

# Hawaiian Host Buys 4,000 Acre Kapua Orchards, MacFarms

The 4,000-acre Kapua Orchards and MacFarms processing plant on the border of Ka'ū and South Kona is acquired by Hawaiian Host Group, the famous confectionery company. Hawaiian Host recently held a blessing for the MacFarm employees. It is one of the largest employers of Ka'ū residents.

Hawaiian Host also owns Mauna Loa and its operating plant in Kea'au as well as another manufacturing plant on O'ahu. Its purchase of MacFarms stock for \$26 million makes Hawaiian Host the largest mac-

adamia grower and producer in the state with some 340,000 trees. Hawaiian Host made the purchase from the former Broed-erbond Australian company, which is now known as Health & Protein Group LTD.

Hawaiian Host President and CEO Ed Schultz issued a statement saying, "The addition of 4,000 acres of macadamia orchards in perpetuity allows us to plan for the long-term in Hawai'i. MacFarms has a long-standing history of producing some of the best macadamia nuts in the world, and we look forward to continuing that

tradition. This acquisition will allow us to expand our product offerings and continue to provide our customers with the best quality products, while retaining great jobs in the state of Hawai'i."

Macadamia growers in Ka'ū and around the state recently submitted testimony to the Hawai'i *Hawaiian Host, pg. 11*



Hawaiian Host CEO and President Ed Schultz (center) after purchasing MacFarms. Photo from Hawaiian Host Group

# THE KA'Ū CALENDAR

Volume 21, Number 5

The Good News of Ka'ū, Hawai'i

May 2023

## Hawai'i County Makes a Big Push for Affordable Housing

The County of Hawai'i is seeking affordable housing projects and offering \$18 million to support them. Mayor Mitch Roth announced that \$18 million will be available to qualified applicants working to increase, support, or sustain the availability of affordable housing in Hawai'i County. The applications became available May 1, with a deadline of June 30.

Hawai'i County, through its Office of Housing & Community Development, requests proposals for Affordable Housing Production Program funds by eligible developers, non-profit and for-profit organizations, public agencies, and community land trusts.

The Mayor said, "We're proud to build on our commitment of fostering a sustainable Hawai'i Island where our keiki can raise their keiki for generations by helping organizations to bolster affordable housing developments on our island. We're committed to getting local families into homes, and this is just one way we're working to ensure that we realize that commitment."

The County statement describes the *Affordable Housing, pg. 2*

### Meeting on South Pt Shared Solar May 31

Pivot Energy and Arion Energy invite the public to a meeting about their South Point Shared Solar project, Wednesday, May 31 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Nā'ālehu Community Center. Hawaiian Electric announced the proposals on March 1. The two "shared solar projects" that promise reduction in electric bills for Hawaiian Electric customers who sign on, are planned for land accessible from South Point Road. Neither would include battery backup.

A third solar farm, with batteries, is planned by another company, Nexamp near Kamaoa Road in a separate proposal.

One of the South Point Shared Solar projects would be a .50MWac Solar PV-Generation Plant covering 15.4 acres and *South Point Solar, pg. 10*



Kehau Kalani, of Pāhala, took first in the Pā'ū Princess competition, representing Ni'ihau on April 15, in the Merrie Monarch Festival Royal Parade in Hilo with her court Jennifer Carruthers and KonaLee Aho-Miles. Photo by Kai Kalani

### Ka'ū Pā'ū Riders Top at Merrie Monarch

Ka'ū's Pā'ū Riders won awards in the 60th annual Merrie Monarch Festival Royal Parade on Saturday, April 15, with Kehau Kalani of Pāhala taking first place in the Pā'ū competition, representing Ni'ihau. Two of eight Hawaiian islands were represented by Ka'ū Pā'ū Riders. Both rated in the top three. Lori-Lee Lorenzo and family rode for Moloka'i and won third Outstanding Unit.

The Moloka'i group featured Jesse Lorenzo with the banner, and outriders Frank Lorenzo and Ikaika Grace accompanying the princess. Pooper scoopers were Quinten Lorenzo, Jesse Lorenzo, Jr.,

Ethan Leite and Sophia Montoya.

Lori-Lee Lorenzo thanked Ka'ū Multicultural Society for its guidance in the tradition of Pā'ū riding.

The Mokupuni O Ni'ihau group featured outrider Jennifer Carruthers and KonaLee Aho-Miles accompanying the princess. Candi Hololio, the page, carried the Ni'ihau banner. Pooper scoopers were Mana and Kehaulani Ke and Jahnasha Gouveia.

The princess said she would like to thank so many people, especially her husband Kai Kalani, her children and extended 'ohana, the Carruthers, Pernell



Lori-Lee Lorenzo, Princess of Moloka'i. Photo by Ray Leota

and Sophia Hanoa, Uncle Kimo Awai, Jenn Gomez and Phil and Merle Becker.

The Pā'ū Marshal for the parade *Ka'ū Pā'ū Riders, pg. 16*

## Mizuno Superette Stays Open, Blends into 'Ohana Foods



Mizuno Superette will stay open. Assistant Manager Cheryl Baldonado becomes manager. Photo by Julia Neal

A locally run store, with a history of enterprising families in Pāhala for nearly a century, will transition to new management and ownership with a blessing on Friday, May 12 at 10 a.m.

Mizuno Superette will retain its name and the legacy of families such as

Mizuno, Yamaguchi and Hara, says new operator Carl Okuyama who also has a long history in Ka'ū with food stores in Nā'ālehu and 'Ohana Foods in Hilo. He said he plans a visual display of the store's service to the community throughout the sugar plantation days and into the emergence of the Ka'ū Coffee culture.

The most recent operators arrived more than 33 years ago, Rochelle and the late Derek Hara, remembered fondly in the community as an avid fisherman, who passed away *Mizuno Superette, pg. 3*

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## Landlords Offered \$3000 Bonuses to Keep Housing Affordable

Landlords who will work with the County to help solve housing shortages, providing rentals to Veterans, the Non-Elderly and Disabled, and Foster Young Adult voucher holders can net a bonus. The bonus also applies to landlords providing Emergency Housing.

The Hawai'i County Office of Housing and Community Development announced in April the offer of \$3,000 sign-on bonuses for Hawai'i Island landlords taking part in select housing assistance programs.

Landlords who partner with the Office may be eligible to receive a one-time \$3,000 incentive payment when renting with a one-year lease. Property owners with multiple open units could receive \$3,000 per unit. By offering the \$3,000 sign-on bonus, the Office hopes to increase the number of Landlords on Hawai'i Island participating in the program to provide more housing opportunities for participants holding vouchers.



“Addressing the homelessness and affordable housing crises requires collaboration and partnerships. This new incentive program launched through the Hawai'i County Office of Housing and Community Development seeks to leverage the Affordable Housing, from pg. 1

funding as “an unprecedented investment in the Hawai'i Island community.” It was made possible through Ordinance 22-77, passed by the County Council in June 2022, and signed into law by the Mayor. The law appropriates a minimum of \$5 million per year to the Office of Housing and Community Development to facilitate programs that support affordable housing production in Hawai'i County.

A statement from the County says, “The need for

units of affordable housing available now on Hawai'i Island to help those in need to deliver real results,” said County Housing Administrator Susan Kunz. “This investment will ensure the successful delivery of this program into the community.”

According to the National Low Income Housing Coalition's most recent *The Gap* report issued in March 2023, Hawai'i in 2021 had just 89 affordable and available homes per 100 renter households earning at or below 100% Area Median Income (AMI). For low-income renter households, those earning at or below 80% AMI, there were just 74 units per 100 households. The figure drops to 34 units per 100 households at or below 30% AMI.

affordable housing on Hawai'i Island is dire, and increasing the availability and accessibility of affordable housing remains the administration's top priority. Per the 2019 Hawai'i Housing Planning Study, Hawai'i County needed to add 10,796 affordable housing units by 2025 to meet the community's needs. That makes public-private partnerships like those that will be fostered by the Affordable Housing Production Program critical to ensuring local families can thrive here for generations to come.”

County Housing Administrator Susan Kunz said, “To support and build a sustain-

“Sustainability is about making sure that our local families can thrive here for generations, which, in turn, means having a place to live and call home,” said Mayor Mitch Roth. “There are a lot of great families out there who just need to be given a chance, and that's what this incentive program is all about – a chance for hard-working local people to find a good, stable home.”

This shortage of affordable rental housing units makes it difficult for voucher recipients to find or keep an affordable housing rental unit in Hawai'i County. In any given month, up to 100 participants with vouchers are searching for a safe place to call home.

*Landlord Incentives, pg. 4*

able Hawai'i Island, we must address the availability and quality of housing.

This unprecedented investment in the community reflects the administration's continued commitment to prioritizing affordable housing development and increasing the number of affordable rental and owner-occupied housing units available to our 'ohana. The Hawai'i County Office of Housing and Community Development is pleased to administer the Affordable Housing Production Program and looks forward to partnering with qualified developers, organizations, agencies, and land trusts to support the development and preservation of much-needed affordable housing to ensure the viability of our communities.”

*Affordable Housing, pg. 4*



Susan Kunz

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## Commission Approves Scientific Satellite Dishes in Wood Valley

Scientific research satellite dishes are approved by Windward Planning Commission for land next to Wood Valley Road. The vote was 4-0 in April with two planning commissioners Lou Danielle and John Cross recusing themselves since they work for Edmund C. Olson Trust, which owns the land where the dishes will be located on 10.7 acres.



Satellite dishes, similar to those planned by Academia Sinica for deep space research off Wood Valley Road.

According to Academia Sinica Institute of Astronomy and Astrophysics, of Taiwan, which plans to install the ten dishes on two acres of the parcel, each dish will be 20 feet wide.

Representatives of the academic institute described the satellite dishes as pas-

sive, designed to detect deep space radio bursts. They said Wood Valley was chosen because of its lack of radio waves and other noise like telephone and television signals. They used the term "radio silent," and said the site is protected by the mountains that surround Wood Valley.

Opponents said they objected to seeing the dishes from their homes and farms and that they feared that this could be the start of a large satellite dish campus. They said it was incompatible with agricultural activity in Wood Valley. The decision of the Planning Commission, however, is final unless members of the public make a legal filing to contest it.

The Deputy Director of Academia Sinica in Hawai'i, Ming-Tang Chen, offered to work with schools in Ka'ū to promote science, explain astronomy and offer student internships. Students doing internships here who want to further their education in the field could be introduced to the organization's international partners for more opportunities. Academia Sinica operates a Submillimeter Array of satellite dishes on Mauna Kea in partnership with Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory.

One requirement for the approval of the project in Wood Valley is for the organization to provide the county with an annual report on its public outreach in Ka'ū.

