Fed Government Shutdown of Volcanoes Hurts Kaʻū Economy

Much of Hawai‘i Volcanoes National Park shut down for more than three days in January, when Congress failed to fund the federal government, leading to lost revenue in the local economy. Another shutdown looms on Feb. 8, when the continuing resolution that reopened the government expires, unless more funding is approved in Congress.

The park closed its main gate in the wee hours of Saturday, Jan. 20, and directed Volcano House accommodations, restaurant and stores, Volcano Art Center Gallery, and all Kilauea Military Camp facilities to start shutting down.

When the park reopened Tuesday, Jan. 23, Park Superintendent Cindy Orlando said, “We appreciate the support and patience of our community, visitors, and our partners. Our employees are happy to be back at work, serving the American people and welcoming visitors to their national parks. We are a proud member of our community, and contribute nearly $200 million to the local economy annually.”

The 2017 report on financial contribution to the community surrounding Hawai‘i Volcanoes National Park stated that in 2016, the number of visitors to the park reached 1,887,580. Visitors to the park spent $159,195,500 in community expenditures

Kāwā Stewardship is Community Based and Welcoming

Community members are welcomed to Kāwā to join Ka‘ū-based, non-profit Nā Mamo o Kāwā, in weekend workdays beginning Saturday, Feb. 10, at 9:30 a.m. Open to people of all ages, the workdays, the second weekend of each month, continue stewardship efforts at Kāwā, the county-owned land between Punahuʻu and Honuʻapo, which has long been a site popular for surfing, walking, fishing, and recognition of significant archaeological sites. The land was purchased by the county from the Edmund C. Olson Trust, who bought it from a development group and held it while money was raised to put it into public stewardship.

Nā Mamo o Kāwā - translated as the Kāwā Stewardship, pg. 3

Officials Promise to Remedy Risk of False Missile Alerts

Public officials - from Gov. David Ige to members of Congress and the Hawai‘i Legislature - have promised to remedy conditions that led to a false incoming nuclear missile alert that scared Ka‘ū residents and people statewide on Saturday, Jan. 13.

Suggestions have included letting military and federal agencies handle alerts - as they are the entities that detect and verify any incoming missiles - to standardizing the protocol in every state, with safeguards and quick response mechanisms to correct false alarms.

At 8:07 a.m., the alarm blared over cell

Missile Alert, pg. 2

Kanuha Brings County Concerns to State Legislature

Hawai‘i State Association of Counties took its wish list to the opening of the Hawai‘i Legislature in January, hosting a briefing for legislators statewide. HSAC is led by Hawai‘i County Council member Dru Kanuha, who is running for state Senate to represent west Ka‘ū into Kona.

Kanuha said funding for affordable housing is sought through setting aside a small percentage of the state conveyance tax revenue. The money would go to each county’s affordable housing fund to increase the supply of affordable housing units. The conveyance tax is levied when real estate is sold from one entity to another.

HSAC will also continue to advocate for a fairer share of the transient accommodations tax, also known as hotel tax, or TAT. The TAT was raised on Jan. 1, 2018, by a full percentage point, with all of the additional income earmarked for the rail system on O‘ahu. HSAC’s bill mirrors recommendations made by the State-County Functions Working Group to the Legislature to provide a 55-45 percent split of TAT revenue between state and counties.

Kanuha said HSAC also urges legislators to restore legal immunity for county lifeguards, which was taken away during the last legislative session. The counties seek to ensure civil liability protection for county lifeguards against frivolous lawsuits - a benefit provided to state lifeguards.

Additional funding for ambulance service for Hawai‘i and Kaua‘i Counties is also on the HSAC agenda for the legislators. All the counties agree to support the ambulance funding for this island and Kaua‘i.

Another initiative would incentivize the installation of fire suppression systems in one and two-unit housing, not just condominium and apartment buildings.

Photo by Janice Wei/NPS

Photo by Nālani Parlin

Students gather at Kāwā for a workday mentored by Nā Mamo o Kāwā, the local-based non-profit that partners with the County of Hawai‘i in stewarding 15 acres of 775 Kāwā acres preserved along the Ka‘ū Coast. The next community workday is Saturday, Feb. 10.

More in this issue:


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Chin Wants Banks to Handle Legal Marijuana Money

Allowing banks to legally accept money from marijuana businesses, in states where they are legal, is the goal of Hawai‘i Attorney General Doug Chin. He and 18 other state attorneys general wrote to Congress on the matter in January. Chin co-chairs the bi-partisan National Association of Attorneys General Marijuana Working Group. He and Alaska Attorney General Jahna Lindemuth lead the hui of states, like Hawai‘i, with legal medical cannabis, and states that have legalized marijuana for recreational use. Chin has also announced that he will run for Congress.

The attorneys general letter states: “We are a bipartisan group of state attorneys general who recognize that the states and federal government share a strong interest in protecting public safety and bringing grey market activities into the regulated banking sector. To address these goals, we urge Congress to advance legislation that would allow states that have legalized medical or recreational use of marijuana to bring that commerce into the banking system.

“Twenty-nine states and several U.S. territories have legalized the medical use of marijuana. Among those, eight states, and the District of Columbia, also allow recreational use by adults over 21 years of age. However, because the federal government classifies marijuana as an illegal substance, banks providing services to state-licensed cannabis businesses could find themselves subject to criminal and civil liability under the Controlled Substances Act and certain federal banking statutes. “

“Despite the contradictions between federal and state law, the marijuana industry continues to grow rapidly. Industry analysts report that sales grew by 30% to $6.7 billion in 2016 and expect those totals to exceed $20 billion by 2021. Yet businesses are forced to operate on a cash basis. The grey market makes it more difficult to track revenues for taxation purposes, contributes to a public safety threat as cash intensive businesses are often targets for criminal activity, and prevents proper tracking of large swaths of finances across the nation.

To address these challenges, we are requesting legislation that would ensure accountability in the marijuana industry such as the SAFE Banking Act (S. 1152 and H.R. 2215) or similar legislation. This would bring billions of dollars into the banking sector, and give law enforcement the ability to monitor these transactions. Moreover, compliance with tax requirements would be simpler and easier to enforce with a better-defined tracking of funds. This would, in turn, result in higher tax revenue.

