

Climate Action Plan for Hawai'i County Ready for Public Comment

The Climate Action Plan Draft for Hawai'i County is ready for public comments. The first draft is available online on the county website. A statement from County Department of Research & Development says, "This document is the next step forward for Hawai'i County to reach its Greenhouse Gas emissions goals, and to protect the health and safety of our communities. Implementing the actions and strategies outlined in this plan will enable Hawai'i Island to become more sustainable and self-reliant, while playing its role

in mitigating global climate change." Comments and feedback should be submitted to the county at sustainability@hawaiicounty.gov no later than May 31.

"During these times of preventative steps taken to reduce the spread of COVID-19, many people are noticing the true impact that human behavior has on nature. The County estimates it will see a drop of 1,482,319.546 MTCO₂, or a 42 percent reduction, in total emissions, due



to the decrease in air travel and vehicle miles traveled, due to Stay-At-Home and Social Distancing measures," says the county's statement.

In addition to mitigating GHG emissions, the plan also aims for Hawai'i Island to produce all of its energy demand domestically and through renewable alternatives to fossil fuels; provide clean and accessible public mobility; encourage zero waste behavior; and expand conservation and preserva-

tion of natural areas. "The Climate Action Plan increases the County's commitment to deliver equitable solutions to improving our community's health, wellness, and economic resiliency," says the statement. "The Climate Action Plan will continue to be updated and improved to reflect the values and priorities of our community as we reach our goals. Please share your mana'o on this important initiative."

See the first draft at rd.hawaiicounty.gov/economic-development/climate-change-action.

THE KA'Ū CALENDAR

Volume 18, Number 5

The Good News of Ka'ū, Hawai'i

May 2020

Gov's Orders: Stay Home Until May 31

Stay home until May 31 is the order from Gov. David Ige. In announcing his 6th supplementary emergency proclamation on April 25, he said, "This was not an easy decision. I know this has been difficult for everyone. Businesses need to reopen. People want to end this self-isolation and we want to return to normal, but this virus is potentially deadly, especially for the elderly and those with pre-existing conditions. Thanks to our residents, we are flattening the curve, saving lives, and avoiding a resurgence of this virus by not reopening prematurely."

A message from Mayor Harry Kim's offices described the governor's rule to stay at home longer: "It's pretty straightforward, and makes sense to extend the stay at home order. We're not out of the woods yet." See page 2 for rules from the mayor.

The stay-at-home order means resi-

dents may leave their homes only for various essential needs, including healthcare; purchasing food, medicine, or gasoline; taking care of the elderly, minors, or those with disabilities; returning to a place of residence outside of Hawai'i; or picking up educational materials for distance learning; or receiving meals or other related services. Outdoor exercise is also permitted – including swimming, surfing, and walking pets.

In addition, running, jogging, or walking on the beach will be permitted, as long as social distancing requirements are observed.

Also extended through the end of May is the 14-day quarantine for both visitors and residents entering the state, and for inter-island travelers, and the eviction moratorium, which prevents any eviction from a residential dwelling for failure to

Stay at Home, pg. 3



Rodney Freitas, of Ka'ilili Mali'e Farm above Pāhala, bags up radishes at the 'O Ka'ū Kākou Nā'ālehu Market. The market runs from 8 a.m. to noon every Wednesday and requires social distancing, face masks for everyone, and the cleaning of hands at sanitation stations.

Photo by Lora Botanova

Local Food Sources Expand to Help Feed Ka'ū

Educational institutions and volunteers from non-profits all over Ka'ū are



Wayne Kawachi gives away his catch in mid-April, before the face mask requirement.

Photo by Julia Neal

increasingly helping during the COVID-19 pandemic, by feeding residents, especially children and kūpuna.

Community organization 'O Ka'ū Kākou helps with the Food Basket hand-out to keep 14 days of nutrition in family coffers at locations are all around the district. OKK President Wayne Kawachi and other members go fishing for kūpuna and needy households, with Pāhala postal clerk Jana Kaniho reserving fish for the seniors. Kūpuna are

treated to ehu, ahi, ono, and kahala, handed out in Pāhala, Nā'ālehu, and Ocean View, with some of the fish delivered directly to homes. Kawachi said he and his cohorts – Evan Enriques, Michale Okumura, and John Masters, who donate a portion of their catch – will continue to fish when the weather is good.

