#### "E Ala Na Moku Kai Liloloa"





NORTH SHORE NEWS March 13, 2024 VOLUME 41, NUMBER 3



This is the third consecutive year that Coach Jared Haiola and The Canefires have earned a spot to compete at the Worlds Competition. Photo and Story By: Hale'iwa Elementary Robotics

# Congratulations to Coach Haiola and The Canefires, our Amazing Robotics Team!

The Canefires, Hale'iwa Elementary School Robotics teams, have enjoyed a very successful VEX IQ robotics season this school year. On Saturday, February 17, both the fifth and sixth-grade teams competed at the Hawaii VEX IQ Elementary School Regional Championship, hoping to earn one of four berths to represent Hawaii at the Vex IQ Elementary World Championship in Dallas, Texas. With 30 outstanding teams participating in the tournament, each match felt like a nail-biter. After all of the qualification matches were

done, the fifth-grade team was in 7th place and the sixth-grade team was in first place overall, going into the finals round.

After a very intense and close final round, the fifth graders emerged in third place overall and the sixth graders earned first place overall in the Teamwork Challenge with their partner, the Manoa Green Tigers. By winning first place in the Teamwork Challenge, the sixth graders automatically secured a spot to compete at the Worlds Competition in Dallas, Texas in May. The sixth graders also brought home

the Design Award which recognizes a team's ability to demonstrate, implement and document the most effective and efficient robot design process in their engineering notebook.

#### Congratulations!

Fifth grade: Joycelin Riggen, Sage Langford, Mehana Peer, Charlie Daugherty, Harley Toki-Andrade, Kaleo Jorgensen Sixth grade: Eiden Acorda-Manmano, Kanui Young, Brian Tudor, Charlie Roberts, Noelle Velles-Lumoya, Kawena Nakai, Eli Johnson.

# Restoring the Heart of Waimea Valley: A Day of Volunteer Work in Hawaii's Forests

By Parker Powerll, Conservation Manager
Nestled on the North Shore of Oʻahu, Waimea Valley
stands as a testament to the natural beauty and cultural
significance of Hawaii. With its lush forests, majestic waterfall, and rich history, this valley has long been cherished
by locals and visitors alike. However, like many natural
areas around the world, Waimea Valley faces threats
from invasive species and human impact. In response, a
dedicated team of volunteers gathers regularly to engage
in forest restoration efforts on Kalāhe'e Ridge with our
Hui Hānai 'Āina program, ensuring the preservation of
this precious ecosystem for generations to come.

On a crisp morning, volunteers from all walks of life converge upon Waimea Valley, their enthusiasm noticeable as they prepare for a day of hands-on conservation work. Equipped with gloves and native plant seedlings, they embark on their mission to restore the valley's forests to their former glory. Guided by experts in conservation and native Hawaiian culture, they learn about the importance of biodiversity and the traditional practices that have sustained these lands for centuries.

Their tasks vary, from removing invasive species that choke out native vegetation, to planting indigenous and endemic trees, shrubs, and groundcovers that provide habitat for native wildlife. Plants utilized in this multi-storied forest canopy system include but are not limited to trees such as koa, 'ōhi'a, wiliwili, 'iliahi, and 'ohe makai, shrubs such as a'ali'i, naupaka kuahiwi, and ko'oko'olau, as well as groundcovers like 'ulei, pili grass, and the O'ahu sedge, Carex wahuensis. With each weed pulled and each seedling planted, the volunteers make a tangible difference in the health of the ecosystem. But more than just physical labor, their efforts symbolize a collective commitment to honoring and protecting the natural world.

As the day progresses, the volunteers forge bonds with one another, united by their shared love for the land and a desire to give back to their community. For many, this experience is not just about conservation; it's about connecting with the land and with one another in a meaningful way.

As the tasks for the day are completed, the volunteers gather once more to reflect on what was accomplished. Though weary from their exertions, their spirits are buoyed by a sense of pride and fulfillment. They have made a difference, however small, in the ongoing effort to protect Waimea Valley and all that it represents.

As they bid farewell to the valley, the volunteers carry with them memories of a day spent in service to something greater than themselves. And though their work may be ongoing, they depart with a renewed sense of purpose, knowing that their efforts have helped to ensure that Waimea Valley will continue to thrive for generations to come.

The next Hānai 'Āina volunteer opportunity will be

held Thursday, March 21, and each third Thursday of the month. For the summer season, you can catch additional Hānai 'Āina opportunities on third Saturdays of the month, May through September.

Sign up now! Volunteer spots for this special mauka activity are limited so go online soon and find Hānai 'Āina Conservation Workdays at waimeavalley.net/volunteer, or call our Volunteer and Special Events Coordinator, Michael Herrera, at 808-638-5855.



Volunteers at Waimea Valley



### **KAMA'ĀINA ANNUAL PASSES**

Individual (\$40), Family (\$80), and **Lifetime** (\$800) passes for kama'āina only! Visit the Ticket Booth to purchase; Family pass includes 2 adults and up to 6 children under age 18

### KŪHIŌ DAY **TUESDAY MARCH 26**

**FREE ADMISSION** for kamaʻāina all day long on Prince Kūhiō Day!



#### EASTER BRUNCH **SATURDAY MARCH 30**

Page 3

Enjoy a delicious, exclusive brunch menu by Ke Nui Kitchen: full menu and online booking coming soon at waimeavalley.net



## E KOMO MAI KAMA'ĀINA!



**FREE ADMISSION** for kama'āina and military keiki under age 12 every Wednesday; familyfriendly activities include lei making, ukulele classes, and much more!

### KAMA'ĀINA **THURSDAYS**

**FREE ADMISSION** for kamaʻāina every Thursday from 12 - 3 PM! Visit the Valley with your 'ohana, then enjoy the Hale'iwa Farmers' Market at the Pikake Pavilion, 2 - 6 PM

### LĀ 'OHANA **SUNDAYS**

Kama'āina enjoy 50% OFF **ADMISSION** on the third Sunday of every month; we hope you join us for the next Lā 'Ohana Day on Sunday March 17



**OPEN DAILY, 9 AM - 4 PM** Open 7 days a week starting March 4!

CALL: (808) 638-7766

@WAIMEAVALLEY



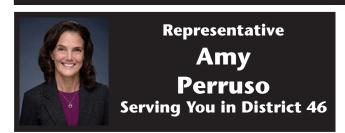


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### Steering the Legislative Course: Prioritizing Critical Bills in the 2024 Hawaii State House Session

As the 2024 session of the Hawaii State House unfolds, we find ourselves at a crossroads, facing a myriad of pressing issues that demand immediate attention and decisive action. Among the key priorities on the legislative agenda are several bills aimed at addressing critical social challenges and generating much-needed revenue to fund essential services.

