



OKK's Keiki Fishing Tournament returns on Saturday, Jan. 25 at Punalu'u.

Photo by Peter Anderson

OKK Keiki Fishing Tourney Returns to Punalu'u Shoreline

The return of the 'O Ka'u Kākou Keiki Fishing Tournament along the Punalu'u shoreline will be Saturday, Jan. 25 from 8 a.m. to noon. The headquarters will be at the county pavillion. The tournament went dark during the COVID pandemic.

Pre-registration ends at noon on Thursday, Jan. 22.

It's the 13th Catch & Release Keiki Fishing Tournament sponsored by OKK. It's for ages 1-14 who will fish for 90 minutes with hand poles with barbless hooks, using their own or those provided by the tournament. Bait is also provided. No chumming is allowed. A parent or legal guardian must accom-

OKK Keiki Fishing, pg. 7

THE KA'Ū CALENDAR

Volume 23, Number 1

The Good News of Ka'ū, Hawai'i

January 2025

Lava Fountains Welcome Volcano Awareness Month

Volcanic eruptions and lava fountains are heralding the arrival of 2025 with January as Volcano Awareness Month. USGS Hawaiian Volcano Observatory hosts events in Ka'ū and beyond throughout January for the public to learn about volcanic activity in Hawai'i and to submit art and poetry recognizing Hawai'i's volcanic history.

Programs in Ka'ū include a talk story opportunity with HVO staff at Nā'ālehu Public Library from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 8; a talk summarizing eruptive activity and earthquakes over the past year at Cooper Center in Volcano village on Friday, Jan. 10 at 6 p.m.; a coffee talk at Kahuku Unit of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park on Saturday, Jan. 11 at 9:30 a.m. regarding the 2019–2020 water lake at Kīlauea summit; an opportunity to learn the art and science of geologic mapping in Hawai'i during a talk at Volcano Art Center in Volcano village on Thursday, Jan. 16 at 6 p.m.; and a talk in Pāhala at Ka'ū District Gym Recreation Room on Monday, Jan. 27 at 5:30 p.m. about earthquakes happening deep beneath that region since 2019.

As part of Volcano Awareness Month 2025, USGS invites the public to enter a new art and poetry contest, open Jan. 1–20. Submit a haiku poem or art in any medium, no larger than 16x24



Crowds at the crater take in the view of towering lava fountains, some 300 ft. tall at Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. NPS photo by Janice Wei

inches in size, related to volcanic landscapes or eruptions in Hawai'i. Winners in several categories will be announced in a Volcano Watch article at the end of January, and a selection of entries will be on display at a scientific conference

on caldera-forming eruptions, such as Kīlauea's in 2018, set for Hilo in February 2025.

USGS Hawaiian Volcano Observatory monitors six active volcanoes in Hawai'i, noting that past eruptions have

shaped all of the Hawaiian Islands. From the unique sands of Papakōlea Green Sand Beach to lava flows across the landscape, this island is shaped by volcanic processes and events. USGS reports that

Volcano Awareness, pg. 15

Hawaiian Home Lands Says it Requires Ranchers to Lock Gates

Locked gates are the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands' requirement for ranchers leasing the Native Hawaiian lands in the South Point, Ka Lae area. Bryan E. Jeremiah, District Supervisor of the East Hawai'i District Office of DHHL, wrote in December, "It is important to remember that we as people have the kuleana to preserve and protect our limited resources for the generations that follow."

He reported, however, that locks are cut and government signs removed in Ka Lae where Native Hawaiians lease

DHHL lands and raise cattle. He said the locked gates are maintained to protect livestock and to ensure a secure access for emergencies, including fighting wildfires. In a letter to longtime Hawaiian Home Lands ranchers Dean and Jeanette Tissy Kaniho, Jeremiah said, "It has recently come to the attention of the Dept. that security of DHHL lands and access used for the purpose of emergency and authorized "access only" have been damaged, locks cut, government signs removed. It has been further reported that you have had to replace and repair at your cost..."

"In recent days, the Dept. has received a few calls regarding what is assumed to be public access through Native Hawaiian Lands. Further, we understand there have been threats by the community to 'Burn you down' assuming that the closure was initiated by your team."

The letter states that "Effective Immediately, access through Native Hawaiian Lands (DHHL) currently under contract with Dean Kaniho are prohibited. Signs have been posted, and gates secured in an effort to repair and restore grounds damaged by years of abuse. DHHL is a

State agency and as such will prosecute to the furthest extent possible those who would ignore posted signs, locked gates and notifications by management."

Anyone with questions can contact East Hawai'i District Office for DHHL at 808-974-4250.

The publication of the story online on Dec. 23 drew more than 10,000 views of *The Ka'ū Calendar* facebook page and prompted many comments.

Da Chuns posted: Ka 'Ohana Kaniho and the other families down there have

DHHL Locks, pg. 11

Punalu'u Resort Named a Top Ten Story of 2024

Hawai'i Tribune Herald's editorial staff named the proposed Punalu'u development as one of the top ten stories on the island for 2024 and its sister publication *West Hawai'i Today* carried the list with Punalu'u coming in eighth. The explanation carried in the two daily newspapers is as follows:

"A currently stalled proposal by a foreign-born developer to build a 225-acre resort development on a 147-acre parcel adjacent to Punalu'u Black Sands Beach Park has raised hackles in the

Ka'ū community.

"Neighboring residents to the proposed Punalu'u Village project turned out en masse in March before the Windward Planning Commission to protest the plans of developer Xiaoyuan "Eva" Liu and Black Sand Beach LLC to develop the \$350 million project. Three groups of Ka'ū residents have been granted standing in a contested case against an application for a special use permit for the project.

"In particular, opponents have ar-

gued the development of Punalu'u Village will have significant negative impacts on the area's public water, fire suppression and wastewater systems, which they say are in disrepair.

"A 2020 report about the condition of Punalu'u's water infrastructure noted several leaks and inoperable equipment — notably, six of the 17 fire hydrants in the area were found to not work.

"Some of the opposition to the project stems from fears it will impact fragile

Punalu'u Project, pg. 3

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KA'Ū BUSINESS, REAL ESTATE

Volume 23, Number 1

The Good News of Ka'ū, Hawai'i

January 2025

Business & Spirit of Kalo Ignite First Taro Fest

The first Kāniwala Kalo O Ka'ū, the Ka'ū Taro Festival drew growers from around the island to show it and Ka'ū residents how to grow it. Organizers of the event held on Dec. 14, with Herkes Ka'ū District Gym as the main showroom, said they plan to make it an annual event. Its major sponsor is 'O Ka'ū Kākou and the organizer is Tim DeLozier, who chairs OKK's scholarship committee. He said all money raised from Ka'ū Taro Festival will fund its 2025 Scholarships for Ka'ū students in secondary and career training.

DeLozier reported that more than \$8,000 was raised for scholarships. In

addition, about \$10,500 was taken in by food, arts, crafts and other vendors. To give additional contributions to the scholarship fund, see www.okk.kauai.gov/ka-ou-taro-festival.

During the festival, Ti Chun exceeded. Auntie Paulette Ke and her 'ohana conducted an opening protocol. County Council member Michelle Galimba inducted Ka'ū youth Ioane Naboa, Alazae Forcum, Lexi Manilla-Louis and Arabella Ortega to become Honorary Festival Ambassadors. They later rode in the Pāhala Town Lighted Christmas Parade.

Pāhala Hongwanji Taiko performed and its Youth Taiko Drummers presented their premiere performance.

Rep. Jeanne Kapela



Several kinds of taro, some good for lu'au leaf, others for making poi and other dishes, found new homes with those who attended Kāniwala Kalo O Ka'ū, the Taro Festival.

OKK photo by Linda Davis

presented a certificate of appreciation to OKK Pres. Wayne Kawachi from the state Senate and House of Representatives. It praises OKK for all of its community work and says this about the meaning of taro and kalo:

"Throughout the history of

Hawai'i, kalo has been a staple food for the people of Hawai'i and has served as a symbol of the deep connection between people and the land." It says that by organizing the Taro Festival, OKK "brings the community together to celebrate the cultural, economic, and histori-

Taro Festival, pg. 3

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KA PEPA PAHALA

Volume 23, Number 1

The Good News of Ka'ū, Hawai'i

January 2025



Ioane Naboa, Alazae Forcum, Lexi Manilla-Louis and Arabella Ortega, the Youth Ali'i Court for Ka'ū Taro Festival. OKK Photos by Linda Davis



Na 'A'ali'i, led by Ulu Makuakane danced for the first Kāniwala Kalo O Ka'ū, Ka'ū Taro Festival.



Ulu Makuakane, who founded Na 'A'ali'i.



Auntie Paulette Ke and her 'ohana give the blessing for opening of the first Ka'ū Taro Festival.



Lois Camba and members of Pāhala Hongwanji Taiko group, both youth and adults, performed for the Ka'ū Taro Festival.



Much art about taro filled the Ka'ū Taro Fest showroom.

Taro Festival, from pg. 2

cal significance of kalo, while using this event as a platform to raise funds and awareness for initiatives that directly benefit the people of Ka'ū."

The commendation says, "The Legislature of the State of Hawai'i hereby recognizes and congratulates 'O Ka'ū Kākou for organizing Kāniwala Kalo O Ka'ū, applauds its commitment to community service and cultural preservation, and extends to the organization a heartfelt mahalo for its dedication to improving the lives of the people of Ka'ū."

The event also featured the hula of Na 'A'ali'i, under the direction of Ulu Makuakane. South Hawai'i Symphony performed. Keoki Sereno sang and played 'ukulele as did Pāhala Seniors.

Taro farmers provided sales, displays and education. Artists and artisans honored taro in many forms from taro themed teddy bears, stained glass, jewelry, tiki and night lights, pottery and paintings to prints, fabrics, quilts, bags, woodworks and clothing to cuisine. Taro foods ranged from poi balls and kulolo and kalo mochi to taro smoothies and taro chips to kalo hummus and freeze dried pa'i'ai.

Sponsors included: OKK, Ka'ū Coffee Mill; Olson Trust; 'Ohana Foods in Hilo and Nā'ālehu; Mizuno Superette; CU Hawai'i Federal Credit Union; Luana Hospitality Group with Huggo's, On the Rocks, Lava Lava Beach Club and Kai Eats Drinks; Ka'ū Auto Repair; Punalu'u Bakeshop; Mālama Ka'ū Foundation; Gone Fishing, Inc.; Hawai'i Energy; Backyard Monkey LLC Tree & Yard Service and The Club at Discovery Harbour.

For more, see <http://www.okaukakou.org/kau-taro-festival> or call Tim DeLozier at 808-582-2342.



Ti Chun emcee Taro Festival



Several kinds of taro, some good for lu'au leaf, others for making poi and other dishes, found new homes with those who attended Kāniwala Kalo O Ka'ū, the Taro Festival.



Ka'ū Taro Festival organizer Tim DeLozier, a member of sponsoring organization OKK.

