



HMSA's Telehealth Kiosk will be available to the public at the Resource Distance and Learning Center.

Photo from Ka'ū Rural Health Community Association

Ka'ū Rural Health to Host Telehealth Care Kiosk in Ka'ū

HMSA'S first telehealth online kiosk in Ka'ū will be dedicated at the Ka'ū Rural Health Community Association's Resource Distance and Learning Center on Friday, Jan. 13. The public is invited to the ceremony and also to video chat with a doctor at no cost. The dedication, ceremony and demonstration of online telehealth care begin at 11 a.m. and run until 1 p.m. The location is 96-3126 Puahala St., Pāhala, near the Pāhala Library.

Hawai'i Medical Service Association's certified and approved telehealth services are open not only for HMSA subscribers but also the

general public, starting in January. HMSA officials say they are motivated to provide health care close to people's homes.

HMSA's description of its telehealth services states that consumers can talk to local credentialed physicians from HMSA's participating provider network, live on-demand. Sessions will be secure and private, using internet-based videoconferencing, secure chat, or telephone. Physicians can review claims and other health information the patient makes available, talk with patients, prescribe medications as physicians deem appropriate

and consistent with standards of care, and recommend follow-up care. Session notes will be maintained electronically, and can be forwarded upon patient request to primary care physicians.

HMSA's telehealth program is overseen by an executive board and government health care regulators, much like visits to a doctor in an office, clinic or hospital.

On its website, HMSA states that telehealth helps achieve affordable visits without an appointment. "Online Care doctors can help with

HMSA Kiosk, pg. 15

THE KA'Ū CALENDAR

Volume 15, Number 1

The Good News of Ka'ū, Hawai'i

January, 2017

Legacy Land Ranks Waikapuna Top for Funding

Waikapuna preservation came one step closer to reality in December when Legacy Land Conservation Commission of the state Department of Land & Natural Resources ranked it number one in all the Hawaiian Islands for land acquisition funding. If Legacy Land contributions and additional funding from other sources allows for the purchase, the 2,200 acres extending from Nā'ālehu to the coast, would be held by the Ala Kahakai Trail Association with a conservation easement provided to the county. The county, Trust for Public Land and many others are helping to conserve Waikapuna.

The effort is community driven in partnership, said Ala Kahakai National Trail Superintendent Aric Arakaki, who made a presentation.

The community organizations that would manage the property have "interest in trail and adjacent cultural and natural landscapes protection, preservation and perpetuation of traditional uses and lifestyles."

Many public, private and community organizations are involved, "dedicated to cultural perpetuation, environmental conservation, agricultural self reliance and the provision of sustainable livelihood opportunities for the people of Ka'ū," said Arakaki.

The Ala Kahakai National Trail runs through Waikapuna. The land is known for the remains of a Hawaiian fishing village and many other cultural sites and wildlife.

In addition to Legacy Land funding, *Waikapuna, pg. 2*



Rainbow Over Ka'ū

Ka'ū photographer Peter Anderson captured this rainbow from a view near his Discovery Harbour home.

Testifiers, Sen. Ruderman Oppose HELCO Rate Increases

Say "No" to HELCO's electric rate increase was the clear message from Big Island residents, including state Sen. Russell Ruderman who testified before the Public Utilities Commission. The PUC held two public hearings last month to determine whether an application by Hawai'i Electric Light Co. for

a rate increase is just and reasonable. The anti-rate hike message continues in the 22 public comments e-mailed to the Commission in docket 2015-0170.

Two community groups have asked to intervene in the rate case and the state Consumer advocate is weighing in.

HELCO's 8,000-page rate case application to the PUC comes in 18 volumes, or on 991 megabytes. It is supported by 26 witnesses, who are offering over 400 exhibits.

The state's Consumer Advocate has filed 85 pages of questions

HELCO Rates, pg. 15

Maile David Questions HELCO's Free Geothermal

Did Hawai'i Electric Light Co. unfairly charge customers for electricity it received free from Ormat/Puna Geothermal? Ka'ū's County Council member Maile David is asking the state Public Utilities Commission to look into allegations that HELCO received free power and sold it to customers. Instead of testifying in Kona at the PUC's pub-

lic hearing on the proposed HELCO rate increase, where most people opposed the hike, David sent a letter to PUC Chair Randy Iwase. At the hearing, Iwase publicly stated that he received her letter and that David opposed HELCO'S proposed rate increase. David shared her letter with *The Ka'ū Calendar*. "With regard to HELCO's application,"

David wrote, "I respectfully request that no action or decision regarding the above application be taken until the PUC determines the following:

Whether Ormat/Puna *Geothermal, pg. 3*



Maile David
Photo by Ann Bosted

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Also in this issue: P2 Business * P3 Energy & Sustainability* P4 Event Calendar * P7 Sports Report * P8 Sports Calendar * P12 Star Map * P15 Health * P16 Pāhala * P18 Nā'ālehu * P20 Kahuku * P22 Volcano

KA'Ū BUSINESS & REAL ESTATE

Volume 15, Number 1

The Good News of Ka'ū, Hawai'i

January 2017

Hawaiian Islands Land Trust Names Olson Conserver of the Year

Edmund C. Olson is Conserver of the Year. Olson, who owns more than 8,000 acres in Ka'ū, was recently recognized as the Hawaiian Islands Land Trust "for his generous contributions to land conservation through out the state."

Describing Olson, Hawaiian Islands Land Trust stated, "A great leader and friend to land conservation in Hawai'i, Mr. Olson's generosity and foresight have made a tremendous impact on protecting our environment and revitalizing local agriculture. His passion for conservation and commitment to Hawai'i's agricultural industry is demonstrated through numerous conservation land acquisitions, conservation easements, and agricultural enterprises he has led over the past several years."

In 2010, Olson donated, through Hawaiian Island Lands Trust, a conservation easement for agriculture on more than 900 acres. These pastures are mauka of the old cane haul road between Nā'ālehu and Pāhala, ad-

acent to the Ka'ū Forest Reserve.

Olson founded the Ka'ū Coffee Mill and planted coffee along Hwy 11 in Pāhala to show off where the famous Ka'ū Coffee is grown. He upgraded old sugar plantation water lines for irrigation in diversified farming for his own coffee and macadamia as well as diversified crops on land leased to local farmers. He is also working on a hydro-electric plant at Ke'aiwa, above Wood Valley Road, which will be used for electricity for ag enterprises. Olson is one of the largest macadamia tree growers and macadamia nut processors in the state.

In Ka'ū, Olson helped with the conservation of the Ka'ū Coast at Honu'apo, Kāwā and lands between Kāwā and Punalu'u by putting down payments on some coastal lands and purchasing and holding other coastal lands threatened with development until the community could raise funds to buy them and place them in the public trust.

He also established public trails to for-

estlands through his property for hunting, hiking and Hawaiian cultural activities. He has welcomed stewardship by Hawaiian families for religious sites at Makanau and for a hula heiau on land he purchased.

Olson works with multiple land preservation organizations, including Hawai'i Islands Land Trust, The Nature Conservancy and Trust for Public Land.



Ed Olson at the 2012 blessing of his Ka'ū Coffee Mill on Wood Valley Road. Photo by Geneveve Fyvie

Nā'ālehu Fruit Stand For Sale

Nā'ālehu Fruit Stand has gone on the zoned Residential. There are 11 buildings market for \$625,000.

Once the recommendation of many Big Island guide books in English and Japanese, the former fresh food grocery, pizzeria, bakery and snack store featured plantation days memorabilia and various pizza, health food and take-out meals.



Nā'ālehu Fruit Stand needs a buyer to return it to prosperity.

However, it shut down years ago, and the building sits empty and deteriorated on 1.94 acres that is zoned RS-7.

The site also includes a structure that was formerly a real estate office, school library and windsurfing shop. Over a half acre is zoned Commercial on the lot that borders Highway 11. Almost one and a half acres is

of record, and all are unoccupied.

The real estate listing says, "The value is in the zoning and its perfect location in the beautiful quaint town of Nā'ālehu with heavy traffic daily. Tour buses and visitors are passing through to

see the volcano and also sample Ka'ū's delicious award-winning coffee.

The listing realtor is Diana Prentess. She said that "hopefully someone would be able to purchase it to turn it into a cultural center, coffee stop or health food store." It was opened and operated by John Santangelo, a former County Council member. Several other operators followed.



Waikapuna, with 2,200 acres, is the target of community fundraising to preserve the four miles of coast and the uplands. It is located off Hwy 11 makai of Nā'ālehu and extends to the shoreline.

Waikapuna, cont. from pg. 1

money could also come, in part, from the "Two Percent" fund from county property tax revenues.

Waikapuna is owned by Resource Land Holdings, of Colorado, which also owns the slope above Honu'apo that is mauka of Hwy 11 and Ka'ū Coffee farmer lands at Pear Tree and Moa'ula. The company has not actively marketed Waikapuna and is working with individuals and organizations who are hoping to buy it from RLH, said RLH local land manager Brenda Iokepa-Moses.

Attending the Legacy Land Conserva-

tion Commiision meeting was a contingent of Hawai'i Island people supporting the Waikapuna acquisition.

In addition to Arakaki, Trust for Public Land representative Laura Ka'akua, and Ala Kahakai Trail Association board member Keoni Fox, whose has Hawaiian family ties to the property, made presentations. Also attending was County of Hawai'i land acquisition expert Alexandra Kelepolo; Michelle Galimba whose family ranch runs cattle at Waikapuna and Kaunamano; Ala Kahakai board member Keola Paik and La'akea Suganuma.

Photo by Andrew Hara, courtesy of Ka'ū Mahi

THE KA'Ū CALENDAR

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ENERGY & SUSTAINABILITY IN KA'Ū

Volume 15, Number 1

The Good News of Ka'ū, Hawai'i

January 2017

IRS Approves New Big Island Energy Cooperative

A new nonprofit utility for the Big Island recently received approval from the Internal Revenue Service, giving Hawai'i Island Energy Cooperative its 501(c)(12) status. It joins more than 900 member-owned, community-based utilities in the USA, which serve an estimated 42 million energy consumers.

Marco Mangelsdorf, HIEC director and spokesperson, stated, "Receiving this official approval is fantastic news. This sets the stage for HIEC to be an operating nonprofit utility serving the Big Island. This is particularly important as both Hawai'i Electric Light Co. and Hawaiian Electric Co. roll out new electric rate increases. Cost control and efficiency are core to a cooperative, not share-

holder profits."

The new status for a new player in the energy field comes after the PUC failed to approve the NextEra takeover of Hawaiian Electric Industries and its subsidiaries HECO, HELCO and Maui Electric Co. These subsidiaries are about to unveil their latest Power Supply Improvement Plans, and rate increases are pending.

"The consideration of the cooperative ownership structure is timely, relevant and presents an opportunity to make critically important decisions about how Hawai'i Island will meet our state's clean energy objectives in the most cost effective way possible," added Mangelsdorf.

"We first sought to get a seat at the table in early 2015 as the docket on the HEI-NextEra was opened," noted HIEC president Richard Ha. "Those of us who founded HIEC were convinced that the tumblers had fallen into place for us to do all that we could to try and replicate the success that Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative has been achieving on the Garden Island. We got our seat and are excited about



Richard Ha has been a longtime advocate of an alternative to HELCO.

Photo from Richard Ha

the future."

Energy guru and commentator Henry Curtis wrote a blog item entitled, Should HELCO be Sold to a Non-Profit? Curtis stated that being recognized as a nonprofit utility by the IRS will enable the new entity to pursue one of three courses. A top-down approach would involve buying HELCO from its parent company Hawaiian Electric Company, through a deal with the shareholders of Hawaiian Electric Industries, and approval of the Public Utilities Commission. HIEC would borrow a billion dollars and spend a year or two in regulatory arenas.

Secondly, a bottom-up approach would involve establishing a micro-grid with-

Energy Co-op, pg. 17

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Geothermal, cont. from pg. 1

Geothermal provided HELCO with electricity free of charge in 2009, 2010 or 2011;

Whether a docket or report for free electricity was filed with the PUC by HELCO;

How much free energy did HELCO receive in 2009, 2010 or 2011?

Was any free energy sold to the ratepayers of Hawai'i County in 2009, 2010 or 2011?"

In her letter, David explained the backstory of a case brought by whistleblowers against companies that operate the geothermal power plant in Puna and sell power to HELCO. The case involved a \$1603 grant that allows the U.S. Treasury Department to finance developers of renewable energy projects by providing funds in lieu of Investment Tax Credits. The whistleblowers alleged that the Puna geothermal developers abused the program. The whistleblowers filed a complaint.

David wrote, "The above inquiry is the result of my review of a 2014 United States District Court case entitled United States of America ex els. Tina Calilung & Jamie Kell v. Ormat Industries, Ltd., et al. and Puna Geothermal Venture II, L.P., et al. This was

a complaint for damages and other relief under the False Claims Act. I understand that the case settled, with Ormat paying the U.S. government \$5.5 million (without an admission of guilt)."

David points to paragraph 272 of the complaint, which states, "Though Ormat could not sell energy yet, it wanted to obtain a \$1603 grant for the eight-megawatt Expansion. Accordingly, though plant operation was 'on hold,' and Power Purchase Agreement approval from PUC was still outstanding, Ormat began delivering energy produced by the eight-mw expansion to HELCO for free. Ormat believed that if the plant was operating and producing energy, it could claim December 2011 as the placed-in-service date for the expansion and thereby qualify the eight-mw expansion project for \$1603 funds."

"Although the lawsuit has settled," David wrote, "the question remains whether or not HELCO was provided free energy and more importantly, if it was, did the ratepayers of Hawai'i County receive their fair share of this free energy?"

David concluded her letter with an appeal: "I request that this commission look

Geothermal, pg. 21

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Volunteer Fire Department Meeting, Mon, Jan 2, 4 p.m., Ocean View Community Center. 939-7033
Ka'ū Coffee Growers Meeting, Tue, Jan 3, 6 – 8 p.m., Pāhala Community Center.

34 Years and Counting, Tue, Jan 3, 7 p.m., Kīlauea Visitor Center Auditorium in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Tina Neal, USGS Hawaiian Volcano Observatory Scientist-in-Charge, describes current eruptions' history and provides in-depth accounts of volcanic activity during the past year. Free; park entrance fees apply.