There are some unwise measures moving over to the Senate from the House, as we approach crossover. HB2652 would extend the estate tax marital deduction to other family members; HB2653 would more than double the size of estates that can be passed down tax-free. These bills would give tax breaks to the top 0.2 of income earners in Hawai'i. I voted "no" on these bills because I believe that we should be making fiscally responsible choices that result in more revenue for the state and enhanced access to services.

Rather than widening the gap between the wealthy and the poor, we should use tax policy to create more equity and justice through vehicles like the capital gains tax and conveyance tax, addressed in HB1660 and HB 2364. The first would slightly increase the capital gains tax rate so that it is on par with ordinary income. The second is one of the most powerful powers the state has to check property speculation in the islands. I am in strong support of these measures because they would increase funding by making the wealthiest (many of whom do not live here but benefit from property investment) pay their fair share on passive income and real estate transactions. It is always a good time to tax the rich, but it is especially so now that we may be facing steeper budget shortfalls in light of the need for relief for survivors of the Maui wildfires.

These measures will generate significant revenue streams that can be directed towards funding vital programs and services, including those aimed at addressing the mental health crisis. With mental health issues on the rise and existing services stretched thin, the need for sustainable funding mechanisms for the work envisioned in HB 1831, aimed directly at supporting mental health support for our most vulnerable, has never been more urgent. Another measure, HB 1834, seeks to tackle the crisis of houselessness that plagues our communities. By allocating resources towards housing assistance

programs and supportive services, this bill aims to provide much-needed relief to those experiencing homelessness while laying the groundwork for long-term solutions. As we grapple with the human toll of houselessness, it is imperative that legislators prioritize initiatives like HB 1834 that offer tangible support and assistance to our most vulnerable residents. Finally, HB 1776 seeks to provide support to family members who selflessly devote themselves to caring for dependents in need. Whether it be children, elderly parents, or individuals with disabilities, caregivers play a vital role in our society, often at great personal sacrifice. HB 1776 recognizes the invaluable contributions of caregivers and seeks to alleviate some of the burdens they face by offering financial assistance and resources to support their efforts.

As we debate the merits of these critical bills must remain mindful of the broader implications for Hawaii's future. The decisions made in the hearing rooms and on the floor of the State House will not only shape the trajectory of our state but also reflect our values as a community. By prioritizing measures like those discussed above, we have the opportunity to enact meaningful change and create a more just and equitable society for all who call Hawaii home. In the face of daunting challenges and uncertain times, the 2024 session of the Hawaii State House offers a beacon of hope and possibility. As we navigate the legislative seas, please hold us accountable to our promises and principles, ensuring that we prioritize the needs of our communities and work towards a future defined by compassion, resilience, and opportunity for all.



Connecting with our community and environmental advocates, including Denise Antolini (North Shore Neighborhood Board), Lauren Blickley (Hawaii Regional Manager, Surfrider) and Arleen Velasco (Oahu Chair, Surfrider)

#### North Shore Neighborhood Board Meeting

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 26, 7pm at Waialua Elementary School Cafeteria







# The Kunia Orchid Show Is Blooming All Over... Again!

The 66th Kunia Orchid Show and Plant Sale will be held at the Leilehua High School Gymnasium on Friday, March 22nd and Saturday, 23rd from 9 am to 5 pm on Friday and 9 am to 4 pm on Saturday. Admission is free and there is plenty of available parking. The show features local orchid clubs showcasing their very best blooming specimens. Local plant vendors will be selling a selection of live orchid plants at reasonable prices. Educational sessions will cover general information on growing orchids, including optimum growth factors of water, light and fertilizer applications as well as the best types of orchid media for growing and transplanting. The Kunia Kountry Store will feature a wide variety of plants for home gardens as well as an array of useful gardening supplies. There will also be a selection of homemade baked goods and much more. The sales at various food booths on site will benefit the athletic department of Leilehua High School.

The Kunia Orchid Society was established in the early 1950s by workers in Kunia Village and Poamoho Camp. It began with 33 members who met in the district park in Wahiawa. Annual shows were held in the old Kunia Gym until Del Monte closed its doors for good in 2007. Fortunately for the Society, the annual show was able to continue in a new location, the Leilehua Gym in Wahiawa. The larger facility allowed more floral displays, and vendor booths. The Society continued to showcase prize-winning orchids and share knowledge of orchid culture for several more years until the pandemic forced a cancellation of the 66th Annual Show in 2020. Like many other nonprofit organizations, the Society switched to survival mode to weather the corona virus storm, unable to generate revenue through plant sales or, more importantly, to provide an enjoyable experience for orchid lovers in Hawaii. This year, what began amid the pineapple fields of Kunia and ran for 53 years along the dusty road to the old Kunia Gym before finding a new home at Leilehua High School in Wahiawa, the Annual Kunia Orchid Show and Plant Sale is back, stronger than ever! More information can be found at kuniaorchidsociety.org.

#### **Free Educational Sessions:**

11:00 am Friday 3/22 Orchids for Beginners 1:00 pm Friday 3/22 Hands-on Honohono Repotting 11:00 am Saturday 3/23 Orchids for Beginners 1:00 pm Saturday 3/23 Vanda Orchid Culture







# Councilmember Matt Weyer Serving You in District 2

Aloha Friends and Neighbors,

We are well into the budget season, which started at the beginning of March when Mayor Blangiardi submitted his proposed operating and capital budgets to the Council. The Council will continue to review and deliberate on the City's budget package until June. Please do not hesitate to reach out to our office if you have suggestions or proposals to incorporate into our City budget. The Administration's March 11 – 14 budget briefings, where each Department provides an overview of its proposed budget to the Council, can be viewed online: <a href="https://www.honolulucitycouncil.org/meetings">https://www.honolulucitycouncil.org/meetings</a>.

