147. Please don't hesitate to reach out with questions or to learn more about how to participate in Council proceedings. Mahalo for staying engaged.

We also began our review of the mayor's proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 totaling approximately \$966.9 million. This represents a modest increase from last year. The plan emphasizes public safety, infrastructure improvements and community facilities, including support for first responders, road maintenance and park upgrades. The capital budget includes 45 projects totaling \$358.7 million, funded

through bonds, grants and other sources, with a focus on long-term investments in infrastructure and community development. This month, the Council conducted a detailed review of the budget, meeting with departments to better understand their priorities, progress and challenges. These conversations were an important step to help guide funding decisions and ensure alignment with community needs.

Lastly, I want to welcome North Kohala's new police captain, William Derr. We are grateful for your service to the community.

I am honored to serve as your council member. You are welcome to email me at james.hustace@hawaiicounty.gov, call our Waimea office at (808) 887-6077, or our Hilo office at (808) 961-8564.

Wishing you good health and aloha!

Correction

The March 2026 issue included Part 2 of Walawala – Kohala's Forgotten Chiefess. We inadvertently neglected to give the link to the online document, which includes references. It can be found, along with Part 1, at bit.ly/4afXcrB.





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Kohala High School Turns 100

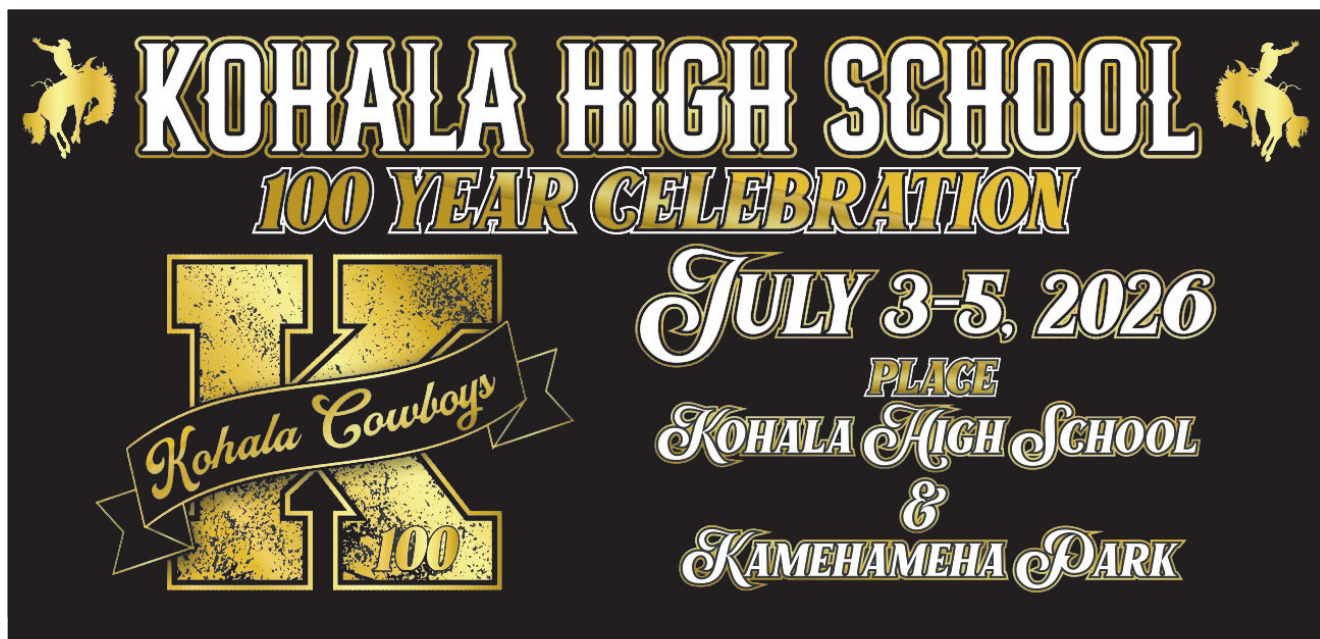
By Amoo Kainoa

All alumni, former and current students, teachers, coaches, staff, ohana and anyone who has ever been part of Kohala Schools Complex are invited to come to this celebration and show your "Cowboy Pride."

In a small town like Kohala, a school is more than a campus—it's a gathering place, a memory keeper, and the heart of our community. For generations, Kohala students have grown up together from kindergarten through graduation, side by side in the same classrooms, on the same fields, and at the same community events. This year, we have a rare chance to celebrate something truly special: Kohala High School's 100th anniversary.