Hawai'i County Council Meetings, Wed/Thu, Jan 4/5 & Tue/Wed, Jan 24/25, 9 a.m. Ka'ū residents can participate via videoconferencing at Nā'ālehu State Office Building. See hawaiicounty.gov for agendas and live-streamed and archived meetings.

Open Mic Night, Wed, Jan 4, 6 – 10 p.m., Kīlauea Military Camp's Lava Lounge in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Singers, bands, comedians, etc are welcome. Open to authorized patrons and sponsored guests. Park entrance fees apply. 967-8365 after 4 p.m.

Ocean View Neighborhood Watch meeting, Thu, Jan 5, 7 p.m., Ocean View Community Center. 939-2442 & 928-2015

Stewardship at the Summit, Jan 6, 14, 21, 27; 9 a.m. – 12 p.m., Kīlauea Visitor Center in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Volunteers clear invasive ginger from park trails. Free; park entrance fees apply. nps.gov/havo

Tropical Flower Arranging, Fri, Jan 6, 1 – 3 p.m., Volcano Art Center in Volcano Village. Kaipo Ah Chong teaches. \$45; preregistration required. 967-8222

Fundraiser Spaghetti Dinner, Fri, Jan 6, 6:30 – 9 p.m., St. Jude's in Ocean View. Tickets at Sunday services & at the door. \$8 for 1; \$15 for 2; \$20 for family. 939-7555

Timeless Treasures, Sat, Jan 7 – Feb 12, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., Volcano Art Center Gallery in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Dietrich Varez illustrates stories of Hawaiian folklore as well as customs of the islands and the stories from Pele's heartland. Reception Sat, Jan 14, 5 p.m.

Mauna Loa Southwest Rift Zone, Sat, Jan 7, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., Kahuku Unit of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Participants hike to an overlook on Upper Palm Trail, where rangers point out prominent geologic features and discuss natural processes that created them and cultural traditions associated with them. Pack a lunch. Free. nps.gov/havo

Pu'ū o Lokuana, Sun, Jan 8, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m., Kahuku unit of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Participants learn about formation and various uses of this grassy cinder cone and enjoy a breathtaking view of lower Ka'ū on this free, moderately difficult 0.4-mile hike to the top.

Sunday Clay High-Fire Series, Jan 8 – Feb 12, 11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m., Volcano Art Center in Volcano Village Space is limited. \$170/\$152 VAC members. 967-8222

Medicine for the Mind, Sun, Jan 8, 4 – 5:45 p.m., Volcano Art Center in Volcano Village. Buddhist healing meditation for beginners through advanced. Free. Patty, 985-7470

Senior IDs, Mon, Jan 9, 9 – 10 a.m., Pāhala Housing Center & 11 a.m. – 12 p.m., Nā'ālehu Community Center. For residents 60 and older. 928-3100

Painting with Peggy, Mon, Jan 9 & 16, 12 – 3 p.m., Volcano Art Center in Volcano Village. Peggy Stanton leads an ongoing series. \$20/\$15 VAC members. 967-8222

Dance Imagined, Tue, Jan 10 – Feb 14, 10 – 11:30 a.m., Volcano Art Center in Volcano Village. Karen Masaki teaches basic dance techniques with exhilaration of movement. 967-8222

The Unheard Sounds of Hawaiian Volcanoes, Tue, Jan 10, 7 p.m., Kīlauea Visitor Center Auditorium in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Milton Garces, director of University of Hawai'i's Infrasound Laboratory, talks about "listening" to Kīlauea, Mauna Loa, and Hualālai through one of the most advanced infrasound networks in the

world. Free; park entrance fees apply.

'Ukulele Making Demonstration, Wed, Jan 11, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m., Kīlauea Visitor Center lānai in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Oral Abihai shares his passion for making 'ukulele from local and exotic woods. Free; park entrance fees apply.



Culture & Volcano Awareness Month
Oral Abihai, 'ukulele maker and performer, joins in the celebration of Volcano Awareness Month. See all of the events in detail on Volcano Page 22.

Photo from NPS

Beaded Peace Sign, Wed, Jan 11, 3:30 – 5 p.m., Pāhala Community Center. Grades K – 8 register Jan 3 – 10 for this Martin Luther King, Jr. Day program. 928-3102

Thursday Night at the Center, Jan 12, 7 p.m., Volcano Art Center in Volcano Village.

Sculptors Henry Bianchini and Liz Miller discuss VAC's Sculpture Garden in the moonlight. 967-8222

Red Cross Volunteer meeting, Thu, Jan 12, 7 p.m., HOVE Road Maintenance Corp. office. For volunteers and those interested in becoming volunteers. Hannah Uribes, 929-9953

Pancake Breakfast, Sat, Jan 14, 8 – 11 a.m., Ocean View Community Center. 939-7033

Atlas Recycling at South Point U-Cart, Sat, Jan 14, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Birth of Kahuku, Sat, Jan 14, 9:30 – 11 a.m., Kahuku Unit of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Participants explore the area's rich geologic history.

People & Land of Kahuku, Sun, Jan 15, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park's Kahuku Unit. This free, guided, 2.5-mile, moderately difficult hike over rugged terrain focuses on the area's human history. nps.gov/havo

Frank Vignola & Vinny Raniolo Concert, Sun, Jan 15, TBA, Kīlauea Military Camp Theater in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. 896-4845

Forest Bird Painting, Tue, Jan 17, 6 – 9 p.m. & Wed, Jan 18, 12 – 5 p.m., Volcano Art Center in Volcano Village. Patrick Ching offers Drawing Lessons & Acrylic Painting and Intensive Oil Painting Techniques. \$60/\$250. 967-8222

Trials and Tribulations of Halema'uma'u Crater: 200 Years Old and Still Going, Tue, Jan 17, 7 p.m., Kīlauea Visitor Center Auditorium in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Don Swanson, geologist at USGS Hawaiian Volcano Observatory,

traces the Halema'uma'u's volcanic history, with personal anecdotes about his encounters with the crater during the 1967-68 eruption. Free; park entrance fees apply.

Hula Performance, Wed, Jan 18, 6:30 – 8 p.m., Kīlauea Visitor Center Auditorium in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Kumu Hula Pelehonuamea and Kekoa Harman present hula with Hālau I Ka Leo Ola O Nā Mamo. Free; park entrance fees apply.

Family Reading Night, Thu, Jan 19, 5 p.m., Ocean View Community Center. 939-7033

Hawaiian Civic Club of Ka'ū, Thu, Jan 19, 5:30 p.m. 929-9731 or 936-7262

OVCA Board Meeting, Thu, Jan 19, 6 p.m., Ocean View Community Center. 939-7033

Recycling at Nā'ālehu School, Sat, Jan 21, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., Nā'ālehu School Gym. Redeem your HI-5 sorted by type; receive 5 cents per container and additional 20 cents per pound on all aluminum. Atlas Recycling donates 20 cents per pound on all aluminum redeemed to the school. 939-2413, ext. 230

'O Ka'ū Kākou Keiki Fishing Derby, Sat, Jan 21, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m., Punalu'u. 928-3102

Palm Trail Hike, Sat, Jan 21, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park's Kahuku Unit. This free, moderately difficult 2.6-mile loop trail provides one of the best panoramic views Kahuku has to offer. nps.gov/havo

Oil Painting, Sat/Sun, Jan 21/22, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., Volcano Art Center in Volcano Village. Students gain poise and confidence guided by Vicki Penney-Rohner. \$100/\$90 VAC members. 967-8222

Hula Kahiko, Sat, Jan 21, 10:30 a.m., hula platform near Volcano Art Center Gallery in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Kumu hula Pelehonuamea and Kekoa Harman with Hālau i Ka Leo Ola o Na Mamo perform. Nā Mea Hula, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m., on gallery porch with Kumu Ab Valencia and Hālau Hula Kalehuaki'eki'eika'iu.

Mongolian BBQ, Sat, Jan 21, 5 – 8 p.m., Kīlauea Military Camp's Crater Rim Café in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Open to authorized patrons and sponsored guests. Park entrance fees apply. 967-8356

'Ōhi'a Lehua, Sun, Jan 22, 9:30 a.m., Kahuku Unit of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Participants learn about the vital role of 'ōhi'a lehua in native Hawaiian forests, the many forms of the 'ōhi'a lehua tree and its flower on this free, easy, one-mile walk. nps.gov/havo

HOVE Road Maintenance board of directors meeting, Tue, Jan 24, 10 a.m., St. Jude's Church. 929-9910

Glitter Snowflake, Tue, Jan 24, 2 – 3 p.m., Kahuku

Park. Ages 6 – 12 register Jan 17 – 20. 929-9113

How Do HVO Geologists Track Lava Flows and Lava Lakes? Tue, Jan 24, 7 p.m., Kīlauea Visitor Center Auditorium in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. USGS Hawaiian Volcano Observatory geologist Matt Patrick explains his toolkit and describes how scientists continuously improve their methods of tracking volcanic activity. Free; park entrance fees apply.

Ho'okani 'Ukulele, Wed, Jan 25, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m., Kīlauea Visitor Center lānai in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Learn the basics of the beloved and iconic part of Hawaiian music culture. Free; park entrance fees apply.

Chinese New Year Lantern Craft, Wed, Jan 25, 3:30 – 5 p.m., Pāhala Community Center. Grades K – 8 register Jan 17 – 24. 928-3102

Ocean View Community Development Corp. meeting, Fri, Jan 27, 5 p.m., Hawaiian Ranchos office.

Stained Glass, Sat/Sun, Jan 28 – Feb 12, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. (Basics) & 1 – 4 p.m. (Basics & Beyond), Volcano Art Center in Volcano Village. Claudia McCall & Lois Pollock share their expertise. \$150/\$135 VAC members. 967-8222

Pele & Hi'iaka, Sat, Jan 28, 9:30 – 11 a.m., Kahuku Unit of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Participants discover the Hawaiian goddesses and the natural phenomena they represent on this free, moderate, one-mile walk. nps.gov/havo

Ka'ū Food Pantry, Tue, Jan 31, 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m., St. Jude's Episcopal Church in Ocean View.

Jump Rope Challenge, Tue, Jan 31, 2:30 – 3 p.m., Kahuku Park. Ages 6 – 12 register Jan 23 – 27.

An Update on Mauna Loa Activity and Monitoring Efforts, Tue, Jan 31, 7 p.m., Kīlauea Visitor Center Auditorium in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. USGS Hawaiian Volcano Observatory scientist Ingrid Johanson provides an account of Mauna Loa's eruptive history, an update on its current status and an overview of how HVO scientists track activity that might presage the volcano's next eruption. Free; park entrance fees apply.

EXERCISE & MEDITATION

Pāhala Pool Schedule: Adult Water Exercise Mon/Wed/Fri 9 – 10 a.m.; Adult Lap Swim Mon – Fri 10 a.m. – 12 p.m., Sat/Sun 10:30 – 12 p.m.; Public Recreational Swim Mon/Tue/Thu/Fri 1 – 4 p.m., Wed 2:15 – 4 p.m., Sat/Sun 9 – 10:30 a.m. & 1 – 4 p.m. Closed Jan 1 & 16. 928-8177 or hawaiicounty.gov/pr-recreation

Qigong Classes, Mon, 8:30 – 9:30 a.m., Nā'ālehu Hongwanji (\$5), & Thu, 9:30 – 11 a.m., Mark Twain Estates (\$7). Beginners welcome. Shary Crocker, 929-7647

Gentle Senior Yoga, Mon/Wed, 2:30 – 4 p.m., Nā'ālehu Hongwanji. Seniors \$10 for 10 sessions. Stephanie Pepper, 937-7940

Pilates Plus, Mon/Wed, 4 – 5 p.m., Discovery Harbour Community Hall. Open to all ages. Exercise by DVD; bring your own equipment, ball and mat. Free w/donation of non-perishable food. Judy Knapp, 939-8149

Zumba Fitness, Mon/Thu, 5:30 p.m.; Sat, 9 a.m., New Hope Christian Fellowship in Volcano. Certified instructor Linda Fanene, 990-3835

Zumba, Mon/Thu, 6 – 7 p.m., Nā'ālehu Community

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KA'Ū January 2017

Center. Certified Zumba instructor Erin Cole, 938-4037

Aikido, Mon/Wed, 6 p.m., Pāhala Hongwanji. Alan Moores, 928-0919 or artbyalan2011@gmail.com

Beginning and Intermediate Yoga, Tue/Thu, 8:30 – 10 a.m. Noa's Island Massage in rear entrance of Ka'ū Realty across from Hana Hou. Arrive 10 minutes early. \$10 a class or \$80 for 10 classes. 756-3183

Qigong Classes, Tue, 9 – 10:30 a.m. Ocean View Community Center. \$5. John Adams, 929-7177

Belly Dance Classes, Tue; beginners, 5:30 p.m.; intermediate, 6:30 p.m. Farasha, 990-3835

Track & Field Practice, Tue/Thu, 3:30 – 5 p.m., Ka'ū District Gym/Pāhala Community Center. Ages 6 – 14 register Jan 3 – 10. 928-3102

Karate, Tue/Fri, beginners 5:30 p.m., advanced 6:30 p.m., Pāhala Community Center. Keiki condition, 5 p.m. Cliff Field, 333-1567

Self-Guided Yoga, Wed, 9:30 – 11 a.m., Cooper Center, Volcano. Calabash donations. Debra Serrao, 985-7545

Meditation, Wed, 4 – 5 p.m. Nā'ālehu Hongwanji. Velvet Replogle, 936-8989

Beginners Yoga, Wed, 5:30 – 7 p.m., Volcano Art Center in Volcano Village. \$5. Rob Kennedy, 985-9151

Bruce Lee Combatives, Thu, 5 – 6 p.m., Discovery Harbour Community Center. Henry Ivy's family-based classes teach self-confidence and personal development. 854-5284

Country Line Dancing, Thu, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m., Discovery Harbour Community Hall. For men & women; no partner required. Free & easy lessons (a new dance each week) for beginners & intermediate. Suzanne, 930-4678

Track & Field Practice, Fri, 2 – 3 p.m., Kahuku Park. 929-9113

Recreation Room, Sat – Thu, 3:30 – 5 p.m., Pāhala Community Center/Ka'ū District Gym. Billiards, table tennis, foosball. 928-3102

Adult Volleyball, Sat – Thu, 5:30 – 7:45 p.m., Pāhala Community Center/Ka'ū District Gym. Registration starts Jan 17 for program beginning Jan 23. 928-3102

Adult Badminton, Sun, 3 – 5 p.m., Pāhala Community Center/Ka'ū District Gym. Registration starts Jan 17 for program beginning Jan 22. 928-3102

Weight Room, Sat – Thu, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m., Pāhala Community Center/Ka'ū District Gym. Teen & adult registration starts Jan 3 for program beginning Jan 9.