In addition to the City's budget processes, we also have some legislative updates to provide. The Council recently passed two proposed amendments to our City Charter that may be on the upcoming ballot in November if the Mayor opts to allow them. Resolution 23-162 would amend the City Charter to establish a Climate Resiliency Fund. This proposed amendment passed out of Council in January and would provide the City with additional flexibility to proactively address the foreseeable impacts of climate change. This fund would draw from existing property tax revenues, and will not require a concurrent increase in property tax rates. Resolution 23-239, which was co-introduced by Chair Waters and myself, passed out of Council in February and would establish minimum qualifications for the Director of Emergency Management in the City Charter. These proposed charter amendments will help to ensure that our City is prepared for the increasing challenges we will face with larger weather events and other natural disasters.

On February 29, we participated in a meeting with the O'ahu Invasive Species Committee, Maui Invasive Species Committee, and multiple City Departments and Offices. The meeting was follow up to Resolution 23-308, co-introduced by Vice Chair Kia' ina and myself and passed in January, to request an invasive species response plan from the Administration. Such a plan is important in light of the many city assets affected by invasive species and the need for a crossjurisdictional approach and collaboration between all levels of government.

I also want to say mahalo to the Petersons' Upland Farm. On Wednesday, February 29, 2024, at the full meeting of the Honolulu City Council, I had the privilege of presenting an Honorary Certificate to Petersons' Upland Farm to recognize and thank them and their employees for their decades of service to our

community. While they will no longer be providing eggs for the community, folks can still visit them for fertilizer, vegetables, and farm memorabilia.

As always, I hope that this update finds all of you well and feel free to reach out to me at (808)768-5002 or at <a href="mailto:mweyer@honolulu.gov">mweyer@honolulu.gov</a>.



Honolulu City Council Presenting an Honorary Certificate to Petersons' Upland Farm



### Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle Battle

By: Penny Nakamura

When Dawn and Jim Peerson of Pupukea hills walked around their property three months ago, they started noticing their once lush green palm fronds that blew in the breeze, were now just brown and fell to the ground with a thud.

"We didn't know what we were seeing at first, and by the time we realized it was the Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle (CRB), it was too late," said Peerson with a sigh, who ended up cutting down five out of her nearly two dozen palm trees. "You'll notice these horizontal cuts or holes where the rhino beetle is eating it, and once the crown of the tree is gone, it's too late to be saved. We're hoping our other palm trees which are being treated will survive."

Waimea Valley head horticulturist David Orr is alarmed by the devastation and havoc the CRB has caused in such a short time since it has migrated onto the North Shore.

"It's devastating. We've taken down several dozen native palm trees just in our valley here," said Orr, who says they've tried injecting their trees with a pesticide, hoping it will help save some of them. "We've also found that the rhinoceros beetle is starting to eat into banana trees and even heliconia."

The Department of Agriculture believes this invasive pest first landed on Oahu's shores in 2013, and it had been mainly seen in the Pearl Harbor area, but since then the CRB's populations have expanded towards the Waianae side of the island and now the North Shore.

The CRB task force on Oahu had gone from a hopeful total eradication of the invasive pest, to being so over run in the past decade, they're now just trying to control it.

"By looking at the CRB maps, and seeing the spread, we are looking at about forty to 50 percent of our palm trees being infected in these areas," said University of Hawaii Edible Crops Associate Extension Agent, Joshua Silva. "In Kahuku and Laie, it's a little less, as the CRB has fewer established populations, but it's about community awareness, so we can hopefully control its spread."

Silva says CRB has spread to neighbor islands. "Last year CRB was found in Maui and on the Big Island, and so far, they've been able to contain it, meaning the CRB hasn't established itself, so in that case, we may be able to eradicate it there," said Silva. "But here and on Kauai, it's in multiple locations, so we are probably beyond being able to eradicate the CRB, and now we're just trying to control it."

Some local farmers are urging the state to call a state of emergency, in getting extra funding to help control the CRB.

"I've seen farmers who have the CRB in their taro patches, and even in a zucchini crop," said Sil-

va. "It's very alarming and a real wake-up call to all of us."

University of Hawaii researchers are testing some naturally occurring fungi that are in the island's soil, that appears to be toxic to the CRB's larvae. "We know that CRB is spreading. The CRB loves moist wet mulch piles to lay their eggs, which turn into larvae, and that maturation process is about five months," explained Silva. "We are urging people to check their mulch piles, and if they have an infected tree that cannot be saved, they need to be chopped down."

As for mitigation efforts, some pesticides do work but for fruiting trees it may be a few cycles before the fruit can be safely eaten.

Silva says they've had some success with essential oils like eucalyptus oils, and even using fine netting on the trees and over mulch piles.

"The main issue with injecting pesticides or drenching the tree is that it could kill the bees, when a fruiting tree is flowering," said Silva. "I think the take home message, is that as a community we need to be vigilant, right now we have limited options against the CRB, and it may seem like dark times as we cut down infected trees, but we need to stop it from spreading. This needs to be a community effort."

Dawn Peerson, says she looks around the swaying palm trees not only in her yard, but also all over the island, and wonders aloud, "Can you even imagine our landscape, without these beautiful palm trees?"

If you suspect you have an infected palm, or fruit tree please call the CRB hotline at (808)643-PEST or for more information crbhawaii.org.



Signs of boring and damage on a local palm due to the Coconut Rhinoceros beetle (Image courtesy of the Hawai'i Department of Agriculture)



### Dear Doctor, "What can we do about the childhood obesity problem?"

Unfortunately, you're right - the childhood and adolescent overweight/obesity problem is worsening locally as well as across the United States. Since the 1960s, the rate of overweight/obesity in children and adolescents has increased from 5 to 19 percent nationally! The COVID-19 pandemic also didn't help, as the increase in body mass index (BMI) doubled during that period versus the pre-pandemic rate. Having an elevated BMI as a child or adolescent increases a child's short and long-term health risks for such conditions as high blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes type 2, and fatty liver disease.