On July 3, 4 and 5, Kohala will host a once-in-a-lifetime homecoming to honor 100 years of Kohala High School, one that we hope will bring alumni from across Hawai'i and around the world back home. Many of us on the Planning Committee are living proof of what this school means: for some, Kohala High is part of a fourth-generation legacy.

The lessons learned here and the people who guided us like teachers, coaches, principals, counselors, aunties, uncles and all who helped shape who we became. From these halls and sports fields came graduates who became doctors, lawyers, business owners, educators, community leaders, and the everyday caretakers of our 'āina and kūpuna. Kohala High didn't just teach academics, it taught values: hard work, respect, teamwork, humility, and pride in where we come from.



Courtesy of Kohala High School

This Centennial is themed "Cowboys" in tribute to our proud heritage as the Kohala Cowboys—a name that carries more than school spirit. It carries the legacy of paniolo life, plantation roots, and the strength of a community that has always shown up for each other.

Throughout the weekend, we'll celebrate with alumni entertainment, intramural games, class and spirit competitions, a community parade, and plenty of time to reconnect and talk story. We're also excited to host Cowboy Church on Sunday, followed by a mini exhibition Rodeo—a heartfelt way to honor our paniolo roots and the faith and resilience that carried generations of Kohala families. Each graduating class from 1951 to

the present will have a gathering space at Kamehameha Park to set up, share memories, and represent their era with pride. We want to see class tents filled with old photos, sports stories, senior-year highlights, and all the moments that made your class special. Whether you were Class of '62, '79, '03, or 2025—this celebration is for you.

If you've ever said, "Kohala made me who I am," this is your moment to come and celebrate it. Bring your classmates. Bring your 'ohana. Bring your Cowboy pride. Come honor the teachers and staff who believed in you. Come stand beside the friends who knew you "back when." And come be part of a memory that will last another 100 years. To make this celebration safe, welcoming, and worthy of our

community, we are seeking donations. Online gifts can be made through the North Kohala Community Resource Center donation page under "Kohala High School 100 Year Celebration." With the support of our community and partners, we can make this event a joyful and unforgettable celebration—one that honors our past, celebrates our present, and inspires our future.

If you have any questions, please email the Kohala High School 100-Year Celebration Committee - Dennis and Lehua Matsuda, Amoo Kainoa, Patty Marquez, Maile Lincoln, Lisa Carvalho, Kuliama Aveiro Kalaniopio & Kohala High School's Planning team - at kohalahundredyear@gmail.com.

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Letters

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

The Environmental Impact of Pollution

Dear readers,
Aloha mai, kakou. My name is Trylyn Corotan, and I'm in seventh grade at Kohala Middle. I want to stop pollution, especially plastics, and you can help too.

Pollution has numerous environmental impacts, including habitat destruction, marine animals becoming entangled in plastic and fishing gear, and compromising food safety for both humans and animals.

I know you love seafood, so stop throwing your rubbish into the ocean so you can have as much seafood as you want. Don't you want your future kids and ohana to enjoy the beaches, playing in the sand, making sandcastles, and surfing? Also, don't you enjoy snorkeling and shelling? Well, we can't do that if there's trash in the ocean.

I want to see cleaner beaches with crystal clear water. Let's start more beach clean-ups with your ohana and community.

Here's a challenge for you. When you go to the beach, try to pick up 5 pieces of opala (trash or rubbish) and bring eco-friendly products to the beach. Help stop pollution in the ocean!

Thank you for your time!
Sincerely, Trylyn Corotan

How to Avoid Shark Bites

Dear Swimmers of Kohala,
Did you know that three to four people in Hawaii are attacked by sharks every year? Hi, my name is Tucker Henderson, and I was wondering, have you ever been bitten by a shark? Well, if you have, I'm sorry for you, but if you haven't, follow these simple instructions so you don't get bitten.

First, if you have any bleeding or open wounds, don't go in the ocean because sharks can smell human blood from about half a mile away. Don't go into the sea at dusk or dawn, because that is when most shark species come close to shore. If you are swimming and you see a shark, don't panic—stay calm and slowly head back to shore, but keep your eyes on the shark.

If a shark approaches and you feel unsafe, there are three ways to scare it away. Number 1: Kick the shark in the nose. The nose is

their soft spot, so if you kick it, they will swim off. Number 2: Poke them in the eyes. Poking a shark in the eyes blinds it temporarily, causing it to swim away from the pain. And finally, Number 3: Grab them by the gills. Holding a shark by the gills is painful for them and can make their gills hurt, so they will leave.

So, if you ever encounter a shark, or if you don't want to encounter one, follow the instructions above.

Mahalo for reading,
Tucker O. Henderson

How to Help Protect Coral Reefs

Dear Kohala, my name is Min Su Kang, and I am a 7th grader from KMS.