DAILY & WEEKLY EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Punalu'u Bake Shop Music Lineup:

Richard Zazzi Mon, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.; Gary Cole, aka Foggy, Wed/Sat, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.; Uncle Sonny Wed/Sat, 1 – 5 p.m.; Tui Masaniai Fri, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Volcano Farmers Market, Sun, 6 – 10 a.m., Cooper Center. Fruits and veggies, swap meet and more. EBT welcome.

Tūtū & Me Traveling Preschool, free classes Mon/Wed, Nā'ālehu Community Center; Tue/Thu, Pāhala Community Center; 8:30 – 10:30 a.m. 929-8571

Niaulani Nature Walks, Mon, 9:30 a.m., Volcano Art Center in Volcano Village. This one-hour

nature walk travels through a portion of old-growth Hawaiian rain forest on an easy, 1/7-mile loop trail. Free (calabash donations welcome). 967-8222 or volcanoartcenter.org

in Volcano Village. \$10 suggested donation. alohachigong@gmail.com

A Walk into the Past, Tue, 10 a.m., 12 p.m. & 2 p.m., Kīlauea Visitor Center and Whitney Vault in



Above, photographer Peter Anderson captures the scene of many children learning fishing and conservation skills. Below, Vernon Harvey, of Ocean View, used his drone to capture aerial footage for youtube.

Keiki Fishing Tournament is Jan. 21

'O Ka'ū Kākou's Ninth Annual Keiki Fishing Tournament for children one to 14 years of age will be held on Saturday, Jan. 21 at Punalu'u Beach Park Pavilions.

Registration forms can be picked up and dropped off at Nā'ālehu Elementary School, Nā'ālehu Ace Hardware, Pāhala Elementary School, Mizuno Superette in Pāhala, Pāhala Gas Station, Wiki Wiki Mart in Nā'ālehu, Wong Yuen Store in Wai'ōhinu, Kahuku Country Market in Ocean View and Ocean View Auto Parts.

Families are urged to register early as children pick their prizes in the order they are registered. Pre-registration ends at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 18.

The fishing guidelines require hand pole fishing with barbless hooks; hand polls, fishing gear and bait provided by the tournament or brought from home.



'O Ka'ū Kākou volunteers organized the eighth annual Keiki Fishing Tournament at Punalu'u.

Photo by Peter Anderson

Those needing fishing equipment may be accommodated on a first-to register basis.

All fishing is catch and release.

The Keiki Fishing Tournament also involves a canned food drive for the needy.

For more information, contact Guy Enriques at 217-2253 or Wayne Kawachi at 937-4773.

Sponsors include Pacific Quest, S. Tokunaga Store, Ka'ū Royal Hawaiian Coffee & Tea, LP, Suisan Co. Ka'ū Mahi, County of Hawai'i, and state Department of Land & Natural Resources Marine Wildlife Program.

Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Ka'ū resident Dick Hershberger brings Hawaiian Volcano Observatory founder Thomas Jaggar to life.

Ka'ū Driver License Office, Tue/Wed by appointment. 854-7214

Family Movie Matinee, Tue, 3 p.m., Nā'ālehu Public Library. Free movies and popcorn. 939-2442

Family History/Genealogy Workshops, Tue, 4 – 6 p.m., Nā'ālehu Mormon Church. Theresa Ducret presents free, online workshops. Appointments at 238-6221.

Basic Computer & Internet Classes, Tue, 5:30 &

6 p.m., Pāhala Public & School Library. Debbie, 928-2015

Kanikapila Jam Sessions, Tue, 5:30 – 7 p.m., Volcano Art Center in Volcano Village. 967-8222

Ka'ū Farmers Market, Wed, 8 a.m. – noon, Shaka's Restaurant in Nā'ālehu. Produce, Hawaiian, arts and crafts, fresh baked goods.

Nā'ālehu Market, Wed/Sat, 6:30 a.m. – 2 p.m., Ace Hardware. Produce and locally made products.

Community Bookstore, Wed, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. at Kauaha'ao Church in Wai'ōhinu. 938-0411

Ka Lena Na Keiki O Ka'ū, Wed, 4 – 6 p.m., Ocean View Community Center. Nonprofit Family Support Hawai'i sponsors this free talent group, with Chassie Cantiberos teaching song and dance. 430-7886

Game Night, Wed, 6:30 – 9 p.m., Discovery Harbour Community Hall. Fun games & great conversation. Open to the public. Potluck first Wednesday of each month begins at 5:30 p.m.; bring a favorite dish for six. Sheri, 929-9258

Paneurthy, Thu, 9 a.m., Kahuku Park. Free walking circle dance that improves health, balance & spiritual development. Lisa Shock, 990-7729

Ka Lae Quilters, Thu, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., Discovery Harbour Community Center. 238-0505

VA Center for Veterans, Thu, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m., Ocean View Community Center. David, 329-0574

Crafts & Coloring, Thu, 3 – 6 p.m., Nā'ālehu Library. For all ages. 939-2442

Free Dinner, Thu, 4 – 5:30 p.m., Ocean View Community Center. Bring a can; have a meal. Everyone welcome; volunteers needed. Donations accepted c/o OVCC. 939-7033

Desperately Seeking Serenity AFG meeting, Thu, 5 p.m., St. Jude's Episcopal Church in Ocean View. Sandy, 557-9847

Women, Infant, Children Services, Fri (except holidays) at various locations. 965-3030 or 934-3209

Aloha Fridays, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m., Volcano Art Center Gallery porch at Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Variable hula art offerings. Everyone welcome. Free; donations welcome; park entrance fees apply.

Ka'ū 'Ohana Band Rehearsals, Fri, 4 p.m., St. Jude's Church in Ocean View. Instruments provided; no experience necessary. Ka'ū School of the Arts, 854-1540 or info@kauarts.org

Kīlauea Lū'au Buffet, Fri, 5 – 8 p.m., Kīlauea Military Camp's Crater Rim Café in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Free hula show 7 p.m. except Jan 13. Open to authorized patrons and sponsored guests. Park entrance fees apply. 967-8356

Live Entertainment at Hana Hou Restaurant, Fri, 5:30 p.m. in Nā'ālehu. 929-9717

Live Music Fridays at South Side Shaka's, Nā'ālehu. 929-7404

Ocean View Farmers Market, Sat, 7 a.m. – noon, Pōhue Plaza.

Alcoholics Anonymous meetings: One Day at a Time Group, Sat, 6:30 p.m., Cooper Center; Friday Night BBQ Meeting, Fri, 5 p.m., Wai'ōhinu (929-7674); Happy, Joyous and Free Group, Mon/Thu, 7 p.m. and Sat, 5 p.m., St. Jude's in Ocean View. West Hawai'i Intergroup (329-1212) or the Hilo office (961-6133)

Obama New Name of Hawaiian Fish

Tosanoides Obamais is the name of a newly identified fish living in Hawaiian waters. In December, scientists from Bishop Museum, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and Association for Marine Exploration published a description of the coral reef fish they named after President Barack Obama. *Tosanoides obamais* was discovered during a June 2016 NOAA research expedition to Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument in the remote Northwestern Hawaiian Islands. The study is published in the open-access scientific journal *ZooKeys*.



Obama receives photo of his namesake fish from marine biologist Sylvia Earle.

“We named this fish after President Obama to recognize his efforts to protect and preserve the natural environment, including the expansion of the Papahānaumokuākea,” said Richard Pyle, Bishop Museum scientist and lead author of the study. “This expansion adds a layer of protection to one of the last great wilderness areas on Earth.”

On Aug. 26, at the urging of Sen. Brian Schatz, Native Hawaiian leaders, conservationists and many marine scientists, Obama expanded Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument. At 582,578 square miles, it is the largest permanently protected marine area on Earth. On Sept. 1, the president was given a picture of the fish that now bears his name during his trip to Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge within the monument. The photograph was presented to Obama by famed undersea explorer Sylvia Earle, and the exchange will be featured in the *National Geographic* film, *Sea of Hope: America's Underwater Treasures*, to be released Jan. 15.

The small pink and yellow fish is a kind of basslet, a group that includes many colorful reef fishes popular in the marine aquarium fish trade. There are two other species in the genus *Tosanoides*, both from the tropical northwestern Pacific Ocean,

including southern Japan. Males of the new species have a distinctive spot on the dorsal fin near the tail, which is blue around the edge and red with yellow stripes in the center.

The new fish is also unusual in that it is the only known species of coral reef fish endemic to the monument (meaning that this species is not found anywhere else on Earth). All other reef fish species found within Papahānaumokuākea also occur either in the main Hawaiian Islands or Japan.

“Endemic species are unique contributions to global biodiversity,” said NOAA scientist Randall Kosaki, chief scientist of the research cruise and co-author of the study. “With the onslaught of climate change, we are at risk of losing some of these undiscovered species before we even know they exist.”

The new fish was first seen and collected on a dive to 300 feet at Kure Atoll, 1,200 miles northwest of Honolulu. Kure Atoll is the northernmost emergent land of the Hawaiian Islands and is the highest latitude coral atoll in the world. Deep coral reefs at depths of 150 to 500 feet, also known as mesophotic coral ecosystems, or the “coral reef twilight zone,” are among the most poorly explored of all marine ecosystems. Deeper than divers using conventional scuba gear can safely venture, these reefs represent a new frontier for coral-reef research.

Using advanced mixed-gas diving systems known as closed-circuit rebreathers, scientists like Pyle and co-authors Brian Greene and Randall Kosaki have been characterizing previously unexplored deep reefs throughout Hawai‘i and the insular Pacific.

This is the second new species of fish named from Papahānaumokuākea this year. In August, Pyle and Kosaki published the description of a new species of butterflyfish *Prognathodes basabei*, based on specimens collected at Pearl and Hermes Atoll earlier this year. Elsewhere, Obama also has a trapdoor spider, a speckled freshwater darter (fish) and an extinct lizard named after him.

The study on the Obama fish was published on Dec. 21 in the peer-reviewed scientific journal *ZooKeys* and is available online at <http://zookeys.pensoft.net/articles.php?id=11500>. On the web: http://www.papahanaumokuakea.gov/news/obama_fish.html.

State Grants-In-Aid Deadline Jan. 20

State Grants-In-Aid may become available to qualified nonprofit and other organizations who apply in time for the 2017 Hawai‘i Legislature, according to state Senate Ways and Means Committee Chair Jill Tokuda and House Finance Committee Chair Sylvia Luke. In a statement, they said grants are “appropriated to nonprofit and other organizations for various public purposes recognized as priorities and seen as complimentary to state government functions, including health, educational,

workforce development, and social services and cultural and historical activities.”

To allow the Legislature time to review applications, the deadline to submit grant applications is 4:30 p.m. Jan. 20, 2017.

In 2016, the Legislature awarded nearly \$37 million in grants to organizations. Information on the GIA process is available on the Legislature’s website (www.capitol.hawaii.gov). For questions, contact Ways and Means Committee at 808-586-6800 or Finance Committee at 808-586-6200.



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KA'U SPORTS REPORT

Volume 15, Number 1

The Good News of Ka'ū, Hawai'i

January 2017

Ka'ū Trojan Girls Get a Win as Basketball Heats Up



Trojan wahine basketball girls in the new gym.

Photo by Jen Makuakane

Ka'ū High Trojan Girls Basketball Team traveled to Hawai'i Preparatory Academy in Waimea for a three-day tournament in December and faced some tough training from all-O'ahu teams, said coach Cy Lopez. "Games were really close, and the girls gained experience in how to handle the ball more, and take care of the ball more." Self-confidence was also on the rise after playing the big school teams and handling it, he said.

A season game against Kea'au was another close one with a six point loss. "We went to the free throw line 23 times and made eight free throws, which cost us the game."

"The Hilo tournament was a roller coaster ride and motivated us to go for a win in our next season game on Dec. 22 when we won by four points," said Lopez.

The first home game is Jan.

10 against Pāhoa. Game time is 6 p.m. for jayvee with varsity to follow.

Lopez said he invites people not only to support the team and enjoy the new gym, but to enjoy half-time games on the court and win prizes. Trojan girls invite different singers to perform the national anthem at each home game, from students to professionals from the Ka'ū community. Makana from Ka'ū is the announcer for the game.



Trojan wahine basketball girls march their game schedule through Pāhala village during the annual Christmas Parade.

Photo by Julia Neal

Trojan Winter Sports Schedule



Girls Basketball

w/Coaches Cy Lopez, Jen Makuakane & Bridgette Pasion

- Wed, Jan 4, Ka'ū @ Kona
- Sat, Jan 7, Ka'ū @ Kohala
- Tue, Jan 10, Pāhoa @ Ka'ū
- Thu, Jan 12, Hilo @ Ka'ū
- Fri, Jan 13, Ka'ū at Waiākea
- Mon, Jan 16, HPA @ Ka'ū
- Wed, Jan 18, Kamehameha @ Ka'ū

Pāhala Dojo Brings Back Medals

Pāhala Karate Dojo brought home 14 medals in the 12th annual Kona Tournament of Champions, recently held at the Kealakehe Gym. Most students in the Pāhala Dojo attended the tournament and either participated or helped with judging and refereeing.

The Pāhala Dojo is part of the International Karate League and is one of 28 dojos in the organization.

The tournament included dojos from the Big Island and O'ahu, with over 100 participants. The founder of IKL, Walter Nishioka, was present at the tournament. IKL is a nonprofit 501c3 organization.