Weight management, for adults as well as children/adolescents, isn't easy. Reducing sedentary time, especially with electronics (e.g., cell phones, tablets), to the recommended one hour/day is helpful. Incorporating at least 60 minutes of moderate activity a day is also beneficial. Ideally, some of this exercise time occurs during the school day. Skipping breakfast has also been found to be associated with a higher BMI, so ensuring your children/adolescents eat something before school is also a great idea!

Studies have shown that for a weight management program to be effective at assisting a child/adolescent with weight loss, it must be at least 2-12 months long for at least 26 total hours. In Hawai'i, the only program that meets this criteria and accepts children/adolescents is the Hawaii Pacific Health Healthy Together program. This program accepts children ages 6 to 13, has an associated cost, and requires a referral from your primary care provider.

Obesity is a complex condition that, for children and adolescents, requires a team-based approach with primary care. If you have any concerns about your child/adolescent's weight, please let us know how we can help!

Dr. Nash Witten is a Board Certified Family Medicine physician at the Queen's Health Care Centers Hale'iwa, located at 66-125 Kamehameha Hwy., Haleiwa, HI 96712. The clinic is accepting new patients, call 808-691-8501 to schedule an appointment. Submit questions to the doctors at <a href="mailto:nsnaskthedoctor@gmail.com">nsnaskthedoctor@gmail.com</a>.

# Kahuku Community Association

By: Sunny Unga, KCA President

Aloha!

The Kahuku Community Association kicked off 2024 with tremendous energy and enthusiasm, eager to share the latest developments to our Ko`olauloa and North Shore communities.

On January 16th, KCA had the privilege of hosting a pivotal community meeting with Mayor Blagiardi and his team, focusing on the Recreation Center and Pool Project at Kahuku District Park. Mayor Blangiardi himself graced the event, joined by city offcials, eager to engage with our community to hear our input on this project. During the meeting, Mayor Blagiardi reiterated his steadfast commitment to turning this vision into reality for our Ko'olauloa and North Shore community. With \$1.5 million in funding allocated from the City last year, and a pledge from AES to match these funds up to \$4 million, substantial progress is already underway. This support will facilitate the planning and design phase, ensuring attention to detail in architectural plans, engineering, and environmental assessments, thereby ensuring the creation of a sustainable and successful pool facility. The tremendous turnout of over 100 community members underscores the importance of active community engagement in shaping the future of our recreational spaces. This meeting marks just the beginning of a series of community meetings as we collectively chart the course for the long-awaited Recreation Center and Pool for our communities.

Additionally, KCA has been diligently working towards finding a way to complete the bike path in Kahuku. We are pleased to announce that much progress has been made as we recently teamed up with the North Shore Community Land Trust. We are currently seeking support from DOE schools and various community organizations to bolster our efforts in securing grant funding for this crucial project. The completion of the bike path holds immense promise, offering safer routes to school and enhancing connectivity within our communities.

Lastly, we wish to draw your attention to the upcoming expiration of the lease for A1 and A3 parcels for Kahuku Military Training in 2029. The military is currently in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process and a public comment period will soon follow. We urge our community members to participate actively, providing invaluable input regarding the renewal of these leases, ensuring our voices are heard.

We invite you to our 2nd annual Easter Egg Hunt at Kahuku District Park on Saturday March 16th at 8:30 am (Keiki ages 2-10) and to our upcoming KCA General Membership Meeting on Tuesday March 19th, at Kahuku Elementary School Cafeteria. Your presence and participation are highly encouraged as we continue our journey of community empowerment and progress.

#### Kahuku Community Association General Membership Meeting

Tuesday, March 19, 6:30pm Kahuku Elementary Cafeteria





### CHAMBER CHAMPION NORTH SHORE TREASURE

When Marianne Abrigo first arrived on the North Shore of Oahu as a young woman, she began a life journey that touched and enriched countless lives.

Understanding the importance of businesses in a small town working together to grow and thrive, Marianne joined the North Shore Chamber of Commerce's Board of Directors in its infancy. She served over 20 years, until 2 years ago, when her husbands failing health required more of her time.

Marianne was known on the Chamber Board as a source of thoughtfulness and reason no matter how touchy or politically charged the issue might be. Her enthusiastic approach, cheerful nature and good humor went a long way in bringing people together.

Whether it was chairing our annual Christmas Party Committee, anchoring one end of the Chamber of Commerce banner in the Christmas Parade, working on Committees advocating for North Shore community concerns or advocating for local businesses, Marianne embodied the true spirit of service and selflessness.

Her legacy will live on in the countless lives she touched, the example she set for young businesspeople in the community and the many happy homeowners she helped to realize their North Shore dreams through her Real Estate business.

We mourn Marianne's passing but also celebrate what she leaves behind. We are thankful for her civility, kindness, friendship and unwavering dedication to make the North Shore Chamber of Commerce and the North Shore of Oahu a better place for all.

Rest in Peace, Marianne. You will continue to shine brightly in the hearts of all who were fortunate enough to share a part of your life.



Our Farm store is open every weekend providing Fresh, Local, Cage-Free Eggs to the North Shore Community.

Mahalo for your support!

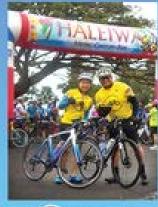
65-1001 Kaukonahua Rd.

Fri/Sat/Sun: 9am-6pm













# Finding Common Ground at the Beach? An Unusual Collaboration Supports Legislation To Address North Shore Beach Erosion Challenges

By Richard Sterman and Denise Antolini

Dear NSN Readers,

Did you ever imagine you would see an article co-written by the two of us? Richard is a realtor and a director of the Shoreline Preservation Coalition, a private homeowner group. Denise is an environmental attorney and retired law professor. We have quite different views on development issues on the North Shore. We may even disagree about the science, law, and policy issues involving shoreline issues.

Richard's view: "If we just let the beachfront homes fall in or be moved by "managed retreat" to the mountains – who will actually manage the beachfronts? If we allow the fragile sand dunes to erode away - all the properties behind them are also going to be threatened. Then when the erosion finally hits the highway - what will the State do? They will do what they did in Ka'a'awa and Punalu'u, drop vertical bags of rock - creating vertical sea-walls. That's not a solution. We need to do better."