Have you ever experienced the wonder of snorkeling in our beautiful, clear ocean waters, surrounded by vibrant coral reefs, only to encounter a lifeless, gray, and brown patch of dead coral? It's heartbreaking to witness the decline of these magnificent ecosystems. However, we have the power to reverse this trend by taking simple yet effective actions. Coral reefs are not just beautiful; they play a critical role in protecting our shores from coastal storms and tsunamis.

By preserving these natural barriers, we safeguard our homes and communities from the destructive forces of nature. It's our responsibility to ensure that future generations can also enjoy the beauty and benefits of healthy coral reefs. So, what can we do to protect these precious ecosystems?

First, we must be mindful of our boating practices. Boats release fossil fuels that pollute the water, resulting in damaging effects on coral reefs. The chemicals in these fuels can cause tissue swelling and impede the growth of corals as they struggle to recover from other stressors.

Additionally, anchoring near coral reefs can cause direct physical damage, destroying these organisms that have taken years to grow and thrive.

But it doesn't stop there. When we step on coral, we crush the delicate polyps, the very building blocks of the coral's structure. This harm is irreversible; once damaged, that piece of coral cannot heal, leading to further decline of the reef.

While some of these precautions may seem challenging, they are essential for the long-term health of our oceans. With collective effort, we can create a sustainable environment where coral reefs flourish and continue to provide their invaluable services.

Let's commit to protecting our coral reefs by avoiding large vessels in their vicinity and being conscientious when swimming near them. Together, we can have a significant impact and make a difference. Ultimately, it all comes down to our appreciation for the ocean and the life it sustains. Protecting coral reefs is not just an option; it's a necessity. Let's take action today for a healthier ocean tomorrow!

Sincerely, Min Su Kang



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Letters

Safety on the Road

Aloha Kohala,
My name is Dalin Ka'imi Loo and I'm currently a seventh-grade student at Kohala Middle School. As you know, a car can be a useful tool to help us move around our beautiful island or it can be something that can take a life. Without proper driving knowledge and safety, you can endanger not only yourself but others around you. Every single year, 102-150 people in Hawaii die in car accidents and car related incidents.

As you probably have heard or seen, Nui, a local boy in Pahala, died in a car crash at only age 13. This truly was a tragic event. If we want to prevent more occurrences of somebody dying, I strongly encourage you to PAY ATTENTION.

Some tips for being safer on our roads

are to focus on the road at all times and limit distractions like phones and such. Another way to be safer is to wear a seatbelt. Seatbelts will stop you from flying forward and hurting yourself or whoever else is in your vehicle. One thing that can be extremely dangerous is speeding. If you maintain a safe speed then you're able to control the car better and stop if needed easier. Along the lines of safety comes making good driving decisions. Even though you might think of it as a good idea, it can have disastrous consequences.

By following these safety tips, I hope we can make our roads in Kohala safer for everybody.

Mahalo for your time!
Sincerely, Ka'imi

Pros and Cons of Social Media

Aloha,
My name is Tamryn Lorenzo-Akamu, and I am a seventh grader from Kohala Middle School. I am here to talk to you about social media.

Social media has both positive and negative aspects, and it affects people in various ways. You might ask, "What's good and bad about social media?" Well, that's why I'm here to talk about.

Some benefits of social media include allowing people to connect with friends, family, and like-minded individuals; fostering a sense of belonging; reducing isolation;

and providing opportunities to learn about new events and interesting topics.

Some cons of social media are potential drama; fighting; addiction; and mental health issues. Social media can disrupt sleep patterns due to its attention-grabbing nature and exposure to blue light, which can impact memory and academic performance.

Thank you for listening to my letter about the pros and cons of social media and its effects on children.

Sincerely,
Tamryn Lorenzo-Akamu

Walk the Cross in Kohala 2026



Photo by Kimi Valenzuela

Christ-followers walking the cross on Good Friday.

By Mark Blair

More than fifty Christ-followers from our community marched down Akoni Pule Highway on April 3, from Kamehameha Park to Hawi. This is the fifteenth year that the Christian churches of Kohala have worked together to walk the cross through our community on Good Friday.

We took turns carrying a wooden cross to remember and reflect on the sufferings of Jesus Christ for our salvation two thousand years ago. We stopped at several points along

the route and Pastor Steven Hedlund of Kohala Baptist Church led us in readings from the New Testament describing Christ's crucifixion and its meaning for our lives. We are grateful for the kind support of our community as drivers passed carefully and waved their shaka of support.