Individual results for the Pāhala Dojo are:

- Francisco Villa (black belt) placed 2nd in adult men's open kata and 3rd in adult men's kobudo (weapons) division.
- Jake Villa (junior black belt) placed 2nd in junior black belt division kata and 2nd in junior advanced kobudo (weapons) division.
- Kailee Kuhaulua-Stacy (Junior brown belt) placed 2nd in both advanced junior kumite (sparring) and kata and 3rd in advanced junior kobudo (weapons).
- Maiki Cofer (brown belt) placed 3rd in Kata open brown belt and 2nd in women's kobudo open brown and black belt division.
- Josiah Barrios (blue belt) placed 3rd in open colored kubudo and 3rd in open blue belt division kata.



Pāhala Karate Dojo brought home 14 medals from the Tournament of Champions.

Photos from Pāhala Dojo

- Ethan Biason (junior blue belt) placed 1st in junior blue belt kata division.
- Alajshae Barrios (purple belt) placed 3rd in junior purple belt kata division.
- Josiah Reddy (white belt) placed 1st in junior white belt kata division.



Ethan Barrios, Kailee Kuhaulua-Stacy, Alajshae Barrios, Josiah Barrios, Maiki Cofer, Josiah Reddy, Jake Villa, Francisco Villa

The Pāhala dojo trains every Tuesday and Friday at the Pāhala Community Center beginning at 5 p.m. There is a karate conditioning class for new students, a beginner's class and advanced class. The class is open year round to new students.

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Trojans Travel for Youth in Government

Ka'ū High students traveled to the state Capitol in December for Youth and Government, which provides experience in writing legislation, debating, taking positions of state Senators and House of Representatives members and joining the press corps. Above is the delegation from Ka'ū last year, when the Trojans were the first Neighbor Island school representatives to attend in five years. story . Photo from Rowlie John Flores

Trojans Work Hard on Youth In Government Programs

Youth and Government at the Hawai'i Legislature: The annual program welcomed Ka'ū High School students to the state Capitol on O'ahu in December. In 2015, the Trojan team represented the first Neighbor Islands school to partici-

pate in five years. Another team flew to O'ahu this December. Ka'ū High Junior Rowlie John Flores submitted a story to *The Ka'ū Calendar* and explained:

Youth and Government allows students to speak freely and openly on political and debate topics that some would not dare put their noses under. The YMCA of Honolulu program has been around for nearly 66 years, longer than Hawai'i has been a state.

Some 100 students each year from grades 6-12 learn how to be more involved in the democratic practices of the state government. The students experience taking the place of real government officials.

In preparation for the legislative conference, students first researched topics in class that ranged from abortion to euthanasia, composing bills in advance, which they later debated to determine whether that specific bill is something Hawai'i needs for the betterment of its people.

Before the 65th legislative conference held last January, the Youth and Government program in Hawai'i did

not receive any Neighbor Island delegations for years. However, thanks to Ka'ū High teacher Kevin Sun, the school sent the first delegation in five years from outside O'ahu. Ka'ū High sent 11 student delegates: ten took part in the state House and state Senate, and one participated in the Press Corps.

Ka'ū experienced a good first-year. Out of seven bills proposed by Ka'ū students—ranging from gun control to the distribution of contraceptives in public schools—two were passed.

Ka'ū High alumni Kaiminani Rapoza wrote the first bill passed, proposed legislation focused on ending rape culture by requiring that students attend a class that teaches the negative effects of

Youth in Govt., pg. 10



Chloe Gan is the first Ka'ū High student to attend the Conference on National Affairs. Photo by Jay-R Abalos



Rowlie John Flores represents Ka'ū High at the Youth and Government Conference at the Capitol.

Photo by Jay-R Abalos



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EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Nā'ālehu School Makes a Friendraiser

The first Friendraiser for Nā'ālehu School drew about 300 people recently. 'Ohana and students gathered for fun, games, prizes, and, most importantly, to make new friends and strengthen existing bonds.



Friendraiser hosted games for keiki.

Photos from Nā'ālehu School



Candace Keohulua volunteered to get splashed in this innovative dunking booth crafted by Kahula Davis, who also made all of the game boards for the event.

School staff and helpers volunteered their time to run booths and man the event. The community also supported the sixth graders in holding a successful bake sale during the day. Future fundraisers are planned to support the upcoming sixth grade graduation and banquet.

Student council advisors and sixth grade teachers, Amberly Keohulua and Nellie Davis, thanked Punalu'u Bake Shop, KTA, Hilo Hawaiian Hotel, Flyin' Hawaiian Coffee Truck, McDonalds, Hana Hou, Edmund C. Olson, Fitzner Custom Welding, Thomas King Custom Wood Work and Wong Yuen Store for their donations. They also thanked teachers, staff, and the planning committee for all of their hard work in making sure this day happened for all. They also thanked principal Darlene Javar, "for letting it all happen."



Fun on the field at the Nā'ālehu School Friendraiser event.



Nellie Davis and Amberly Keohulua, student council advisors and sixth grade teachers at Nā'ālehu School.

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Stars over Ka'ū - January 2017

by Lew Cook

Planets

Venus shines brilliantly in the early evening. Jupiter rises late in the night about 2 hours after chart time and Mars still lurks low in the western sky, setting at chart time. Venus sets just before Mars, as if taunting Mars.

Constellations

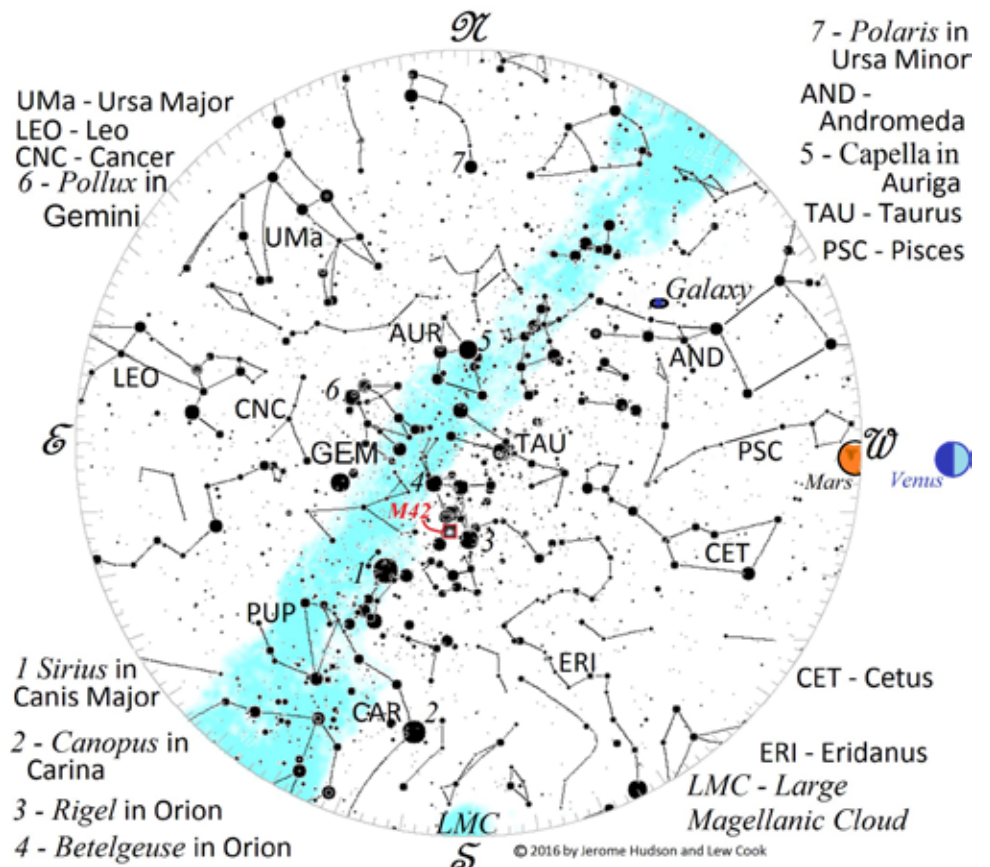
The winter constellations are showing themselves better this month. Orion has displaced Perseus as the constellation crossing the meridian at chart time. Orion with his hunting dogs, Canis Major (Big Dog) and Canis Minor (Little Dog)

Deep Sky Objects

Finally, months late, it happened, and at the worst possible time! The recurrent nova in the Andromeda galaxy finally erupted. The large telescopes that I have access to in California and New Mexico had cloudy weather or such bad interference from the full moon that I was able to capture the outburst only vaguely. So I show here my

image from November 11, 2016 beside the discovery image taken by K. Itagaki in Japan. He got this picture on December 12, 2016. I had imaged it 14 hours earlier and it was still dim, so dim that it wasn't visible.

Novae are all believed to be stars where the exploding star is a white dwarf. The nova explosion is believed to happen when the atmosphere of the white dwarf star builds up enough pressure and temperature to initiate runaway hydrogen fusion. The same properties are used on earth to initiate H-bombs, however, there is not enough hydrogen here at a high enough pressure and temperature to cause a runaway explosion. You need an atom bomb to get such high temperatures here on earth to set off a while the entire envelope around the white dwarf is hot enough and under so much pressure that it participates. White dwarf stars are about the size of the earth, yet contain about as much mass as the sun. Imagine, if you can, the dense, hot atmosphere of a star the

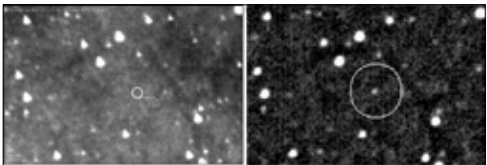


The star chart is produced from a sky Atlas program written by Jerry Hudson, who has given us permission to publish it. Thanks, Jerry!
The constellations are presented with their three-letter abbreviations, with (usually) the Latin names shown in the margins. Stars as faint as magnitude-six are shown. This is done to take advantage of the truly dark skies Ka'ū is blessed with when there is no bright moon and the skies are clear of fog.

size of the earth exploding like an H-bomb! Not all of the hydrogen is lost - only a small part of it.

There are about a dozen recurrent novae in the Milky Way galaxy, our home. Why not study THESE? We DO! There are a lot of people who check these dozen as often as they are visible, nightly, and send in their reports to several groups around the world, so when one of THESE explodes, the professional astronomical community can get extremely large telescope time or time on one of the satellite telescopes. However NONE of these (that can be seen merely by looking in the eyepiece of a medium sized telescope) explodes with the frequency nearly as often as the recurrent nova in Andromeda.

Why such excitement about a star that most people, even with large amateur telescopes couldn't even see? This is a RECURRENT nova, meaning that it has happened before. It seems to occur, more or less, on an annual frequency. Properties that cause a white dwarf star to erupt quite often are suspected to be the final stage before becoming a SUPERNOVA. There are no binary star systems that are suspected of being in this stage in the Milky Way galaxy. So, the recurrent nova in M31, the Andromeda Galaxy, bears special attention, and is getting it! Late (December 16, 2016) word is that this



On the left is Lew's image of the area where the Nova was expected to appear taken in November. On the right is K. Itagaki's image discovering the outburst. Congratulations Itagaki-san! www.lewcook.com
erupting star is holding its brightness somewhat fainter than its maximum, but still visible. I'll report more in a later issue.

Fridays Sunrise and Sunset times:

Date	Sunrise	Sunset
January 5, 2017	6:41 am	5:43 pm
January 12	6:45 am	5:45 pm
January 17	6:49 am	5:48 pm
January 24	6:53 am	5:51 pm
January 31	6:55 am	5:55 pm

Moon Phases Moon Rise

Moon Set	Phase	Date	Time
First Quarter	January 5	12:24 pm	1:01 am*
Full Moon	January 12	6:44 pm	8:00 am*
Last Quarter	January 19	12:09 am	12:11 pm
New Moon	January 27	6:42 am	6:18 pm

* The next morning

Aislinn Carroll, a former Ka'ū delegate, was given a Rookie Legislator Award for the House of Representatives. Aislinn was most recently a member of the Hawaii Preparatory Academy's delegation.

Ka'ū students inspired by the Youth and Government program are now attending similar conferences outside Hawai'i. This summer Chloe Gan, a current Ka'ū High senior,

Youth in Govt., pg. 18
The Ka'ū Calendar

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Ka'u Hospital and Rural Health Clinic

January 2017

Informing Our Community on Healthcare

Volume 1

“I Knew I Was in Good Hands”

Shirley Denton was not familiar with rehabilitation care at Ka`u Hospital until she needed a place to recover from surgery.

“I was at Queens Hospital after having surgery to take care of an infection from the previous surgery,” said Shirley, who lives in Hawaiian Ocean View Estates.

“When I was ready to go home, I was told that I needed to continue my antibiotic therapy. I knew about facilities in Kona. I asked about options in Hilo and then I was told about Ka`u Hospital.”

“I said, ‘really!’ It’s much closer to our home. I had also been there before to get blood tests,” she said.

It was coffee picking season and her husband Steven Niemann was working at his friend’s house located above the hospital.

Ka`u Hospital was optimal for her recovery so Steven could visit often and on his way to and from work. “He wouldn’t have been able to work and come visit me if I had been on Oahu.”

“My doctor at Queens worked with Ka`u Hospital to make sure they could administer the intense medication regimen and the folks at Ka`u Hospital said, ‘We’ll take her.’”

“Absolutely! We were happy to welcome Shirley to our facility,” said Sherrie Bazin, Director of Nursing at Ka`u Hospital. “This is what we are here for!”

Of the 21 beds at Ka`u Hospital, 16 are for long term care and 5 of are critical access beds to care for patients like Shirley who require ongoing care like rehabilitation or antibiotic therapy.


“My friends asked me how things were going and if they could visit,” said Shirley. “I told them that I liked being there. It’s like going to your friend’s or family’s house.”

“When I first started walking, the nurses or aides would swoon around me and ask, ‘Aunty, you need help?’ Other aides helping their patients would offer my aide help. You don’t see this kind of camaraderie at much larger facilities. You feel like a person here.”

Being closer to home also helped Shirley envision the next step in her recovery. “My goal is to return to dancing hula and doing the things I did before like gardening and raising my animals! I also look forward to diving with my husband and picking coffee.”



Infection complications from a previous surgery, required that Shirley receive her antibiotic treatment at medical facility. Fortunately for her, she was able to heal and recover at Ka`u Hospital. After several weeks of care, she described her last day at the hospital as “bitter sweet.”