Photo by Julia Neal



State Rep. Jeanne Kapela gives a commendation to OKK Pres. Wayne Kawachi.

Governor Green Wants Severe Illegal Fireworks Penalties

In the wake of at least four deaths and many more critical injuries from illegal fireworks on New Years Eve, Gov. Josh Green said he will work with the 2025 Hawai'i Legislature to toughen laws and penalties for illegal fireworks. He referred to carnage at an Aliamanu home on O'ahu when aerial and other fireworks apparently exploded, killing several and sending more than two dozen to hospitals, many in critical condition. Separate incidents led to one death and severe injuries.

Green said he wants "very, very severe" penalties to deter the use of illegal aerial fireworks. The Governor called for eleva-

tion of possession of over 50 pounds of illegal fireworks to a Class C felony with five years in prison and a \$10,000 fine.

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Punalu'u Project, from pg. 1

ecosystems and endanger wildlife, such as endangered hawksbill sea turtles. The nearby black sand beach is one of the last nesting sites for the turtles in the state, said Maxx Philips, Hawai'i director for the Center for Biological Diversity.

"However, project consultant Daryn

Arai said most of the areas planned to be developed for the project are located away from sensitive areas — and that much of the development would restore the shuttered facilities of the former Sea Mountain Resort that was built in the area in the 1960s and '70s."

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Ka'ū Night Skies January 2025

by Christopher Phillips

Astronomer, Resident of Volcano, and Co-Host of *Stargazer* on Hawai'i Public Radio

January features a parade of planets that are visible throughout the night, beginning at sunset with the planet Jupiter (Ikaika), which can be seen overhead towards the west (Komohana). Easily one of the brightest objects in the night sky, Jupiter is often mistaken for an aircraft. Mars (Holoholopinaau) can also be seen after sunset in the east (Hikina). Mars is also a very bright planet and on a good night it takes on a slight orange and red hue, unlike Jupiter which appears to be whiter. Both planets can be seen throughout the evening and make for excellent targets through a good pair of binoculars or a small telescope.

JANUARY MOON PHASES

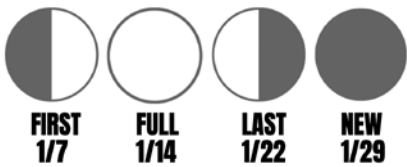


Image credit: 'Imiloa Astronomy Center of Hawai'i

Our Hawaiian sky

This month the Hawaiian starline of Kalupeokawelo begins to make way for the rising starline of Ke Kā o Makali'i, known in English as The Great Bailer of Makali'i. It is composed of some asterisms (collections or patterns of stars) that may be familiar to you. One such asterism is Makali'i itself, the Hawaiian name for the Pleiades star cluster, which holds significant cultural importance, especially in marking the start of the Hawaiian Makahiki season (a time of harvest and renewal).

This starline connects several bright stars in the night sky, such as Hōkūlei is also the name for a circle of five stars forming a star-lei, the star Hōkūlei being the brightest star in the celestial lei. The Western name for the star Hōkūlei is Capella. To the naked eye this star appears as one bright star, but in reality it is a quadruple star system. Four Sun-like stars, all orbiting one another in a complex yet

graceful celestial dance. The name of the constellation that includes the circle of five stars of the lei is Auriga, the Charioteer. As we progress along the line we come across Nā Māhoe (The Twins), which you may know as Pollux and Castor, the twins of Gemini, and 'A'ā (Sirius), which were used to maintain bearings and locate islands during voyages. The line runs through these stars and concludes at Ke Ali'i o kona i ka lewa (The chief of the southern sky). These stars form a celestial "line" that resembles a canoe bailer used for scooping water. For the keen eyed amongst us, we notice that the bailer appears to scoop up the stars or Orion and the Pleiades, before appearing to empty them out into the western horizon as it passes overhead during the night. For a casual observer, it's a simple and beautiful way to recognize some key stars and learn about Hawaiian cultural perspectives of the cosmos.

A New Star for 2025

Our skies are on the verge of hosting a truly remarkable event, one that has been quietly waiting to unfold for nearly 80 years. The enigmatic *T Coronae Borealis*—better known as the Blaze Star—



Image credit: NASA/JPL

is preparing to erupt in a spectacular outburst that could illuminate the night sky for all to see. *T Coronae Borealis* is no ordinary star. It resides in the constellation *Corona Borealis*, or the Northern Crown, a delicate arc of stars that seems to hang in the sky like a celestial garland. But this particular star is part of a binary system, locked in an ancient dance between a white dwarf and a red giant. As the white dwarf steadily pulls hydrogen from its larger companion, it builds up

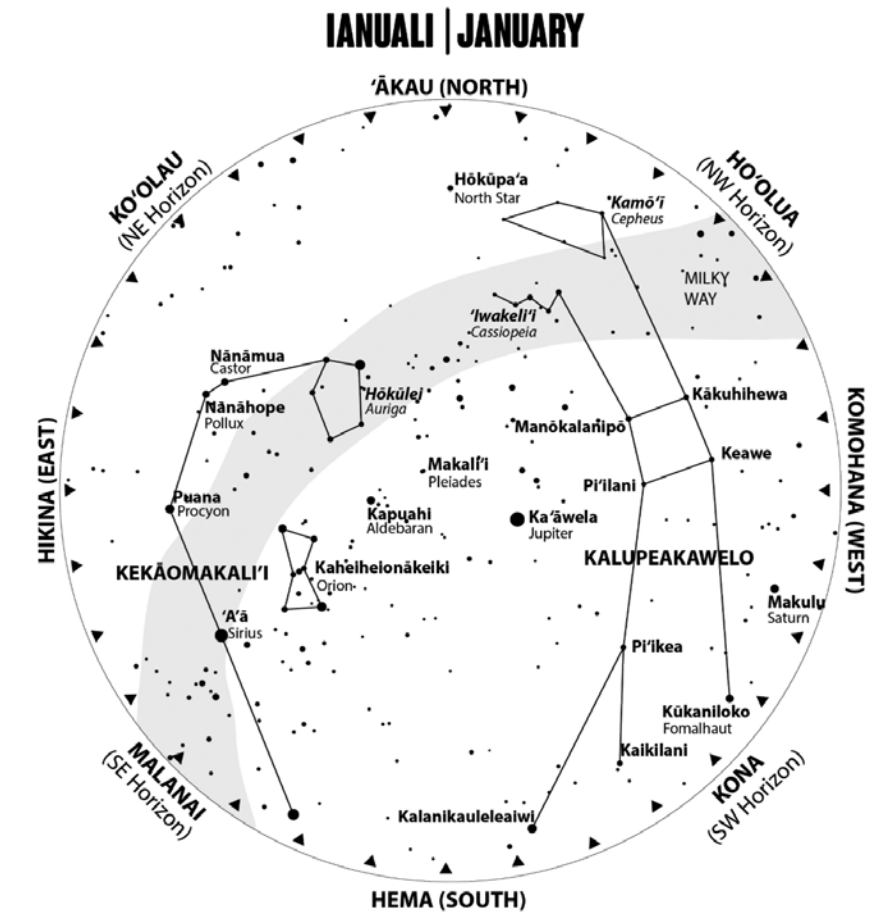


Image credit: 'Imiloa Astronomy Center of Hawai'i

pressure until—without warning—a thermonuclear explosion occurs. The result? The Blaze Star erupts into brilliance, becoming thousands of times brighter and visible to the naked eye. This dramatic transformation has been recorded only twice in modern times, first in 1866 and again in 1946. Now, astronomers believe we are on the cusp of its next eruption, and the anticipation is electric.

The precise timing of the Blaze Star's next outburst remains a mystery—it could happen tonight, next month, or even next year. But that's part of what makes events like this so thrilling. The unpredictability keeps us looking up, reconnecting with the night sky in a way that feels both ancient and immediate. To locate *T Coronae Borealis*, find the constellation *Corona Borealis*, nestled between *Boötes* and *Hercules*. Even in its dormant state, the Blaze Star is faintly visible with a telescope or binoculars. But once it ignites its brightness will

increase dramatically, making it easy to spot with the unaided eye.

This isn't just an opportunity to see something beautiful—it's a chance to witness the dynamics of our universe in action. The Blaze Star offers scientists a window into the life cycle of binary star systems and the processes that drive stellar explosions. For the rest of us, it's a reminder of the incredible forces at work in the cosmos, far beyond the reach of our everyday lives. Here in Hawai'i, where our skies are among the clearest and darkest in the world, we are uniquely positioned to experience this event in all its glory. Whether the Blaze Star erupts tonight or months from now, the act of observing and wondering connects us to the countless generations who have gazed at these same stars, searching for meaning, beauty, and a sense of place in the vastness of it all.

Happy stargazing for 2025, and may the Blaze Star soon light your way!

Mayor Kimo Alameda, Council, Prosecutor Take their Oaths

Dr. Kimo Alameda, Prosecuting Attorney Kelden Waltjen, JD, and Ka'ū's Dr. Michelle Galimba were sworn in with eight other County Council members on Dec. 2. Third Circuit Chief Judge Wendy DeWeese presided.



County Prosecuting Attorney Kelden Waltjen, JD

Alameda said the inauguration was

held on Kona side in light of his commitment to geographic equity in county government; the venue was Kaleiopapa Convention Center at Outrigger Kona Resort & Spa. He promised to work for the populace in every district of Hawai'i County.

Guests who quietly attended included Ka'ū's former representative in the U.S. Congress and recently elected Office of Hawaiian Affairs trustee Kai Kahele, Lt. Gov. Sylvia Luke and Gov. Josh Green.

The opening featured Kumu Hula Keala Ching's Oli, presentation of flags, the U.S. National Anthem, singing the island's national anthem *Hawai'i Pono ʻī*, Kamehameha School Chaplain Brian Boshard's invocation and the emcee throughout, Lorna Lim.

Alameda talked about being born and raised on this island and the strength drawn

from his immediate family, with seven children and his late wife Star. He thanked his many relatives who live on island and hundreds who worked on his campaign. He said he celebrates the diversity of this island's population and talked about the many celebrations from Hawaiian Makahiki and Christmas to Hannukkah, Kwanzaa and special days for Buddhism and Islam.

He said he is in the mayorship to support the labor force, including the county workers. "We have to love on our County workers." He talked about a caring approach to folks working and living together in Hawai'i County and said, "Nobody cares how much we know until they know how much we care." He said he wants to reduce divisiveness and said it's not about the "left Shaka or the right Shaka." It's about "the Double Shaka."

The mayor said he



Raylene Auli'i Fujikawa Moses led Alameda's Ka'ū campaign. She is a leader in establishing the first Hawaiian language immersion school in Ka'ū.



Hunnay Demello, of Ka'ū, dances at Dec. 2 ceremony with County Council Chair Dr. Holeko Goro Inaba at left and Ka'ū Council member Dr. Michelle Galimba at right.