“Our banking system must be flexible enough to address the needs of businesses in the various states...while protecting the interests of the federal government. This includes a banking system for marijuana-related businesses that is both responsive and effective in meeting the demands of our economy. We look forward to working with you as you move forward in this process and lending our voice and expertise as you develop legislation,” the 19 attorneys general wrote to the U.S. Congress.
Kāwā Stewardship, cont. from pg. 1

descendants of Kāwā - is working in concert with the county, Hawaiʻi Wildlife Fund, and Honoliʻi Paka, to build community capacity in conservation efforts.

In mid-January, more than 80 people converged at Kāwā for a work day led by Nā Mamo o Kāwā executive director James Akau. The entire Volcano School of Arts and Sciences middle school, and Kaʻū High and Middle school students, worked alongside field experts from county, state, federal, non-profit organizations, and private entities. Akau said the event was meant to “start off the new year on the right foot, celebrate mālama ʻāina and all the people that have been a part of the work, as well as provide recognition to all of our collaborators.”

Supporters of Nā Mamo o Kāwā’s stewardship efforts include County of Hawaiʻi Parks and Recreation Department, County Department of Finance, Hawaiʻi Tourism Authority, The Nature Conservancy, Conservation International, Kaʻānaniʻau LLC, Kuaʻāina Ulu ʻAuamo (KUA), UH Hilo, Paʻa Pono, Kalanihale, Geometrician Associates LLC, Three Mountain Alliance, Hawaiʻi Island Turtle Recovery Project, Edith Kanakaʻole Foundation, Hawaiʻi Wildlife Fund, U.S. Forest Service, County Fire Department, Big Island Invasive Species Committee, Honoliʻi Paka, and many community members.

Several work groups were formed and given tasks, with students working alongside experts in their respective fields. One group used hand tools to control invasive species, Christmas berry and haole koa, encroaching on remnant existing populations of native alaheʻe and cultural features. Another group removed trash and debris along the coast, and raked and cleaned around recreational areas. Others watered and collected native seeds of plants on site, such as milo, kou, kūkui, and ‘aʻaliʻi, and transplanted keiki milo into pots. Students also set out bait to test for Little Fire Ants, outplanted naupaka they grew from cuttings, and harvested more cuttings for future outplanting activities.

Another group reinforced rock walls around the springs and other areas to control sand inundation, and removed sand from clogging the springs.

Archaeologist Matthew Clark, who compiled an archaeological report for Kāwā, was present to share his insight and expertise. Another highlight included Keone Kaʻlawe, a kuhikihi puʻu one (architect) and apprentice Britni Kualiʻi, sharing how to create a detailed map of components of a Keʻekū heiau at Kāwā.

Nā Mamo o Kāwā, formed in 2012 and founded by Paeo Kai McGuire-Turcotte, of Waiʻōhinu, has been working hard for several years to forward their mission, which is “to rehabilitate, curate and steward the natural and cultural resources of Kāwā in order to honor the past, provide for the present and preserve for the future.” Board members, including McGuire-Turcotte who serves as chair, are: Ryan Kanakaʻole, from Waiʻōhinu; Kāwā Stewardship, cont. from pg. 1

KAPEPA PÁHALA

The Good News of Kaʻū, Hawaiʻi

February, 2018

Volume 16, Number 2

KA PEPA PÁHALA

The Good News of Kaʻū, Hawaiʻi

February, 2018

The Kaʻū Calendar

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KA PEPA PÁHALA

The Good News of Kaʻū, Hawaiʻi

February, 2018
Stars over Kaʻū - February 2018

by Lew Cook

PLANE TS
Venus sets shortly after the sun. Note where the sun was when it set, and see if you can see Venus. Jupiter rises at 10:30 p.m., well before Mars rises at 2:00 a.m. Then, Saturn rises at about 3:40 a.m., while it is still dark.

CON STELLATIONS AND DEEP SKY OBJECTS
The New Year opened with fireworks in the Andromeda galaxy: a nova erupted. A nova is a star that undergoes a nuclear fusion episode (read BIG H-BOMB) on its SURFACE. These are close binary stars, where one star revolves around the other in 3 to 36 hours or so. One is an ordinary star, like our sun. The other star is about the size of the sun, but has the mass (weight) of the earth, and is called a white dwarf star. “White” because the surface is really, really hot - like 100,000 F - and “dwarf”, because what else could you call a “star” that’s the size of a planet? This is a star that has burned its hydrogen and helium from its core. It has “burned” (a nuclear fusion term) almost all its helium.

The white dwarf “steals” the stellar wind from its partner and actually causes more matter to be transferred to it. It does this by being so close to its “dance partner.” A dance with a Dracula.

Why did we expect the nova to show up? Because once astronomers realized the nova was recurring practically every year, they have looked for it to erupt. Then Professor Martin Henze of San Diego State University got an idea:

Why not ask all astronomers with medium to large-sized telescopes who were comfortable measuring faint variable stars to look for it, too? He contacted the leaders of groups of professional and amateur astronomers and asked for help. That’s when I became involved.

This year’s outburst occurred a little later than was expected - but not as late as the 2016 eruption. The 2016 eruption, predicted for mid September, didn’t occur until December 13, 2016. The 2017 eruption was discovered by my friend David Boyd, in England, on December 31, 2017, New Year’s Eve. Just like in 2016, the moon was bright and nearly full.

How do we know this happened on New Year’s eve and not, say, a week or even a day before? Because there were many astronomers looking for it, waiting for it to erupt. I took a set of images from a remotely controlled telescope in New Mexico the night before the 2017 eruption. It is shown here, above the image of the nova taken with my telescope. The weather was better at my observatory than the year before. I had clouds - they were mostly alternating thick and thin cirrus - but there were few times the sky looked almost good. I took many images of it, but had to discard more than 60% of the images because of moonlight and dense clouds.

The nova got as bright as 18th magnitude. Remember, the faintest stars you can see with your naked eyes is about 6th magnitude, so what we are excited about would have to be 63,000 times brighter for us to just barely see it with our naked eyes. The nova is shown here at its brightest on the first night in this, a composite of all my acceptable images. The next night had fewer clouds, but the nova had started declining rapidly, as it usually does.