GET SERIOUS ABOUT SEPSIS

Know the Signs of Infection | Don't Wait | Seek Treatment

What are the symptoms of sepsis?

There is no single sign or symptom of sepsis. It is, rather, a combination of symptoms. Since sepsis is the result of an infection, symptoms can include infection signs (diarrhea, vomiting, sore throat, etc.), as well as ANY of the symptoms below:



S hivering, fever, or very cold	E xtrême pain or general discomfort (“worst ever”)	P ale or discolored skin	S leepy, difficult to wake up, confused	”I feel like I might die”	S hort of breath
--	---	---------------------------------	--	----------------------------------	-------------------------

WHAT'S NEW AT KA`U HOSPITAL

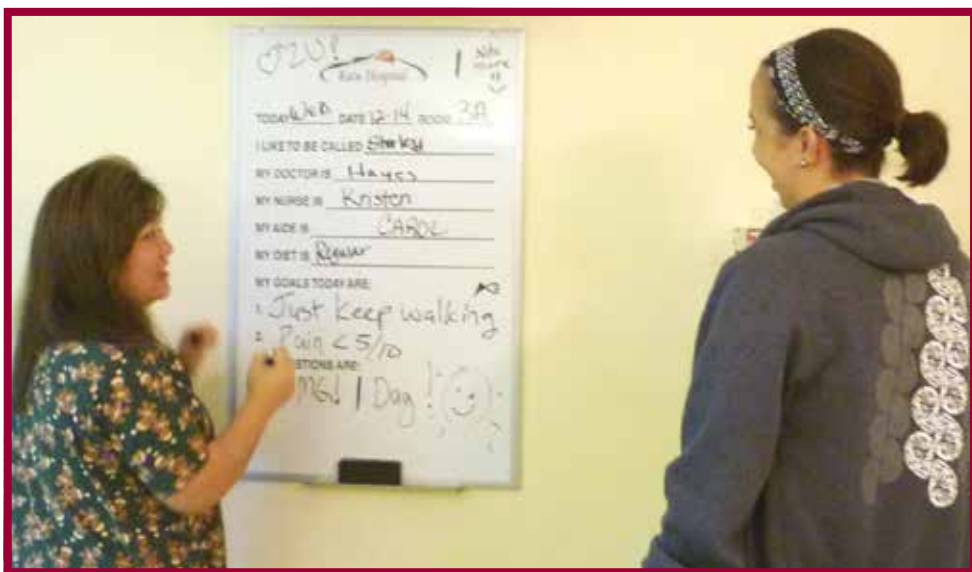
WHITE BOARDS

The white boards in all of our patient rooms represent “best practices” in communicating medical care.

Patients and their loved ones can refer to the board to see who are the nurses, aides and doctors are on their medical team and obtain information on precautions, diet and daily goals.

BEDSIDE REPORTING

In the presence of the patient or guardian, staff now do bedside reporting to discuss and relay the patient’s care plan with the oncoming nurse prior to the change of shift. This “best practice” ensures patients are involved in their care and comfortable in communicating with their medical team.



Kristen Ishikawa, RN and April Kekoa, RN utilize “best practices” in communicating care plans, a practice done in our country’s best hospitals.



Dr. Joseph Lewis, Emergency Room, is among a handful of physicians who staff one of the most remotely located Emergency Rooms in the state.

PATIENT SURVEY ON THE EMERGENCY ROOM VISIT

Starting January, we will start surveying Emergency Room patients to learn about their experience with us.

Patients may receive a phone call with the area code (205) from a company called J.L. Morgan asking about their recent visit. This is

our patients’ opportunity to tell us what we did well and where we can do better. We value your input and would greatly appreciate you taking a few minutes to tell us how we did. Your feedback will help us improve the care and patient experience for the 2,700 emergency visits we have every year.



IN LOVING MEMORY OF YISRAEL GORALI

This year, we bid a fond farewell to one of our most avid supporters, Yisrael Goral. He and Marge Elwell were the original foundation executive members along with Rusty Obra.

Yisrael worked on the application for the Foundation to obtain its nonprofit status.

He also represented the healthcare interests of the Kaʻu District on the East Hawaii Region’s Management Advisory Committee of HHSC, a precursor

to the current East Hawaii Regional Board.

“He was always in our corner,” says Marilyn Harris, Administrator for Kaʻu Hospital.

“The love and devotion between him and his wife Alma was inspirational.

“His faith was his strength that carried him through decades of poor health.

“We will miss this kind and gracious man.”

Longtime champion of Kaʻu Hospital Yisrael Goral and his wife Alma attended the Regional Board meeting that was last held in Kaʻu.



Ka`u Rural Health Clinic Welcomes Dr. Sarah Howard

Ka`u Rural Health Clinic welcomes Dr. Sarah Howard, a board certified Family Medicine physician.

After graduating from Stanford University, she attended Creighton University's School of Medicine and was trained at Clarkson Family Medicine Residency.

Before joining Ka`u Rural Health Clinic, Dr. Howard served the community in the Puna District where she had been working at the Pahoia Family Health Center for the last four years.

She joins an experienced medical team that includes highly trained family nurse practitioners, Susan Field and Megan Lewis.

Together, they and Dr. Howard are committed to caring for the

people of the Ka`u District.

Dr. Howard's passion for volunteering took her to a clinic in Honduras during her residency training. She spent two years in the Peace Corps teaching in Vanuatu and was involved in various health and education projects.



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 Susan Field, Board Certified, Family Nurse Practitioner
 Megan Lewis, Board Certified, Family Nurse Practitioner

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- Chronic disease management (diabetes, hypertension, asthma, high cholesterol, heart disease)
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- General physicals, CDL physicals, sports physicals
- X-rays and lab conveniently available
- Sick visits such as: Coughs, colds, sinus infections, ear or throat infections.
- In-Office Procedures such as: Joint injections, skin lesion biopsies and removals, EKG

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HELP US FIGHT THE FLU

Flu Symptoms

Influenza (also known as the flu) is a contagious respiratory illness caused by flu viruses. It can cause mild to severe illness, and at times can lead to death. The flu is different from a cold. The flu usually comes on suddenly.

People who have the flu often feel some or all of these symptoms:

- Fever* or feeling feverish/chills
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Runny or stuffy nose
- Muscle or body aches
- Headaches
- Fatigue (tiredness)
- Some people may have vomiting and diarrhea, though this is more common in children than adults.

* *It's important to note that not everyone with flu will have a fever.*

Flu Complications

Most people who get influenza will recover in a few days to less

than two weeks, but some people will develop complications (such as pneumonia) as a result of the flu, some of which can be life-threatening and result in death.

Pneumonia, bronchitis, sinus and ear infections are examples of complications from flu. The flu can make chronic health problems worse.

People at High Risk from Flu

Anyone can get the flu (even healthy people), and serious problems related to the flu can happen at any age, but some people are at high risk of developing serious flu-related complications if they get sick.

This includes people 65 years and older, people of any age with certain chronic medical conditions (such as asthma, diabetes, or heart disease), pregnant women, and young children.

the benefits of flu vaccination 2015-2016

The estimated number of flu **illnesses prevented** by flu vaccination during the 2015-2016 season:

5 million
as many people use Denver International Airport in one month



The estimated number of flu **medical visits prevented** by vaccination during the 2015-2016 season:

2.5 million
equal to the population of Portland, Oregon



The estimated number of flu **hospitalizations prevented** by vaccination during the 2015-2016 season:

71,000
enough to fill every registered hospital bed in the state of Texas



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

get vaccinated
www.cdc.gov/flu

IT'S NOT TOO LATE

FIGHT FLU

GET A FLU VACCINE TO
#FIGHT FLU

NEWS FROM THE FOUNDATION

Fundraising Project to Benefit Long Term Care Residents

The Ka`u Hospital Charitable Foundation is raising funds so long term residents have the opportunity to spend more quality time outdoors!

This year's goal is **\$35,000** to complete our Garden & Lanai project. A big mahalo to the generosity of all who have contributed!

ONLINE DONATIONS

<https://kau-hospital-foundation-inc.networkforgood.com/projects/13111-2016annualfund>

CHECKS CAN BE MAILED TO
Ka`u Hospital Charitable Foundation
P.O. Box 773 | Pahala, HI 96777



Support for the Ka`u Hospital Garden & Lanai Project Helps Purchase

- Whisper Glide Swing (wheelchair accessible): \$7,500
- Pergola: \$2,500
- Plexiglas panels to block the wind: \$1,000
- Concrete patio under the plumeria tree: \$750
- Storage shed: \$500
- Sidewalk extension - concrete only: \$350
- Garden hand tools, plants, supplies: \$25-50
- And much more!



KEEPING HEALTHY IN KA'Ū

Volume 15, Number 1

A Journal of Good Health, Food and Fitness

January, 2017

Sen. Mazie Hirono Asks Trump to Protect Family Planning

Protect family planning is the aim of Sen. Mazie Hirono and 33 Senate Democrats who sent a letter to President-elect Donald Trump in December, urging him to oppose any efforts by Republicans to restrict federal funding from supporting Title X family planning centers.



Sen. Mazie Hirono

“President-elect Trump, women across the country have reason to be deeply concerned about the impact your administration could have on their health, their access to care, and therefore their economic security,” wrote the senators. “We urge you to take clear position in favor

of women’s health by supporting access to birth control and family planning services at Planned Parenthood and other Title X clinics nationwide.”

The senators called on President-elect Trump to implement the final Title X rule issued by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services on Dec. 14. This final rule reinforces existing protections in the Title X program to ensure no qualified health care provider, such as Planned Parenthood, is

Fed Pledges \$1.1 Million to Fight Zika in Hawai'i

Fighting the threat of Zika virus will be bolstered by \$1.1 million from the federal Centers for Disease Control provided to the Hawai'i state Department of Health. U.S. Sen. Mazie Hirono said the funds will improve Hawai'i's lab testing capacity as well as a variety of education, and vector control measures. She said, "Hawai'i needs to be vigilant against the continued threat posed by Zika, and this funding increases the Hawai'i Department of Health's capacity to prevent and respond to a potential Zika outbreak."

Keith Kawaoka, state Deputy Director of Environmental Health, said: “With the high volume of travel and warm weather we experience in Hawai'i year-round, growing our vector control detection and response capabilities is crucial to preventing potential mosquito-borne disease outbreaks

unworkable hazardous approaches. Puna Geothermal sickened scores of people with a toxic release during tropical storm Iselle.

Its air quality permit is two years out of date. Neighbors are pursuing three legal actions over health and safety. It's a high risk for lava flows.

“Another concern – naptha going to power at Hamakua Energy Partners. A barge loaded with naptha came very close to exploding in Hilo Harbor in 2004.

It would have killed many people. The naptha now is carried down the Hamakua coast by trucks described by one official as potential bombs,” said Harden.

“Another concern – the interisland cable. It would be really difficult and expensive to build and it would burden outer islands with environmental impacts that benefit O'ahu and its not clear how you would fix something that deep down in the sea.

“Another current concern is the Ocean View solar farm scheme that would line the pockets of developers, but harm residents. I hope plans for the future are for environmentally friendly sources like solar, wind, waves,

excluded from eligibility for federal funding. The final Title X rule strengthens protections for women and LGBT individuals to ensure they can continue to access safe and affordable health care, said a statement from Hirono.

The Title X family planning provider network is the only federal grant program dedicated solely to providing individuals with comprehensive family planning and related preventive health services. Four out

statewide.”

State epidemiologist Dr. Sarah Park said: "These funds will allow us to support and enhance key Zika-related department programs to safeguard our state's public health in the long run. In addition to building a greater capacity for disease investigation and laboratory testing, we'll also be better able to support the mothers and babies who have been impacted by the effects of Zika."

The Centers for Disease Control will fund these programs: Zika Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity Activities (\$919,149) – supports vector control programs, strengthens laboratory capacity, and bolsters participation in the U.S. Zika Pregnancy Registry to monitor pregnant women with Zika and their infants; Public Health Preparedness and Response Activities

thermal energy conversion. I hope we look at new models like multiple decentralized sources, rooftop solar, microgrids, co-operatively or county owned electric company,” Harden concluded.

Deborah Ward told the commission: “I am a farmer, landowner, business owner and retiree. I oppose a regressive tax on the poorest people. HELCO needs to stop buying new trucks and thinking about ways to conserve like everybody else on the island.”

In December *Life of the Land* and *Puna Pono Alliance* filed an 80-page Joint Motion to Intervene in HELCO's application.

The two non-profit environmental and governmental organizations focused their intervention justification on a variety of rate recovery issues, including climate change, safety, customer's disconnecting from the grid, cutting out fat from the utility's operating structure, the potential acquisition of a fossil fuel power plant, and changing from a cost-of-service rate model to a Performance Based Ratemaking using Performance Incentive Metrics.

Vice President of *Life of the Land* and energy expert Henry Curtis, wrote: “Fundamental questions arise. Is the utility seeking ratepayer funds to prop up and perpetuate a past which no longer exists, or is the utility creating a distributed platform which can serve as a building block for the future?”

HELCO Rates, pg. 18

www.kaucalendar.com • kaunewsbriefs.blogspot.com

of ten women who received care at health centers funded by Title X consider it to be their only source of health care, said Hirono.

The letter to Trump begins, “We write to express our great concern regarding the protection of our nation's family planning centers in the next Congress and under your Administration. The economic security of women and their families is directly tied to a woman's access to reproductive health care, including birth control and counseling.”



The Aedes mosquitos live in Hawai'i and are capable of carrying Zika though no locally transmitted cases have been identified here.

Photo from state Department of Health (\$58,603) – awarded to communities at high risk for Zika outbreaks, and can be used to rapidly respond to a Zika outbreak, and to strengthen coordination between government and non-government first responders; and Zika Birth Defects Surveillance Activities (\$200,000) – establishes systems to rapidly detect microcephaly—a serious birth defect directly linked to Zika— and other adverse outcomes potentially related to Zika virus infection during pregnancy.

Zika is carried by *Aedes* mosquitos that also carry dengue fever, and health officials urge everyone to get rid of standing water around homes and other buildings. There have been no locally transmitted cases of Zika in Hawai'i, though persons with Zika have come here. The virus has been locally transmitted in southern Florida and is expected to spread over time.