### Mizuno Superette, from pg. 1

while diving. Since then Rochelle has operated Mizuno and recently told her employees that she must retire and set a date for the end of June.



When Okuyama and Olson Trust, owner of the adjacent shopping center, learned of the situation and the possibility of the only grocery store in Pāhala shutting down, they pulled together to create a seamless and early transition. Okuyama said he would hire the workers and keep the doors open as Rochelle moves into retirement. He interviewed employees and most will stay on, with long-time assistant manager Cheryl Baldonado becoming manager and Carla Andrade continuing as assistant manager. Supervisors will include T-J George, Zara Galigo, Kama Wroblewski and Courtney Louis. Anthony Andrade is stocking manager.

Daryn Galigo, manager at 'Ohana Foods Union 76 in Nā'ālehu, has been promoted to Ka'ū Area Retail Supervisor. Galigo will provide assistance during the transition and ongoing guidance. Mizuno employs about 12 people. 'Ohana Foods Union 76 Station employs 19 and 'Ohana Foods in Hilo 25.

Rochelle Hara posted a message on the front of the store in April: "I would sincerely like to thank the community for welcoming

my late husband Derek and me over 33 years ago. We have tried our hardest to provide the town with items it needed. I've pushed myself too much and have been really struggling to work through all of the pain. It's been difficult to keep the store stocked during the pandemic. Unfortunately I can't keep up the pace. However, a new company will take over right after we close on Thursday, May 11." She said that as a mahalo "we are running an in-store sale, at prices below our cost. More sales will be added daily until May 11. I appreciate all the love and support this community has given! Thank you all!"

Okuyama said Mizuno will continue to operate on its current schedule of 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. on weekdays, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays and 8 a.m. to noon on Sundays. Over time there will be renovations and improvements, said Okuyama. He is leasing the space from Edmund C. Olson Trust II, which purchased the property from Hara. Olson Trust owns the adjacent Pāhala Center, with its bank, post office, hair salon, coffee shop and Longs Drugs. Mizuno Superette will join Pāhala Center where it has long shared the parking lot.

For the blessing, the public is invited on May 12 at 10 a.m. There will be light refreshments.

### CU Hawai'i: Member Appreciation Day

Member Appreciation Day was held by CU Hawai'i Federal Credit Union on April 21, with surprise giveaways. Members spun a wheel of fortune, the needle landing on the name of the gift received. At Nā'ālehu, members signed entries to win cash prizes. From their own homes and offices, members could also click online to win prizes.

CU Hawai'i Pāhala branch is located in the macadamia building on Pikake Street and is open 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Fridays. The Nā'ālehu branch is on Hwy 11 in the core of Nā'ālehu town and is open Mondays through Fridays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. See [www.cuhawaii.com](http://www.cuhawaii.com).

In this photo, Janessa Jara (center) welcomes members of CU Hawai'i Federal Credit Union to Appreciation Day in Pāhala, with gifts, including this umbrella received by Danaric Dacalio and Dre Dacalio with Rose Marie Navarro.

Photo by Julia Neal



## Grace Brings Food Truck to Pāhala

Keone Grace is servicing Pāhala with a food truck and parks it most weekdays and soon on Saturdays next to Kamani Street by Kamei Gas Station.

A long time food manager at Ka'ū Hospital, Grace said he has been dreaming of going out on his own for many years to support his family, Kalia and Kaikala and their mom Jennifer, who grew up in Ka'ū.

Grace was able to purchase an 18-foot food truck with a stainless steel interior and finish it off with certification. He left his post at the hospital and said he is happy to provide food to Ka'ū folks from approximately 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and return the rig to his Pāhala home each day to make ready for the next.

The name of the enterprise is Four



Kalia, Keone, Jennifer and Kaikala with their Four Scoops of Aloha food truck, at their home base in Pāhala.

Photo from Four Scoops of Aloha

Scoops of Aloha and the menu varies from burgers to chicken and pork, Thai and seared ahi, along with burritos, quesadillas and more. He also takes orders for family and group dining and catering. Text, call 808-747-2910. Email [kaliakahu@gmail.com](mailto:kaliakahu@gmail.com). See Four Scoops of Aloha for the menu on instagram.



### Pāhala Hālau Travels to Hilo for Otsuka Veterans

During Merrie Monarch Week, Hālau Hula Leionalani, under the direction of Debbie Ryder, sent keiki and youth dancers from Ka'ū to perform for residents of the Yukio Otsuka State Veterans Home. The hālau also performed at the opening of Merrie Monarch at Hilo Civic and at Hilo Hawaiian Hotel.

Photo by Jack Moses



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# Ka'ū High's Esport Club Shines at State Championships

The esport club at Ka'ū High School made it to the state championship finals on O'ahu at the end of April. The varsity Valorant Team competed in Vanta Hawai'i Esports League's HS Valorant semi-final game. It pitted Ka'ū against Kea'au High in a best of three at Hawai'i Pacific University's Esports Arena.

Ka'ū won, advancing to the final match where the Trojans lost to Castle High. The day's events were carried on Channel 54 on Spectrum, and streamed via Vanta's twitch channel ([twitch.tv/vantaesports](https://twitch.tv/vantaesports)). The day also included High School championship matches in Overwatch 2, Apex Legends, Rocket League, Super Smash Brothers, and Chess, and a mini college fair with representatives from UH Manoa, UH West O'ahu, Chaminade University, and Hawai'i Pacific University.

Ka'ū High esports club is comprised of JV and Varsity Valorant teams, an Overwatch team, and a Super Smash Brothers team.

Valorant is a popular online multiplayer game that pits two teams of five players against each other. Teams either attempt to plant a spike until detonation, or prevent

that from occurring, with a time limit of 100 seconds per round. The first team to win 13 rounds wins the match.



The game requires a high level of teamwork, strategy, and skill to win.

Ka'ū High Varsity Valorant team consists of seniors Patrick Riehle, Marcky Tamayo, Rylan Peralta, Chloe Gabini, and Ivan Ramos.

They have been playing together for over a year, even before joining Ka'ū High's esports club. "We are

ready to show what we can do and represent Ka'ū, as we give our best and have fun," said Riehle, the unofficial team captain. The club eschews official leadership roles.

A statement from the esports club says: "While the Ka'ū High esports club has self-funded its equipment through fundraisers and donations over the past four years, a last minute trip to O'ahu was a bit of a curveball, and the members of the club would like to express their gratitude to their school and athletic department, and various local organizations and businesses that helped to fund the trip."

Among the donors are 'O Ka'ū Kākou, a nonprofit community organization that promotes education, health, and culture in



Esport club members Rylan Peralta, Chloe Gabini, Marcky Tamayo and Ivan Ramos pick up team member Patrick Riehle before flying off to O'ahu for the state championships in April.

Photo by Andrew Honma

Ka'ū; Aloha MAP, a mentoring and tutoring program that serves students in grades 6-12; and Arnott's Lodge, a lodge and hik-

ing adventure company that offers affordable accommodations and tours on the Big Island.

## HPD: Cover the Load or Be Fined

Cover the load in the back of a truck or be fined. That's a reminder sent out by Hawai'i Police Department. "While transporting cargo on any public roadway or highway, your load must be covered. Most of the litter on or near our roadways is not intentionally thrown. Rather, it has more often than not, been blown out of open-bed pickup trucks, thereby potentially causing a road hazard or a traffic collision."

A statement from HPD urges that anytime one travels with a loaded truck bed, trailer, or roof rack, make sure to properly secure the load by:

- Tying down the load with rope or straps.
- Tying large objects directly to the vehicle or trailer.

- Covering the entire load with a sturdy tarp (which is then tied down) or netting.

HPD also recommends, "After tying down a load double check to make sure that nothing can slide, fall, or shift out of your vehicle. Check your car manual to make sure you aren't overloading your vehicle."

According to Hawai'i Revised Statute 291C-13231, the penalties for first-time violators of the law can expect a fine of \$250 to \$500. A second violation, if cited within a year after the first, delivers a fine of between \$500 and \$750, plus suspension of the vehicle registration and/or license of the driver for at least five working days.

## K9 Kim Joins Vice Squad at Hawai'i Police Department

German Shorthaired Pointer K9 Kim is the newest 'Ilio wahine member of the Hawai'i Police Department Area II Vice Section. K9 Kim is two years of age and she specializes in sniffing out narcotics.

In early March, Officer Stephen Kishimoto Jr., a K9 handler in the department's Area II Vice Section, traveled to Vohne Liche Kennels in Denver, Indiana, to select a new canine for the department. He chose K9 Kim after looking at three different canines. Kim was born in Hungary and brought to the US by the training kennel, which specializes in police dogs.

"Kim's overall work drive stood out over the other canines," said Kishimoto.

Kishimoto and his new K9 partner completed an extensive four-week training course at Vohne Liche's 350-acre facility, during which the young canine learned search patterns and how to identify and signal for specific drug odors during searches.

"Kim's drive to work and pleasant demeanor makes her a great canine, not only to locate illegal narcotics, but she'll be a great canine for school and public demonstrations," said Kishimoto. "She'll represent HPD well."



HPD Officer Stephen Kishimoto, Jr. from Hawai'i met K9 Kim from Hungary when they were both at Vohne Liche in Indiana. K9 Kim returned to Hawai'i with Kishimoto to serve as an 'Ilio wahine police dog. Photo from HPD

K9 Kim and her training were paid for by Hawai'i branch of the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas Program, a part of the Office of National Drug Control Policy.

K9 Kim replaces K9 Rory, a 10-year-old Springer Spaniel, who retired in August 2022.

## PUC Hearing Delayed for OV Solar

The hearing before the state Public Utilities Commission regarding the industrial scale solar planned for empty lots between homes in Ocean View has been delayed. The battle between a group of residents and the solar investors has been ongoing for six years. A group of Ocean View residents fundraised to hire attorneys to take their case before the PUC, which must approve the project for it to proceed. The new hearing date is June

16. See the April edition of *The Ka'ū Calendar*.

Peter Bosted, who has taken the case before the PUC, said the legal defense fund established by Ocean View opponents has continued to grow. Donations in April came from Charles Gillespie, Doug Gregg, Marketa Sturmova, Anitra and Greta Pickett, Gina Williams, Emmanuel Robert and Tomislav Gracanin and Veda Hackell.

### Landlord Incentive, from pg. 2

"Many Hawai'i Island renters are struggling to find a place, and our housing voucher program participants are no different," said Existing Housing Division Manager Michael Yee. "This incentive program will bring more of our housing stock into the reach of voucher holders because, as we all know, stable, affordable housing is critical to a person's health, dignity, safety, inclusion, and overall contribution to their community."