After our long walk we gathered under the banyan tree in Hawi and were refreshed by a lunch prepared by the members of the Gospel of Salvation and a message by their Pastor, Kawika Kihara.

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North Kohala Public Library May 2026 News and Programs



By Leilani Silver

Did you know? The Hawaii State Public Library System offers access to Kanopy. Kanopy is a video streaming service that provides instant access to thousands of critically acclaimed movies, documentaries, and kids' favorites. Free streaming access is available with your HSPLS library card. You'll find the quick link and instructions for connecting to Kanopy on the library's website.

Chinese Medicine Talk with Ila Jhaveri: May 4 at 3:00 p.m. All participants will walk away with useful and highly effective tips on using food-as-therapy, acupressure, and other lifestyle tools, as well as info on acupuncture and Chinese herbal medicine.

Chess Club: May 4 at 5:00 p.m. Both beginners and veteran players are welcome to challenge others in this classic game of strategy. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Preschool Storytime: May 6, 13, 20, 27 at 10:00 a.m. We gather to sing songs, read a few simple stories, then make a craft or do an activity every Wednesday. Great fun for 2-5-year-olds and their parents or caregivers.

Lego Club: May 6, 13, 20, 27 at 2:00 p.m. Join us every Wednesday for some imaginative fun as we build cool creations out of Legos. Creations will be displayed at the library.

Crafting Club: May 6, 13, 20, 27 at 2:00 p.m. Join us every Wednesday for some crafting fun. We will cut, paste and make cool craft creations. All supplies are provided.

Homeschool Thursday: May 7 at 11:00 a.m. Join us for an informational story followed by a related activity or craft. This program is best suited for kids 6-11.

Teen Crafting Hour: May 8 at 3:00 pm. Come to the library and make your own backpack or purse charm. All supplies are provided. Program is for ages 13 and up.

Crystal Alchemy Singing Bowl Soundbath: May 11 from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Join Leilani Silver for a unique immersive experience of being "bathed" in the vibrations of eight 432 Hz Crystal Alchemy Singing Bowls made from 99.9 percent clear quartz.

The tremendously powerful high frequencies instantly reduce stress and tension and create a relaxed and meditative state that supports healing and regeneration.

Adult Book Club: May 12 at 11:00 a.m. For May, the adult book group is doing a poetry sharing. Select a poem to share. Following the poetry sharing they will also have a short discussion about the book "Fox 8" by George Saunders. The book is available to pick up at the library.

Hawaiian History Talk Story with Local Historian Boyd Bond: May 18 at 5:30 p.m. This month's topic is Kamehameha I and the Conquest of the Kingdom.

Children's Book vs. Movie Club: May 28 from 2:30-4:40 p.m. This month's selection is "Guardians of Ga'Hoole: The Capture" by Kathryn Lasky. Read the book and/or come watch the movie. Short discussion will follow. Popcorn provided! Program is for ages 7-12. The book is available to pick up at the library or for digital download from www.librarieshawaii.org.

Teen Book Club: May 29 from 2:30-4:40 p.m. This month's selection is "Percy Jackson & the Olympians: The Lightning Thief," by Rick Riordan. Read the book and/or come watch the movie. Short discussion will follow. Popcorn provided! Program is for

ages 13 and up. The book is available to pick up at the library or for digital download from www.librarieshawaii.org.

North Kohala Public Library Hours:
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Puako Boat Ramp Slated for Improvement

By Toni Withington

North Kohala boaters, who have to trailer their vessels a long distance to water, will be glad to hear the Puako boat ramp and its loading ramp are scheduled for an upgrade. The State Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation (DOBOR) is applying for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permits and is seeking public comments on the replacement. The proposal includes replacing the 85-foot-long existing boat ramp with one of the same or a near-similar footprint using pre-cast concrete panels. Concrete closure strips will be added to the sides of the ramp, along with a

wheel stop at the end.

The project also includes replacing the existing wooden loading dock with a new prefabricated floating dock within the same area.

The approach from the parking lot to the loading dock will include an ADA-compliant concrete ramp with aluminum handrails. No cost estimate or proposed date of construction are mentioned in the announcement.

Comments on the plan can be sent to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers through the State's CZM Contact: Debra Mendes at (808) 587-2840 or Debra.L.Mendes@hawaii.gov.



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KHS Creates Young Entrepreneurs



Photo from Na'au 'Ōiwi's social media page
 Students from KHS's Na'au 'Ōiwi Program have created a new business: Na'au 'Ōiwi Provisions.

After winning the Hawaii State Department of Education's annual Kalo Challenge three years straight – most recently with their freeze-dried instant poi, kalo pa'a, kulolo and laulau – students from Kohala High School's Na'au 'Ōiwi Program decided to take on the challenge of entrepreneurship.