HMSA's Telehealth care reaches rural Hawai'i, even faraway Ka'ū.

Image from HMSA

HMSA Kiosk, cont. from pg. 1 sudden or acute conditions like bronchitis, or ear and sinus infections.” They can help with “chronic conditions like allergies, diabetes or hypertension; common conditions like headaches, colds, or the flu, and managing multiple medications, side effects or drug interactions.” Online care can also help in “Getting you on track with your health and well-being goals,” according to HMSA.

January, 2017 Page 15

HELCO Rates, cont. from pg. 1

on the proposed rate increase in the case docket. HELCO must answer these questions before the Consumer Advocate can take a position on the case.

HELCO is asking the PUC to approve rate increases, revised rate schedules and changes to its tariff, which represents a 6.5 percent increase in revenue equal to \$19.3 million a year. HELCO is also applying to buy the naptha-burning power plant in Honoka'a, which, if approved, will result in a 12.5 percent rate hike. The PUC held two public hearings in December – one in Hilo and another in Kona.

HELCO President Jay Ignacio spoke at both hearings. He said, “We need to demonstrate that we are providing safe, reliable electric service and at the same time are making real progress in replacing fossil fuels with renewables. Your feed back is important to us.”

Dean Nashina, the Consumer Advocate, explained that his department “will take an independent look at HELCO's request for approval of this rate increase.”

Sate Sen. Russell Ruderma testified at the Hilo hearing that the Big Island has the highest electrical rates, and is the poorest island. “My district is the poorest district in the state. Paying the electric bill is not

a trivial matter and it disproportionately affects poor people. Therefore, it's a civil rights issue to me. I don't think we can further burden the poorest citizens to enrich one of the wealthiest in the state any more. HELCO is a remarkably profitable company already.”

Speaking in Hilo, Cory Harden, of the Sierra Club, told commissioners that she hoped HELCO's future plans “will avoid

Henry Curtis, of *Life of the Land*
Photos by David Corrigan, *Big Island Video News*

State Consumer Advocate Dean Nashina.

KA PEPA PĀHALA

Volume 15, Number 1

The Good News of Ka'ū, Hawai'i

January 2017



Jr. Miss Ka'ū Coffee Karlee Fukunaga-Camba.



Ka'ū Coffee court represents the industry in the annual Christmast Parade.



Classic trucks and cars joined the Pāhala Christmas Parade.



Olson Trust and Ka'ū Coffee Mill donated a Christmas tree from their Wood Valley farm to stand along the main road into Pāhala near fishing boats, trucks and residents going to work at dawn, with snow in the background on Mauna Loa.



Pāhala Preschool draws the keiki and the staff to Pāhala Christmas Parade.



Miss Ka'ū Peaberry Chazlynn Pua-Queja.



Pāhala Filipino Community Association participates each year in the Pāhala Christmas Parade.



Tutu & Me brings joy to the parade and education from birth through keiki years.

Pāhala's 38th Christmas Parade Wraps the Town

Holidays in Pāhala featured the 38th annual Pāhala Christmas Parade, organized each year by Eddie Andrade and family. Community groups, coffee queens and farmers, schools, churches, police, firefighters, medics and classic vehicles traveled past village homes where Santa Eddie and his helpers provided candies. The paraders stopped at Ka'ū Hospital to visit long term patients and staff, ending their journey at Holy Rosary Church for refreshments.

Another Christmas gift was the giant Christmas Tree on Kamani Street along the entrance into Pāhala, donated by Ka'ū Coffee Mill and the Edmund C. Olson Trust, which also helped sponsor the parade. Photos by Julia Neal

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Robert Jones, as Santa, at the Keiki Christmas Party at Kahuku. *Photos by Ann Bosted*



Folks gathered in small churches around Ka'ū including Nā'ālehu Methodist to listen to a bell choir, songs and a message on Christmas Eve. *Photo by Julia Neal*



St. Jude's church volunteers, including Linda Law and Marvelle Rau, made hundreds of custom stockings for the Kahuku Keiki Christmas party. *Photos by Ann Bosted*

Energy Co-op, cont. from pg. 3

in HELCO's geographic footprint, perhaps in conjunction with Parker Ranch, and gradually increasing its size, until it rivaled or displaced HELCO.

A third approach would involve threatening one of the above, forcing HELCO to lower its rates and become more responsive to its customers.

Curtis also explained how HEI may see the sale as a poor proposition: "Some have speculated that HEI would resist sell-



Gabe and Jana Heschler's home in Ranchos, Ocean View, became a destination for touring Christmas lights enthusiasts. *Photo by Peter Bosted*

End of Year Celebrations: A Community Christmas Across Ka'ū

Hawai'i's largest district with its smallest population experienced lights and happiness in its tiny villages during the holidays when families came home from military, colleges and jobs to be with the community of Ka'ū.



Ka'ū 'Ohana Band offered up Christmas music at the Ocean View Swap Meet. *Photos by Ann Bosted*

Community groups, churches, businesses and families donated time to decorate outdoor spaces, put up a tree, feed the hungry, gift the keiki, share the music, talk the positive, and march in a parade.



Volunteers Kailani Toriano and Rowena Puakela invited keiki to create personalized Christmas cards at the Kahuku party for Keiki. *Photos by Ann Bosted*

ing HELCO to HIEC. If such action resulted in lower rates, then MECO and HECO would be next. If the sale resulted in worse conditions for Big Island residents, then HEI would be blamed for agreeing to the sale. To overcome this resistance, the price tag to HEI shareholders would have to be substantial."

Curtis asked what, if anything, would change when he wrote, "One issue that would have to be resolved is whether the transfer of assets would simply involve re-

placing the owners and restructuring taxes, or if the sale would actually change policies, such as the role of geothermal and the possible use of LNG." Discussing the history of such acquisitions, Curtis wrote: "There have been several successful and unsuccessful efforts to acquire electric utilities in Hawai'i beyond NextEra's recent failure to acquire the Hawaiian Electric Companies. The top-down successes included Hawaiian Electric Co. purchase of Maui Electric Co. in 1968 and Hawai'i Electric Light Company in 1970, Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative's purchase of Citizens Utility Corp.'s Kaua'i Electric Division in 2002, and Larry Ellison's purchase of Lāna'i utilities.

"An alternative top-down approach was the creation of Hawaiian Electric Industries holding company by HECO in 1981-83. Top-down failures to date included the first proposal by KIUC to acquire Citizens Kaua'i Electric Division in 2000, the proposal by Ku'oko'a to acquire the HECO Companies and Puna Geothermal Ventures, and the failed proposal by Princeton Energy Group

to create Ikehū Moloka'i.

"Hawai'i Island Energy Cooperative is currently proposing to acquire HELCO, and Parker Ranch is currently proposing to develop a Waimea Microgrid.

"Bottom-up efforts have included the establishment of Camp Smith's Inner and Outer Microgrid in Aiea, the creation of a small-scale microgrid at the VERGE Energy conference held in Honolulu last June, and Hickam Air Force Base's proposed microgrid.

"There have been proposals for several other microgrids at the Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawai'i Authority on the Big Island, a Maui Community College microgrid, and the effort by Larry Ellison's Lāna'i Resorts, LLC to hire Byron Washom to develop a Lāna'i microgrid."

"Some utilities have considered acquiring other utilities. At one point, HECO considered acquiring the Kaua'i utility before KIUC succeeded. The Gas Company considered acquiring the HECO companies," added Curtis.

GUIDE TO KA'Ū CHURCHES

VOLCANO	
• New Hope Christian Fellowship	967-7129
• Volcano Assembly of God	967-8191
PĀHALA	
• River of Life Assembly of God	928-0608
• Holy Rosary	928-8208
• Pāhala Bible Baptist Mission	928-8240
• Pāhala Hongwanji	928-8254
• Wood Valley Tibetan Buddhist Temple & Retreat	928-8539
NĀ'ĀLEHU	
• Assembly of God	929-7278
• Iglesia Ni Cristo	929-9173
• Jehovah's Witnesses	929-7602
• Kauaha'ao Church	929-9997
• Latter Day Saints	929-7123
• Light House Baptist	939-8536
• Nā'ālehu Hongwanji Buddhist Temple - 95-5693 Mamaloha Hwy., Nā'ālehu, HI 96772	

• Sacred Heart	929-7474
• United Methodist	929-9949
• Christian Church Thy Word Ministry - Nā'ālehu Hongwanji, Sundays 10 a.m.	936-9114
OCEAN VIEW	
• Kahuku UCC	929-8630
• Ocean View Baptist Church	430-8268
Worship Service: Sunday, 1 p.m. Ocean View Community Center. All are welcome!	
• O'V Evangelical Community Church	939-9089
• St. Jude's Episcopal	939-7000
• Divine Faith Ministries 929-8570 (non-denominational) meets Ocean View Community Center 10 am Sundays, Children, Youth, Bible Study. Call for more information .	
• Church of Christ	928-0027
Back to the Bible! 9 am, Bible class studying Romans. Worship 10A.M. Expository lessons from N.T. Books	

NŪPEPA NĀ'ĀLEHU

Volume 15, Number 1

The Good News of Ka'ū, Hawai'i

January 2017

PARENTS Serves Ka'ū from New Base in Nā'ālehu

PARENTS, Inc. is serving Ka'ū with a program entitled Promoting Safe and Stable Families, contracted through the Hawai'i Department of Human Services Child Welfare. Location is Nā'ālehu Shopping Center. PARENTS stands for Providing Awareness, Referrals, Education, Nurturing, Therapy, Support.

Program counselor Le'a Moses Alcover, MSW is a graduate of Ka'ū High School and University of Hawai'i, Mānoa. Brenda Larson, a Ka'ū resident, is the program's Parent Educator. She facilitates Parent Education classes. Larson is graduate of UH West Hawai'i and holds a Certificate In Substance Abuse and Addiction Studies.

She has worked with Big Island keiki in West Hawai'i and Ka'ū for more than 20 years. Clinical supervisor is Marvin St. Clair, who holds a Masters in Social Work and is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker. He is a 15-year resident of Hawai'i Island with prior experience working in the district.

St. Clair said the program is seeking a full-time bachelor degree level case manager to provide parenting skills training services to clients in their homes and to manage the program's data reporting procedures. He noted that the program would especially welcome a Ka'ū resident.

PARENTS, Inc. has helped families in Hawai'i since 1975. Last year, 3,401 parents and children were served. According to PARENTS, of those who benefited, 69 percent showed an increase in their parenting knowledge, and services received a 98 percent satisfaction rating. Last year, 58 percent of families served were single parents, and 43 percent of participants were native



PARENTS, Inc., serving Hawai'i families since 1975, recently set up shop in Nā'ālehu with many services. Call 808-333-3460.

Photo from PARENTS

Hawaiian or part-native Hawaiian.

St. Clair explained that the program Promoting Safe and Stable Families "uses professional educators, counselors, and facilitators to focus on the healthy growth and development of all family members. The organization provides a full range of parenting education, skill building and support services to men, women and children. Parenting classes include a nine week Confident Parenting Class, open to the general public, and a 12- or 16-week Positive Parenting Class open to those referred through Child Welfare Services."

Parenting intervention with parents referred for issues involving child abuse or neglect may include home visits and therapy for families, case management; crisis

HELCO Rates, cont. from pg. 15

Curtis contends that the three main issues in a rate case are: What costs should be passed onto ratepayers; which costs should not be passed on; and what is the appropriate rate of return on equity for the utility?

He said, "Customer exit or bypass is a hot button issue. The edge of the grid is becoming less firm. Demand Response and

Youth in Govt., cont. from pg. 10

joined six other Hawai'i students at the Conference on National Affairs held at the Blue Ridge Assembly in North Carolina. Gan is the first Ka'ū High student to represent the school at the national level. At Blue Ridge students discussed and debated national and international issues. Gan proposed a four-day school week.

With the successes of Ka'ū High during its first year in the Youth and Government program, Ka'ū students worked hard to



PARENTS encourages reading time with dad.

Photo from PARENTS

intervention; outreach; and many different types of skill building. All services are multiethnic, non-judgmental, non-threatening, supportive, and easily accessible, said St. Clair.

PARENTS, Inc. will host its 2nd Annual Kickball Tournament in Hilo this April. Everyone is invited to help Kick Child Abuse out of Hawai'i, said St. Clair.

Rooftop Solar enable residents to provide power, as well as frequency and voltage regulation, to the grid. Should customers be allowed to leave the grid?"

Curtis asked, "Should the utility give incentives to the ten largest customers? According to HELCO, the ten largest customers account for 16.4 per cent of electric sales by

HELCO Rates, pg. 21

continue to represent the school and Hawai'i Island. The students worked hard at composing drafts of their bills, and learned how to properly debate and present their bills. Experienced members helped new members draft bills and find sources to support their bills.

Ka'ū High represented the community well in December, whether it was to claim more awards, pass more bills, or simply display the aloha and true spirit of the Ka'ū community at the State Capitol.

The students sold shave ice to raise money for this year's trip and received funding from 'O Ka'ū Kākou.

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Hawaiian Islands Land Trust, Grassmans Protect 211 Acres

Grassman Macadamia Nut Farm near Nā'ālehu will be protected for generations through a conservation easement recently purchased by the Hawaiian Islands Land Trust. The Trust bought a 211-acre conservation easement from the Janice M. Grassman Trust for the farm up Lorenzo Road. The Grassman Macadamia Nut Farm consists of a mixed age macadamia orchard adjacent to the Ka'ū Forest Reserve.

"Through this purchase, these lands will be protected and will maintain their agricultural purpose for generations to come," said Kawika Burgess, CEO of Hawai'i Islands Land Trust. The funds to purchase the easement were contributed by the Freeman Foundation of Honolulu in a strategic effort to conserve working agricultural lands in Hawai'i. The

purchase will add to the more than 17,500 acres that HILT protects throughout Hawai'i.

Blaine Grassman expressed his gratitude to Hawaiian Island Land Trust and the Freeman Foundation for making the project possible. "I was raised on a farm and have been a farmer for my entire life - I love farming. By placing a conservation easement on our land I know this unique parcel will remain in agriculture forever," said Grassman.