The Landlord Incentive Program will end upon the depletion of available federal funding. Full program details can be found at [www.hawaiicounty.gov/landlords](http://www.hawaiicounty.gov/landlords).

Interested Landlords are also encour-

aged to sign-up for the Office's next New Landlord Orientation set for 9 a.m. May 24 in Hilo.

For more information, visit [hawaiicounty.gov/landlords](http://hawaiicounty.gov/landlords), email [landlord.housing@hawaiicounty.gov](mailto:landlord.housing@hawaiicounty.gov) or call the Existing Housing Division at 808 959-4642, ext. 1904.

The Hawai'i County Office of Housing and Community Development is responsible for the planning, administration, and operation of all County of Hawai'i housing programs. Its mission is to provide for the development of viable communities through decent housing, suitable living environments and expanded economic opportunities.

### Affordable Housing, from pg. 2

The \$18 million available for the current request for proposals combines funding from fiscal year 2022-23 and anticipated funding for fiscal year 2023-24. For the current fiscal year, 2022-23, OHCD received \$9 million. At least \$9 million is anticipated for the fiscal year 2023-24, which begins July 1.

Proposals for program funds must meet the primary objective of the Affordable Housing Production Program to support, increase, and sustain the supply of affordable rental and owner-occupied housing on Hawai'i Island and other requirements.

A variety of activities may qualify for funding via the Affordable Housing Production Program, including:

- Acquisition of real property for the development of affordable housing;
- Planning, design, or construction of affordable rental or owner-occupied housing;
- Rehabilitation of housing to be utilized as affordable housing;
- Providing affordable housing for the elderly, persons with special housing needs,

and homeless residents lacking a permanent home;

Investment in infrastructure in connection with the development of affordable housing projects; and

Other activities that support, increase, and sustain affordable housing production in Hawai'i County.

Proposals must be submitted electronically only through an online application platform that will be available on the OHCD website, [www.hawaiicounty.gov/ahp](http://www.hawaiicounty.gov/ahp), starting May 1, 2023. Proposals are due by 4:30 p.m. June 30.

Eligible non-profit and for-profit organizations, public agencies and community land trusts considering proposal submissions and interested community members are encouraged to take part in one of two virtual information sessions via Zoom.

To register for the first session at 1:30 p.m. on May 4, visit [tinyurl.com/386ce4xb](https://tinyurl.com/386ce4xb). The second session will be held at 9:30 a.m. May 9, 2023, visit [tinyurl.com/4tjcr58d](https://tinyurl.com/4tjcr58d) to register.

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# KA'Ū SPORTS REPORT

Volume 21, Number 5

The Good News of Ka'ū, Hawai'i

May 2023

## Ka'ū Hokulele Club Brings Home Basketball Titles

Two basketball championship titles came home to Ka'ū with the Hokulele Basketball Club in April. Hokulele's Fifth and Seventh Grade teams came in first in their divisions at the Hawaiian AAU Championships at the Hawai'i Convention Center on O'ahu. Hokulele's Seventh Grade Team won with a 3-0 record. Hokulele's Fifth Grade Team won with a 2-1 record. The Fifth Grade won the championship in double overtime. The AAU event drew nearly 100 teams for all age divisions from around the state.

"Hokulele would like



Ka'ū won two titles at the Hawaiian AAU Championships in April. Hokulele Basketball Club players took first in the Fifth Grade Division in double overtime play at Hawai'i Convention Center on O'ahu. Photo from Hokulele Basketball Club

to thank everyone who supported the club and players in fundraisers to make this trip possible for them!" said a statement from the Hokulele coaches and support crew. "Hokulele Basketball Club now prepares for their summer travel plans in July. Tournaments and events to be determined."

Head Coach and President of Hokulele is Ravel Kaupu Jr. Vice President is Jan Kaeza Penera. Coaches are Chrysa Dacalio and Jaron Garcia. The non-profit conducts training in basketball for youth and hosts tournaments at the Robert Herkes



Ka'ū's Hokulele Basketball Seventh Grade team took first in its division at Hawaiian AAU Championships at Hawai'i Convention Center on O'ahu. Photo from Hokulele Basketball

Ka'ū District Gym. Hokulele also takes youth players on the road to compete on and off island.

## Ka'ū High Trojan Volleyball Wraps Up with Many Wins

Ka'ū Trojans wrapped up Boys Volleyball in April with nine wins and five losses. Coach Josh Ortega said it was a great season. Almost all players are expected to return next year with the only senior, Patrick Riehle, graduating. The young team should



Robert Herkes Ka'ū Gym welcomed teams from around the island to face generations of enthusiastic Trojan volleyball fans. Photo by Julia Neal

be experienced and ready to take on the competition in 2024, said Ortega.

The Trojans traveled to play as far away as Kohala, Honoka'a and Hawai'i

Preparatory Academy. Ortega said he was happy to host teams for home games at "our amazing facility not found in most small towns on the island."

For generations, volleyball has put Ka'ū Trojans on the map with a strong fan base and enthusiastic players. Ortega, himself on the Trojan team in high school that made it to states, began coaching at Ka'ū in 2012. Ortega continues to play the sport including this year's Haili Tournament in Hilo, with his team winning. Ortega also coaches Trojan Girls Volleyball, with tryouts and practice beginning in August.

Highlights for Boys Volleyball in April included beating Ka Umeke Kā'eo 25-20, 25-22 and 25-16. When taking down Laupāhoehoe, 25-18, 25-9 and 25-12 at the Robert Herkes Ka'ū District Gym, Trojans ran up outstanding achievements. Tyson Junior Kuahua-Faafia nailed 11 kills, 3 aces and 1 block. Adahdiyah Ellis Reyes



Trojan Boys Volleyball team was young this year, with only one senior. Nevertheless, they won most of their games and are expected to be even stronger in 2024. Photo from Coach Josh Ortega

came up with 7 kills. Patrick Riehle made 5 kills and 1 ace. Karsen Polido-Tuaifaiva achieved 5 kills and 2 aces. Vladimir Fedoruk managed 4 kills 3 aces. CyZeiah Silva-Kamei had 2 aces, Kayson Pagan 1 kill.

When the season came to an end with a loss to Kohala on the road, Trojans won the first set 25-16. Cowboys took the sec-

ond, third and fourth sets 25-13, 25-19 and 25-18. Trojans with the most scores were Tyson Junior Kuahua-Faafia with 19 kills, 32 aces and 4 blocks; Patrick Riehle with 1 kill and 1 block. Vladimir Fedoruk with 3 kills, 2 aces and 1 block, Triton Blanco with 2 kills and 2 aces and Zayden Gallano with 1 kill and 1 block.

## Near Miss for Grace, Respect for All at BIIF Track Finals

Kalia Grace just missed qualifying for states in the 200 meter at the Big Island Interscholastic final track meet, the last weekend in April. She ranked seventh overall. Also ranking seventh was Cheska Aurelio in the 1500 m.

Coach Tolu Rasmussen said he and Coach Jacob Davenport have high hopes

for next year's track team and call on more Trojans to come out for the sport. He noted that Grace is a freshman and has three more years ahead of her. Freshman Isaiah Manila Louis has excelled in long jump, hurdles, 100m, 200m and 400m. Freshman Cody Rasmussen competes in the 800 and 400 with three more years to improve and

compete. Aurelio will be a junior and presents a lot of talent. Stephen Adler runs the 100m and 200m, and jumped his personal best at the BIIF finals. He will compete next year as a senior. "He gives it all every time," said Rasmussen.

Rasmussen said he is looking for flexibility in the sports program to allow more dual



Track coaches Jacob Davenport and Tolu Rasmussen with Cheska Aurelio and Kalia Grace.

sports participation. For track he hopes for year round field events and track recruitment. He noted that track helps with almost every other sport, particularly football, which is off season during track. He also said that track is good for pig hunting, a popular sport in this community with many

BIIF Track, pg. 10

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# KA'Ū SCHOOL & YOUTH

## 'O Ka'ū Kākou Gives Scholarships to Derasin, Andrade for Higher Ed

'O Ka'ū Kākou has named two scholars from Ka'ū to receive funding to further their education. The nonprofit service organization gives out scholarships annually.



Kircia Derasin is the winner of an 'O Ka'ū Kākou scholarship for her first year in college this fall. The Kamehameha School senior enjoys rodeo and wants to become a pediatrician.

Kircia Derasin is a graduating senior at Kamehameha Schools. She has been on the Principal's List and Headmaster's List for the last two years and maintains a 3.733 GPA. She has participated in the Hawai'i High School Rodeo, Ka'ū High School All Stars Program, Girls' Cross Country and Koa Club.



Lenaia Andrade receives an OKK scholarship and studies to become a dental hygienist. She is a Kamehameha Schools graduate.

Derasin plans to attend University of Hawai'i at Hilo to pursue her life-long desire to become a Pediatrician. She said she loves "the idea of taking care of the youth, and being able to guide them through both their health and mentality." She said she believes that "kids are a big part of the future, so we need to take them into consideration." Her \$1,000 scholarship from 'O Ka'ū Kākou is for the 2023-2024 school year.

Lenaia Andrade graduated Kamehameha Schools and attends Columbia Basin College in Pasco, WA, as an undergraduate student with a 3.83 GPA. She will graduate this spring and receive her AA in Arts and Sciences.

Andrade was recently accepted into the Dental Hygiene Program at Columbia Basin College and will spend the next two years pursuing her Bachelor of Applied Science in Dental Hygiene.

She said she feels that "giving back to my community is important."

Andrade has volunteered with the National Honor Society and participated in food drives, clean-up campaigns, speak-outs, family nights and sports activities for schools.

"My volunteer experience helped drive my want and need to help people. When I see the happiness and joy that I'm able to

bring to people, it makes me feel good inside and encourages me to believe that I can really make a difference among my community."

Upon earning her degree, Andrade plans to return to Hawai'i so she can "help people feel healthy and confident in their

smiles, because a smile is such a big and beautiful feature that we have."

Her \$2,000 scholarship from 'O Ka'ū Kākou is for the 2023-2024 school year.

See more on OKK's history, ongoing projects and events at their website at [www.okaukakou.org](http://www.okaukakou.org).



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## Train for Local Food System Grant Writing

Scholarships for training in grant writing for local food system development are available from Ulupono Initiative and the Hawai'i Good Food Alliance. The funding is for the Grantsmanship Center's professional grant writing program for those working in Hawai'i local food system development with the goal of increasing available funding to food system enterprises and services.

See <https://www.tgci.com/training/grantsmanship-training-program-5-day>

Tuition for an individual's five-day training is \$1,195 (with a \$100 early-bird discount). Ten scholarships of \$1,095 will be awarded with the understanding that the recipient or his/her/their organization will cover the tuition balance of \$100 and provide the time for seminar attendance virtually or in person.