Photo by Julia Neal

celebrates protecting the people and also their recreation and mentioned getting the new lighting up and on at Nā'ālehu ballpark soon.

Chair of the County Council Dr. Holeka Goro Inaba began his presentation in 'Ōlelo Hawai'i, the Hawaiian language. He called the County Council, mayoral and administrative transition "a new tide." He said the work is grounded

Council Takes Oath, pg. 11

The Ka'ū Calendar



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KA'Ū SPORTS REPORT

Volume 23, Number 1

The Good News of Ka'ū, Hawai'i

January 2025

Coach Calls Ka'ū: The Mighty Trojan Wrestling Team

"The Mighty Trojan Wrestling Team" is the name that Coach Ray Mazyck is giving the students who competed in their first varsity tournament at Rumble on the Rocks on Dec. 21st. It was hosted by Kealakehe High School and its Coach Ivan Louis, who is son of local Pāhala resident and former Ka'ū High State Wrestling Champion Andy Louis, and his family. Coach Mazyck said they "put on a wonderful tournament for the athletes, we are grateful for everything they do within the league."



Zeke Kaawa-Kamimura lifting his opponent off the ground in a takedown attempt.

Photo from Trojan Wrestling

Out of the roster of 20 Trojan wrestlers comprised of 14 males and six females, six males and one female were able to compete. The athletes representing Ka'ū were: Kona Smith (Jr), Ezekiel "Zeke" Kaawa-Kamimura (Sr), Eli Crook (Soph), Camdon Higbee (Soph), Devin Alpin (Jr), Elliott Grimm (Fr), Brayshell Hoohuli-Pogtis (Fr) Each wrestler received three matches in the

tournament, which for most of the Trojans was their first wrestling matches ever. "Despite that fact, the young wrestlers stoically stepped up to the challenge and wrestled their hearts out, gaining much needed experience to further their budding wrestling careers," said the Coach, noting that "Wrestling is a tough sport that is constantly evolving, wins do not come easy and losses are guaranteed. Numerous live matches are vitally important to an athlete's growth, this tournament provided exactly that. Every wrestler learned from their experience and continued to evolve, getting progressively better each match."

Smith, Hoohuli-Pogtis, Alpin, and Grimm were all unable to secure wins, while Crook and Higbee went 1-2 on the day. "Both Eli and Camdon were able to end the day on a high note winning their last matches of the tournament. Senior Zeke Kaawa-Kamimura made his wrestling debut in triumphant fashion going 3-0 and taking first place in the 126 lb weight class. Zeke came out and wrestled like a grizzly bear really putting his strength and determination on display. There are very few wrestlers that come out a month and a half deep into the sport and perform like that, let alone win a tournament. Overall I'm extremely proud of each of them and truly blessed to be part of a team with these fantastic young men and women.



Trojan Wrestling team before participating in Pāhala Town Lighted Christmas Parade: Robin Javorski-Olson, Russell Santiago-Sanchez, Kamaehu Guerpo-Craft, Kelen Carriaga-Pascual, Desmond Camba, Camdon Higbee, Coach Ray Mazyck, Dreana Vierra-Mukini, Haukea Koprivnikar, Rain Nihipali-Sesson, Elliott Grimm, Waileia Kainoa, Kona Smith, Brayshell Hoohuli-Pogtis. Not pictured: Zion Pascubilo, Dayton Keohulua, Alazae Forcum, Eli Crook, Devin Alpin, Zeke Kaawa-Kamimura.

Photo from Trojan Wrestling

I am excited to watch them continue to grow on and off the mat," said the Trojan wrestling coach.

The "Mighty Trojan Wrestling Team" departed for O'ahu Dec. 26 for two separate tournaments. Trojan boys participated in the Moanalua Dual tournament Dec. 27-28th. Coach said, "The format of this particular tournament allows for the unique opportunity to wrestle 3x as many matches as a normal format."

He also reported that "Trojan Girls have been invited to an incredible event, the 13th annual Pa'ani Challenge!" It is the largest women's wrestling event in the nation. Check out paanichallenge.com for more detailed information. The event included guest speakers; a wrestling clinic put on by Clarrisa Chun, head women's wrestling coach at University of Iowa; and a college career fair, followed by an all women's wrestling tournament.

Flag Football Leader Position Posted for Ka'ū High

A leader for a flag football program at Ka'ū High & Pāhala Elementary School is sought. Deadline to apply is Jan. 17. Athletic Director Jaime Guerpo said the school is "seeking a dedicated and enthusiastic individual to lead our Flag Football program. This position offers an exciting opportunity to mentor student-athletes, foster teamwork, and promote a positive athlet-

ic experience for participants at both the high school and elementary levels."



To qualify applicants must have: Experience playing or coaching flag football or a related sport; strong leadership, communication, and organizational skills; ability to work effectively with students, parents, and school staff; commitment to fostering the personal and athletic growth

of student-athletes; and CPR and First Aid certification (or willingness to obtain). Each applicant must pass a background check in compliance with DOE requirements.

Qualifications include: Previous coaching experience at the high school or youth level; knowledge of flag football rules and strategies; and familiarity with Ka'ū High School & Pāhala Elementary's athletic program goals and

community values.

Stipend-based compensation will be provided. Interested candidates are required to submit a Coaching Application; brief cover letter expressing coaching philosophy and vision for the program; and contact information for at least two professional references. Deadline is 4:30 p.m. on Jan. 17. Send to Jaime Guerpo, Athletic Director, Ka'ū High & Pāhala Elementary School; PO Box 100, Pāhala, HI 96777. With questions, contact AD Guerpo at 808-289-3472.

Hokulele Starts Season with Training & Tournament Win

The Ka'ū-based Hokulele Basketball Club kicked off its season as The Grind Session, an International Elite Prep Basketball Circuit, took over Hilo at the end of December to showcase some of the top high school players in the nation.

On Dec. 26, more than 20 youth from Hokulele Basketball Club attended Utah Prep's Keiki Camp in Pana'ewa - an event sponsored by the Jr. NBA -

where they skill trained with Utah Prep's High School Team, Hawai'i's JJ Mandaquit, Layden Kauka and 5 Star Recruit AJ Dybansta. Dybansta, the only male high school athlete currently signed with Nike, gifted each child with gear at this event.



More than 20 Hokulele players participated Keiki Camp sponsored by Jr. NBA.

On Dec. 28 and 29, Hokulele entered multiple teams from 6U - 8th Grade for DNA Basketball Club's Winter Classic. Hokulele's 14U dominated the division and captured the championship. Hokulele's 12U lost in the championship game 27-28. Hokulele's 10U came in 3rd.

On Monday Dec. 30, Hokulele's 6th and 8th grade teams played in the Hilo Civic Auditorium, the same court where The Grind Session Invitational was hosted.

Hokulele Head Coach and President Ravel Kaupu, Jr. said, "This experience is a true blessing for the children of our club. Hokulele Basketball would like to

thank Jay Mandaquit, JJ Manadquit & Family for giving them an opportunity to meet with athletes at a level they aspire to be & more!"

Hokulele will host a Super Saturday at Robert Herkes District Gymnasium in Pāhala to welcome 14 teams on Jan. 11. Proceeds of this event will go towards their 6th grade travel team as they head to Kaua'i to play in Westside Basketball's President's Day Tournament.

Hokulele is run by President and Head Coach Ravel Kaupu, Jr., Vice President Jan Kaeza Penera and Coaches Chrysa Dacalio, Jaron Garcia and Richard Estabilio.

To find out how to donate to Hokulele Basketball Club, email Kaeza at Hokulele@gmail.com.



Hokulele 12U at the Hilo Civic.

Photos from Hokulele Basketball Club



Hokulele 14U takes First Place at DNA Winter Classic in Waimea.

The Ka'ū Calendar

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Classical Music Returns With Training & Concerts

Hawai'i International Music Festival returns in January to Pāhala, Ocean View, Hilo and Kona. An internationally acclaimed violin virtuoso, opera singers, vocal coaches, pianists, violist and a Broadway star come to Pāhala in January to teach and perform in collaboration with local musical groups, teachers and students from around the world. The outreach spans into the broader community, including collaboration with Farley Sangels and his South Hawai'i Symphony Orchestra.

Hawai'i International Music Festival, a Hawai'i state 501c3 nonprofit

organization in its eighth year, hosts its third annual Vocal Workshop, The Garcia School, Jan. 4 - 13 at Pāhala Plantation House. A free master class will be held for classical and musical theater singers on Wednesday, Jan. 8 at 5 p.m. at Christ Lutheran Church in Hilo. The Festival will present its annual concert on Saturday, Jan. 11 at Pāhala Plantation House at 7 p.m. The evening event is preceded by a concert at Ocean View Community Center on the same Saturday at 12:30 p.m. in collaboration with South Hawai'i Symphony. A working session with Chamber Orchestra of Kona will be

Monday, Jan. 13 at Kona United Methodist Church 5:30 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. and is open to the public.

Leaders and founders of the Festival are Violin Virtuoso Eric Silberger, who travels the world performing; internationally acclaimed Metropolitan Opera soprano Amy Shoremount-Obra, of New York and Pāhala; and esteemed pianist Carlin Ma, of Washington State. Their statement says, "Garcia School is committed to carrying on the great bel canto singing tradition made famous by legendary voice teacher Manuel Garcia in the 1800's." Additionally, international artists will connect with the culture of Hawai'i by exchanging talents and ideas with local artists.

Faculty members for the Garcia School are Silberger and Shoremount-Obra, along with renowned pianist, music director, coach and Hawai'i Island resident Maika'i Nash. In addition are star of Broadway's *Phantom of the Opera*, Carlton Moe, and Professor of Voice, Associate Vocal Department Chair of University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, Maya Sypert, who is an acclaimed mezzo-soprano. Joining them are Metropolitan Opera star, soprano Audrey Luna, acclaimed Kaua'i-based pianist Monica Chung, and Hawai'i-based violist/violinist, educator and chef Duane Padilla. Participating in the workshop, master classes and concerts are 13 local and international singers from U.S. Mainland, Mexico, England and China.

Here are details on the Public Events:

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8 IN HILO - The free public masterclass is in Hilo on Wednesday, Jan. 8 at 5 p.m. at Christ Lutheran Church, 595 Kapiolani Street. The class will be for classical and musical theater singers of all ages and feature internationally acclaimed Broadway star Carlton Moe with Maika'i Nash at the piano. The workshop is accepting solo local classical and musical theater singers to participate. Email himusicfestival@gmail.com no later than Jan. 4. Participating singers must sing an aria or song from the classical vocal or American musical theater repertoire from memory. All musical theater performers, classical singers including choral singers, and anyone who has an interest in the process of singing and performing are invited and encouraged to attend.



Eric Silberger, co-founder of the music school, which will reach out to communities in Ocean View, Pāhala and beyond.