Five students from the program came together to form Na'au 'Ōiwi Provisions, a student-led initiative focused on creating recipes that make kalo more accessible, versatile, and resilient—especially in times of emergency. Adding to their previous list of products, the students created a kalo granola snack. Their goal is not only to celebrate a traditional crop, but also to ensure it remains a reliable source of nourishment for the community under changing conditions.

The project was developed through the Hawai'i Agricultural

Foundation's Young Entrepreneurs Program, a hands-on experience that empowers high school students to build real, agriculture-based businesses. Participants learn to take an idea from concept to market—developing products, crafting a brand, and selling through online platforms and local farmers markets.

Since its launch in 2018, the program has provided students with practical entrepreneurial skills while strengthening Hawai'i's local food systems. It also addresses a deeper need: creating meaningful opportunities for young people who want to remain in their communities.

For these Kohala students, Na'au 'Ōiwi Provisions represents more than a business. It's a way to honor tradition, respond to environmental challenges, and invest in the future of their community.

WEEKLY EVENTS IN MAY 2026

DAY	START	END	EVENT	VENUE	CONTACT (808)
M-S	8:30AM		NARCOTICS TALK STORY	RAINBOW CAFE	
MON	9AM		SENIOR CLUB @ CIVIC CENTER	KOHALASENIORS@GMAIL.COM	
	12:00PM		SENIOR BALANCE, STRENGTH & FITNESS	KIC	238-6111
	4PM	6PM	TOOL LIBRARY	54-3842 AKONI PULE HWY	213-7779
	4:30PM		RMD TAIKO CLASSES	HUB HALE	895-2025
	5:30PM		DEFIANT BRATS (WOMENS' AA)	AINAKEA HOME	747-9627
TUE	8AM	9AM	NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS	NEAR SKATE PARK	805-452-9501
	8AM	9AM	TAI CHI WITH PETER BEEMER	OUTSIDE HISAOKA GYM	895-0737
	8AM		YOGA/PILATES BEGINNER CLASS	OUTSIDE HISAOKA GYM	333-8275
	4PM	6PM	TOOL LIBRARY	54-3842 AKONI PULE HWY	213-7779
	4:30PM	6PM	LOVE YOUR BELLY DANCE CLASSES	CALL FOR LOCATION	238-6111
	4:00PM		FOOD PANTRY	ST AUGUSTINE'S	889-5390
	6PM	8PM	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	6PM	THRIFT SHOP	ST AUGUSTINE'S	889-5390
	2PM	4PM	OPEN GUIDED ART STUDIO	ARTISTS' CO-OP	960-3597
	2PM	3PM	LEGO CLUB	NK PUBLIC LIBRARY	889-6655
	3:30 PM	4:30PM	RMD TAIKO CLASSES (NOT 1ST WED)	JODO MISSION	895-2025
	5PM	6PM	CHOIR PRACTICE	ST AUGUSTINE'S	889-5390
	6PM	8PM	FREE MEAL AND BIBLE STUDY	KALAHIKIOLA CHURCH	218-4872
	6PM	7:30PM	SEIBUKAN KARATE ACADEMY	HISAOKA GYM	889-1828
	7PM		SPIRITUAL HEALING SERVICE	ZOOM	989-5995
	7PM	8PM	ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS	ST. AUGUSTINE'S	895-5843
THU	8:30AM	1PM	TOOL LIBRARY	54-3842 AKONI PULE HWY	213-7779
	9:30AM	10:45PM	HEALING CIRCLE FOR ADDICTS	NANI'S GARDEN	805-452-9501
	5PM		OPEN CIRCLE MEDITATION (NOT 2ND)	KEOKEA BEACH PARK	889-5390
	6PM	8PM	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
SAT	8AM	12PM	HAWI FARMERS MARKET	KOHALA VILLAGE INN	895-7870
	8AM	5PM	TOOL LIBRARY	54-3842 AKONI PULE HWY	213-7779
SUN	10AM	12PM	EGSTATIC DANCE	HUB BARN	
	6PM	7PM	SEIBUKAN KARATE ACADEMY	HISAOKA GYM	889-1828
	7PM	8PM	RECOVERY DHARMA MEETING	RED COTTAGE VILLAGE HUB	(907) 888-8166



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Kalahikiola Church
 "Since 1832, proclaiming Jesus Christ to Kohala"
 Sunday Worship and Children's Program 9:30 am
 Tuesday Prayer 11:30 am
 Wednesday Bible Study 7 pm
 www.kalahikiolacc.com
 53-540 'Iole Rd., Kapa'au
 Pastor Mark Blair
 E Komo Mai!