Awardees will be selected by HGFA and Ulupono staff with consideration of the applicant's prior experience in the field, organizational need, and commitment to continued grant writing efforts. The participant or her/his organization would cover the cost of the tuition upfront and then be reimbursed once proof of program completion is submitted to HGFA.

Recipients are required to complete the Grantsmanship training by Nov. 30. Direct completed applications and any questions about this opportunity to Betsy Cole, [cole@kohalacenter.org](mailto:cole@kohalacenter.org). Deadline for submission is May 15.

## Dept. Ag Seeks to Fund Food Hub Pilot Programs

A food hub pilot program is sought for funding by the state Department of Agriculture. The agency will administer a competitive request for proposal process to award general funds for proposals that support the establishment and growth of food hubs on a scale that meets demand by state institutions such as schools, hospitals, and correctional facilities.

Visit Hawai'i Awards and Notices Data System HANDS at <https://hands.ehawaii.gov/hands/> for more information.



# Principal Beck Wins Masayuki Tokioka Excellence in School Leadership Award

Ka'ū High & Pāhala Elementary Principal Sharon Beck was named the winner of the 2023 Masayuki Tokioka Excellence in School Leadership Award at the Public Schools of Hawai'i Foundation annual dinner in April.

"This tremendous recognition of Principal Sharon Beck is a recognition of her leadership at Ka'ū High & Pāhala Elementary," said state Superintendent of Schools Keith Hayashi. "It's her ability to bring the community together, all in the spirit of helping not only students, but their families and the overall Ka'ū community."

"Principal Sharon Beck rose to the top primarily because we were amazed by what she's been able to accomplish given the area that her school is located in," said Island Insurance Foundation Chairman Tyler Tokioka. "The location creates challenges that other principals may not face... the size of the area that she serves and the economic issues that the area can create logistical challenges, resource challenges, in addition to the normal learning challenges that all principals face."



Ka'ū High & Pāhala Elementary Principal Sharon Beck wins the 2023 Masayuki Tokioka Excellence in School Leadership Award, flanked on left by Hawai'i Superintendent of Schools Keith Hayashi and right by Island Insurance Foundation Chair Tyler Tokioka.

Beck was awarded \$25,000 – a \$10,000 personal cash award and \$15,000 toward a school project of her choice. Beck hopes to use the school award money toward bluetooth devices that would provide students with access to learning in remote areas that may not have WiFi access.

"This award, to me, is a team recognition," Beck said. "I couldn't do this alone. It is the faculty, the staff — everyone at school that puts their heart and soul into our students."

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\*Ends June 30, 2023  
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# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**LIVE MUSIC WITH OLA LOA**, the band from Volcano, Comes to After Dark in the Park on Tuesday, May 2 at 7 p.m. at Kīlauea Visitor Center auditorium. Christopher Miller on guitar, Gary Dikito on 'ukulele and Jeff Hamilton on stand-up bass play Hawaiian, rhythm and blues and classic hits. Sponsored by the Friends of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Free, but park entrance fees apply.

**TIKI MAMA'S IN OCEAN VIEW**, 92-9122 Highway 11 has an Open Mic night on Sundays, May 7 and 28 from noon to 5 p.m.



A Hawaiian hū, spinning top, made from a kukui nut. *NPS photo*

**LET'S PLAY HŪ** on Wednesday, May 10 from 10 a.m. to noon at the 'Ōhi'a Wing, across Crater Rim Drive from Kīlauea Visitor Center. Early Hawaiians devoted time to games, amusement and relaxation. Hū, or top-spinning, was an absorbing activity for children but making hū with a kukui nut was equally engaging. Join rangers and staff from Hawai'i Pacific Parks Association for Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park's ongoing 'Ike Hana No'eau (Experience the Skillful Work). Co-sponsored by Hawai'i Friends of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Free, but park entrance fees apply.

**FREE CONCERT BY SHARKK HEARTT**, Saturday, May 13 at 2 p.m. at Kahuku Visitor Contact Station. Lara Ruggles is Sharkk Heartt, artist and activist with indie pop, folk, electronica, and jazz who creates a sound that draws comparisons to Sylvan Esso and Florence and the Machine. The <https://www.nationalparksartsfoundation.org/> selected Lara as the park's Artist in Residence for May to write and perform new music while getting inspired by the park's landscapes.

**KA'Ū KEIKI SINGERS** present Music for the Community on Saturday, May 13 at 3:30 p.m. Keiki will sing uplifting songs at Ocean View Community Center located at 92-8924 Leilani Circle. Admission is free. Donations accepted.

**ANCHIALINE POOLS: WINDOWS TO HIDDEN HAWAII** is the topic for Kahuku Coffee Talk on Saturday, May 20 from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Kahuku Visitor Contact Station. Anchialine coastal pools provide critical habitat for 'ōpae 'ula (endemic shrimp) and other native species, and Hawai'i Island is home to 650 of the 700 anchialine pools in the state. Join Anne Farahi, lead aquatic biologist for the National Park Service Pacific Island Network Inventory & Monitoring division and anchialine enthusiast and park ranger Dean Gallagher on a virtual plunge into hidden Hawai'i. Sponsored by Hawai'i Pacific Parks Association. Free admission. Ka'ū Coffee will be for sale.

**VOLCANO WOOD SHOW** opening reception is Saturday, May 20 from 2-4 p.m. The show will be open Wednesday to Sunday, from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., until June 10. See it at Volcano Art Center's Nialani Campus. (808) 967-8222.

**THE BATTLE OF THE BITTER RAIN**, Tuesday, May 23 at 7 p.m.

at Kīlauea Visitor Center auditorium is the After Dark in the Park presentation. It was a time of feathered capes, shark-toothed clubs, and long spears, when warring chiefs battled for control of the islands. One fierce battle took place partially within what is today Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Join retired park ranger Jay Robinson for the story. Sponsored by Friends

of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Free, but park entrance fees apply.

**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING** for the Ka'ū Rural Health Community Association, Inc. will be held Friday, May 26 from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Robert Herkes Gymnasium multipurpose room in Pāhala. Speakers include Gov. Josh Green, Mayor Mitch Roth and Derek Kurisu. Learn about workforce development, employment opportunities and continuing education. Door prizes and refreshments available.

**LIVING HISTORY AT KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS KAHUKU RANCH**: Saturday, May 27, re-live a day on historic Kahuku Ranch with a one-woman living history play performed by Alya-Joy Kanehailua. The in-situ performance is based on a journal written by Hannah Pi'ilani Jones, daughter of George Jones, who owned Kahuku Ranch from 1871 to 1887. The free performances are at 10 a.m., noon and 2 p.m., and reservations are required. Email Wendy Vance, [wendy\\_scott-vance@nps.gov](mailto:wendy_scott-vance@nps.gov) to reserve a seat and for detailed directions.

## DAILY, WEEKLY, MONTHLY

**PICKLEBALL** at Kahuku Park in Ocean View on Sundays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays. To learn more and register, contact Jaquie Woodmansee at (808) 929-7092.

**YOGA** at Kahuku Park in Ocean View on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 9 - 10 a.m. To learn more and register, contact Trisha Meyer at +1 (208) 353-3594.

**NET RECOVERY PATROL** on Mondays with Hawai'i Wildlife Fund. The team and core volunteers conduct marine debris recovery efforts targeting large debris items, including derelict fishing net and line bundles, that are especially hazardous to marine wildlife. Contact [kahakai\\_cleanups@gmail.com](mailto:kahakai_cleanups@gmail.com) for more info. Check <https://www.wildhawaii.org/> with its HWF calendar for more opportunities to get involved with its bi-weekly net recovery patrols.

**Kupuna Yoga**: Gather for 77-minute group class Tues at 9 a.m. & Thurs at 1 p.m. at Nā'ālehu Hongwanji Mission. Engage your mana'o, kino & akua for stress relief, increased breath/blood flow & regenerative energy. Limited mats. Money donation or heart-based trade for teacher & temple appreciated. Sign up 11 minutes before start time.

**ST. JUDE'S SHOWER MINISTRY** open to the public on Saturdays and Wednesday from 9 a.m. to noon with last check in at 11:30 a.m. Offered are hot water, soap, shampoo, conditioner, and clean towels. Masks and social distancing are required before and after showering. The public shower service is supported by the Episcopal Diocese of Hawai'i's Commission on Mission Beyond Church and St. Jude's own outreach fund. Location is 8606 Paradise Circle Drive in Ocean View. Members of the congregation built the facility.

**ST. JUDE'S COMPUTER LAB** open Saturdays from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Work-Station Laptops will be provided. Printing and shredding is available. Training sessions on Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint and assistance with setting up email accounts, Facebook, Zoom, and more are provided. Assigned times are available for individual help. Game playing is limited and no streaming is allowed. Privileges can be suspended by Administrator or Lab Coordinator.

**WAI'ŌHINU YOGA** at the Wai'ōhinu Park every Wednesday from 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m., weather permitting. Laurie Boyle offers the practice of yoga of all levels. Donations appreciated. No

*May Calendar, pg. 9*

## 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.



'Ākulikuli (*Sesuvium portulacastrum*)

Art by Joan Yoshioka

## 'Ākulikuli (*Sesuvium portulacastrum*)

**Description:** Introducing one of the most salt-tolerant of all of Hawai'i's coastal plants: 'ākulikuli! 'Ākulikuli, a.k.a. sea purslane, is in the Aizoaceae (ice plant or fig-marigold family). The *Sesuvium* genus contains eight species, and of those eight, *S. portulacastrum* is the only species native to Hawai'i Nei. This sweet and salty succulent is a common component of Hawaiian wetlands and coastal ecosystems, where it provides habitat for wetland invertebrates and is a food source for native waterbirds. Its slender, green leaves are roughly 1/2 to 2 inches long, and turn reddish-orange as they age. 'Ākulikuli flowers are small but beautiful and bloom year-round in shades of pink, purple, and white. It can be mistaken for its riparian friend 'ae'ae, but just remember that 'ae'ae flowers are always white and have rounded petals while 'ākulikuli petals are more pointed, and 'ae'ae leaves tend to be more rounded than slender.

**Uses:** 'Ākulikuli is one of the few plants that was listed as an emergency food source during WWII. The fleshy parts of 'ākulikuli are edible and can be eaten raw or cooked, and I highly encourage you to try it! Everyone loves an edible plant. The succulent leaves pack a salty crunch that is delicious when sprinkled on salads, in stir-fry, or (my personal favorite) in your favorite fresh poke bowl. Aside from culinary uses, 'ākulikuli can be used to clean stagnant waters through its root system. In fact, platforms of 'ākulikuli were placed in the Ala Wai Canal (near Waikī on O'ahu) to filter toxins and unwanted materials from the water. The small flowers of 'ākulikuli can be used in lei if you can find enough of them!