Photo by Carlin Ma



Opera singer Amy Shoremount Obra, co-founder of Hawai'i International Music Festival



Pianist Monica Chung



Pianist and vocal coach Maika'i Nash

Singers must provide PDF copies of their music to HIMF once accepted.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11 IN OCEAN VIEW - The concert in collaboration with Farley Stangel and his South Hawai'i Symphony on Saturday Jan. 11 at 12:30 p.m. will be at Ocean View Community Center, 92-8924 Leilani Mauka Cir. It will feature star of Broadway's *Phantom of the Opera*, Carlton Moe, internationally acclaimed virtuoso violinist Eric Silberger, internationally acclaimed Metropolitan Opera soprano Amy Shoremount-Obra, acclaimed pianist and Kaua'i resident Monica Chung, and renowned pianist, music director, coach and Hawai'i Island resident Maika'i Nash. Opera stars

Classical Music, pg. 7



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Keiki ages 1-14 fish with hand poles at Punalu'u Black Sand Beach.



OKK Keiki Fishing Tournament returns for 13th annual event.

Photo by Nālani Parlin

OKK Keiki Fishing, from pg. 1

pany keiki at all times. Registration is online at okaukakou.org. Printed forms can also be dropped off at The Land Office, LLC in Nā'ālehu Shopping Center or scanned or photographed and emailed to julieen-

riques1@gmail.com. Early registration is encouraged to reduce the long registration lines on tournament day, said Enriquez who is helping to produce the event.

Classical Music, from pg. 6

of the future from The García School Vocal Workshop will also perform. They are Zoe Gao, a soprano from China; Kirsten Ann Blair, a soprano from Alaska; Alexis Merry, a soprano from Kansas; Karmina Guzmán, a soprano from Mexico; Andrew Fellows, a baritone from California; and Ian McMillan, a tenor from Hawai'i, with Anastasiya Neznanova from New York, who will dance on pointe. Suggested donations at the door: \$30

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11 IN PĀHALA - Hawai'i International Music Festival will present *A Celebration of Music!* on Saturday, Jan. 11 at 7 p.m. at the historic Pāhala Plantation House, 96-3209 Maile Street. The concert features classical and musical theater music performed by internationally acclaimed virtuoso violinist Eric Silberger; internationally acclaimed Metropolitan Opera soprano Amy Shoremount-Obra; acclaimed pianist and Kaua'i resident Monica Chung; renowned pianist, music director, coach and Hawai'i Island resident Maika'i Nash; tenor and star of Broadway's Phantom of the Opera Carlton Moe, Ocean View's own trumpet virtuoso Farley Sangels, and all full-time participating singers already mentioned from The García School vocal workshop in addition to Amy Taba, a soprano and Tyler Shimabukuro, a baritone- both from Hawai'i. Reservations can be made at www.himusicfestival.org.

MONDAY, JANUARY 13 IN KONA - A collaboration of Garcia School students and teachers with Chamber Orchestra of Kona will be Monday, Jan. 13, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Kona United Methodist Church, 74-4960 Palani Rd. The free session will be open to the public and features seven young professional singers: Yiqi Laura Yin, a soprano from China; Mahtab Ghamsari, a soprano from England; Alexis Merry, a soprano from Kansas; Kirsten Ann Blair, a soprano from Alaska; Karmina Guzman, a soprano from Mexico; Andrew Fellows, a baritone from California; and Sarah Stevenson, a mezzo-soprano from New York. In addition are internationally acclaimed soprano Amy Shoremount-Obra; virtuoso violinist and conductor Eric Silberger; as well as conductor Yuxin Dai and orchestra and guest players from O'ahu and California.

See more and make reservations at www.himusicfestival.org.

'O Ka'u Kākou 13th Annual

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Keiki Fishing TOURNAMENT

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- Parent or legal guardian must accompany child at all times
- Hand pole fishing with **BARBLESS HOOKS ONLY**
- Personally owned hand poles are allowed
- Hand poles, gear and bait are provided
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- Fishing time 1 hour and 30 minutes

Schedule:

- 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.: Check-in time
- 9:00 a.m.: Welcome/Rules
- 9:30 a.m.: Distribute Poles/Bait
- 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.: Fishing Time
- 12:00 p.m. - 12:30 p.m.: Free Lunch
- 1:00 p.m.: Awards & Prizes (*must be present to win*)

For tournament details and online pre-registration, visit okaukakou.org. If you choose to register with a hard copy, form may be downloaded and must be dropped off at The Land Office, LLC in Nā'ālehu Shopping Center (glass drop slot on the side of double doors) or email to Julie at julieenriques1@gmail.com

Saturday, January 25, 2025

Punalu'u Beach Park Pavilions

Pre-registration ends noon, Thursday January 22, 2025

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

VOLCANO ART AND POETRY CONTEST SUBMISSION OPENS Wednesday, Jan. 1. Deadline is Monday, Jan. 20. Part of Volcano Awareness Month of USGS. Theme: "Volcanic events have shaped all of the Hawaiian Islands. We invite you to submit art of poetry recognizing the dynamic volcanic landscapes of Hawaii." Entry divisions are: Elementary (K-5), Middle/Intermediate (6-8), High (9-12) and Adult. Email askHVO@USGA.gov with questions.

KANIKAPILA JAM SESSIONS are Wednesdays from 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. at Volcano Art Center Nialani Campus Hawaii'i Volcanoes National Park. Open to all musicians. Bring your own instrument. Donations accepted.

ALOHA FRIDAY AT VAC GALLERY: Lei making with Zennie Sawyer is Friday, Jan. 3 from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. on porch of Volcano Art Center Gallery in Hawaii'i Volcanoes National Park. Free cultural events are part of VAC's Cultural Connections Initiative supported in part by Hawaii'i State Grant In Aid (GIA) Wai Wai Program. Park fees apply.

MAUNA LOA 1868 ERUPTION HIKE is Saturday, Jan. 4 from 10 a.m. - noon at Pu'u o Lokuana, Kahuku Unit of Hawaii'i Volcanoes National Park. Part of Volcano Awareness Month of USGS. Led by USGS Hawaiian Volcano Observatory geologist Katie Mulliken. 2 mile hike along Pu'uolokuana Trail. Learn about the eruptive history, structure, monitoring and current status of Mauna Loa, Earth's largest active volcano. Wear sturdy closed-toe walking shoes; bring protective gear for sun and rain, drinking water and snack.

SATURDAY CLAY CLASSES WITH NAKANA JUGOZ are Saturdays Jan. 4 - Jan. 25 from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. at Volcano Art Center's ceramic studio in Hawaii'i Volcanoes National Park. All levels welcome. With wheel throwing demonstrations and basics of using the potter's wheel or hand building techniques. Cost \$150/\$130 for members plus \$20 supply fee, includes 6 lb of clay, glaze and firing. Open studio time available to registered students Monday - Friday, from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Register at Administration Office front desk between 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., or call 808-967-8222. Jan. 4 class is full, registration open of Feb. 1 classes.

EVENT: HOW ARE VOLCANOES IN HAWAII MONITORED? Is Tuesday, Jan. 7 from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. at Uekahuna parking lot in Hawaii'i Volcanoes National Park. Part of Volcano Awareness Month of USGS. Learn from Hawaiian Volcano Observatory (HVO) seismic network manager and geodesy network manager about examples of monitoring devices and datasets used to understand where magma is accumulating or moving. Free event. Park fees apply.

TUESDAY CLAY CLASSES WITH NAKANA JUGOZ are Tuesdays Jan. 7 - Jan. 28 from 4 p.m. - 6 p.m. at Volcano Art Center's ceramic studio in Hawaii'i Volcanoes National Park. All levels welcome. With wheel throwing demonstrations and basics of using the potter's wheel or hand building techniques. Cost \$150/\$130 for members plus \$20 supply fee, includes 6 lb of clay, glaze and firing. Open studio time available to registered students Monday - Friday, from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Register at Administration Office front desk between 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., or call 808-967-8222. Jan. 7 class is full, registration open of Feb. 4 classes.

HAWAIIAN VOLCANO OBSERVATORY TALK STORY is Wednesday, Jan. 8 from 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. at Nā'ālehu Public Library. Part of Volcano Awareness Month of USGS. With USGS Hawaiian Volcano Observatory (HVO) chief field engineer Kevan Kamibayashi who has worked for HVO for 25 years. Ask questions, talk story and browse resources. Free event.

EVENT: A DYNAMIC YEAR AT KĪLAUEA is Friday, Jan. 10 from 6 p.m. at Cooper Center in Hawaii'i Volcanoes National Park. Part of Volcano Awareness Month of USGS. Matt Patrick, geologist at the Hawaiian Volcano Observatory describes the eruptive activity at Kīlauea during 2024, and describes what may be coming next. Free event.

ALOHA FRIDAYS AT VAC GALLERY: WITH DESIREE MOANA CRUZ is Friday, Jan. 10 from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. on porch of Volcano Art Center Gallery in Hawaii'i Volcanoes National Park. Desiree Moana Cruz shares traditional and contemporary dye processes and the use of repetitive symbolism featured in hula garments. She is an advocate for Hawaiian practitioners and a member of Hālau Na Kipu'upu'u of Waiimea. Free cultural events are part of VAC's Cultural Connections Initiative supported in part by Hawaii'i State Grant In Aid (GIA) Wai Wai Program. Park fees apply.

STEWARDSHIP AT THE SUMMIT is Saturdays, Jan. 11, 18, 25 & 31 from 8:45 a.m. - noon, meet near Kīlauea Visitor Center restrooms in Hawaii'i Volcanoes National Park. Volunteers help remove plant species that prevent native plants growth. Wear sturdy hiking shoes and long pants. Bring hat, raingear, day pack, snacks and water. Gloves and tools provided. Under 18 years old require parental or guardian accompaniment or written consent. More at https://www.nps.gov/havo/planyourvisit/summit_stewardship.htm.

TRANSFIGURATION, THE ART OF MYDOCK EXHIBIT is open daily from Saturday, Jan. 11 - Sunday, Feb. 16, from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. at Volcano Art Center Gallery in Hawaii'i Volcanoes National Park. Opening reception is Saturday, Jan. 11 from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. Live demonstration on Saturday, Jan. 25 from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. For more contact Emily C. Weiss at (808) 967-7565 or email sales@volcanoartcenter.org. Free event. Park fees apply.

STAINED GLASS BASICS WITH LINDA BROOKS are Saturdays, Jan. 11 - Feb. 1 from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Volcano Art Center Nialani Campus Hawaii'i Volcanoes National Park. Beginners welcome, learn basic technique, glass cutting, foiling, soldering, and completing with patina and polishing compound. Cost \$200/\$180 for VAC members. Register at 808-967-8222 or visit www.volcanoartcenter.org. Jan. 11 class is full.

EVENT: WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED ABOUT KĪLAUEA VOLCANO'S SUMMIT WATER LAKE? Is Saturday, Jan. 11 from 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. at Kahuku unit of Hawaii'i Volcanoes National Park. Part of Volcano Awareness Month of USGS. Learn about the water lake that formed in Halema'uma'u crater between 2018 and 2020 eruptions from USGS Hawaiian Volcano Observatory geologist Tricia Nadeau, who is also an Unoccupied Aircraft Systems (UAS or drone) pilot. Free event. Park fees apply.