Denise's view: "Our beaches belong to the public and are held in trust by government for the public use and enjoyment as well as their ecological values. As North Shore beaches erode, many beachfront homes and in-ground wastewater systems will be undermined and have to be relocated for public safety and to allow the possibility of future beach restoration. Hardening of the shoreline is no longer permitted by State law and can damage the beach and lateral owners. No one wished this disaster to happen but it is the harsh reality we are facing. We need creative solutions."

Wow! Different views. Is there any room for common ground? Maybe.

We both share a deep love for the Sunset/Kammies shoreline, a beach where we have raised our families – although we ran in different circles, we shared decades of enjoyment of this beautiful dynamic shoreline with our long-time friends and community. Our aloha for the place we live and our commitment to a strong community has led us to try to find common ground. And - perhaps we have.

The first time we started to collaborate was in August 2023 when a loosely organized group of people who love Kammies -- and were fed up with the gross littering of the shoreline with loose "burrito" (black fabric) debris in the shoreline -- showed up, on short notice, to clean up of the beach. The deteriorated fabric/burritos and sand bags from

"shoreline erosion measures" that had been given emergency permits by the State (but are no longer legal) had created a shocking unsightly mess on this pristine stretch of beach. Plastic and fabric was spilling into the shoreline, wrapping around the reef, and creating an unreal safety hazard to surfers and beach goers.

On the morning of August 1, and again on August 2, 2023, we were part of a small but hardy group that gathered on Kammies beach – armed only with kitchen knives and box knives — to (legally) cut and remove the loose fabric remnants littering the public beach. Intact "tarps and blankets" were left in place. The group took out so much loose debris that four pickup truck loads went to the dump!

For us, that joint effort -- working side by side with new and old friends, sweating in the sun, hoisting chunks of heavy wet fabric up the steep beach, watching for rising surf, rolling and loading up the debris into the truck – led to real conversations about what was happening to our beloved beach.



Ke Nui resident Steve Albert hauls away burrito debris during community clean up Photo: Denise Antolini

While slicing away ripped embedded fabric, our group shared our diverse views on the fate of the beachfront homes, the challenges of removing the expired "erosion control systems," the risks of old sea walls, embedded lumber, concrete in the sand, exposed and ripped sand bags, and other emergency measure that many homeowners along this stretch have installed – some legal, some not – out of desperation to protect their beachfront homes.

Watching for low tides and swells that exposed more debris, the group -- which included several beach front homeowners, ardent conservationists, regular community members, and random friends -- conducted two more beach "burrito debris" clean ups, on August 30, 2023 and most recently on January 27, 2024. More side-by-side work, salt and sweat (and a bit of swearing), more conversation, more understanding, led to our second major collaboration now underway: a legislative solution.

In early January 2024, as the State Legislative Session loomed, we (and our very different "networks" -- Richard coordinates with a group of beachfront homeowners and Denise coordinates with environmental non-profits like Surfrider Foundation) started to discuss the option of reviving an old bill proposing a "North Shore Beach Management Plan," a bill had been introduced ten years ago - in 2014 by Senator Clayton Hee, and then in 2015 and 2016 by Senator Gil Riviere. The bill had almost passed but ultimately failed each of those years.

We tried to put aside our disagreements and acknowledged that good solutions were absent for addressing shoreline erosion and options for homeowners. We both were highly aware that the State Department of Land and Natural Resources was starting to crack down hard on unpermitted "erosion control" systems (burritos, sea walls, sand bags). In the past few months, the Board of Land and Natural Resources has imposed fines on four (non-resident) beachfront homeowners along Kammies – three of these fines are nearly \$1 million – and the State has ordered several other "removal" actions. We concluded that reintroducing the bill as a proactive approach was worth a shot. Representative Sean Quinlan graciously introduced the bill as HB2248.

Thanks to support from beachfront homeowners, conservation leaders, and others in our community, the bill has passed the House through three committees and will soon go through hearings in the Senate!

What does the bill do? HB2248 HD1 proposes an action plan – not just a "study" -- to be led by the University of Hawai'i Sea Grant Program to develop a north shore beach management and climate adaptation plan for the area from Sunset point to the Kapo'o (Sharks Cove) area. The goal is to come up with a range of real-world options for government,

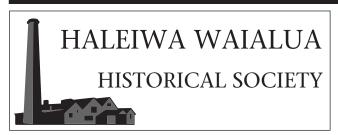


Beachfront property falls due to shoreline erosion Photo: Richard Sterman

homeowners, and the beach that can be refined, funded, and implemented in the near future. You can read the bill here: <a href="https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session/measure\_indiv.aspx?billtype=HB&billnumber=2248&year=2024">https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session/measure\_indiv.aspx?billtype=HB&billnumber=2248&year=2024</a>

What are the solutions? We might disagree on the solutions we ultimately would prefer but we agree that the time to get that solutions defined and vetted is now! If HB2248 passes the Senate, Sea Grant can commence the planning process in 2024-2025. Unfortunately, that is not soon enough to avoid more damage to homes and the beach, and sadly, actual implementation may take years after the plan is completed, but do we have a better choice? Collaboration is key.

Please join with us in supporting HB2248! Email your mahalo to Representative Sean Quinlan - repquinlan@capitol.hawaii.gov - and ask Senator Brenton Awa - SenAwa@capitol.hawaii.gov - to support passage of the bill in the Senate. When the time comes, please submit testimony in support for Senate hearings – you can track the bill at the link above or email us to join our alert list (Richard@Sterman.com and antolinid@gmail.com). With your help, we can find some common ground - and heck, we all might even make some new "unusual" friendships in our community!



#### **Waialua's Agriculture History -Before Sugar**

By Boyd Ready

To keep the country, country, we must have agriculture. The latest USDA statistics for Hawaii show fewer farms, and an average net profit of only \$27,000 per year: hardly a living wage. Difficulties for agriculture are not new. War, epidemics, international economics, invasive species, shipping, and oppressive outside political control are part of Waialua's agricultural history.