Kohala Baptist Church
 Across from Makapala Retreat
 "Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."
 (Matthew 11:28)
 Please join us Sundays for Bible Study at 9:00 AM and Worship and children's Sunday School at 10:30 AM
 Pastor Steven E. Hedlund (808)889-5416
 Follow us on Kohala Baptist Church

KOHALA HONGWANJI SHIN BUDDHISM
 May Service
 Sunday, May 17, 10:00 am
 All are invited to come and share in the compassion of our Nembutsu teachings. Come as you are.
 On the right approx. one mile past the Kohala Middle School In Halaula
 Reverend Daido Baba
 808-884-4481



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 We have the proof!**

Join with fellow like-minded individuals at The Temple of Spiritual Healing & Education, an evidential Spiritualist church that offers teachings on:
 How to send & receive Spiritual Healing, the secret of Prayer. Join us for Musical Inspiration in Songs, Chants & Satsang. Re-discover Joy of your youth in feeling your Guardian Angel again at the Temple of Spiritual Healing & Education.

Gospel of Salvation Kohala
 55-146 Kokoiki Road
 Service: Sunday 9:00 AM
 Adult Bible Study: Monday 7 PM
 Prayer Meeting: Friday 7 PM
 Pastor Kawika Kihara
 www.gos-kohala.org

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

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
 Hawi, Hawai'i • The Welcoming Church
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 Sunday 7 a.m. • 9:30 am
 Weekday Mass: Monday - Friday at 7 am
 Adoration: 1st Friday 6:30 - 7:30 pm
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 Keiki Sunday School 9 am
 Facebook Livestream 9 am
 www.staugustineskohala.com

The Bahá'í Faith
 "May we unite as the waves of one sea"

Please join us to explore About the Baha'i Faith
May 9, 2026
3 - 4:00PM in Hawi, HI
 Call Bob and Elaine Losey at 808-551-0665 for more information

Contact April Lee for Services; Sun, 10AM; Wed, 7PM We offer help for you: Blessings, Christenings, Protection of unwanted spirits, Memorials, Weddings & Final-days 'Departure' assistance.
 TempleofHealing@proton.me or 808-989-5995.

MONTHLY CALENDAR MAY 2026

	DAY	START	END	EVENT	DESCRIPTION	VENUE	PHONE
4/25	SAT	9:30 AM	3:30 PM	NON VIOLENT COMMUNICATION WORKSHOP	LOKAHI GARDEN SANCTUARY, VEGAN SOUP, BRING LUNCH	55-448 HOEA RD	808-896-7170
5/1	FRI	3:00 PM	6:00PM	FEATURED ARTIST RECEPTION	MARK A JOHNSON & WENDY NORITAKE	OLENA GALERY	808-345-1779
5/2	SAT	8:00 AM	11:00AM	THRIFT SHOP		ST AUGUSTINE'S	808-889-5390
5/2	SAT	5:30 PM	8:00PM	FEATURED ARTIST RECEPTION	CHRIS SWEENEY	ARTISTS' COOPERATIVE	808-854-1058
5/4	MON	3:00PM	4:00PM	HEART HEALTH W/ ILA JHAVERI	FOOD-AS-THERAPY, ACUPRESSURE	NK PUBLIC LIBRARY	808-889-6655
5/4	MON	4:30 PM		ADVISORY GROUP MEETING	NKCDP	OLD COURTHOUSE	IMUAKOHALA@GMAIL.COM
5/4	MON	5:00PM	6:30PM	CHESS CLUB	ALL AGES WELCOME!	NK PUBLIC LIBRARY	808-889-6655
5/6	WED	4:30 PM		KOHALA COMMUNITY ACCESS GROUP	NKCDP	OLD COURTHOUSE	IMUAKOHALA@GMAIL.COM
5/6	WED	7:00 PM		TEMPLE OF SPIRITUAL HEALING	GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP - CALL FOR ZOOM LINK	ZOOM	808-989-5995
5/7	THU	11:00	12:00PM	HOMESCHOOL GROUP	LEARN AND SOCIALIZE	NK PUBLIC LIBRARY	808-889-6655
5/11	MON	3:00PM	4:00PM	SOUND BATH	WITH LEILANI SILVER	NK PUBLIC LIBRARY	808-889-6655
5/12	TUE	11:00AM	12:00PM	BOOK CLUB	POETRY & FOX 8 BY GEORGE SAUNDERS	NK PUBLIC LIBRARY	808-889-6655
5/13	WED	9:00 AM		AFFORDABLE HOUSING GROUP	NKCDP	POMAIIKA I CAFE	IMUAKOHALA@GMAIL.COM
5/13	WED	5:00 PM		GROWTH MANAGEMENT GROUP	NKCDP	OLD COURTHOUSE	IMUAKOHALA@GMAIL.COM
5/14	THU	9:00 AM	11:00AM	SACRED HEART FOOD BASKET	FOOD DISTRIBUTION	SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH	808-889-6436
5/15	FRI	4:00 PM		HEALTH & WELLNESS GROUP	NKCDP	NKCRG	IMUAKOHALA@GMAIL.COM
5/16	SAT	11:00 AM	1:00PM	TOOL LIBRARY WORKSHOPS	USEFUL AND BEGINNER-FRIENDLY TOPICS	TOOL LIBRARY	808-213-7779
5/18	MON	5:30 PM		HAWAIIAN HISTORY TALK STORY	BOYD BOND	NK PUBLIC LIBRARY	808-889-6655
5/20	WED	3:30 PM		UTILITIES GROUP	NKCDP	OLD COURTHOUSE	IMUAKOHALA@GMAIL.COM
5/20	WED	5:00 PM		PARKS, ROADS VIEW PLANES GROUP	NKCDP	OLD COURTHOUSE	IMUAKOHALA@GMAIL.COM
5/27	WED	4:00 PM		RESTORATIVE YOGA THERAPY CLASS	WITH CARLA ORELLANA - BY REQUEST	CALL FOR LOCATION	808-238-6111
5/28	THU	5:00 PM		AGRICULTURE GROUP	NKCDP	NKCRG	IMUAKOHALA@GMAIL.COM
5/28	FRI	2:30PM	4:30PM	TEEN BOOK VS. MOVIE CLUB	PERCY JACKSON & THE OLYMPIANS: THE LIGHTNING THIEF BY RICK RIORDAN	NK PUBLIC LIBRARY	808-889-6655
5/28	THU	2:30PM	4:30PM	CHILDREN'S BOOK VS. MOVIE CLUB	GUARDIANS OF GA'HOOLE: THE CAPTURE" BY KATHRYN LASKY	NK PUBLIC LIBRARY	808-889-6655