ZENTANGLE® BASIC & BEYOND with Fancy Retro-ish Florals with Lydia Meneses is Saturday, Jan 11 from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Volcano Art Center Nialani Campus in Hawaii'i Volcanoes National Park. Zentangle is an easy-to-learn, relaxing way to create beautiful images by drawing structured patterns. Open to all levels. All materials provided. Cost \$35/ \$30 for VAC members plus \$15 supply fee. Register at <https://volcanoartcenter.org/classes-and-workshops/registration-workshops-classes/>.

HULA KAHIKO featuring Nā Kumu Hula Pelehonuamea Harman and Kekoa Harman with Hālau I Ka Leo Ola O Nā Mamo is Saturday, Jan. 11 from 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. at kahua hula (platform) in Hawaii'i Volcanoes National Park. Students of the Hālau are from Ke Kula 'o Nāwahīkalanī'ōpu'u, Hawaiian language immersion K-12 school. Part of Volcano Art Center's Hula Arts at Kīlauea performance series. Donations welcome. Free event. Park fees apply.

SOUNDS AT THE SUMMIT FEATURING MURIEL ANDERSON is Saturday, Jan. 11 from 5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m. at Volcano Art Center Nialani Campus in Hawaii'i Volcanoes National Park. Guitarist/Harp-guitarist, Muriel Anderson and award-winning photo-artist, Bryan Allen, take audience on a musical journey through space and around the world. Ticket cost \$30/ \$25 for VAC members. Tickets at www.volcanoartcenter.org or call 808-967-8222.

KĪLAUEA ACTIVITY UPDATE AND TALK STORY is Monday, Jan 13 from 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. at Pāhoia Public Library. Part of Volcano Awareness Month of USGS. Join USGS Hawaiian Volcano Observatory scientists Ingrid Johanson and Heather Winslow for a summary of recent activity at Kīlauea, the long-term geologic history of the East Rift Zone, and what could happen next. Free event.

EVENT: KĪLAUEA VOLCANO'S CHANGING SUMMIT is Tuesday, Jan. 14 from 10 a.m. - 11 a.m. at Uekahuna parking lot in Hawaii'i Volcanoes National Park. Part of Volcano Awareness Month of USGS. Learn about collapse of volcano's summit caldera, Kāluapele, activity in the volcano's rift zones, current status of Kīlauea and what might be coming next. Free event. Park fees apply.

EVENT: A DYNAMIC YEAR AT KĪLAUEA is Wednesday, Jan. 15 from 7 p.m. at University of Hawaii'i at Hilo, University Classroom Building (Bldg 301), Room 100. Part of Volcano Awareness Month of USGS. Learn from Lis Gallant, Geology Department professor at the University of Hawaii'i at Hilo, about shift from longer to shorter Kīlauea summit eruptions, and subsequent activity in the rifts. Free event.

Lā'au Letters: Native Plants of Ka'ū

Welcome to *Lā'au Letters: Native Plants of Ka'ū*. Read about Ka'ū's native plants and their mo'olelo (stories), uses, preferred habitats, and opportunities to adopt them for stewardship. This column seeks to encourage making new plant friends and to reunite with others.

'Āhinahina (*Argyroxiphium kauense*)

Description: Happy 2025, we made it! Let's get right down to business and talk about a majestic and storied species specific to Ka'ū: 'Āhinahina (also known as the Ka'ū Silversword). This is a fitting species to kick start the new year, as it really is a testament to survival and persistence in light of change! Silverswords are part of a group of daisy relatives that represent one of the most impressive examples of adaptive radiation on the planet. This "silversword alliance" includes three (very different-looking) genera: *Argyroxiphium*, *Dubautia*, and *Wilkesia*. The 28 Hawaiian-endemics in this alliance can all trace their origins back to a single tarweed seed that grew in California!

This stunning species is endangered, and one of two endemic *Argyroxiphium* that grows on Mauna Loa. It is impossible to mistake 'Āhinahina for another plant, as they are very unique. They grow as a low, rosette shrub with sword-shaped leaves that are about 8-16" long and densely covered with silver hairs that help to lower UV absorption and protect the leaves from frost, and also contain interstitial gels that may help these plants store water. After about 10-30 years, they produce a dramatic stalk that can be taller than you and I and contains thousands of sunflower-like blossoms. This blooming stalk smells incredible, and is pollinated by native (and super cute) yellow-faced bees. It then produces small black fruits which release thousands of seeds, but after that, the plant dies, and the cycle of life continues.

This species of 'Āhinahina was on the brink of extinction in the wild, as feral ungulates (cattle, goats, mouflon sheep) decimated the populations in Ka'ū. Before the introduction of these ungulates to the landscape, there were likely tens of thousands of Ka'ū Silverswords, but by the early 90s, the only known population remaining was within the (former) Kahuku Ranch. Luckily, one of the 'ohana on the ranch took it upon himself to fence in the population, which ultimately saved this species from extinction! However, once the ungulate pressure was removed, 'āhinahina were threatened by a narrow and limited gene pool and low reproductive capability (being self-incompatible or unable to pollinate themselves). A passionate botanist made it his career to boost the genetic diversity of the population with cross-pollinating 'Āhinahina for decades. He formed the Hawaii'i Silversword Foundation, dedicated to the rebound of this species with a focus on increased genetic diversity and careful re-establishment. Today, thousands of these plants persist, as do their progeny, thanks to many dedicated humans. A true success story for 'Āhinahina and an example of what passion and dedication can do!

Uses: 'Āhinahina are host plants for a variety of native endemic insects, including pollinators (*Hylaesus* or yellow-faced bees), planthoppers (*Nesosydne*), and even seed predators (*Tephritis* flies). Certainly there were cultural uses for 'Āhinahina, considering its former abundance in the Wao Akua, though I am unsure of how it was utilized. I can imagine the silvery leaves would make a stunning lei like its coastal counterpart Hinahina.

Habitat: 'Āhinahina once grew abundantly in rugged volcanic landscapes in both wet and dry 'ōhi'a forests on the slopes of Mauna Loa. Currently there are three introduction sites within the fenced Hawaii'i Volcanoes National Park: at Kilohana and Kīpukakulalio within the main Park, and at Keāpōhina within the Kahuku Unit. However, these populations are geographically isolated, so the goal is to establish thriving populations across Mauna Loa to ensure the successful persistence of 'Āhinahina.

Growing and Purchasing: Because of its current status as endangered, this is not a plant you will be able to have in your yard or landscape at this time. However, there are occasionally opportunities to witness 'Āhinahina during its blooming season (roughly August through October). Additionally, you can visit the cousin to *A. kauense* on Mauna Kea, where hundreds of outplants thrive in high-elevation cinder deserts off of some of the 4WD roads. Hopefully one day we are able to see 'Āhinahina in abundance in Ka'ū's upper elevations again!

About the artist: Joan Yoshioka says she is a conservationist at heart and has dedicated her life to preserving the native plants and animals of Hawaii'i through her work with federal, state, and private organizations over the past 30+ years. She describes herself as an outdoor-lovin' optimist, biologist/botanist, and habitual creator of art-stuff. She says the key to our most fundamental and truest part of ourselves is found in nature and she constantly draws on it for inspiration.



Joan Yoshioka


About the author: Jodie Rosam says she has a deep love for native plants and a passion for exploration, with over 15 years of experience in working in the restoration of Hawaii'i's forests. As a mother and an educator, she says the next generation has the power to lead the world to a sustainable future, and is committed to teaching her children (and others) from a place-based perspective.



Jodie Rosam



'Āhinahina (*Argyroxiphium kauense*) Art by Joan Yoshioka



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ANASTASSIYA NEZANOVA, Ballerina (New York)

Saturday January 11, 2025
12:30-2:15 PM
The Ocean View Community Center
 Suggested Donation \$10-\$40
 PRESENTED BY THE SOUTH HAWAII SYMPHONY

JANUARY '25

January Calendar, from pg. 8

THURSDAY NIGHT AT THE CENTER: GEOLOGICAL MAPPING WITH DREW DOWNS is Thursday, Jan. 16 from 6 p.m. - 7 p.m. at Volcano Art Center Nialani Campus Dieterich Varez Hall in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Part of Volcano Awareness Month of USGS. Drew Downs, geologist at the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Hawaiian Volcano Observatory, describes art and science of creating geologic maps. Event repeats on Wednesday, Jan. 26 from 7 p.m. at University of Hawai'i at Hilo, University Classroom Building (Bldg 301), Room 100. Free event. Park fees may apply.

ALOHA FRIDAYS AT VAC GALLERY: 'UKULELE WITH WES AWANA is Friday, Jan. 17 from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. on porch of Volcano Art Center Gallery in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Wes Awana offers family-friendly lessons on the iconic and inviting 'ukulele. Free cultural events are part of VAC's Cultural Connections Initiative supported by in part by Hawai'i State GIA Wai Wai Programs. Park fees apply.

DEADLINE TO APPLY FOR FLAG FOOTBALL LEADERSHIP POSITION at Ka'u High & Pāhala Elementary is Friday, Jan. 17 at 4:30 p.m. Interested candidates required to submit Coaching Application; brief cover letter expressing coaching philosophy and vision for program; and contact information for at least two professional references. Send to Jaime Guerro, Athletic Director, Ka'u High & Pāhala Elementary School; PO Box 100, Pāhala, HI 96777. With questions and to learn about qualifications, contact AD Guerro at 808-289-3472.

EXPLORE THE KA'Ū DESERT TRAIL ON FOOT on Saturday, Jan. 18 from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m., starting at Ka'ū Desert Trailhead on Highway 11 in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Part of Volcano Awareness Month of USGS. Tour led by University of Hawai'i at Hilo Geology Department faculty and geologist Cheryl Gansecki through Mauna Loa volcano's Keamoku 'a'ā lava flow. Easy 2 mile round trip. Wear sturdy, closed-toe walking shoes; bring protective gear for sun and rain; bring drinking water and a snack. Free event.

EVENT: WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A COMEDIAN WALKS INTO A VOLCANO? Is Saturday, Jan. 18 from 11 a.m. - noon at Kahuku unit of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Part of Volcano Awareness Month of USGS. Stand-up comedian and past artist in residence, Ben Miller performs with jokes about volcanology, entomology, Hawaiian history, cats, cookies, and more. Free event. Park fees may apply.

VISIT THE WHITNEY VAULT AT VOLCANO HOUSE on Tuesday, Jan. 21 from 10 a.m. - 11 a.m. at Volcano House hotel caldera overlook in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Part of Volcano Awareness Month of USGS. Learn from USGS Hawaiian Volcano Observatory geophysicists Ingrid Johanson and Ashton Flinders about history of HVO volcano monitoring technologies in the Whitney Vault established in 1912, located beneath the ground near the present-day Volcano House hotel. Limited to 20 participants, tickets available at Kīlauea Visitor Center. Free event. Park fees may apply.