**Habitat:** 'Ākulikuli grows along our shorelines on all of the main islands and on Pihemanu (Midway Atoll), Holoikaua (Pearl & Hermes Atoll), Papa'āpoho (Lisianski), Kauō (Laysan), and Mokumanamana (Necker). It thrives in sunny and windy sandy beaches, coastal coralline areas, and around wetlands and anchialine pools. It is common along the Ka'ū coastline, so the next time you are at the beach, go find a nice 'ākulikuli patch and introduce yourself!

**Growing and Purchasing:** 'Ākulikuli grows easily from cuttings and will thrive along a water feature in your yard (or somewhere that is constantly wet or can be watered regularly). They can handle full sun and wind, and even thrive off of salt spray. 'Ākulikuli require little to no fertilization, especially if they are part of a water feature. Plant them 6-12" apart to allow the plants to spread, and before long, you will have a hardy groundcover to admire. Because plants need friends too, consider planting 'ākulikuli alongside other native coastal species like 'ilima or pā'ū o Hi'iaka. Planted in your home garden or in the wild, take a moment to focus in on this little native plant, and I promise you will find yourself admiring her succulent beauty, and maybe even snacking on her tasty leaves!

**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 Hawai'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 Hawai'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

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**May Calendar, from pg. 8**

reservations needed. For more information, contact Boyle at ezmerelda5@gmail.com.

**FREE HELP WITH FAMILY HISTORY** in Ka'ū is available 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. every Wednesday. All are welcome to the Family History Center. The aim is to "Come Discover Your Past," says the statement from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, which hosts the weekly sessions at 95-5682 Hawai'i Belt Road in Nā'ālehu. The drop-in assistance includes free Ancestry.com, Familysearch.org, and other online resources.

**KAHUKU RANGER GUIDED HIKES**, Saturdays and Sundays, 9:30 a.m. Join a Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park ranger to learn about the history, geology, and ecology of Kahuku while hiking through varied landscapes. Meet at the Visitor Contact Station.

**EXPLORE KAHUKU UNIT OF Hawai'i VOLCANOES NATIONAL PARK** Thursdays through Sundays, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. for eight self-guided hiking trails. Join monthly Coffee Talk second Saturday of the month, 9:30 to 11 a.m. Take a guided trek with rangers on Saturdays and Sundays, 9:30 a.m. Enjoy a ranger presentation on fourth Sunday of the month. Kahuku entrance is on mauka side of Hwy 11 near mile marker 70.5. See [www.nps.gov/havo/planyourvisit/kahuku.htm](http://www.nps.gov/havo/planyourvisit/kahuku.htm).

**EXPLORE THE SUMMIT DAILY** at Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park for an easy one-hour, ranger-led walk from Kīlauea Visitor Center through the rainforest out to Kūpina'i Pali on the crater's edge. Walks are 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Meet at Kīlauea Visitor Center lānai. Visit Kīlauea Visitor Center for other ranger-led programs.

**OUTDOOR MARKETS**

**VOLCANO EVENING MARKET**, Cooper Center, Volcano Village, Thursdays, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., with live music, artisan crafts, ono grinds, and fresh produce. See [facebook.com/Volcano-Evening-Market-105888795330870](https://facebook.com/Volcano-Evening-Market-105888795330870).

**VOLCANO SWAP MEET**, 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Large variety of vendors with numerous products. Tools, clothes, books, toys, local made healing extract and creams, antiques, jewelry, gemstones, crystals, food, music, plants, fruits, and vegetables. Also offered are cakes, coffee, and shave ice.

**VOLCANO FARMERS MARKET**, Cooper Center, Volcano Village on Sundays, 6 a.m. to 10 a.m., with local produce, baked goods, food to go, island beef and Ka'ū Coffee. EBT is used for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, formerly Food Stamps. Call 808-967-7800.

**'O KA'Ū KĀKOU MARKET**, in Nā'ālehu, Wednesdays, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Contact Nadine Ebert at 808-938-5124 or June Domondon 808-938-4875. See [facebook.com/OKauKakouMarket](https://facebook.com/OKauKakouMarket).

**OCEAN VIEW COMMUNITY MARKET**, Saturdays 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Kona St.

and Mamālahoa Highway, \$10 booth fees, no reservations needed. Contact HOVEMarket@gmail.com with any questions.

**FIRST FRIDAY NIGHT OCEAN VIEW MARKET & DANCE PARTY** with Ka'ū Radio from 3 p.m. until pau. \$10 booth fees, no reservations required. Kona St. and Mamālahoa Highway. Contact HOVEMarket@gmail.com.

**OCEAN VIEW SWAP MEET** at Ocean View makai shopping center, near Mālama Market. Hours for patrons are 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday and Sunday. Vendor set-up time is 5 a.m. Masks required.

**THE BOOK SHACK** is open every Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the Kauaha'ao Congregational Church grounds at 95-1642 Pinao St. in Wai'ōhinu.

**FOOD**

**FREE MEALS IN NĀ'ĀLEHU** are served Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Nā'ālehu Hongwanji. Volunteers prepare the food provided by 'O Ka'ū Kākou with fresh produce from its gardens on the farm of Eva Liu. Other community members also make donations and approximately 150 meals are served each day. A donation of \$1 is suggested per meal.

**ST JUDE'S HOT MEALS** are free to those in need on Saturdays from 9 a.m. until food runs out, no later than noon. Volunteers from the community are welcome to help and can contact Karen at [pooch53@gmail.com](mailto:pooch53@gmail.com). Location is 96-8606 Paradise Circle Drive in Ocean View.

**KA'Ū FOOD PANTRY FOOD DISTRIBUTION**, Tuesday, May 30, 9:30 a.m. - Pau. St. Jude's Episcopal Church above Kahuku Park in Ocean View. Sponsored by Hawai'i Island Food Basket.

**'O KA'Ū KĀKOU PANTRY FOOD DISTRIBUTION**, Tuesday, May 30, 10 a.m. - Pau. Ka'ū District Gym in Pāhala. Sponsored by Hawai'i Island Food Basket.

**COOPER CENTER COMMUNITY PANTRY FOOD DISTRIBUTION**, Wednesday, May 31, 9:30 a.m. - 11 a.m. Located at 19-4030 Wright Road in Volcano. Sponsored by Hawai'i Island Food Basket.

**SACRED HEART: LOAVES & FISHES FOOD DISTRIBUTION**, Thursday, May 25, 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. at 95-5558 Hwy 11 in Nā'ālehu. Sponsored by Hawai'i Island Food Basket.

## 'Ike Hana No'eau Video Series Released

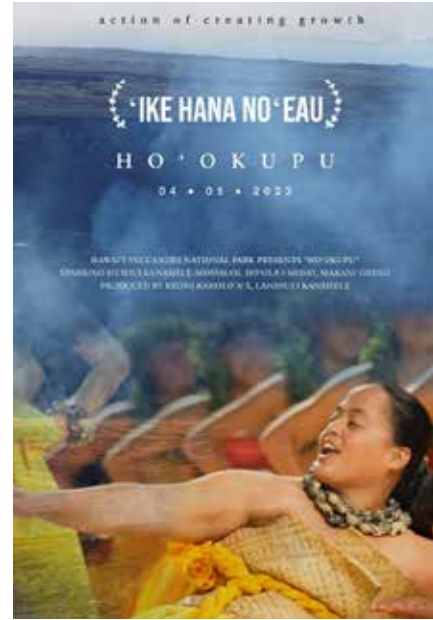
'Ike Hana No'eau video series, Season Two is launched. Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park reports that this year's new "talk story" documentaries enable a friendly connection to Hawaiian culture and share insights unknown to many.

*Ho'okupu*, the first episode for Season 2023 was released just before the Merrie Monarch Festival in April. It features Hawai'i Island Kumu Hula and Executive Director of the Edith Kanaka'ole Foundation, Huihui Kanahele-Mossman. She explains how the Hawaiian practice of ho'okupu is not just an offering of gratitude or thanks, but an intimate practice of creating growth and recognition between an individual and place. All too often, visitors to Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park unknowingly leave offerings at the crater's edge that can degrade the environment and threaten native species. She suggests that people who do not know the cultural protocols of ho'okupu should not do it. Respecting traditional practices is an easy and powerful way to support the indigenous people of Hawai'i.

*'Ohi Wai* is the second episode. It features lava tubes, their importance to Hawaiian people and their role in native ecosystems. Former park ranger and naturalist Bobby Camara shares how Hawaiians gathered wai (water) in (ipu) gourds as it dripped through lava tube ceilings, making life sus-

tainable in the most arid of environments. Park archeologist Summer Roper-Todd is also interviewed in this documentary that will be released in May.

Season Two of 'Ike Hana No'eau was produced by Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park rangers and filmed on location in the park. The videos are 12 minutes in dura-



tion and accessible for everyone with audio description and closed captions in English and 'ōlelo Hawai'i (Hawaiian language).

The videos are free on the park website and YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/@hawaiiivolcanoesnps8141>

Season One episodes, entitled *Ipu Heke 'Ole - Single Gourd Drum*, *Kae La'i - Tea Leaf Garland*, and *Ku'i Kalo - Pound Taro into Poi*, can be viewed on the same webpage.

Big Island Television, which airs in more than 6,000 hotel rooms on the island of Hawai'i and on Spectrum Channel 130, will also broadcast the Season Two 'Ike Hana No'eau videos to a wide audience.

The park's non-profit partners, the Friends of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park and the Hawai'i Pacific Parks Association, helped support and fund the 'Ike Hana No'eau video project.

The park statement says the videos were created for everyone, including kānaka ma'oli wanting to learn or reconnect to their culture, park visitors, local residents, educators and students.

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## Hawaiian Electric Helps Clean Ka'ū Coast, Gives \$15K to Wildlife Fund

Hawaiian Electric gave Hawai'i Wildlife Fund \$15,000 in April to support HWF's Ka'ū Coastal Restoration Program. The program focuses on coastal restoration efforts within and around the Ka'ū Forest Reserve in Wai'ōhinu plus environmental education, anchialine pool and estuary restoration, and capacity-building across Hawai'i Island.



Alex Kelepolo, of Hawaiian Electric. She also serves as Vice Chair of County of Hawai'i's Public Access, Open Space & Natural Resources Commission.

"We are thrilled that the \$15,000 grant award will help us continue our efforts to protect native wildlife, restore habitats, and bring our hands-on environmental education programs to youth across Hawai'i Island," said Megan Lamson, Hawai'i Wildlife

Fund president. "We are grateful for the volunteer and financial support from local businesses and these unique opportunities to engage new audiences in our conservation activities!"