Why is this distant star so interesting? Recurrent novae do occur in our Milky Way galaxy. However, there are only ten of them, and they rarely have outbursts. The outbursts are believed to be related to the amount of gas falling onto the white dwarf. Eventually, it accumulates until the pressure and temperature climb. Then, a nova outburst occurs. Eventually, more and more matter accumulates, until a critical point is reached. Then the star blows apart, resulting in a supernova. When? That’s the question. We think the Recurrent Nova in the Andromeda galaxy is closer to blasting itself apart than any other in the nearby universe.

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The Ka'u Calendar
26th Annual Pana‘ewa Stampede Rodeo is Feb. 17, 18, and 19. The Equestrian Center. Loa’a Kaupu, 1st. Drea Antonia, 3rd; Jycetin Mukini, 2nd; and Winners of Most Fish Caught, from left: An

Hundred of keiki caught and released many kinds of fish at the tenth annual Keiki Fishing Tournament, sponsored by ‘O Ka‘ū Kākou at Punalu‘u on Jan. 27. Photo by Jana Kaniho

‘O Ka‘ū Kākou supplied participants with: bamboo hand poles, barbless hooks, lines, sinkers and wheels donated by S. Tokunaga Store, Inc.; shrimp bait donated by Suisan Company, Ltd.; and buckets. Keiki were allowed to use their own hand pole rods as long as they used barbless hooks. The event was also supported by a grant from County of Hawai‘i.

Participants under three years of age were given personal fishing ponds to “fish” little duckies.

The organization also collected cans as part of their Canned Food Drive. A date for next year’s event has yet to be announced.

Ka‘ū paniolo are headed to Pana‘ewa Equestrian Center Feb. 17, 18, and 19. The 26th Annual Pana‘ewa Stampede Rodeo is presented by Hawai‘i Horse Owners Association. It features rodeo competition, rodeo clown JJ Harrison, and announcer Buster Barton. The action is from noon on Saturday.

January Busy for Trojan Swimmers

Late December and early-to-mid January were very full for the swimmers of Ka‘ū High. Dec. 23 and 30 saw them meet at Hilo and Kamhehameha. The new year began with another meet at Kamehameha, on Jan. 6, followed by two scheduled meets at Hilo High School, on Jan. 13 and 20, closing out the BIIF League Meets.

On Jan. 6, the first meet of the year, Ka‘ū saw Justin Denny place 9th in the Men’s 200Yd Freestyle, at 2:15.31. Malie Ibara placed 51st, at 37.92, during the Women’s 50Yd Freestyle. However, she was disqualified for a false start during the Women’s 100Yd Breaststroke race.

During the races on Jan. 20, Tiare Wong Yuen placed 46th, at 33.57, during the Women’s 50Yd Freestyle. However, she was disqualified for a false start during the Women’s 100Yd Breaststroke race.

In the Men’s 50Yd Freestyle, Ryder Brown came in 15th at 25.65, Justin Denny came in 15th at 25.65, and Revis Petit come in 15th at 25.65. During the Men’s 200Yd Freestyle, Ryder Brown came in 15th at 1:00.36 and Revis Petit come in 32nd at 1:16.38. During the Men’s 100Yd Breaststroke, Ryder Brown came in 6th at 1:11.52. Justin Denny was disqualified due to making multiple strokes past vertical at the turn. Ryder Brown was the only finisher for Ka‘ū in the Men’s 100Yd Breaststroke, finishing 13th at 1:19.41.

The tight schedule culminated with the BIIF Championship prelims on Jan. 26, followed on Jan. 27 by the BIIF Championship finals, at Kamehameha.
‘O Ka‘ū Kākou’s Recent Half Court Shot Winners

Winners have been very generous this year; sticking to tradition, each of first six in January donated their winnings to Ka‘ū Athletics, which supports Trojans Sports. These six talented young men brought in lots of cash for Ka‘ū Athletics. Each successful shot gained the winner $250, from ‘O Ka‘ū Kākou.

June Domondon of OKK and Trojans Athletic Director Kalei Namohala were on hand to present $250 to each of the winners, with a helping hand from a smiling Makana Kamahele.

Boys and Girls Basketball Gets Going in 2018

Ka‘ū Boys and Girls Basketball teams are posting wins in 2018, ramping up after a cool start of the season in December.

Dec. 20 saw Ka‘ū hosting Wai‘akea, where the Ka‘ū girls scored 15 points in JV against Wai‘akea’s 59, with Jayne Kaneshiro leading the Ka‘ū scoring at 5 points. Girls Varsity saw Reishaylyn Jara scoring half of the 16 total points for Ka‘ū, though Wai‘akea ended ahead at 75. They also lost to Kohala, Hilo, and Pāhoa on Dec. 16, 18, and 27, respectively.

Ka‘ū boys played Hilo, also on Dec. 20, with the JV team scoring 33 to Hilo’s 70, and the Varsity team scoring 50 to Hilo’s 84. Their next games were against Kea‘au on Jan. 3, with Kea‘au winning both games: JV at 43 to 14, and Varsity at 53 to 42.

The girls next played on Jan. 5, again hosting, this time for Konawaena. Kainie Mederios Dancel made all 3 points for Ka‘ū, but Kona won with 98.

The first basketball win of the year for Ka‘ū was made the next day by the boys team, in a game against Laupāhoehoe, with 60 points to 10. This home game saw Masen Dacalo score 13 points, and Janslue Badua score ten points.

In the next home game, a girls game with Honoka‘a on Jan. 10, Trojan Kianie Mederios Dancel stood out, with 8 points of the 22 scored by Ka‘ū - though Honoka‘a did take the win with 51. The boys played St. Joseph, also on Jan. 10, with Ka‘ū taking St. Joseph, a final score of 69 points to 41.

Pāhoa was the opponent at the next boys game on Jan. 15, with the Varsity team plucking the game from Pāhoa by 2 points, with a score of 49. The top scorer for Ka‘ū was Izaijah Pilanca Emmesley, with 16 points. The Ka‘ū JV boys team’s top scorer was Kyson Toriano, though Pāhoa won that game with 51 points, over 31 for Ka‘ū. On Jan. 15, the girls played HPA, with JV scoring 28 to HPA’s 36, and Ka‘ū Varsity scoring a 10-point win over HPA, with 45 points.