Waialua in the 1780s had about 8,000 residents and was a rich source of food: kalo, sweet potato, banana, breadfruit, reef and pelagic fish, fishpond mullet and milkfish, domestic animals (pig, dog, & chicken), and freshwater shrimp. Warfare interfered with agriculture during the Kahekili (Maui) and Kamehameha (Hawaii) battles. Once a war chief had all Oahu's pigs killed so people would be too busy looking for food to revolt while the chief was away fighting. Ten to fifteen thousand warriors newly settled in Oahu created food scarcity. So, terraces and water ditches for kalo lo'i were further up the streams, including the Anahulu.

The ali'i demand for sailing ships, hardware, and imports led to the 30-year exploitation of 'iliahi the forest sandalwood, in a brisk China trade. The numerous, new ali'i expected food and sandalwood, but the scarcity of food in the mountains during weeks of logging meant hardship. Yet large quantities of pork, kalo, and sweet potato demanded by rulers were still being carried to Honolulu.

Cattle, goats, and sheep, without fences, relentlessly destroyed kuleana farm plots. Harm to the cattle, owned by foreigners and some ali'i, meant a fine. Food became scarce. Teams of oxen dragged stones to build miles of walls to protect kuleanas. The practice created skills for handling oxen so the upland fields could be plowed for cash crops. The whaling trade and the California gold rush demanded pork, beef, potato, and other goods. But the gold rush demand ended by 1852, then the whaling trade fizzled out.

Horrific epidemics of measles, other deadly, unknown plagues, and then smallpox struck, killing many. Working men joined whaling ships, or emigrated to Sutters Mill and other mainland plantations, and never came back. Cattle sold for almost nothing as the meat could not be sold, so people produced hides, and collected the 'pulu' fibers from forest hapu'u fern, for mattresses, and gathered the black culinary mushroom, pepeiao akua, in the forests. Waialua's

population steadily plummeted down to only 1,200 people in the 1860s.

Beginning in the 1850s, Chinese immigrants began planting idle kalo wetlands with rice. The population began to grow. By the 1870s Waialua was the third largest rice producer on Oahu. In the 1880s Japanese immigrants, preferring different, short-grain rice, was imported cheaply from mechanized California farms. Waialua's rice wetlands gradually changed to 'hasu.' or lotus root.

Waialua today has suffered a pandemic. Workers emigrate to the mainland. Invasive species attack our plants. Market forces closed the 10,000-acre sugar plantation. Wildfires and ag theft appear unstoppable. Waialua must be innovative and resourceful to 'keep the country country' with sustainable agriculture. Farms need more than \$27,000 net profit in a year to survive! How they are doing it will be a story for another day.

For more information about the Historical Society or to schedule a walking tour, contact Antya Miller at 808-342-8557 or email <a href="mailto:info@waialuahistoricalsociety.org">info@waialuahistoricalsociety.org</a>



Hasu (lotus) rhizomes



Yoke of oxen









### BANZAI NORTH SHORE WIRELESS

#### ISA ADDS TWO NEW COUNTRIES

The International Surfing Association, the leader in Olympic qualifications, added two countries to the roster of 113 member countries. The new members from three continents are Kuwait, Romania and the British Virgin Islands. These countries are nontraditional surfing nations and just show the reach of surfing around the world. Engaging people who love the ocean and nature is a great sign of our global neighbors' protection of earth. Surfers are notorious in working towards having a healthy planet and healthy humans!

### BARRON MAMIYA NORTH SHORE'S NEWEST STAR, "THE KING OF PIPELINE"

It was a while ago but not to be forgotten, ever! In the eyes of the North Shore Barron Mamiya, 24,is the next World Champ. The Lexus Pipe Pro was a display of genius by Mamiya. Dubbed here as the "King of Pipeline". As we have our Queen already. It was a battle between John John Florence and Mamiya in the final. Mamiya had strong scores all the way through the event. A 9.77, 9.07, a 8.5 and in the final he scored a perfect 10 with a total of 16 just topping Florence's 15.33. Pipeline was perfect all day and in the end being carried up the beach by the "local boys" was a dream. "I can't believe I was in the barrel and I can't believe I came out," he said after. "Without all the guys before me, JOB, JJ and Derek Ho I would not be where I am today." Mamiya went into the next event at Sunset wearing the yellow jersey as the number one seed. He was 17th in the event and continues on tour in 17th place. The tour goes to Portugal in March.

#### RELL SUNN MENEHUNE CONTEST IN MAKAHA

Makaha will be the site of the Rell Sunn 45th Annual Menehune Championships. The dates are March 30th and 31st. The event was first started to battle juvenile delinquency and educate the kids and public about the dangers of the sun. It continues to teach the keiki about sportsmanship and the environment in the name of Rell Sunn who passed on due to cancer in January 1998. Sunn was one of the greatest ambassadors of surfing. Her contributions and her aloha spirit were world renowned. She was also one of the groups who started the Menehune event in Haleiwa. Keiki 12 and under are able to surf in the event and the public is invited!! Check out the

foundation:

https://www.rellsunn.com/rell\_sunn/rell.htm

### BRAZIL WINS THE ISA WORLD TITLE IN PUERTO RICO

In great waves in Arecibo, Puerto Rico, Team Brazil took top honors and the gold medal at the games. In second place was France and Australia was third, Spain 4th. The U.S.A. placed a surprising 8th overall. Gabriel Medina and Sally Fitzgibbons were the individual gold winners. Caroline Marks, USA, beat out our Gold Medalist, Carissa Moore, 8th overall and Kauli Vaast from France beat out our John John Florence, 13th overall. The Olympics will be in French Polynesia at Teahupo'o July 27th-August 5th. For a full list of qualifying surfers, results and more head the International Surfing Association website!



World Champ Marks took out 4 Time World Champ Moore at the ISA Games. Photo: @banzaibetty

Waialua Bandstand
Presents

Time Travelers

Sponsor: The Brown Bottle

Sunday, April 7th
4pm - 5pm

Bring your lawn chairs and enjoy the show!

## The KMC Dental Clinic Welcomes Dr. Pono Kelly

By: Emarie Majors

Kahuku Medical Center (KMC) stands as a pillar of quality healthcare for the North Shore community. Among its dedicated team, the recent addition of Dr. Pono Kelly to the dental department has brought a renewed sense of commitment to oral health services.