EVENT: EARTHQUAKES AND ERUPTIONS IN HAWAII OVER THE PAST YEAR is Wednesday, Jan. 22 from 10 a.m. - noon at Kailua-Kona Public Library. Part of Volcano Awareness Month of USGS. Joins USGS Hawaiian Volcano Observatory Scientist-in-Charge Ken Hon, as he summarizes earthquakes and eruptions over the past year in Hawai'i, highlighting hazards that can impact you and how you can participate in citizen science. Free event.

EVENT: WHAT HAPPENED ON MAUNA LOA IN 1868? Is Thursday, Jan. 23 from 5:30 p.m. at Pu'uhonua o Hōnaunau National Historic Park amphitheater, State highway 106, Hōnaunau, 96726. Part of Volcano Awareness Month of USGS. Learn from USGS Hawaiian Volcano Observatory geologist Katie Mulliken story of destructive sequence of events in 1868, information on eruptive history and current status of Mauna Loa, which has erupted 34 times since 1843. Park fees may apply.

GEOLOGY CLUB OPEN HOUSE is Friday, Jan. 24 from 4 p.m. - 6 p.m. at University of Hawai'i at Hilo Geology Department. Part of Volcano Awareness Month of USGS. See exotic rocks and minerals from Antarctica, Africa, and beyond. Bring your rocks to be identified by UH-Hilo geologists. Learn how UH-Hilo Geology Department collaborates with USGS Hawaiian Volcano Observatory (HVO) to rapidly process freshly collected lava samples and analyze them using Energy Dispersive X-Ray Fluorescence Spectrometer (EDXRF). Closest parking on West Lanikaula Street, directly across from YMCA—300 West Lanikaula Street. Free event.

O KA'Ū KĀKOU KEIKI FISHING TOURNAMENT is Saturday, Jan. 25 from 8 a.m. at Punalu'u Black Sand Beach. 13th

Catch & Release Keiki Fishing Tournament sponsored by OKK. For ages 1-14. Keiki fish for 90 minutes with hand poles with barbless hooks, using their own or those provided by the tournament. Bait provided. No chumming is allowed. Pre-registration at <https://okakakou.org/> or with printed forms dropped off at The Land Office, LLC in Nā'ālehu Shopping Center or scanned or photographed and emailed to julienriques1@gmail.com, ends on Thursday, Jan. 22 at noon. Parent or legal guardian must accompany keiki.

TRACHYTE TREK ON HUALĀLAI is Saturday, Jan. 25 from 10 a.m. at Pu'uwa'a'awa'a Forest Reserve, between the 21 and 22 mile markers along Highway 190; enter through the automatic gate and keep left, drive up the road about 50 1/3 mile to find a parking area on the right, near the Pu'uwa'a'awa'a Hunter Check-in Station. Part of Volcano Awareness Month of USGS. Join HVO geologist Natalia Deligne and University of Hawai'i at Hilo geology department associate Rick Hazlett on 4-mile round trip 3-hour guided walk along Hualālai volcano to the base of Pu'uwa'a'awa'a cone. Wear sturdy closed-toe walking shoes; bring protective gear for sun and rain; bring drinking water.

EVENT: LILIU'OKALANI AT WASHINGTON PLACE is Saturday, Jan. 25 from 11 a.m. - noon at Kahuku unit of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Part of Volcano Awareness Month of USGS. Living history performance by Jackie Pualani Johnson, a professor emerita at University of Hawai'i-Hilo, of the overthrowing of the Hawaiian monarchy in January 1893. Free event. Park fees may apply.

LIVE DEMONSTRATION WITH JOHN MYDOCK AT VAC GALLERY is Saturday, Jan. 25 from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Volcano Art Center Gallery in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Learn about "pyrography," which is the art of burning to create designs on wood or other materials from John Mydock. Free event. Park fees may apply.

SOUNDS AT THE SUMMIT: CHRIS MURPHY IN CONCERT is Saturday, Jan. 25 from 5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m. at Volcano Art Center Nialani Campus in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Murphy, a prolific violinist and songwriter, performs Italian mandolin songs, pulsing Latin rhythms, and bracing Irish rounds. Tickets cost \$30/\$25 for VAC members. Tickets at www.volcanoartcenter.org or call 808-967-8222.

EVENT: UPDATE ON PĀHALA EARTHQUAKES is Monday, Jan. 27 from 5:30 p.m. at Ka'ū District Gym Recreation Room. Part of Volcano Awareness Month of USGS. Learn from USGS Hawaiian Volcano Observatory earthquake specialist Ninfa Bennington and researcher Kiara Daly about ongoing earthquake activity and magma movement. Free event.

EVENT: KĪLAUEA'S EXPLOSIVE PAST is Tuesday, Jan. 28 from 10 a.m. at Uēkahuna overlook in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Part of Volcano Awareness Month of USGS. Join USGS Hawaiian Volcano Observatory geologist Kendra J. Lynn, on walk (1 mile) along the caldera rim between Uēkahuna and Kīlauea overlooks. Kendra will talk about her work investigating the magma storage conditions. Free event. Park fees may apply.

ALOHA FRIDAYS AT VAC GALLERY: Lei making with Kaipo Ah Chong. Friday, Jan. 31 from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. on porch of Volcano Art Center Gallery in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Tropical farmer Kaipo Ah Chong, member of Hālau Nā Kama- lei, marries the science of agriculture with Hawaiian lei and hula traditions. Free cultural event part of VAC's Cultural Connections Initiative supported in part by Hawai'i State Grant In Aid (GIA) Wai Wai Program. Park fees apply.

DAILY, WEEKLY, MONTHLY

COOPER CENTER BOOK SHOP/ THRIFT STORE is open Tuesday - Saturday from 8 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. and Sunday 6 a.m. - 10 a.m. in 19-4030 Wright Rd. Volcano. ½ off day every 3rd Saturday. Donations welcome.

NA'OHULELUA HISTORICAL GARDEN, NURSERY & NATIVE PROPAGATION CENTER IS OPEN by appointment at 94-6488 Kama'ōa Road, Nā'ālehu. Offering rare & endangered native Hawaiian plants, several varieties of organic Moringa "The Miracle Tree", Wauke Plant Giveaway, Hala Leaves (for Lau Hala Weaving U Pick) Nursery Trays, Lemongrass Starts, Pineapple Mint, Sprouted Coconuts, Dragon Fruit Aloe Vera, Snow Flake ... More! A Mission of Alanui 'O Ka'ū a 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Organization. Private appointments, special orders, volunteer opportunities and other inquiries alanuiokau@gmail.com or text 808-256-3193.

PICKLEBALL is Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8 a.m. - 11 a.m. at Kahuku Park in Ocean View. Beginner classes periodically available on Tuesdays. Contact Jaquie Woodmansee at 808-929-7092.

**JANUARY 2025
VOLCANO AWARENESS MONTH
ISLAND OF HAWAII**

Volcano Art and Poetry Contest

Details
One entry per person
Submit by 1/20/2025
Haiku poetry format
Art up to 18x24 in.
Art must be 2D,
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Theme

Volcanic events have shaped all of the Hawaiian Islands. We invite you to submit art or poetry recognizing the dynamic volcanic landscapes of Hawaii nei.

Entry Divisions
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Middle/Intermediate (6-8)
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Adult

Questions?
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January is Volcano Awareness Month on the Island of Hawai'i. The USGS Hawaiian Volcano Observatory, along with partners, promotes the importance of understanding and respecting the volcanoes on which we live.

USGS MORE INFO:

TALK TO A PARK RANGER: UNVEILING THE WONDERS OF NATURE AND CULTURE AT UEKAHUNA, daily at Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. It's a 30-to-45-minute guided walk from the table at Uēkahuna at 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 1 p.m., and 2 p.m. Meet at Uēkahuna parking. Free event. Park fees apply.

SOTO NO MICHI AIKIDO MARTIAL ART & MOVEMENT CLASSES are open to new students on Thursdays and Sundays from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Pāhala Hongwanji. Keiki and adults 8 and older. Led by Sensei Gabriel Cuevas. New students call 206-291-8832.

YOGA is Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays from 9 a.m. - 10 a.m. at Kahuku Park in Ocean View. Learn more and register, Trisha Meyer at 208-353-3594.

KUPUNA YOGA is Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1 p.m. - 2:17 p.m. at Nā'ālehu Hongwanji Mission's Garden. Engage mana'o, kino and akua for stress relief, increased breath/blood flow and regenerative energy. Limited mats. Donation or trade for teacher

and temple appreciated. Sign up 11 minutes before start time. **WAI'OHINU YOGA** is Wednesdays, 8:30 a.m. - 10 a.m., Wai'ōhinu Park. Weather permitting. Laurie Boyle offers yoga, all levels. Donations appreciated. No reservations needed. Contact ezmerelda5@gmail.com.

FREE GUIDED NIAULANI NATURE WALK is Mondays, from 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. starting at Nialani Gallery in Volcano Village in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Introduction to diverse, intact, accessible, old-growth koa/ohi'a rain forest. No reservations are required for groups 5 or less. Partially funded by Hawai'i Tourism Authority through Community Enrichment Program. Donations appreciated.

K'S RECYCLE & REDEMPTION ELECTRONICS RECYCLING COLLECTION is Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. at 73-5631 Kauhola St., Kona. Free. Open to public. Businesses, government agencies and organizations

January Calendar, pg. 14

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NŪPEPA NĀ'ĀLEHU

Volume 23, Number 1

The Good News of Ka'ū, Hawai'i

January 2025

Nā'ālehu Hill Ag Subdivision Planned With Small Lots

Nā'ālehu Hill subdivision, for 39 lots off Ka'alaiki Road above Nā'ālehu, was a hot topic in November during the first public meeting on the plan. The topic came before the Ka'ū Community Development Plan Action Committee. Testifiers talked about the Ka'ū Community Development Plan and its focus on preventing sprawl and concentrating housing in the existing walkable communities, while preserving view planes, agricultural land for farming, water resources and the forests. Some also claimed title to parcels

within the subdivision, dating back to Hawaiian Kingdom days. The video of the meeting is posted on the county Planning Department's YouTube site at <https://www.youtube.com/c/CountyofHawaiiPlanningDepartment/videos>.

While the subdivision, proposed by Ka'ū Royal Hawaiian Coffee & Tea, LP, falls under administrative decisions by the County Planning Department and is neither subject to County Council nor Planning Commission public hearings and decisionmaking, Ka'ū Community



A portion of the Nā'ālehu Hill Phase 1 Subdivision showing various lot sizes, mostly under 20 acres, proposed for 1,600 acres zoned agriculture above Nā'ālehu. See the complete map and subdivision details at <https://tinyurl.com/yc3a6eda>.

Development Plan Action Committee voted to send a letter to the Planning Director in whose hands the approvals lie.