How to Use the Hawai'i Public Library's Free Online System for Books and Magazines

By Tom Morse

Many of us are familiar with walking into our library and checking out a book. What fewer people realize is that your library card also gives you access to a large online collection of ebooks, audiobooks, and magazines—all free, and all available from home.

The Basics

To use the system, you will need a Hawai'i State Public Library card and a Personal Identification Number (PIN)—a four-digit number which your librarian can provide.

Digital materials are provided through a service called Libby (which replaces the older OverDrive system).

With Libby, you can:

- Borrow books and magazines.
- Place holds on popular titles.
- Have items returned automatically (no late fees).

All you need is:

- 1) A library card.
- 2) An internet connection.
- 3) A computer, tablet, or Kindle.

Using It on a Computer

While Libby is often promoted as a phone app, it works very well on a regular computer.

- 1) Go to libbyapp.com.
- 2) Click "Find My Library" and select Hawai'i State Public Library System.
- 3) Enter your library card

number and PIN.

From there, you can browse or search just like shopping online.

Borrowing Books

Once you have the Libby app open, you can search for what interests you. At the bottom of the app, you can search by author or title by clicking on the magnifying glass (circle with a tail).

The app can also provide you with suggestions by category. When you select an item, you will have a choice to "Borrow" or "Place a Hold" if there is a waiting list. You can place up to 15 holds.

Once the item is available, you can read it on your computer screen, or on a Kindle.

If you prefer reading on a Kindle:

- 1) Find a book and click Borrow.
- 2) Choose Read with Kindle.
- 3) You'll be sent to Amazon to confirm (no charge).
- 4) The book appears on your Kindle.

If you want to always have something to read, keep one book checked out and several books on hold.

As soon as one becomes available, borrow it and continue reading or "Suspend Hold," which holds your place in line until you are ready. This creates a steady flow of books without having to search each time.

Reading Magazines on a Com-

puter

- 1) Search for a magazine title (or just type "magazines").
- 2) Click Borrow.
- 3) Click Read in Libby.

The magazine opens right in your browser.

You can:

- Enlarge the text.
- Scroll page by page.
- Read comfortably on a full-size screen.

There are many popular titles available, and unlike physical

copies, there is no waiting—magazines are always available.

A Few Helpful Tips

- Items return themselves—no need to remember due dates.
- You can renew books, if no one else is waiting.
- If a hold becomes available at a bad time, you can delay it.
- The system is free and always available.

For assistance, call or visit the North Kohala library.