In boys basketball on Saturday, Jan. 20, in Kohala, the JV Trojans scored 29, with Ka‘ikea Kaupu Manini bringing in ten of those points, and Kyson Toriano bringing in 13; however, Kohala won with 33 points. In Varsity, Ka‘ū beat Kohala 45 to 35, with two leading scorers: Nanioa Ke with 16 points, and Andre Carvalho with 14.

January was packed with several more games, with the girls playing Kealakehe on Jan. 19, losing by only one point, at 39 to 38. The boys played Wai‘akea on Jan. 23, losing with a score of 67 to 46; HPA on Jan. 27; and Parker on Jan. 29. A final boys game to close out the month, against Kealakehe, happened on Jan. 31.

The boys schedule will continue Feb. 3, with Ka‘ū playing Kamehameha.

Ka‘ū Soccer Mixed Bag for Girls and Boys

Mid-to-late December and early January have shown a wide variety of scores for the Trojan home team against many different opponents in high school soccer.

The girls beat Kamehameha Schools on Dec. 16, with a 9-0 victory. Konawaena beat Ka‘ū on Jan. 6, with a score of 9 - 0. Kealakehe won with a 5-0 score on Jan. 9. Ka‘ū lost to Wai‘akea on Jan. 17, with a score of 9 - 0.

In Boys Soccer, on Dec. 20, Ka‘ū was scoreless. Honoka‘a had 6. The first game of the new year brought Konawaena a victory over Ka‘ū, at 8 - 0 on Jan. 6. The boys tied on Jan. 9 with Pāhoa, against whom they also played on Jan. 25; that game also ended in a tie, with Brennan Nishimura scoring 2, Logan Velez scoring 1. On Jan. 20, they were scheduled to play at Honoka‘a, but instead forfeit their game to Kohala.
Kamehameha Schools reached out to Ka‘ū on Tuesday evening, Jan. 24, holding an open house at Pāhala Community Center to share information about the organization’s vision and strategic plan, its current work and lands in Ka‘ū, and to talk story with the community. Ideas included fitting education to Ka‘ū young people, as well as their locally learned skills and desires to help their ‘āina and community.

Leadership from Kamehameha Community Engagement & Resources Group included Hawai‘i Island Director Alapaki Nahale-a, and both East and West Hawai‘i Directors Kilohana Hirano and Kaimana Bacarce.

Both principals of Ka‘ū High & Elementary and Nā‘ūlehu School attended, as did the administrator of the Tūtū & Me program in Ka‘ū for keiki and their caregivers. Both principals voiced their support for continuation of KS Kealapono services in their schools. The Kealapono Department fields four staff in Ka‘ū, who collaborate with the schools to provide science and literacy support, reading and writing intervention, and ‘Ike Hawai‘i. Mayor Harry Kim came to listen. Graduates of Ka‘ū schools talked about their love of place, the kūpuna, and the history residing within the people living in Ka‘ū.

Kumu Hula Debbie Ryder talked about learning from the elders who have so much knowledge about the land and culture here. “When they’re gone, they’re gone,” she proclaimed. Donna Kekoa recalled her class at Ka‘ū High School in 1975 going into homes to document the knowledge of kūpuna in the 1970s. Ka‘ū High Principal Sharon Beck recalled teacher Mailé Moulds Carr organizing students to take oral histories in the 1990s. Beck said she would look into bringing it back.

One woman proclaimed that Ka‘ū doesn’t need Walmart and other such establishments. She talked about there being much land, but a need for education and training in sustainable practices to grow food.

KS Director of East Hawai‘i, Kilohana Hirano, talked about building an economy that works with the place, and the talents and desires, of the local people. He mentioned young people who like to hunt and use their skills. He also mentioned fishing.

The idea of a Hawaiian-based charter high school was mentioned in the audience, and the mayor brought up the idea of working through existing schools that have Kamehameha outreach programs.

Representatives of Kamehameha Schools talked about wanting to connect with those who know about the ‘āina and the community, and those connected to important Hawaiian cultural sites, and families related to them.

Student displays and projects were shown around the room during the outreach program.

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**Events & Activities**

Kamehameha Schools Draws in the Community to Plan

Miloli‘i - Ka‘ū Volleyball Tournament Set

Miloli‘i Volleyball Team is bringing its members to Ka‘ū District Gym for their second annual Miloli‘i-Ka‘ū Volleyball tournament, on Saturday, Feb. 10, and Sunday, Feb. 11, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Other participating teams are Keaukaha Cuzins, KS Southside, Mauloa, Nawahi Na‘auao, Yosh, Big Island Boys, Nawahi Hanohano, and Hi-Intensity.

Organizers and coaches are Yolanda Kuahua and Kaimi Kaupiko. Kaupiko explained that “Miloli‘i-Ka‘ū Volleyball Team began five years ago. Our history in volleyball is long and extensive - we all grew up playing on a concrete court in the hot sun, but it has been a favorite past time throughout the years in Miloli‘i." He said the outreach started five years ago after making the team official. The team played Parks & Recreation games with Ka‘ū and Pāhala and through that connection, "we started to practice at the Nā‘ūlehu elementary gym. Many of the ‘ohana from Ka‘ū wanted to join our club as they saw our little village kids play volleyball at a high level. We invited and encouraged them to team up with us.

“Throughout the past three years, we have grown and built our club from its humble beginnings. We have participated and won numerous tournaments from the annual

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**Photo from Kaimi Kaupiko**

Haili tournament in the spring, the Moku o Keawe regionals, and tournaments in Maui and Kaua‘i. Last year we took our girls to play in the Anaheim volleyball tournament in which we placed 10th in the 12U in a tournament with over 400 teams.”

Feb. 10 and 11 will be the second annual Miloli‘i-Ka‘ū Volleyball tournament at the new Pāhala gym. Food concessions both days support the effort.