Burgess said that the land trust hopes to assist more agricultural operations in Hawai'i by working with other foundations and donors who share similar goals to help farmers keep their lands productive while protecting the land's conservation values.



Blaine and Janet Grassman worked with Hawaiian Islands Land Trust to preserve their Ka'ū land for ag conservation.

Photo from Hawaiian Islands Land Trust



Macadamia orchards land has been placed in conservation in perpetuity.

Photo from Hawaiian Islands Land Trust

Keanu 'Ohana Supports 2,200 Acre Conserved at Waikapuna

The Keanu 'Ohana of Ka'ū has released a statement to the Trust for Public Land, the state Legacy Land Conservation Commission and others in support of the preservation of 2,200 acres at Waikapuna, with four miles of coast. (See page 1 story)

The family members, who have historic ties to this Ka'ū Coast property between Honu'apo and Ka Lae, and extending inland to Nā'ālehu. They say they "strongly support the acquisition of Waikapuna and its surrounding lands by the Ala Kahakai Trail Association and the Trust for Public Land in an effort to preserve and protect this natural and cultural treasure."

In December, the Legacy Land Conservation Commission agreed to partial funding for purchase of the Waikapuna property. Legacy Land has contributed in the past to the purchase of 785 acres at Kawa, the recent county acquisition of 3,128 Kahuku Coast acres makai of Ocean View and three acres of Caves above Kipuka Kanohina lava tube system in Ocean View.

According to the Keanu 'Ohana statement on Waikapuna, "As native descendants with genealogical ties to the ahupua'a

of Kahilipali and its neighbors, we believe that the purchase of these lands will allow for perpetual protection of this wahi pana or storied place of our ancestors."



Keoni Fox of the Keanu 'Ohana.

Photo by Ann Bosted

"Waikapuna was once a thriving coastal community and its freshwater springs and abundant marine resources supported families who would exchange fish with relatives in the fertile mauka communities of Nā'ālehu and Wai'ohinu."

Family representative Keoni Fox stated that in an interview with Mary Kawena Pukui in 1960, his great-grandfather's brother, Uncle Herbert Ku'umi Kin In, described this unique relationship between extended 'ohana in the Ka'ū uplands and lowlands: "Ina he nui kau ukana e lawe mai ana, aha ho'i no 'oe me ka ukana. If you come down with a big bundle (from the mountains), you are going home with a big bundle (from the sea)."

Fox wrote that "My great-grandfather, Alfred Kalama Kahakua and his brother spoke fondly of Waikapuna and other wahi pana of Ka'ū. Both were interviewed many times and their words often express sadness about the loss of our culture, our language, our birds, plants and sacred places. It is for this reason that our family became deeply concerned after the closure of Ka'ū Agribusiness and the sale of its properties.

"For the last 20 years, many properties such as Waikapuna have been purchased by land speculators who propose new developments, threaten the rural nature and open view planes which are greatly cherished in Ka'ū. Our family actively supports initiatives to protect natural and cul-

tural resources along the 80 miles of Ka'ū coastline from the impacts of development and urban sprawl."

Fox acknowledged that the current owners of Waikapuna, Resource Land Holdings and its subsidiary Ka'ū Mahi, are working with his and other conservation groups who are interested in purchasing the property. Ka'ū Mahi is refraining from actively marketing the property to other buyers.

The Keanu family statement says: "Throughout history, the people of Ka'ū have practiced a lifestyle of subsistence. For many generations, the Keanu 'Ohana has fished and gathered at Waikapuna, sometimes walking for miles along mauka-makai trails and coastal trails of the ala kahakai. We continue these traditions today. As children, it was here where we learned how to pick limu and 'opihi. We were taught to ask permission before we gather and to take only what was needed. These were important lessons in resource protection, sustainability and humility.

Keanu 'Ohana, pg. 21

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KAHUKU TO MILOLI'I

Volume 15, Number 1

The Good News of Ka'ū, Hawai'i

January 2017

Rep. Creagan Queries Citizens for 2017 Hawai'i Legislature

Allowing campgrounds and cesspools on ag land, a U.H. teaching hospital for Kona, and dealing with crime, roads, cesspools, solar farms and junk cars were discussed by about 30 residents who attended state Rep. Richard Creagan's talk story at Ocean View Community Center in December. The 2017 Hawai'i Legislature begins on Wednesday, Jan 18.



Rep. Richard Creagan
Photo by Ann Bosted

Creagan outlined his vision for a university hospital that would be linked to University of Hawai'i's John A. Burns Medical School of Medicine on O'ahu and sited on 500 state acres near Kona Airport that are already tagged for higher education. Half a million dollars of state funds have been earmarked to pay for the feasibility study. "Kona Hospital can't expand," explained Creagan, "so we need a new site. The hospital would be used to train new doctors, and we hope that once trained, they will stay in Hawai'i." Creagan is the new chair of the state House of Representatives Committee on Agriculture. Rep. Lynn DeCoite, from

Moloka'i is vice-chair.

Creagan addressed some potential changes to use of agricultural land. Concerning allowing cesspools on some ag land to save the cost of more expensive septic systems was a topic that drew discussion. Creagan explained that the state Department of Health and the federal Environmental Protection Agency have ruled no more cesspools, but he is considering submitting a bill in the Legislature to allow cesspools on agricultural land provided they are a certain number of miles from the ocean or flowing water and at least a certain number of feet above sea level. He said that Vice-Chair Decoite and Mayor Harry Kim both support cesspools in appropriate locations. Creagan contended that cesspools are cheap and easy, and they work and are safe. A septic system can cost over \$15,000 and requires periodic pumping that can cost \$500. Some owners shoot holes in the plastic tanks to avoid the need for pumping, as there are no required inspections after installation.

A bill to require developers to obtain a county permit for any large solar farms in non-conforming subdivisions failed to "pass through" conference committee on the last hearing day of the 2016 legislative session. Creagan said that he would promote the bill next year, with support of other legislators.

Although the bill would not stop the 6.75-megawatt project planned for three subdivisions in Ocean View, it would stop similar projects in the future.

Creagan raised the topic of private overnight campgrounds on agricultural land. Day camps are currently an authorized use on ag land.



Rep. Richard Creagan meets with Ka'ū residents ahead of the Hawai'i Legislature, which convenes on Jan. 18.
Photo by Ann Bosted

Campgrounds are usable year-round in Hawai'i, given the mild climate, but federal, state, and county campgrounds are often full. Residents raised the squatter problem that is growing in Ocean View, and Creagan explained that the campsites would not be a permanent solution for homelessness. When a resident asked if campsites would open a proverbial "can of worms," Creagan replied, "the can of worms is open" but acknowledged that perhaps Ocean View's one-acre lots might be too small.

Asked how the state Department of Transportation plans to deal with flooding of Hwy 11 at Kāwā Flats between Nā'ālehu and Pāhala, Creagan said the highway department has seemed to lack the will to address it. A raised highway was engineered and planned years ago, but the project stalled. When Hwy 11 floods, the old sugar cane haul road that goes through the mountains mauka of Hwy 11 is considered the alternate route. However, it is often unusable and dangerous.

However, improving the upper road and its small bridges might be less expensive than modifying the state highway. Creagan agreed that it was ironic that an \$18 million storm shelter should be built in Pāhala, but the road to reach it from most of Ka'ū is unusable in a storm. The upper road could be improved not only for emergencies but to



Mike Dubois has worked with many Ocean View residents to collect and haul away junk cars, including Robin and David Baglow, who offered a staging area.

serve the farms and ranches there.

When residents raised the topic of schools and education, Creagan said he supports teaching agriculture in schools. He also acknowledged that there are more private schools per population in Hawai'i than in any other state, and that state schools need more funding. One question asked was why is so much money is spent on air-conditioning and so little on training and hiring teachers?

Mike DuBois raised the pressing problem of crime in Ocean View, where several businesses and homes have been victims of robbery and vandalism. "We have a lot of repeat criminals," DuBois said. "I'd like a system that lets us residents know where they are living, like the system for sex offenders. We have a person who has committed six crimes and was caught committing the seventh. He is living in a shack under very poor conditions. He should be brought

to justice, but the police are not effective in policing our area."

The growing number of junk cars on private properties is an escalating problem in Ocean View, residents told Creagan. "They make a statement that anything goes in Ocean View," said a resident. The cars leak hazardous materials, attract

Creagan Queries, pg. 21

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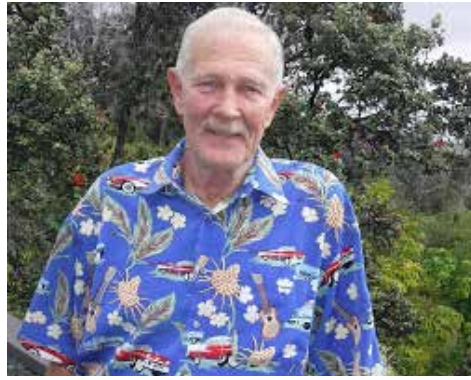
Ron Gall to Lead Ocean View Community Association

The 2017 President for Ocean View Community Association will be Ron Gall, currently serving as Vice President. Gall takes over as President Sandi Alexander retires.

Gall was born and raised in Oregon where he was educated and worked until he retired in 2003. He moved to the Big Island, living first in Miloli'i, then Captain Cook. He and his wife Karen moved to Ocean View five-and-half years ago. After a year on the Ocean View Community Association board, he became Vice President in February 2015.

Asked what he considered to be the biggest challenge of the new job, Gall replied, "Meeting the expectations of the community and being consistent."

Gall summed it up: "We, who volunteer to work for the community, are often asked by prospective members 'What do I get for my dues' to which I have to reply that paying dues is a commitment to the community. I feel like JFK – telling them to not ask what the community can do for them, but what



Ron Gall, new President of Ocean View Community Association. Photo by Ann Bosted

HELCO Rates, cont. from pg. 18

the utility. Furthermore, the ten entities have "demonstrated the ability to self-generate as a number of them have either installed or plan to install PV, wind or hydroelectric systems."

"HELCO proposes to raise rates in the near term, and then add additional expenses with implementing the Smart Grid and for adding redundant layers of cybersecurity. On the other hand, battery prices will fall while their reliability will increase. Thus, there will be increasing cost justification for leaving the grid.

"Life of the Land and Puna Pono Alliance believe that those exiting the system should not be penalized. A true unbundled price comparison should be made between the different options for the future.

"Life of the Land and Puna Pono Alliance support the idea that separate and independent companies should own generation and energy delivery systems. HELCO should not be allowed to purchase a fossil fuel plant in Honoka'a."

Twenty-two letters, categorized by the PUC as Public Comment have been sent to the PUC docket concerning HELCO's rate case. All are against the rate increase.

Both of HELCO's 6.5 per cent and 12.5 per cent rate hike proposals are open for public comment. Members of the public can weigh in on one or both scenarios. Comments can be e-mailed to the PUC using the address, puc.comments@hawaii.gov. The docket number 2015-0170 should be in the subject line.

Written testimony (reference Docket No. 2015-0170) can be sent by postal mail to Public Utilities Commission 465 South King Street #103 Honolulu, HI 96813.

Creagan Queries, cont. from pg. 20

rodents, provide breeding grounds for mosquitoes and could kill children who play in them and may become trapped. Residents said that state laws need to be stricter. The county sets the limit at two cars per home, where the state allows 25 inoperable vehicles per home. One resident estimated that about 40 to 50 cars are abandoned along the sides of the roads in Ocean View. Dubois, who has led campaigns to haul away junk vehicles in the past, said that it costs about \$350 per vehicle to transport and turn it in to the county in Kona or Hilo.



Randy Iwase (left) and the PUC heard testimony on HELCO's rate hike and received a letter from County Council member Maile David. Photo from Big Island Video News Geothermal, cont. from pg. 3

further into this matter for the reasons set forth above, and the fact that cost of energy for Hawai'i County ratepayers is already at a high premium."

David told *The Ka'u Calendar* that she needs answers, saying, "It is a valid question that I felt the PUC should address. If in fact HELCO did receive free electricity, then such benefit should rightfully be passed on or shared with ratepayers of Hawai'i County – our citizens, local businesses, and state and county agencies."

David added that the HELCO rate case public hearing seemed to her to be a good opportunity to raise this question, as HELCO wants the ratepayers of Hawai'i Island to pay more for energy, and she is opposed to its request.

they can do for the community.

"I believe the association should bring people together – not just Ocean View, but all of Ka'u. We need to build community spirit. We rely on volunteers to man the office every weekday morning, to provide the annual Thanksgiving dinner, and other meals like the pancake breakfast.

"Dues are necessary just to cover our overhead. Insurance at \$7,000 a year is a big expense towards keeping the Community Center open. Renting out the building is our biggest source of income, followed by dues,

donations and advertising in the newsletter. This is not a country club. We need community support.

"I would like to see the community adopt new programs, such as cleaning up the neighborhood. But we also need to take care of necessities – like maintaining the building that dates back to 1979. It needs a new roof, so we need more members to join and help."

Anyone wanting to volunteer, donate or otherwise help Ocean View Community Association can call Gall at 939-7033.

Keanu 'Ohana, cont. from pg. 19

"When camping on Waikapuna's sandy shores, we marvel at the many bright stars and constellations clearly visible at night from a coastline far from city lights. Together, we would wander through the village in awe of the expansive walled remains of where our ancestors lived, worked and played. For me, Waikapuna has always felt like home and it is this deep spiritual connection with my kupuna which I hope to perpetuate for the next generation.

"For the Keanu 'Ohana, we believe that this acquisition will honor our kupuna, their history, their values and their legacy by protecting the entire cultural and natural landscape. There are few opportunities today where such large-scale preservation of pristine lands is even possible. The purchase will help to safeguard our family's many sacred sites including the iwi kupuna."

The statement also considers the wildlife, saying the "effort will also allow for the protection of Waikapuna's dryland forest and extensive native coastal plant habitat which includes seabird nesting areas along the sea cliffs. Furthermore, the scenic shores of Waikapuna are known as a place where fish and other marine life spawn and its protected tide pools serve as nature's nursery.

"Waikapuna presents an opportunity for research and education on many levels. As native descendants, we hope to continue our traditional cultural and educational practices on the land and in its waters. Our family is committed to assisting the Ala Kahakai Trail Association and other community organizations with the stewardship of the property. We are very excited about this opportunity to protect Waikapuna," the Keanu statement concludes.