Hawai'i Wildlife Fund and Hawaiian Electric also partnered on two stewardship activities led by Hawaiian Electric employee Alex Kelepolo, recipient of the 2022 Kōkua Community Champion Service Award. Employees and their families volunteered to collect marine debris that washed ashore on Kamilo Point in October 2019 and April 2023.

"I led this project to educate and raise awareness of the detrimental effects of



Hawai'i Wildlife Fund and Hawaiian Electric volunteers recently partnered to collect marine debris that washed ashore on Kamilo Point. The group collected 363 pounds of debris, including 36 pounds of derelict fishing line and net bundles, 40 pounds of broken glass, and 30+ pounds of microplastics.

Photo from Hawaiian Electric

### South Point Solar, from pg. 1

would be known as Ka Lae 1 Solar Farm. The address is 93-5570 Kai Makani Place. The TMK is 3-9-3-004-040. See the website at <https://go.pivotenergy.net/ka-lae-shared-solar>.



A .50 MWac Solar PV Generation Plant covering 16.09 acres would be known as Ka Lae 2 Solar Farm. The address is 03-2307 South Point Road. The TMK is 3-9-3-004-027. See the website at <https://go.pivotenergy.net/ka-lae2-shared-solar>.

Subscribers, including households,

local businesses and organizations would save on their Hawaiian Electric bill. The summary says that the project "brings local jobs and economic benefits, and helps the Island of Hawai'i transition to clean renewable energy.

Renewable energy can help increase grid reliability, improve air quality and improve public health."

The expected date of construction to begin is October of 2023 with completion of solar farms January of 2025, according to the online presentation.

plastic pollution on our environment and native wildlife and the impact volunteers and Hawai'i Wildlife Fund have made on our island," Kelepolo said. "Serving our community is priceless. It's giving your time, dedication and heart to mālama 'āina. We all have kuleana to ensure the preservation and protection of Hawai'i's natural resources for future generations."

Hawai'i Wildlife Fund has been working with community members on coastal habitat restoration and marine wildlife protection efforts along the Ka'ū coastline since 2001. With the help of thousands of volunteers, it has collectively removed more than 320 tons of marine debris from shorelines and reefs on the island. To learn more, visit [www.wildhawaii.org](http://www.wildhawaii.org).

### BIIF Track, from pg. 5

of the young pig hunters already in good shape, hiking and running in the mountains going after the pua'a.

The coach also noted that in the track community, there is a high level of respect.

"Everyone supports each other to do their best," even those on teams from other schools. "If you want respect and you want to represent Ka'ū, come out for track." Rasmussen said that he and Davenport will be out recruiting.

## South Point Shared Solar

### Join Us to Learn More!

**Nā'ālehu Community Center**  
95-5635 Hawai'i Belt Rd,  
Nā'ālehu, HI 96772

Wed, May 31st @ 5:30-7:30pm

Local households, businesses, and organizations can all benefit from solar by subscribing to a Shared Solar project. Pivot Energy and Arion Energy are developing two shared solar projects in Nā'ālehu.

Learn more about the upcoming projects at the open house at the Nā'ālehu Community Center on Wednesday, May 31 from 5:30-7:30 pm.

Visit [pivotenergy.net/ka-lae](https://pivotenergy.net/ka-lae) or [pivotenergy.net/ka-lae2](https://pivotenergy.net/ka-lae2) for more info.

## Reach More People

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## Enviro Management: Illegal Dumping Could Net Vehicle Seizure

Vehicles used to deliver rubbish to illegal dumping sites may be seized. That is the aim of new legislation, in addition to the hefty penalties already stipulated in state law. Senate Bill 966 HD1, which sailed through the Senate earlier this year, emerged from its final House committee, and with minimal additional amendments could become law this July, allowing the forfeiture of vehicles used for illegal dumping.



**Brenda Iokepa-Moses, Deputy Director of Department of Environmental Management.**

measure "as it provides other options for penalties to deter illegal dumping," DOH said in its written testimony supporting the bill.

In Ka'ū, where illegal dumping is an ongoing problem, the County of Hawai'i has limited authority to clean up messes on private roads, but this bill could help crack down on the worst offenders, said Brenda Iokepa-Moses, Deputy Director of the Department of Environmental Management. "Illegal dumping and the

abuse of our 'āina by certain individuals is costing taxpayer money in cleanups," Iokepa-Moses said.

She said DEM has been receiving complaints of illegal dumping by residents on private roads near the Ocean View Transfer Station, but because the roads are privately of the country, and Guatemala \$38.2M.

In the same year, top importers of macadamia nuts were China \$230M, the United States \$161M, Germany \$85.6M, Vietnam \$62.9M, and Japan \$51.8M.

*Hawaiian Host, pg. 15*

owned, DEM has limited ability to respond to the dumping. "Roads in Ocean View have historically been used and abused as illegal dumping spots event prior to the transfer station coming on line." Rather, she said, "The focus should be on police enforcement and by people taking pride in keeping Ka'ū clean by stopping illegal dumping."

Ocean View Transfer Station's days of operations are Sunday, Tuesday, and Friday, as it has been for years, but people continue *Illegal Dumping, pg. 15*



Hawai'i County posted "No Dumping" signs on an Ocean View Road, warning of possible forfeiture of vehicles used for illegal dumping.

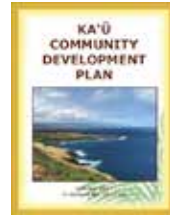
*Photo from Hawai'i County*

## Community Action Plan Meeting in OV

Ka'ū Community Development Plan Action Committee will host its next public meeting on Monday, May 8, 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Ocean View Community Center.

A statement from the KCD-PAC says, "The Ka'ū CDP is committed to moving our meetings to each community in our district so that all voices may be heard."

See the Ka'ū Community Development Plan, the meeting agenda, list of committee



members and much more at <https://www.planning.hawaiicounty.gov/general-plan-community-planning/cdp/kau>. Many documents related to Ka'ū Community Development Plan's creation and implementation can be seen at: <https://records.hawaiicounty.gov/Weblink/1/foi/9059/Row1.aspx>.

Documents can also be requested by calling 80-961-8288 or email [cdp@hawaiicounty.gov](mailto:cdp@hawaiicounty.gov).

### Hawaiian Host, from pg. 1

Legislature that pointed to Mauna Loa buying nuts from abroad and selling them as a Hawaiian product, while mac nuts lay on the ground on this island unharvested, with company workers on unemployment and smaller growers without a market.

Many smaller growers and workers said they fear that Mauna Loa could abandon local growers and lay off many of its own Ka'ū workers as it imports more macadamia from other countries, selling them under the Mauna Loa name. They said they hope the 2024 Hawai'i Legislature will pass a truth in labeling bill as it did this year for Hawaiian coffee.

Hawaiian Host's President pointed out that Hawaiian Host Group employs some 500 people across the state and stated that MacFarms and all of its operations "will remain open due to the popular demand for its products. As demand for its products continues to grow in Hawai'i, on the mainland, and in Asia, HHG is hiring across locations."

While Hawai'i is well known for macadamia quality and the United States is the country with the second highest consumption of macadamia nuts, U.S. Hawai'i production and exports are outstripped by other countries. In 2021, the top exporters of macadamia nuts were South Africa with \$277 million exported, Australia \$246M, Kenya \$101M, Netherlands \$39.7 million grown outside

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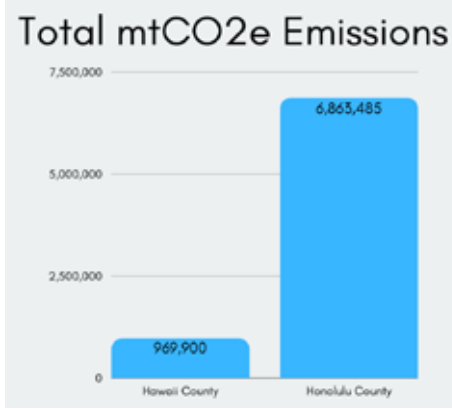
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## Hawai'i County Wants Feedback on Climate Action Plan

The Integrated Climate Action Plan was released to the public May 1 and County of Hawai'i is asking for feedback by June 1. Mayor Mitch Roth noted that ICAP is "a cross-departmental effort that aims to chart the County's responsibility to reduce its contribution to global climate change and make its services and facilities resilient to the effects of a changing climate. It will also identify actions the County can take and will be used as a tool to hold the County accountable for climate action.

"Adapting to a changing climate is an integral part of fostering a sustainable Hawai'i Island where our keiki can raise their keiki for generations," said the Mayor. "As an island, we are incredibly susceptible to adverse impacts on our natural environment, and as government, it



Annually, the total Energy emissions for Hawai'i County is 969,900 MTCO2e while Honolulu County's is 6,863,485 MTCO2e. This means that per year O'ahu produces 6.9 MTCO2e per person while Hawai'i produces 4.8 MTCO2e per person from energy use. Hawai'i County announced that it is dedicated to further reducing emissions, including transitioning to an all-electric Hele-on public bus and van fleet. *Hawai'i County image*


is our responsibility to act accordingly to preserve and protect our natural and cultural resources. We understand that this is a critical time for our planet and our island, and we will continue to take bold action to address the impacts of climate change here in Hawai'i and around the world."

Roth said that ICAP will build on the County's history of commitment to climate action and includes several initiatives, including electrifying the County's Hele-on bus and van fleet, expanding its services, and reducing the cost of energy for County facilities. Ongoing County sustainability initiatives include its Sustainability Summits, participation in the Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission, and establishment of research-based shoreline setbacks to reduce risk to coastal hazards for Hawai'i Island.

ICAP is available in tandem with a Hawai'i Island Sustainability Dashboard that tracks the County's greenhouse gas emissions and can be found at rd.hawaiicounty.gov. There, viewers can also find the Energy Analysis for Hawai'i County Buildings.


The mayor said the report is the first example of ICAP implementation and the County's first step towards zero emissions conversion for its buildings and facilities.

"The County of Hawai'i encourages all residents to review the ICAP and provide feedback through Konveio, an interactive online platform," says the statement. Link to the Konveio site is coh.planning.konveio.com. The County is accepting public feedback from May 1 to June 1.