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**Mayor Harry Kim came to Pāhala to take in the interaction between Kamehameha Schools and the Ka‘ū community.**

Photo by Julia Neal

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**Kamehameha Schools’ Kealapono Kumu Joni Shibayton discusses rock classification with Nā‘ūlehu Principal Darlene Javar and student Kamaha‘u Alcoran.**

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Fri, Feb 2, 6 p.m, Al¬’O Ka’ū Kākou Meeting,
Thu, Feb 1, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m., ’O Ka’ū Kākou Survey Deadline,
Thu, Feb 1, Senior Ocean View Neighborhood Watch meeting,
Thu, Hula Voices w/ Kumu Hula Stephanie Apolo,
La’au Lapa’au - Beginner Level Class,
Sat, Feb 3, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m., Kahuku Food from Wood: Growing Edible & Medicinal project in Nā’ālehu. Raylene Moses, 365-3788, or quick 5 question survey to help OKK gather general citizens - over the age of 62 - are asked to fill out a
1, 6 - 7 p.m., Ocean View Community Center. 939-7033, ovcahi.org
Fri, Feb 9. 2:30 p.m., Nā’ālehu Public Library. 939-2442
Nora Ephron’s Love, Loss, and What I Wore - Performance,
Sat, Feb 3, 9 - noon, Volcano Art Center. Ephor$20/person. Call 982-7344 for reservations or more info.
All You Ever Needed to Know About Bonsais and How to Grow Them. Sat, Feb 10, 7 - 10 p.m., Ocean View Community Center on Wednesday, Feb. 7, from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more, call 895-9283.
Kīlauea Drama & Entertainment Network. Bass-ackwards for Kīlauea Drama & Entertainment Network. 929-9576, discoveryharbour.net
Kāwā Coffee Growers Meeting, Tue, Feb 6, 6 - 8 p.m., Pāhala Community Center.
Preservation of Stone Architecture and Landscape: Pu’uhonua O Hōnaunau National Historic Park, Tue, Feb 6, 7 - 9 p.m., Pāhala Community Center. Free Cat Spay & Neuter Clinic. 895-9283
Painting with Peggy, Mon, Feb 12 & 26, 4 - 6 p.m., Discovery Harbour Community Hall. $15 VAC/$20 non-members per session. Email questions to peggystan-
dy@gmail.com.
Zentangle: The Elegance of Limits, Sat, Feb 10, 10 - 11 a.m., Ocean View Community Center. To volunteer, call 939-7033, ovcahi.org
Zentangle: The Elegance of Limits, Sat, Feb 10, 10 - 11 a.m., Ocean View Community Center. To volunteer, call 939-7033, ovcahi.org
Lois & Earl Stokes. All art supplies provided by boarders and to hold Zentangle art with
for boarders and to hold Zentangle art with
pu‘uhonua o hōnaunau national historic park, Tue, Feb 6, 7 - 9 p.m., Ocean View Community Center. Free Cat Spay & Neuter Clinic. 895-9283
Super Bowl, Sun, Feb 4, doors open at 11 a.m., kick-off at 1:30 p.m., Kīlauea Military Camp’s Lava Lounge, Hawai’i Volcanoes National Park. Food & beverages available for purchase. Quarterly prize give-a-ways. Call 967-8365 after 4:00 pm for more details. Open to all authorized KM’s patrons and sponsored guests. Park entrance fees apply. kilaueamilitarycamp.com
Professional Documentation for Artists Workshop, Tue, Feb 6, 4 - 6 p.m., Discovery Harbour Community Hall. 929-9576, discoveryharbour.net
Wed, Feb 7, 6 - 10 p.m., Kīlauea Military Camp’s Lava Lounge in Hawai’i Volcanoes National Park. Singers, Bands, Comedians, etc. Call 967-8365 after 4:00 pm to sign up. Open to authorized patrons and sponsored guests 21 years and older. Park entrance fees apply. kilaueamilitarycamp.com
Hawai’i Conservation Conference Deadline for Abstract Proposals. Fri, Feb 9, 5:00 p.m., vendors and sponsored guests 21 years and older. Park entrance fees apply. kilaueamilitarycamp.com
All cats deserve 9 lives not 9 lit-
ers, says advocatehawaii.org. Advo-
CATS, Inc., offers to spay and neuter cats free of charge at Ocean View Community
Center on Wednesday, Feb. 7, from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more, call 895-9283.

Free Cat Spay & Neuter Clinic Comes to Ocean View
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Center on Wednesday, Feb. 7, from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more, call 895-9283.
To Be Auctioned
Sitting Pretty, an original hand pulled, hand colored block print from art created for the book A Perfect Day for an Albatross by Caren Loebel Fried, will be auctioned live at Volcano Art Center’s 14th Annual Love the Arts: Save the Arts fundraiser gala. This year’s event, scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 24, from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., takes a nautical approach. Guests will be treated to wine, beers, and a gourmet buffet. Other original artwork, hotel stays, tours, and jewelry will be offered during the live and silent auctions. Ticket prices are $55/VAC, $65/non-member. Call 967-8222 or visit volcanoartcenter.org for more.

Discovery Harbour Neighborhood Watch Community Meeting, Mon, Feb 19, 5 - 6:30 p.m., Discovery Harbour Community Hall. 929-9576, discoveryharbour.net


OVCA Board Meeting, Wed, Feb 21, 12 - 1 p.m., Ocean View Community Center. 939-7033, ovacahi.org

Coffee Talk, Friday, Feb 23, 9:30 - 11 a.m., Kahuku Park, Hawai‘i Volcanoes National Park. Free. nps.gov/HAVO

14th Annual Love the Arts Fundraiser Gala: Save the Arts, Sat, Feb 24, 5 - 9 p.m., Volcano Art Center. Fine wine, beers, gourmet buffet, Hawaiian music. Live and silent auctions. $55/VAC, $65/non-members. 967-8222, volcanoartcenter.org

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Reals and Divisions of Kahunu, Sat, Feb 24, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m., Kahunu Unit of Hawai‘i Volcanoes National Park. Moderately difficult, two-mile, guided hike explores the traditional Hawaiian classification system. Bring a snack for the talk story segment of this hike.


Palu‘u Trail, Sun, Feb 25, 9:30 - 12:30 p.m., Kahunu Unit of Hawai‘i Volcanoes National Park. Moderately difficult, 2.6-mile loop along an ancient cinder cone, with panoramic views. nps.gov/HAVO

HOVE Road Maintenance Monthly Meeting, Tue, Feb 27, 10 a.m., RMC Office in Ocean View. hovroad.com, 929-9910

Ka‘u Food Pantry, Tue, Jan 27, 11:30 - 1 p.m., St. Jude’s Episcopal Church in Ocean View.