The Action Committee voted to ask newly appointed Acting Planning Director Jeff Harrow, who is awaiting confirmation by the County Council, to give the plan additional consideration. Members said they intend to send a letter asking him to consider requiring the smallest lot sizes to be five acres.

They pointed to the county Farm Subdivision Code and the Ka'ū Community Development Plan. They said the code requires a minimum of five acres for leasing to farmers, in order to maintain lot sizes that are economically viable for agricultural production.

They also said they would recommend that the county require the developers to take guidance from Soil & Wa-

Nā'ālehu Hill, pg. 12

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OV, KAHUKU, MILOLI'I

Volume 23, Number 1

The Good News of Ka'ū, Hawai'i

January 2025



Hawaiian ranchers Dean and Tissy Kaniho are required by DHHL to keep locked gates but they are being vandalized, threats made.

Photo by Julia Neal

DHHL Locks, from pg. 1

been stewards of that 'Āina for years. People have no idea how much they Mālama that wahi pana. As Kanaka, it is all of our Kuleana to protect and preserve the land and its precious resources. Scrubs think they can just keep taking and raping the resources down there with no repercussions. Let the 'āina heal, let the ocean and reefs recover and above all...leave these families alone! Bumbye not going have anything for the future generations."

Shanell Deadman wrote: "Recently in the Past couple days...outsiders not koko ...Who are running an illegal ATV tour; went thru the gates because they were open for repair and reinforcement. The gall! The audacity!!! Bringing their continent mentality to an Island lifestyle. A'ole pono."

Bob Martin wrote: "Years of abuse have completely denuded the lands at

Ka'alu'alu. Time to heal ..."

Cloe Dory wrote: "Locals have been enjoying down there for years, how can you block to go to the beach? People need a way to the beach."

Johnathan Roddy wrote: "Keep it locked to let land and ocean replenish its self and respect the ranchers at all costs!! Kapu Ka'ū stay your own grounds leave Ka'ū for it's residences to enjoy!! Keep Ka'ū Ka'ū." Several wrote that they thought such protection is a way to divide and conquer Hawaiians by keeping them off DHHL property they traditionally accessed.

Edward Barraza wrote: "Maybe the DHHL should pay for electronic gate(s) for the Kaniho's that way no one can cut the locks/chains. Maybe a patrol once in awhile around the area. Catch a few of these destroyers and post that arrest punishment."

Council Takes Oath, from pg. 4
in the 'āina - the land. He said the 'āina is the kupuna - the elder. Aloha is the model.

County Prosecuting Attorney Kelden Waltjen noted that he, the new Mayor and County Council Chair are all part Hawaiian and are committed to preserving the way of life here. He quoted IZ, Israel Kamakawiwo'ole singing, "Be strong, know who you are, no be shame, stand up, E Ala E." A good number of the people attending the ceremonies are Hawaiian.

Waltjen bemoaned the saying of "Our keiki is our greatest export," and talked about a way to keep them home, from moving away for jobs and affordability when they grow up. He said the Big Island is the place that should be seen as "the mainland," where young people work and live.

He said his department is comprised of 108 employees and that their way of work is to "surrender the me for the we." He said their mission includes the following:

Accountability - Hold offenders responsible for their actions, crimes.

Support - Give assistance, help to victims of crime.

Care - Help heal offenders and reduce recidivism as they work back into the community.

Prevention - Programs to help deter people from committing crimes.

Waltjen noted that Hawai'i County has the only Restorative Justice Program in the state and one of the few in the country. Restorative Justice aims to restore the harm done to victims and to help offenders understand harm they cause and assist in providing a chance at redeeming themselves.

Ka'ū News Briefs Daily at kaunewsbriefs.blogspot.com

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Ka'ū Hospital & Clinic Launch \$9M Expansion

Ka'ū Hospital and its East Hawai'i Health Clinic celebrated its \$9 million expansion with a blessing in December. On hand were state Sen. Dru Kanuha and Rep. Jeanne Kapela, who helped with the state funding, as well as hospital and clinic administrators and staff, representatives of Ka'ū Rural Health Community Association and Ka'ū Hospital Charitable Foundation.

Hilo Benioff Medical Center, which oversees the facility, announced it will add five exam rooms to the existing four at Ka'ū Clinic. They are slated for primary care and behavioral care. Much of the expansion will be constructed under the hospital building.



Jessie Marques advocated for expansion of Ka'ū Hospital & East Hawai'i Health Clinic. At her right is state Sen. Dru Kanuha who assisted with state funding.



Ka'ū Hospital and Clinic staff pick up the earth where construction for the facility's expansion has begun.

Photo from Hilo Benioff Medical Center.

Also on the agenda are updating the clinic interior, new flooring, paint and ceiling tiles; relocating administration and business offices to the lower level; relocating and updating the laboratory; and upgrading wastewater infrastructure. The project is expected to last 18-24 months, with an estimated

completion in mid-2026. The Nan construction company has begun its work on the project.

Sen. Dru Kanuha issued a statement saying, "During my visits to Ka'ū Hospital it became clear just how vital this CIP project is to ensure quality access to medical services for the Ka'ū community. I'm excited that these funds will enable Hawai'i Health System Corp. to expand and modernize the hospital, and I look forward to working with HHSC to create opportunities for improved care for our local residents."

Jessie Marques, founder of Ka'ū Rural Health Community Association, said, "As an

Photo from Hilo Benioff Medical Center advocate of the community, I think any services that can be expanded is an asset to our people. It was nice to see all of the elected officials and the staff and representatives of Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation come together to celebrate. It was a good day to fulfill our mission to continue networking and advocating for the people of Ka'ū."

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KA PEPA VOLCANO

Volume 23, Number 1

The Good News of Ka'ū, Hawai'i

January 2025

Sounds at the Summit features Musician Muriel Anderson

Volcano Art Center's *Sounds at the Summit* series hosts a performance by Muriel Anderson on Saturday, Jan. 11 at 5:30 p.m. at Volcano Art Center Niu-lani Campus in Volcano Village. The guitarist/Harp-guitarist takes her audience on a journey in music and stories, with a backdrop of visuals artfully compiled by award-winning photo-artist, Bryan Allen. It is a musical journey through space and around the world.

Volcano Art Center describes Anderson's performances as "Sometimes whimsical, always engaging, bringing together diverse cultures and settings. Muriel Anderson's obvious joy of music, humor and her comfort across genres of folk, classical, bluegrass,

popular and international music is revered by guitarists worldwide."

Anderson's *Nightlight Daylight* was chosen as one of the top ten CDs of the decade by *Guitar Player* magazine and her *Heartstrings* recording accompanied the astronauts on the space shuttle Discovery. Anderson is celebrating the pre-release of *Acoustic Chef*, an international cookbook/CD with a tune to go with each recipe.

Anderson is the first woman to win the National Fingerstyle Guitar Championship and has performed/recorded with Chet Atkins, Les Paul, Victor Wooten, and the Nashville Chamber Orchestra. Atkins said, "Muriel Anderson is a good friend and a great



National Fingerstyle Guitar Champion Muriel Anderson brings her harp-guitar to concert at Volcano Art Center on Saturday, Jan. 11.

Photo from VAC

guitarist." Paul said, "Just one hell of a great player ... a great personality and what I like is the touch that Muriel has

on the guitar, the way she plays it like we all wish to play."

She hosts Muriel Anderson's ALL STAR GUITAR NIGHT® and founded MUSIC FOR LIFE ALLIANCE charity.

Tickets are \$25 for VAC members, \$30 non-members.

Ticket holders will be able to purchase pupu, beer, and wine. Tickets are available for sale online at www.volcanoartcenter.org or call 808-967-8222.

VAC Hosts The Art of Mydock

Volcano Art Center Gallery will host the exhibit *Transfiguration, The Art of Mydock* from Jan. 11 through Feb. 16. It is a retrospective exhibition of



Meet the artist Mydock on Jan. 11 at Volcano Art Center Gallery at the opening of the exhibit that runs through Feb. 16.

Mydock's paintings, sculptures, collaborations and wood lathe-turned vessels. The gallery is open daily, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Hawai'i Vol-

canoes National Park.

Meet the artist John Mydock at the Opening Reception on Saturday, Jan. 11 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. or attend a live demonstration on Saturday, Jan. 25 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. All events take place at VAC Gallery in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. While

the exhibit is free to attend, park entrance fees apply.

The exhibit will also be available for viewing on VAC's website upon opening. For more information, contact Emily C. Weiss at 808-967-7565 or email sales@volcanoartcenter.org

January Calendar, from pg. 9

must make appointment 808-969-1222. <https://www.mrksre-cyclehawaii.com/westhawaii.html>.

JUDE'S COMPUTER LAB is open Saturdays from 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. at 96-8606 Paradise Circle Drive in Ocean View. Work-Station Laptops. Printing and shredding available. Training on Microsoft Word, Excel, Powerpoint. Set up email, Facebook, Zoom and more. Game playing limited. No streaming. Privileges can be suspended by Administrator or Lab Coordinator.

JUDE'S SHOWER MINISTRY is open Wednesdays and Saturdays from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. at 92-8606 Paradise Circle Drive in Ocean View. Service includes hot water, soap, shampoo, conditioner and clean towels. Must sign up for a time slot from 9 a.m., last sign-up by 11:30 a.m. Supported by Episcopal Diocese of Hawai'i's Commission on Mission Beyond Church and St. Jude's own outreach fund. Congregation built the facility.

FREE HELP WITH FAMILY HISTORY is Wednesdays from 4 p.m. - 7 p.m. at Family History Center, 95-5682 Hawai'i Belt Road in Nā'ālehu. All are welcome. "Come Discover Your Past," says the statement from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Drop-in assistance includes free Ancestry.com, Familysearch.org, other online resources.

BOOK SHACK open Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Kaūaha'ao Congregational Church grounds at 95-1642 Pinao St., Wai'ōhinu.

NĀ'ĀLEHU THRIFT SHOP open Mondays, Wednesdays and Friday from 10:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at Nā'ālehu Hongwanji. All proceeds go toward purchasing food for the Nā'ālehu Resilience Hub Soup Kitchen. All donations and volunteers appreciated. Contact Marcia Masters at 808-936-5639.

SOUTH HAWAII SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA welcomes musicians of all levels to join growing ensemble in Ka'ū (possible assistance with some instruments). Rehearsal are Saturdays from 12 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. at Ocean View Community Center. For more email SouthHawaiiSymphony@gmail.com.

OUTDOOR MARKETS

COOPER CENTER'S FARMERS MARKET Sundays from 6 a.m. - 10 a.m. at 19-4030 Wright Rd. Volcano. Breakfast and coffee, local produce, artisan crafts. Local produce, baked goods, food to go, island beef and Ka'ū Coffee. EBT accepted. More at 808-967-7800.

'O KA'Ū KAKOU MARKET Wednesdays and Fridays from 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. in Nā'ālehu. Contact Nadine Ebert at 808-938-5124 or June Domondon 808-938-4875.