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News you need to know

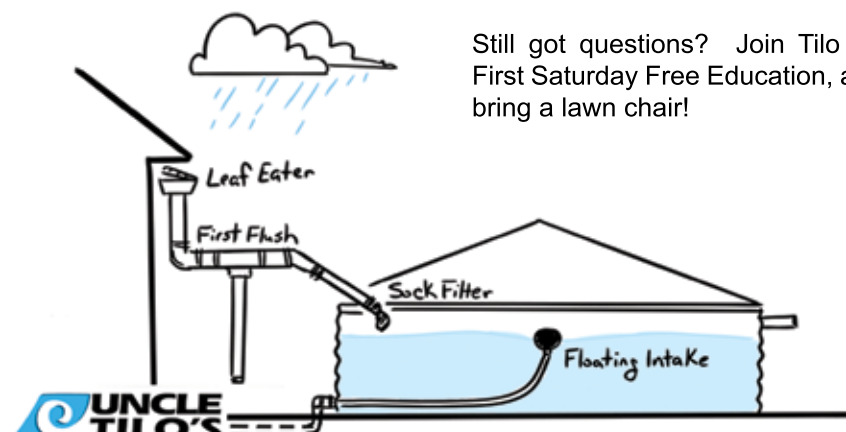
## Pre-Filtering Rainwater

Collecting rainfall in a catchment tank may sound like an easy task, but are you ending up with clean water? For those of us who rely on rainwater for our household needs, pre-filtering is perhaps the most important part of the whole design. One of the most basic system upgrades is a nylon or re-usable sock filter installed on the tank inlet pipe. This is a great start for removing the large debris, but what are the specific factors contributing to the dirtiest rainfall entering your tank?

A properly designed First Flush system is always needed, this is where the worst of the water quality problems generally start. Are leaves and vegetation an issue? If so, you may want to look into gutter covers or installing leaf screens at the downspouts.

And don't forget about the conveyance system between the roof and tank, if you have wet piping, that's a major issue for bad taste and odor. Your conveyance system needs to be dry between rainstorms, so start looking at how you can incorporate an automatic drain to correct this situation.

So you're doing good with things so far, but still having issues with filters plugging quickly. A Floating Intake might be just what's needed then. There's always going to be some sediment and debris entering your tank, but that old syphon line sucking off the bottom of the tank is not really helping. Be proactive and spend the time to understand where your rainwater collection system could benefit from upgrades which will provide you with cleaner water in your tank.



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## Schatz: Social Media Creates Mental Health Crisis

Protecting Kids on Social Media is a bill introduced into the U.S. Senate in late April by two Democrats, Sen. Brian Schatz of Hawai'i and Sen. Chris Murphy of Connecticut, and two Republicans, Sen. Tom Cotton of Arkansas and Sen. Katie Britt of Alabama.

The Protecting Kids on Social Media Act would restrict keiki under 13 from social media apps and would require parental consent for 13

through 17 year-olds. The bill would also stop social media companies from feeding algorithmically-generated content to users under the age of 18.

A joint statement from the Senators says, "The United States is facing a mental health crisis and no group is affected more than adolescents, and especially young girls. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Youth Risk Behavior Survey found that 57 percent of high school girls and 29 percent of high school boys felt persistently sad or hopeless in 2021, with 22 percent of all high school students reporting they had seriously considered attempting suicide in the preceding year. One area that requires immediate action is

*Mental Health Crisis, pg. 15*

## Rural Health Meet Set for May 26

The public Conference and Annual Meeting of Ka'ū Rural Health Community Association, Inc. is set for Friday, May 26 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Venue is Robert Herkes Gym multipurpose room next to the Pāhala school campus.

The organization has invited Gov. Josh Green, Mayor Mitch Roth, food guru Derek Kurisu to be speakers. There will be door prizes, lucky numbers and refreshments. Focus will be workforce development, employment opportunities and continuing education in the health fields and beyond. Numerous participating employers in the community will be on hand. See Page 16.



Curtis Higashi, Jay Taganas and Tyren Fukanaga-Camba erect a glass greeting and security station at the entrance to Ka'ū Hospital in Pāhala. Photo by Julia Neal

### Glass Security & Greeting for Ka'ū Hospital

A new glass greeting and security station for Ka'ū Hospital & East Hawai'i Health Clinic went up in April in Pāhala, put together by Jay Taganas and his crew, Curtis Higashi and Tyren Fukanaga-Camba.

The campus for hospital and clinic is at 1 Kamani St. at the entrance to Pāhala from Hwy 11.

The facility offers a 24/7 emergency department, inpatient medical and rehabilitation care, long-term care, adult day health, immunizations, x-ray and lab services, in addition to an on-site family practice rural health clinic.

The clinic offers urgent care and appointments and is open Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 5:15 p.m., closed on weekends and holidays. Its Family Medicine practitioner is Jennifer Shrestha, Md.

Call 808-932-4205. See more services from hospital and clinic online at <https://www.easthawaiihealthclinics.org/east-hawaii-health-clinic-at-kau/>.

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## VAC Sculpture Show Asks Artists for *Worth of Water*

*Worth of Water* is the title of a sculpture project with a call to artists. Volcano Art Center invites artists to submit proposals in the form of a drawing with descriptive notes or photos of three views of a 3-D maquette for stand alone sculptures or conceptual installations. The aim is to express the *Worth of Water* in all its forms, including its sound, shape, interaction with other environmental elements or creatures, impacts, and/or the cultural value of water.



Professional artists, amateur artists, and university students in an art program are invited to submit original works. Deadline to apply is May 15th.

The *Worth of Water* Exhibit will be installed at the outdoor Nialani Sculpture Garden and the show will be from Nov. 26 through Jan. 10. The sculpture garden is uniquely situated adjacent to an old growth native rain forest and features a loop trail, designed by landscape architect David Tamura. It provides inviting areas for viewing sculptures.

Volcano Art Center illustrates the *Worth of Water* Exhibit Concept with an

explanation about water from Mary Kawena Pukui, during a 1975 interview with Kepa Maly:

"The Hawaiian word for water is wai. The Hawaiian word for wealth is waiwai; wai is doubled, or said twice. When you have wai you have life, the ability to sustain yourself upon the land. And the water is believed to be from the god Kāne i ka wai ola, Kāne the giver of the water of life. The Hawaiian word for spring of water is pūnāwai.

Pūnāwai or pu'una-wai described a place where water bubbles up from the ground (rising like a hill or a mound), it is the source of water.

The Hawaiian word kūpuna, may be translated as -kū (standing at) puna (source of water); kūpuna are those who stand at the water source...it is that our elders are those who stand at the source of knowledge. They stand at the well-spring gained by years of their life."

## Volcano Schools Farm-In-A-Box Promotes Food Sovereignty

Volcano School students gave Farm-In-A-Box Kits to 50 families at 'O Ka'ū Kākou Farmers Market in Nā'ālehu on the last Wednesday in April. During this third annual event from The Volcano School of Arts & Sciences, eighth-grade Papa Pono Kīwila - Civics and Papa Nohona Mauō - Permaculture & Sustainability students took turns in teams to explain why they were promoting food sovereignty on the island. They also talked about the role of Farm-in-a-Box kits in helping with food security.

A statement from teacher Barbara Sarbin says, "This was the culminating event and authentic assessment process for the Global Run Project, in which the students raised awareness and funding for food justice, to help support healthy food initiatives in our community. After studying the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, and participating in the Hunger

*Farm-In-A-Box, pg. 15*



Youth Ranger Interns graduate from training in preparation for becoming Youth Rangers this summer. Photo by Lynette Smith/ Friends of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park

## Thirty-Seven Graduate to Become Youth Rangers

The Youth Ranger Program, with sponsorship of Friends of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park, graduated 37 young people from Ka'ū and Puna this Spring. A ceremony was held April 14 and the new Youth Rangers plan to work this Summer at the Park.

The Youth Ranger Internship Program provides career preparation to youth in rural East Hawai'i. See more on Friends of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park, its staff, programs, events and Youth Ranger Internship at <https://www.fhvn.org/>.

## Volcano Wood Features the Indigenous and the Exotic

The Volcano Wood Show will open to the public on Saturday, May 20 through June 10 on Wednesday through Sundays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Volcano Art Center Nialani Campus in Volcano Village. The exhibit will also be featured online at [www.volcanoartcenter.org](http://www.volcanoartcenter.org).

The three-week event aims to feature the various wood artists in this community who produce individual one-of-a-kind works using indigenous Hawaiian and exotic woods. Held in the Dietrich Varez Hall at VAC's Nialani Campus, the exhibition presents a wide range of wood items including furniture, sculptures, and bowls. Funds generated from the show will contribute to the development of Volcano Art Center's future classroom and wood shop facilities.

This year's biennial exhibition will be juried by members of the Hawai'i Forest Industry Association.

Volcano Art Center is a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization created in 1974 whose mission is to promote, develop and perpetuate the artistic, cultural and environmen-

## Cashless for Entry Fees & Passes at Hawai'i Volcanoes

Planning to visit Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park this Summer? Don't bring cash. Starting Friday, May 26, ahead of Memorial Day weekend and the unofficial kickoff to Summer, Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park will no longer accept cash for entrance fees or passes. Only credit or debit cards and digital site passes will be accepted.

A statement from the Park says, "Entrance fees are an important source of revenue used to improve the visitor experience in national parks, including road and facility repairs and maintenance, trail improvements, visitor and resource



tal heritage of Hawai'i through arts and education. More information about VAC and the exhibition can be found at [www.volcanoartcenter.org](http://www.volcanoartcenter.org). Contact Emily C. Weiss by calling (808) 967-8222 or email [info@volcanoartcenter.org](mailto:info@volcanoartcenter.org)



Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park will only accept credit and debit cards starting May 26. NPS Photo/J.Weiss

protection services and more. Moving to a cashless system allows parks to be better stewards of visitor dollars by reducing the amount of time park staff spend managing cash, increasing the amount of fee revenue available to support critical projects and visitor services, and improving accountability and reducing risk."

For more information about Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park, visit <https://www.nps.gov/havo/>.