Performing Arts: Hawaiian Storytelling, Tue, Feb 27, 2:45 - 3:45 p.m., Kahuku Park, Hawaiian Ocean View Estates. For ages 6 - 12 years. Register Feb 21 - 26. Teresa Anderson, 929-9113, hawaiicounty.gov/pr-recreation

Tales of Early Ranching in Humu‘ula, Tue, Feb 27, 7 p.m., Kilauea Visitor Center auditorium, Hawai‘i Volcanoes National Park. UH Anthropology Professor Peter Mills presents anecdotes from the archives and accounts of his field work in the ahaupua’a of Humu‘ula. Free; park entrance fees apply. Suggested donation of $2 to support park programs. nps.gov/HAVO


Arts & Crafts: Girl’s Day Headbands, Fri, Mar 2, 2:45 - 3:45 p.m., Kahuku Park, Hawaiian Ocean View Estates. For ages 6 - 12 years. Free. Register Feb 26 - Mar 1. Teresa Anderson, 929-9113, hawaiicounty.gov/pr-recreation
Kawachi Completes 100-Mile Walk for Senior Housing

From January 2 to January 5, Wayne Kawachi wore his rubber “slippahs” with pride - and, proudly, some blisters - to raise money for senior housing in Nā‘ālehu.

The president of the nonprofit community group ‘O Ka‘ū Kākou took to Hwy 11, and walked 100 miles in just four days: from Homoka’a, down the Hamakua Coast, into Hilo, across Puna, through Volcano, and into Ka‘ū, ending at the old Nā‘ālehu Fruit Stand, the future site of the housing. To date, he has raised more than $60,000 and is shooting for $250,000.

He said he loves the group sponsoring the housing drive, ‘O Ka‘ū Kākou: “It’s doing things that I personally like to do, which is helping the elders, helping the young people, helping the community, helping the environment.”

Kawachi says in a statement from OKK’s You Care video, which can be viewed at youcaring.com/waynekawachi-1038208. “It’s helping everybody, and whatever comes up as a problem or something we can do to help the community, we are there to help it.”

In Hawai‘i County, an estimated 17 percent of residents are 65 years of age or older. Considering the population is nearly 195,000 people, that is a large number of seniors, some of whom struggle to find affordable housing. “There are only two senior housing projects in all of Ka‘ū. At this rate, our kūpuna may not have a place to live,” says a concerned Kawachi.

For the 1.9 acres on the makai side of Kāwā, here is the organization seeks to form more partnerships with other area schools and programs, including Nā‘ālehu Elementary. Akau is also helping schools start native plant nurseries for eventual outplanting at Kāwā, and provides educational assistance through classroom visits. Another future Nā Mamo o Kāwā initiative will be to “outfit community members with grow back materials, native seeds, and an instructional pamphlet, so they can be involved with Kāwā stewardship efforts from their own backyard,” added Akau.

For the students of Volcano School of Arts and Sciences, who visit weekly, teacher Tamara Morrison said she has already seen the positive impact. She shared that students who visit weekly, teacher Tamara Morrison said she has already seen the positive impact. She shared that students who have their scores in other content areas, have their scores in other content areas, have their scores in other content areas, and QLCC Kona and Ko‘olauloa programs, to engage in learning about and caring for Kāwā.

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OV Community Learns Mauna Loa Lava Flows Quickly

When Mauna Loa erupts and sends its lava down its steep slopes, it will happen quickly, and the warnings may be very short. In the event of an eruption, USGS will notify County of Hawai‘i Civil Defense, which will issue warnings and alerts by phone, sirens, Twitter, and Facebook messages.

These were some of the many messages delivered during the two-hour USGS poster presentation Mauna Loa: Let’s Talk Story. The event drew about 100 residents Wednesday evening, Jan. 17, to Ocean View Community Center.

To mark January as Volcano Awareness Month, USGS invited the public to bring questions, talk story, circulate among the posters, and interview the many USGS personnel standing ready with explanations on a variety of subjects related to the mountain that many call home.

Talmadge Magno, County Civil Defense Administrator and former National Park Service Ranger, was also on hand to answer questions about emergency preparedness. Christina “Tina” Neal, Scientist-in-Charge of the USGS Hawaiian Volcano Observatory, circulated among residents to ensure that no questions went unanswered.

Neal was impressed with the large turn out and the obvious interest that residents manifested in the future of the mountain on which they live. Mauna Loa is the largest mountain, by volume, on the planet. Neal also appeared enthusiastic about the latest maps from USGS Hawaiian Volcano Observatory, showing which areas are likely to be inundated by lava, should either the southwest fissure or the northeast fissure erupt. The maps for various areas can be downloaded from pubs.er.usgs.gov.

Ingrid Johanson, a geophysicist at the USGS, fielded a lot of questions from the exhibit attendees. She was the one who emphasized that, while the exact location and time of an eruption on Mauna Loa cannot be predicted, it will happen quickly. Warnings may be much shorter for Mauna Loa eruptions than those at Kīlauea volcano. She gave the example of Pāhoa, where the lava flow from Kīlauea slowly approached the town over a period of a few months in 2014.

Michael Zoeller, a GIS specialist who hosted the event, explained maps of Mauna Loa and highlighted features such as fissure vents and potential lava paths. He used a large screen to demonstrate how the maps can be used to predict the likely extent of lava flows.

Ocean View Community Association President Ron Gall has published a list of accomplishments achieved by the organization in 2017. In addition to opening a telemedicine installation for veterans, OVCA served more than 3,000 free meals to the community, and provided over 185 free food baskets.

The outside of the Ocean View Community Center, as well as the inside of the front office, were painted. A renovation of the Kids Library has also begun.

More educational activities for parents, teachers, and students have been added to the schedule, as have other new activities, which include Aikido classes led by Alan Moores, toddler play activities, and more yet to be announced.

Adopt-A-Block is ongoing, and the Deep Clean project is expanding.

Gall reports that OVCA “finances have been kept in the black, including over $5,000 in the Roof Fund and two grants totaling $6,000.” For more details, call 939-7033.

USGS scientist responsible for the latest maps of Mauna Loa, Frank Trusdell, explains a point to Ocean View residents Steve Lewis, Peter Bosted, and Don Coons.