VOLCANO EVENING MARKET is Thursdays from 3 p.m. - 6 p.m. at 19-4030 Wright Rd. Cooper Center, Volcano Village. Live music, artisan crafts, ono grindz, and fresh produce. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/656338372906619/>.

OCEAN VIEW COMMUNITY FARMERS MARKET is Saturdays from 7 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Kona St. and Mamālahoa Highway. Fresh produce, community crafts, local vendors.

OCEAN VIEW SWAP & MEET is Saturdays and Sundays, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m., Ocean View near Mālama Market. Local vendors, fresh-cooked food, eclectic goods.



Renovations begin soon, including addition of a hālau to be built on west end of Kilauea Visitor Center. Artistic rendering by Otak & Mason Architecture

Kilauea Visitor Center to Close Temporarily for Renovations

Details on temporary closure of Kilauea Visitor Center for renovations have been released by Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Kilauea Visitor Center will close Sunday, Feb. 17 at 5 p.m. for extensive renovations.

KVC restrooms, sidewalks, water station and about half of its parking will be unavailable during the construction project. Visitors should plan ahead and be prepared for limited services and parking. Volcano House and Volcano Art Center Gallery will remain open. KVC renovations include:

Addition of a covered hālau (pavilion) on the west end of the building; New and improved restrooms relocated to the east end of the building; Full accessibility; converting offices to expand

visitor space; more space for the Hawai'i Pacific Parks Association store; and new bilingual exhibits in English and 'ōlelo Hawai'i.

Park rangers and the Hawai'i Pacific Parks Association store and staff will continue to serve visitors. A few days after KVC closes, they will relocate to a temporary welcome center at Kilauea Military Camp's accessible Koa Room, just 1.2 miles west of the park entrance. Parking is available at the nearby ballfield.

Construction closures and delays are regularly updated on the park's construction webpage: <https://www.nps.gov/havo/planyourvisit/construction-closures.htm>.

VOLCANO SWAP & MEET is every second and fourth Saturday, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., 19-4030 Wright Rd, Cooper Center, Volcano Village. Local artisan crafts and goods, thrift shop with gently used goods, ono grindz and music.

FREE FOOD

FREE MEALS IN NĀ'ĀLEHU served Mondays, Wednesdays and Friday 12:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. at Nā'ālehu Hongwanji. Food donations and volunteers greatly appreciated. A donation of \$1 suggested per meal. <https://www.facebook.com/NaalehuResilienceHub/>. Contact Marcia Masters at 808-936-5639.

ST JUDE'S HOT MEALS free to those in need on Saturdays from 9 a.m. until food runs out (no later than 1 p.m.), 92-8606 Paradise Circle Drive in Ocean View. Volunteers from the community welcome. Contact Karen at pooch53@gmail.com.

'O KA'Ū KAKOU FOOD PANTRY open Tuesday, Jan. 28 from 10 a.m., Ka'ū District Gym - Food Distribution Center in Pāhala, 96-1149 Kamani Street Pāhala. More at 808-938-5124.

COOPER CENTER COMMUNITY PANTRY open Wednesday, Jan. 29 from 9:30 a.m. - 11 a.m. at Cooper Center, 19-4030 Wright Rd Volcano. Closed on holidays. More at 808-967-7800.

Kupuna Pantry is Wednesday, Dec. 18.

SACRED HEARTS - LOAVES AND FISHES open Thursday, Jan. 23 from 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. at 95-5558 Mamālahoa Hwy., Nā'ālehu. More at 808-929-7474.

KA'Ū FOOD PANTRY open Tuesday, Jan. 28 from 9:30 a.m., 92-8606 Paradise Mauka Cir Ocean View. Distribution is at St. Jude's Episcopal Church above Kahuku Park in Ocean View. More at 224-209-9404.

VOLCANO ART CENTER
WHERE PEOPLE, ART AND NATURE MEET

JANUARY EVENTS

Exhibit: *Transfiguration: John Mydock* Jan. 11- Feb 16 at VAC gallery in HVNP

Jan 4 -Saturday Clay Classes with Nakana (4 Sessions)

Jan 7 -Tuesday Clay Classes with Nakana (4 Sessions)

Jan 11 - Feb 1 - Stained Glass with Linda Brooks

Jan 11 - Muriel Anderson in Concert

Jan 11 - Hula Kahiko

Jan 11 - Zentangle: Basics & Beyond with Lydia Meneses

Jan 16 - Art & Geological Mapping presentation

Jan 25 - Chris Muphy in Concert

Aloha Fridays cultural Demo at VAC gallery in HVNP

Kanikapila Jam Session Every Wednesday

Niu-lani Gallery in Volcano Village & VAC Gallery in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park are OPEN! Visit our website for current hours

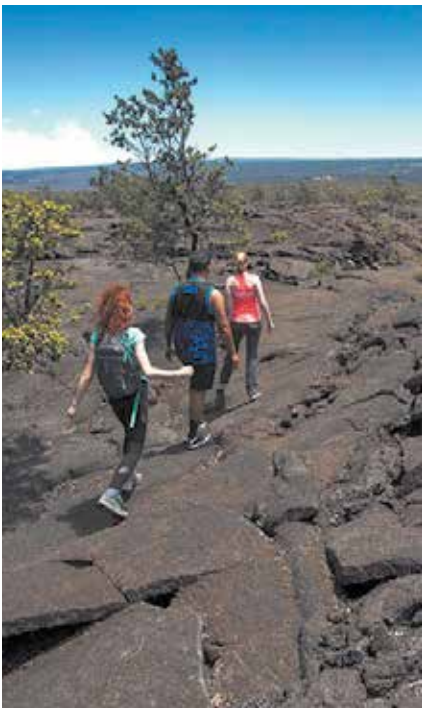
Office in Volcano Village: (808) 967-8222
Gallery in HVNP: (808) 967-7565
volcanoartcenter.org/shop

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Hike the path of Mauna Loa's 1868 lava flow at 10 a.m., Kahuku Unit, HVNP on Saturday, Jan. 4. *NPS photo*



A USGS Hawaiian Volcano Observatory geologist uses a laser rangefinder to collect fountain height measurements from the eruption within Halema'uma'u crater at the summit of Kīlauea volcano. Fountain heights reached approximately 30–35 m (100–115 ft) on the morning of December 30. The S²cam webcam on the south rim of Halema'uma'u crater, is visible in the bottom left corner of the photo. *USGS photo by H. Winslow*



Get the updates on Pāhala Earthquakes on Monday, Jan. 28 at 5:30 p.m., Herkes Gym Rec Room. *USGS photo*

Volcano Awareness, from pg. 1
2024 was a year of dynamic volcanic activity on the Island of Hawai'i, with Kīlauea eruptions occurring outside of the summit caldera of Kaluapele for the first time since 2018. Multiple intrusions into the upper portions of the Southwest Rift Zone and East Rift Zone culminated in a one-day eruption southwest of the caldera on June 3, and an eruption in and near Nāpau Crater on the middle East Rift Zone, Sept. 15-20.

Throughout January 2025, HVO scientists will also offer walks with talks on Tuesdays in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Join HVO staff as they discuss the network of instruments moni-



Learn about the lava lake during a talk at 9:30 a.m., Kahuku Unit, HVNP on Saturday, Jan. 11. *USGS photo*



An aerial view of two eruptive cones in the southwest corner of Halema'uma'u crater at Kīlauea's summit on the morning of Dec. 30. The fissure fountains reached heights of approximately 30 meters (100 ft) and lava flows continue to cover a portion of the crater floor. *USGS photo by H. Winslow*



Sunset at Kīlauea with lava shooting up and flowing in the caldera. *Photo by Brenda Iokepa Moses*

toring Hawai'i's volcanoes on Jan. 7; describe Kīlauea's ever-evolving summit caldera on Jan. 14; walk on Jan. 21 into the Whitney Vault, built in 1912 to host volcano monitoring equipment; and explain Kīlauea's explosive past during a guided walk on Jan. 28.

Additional guided hikes will take place on Saturdays in January. Learn about the 1868 Mauna Loa eruption while walking the Pu'u o Lokuana trail in the Kahuku Unit of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park on Jan. 4. On Jan. 18, hike to Maunaiki in the Ka'ū Desert of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park—Maunaiki erupted in 1919–1920. On Jan. 25, trek the slopes of Hualālai in Kona to learn about unique trachyte deposits in Pu'uwa'awa'a Forest Reserve.

Talks summarizing eruptive activity and earthquakes over the past year will also take place at Pāhoa Public Library on Monday, Jan. 13, University of Hawai'i at Hilo on Wednesday, Jan. 15, and Kailua-Kona Public Library on Wednesday, Jan. 22.

Learn the art and science of geologic mapping in Hawai'i during a talk at University of Hawai'i at Hilo campus on Wednesday, Jan. 29. Other programs include a talk on Thursday, Jan. 23 at Pu'uhoonua o Hōnaunau about the devastating events in 1868, and a Geology Department open house at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo on Friday, Jan. 24.

For details on the Hawai'i Volcano Awareness Month programs throughout January, see <https://www.usgs.gov/observatories/hvo/news/island-hawaii-volcano-awareness-month-programs-january-2025>, with a full calendar and event descriptions, as well information

about the art and poetry contest. Questions? Email askHVO@usgs.gov.

Mr. K's Recycle & Redemption

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING COLLECTION



Mr. K's Recycle & Redemption – Kona
Tues., Thurs. & Sat.
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
at 73-5631 Kauhola St., Kona
FREE. Open to public.
Businesses, government agencies and non-profit organizations
MUST MAKE AN APPOINTMENT
To schedule an appointment,
call 808-969-1222
Households do not need an appointment.
For more info visit
www.mrksrecyclehawaii.com/electronic-devices.html

Why should we recycle our electronics?

By recycling our electronics, we divert these valuable materials to manufacturing new devices and extend the life of our landfill.

Electronics may contain toxic materials. If disposed in trash they may leach in the landfill and pollute groundwater and the 'āina. Let's do our part - Reduce, Reuse, & Recycle!

State of Hawai'i Electronic Device Recycling & Recovery Law
<https://health.hawaii.gov/ewaste/>

Amazing Grace

BAPTIST CHURCH OF SOUTH POINT

Invites you to come listen to Evangelist Randy Chovan speak on the life & ministry of Jesus Christ.

The event will be held at the building across from the Miranda's Farms Coffee Shop located at 93-7136 Hawai'i Belt Road in Nā'ālehu.

January 26-29, 2025

Sunday 1/26

- 10:30 a.m. Service
- Potluck (all are welcome)
- 2nd Service immediately after

Monday 1/27

- 6:30 p.m. Service

Tuesday 1/28

- 6:30 p.m. Service

Wednesday 1/29

- 6:30 p.m. Service



Evangelist Randy Chovan & his wife Grace

Call Pastor John Glenn at 970-623-1081 for more information.