NEW FROM Hawai'i Care Choices

Kupu Care comes to Kohala

We are now offering **Kupu Care Palliative Services** to people in North Hawai'i who are living with serious illness.

Now booking in person in Waimea! By appointment only. Call us at (808) 969-1733 to schedule.



Pōhai Mālama welcomes kūpuna to live or stay

Nestled in the heart of beautiful Hilo, **Pōhai Mālama Care Home** offers a peaceful, safe place to call home — where kūpuna receive personalized care, heartfelt attention, and round-the-clock support. Ask about visiting for a short stay one to three weeks!



You're invited to float a lantern at Celebration of Life

Please join our **free community event** Sunday, May 24, at Reeds Bay Beach Park in Hilo. There will be food, music, bon dance, hula, a decoration tent, and lantern floating to honor our loved ones passed together at dusk. Starts at 3 PM and goes until 7:30 or PAU.



Visit Us Online:
hawaiicarechoices.org
(808) 969-1733



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NORTH KOHALA COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER

9th ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

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- Lava Lava Beach Club, Huggo's, Kai Eat & Drink
- Makani Golf Course
- Manaoloa Hawaii
- Mauna Kea Beach Hotel
- Mauna Kea Golf Course
- Mauna Lani Auberge Collection Resort
- Mauna Lani Golf Course
- Merriman's Restaurant
- Nanea Golf Course
- Ocean Sports Hawaii
- PepsiCo
- Puakea Ranch
- PXG (Parson's Extreme Golf)
- Stan's Contracting
- TaylorMade Golf
- Merida @ The Westin Hapuna Beach Resort
- Tommy Bahama
- Waiakea Water
- Waikoloa Beach Resort Golf
- Waikoloa Village Golf Course

Special mahalo to our volunteers & to Jay Taise and his ALWAYS-awesome team at Hapuna Golf.



Kupuna Softball



Front row (left to right): Altery Murai, Greg Galan, Mel Kelsom, Harry Cabrera, Guy Nakamura.
 Middle row (left to right): Eddie Kise, Moses Bautista, Ted Matsuda, Steve Nakamura.
 Back row (left to right): Jim Trump, Leo Fullner, Kehei Roxborgh, Beldon Kealoha.
 Missing: David Fuertes, Dennis Kaneshiro, Steven Maeda, Ken Wills.



Front row (left to right): Ben Bruno, Valerie Murai, Renee Gonsalves, Pamela Estabilio, Terrance Alcoran, Danny Guerpo
 Middle row (left to right): Kamon Kupuka'a, Tony Garcia, Mel Ako
 Top row (left to right): Brad Estabilio, Francis Roxburgh, Stan Gonsalves, Robert Smith, Kaleo Motta, Neal Gonsalves.
 Missing: Jim Foschia, Joe Anderson, Tyrus Higa, Berta Garcia, Eduardo Andrews.

Story and pictures by Tom Morse
 Kupuna (senior) softball started on the Big Island about fifty years ago. Teams from Oahu, Maui and Kauai joined the league in the next couple of years. Around 1976 inter-island competition began, leading to annual statewide kupuna (senior) tournaments. Teams from each island traveled to compete, rotating host islands, as they still do today.

Then, as now, it was not only playing the games, but the social aspect that has made the league so popular. Players make friendships with players from other teams that they compete against year-after-year.

There are 24 teams on this island. Traditionally, the host teams provide a sit-down pot-luck lunch after the Saturday games. Spouses often join in. The minimum age is 60, although each team is allowed one player as young as 55. The league is administered by the Hawaii County Department of Parks and Recreation.

For about forty years Kohala had just one team in the league. In 2016 Kohala won the state championship. Just four years later, at the start of Covid, the team disbanded.

In 2010 a second team from Kohala joined the league – Local Boyz. They were our only team from 2017 to 2025.

This year a second Kohala team formed and joined the league – Kohala Makules. On April 12, these two Kohala teams played each other in a double-header at Kamehameha Park. Each team won one game.

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54-3701 Lehuula Cir.
 Kapa'au, HI 96755
 MLS 728496 | \$1,149,000

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KHS Baseball 2026



By Tom Morse

The Kohala High School 2026 baseball team.
 Front row (left to right): River Moore, Chaedon Kawai, Hunter Javillonar, Cayden Pajimola, Tyler Sulliban.
 Second row: Cullen Hook, Wyatt Rabang, Sheldon Ancheta, Solomon Mackillop.
 Third row: Kaua Reyes, Royden Tabiolo, Jordan Manatan, Kaimana Nakamura.
 Top: Head Coach Chance Pang, Assistant Coach Alii Kaaekuahiwi.

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