Photo by Ann Bosted

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Hawai‘i County’s Democratic Party is setting its agenda, and Chair Margaret Wille asks citizens to serve on Legislative Priority Huis and to come to precinct meetings, Wednesday, March 7.

The Economic and Social/Cultural Wellbeing Committee is expected to work on the:
- Protect Workers focus: $15 minimum wage by 2020;
- Protect Students focus: Raise quality of education;
- Protect Kupuna focus: Death with Dignity rights with appropriate assurances that each person is making choice of own free will;
- Protect Local Farmers focus: Coffee Truth in Labeling; monitor cannabis legislation; and
- Protect The People focus: Affordable health care.

The Environmental Wellbeing Legislative Committee is expected to work on the:
- Protect Marine Life focus: Ban oxybenzone (harms coral and other marine life);
- Climate Crisis focus: Prevent degradation of the sensitive ecosystems/mitigation;
- Pesticide/Herbicide Restriction focus: Establish buffers around sensitive areas, facilities.

Precinct meetings with elections are set for Wednesday, March 7, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Precinct Officers and Delegates to the county and state conventions will be selected to create the County and State Party Platforms.

This year will mark the first time in 30 years that the Democratic Party State Convention will be held in a place other than on O‘ahu. It will be at the Waikoloa Hilton on May 25 and 26.

Ka‘ū Citizens Invited to Help Set Democratic Party Agenda

Kawachi Walk, cont. from pg. 10
Hwy 11, the idea is to build 25 to 30 units of senior housing on the property now owned by Asha Mallick, who has offered it to the community organization at a discount of nearly 50 percent.

“I’m excited about this project, I’m training, it’s going to be done; and I need your kōkua,” said Kawachi, 72 years of age, before he set out on his walk. He said he would personally donate $10 a mile toward the fundraiser, and asked others to chip in.

“ʻO Ka‘ū Kākou,” proclaimed Kawachi. “We are Ka‘ū!”

OKK is also asking for residents to take a survey to document the need for senior housing in this district. The deadline to submit the survey is Feb. 1.

To take the survey, make a donation to support this endeavor, and to see more photos and a map of his walk, you can go to okaukakou.org or facebook.com/okaukakou.

Kawachi Walk, cont. from pg. 4
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Stars, cont. from pg. 4
star in the Milky Way galaxy.

See the color charts and images of the stars at http://www.kaukalender.com/
The colors of the dots represent stars’ temperatures. The sizes of the dots are keyed to their brightnesses. The star charts will be good throughout the season, but they are good for approximately 2 hours earlier for every month, except will not be accurate for the planets.

Local attractions
The ‘Imiloa Planetarium in Hilo (closed Mondays):
Restaurant schedule:
Breakfast & Lunch Hours Tuesday – Sunday: 7 AM - 4 PM
Dinner Hours Thursday – Sunday: 5 PM - 8:30 PM
Check for the schedule on the web (www.imiloahawaii.org).
Members are admitted free to the daily shows.

Once a month, there is an evening show, when telescopes on Mauna Kea are linked to the Planetarium, where they show live shots of individual objects. Call the Planetarium at (808) 932-8901 for info on the schedule and ticket availability, prices, and membership costs. Please mention to the nice folks at the ticket sales desk where you got the inspiration to come, and that you are entitled to the 10% kama‘aina discount for membership.

Fridays Sunrise and Sunset times:
Date Sunrise Sunset
Feb. 2 6:56 am 6:15 pm
Feb. 12 6:53 am 6:19 pm
Feb. 19 6:49 am 6:22 pm
Feb. 26 6:45 am 6:25 pm

Note the time of sunrise doesn’t change much in February. The earth’s orbit isn’t a perfect circle. We are closer to the sun in the winter, and the changing velocity of the earth in its orbit makes the day start at the same time, despite the change in seasons which began on December 21.

Donations are still coming in for Na‘alehu Senior Housing Project

To contribute, visit okaukakou.org or youcaring.com/waynekawachi-1038208
Cigarettes Cost Hawai‘i Smokers More than $2 M Each

Cigarettes cost smokers in Hawai‘i more than $2 million over a lifetime and $40,542 a year in direct costs and loss of work, health, and other opportunities. A WalletHub analysis released in January ranks Hawai‘i as one of the states where residents pay the most for their tobacco addiction. The Out of Pocket Cost to a smoker in Hawai‘i is $167,536 - ranking 47th. The state with the lowest cost for smoking is North Dakota. The highest is New York.

The Lost Financial Opportunity for smokers in Hawai‘i is $1,407,368 over a lifetime. The Health Care Cost for Hawai‘i smokers is $185,243; and the Income Loss per Smoker is $293,666.

The WalletHub summary on smoking says: “Smoking doesn’t just ruin your health. It can also burn a nasty hole through your wallet. Tobacco use accounts for nearly half a million deaths in the U.S. each year and is the leading cause of lung cancer. According to the American Lung Association. Even those around tobacco smokers aren’t safe from its harmful effects. Since 1964, smoking-related illnesses have claimed 20 million lives in the U.S., 2.5 million of which belonged to nonsmokers who developed diseases merely from secondhand smoke exposure.

“However, the economic and societal costs of smoking are just as huge. Every year, Americans spend more than $300 billion, which includes both medical care and lost productivity. Unfortunately, some people will have to pay more depending on the state in which they live.”

See the entire report at wallthub.com.
Eleven 'Alalā thrive in the native forest near Volcano Village, and those working on reintroducing the native Hawaiian crow into the wild are monitoring and preparing to release more. Usually heard before seen, there is no mistaking the loud and often times synchronized cacophony of caws from the 11 'Alalā, which were released into a Hawai‘i Island Natural Area Reserve last fall. These birds, seven young males and four young females, represent what conservationists hope is the beginning of a recovered population of the endangered Hawaiian crow on the island. ‘Alalā have been extinct in the wild since 2002. Since the birds took flight from a remote forest aviary in September and October 2017, they’ve been under the daily, watchful eyes of a monitoring team from the Hawai‘i Endangered Conservation Program, a field program of the San Diego Zoo Global. In partnership with Hawai‘i’s Department Land & Natural Resources, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and others, San Diego Zoo Global reared the ‘Alalā at its centers on the Big Island and on Maui.