As one of the five dentists at KMC, Dr. Kelly's primary role revolves around delivering comprehensive dental care to patients in need. From routine check-ups to surgical procedures, his expertise encompasses a wide spectrum of dental services. Driven by a passion for alleviating pain and addressing emergencies, he tirelessly strives to ensure every patient receives the highest quality of care.

Dr. Kelly's journey to dentistry is unique. Initially, his career field was in counseling, but the high cost of living in Hawaii prompted him to seek a career change in 2003. After considering different healthcare paths, an encounter with a friend pursuing dentistry sparked his interest. Following his friend's advice to shadow a dentist, Dr. Kelly found his calling. Now, after twelve years of relentless pursuit, he offers dental expertise at KMC.

Since joining the team in November 2023, Dr. Kelly has seamlessly integrated into the KMC community and culture. He has a strong sense of camaraderie and treats patients not merely as individuals but as cherished members of a family. Dr. Kelly's commitment to patient care was recently highlighted when he collaborated with fellow dentist, Dr. Swaja, to provide a prompt and difficult treatment to a patient in pain, exemplifying the team's dedication to going above and beyond for those in need. The patient didn't end up needing to be referred to an oral surgeon and found quality care in Kahuku.

Beyond clinical excellence, Dr. Kelly and his team actively engage with the community through initiatives such as educational outreach programs, and collaborations with the medical department to ensure holistic patient care. They are committed to staying abreast of the latest advancements in dental technology and providing state-of-the-art services.

When asked about his motivation, Dr. Kelly's response reflects the principles of KMC: "Every day I come into work, I know I'm going to be working with a great team; they are all positive and willing to help in any way. We're more like 'ohana' here." Indeed, at KMC, the foundation of treating patients like family resonates through every aspect of Dr. Kelly's care as he embodies the motto: Friends and family taking care of friends and family.





Dr. Pono Kelly, with Mark Shepardson, Peja Jones and Rebekah August Photo: Malibu



Saturdays 8:30-1pm
Behind the Old Waialua Sugar Mill
~ Now vendor operated ~

Events posted on new Instagram & TikTok

Easter Bunny & Easter egg hunt 3/30/24 at 10:00am



#### Saturday Mornings: Keeping the Tradition Alive

By Jennifer Garcia

Who doesn't love a good farmers market? The fresh fruits and veggies, handmade artisans, and familiar faces keep a community united and thriving. The Waialua Farmers Market was established in 1996 under the Waialua Farmers Cooperative. With the Ohana Farm projects underway, the cooperative no longer has a need for a farmers market. However, since it is such a pillar in our small community, the vendors convened to keep the market going. It is now the very first vendor-run farmers market on Oahu! We are 26 vendors offering fresh local grown produce, handmade arts and jewelries, pastries and prepared foods and we continue to grow.

Throughout the years, our community has played a big part in our market. We look forward to the Saturday meet and seeing our regulars buy their goods. The local artisans and farmers are inspired by the feedback and happy faces that locals and tourists bring. We are thankful and appreciative of your support and making us part of your Saturday; you keep us going!

Some families have made it a tradition to come to the market on Saturdays. Like Sara's family with three generations of farmers market customers. Her late parents used to come every Saturday. Her dad would buy fruits and vegetables while her mom shopped for jewelry. Sara is keeping the tradition

alive bringing her children and grandchildren to the Saturday market.

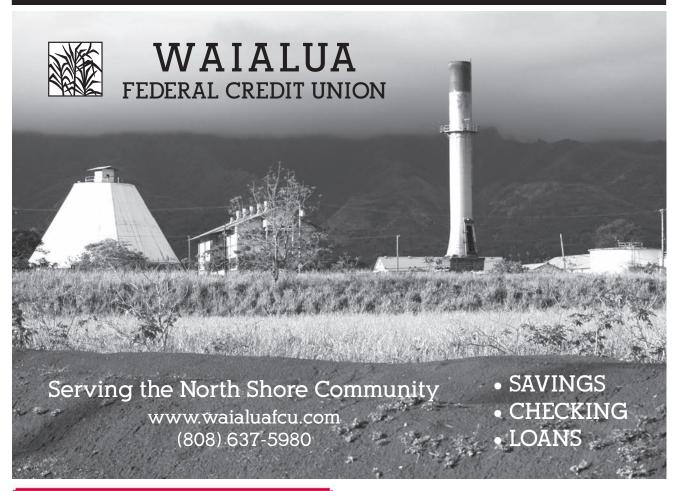
#### MEET SOME VENDORS

Aunty Betty Medrano has been in the market since its inception. She grows okra, eggplant, taro, dragonfruit and yuca root. Her brother-in-law that used to work for the cane industry gave her the farm when he retired. Both she and her husband are actively working the farm in their golden years. "This market has brought so much to our family. The impact of shopping small cannot be measured."

Kyler Nakashima of Hu'ihu'iehukai Farms grows organic produce including but not limited to salad mix, microgreens, different varieties of radish, and fun seasonal produce. He's been a farmer for four years, Agpro graduate and 3rd year Go Farm incubator program. "Thank you, community for being a part of the movement to make Hawaii food independent again."

Jen Schultze Art is a local artist that produces artwork including prints, stickers, jewelry and bags. "Thank you for choosing the small businesses. It is great to see people come out and support real people in their community."

Mahalo nui community, because of your support we are still here.