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KA PEPA VOLCANO

Volume 15, Number 1

The Good News of Ka'ū, Hawai'i

January 2017

Volcano Awareness Month: Science, Music, Dance, Culture

January is Volcano Awareness Month, and all After Dark in the Park programs at Kīlauea Visitor Center Auditorium in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park will be presented by the USGS Hawaiian Volcano Observatory. Programs are co-sponsored by Friends of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park and Hawai'i Pacific Parks Association.

34 Years and Counting: Updates on Kīlauea Volcano's Eruptions. As of Jan. 3, 2017, Kīlauea will have been erupting nearly continuously for the past 34 years. It began



Hawaiian Volcano Observatory geologist mapping a lava flow in 2012. *USGS Photo.*

on the volcano's East Rift Zone, where Pu'u 'Ō'ō continues to send lava flows down the flanks of Kīlauea. In 2008, a second vent opened within Halema'uma'u Crater at the

summit of Kīlauea, where a of Kīlauea, where a spattering lava lake still lights the night sky and captivates spectators.

Tina Neal, Scientist-in-Charge of the USGS Hawaiian Volcano Observatory, briefly describes the history of these two eruptions and provides in-depth accounts of volcanic activity during the past year, including lava reaching the sea for the first time since 2013 and the rise and fall of the summit lava lake. Time is at 7 p.m. Kīlauea Visitor Center Auditorium.

The Unheard Sounds of Hawaiian Volcanoes. Infrasound is atmospheric sound and vibration below the threshold of human hearing. These low-frequency sounds are generated by large-scale fluid flow and can propagate for thousands of kilometers to provide early warning of natural or man-made hazards. Active open-vent volcanoes, such as Kīlauea, are exceptionally good sound emitters, and scientists are steadily building a continuous baseline of volcano-acoustic activity, including infrasonic tremor from Halema'uma'u and Pu'u 'Ō'ō.

Milton Garces, Director of the University of Hawai'i Infrasound Laboratory, talks about "listening" to Kīlauea, Mauna Loa, and Hualālai volcanoes through one of the most advanced infrasound networks in the world. Time is Tues., Jan. 10 at 7 p.m. at Kīlauea Visitor Center Auditorium

'Ukulele Making Demonstration. Oral Abihai shares his passion for making 'ukulele from local and exotic woods. A native Hawaiian, Abihai has been building 'ukulele for 10 years, following his apprenticeship in Lāhaina, Maui with master builder Kenny Potts. He loves to create 'ukulele in his spare time with bits and pieces of his wood collection. Part of Hawai'i Volcanoes' 'Ike Hana No'eau, Experience the Skillful Work workshops. Time is Wednesday, Jan 11 from 10 a.m. to noon at Kīlauea Visitor Center lānai.

Trials and Tribulations of Halema'uma'u Crater: 200 Years Old



Milton Garces deploying an infrasonic microphone at Kīlauea, 2006. University of Hawai'i Infrasound Laboratory. *USGS Photo*

and Still Going. Halema'uma'u, the large crater within Kīlauea Volcano's summit caldera, has a checkered past and an uncertain future. Probably first appearing in the early 19th century, Halema'uma'u has enthralled visitors with its lava lakes, enticed at least three people to their deaths in past decades, and served as a centerpiece for countless photographs and paintings.

Don Swanson, a USGS geologist at the Hawaiian Volcano Observatory, traces the volcanic history of Halema'uma'u and includes personal anecdotes about his encounters with the crater during the 1967-68 eruption. Time is Tuesday, Jan. 17 at 7 p.m. at Kīlauea Visitor Center Auditorium

Hula Performance by Hālau I Ka Leo Ola O Nā Mamo. Be immersed in Hawaiian hula presented by Kumu Hula Pelehonuamea and Kumu Hula Kekoa Harman. Hālau I Ka Leo Ola O Nā Mamo is composed of the students of the Hawaiian language immersion school, Nāwahīokalani'ōpu'u. These students are all fluent speakers of the Hawaiian language, which is being revived after many years of decline. Part of Hawai'i Volcanoes' ongoing Nā Leo Manu, Heavenly Voices presentations. Free on Wednesday, Jan. 18 from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Kīlauea Visitor Center Auditorium

How Do HVO Geologists Track Lava Flows and Lava Lakes? Kīlauea is currently home to two remarkably long eruptions. Pu'u 'Ō'ō and other vents on the volcano's East Rift Zone have erupted lava flows for more than three decades. At the summit of Kīlauea, an active vent within Halema'uma'u Crater has fed a lava lake for over eight years. Monitoring each of these eruptions presents unique challenges and requires using various tools and techniques, ranging from low-tech to state-of-the-art.



Hawaiian Volcano Observatory scientist monitoring gas emissions on Mauna Loa in 2015. *USGS Photo.*

USGS Hawaiian Volcano Observatory geologist Matt Patrick explains the toolkit he uses to map lava flows and measure lava lakes, and describes how scientists continuously improve their methods of tracking volcanic activity. Time is Tuesday, Jan. 24 at 7 p.m. at Kīlauea Visitor Center Auditorium

Ho'okani 'Ukulele. Learn the basics of the Hawaiian 'ukulele. The modern 'ukulele evolved from the Machete de Braga, a small stringed instrument introduced by Portuguese immigrants in the 1800s. Part of Hawai'i Volcanoes' 'Ike Hana No'eau, Experience the Skillful Work workshops. Free on Wednesday., Jan. 25 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Kīlauea Visitor Center lānai.

An Update on Mauna Loa Activity and Monitoring Efforts. Mauna Loa, the largest active volcano on Earth, has erupted 33 times since 1843, most recently in 1984, when lava flows approached Hilo. Future eruptions could produce high-volume, fast-moving flows that reach the ocean in a matter of hours. In 2015, the Volcano Alert Level of Mauna Loa was elevated from "NORMAL" to "ADVISORY" due to increased seismicity and deformation at the volcano, which continue to occur.

USGS Hawaiian Volcano Observatory scientist Ingrid Johanson provides a brief account of Mauna Loa's eruptive history, an update on its current status, and an overview of how HVO scientists track activity that might presage the volcano's next eruption. Free on Tuesday, Jan. 31 at 7 p.m. at Kīlauea Visitor Center Auditorium.



January Events

Gallery Events

1/7 - 2/12 "Timeless Treasures" Dietrich Varez
1/14 ~ Reception honoring Varez at 5pm
1/14 ~ Zentangle Demonstration at 10am

Hula Arts - January 21

Hula Kahiko with Nā Kumu hula Pelehonuamea and Kekoa Harman with Hālau i Ka Leo Ola o Na Mamo

Nā Mea Hula with Kumu Ab Valencia and Hālau Hula Kalehuaki'eki'eika'iu

Niaulani Campus

1/6 ~ Tropical Flower Arranging w/Kaipō
1/8 ~ Sunday Clay High Fire! Series
1/9 & 1/16 ~ Painting with Peggy
1/10 ~ Dance Imagined (6 Sessions)
1/12 ~ Thursday Night at the Center: Sculptors
1/17 ~ "Forest Birds" Acrylics w/Patrick Ching
1/18 ~ "Forest Birds" Oils w/Patrick Ching
1/21 ~ Zentangle: Basics
1/21 & 22 ~ Oil Painting w/Vicki Penney-Rohner
1/28 ~ Stained Glass Basics & Beyond Series

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Friday January 20 • 8:30^{am} - 3^{pm}
Volunteers Needed!

Volunteers needed for our January Forest Restoration project. This month we'll be planting native tree seedlings in the Mauna Loa section of the park. We'll be working in an area of nice Koa and Ohia forest. We will also learn about the park's native forest restoration program. Our goal is 14 participants. Registration is required. Please email forest@fhvnp.org, or call Patty Kupchak at (808) 352-1402 by Monday evening January 16, 2017.

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Nineteenth Century Virtual Realty Brings Hawai'i Volcano To Life

Scientists at Hawaiian Volcano Observatory wrote in a recent *Volcano Watch* that Kīlauea volcano was used in virtual reality long ago. According to the article, “the simulation of real and imaginary worlds for video games, movies, and other purposes has become big business in the 21st century. Virtual reality technology is improving rapidly, but the basic concept is not new.

“In the late 19th century, several artists were perfecting the portrayal of the fiery hues and breathtaking spattering of Kīlauea’s lava lake. The most prominent of these painters was Jules Tavernier, who was trained in France and already well known in California before he moved to Hawai’i in 1884. Inspired by the active lava lake within Kīlauea Crater, Tavernier created several paintings of various sizes that have remained iconic views of the lava lake’s activity during that period.

“In 1888, Tavernier went one step further and created what we would now call a virtual reality depiction of Kīlauea volcano – the *Panorama of Kīlauea*, an 11-foot tall canvas arranged in a circle with a 90-foot circumference.

“The *Daily Bulletin* (a Honolulu newspaper) described the viewer’s

experience: ‘On reaching the platform (at the center surrounded by the canvas) from which the visitor gazes, the scene becomes impressive. Standing in the very center of the crater, with Halemaumau ... and the Volcano House in their proper positions, they appear as realistic as can be. The longer the visitor gazes, the stronger becomes the impression, until he fancies that he is actually in Kīlauea.’

“The *Panorama of Kīlauea* was exhibited in the Hawaiian Kingdom for a while before being shipped to the United States. It eventually ended up in Washington, D.C. for public exhibition. Unfortunately, neither this valuable canvas nor any photos of it have ever been found.

“A few years later, Lorrin A. Thurston, a rising political leader of American missionary descendants and expatriates in the Hawaiian Kingdom, was looking for ways to accelerate tourism and to encourage Americans to settle in Hawai’i. He proposed a Hawai’i exhibit at the Chicago World’s Fair to open in 1893.

“After the success of Tavernier’s *Panorama of Kīlauea*, Thurston thought that a larger cyclorama of Kīlauea “could be used advantageously to advertise



Lorrin A. Thurston took a volcano display to the Chicago World’s Fair in 1893.



Jules Tavernier



Kīlauea Cyclorama at the Chicago World’s Fair in 1893, with a statue of Madame Pele, above the entrance, standing on a lava flow and holding a flame. See <https://chicagology.com/columbiaexpo/fair052/>.

Hawai’i.” Thurston’s cyclorama was 50 feet high with a circumference of 400 feet – more than four times the size of Tavernier’s panorama.

“The *Chicago Times* newspaper described the cyclorama viewer’s experience: ‘The observation platform ... places the visitor in the same position that he would occupy if he stood on the brink of the (Halema’uma’u) pit in the vast crater of the volcano (Kīlauea). ... The horizon will present the outlines of ... (Mauna Loa’s) snow-capped summit, from which issue delicate clouds of smoke, telling of the slumbering fires beneath her crest. Further along the eye meets Mauna Kea, the volcano house, and the blue sea. In the middle distance is the ragged side walls of the first

great breakdown, seamed and furrowed with cracks and jagged edges, where the rocks have been rent by many an earthquake. Beneath his foot will be the lakes of fire, liquid lava, foaming, dashing, leaping in the wildest confusion. The floor will be a facsimile of the floor of the crater in every detail, built up of lava, and the fire effects secured by the use of electricity in the most ingenious and complicated contrivances. The observer will stand on lava rock brought from Kīlauea.’

“The Kīlauea cyclorama, accompanied by agricultural exhibits and a Hawaiian village, including musicians and hula dancers, was later exhibited at the San Francisco Midwinter Fair in 1894–1895, and at several more mainland expositions into the early 20th century.

“It is unknown how effective these exhibits were at attracting American visitors to Hawai’i, but Thurston’s cyclorama certainly provided an inexpensive way for thousands to experience Kīlauea Volcano.”

Visit the HVO website (<http://hvo.wr.usgs.gov>) for past *Volcano Watch* articles, Kīlauea daily eruption updates, Mauna Loa weekly updates, volcano photos, recent earthquakes information and more.

‘Alalā Retreat to Aviary as Three Crows Perish in the Wild

Two young endangered Hawaiian crows, the ‘Alalā, were moved back into an aviary at the State of Hawai’i’s Pu‘u Maka‘ala Natural Area Reserve in December, as conservationists work to overcome challenges faced by the birds during their reintroduction.

A joint news release issued by San Diego Zoo Global, the state Department of Land & Natural Resources and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service states: “A group of five birds were released into the protected reserve on Dec. 14. Although the birds had been observed doing well and eating from feeders placed in the area, three birds were found dead over the last week. The confirmed cause of the deaths is currently unknown but conservationists hope to gather information about what happened to the birds through necropsy examinations.”

John Vetter, a wildlife biologist with the DLNR’s Division of Forestry & Wildlife, said, “Some level of mortality is to be expected when reintroducing a species back into the wild and we were prepared for that possibility. The initial days of release are always the most difficult stage of any release program, and the level of uncertainty is also highest with the first release cohort. We decided to recapture



Condolences have come from around the world since three of five ‘Alalā perished after their recent release into the forest. The surviving two have been placed back into an aviary. Photo from San Diego Zoo

the remaining birds to ensure their safety while we await the results of the necropsies, so that we can learn, respond, and continue to strive for the long-term success of the ‘Alalā.”

Pu‘u Maka‘ala Natural Area Reserve is an area that conservationists have worked to preserve, protecting native plants and species, and it represents the type of habitat where ‘Alalā originally lived before their numbers began to decline.

The ‘Alalā, or Hawaiian crow, has been extinct in the wild since 2002, preserved only at the Keauhou and Maui Bird Conservation Centers managed by San Diego Zoo Global’s Hawai’i Endangered

Bird Conservation Program.

Bryce Masuda, conservation program manager of the Hawai’i Endangered Bird Conservation Program remarked, “The loss of these three birds is difficult for the entire community, including the many people who have cared for these birds since their hatch and have worked steadfastly to prepare for their release. Condolences for this loss have come from around the world.”

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**Celebrate the dedication
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January 13, 2017

11 a.m. -1 p.m.

At HMSA, we believe great care should be close to home. That's why we're opening an HMSA's Online Care[®] telehealth kiosk at Ka'u Rural Health Community Association, where you can video chat with a doctor at no cost. Join us at the dedication ceremony to learn more.

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