The ‘Alalā are tracked daily by using signals from the lightweight radio transmitter each one wears, or simply by seeing them with the naked eye or through binoculars. Their movements, their flights, what they eat, where they roost, their behaviors; virtually everything about these birds is closely monitored and carefully recorded. Of high interest to all the folks involved in The ‘Alalā Project is how the birds individually and collectively react to threats from predators. An initial release of ‘Alalā in 2016 was temporarily halted and surviving birds were brought back into the aviary after two were attacked by another native bird: their natural predator, the ‘Io or Hawaiian hawk. Prior to their release, the birds now living in the Pu‘u Maka‘ala Natural Area Reserve received extensive anti-predator training. “Similar to any predator-prey interaction, there’s a lot that goes on that we don’t necessarily see, but the observations we’ve made indicate that the birds do identify ‘Io as a predator and can take evasive action when needed,” explained Alison Greggor, a post-doctoral research associate with San Diego Zoo Global. Last week, the project team saw this in action. Two members heard an eruption of ‘Alalā alarm calls and heard quick wing flapping. “A dark morph ‘Io darted across an opening. Immediately after, a light morph ‘Io crossed the opening with four ‘Alalā following it or chasing it above the canopy. All four ‘Alalā disappeared for about 15 seconds before the ‘Alalā came back to the release-feeder area,” Greggor added. “At this stage we can’t be certain that the training is the crucial piece of the puzzle, but we like to hope that it helped. Actually, being in the wild around predators, observing other forest birds and interactions with predators, is the best training they can possibly get.”

Another sign of how well they’ve accepted their new home in the forest is that they are being observed foraging more often from native fruits, instead of relying on feeders placed strategically outside the release aviary. Joshua Pang-Ching, Research Coordinator for the Hawai‘i Endangered Bird Conservation Program noted, “In the beginning they would spend much more time at or around the feeders. Now we see birds coming to feeders much less. We have seen an anecdotal shift in their use of the feeders and see birds daily foraging on the fruits and foliage of native trees.” The supplemental feeders will remain in place for at least a year to ensure the newly “wild” birds have that extra helping hand they might need.

Greggor, Pang-Ching, and Jackie Gaudioso-Levita, project coordinator of The ‘Alalā Project, said they are all hopeful, given how this released group of ‘Alalā is doing. Gaudioso-Levita said, “These birds have adjusted very well to their forest home and it’s just been really inspiring for all of us on the project to see and hear ‘Alalā in the wild again.” They said that it is a sweet sound for the many people who’ve worked for decades to get to this point. They said they hope the distinctive caw of the ‘Alalā will again be heard loud and clear across broad landscapes of Hawai‘i Island. Plans are underway to release additional birds in the Hawai‘i Island Natural Area Reserve later this year.

Watch a video of the ‘Alalā posted by Hawai‘i Department of Land and Natural Resources at https://vimeo.com/252588023.

Read The Good News of Ka‘ū, Hawai‘i

KA PEPA VOLCANO

Volume 16, Number 2 February 2018

‘Alalā Surviving in Natural Area Reserve near Volcano

Call 967-8222 or visit www.VolcanoArtCenter.org

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Photos from San Diego Zoo Global

Young ‘Alalā raised in captivity and released by the state Department of Land & Natural Resources, San Diego Zoo Global, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Hawai‘i Endangered Bird Conservation program, and others.

Kāwā Stewardship, cont. from pg. 13

Akau pointed to what he feels is one of the most important lessons that students can gain from visits to Kāwā. He said, “Students need to create their own relationships with the space. Go enjoy yourself and love this place.” For more information about the Feb. 10 workday or to engage with Nā Mamo o Kāwā, contact James Akau at namamookawa@gmail.com or call 430-3058.

Fed Shutdown, cont. from pg. 1

nities near the park. “That spending supported 1,917 jobs in the local area and had a cumulative benefit to the local economy of $199,923,400,” the National Park Ser-
Two More Chances to Count Humpback Whales this Season

There are two more chances to count whales this season for Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary. The viewing sites have been announced to count humpback whales and other marine life during peak whale season, the last Saturday of both February and March, from 8 a.m. to noon.

The four locations, from Miloli’i to Volcano, are:

**Hawaii’i Wildfire Summit Open for Firefighters, Ranchers, Farmers**

The first ever Hawaii’i Wildfire Summit is open for attendance by Ka’ū and Volcano volunteer firefighters, ranchers, farmers, resource managers, and homeowners concerned about fire risk. The event will draw concerned persons from around the island and the Pacific.

Presentations, workshops, and trainings will follow tracts related to wildfire hazard reduction in and around communities, as well as toward natural and cultural resource protection from summit to sea. The Hawaii’i Wildfire Summit is designed to bring together a diverse audience to become apprised of best practices and innovations in wildfire protection, discuss lessons learned, and to provide a space that invites collaboration and coordination toward the next steps in Hawaii’i and the Pacific.

According to the statement, “Over the years, Hawaii’i Wildfire Management Organization has come to understand that wildfire-related challenges are faced by a wide array of professionals and citizens, including more than just those focused on emergency response. While the summit program is informative and highly valuable for fire professionals, the offerings are also targeted toward other efforts and people that deal with wildfire, such as riparian and marine conservation, cultural resource protection, the visitor industry, planning professionals, and community groups.”

An additional event will be held Monday, Apr. 30, and Tuesday, May 1. Called the N.F.P.A. Assessing Structure Ignition Potential from Wildfire Training, the course is limited to 40 participants. Registration is first come, first served.

Register for all the classes at Hawaii’i Wildfire Summit. Some scholarships are available. Hawaii’i Wildfire Management Organization is looking for volunteers to assist with the event in exchange for partial or full registration.

For more information on the summit visit hawaiiwildfire.org.
Hawai’i Horse Owners present

26th Annual

Pana’ewa Stampede Rodeo

Feb 17, 18 & 19, 2018

Pana’ewa Equestrian Center - Hilo

Noon on Sat ~ 11am on Sun and Mon

Featuring JJ Harrison, Rodeo Clown
Buster Barton, Announcer

Rodeo Events ~ Food ~ Crafts ~ Sunday Night Music
Tickets: $8 PreSale ~ $10 On-line & At Gate ~ Keiki under 12 FREE
Requests for Auxiliary Aid/Reasonable Modification in by Feb. 2, 2017

www.HawaiiRodeoStampede.com