67-068 Kealohanui St, Waialua, HI 96791 FriendsofWaialuaLibrary@gmail.com 808-637-8286

#### **Writers' Group**

Thursday, April 11, 9:30-11am Topic: "Loving This Time of Year"

#### Readers' Group

Thursday, March 28, 9:30-11am "Light in August" by Wm. Faulkner

#### **Computer Introduction**

by appointment - 808-637-8286

#### **Family Story Time & Activity**

Every Saturday, 10:00am

#### **Used Book Sale**

Saturdays 3/16 & 4/20, 8:30am-12:30pm Weather Permitting

Closures: Tues. 3/26 (Kuhio Day) Fri. 3/29 (Good Friday)



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# 6th Ko'olauloa Battle of the Books Sat, April 6, 2024 Turtle Bay General Audience 3:15pm - 5:45pm

Young Me Tai Chi (on back lanai)- Tues, 5:30pm

Pre-K Story Time w/ Aunty Karina - every Wed, 10am

Pre-K Play Time - Mon, Apr 15th and 22nd, 10am

LEGO Free Play - Wed, Apr 17th, 24th, 2pm - 4pm

Kūpuna Hour - Thur, Apr 11th, 25th, 10am - GAMES

Movie: Next Goal Wins (PG-13) - Tues, Apr 16th, 5pm

Movie: Migration (PG) - Tues, Apr 23rd, 5pm

Book Donations - Fri, Apr 26th, 10am

Book Club - Mon, Apr 29th, 1:30pm - *Small Mercies*by Dennis Lehane





AARP Tax Services on Thursdays 9am-1pm, sign up day of

#### North Shore Service Center

2nd Wednesday of each month at Waialua Community Association (Hale'iwa Gym) Wednesday, March 13 10am - 1pm Wednesday, April 10 10am - 1pm

A gathering place for providers to help people in need of assistance. Please join us, ALL are welcome! Providers include: Institute for Human Services, North Shore Food Bank, River of Life Mission, Education for Homeless Children and Youth, Kealahou West-Oahu, Narcotics Anonymous Hale'iwa, HFB-SNAP Outreach, Legal Aid and

For more information or to join us as a provider call Linda at 808-780-8037

more...

North Shore News



#### 2024 Schedule

-	PUBLICATION DATE	<b>EDITION</b>	DEADLINE DATE
	April 10	4	March 29
-	May 8	5	April 26
	June 5	6	May 24
	July 3	7	June 21
	July 31	8	July 19
	August 28	9	August 16
	September 25	10	September 13
	October 23	11	October 11
	November 20	12	November 8
	December 18	13	December 6

#### $\mathbf{MOKULEIA} \cdot \mathbf{WAIALUA} \cdot \mathbf{HALE'IWA} \cdot \mathbf{KAHUKU} \cdot \mathbf{LAIE}$

The North Shore News is published every 4 weeks and available at area businesses including Waialua, Kahuku and Wahiawa libraries.

The North Shore News is also available for free in color by email or by mail subscription please contact us. Mahalo for your continued support!

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DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
WAIALUA COMPLEX COMMUNITY EVENT AT
SUNSET BEACH NEIGHBORHOOD PARK

### Easter



Free Family Event
Wednesday, March 27, 2024
1:00 p - 3:00 p

Easter Egg-Hunt 1:30 p - 2:15 pEaster Race 2:30 p - 2:45 pTake a free picture with the Easter Bunny 2:00 p - 3:00 pVolunteers are needed.
For more information, please call 638-7213



### NORTH SHORE FOOD BANK

IG:@nsfoodbank Sponsors: Hawaii Food Bank & Aloha Harvest

#### **DISTRIBUTION UPDATE**

3rd Wednesday of the Month at Kaiaka Bay Beach Park

Wednesday, March 20, 12 noon

Wednesday, April 17, 12 noon

Wednesday, May 15, 12 noon

Wednesday, June 19, 12 noon



For more information and donations contact : Linda (808) 780-8037





The North Shore News is published every four weeks and available at area businesses and locations. Digital copies are emailed in color. The North Shore News is also available by mail subscription.

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Downtown General Store

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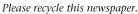
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Letters to the Editor, and other items submitted for publication consideration may be sent to us via:

MAIL: P.O. Box 117, Hale'iwa, HI 96712 E-MAIL: NSNHaleiwa@gmail.com NSN4Linda@gmail.com PHONE: (808) 780-8037 www.northshorenews.com





Next Issue - April 10, 2024 Deadline Date - March 29, 2024

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#### Miscellaneous

North Shore Food Bank IG @nsfoodbank

#### 2024 Sound the Alarm Program

The Red Cross' yearly effort to install smoke detectors in homes for FREE. For information call: 808-739-8111

#### Help Restore Loko Ea

Community Workdays VOLUNTEER Every 3rd Saturday 3/16 & 4/20 Lunch Provided Register at Lokoea.org

Wanted: Food Trucks, Food Vendors, and Farmers to join our Tuesday night events in Waialua. For info call 609-576-5045

## ALOHA Desiree Kuulei Crawford-Bonner, age 55. left us on 01/03/24.

Survived by, Miranda
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Samuel Crawford, and
Donnavan Crawford.
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North Shore Serenity Al-Anon Family Group meets 6:30-7:30 pm Wednesdays at St. Michael's Church, Outreach Room, 67-340 Haona St, Waialua, 96791. Participants may also attend virtually via Zoom #84783266578 Password 809980. Open to anyone who believes his or her life may have been affected by someone else's drinking. More information at www.al-anonhawaii.org; or by calling 808-546-5647

#### Hawai'i Statewide Marine Animal Stranding, Entanglement, and Reporting Hotline

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#### **Random Thought:**

When everyone thinks alike, nobody thinks very much. - Author Unknown

### Kahuku Public & School Library

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For more information: www.lokoea.org | 808-637-3232 | info@lokoea.org



### HIGH SCHOOL

SPRING BREAK PROGRAM



---- March 19-21, 2024 ----



### Kilo and kaiaulu

During Spring Break, high school students participate in our Nā Pili Wai program which gives them a peek into the ahupua'a system and introduces them to ways they can support the kaiāulu (community).





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### Loko i'a restoration

Haumāna explore and examine Loko ea and community-based programs steeped in aloha 'āina while learning and enveloping themselves in mālama 'āina. Our focus will be on how we can enhance our kaiāulu through fishpond restoration.



### Camp under the stars

Enjoy Loko ea like no other, in the serenity of the evening as we take a deeper look into the space at night. Camping out to kilo (observe) things that don't happen during the day.





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This is a FREE program of the Mālama Loko Ea Foundation with generous financial support from Kamehameha Schools



#### NĀ PILI WAI SUMMER PROGRAM AT LOKO EA



The Nā Pili Wai program focuses on the bridging of waters and people from different spaces to build pilina to 'āina in Kawailoa. Mālama Loko Ea Foundation offers K-8 grade sessions for different age groups. Through immersive hands-on experiences, keiki will get to learn more in depth about Loko ea and food sustainability in our community. Join us this summer!



Learn