### MAY EVENTS

**Exhibition: *Gourds Reimagined* by Jelena Clay, in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park, continues through May 21, from 9am - 5pm. Jelena will perform a live demonstration at VAC gallery in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park on Saturday, May 6, from 11am - 2pm**

**May 11 - Thursday Night at the Center - Marine Life Presentation with Marc Hughes**  
**May 13 - Mother's Day Edition: Paint Your Own Silk Scarf with Patti Pease Johnson**  
**May 13 - Zentangle: Treasure Bag with Dina Kageler**  
**May 13 - Movie Night: Featuring - A Short Evening**  
**May 14 - Mother's Day Concert: Volcano Chamber Players**  
**May 20 - 2023 Volcano Wood Show Exhibition**  
**May 20 - The Art of Astrology with Uldra Johnson**  
**May 20 - Papermaking with Pulp with Mary Mileczik**  
**May 27 - Mushroom Cultivation with Zach Mermel**

Nialani 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](http://volcanoartcenter.org/shop)



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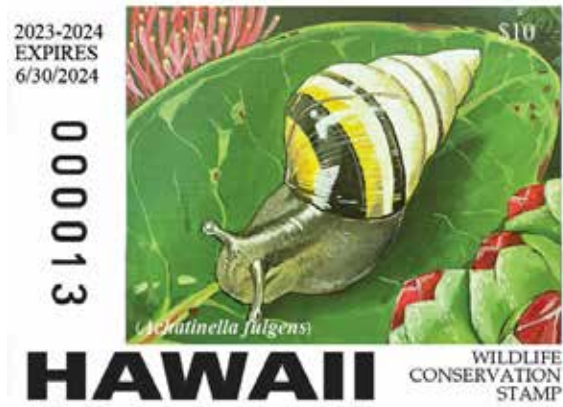
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# Wildlife Art Graces Conservation & Game Bird Stamps

A chestnut-bellied grouse graces Hawai'i's new Game Bird Stamp, and an endangered Kāhuli Land Snail graces the new Wildlife Conservation Stamp for 2023-2024. State Department of Land & Natural Resources' Division of Forestry & Wildlife made the announcement in April.



Conservation Stamp winning artist is Alvin Galvez who also won DOFAW's Game Bird Stamp contest in 2018. Land snails were selected for this year's Conservation Stamp contest as part of the celebration for Year of the Kāhuli, proclaimed by Governor Josh Green, M.D., for 2023.

Game Bird Stamp winning artist is Lauren Trngmar. Her winning submission features the chestnut-bellied sandgrouse, a popular game bird native to Africa and Asia brought to Hawai'i in the 1960s.



The Conservation Stamp is required on the Hawai'i state hunting license, and the Game Bird Stamp is required for those intending to hunt game birds. Funds from sales of these stamps go into the State Wildlife Revolving Fund to support wildlife populations and habitats and to manage hunting programs in Hawai'i.

These new stamps for the 2023-24 hunting season will be available on July 1, 2023. Stamp collectors who would like an original stamp can call (808) 587-0166 or visit the Division of Forestry & Wildlife office at 1151 Punchbowl Street, Room 325, Honolulu, HI 96813.

## Mental Health Crisis, from pg. 13

the clear link between social media and poor mental health. Social media companies have known about this link for years, and independent research has confirmed it: social media usage is a cause for the mental health epidemic."

Schatz weighed in saying, "The growing evidence is clear: social media is making kids more depressed and wreaking havoc on their mental health. While kids



Sen. Brian Schatz and Sen. Chris Murphy, both Democrats, join Republican Sen. Katie Boyd and Tom Cotton to restrict social media for people under 18. Photo from Sen. Katie Boyd

## Illegal Dumping, from pg. 11

to leave trash at and near the transfer station on the off-days, instead of waiting a day or two.

Wai'ōhinu Transfer Station is open Monday, Thursday, and Saturday.

Pāhala Transfer Station is open Sunday, Tuesday, and Friday. All three sites have operating hours of 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Transfer stations are for residential household waste only, Iokepa-Moses said, adding that DEM does not have the resources to be the cleanup agency for other people's messes.

"We are working with Council Member Michelle Galimba and the Department of Health to find solutions to remediate this problem," the Deputy Director said.

## Hawaiian Host, from pg. 11

The Hawaiian Host President is well known nationwide among confectioners. The National Confectioners Association issued a statement on April 12 saying it named Schultz its 2023 Advocate of the Year. It says that the award "recognizes individuals who go above and beyond to ensure the confectionery industry has a seat at the table when policy discussions occur at the federal, state and local levels." The Hawaiian Host President received his award at NCA's 2023 State of the Industry Conference in Miami.

John Downs, NCA President and CEO said, "Ed's leadership and dedication to the industry are exemplified by the outcomes he has achieved for the industry in Hawai'i, making him truly deserving of this recognition."

The statement from National Confectioners says, "In 2022, Schultz worked to communicate important

policy positions for the confectionery industry on numerous issues facing the state legislature in Hawai'i. "His strategic engagement and strong relationships gave him a seat at the table to advocate for his company and the broader confectionery industry. His efforts stopped harmful legislation from moving forward, and he continues to educate members of the legislature on issues that impact the industry."

Schultz said, "We must be engaged when new policies are put forward by elected officials at all levels, and I look forward to continuing to share the important role that the confectionery industry plays in our communities and in our great state of Hawai'i."

Schultz has been President of Hawaiian Host Group since 2018 and serves on boards of Hawai'i Chapter of Young Presidents Organization and the Chamber of Commerce Hawai'i.

To report illegal dumping, contact the Police Department's nonemergency number at (808) 935-3311 or to leave an anonymous tip that could result in a reward of up to \$1,000, call Crime Stoppers at (808) 961-8300.

As a reminder, littering is a violation punishable by up to a \$1,000 fine or up to 200 hours of community service, or both, for each offense, and the violator shall be responsible for the removal, or the cost of removal, of the litter.

Illegal disposal more than 1 cubic yard of solid waste but less than 10 cubic yards is a misdemeanor punishable by up to a \$25,000 fine.

Disposal of more than 10 cubic yards of solid waste is Class C felony punishable by up to a \$50,000 fine.

organic soil and fertilizer, and a choice of three kinds of seeds for growing their own veggies and herbs. Mahalo to Something Good in the World for donating the funding for the project, to Seed Savers Exchange for the donation of organic, non GMO, heritage seeds, and to McCall's Farm for the locally sourced materials!"

are suffering, social media companies are profiting. This needs to stop. Our bill will help us stop the growing social media health crisis among kids by setting a minimum age and preventing companies from using algorithms to automatically feed them addictive content based on their personal information."

The Republican Senator from Arkansas said, "From bullying and sex trafficking to addiction and explicit content, social media companies subject children and teens to a wide variety of content that can hurt them, emotionally and physically. Just as parents safeguard their kids from threats in the real world, they need the opportunity to protect their children online. By setting an age limit of 13—and requiring parental consent until age 18—our bill will put parents back in control of what their kids experience online."

The Republican Senator from Alabama said, "As a mom, nothing is more important to me than preserving the next generation's opportunity to live the American Dream. Unfortunately, that Dream is turning into a nightmare for families across our country. This bill

is a bold, critical step to protect our kids, secure their future, and empower parents. There is no doubt that our country is facing a growing mental health crisis and a deteriorating culture of violence. Children and teenagers across our nation are dying, families are being devastated, and our society is withering. The only beneficiaries of the status quo are social media companies' bottom lines and the foreign adversaries cheering them on. I look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to enact the commonsense, age-appropriate solutions needed to tackle this generational challenge."

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



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# Car & Bike Show Draws the Classic Vehicles in Ocean View

Collections of vintage cars and more than 30 motorcycles appeared at the Ocean view Classic Car & Bike Show in April. Dennis and Evie Custard led the effort with support of Koa Puna Motorcycle Club on the grounds of Ocean View Community Center.

Winners of trophies included Mike and Kathy Haber for Peoples' Choice for Bikes for their 1948 Harley Davidson. Peoples' Choice for Cars went to Peter Comandini for his white Cadillac Coup de Ville. Dan Washburn won the Best Modification for a Bike



This bright, shiny, red 1937 Ford pick-up with a Chevy engine under its hood was proudly displayed by Neil Felton, of Ocean View. He has owned it since 1972 and has rebuilt it twice in that time. In 2010 Felton retired from his job as a machinist at Keck Observatory and now owns a machine shop where he can make parts for vintage cars.

Photo by Annie Bosted

for his yellow 1977 Panhead Harley Davidson.

Sponsors included L&L Hawaiian Barbecue, which donated food, and Pepsi Co., which donated 400 drinks including Gatorade, water and soda.

Prizes for lucky attendees included three vouchers from The Grinz, two seat covers from Ocean View Auto Parts, whiskey from the President of Koa Puna, and a pound of Ka'ū Coffee, valued at \$50, from the Kahuku Gift & Garden Shop.

About \$1,400 was raised during the event, \$840 going to Ocean View Skatepark Project.



This sleek, white, beautifully contoured 1959 Cadillac Coupe de Ville – restored to mint condition – won the Peoples' Choice award at the Ocean View show. Pete Comandini of Waikoloa has owned the iconic classic for five years.

Photo by Annie Bosted

## Car & Bike Show Donates to Ocean View Skatepark

Ocean View Skatepark Association received \$840 in donations from the Classic Car & Bike Show at Ocean View Community Center in April. The organization continues its fundraising online and through events around the community. It's website states:

"Our project has grown from a grassroots effort to a community-wide initiative that has been approved to build. With a site location secured, we are working on designing a skatepark that will best serve the needs of our community. Our goal is to create a space that is inclusive, fun, and encourages skateboarding as a positive outlet for youth.



Ocean View Skatepark enthusiasts raised money at the Classic Car & Bike Show.

Photo by Annie Bosted

"We believe that our mission aligns with the values of the Skatepark Foundation (formerly the Tony Hawk Foundation), as we aim to provide opportunities for young people to stay active, build con-

fidence, and develop a sense of community through skateboarding."

Youth involved with the Skatepark project took their plans to the office of Mayor Mitch Roth late last year for a presentation. The effort would build the skatepark at the Kahuku county park lands. See the Ocean View Skatepark Program website with a donation link at <https://oceanviewskatepark.org/>

### Ka'ū Pā'ū Riders, from pg. 1

was Scott DeSa, who serves as Hope Po'o Kula, the associate head of Kamehameha Schools. An avid horseman and regular participant in the parade, De Sa and his family have a ranch near Hilo.

Another enthusiastic sponsor of horses in the parade was Hawai'i Carriage Driving Society, which perpetuates the training of horses and drivers and the preservation of historic carriages and construction of new ones, with a tribute to the carriages of Queen Lili'uokalani. Also in the parade was Hawai'i Horse Owners Association, which sponsors rodeo, horse races and training.

The Merrie Monarch Royal Parade featured 93 entries, ranging from representatives of many Hawaiian pageants to school marching bands and hula troupes, Mayor Mitch Roth and Hawai'i County Band. Cultural, environmental, health and education groups and agencies included Lili'uokalani Trust, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Pūnana Na Leo Hawaiian language schools, and Hawai'i Island Community Health Center, with its clinic in Nā'ālehu.

Also marching were members of groups helping with victims of Muscular Dystrophy, a canoe club for the disabled and a nonprofit for child trafficking pre-

vention and recovery. Also on hand and singing its song was YMCA. See a gallery of photos at [www.merriemonarch.org](http://www.merriemonarch.org).

**PLEASE JOIN US**

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**Annual Membership Meeting & Conference**

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**TIME**  
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**Location**  
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