Kawachi said he originally planned to fish to help fundraise for OKK's purchase of the Nā'ālehu Market property, where OKK plans to eventually build housing for seniors. Kawachi is known for walking 100 miles in rubber slippers to kick off the fundraising campaign for the property. However, when the pandemic reached the island, Kawachi said, he decided to focus on kūpuna and people in need. OKK hopes to give every Ka'ū senior a chance to enjoy a piece of fish before making a second round, said Kawachi. Kūpuna who have not

yet received free fish can contact volunteer Jana Kaniho, at 936-8949, to be placed on a list. Kaniho will contact kūpuna as fish become available. Kaniho, also a Pāhala Post Office clerk, and her daughter Harley, a fifth grader at Nā'ālehu Elementary, help Kawachi with distribution.

Kaniho coordinates with kūpuna and their family members to pick up fish at designated spots. Harley is the runner, carrying fish to the vehicles. "Harley enjoys being there to help. She loves to see all the people that Wayne and OKK are helping, and especially all the smiles and appreciation they show!" said Jana. People are so thankful, they send Kaniho pictures of their cooked fish and meals, which she posts on her Facebook. Kawachi noted that it is difficult for some seniors to get to the store, especially now, and fresh fish gives a

Local Food, pg. 10

Petitions Circulate to Save U.S. Postal Service

Save the United States Postal Service is the aim of petitions circulated by members of congress, postal service workers, and citizens, particularly folks in rural areas where U.S.P.S. is sometimes the only option. From Volcano through Ka'ū to Miloli'i, the number of postal addresses is about 5,000. The U.S. Postal Service delivers *The Ka'ū Calendar* newspaper to every postal address in these communities.

Sen. Mazie Hirono wrote to Hawai'i residents: "More than ever before, we are relying on the Postal Service to deliver essential goods, supplies, and medicine, to receive economic impact payments and government benefits, and to safely exercise the right to vote with mail-in ballots. U.S.P.S. is also the primary means of conducting the 2020 Census. But the Postal Service has been hit hard by the coronavirus, meaning it could run out of money by June and collapse completely by September without immediate intervention."

"The U.S.P.S. is a universal delivery system -- they are required by law

Post Office, pg. 3



U.S. Postal Service boxes, like these in Pāhala are the only way that most people receive mail from Volcano through Ocean View. A petition drive across the country aims to save U.S.P.S. from shutting down by September.

Photo by Julia Neal

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Also in this issue: P2 Business * P3 Pāhala
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KA'Ū BUSINESS, REAL ESTATE

Volume 18, Number 5

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SBA Processing New Round of Paycheck Protection Applications

The Small Business Administration resumed processing Paycheck Protection applications on April 27. SBA is responding to applications received from financial institutions on behalf of small businesses. Financial institutions through which businesses must apply are listed by SBA by zip code at sba.gov/paycheckprotection/find. Those named for Ka'ū and Volcano are CU Hawai'i Federal Credit Union

branches in Nā'ālehu, Pāhala and Kea'au. Also listed is First Hawaiian Bank in Kealahou.

The aim of Paycheck Protection is to provide money to businesses to keep employees working during the pandemic.

"Interested applicants should contact their financial institution ASAP," says an alert from Chamber of Commerce Hawai'i. "Congress added \$310 billion to

the program, which includes \$60 billion that will be distributed through community and rural banks. According to SBA, there is no current update on when the Economic Injury Disaster Loan program application will reopen. The SBA recommends checking its website for updates, sba.gov. Congress added \$50 billion in EIDL funding, \$10 billion for EIDL emergency grants and made farmers and

ranchers with fewer than 500 employees eligible to apply."

Chamber of Commerce Hawai'i is conducting a poll, asking businesses how much lead time they need to safely reopen. The feedback will be shared with state and county leaders, promises the Chamber. To participate, go to survey-monkey.com/r/5QV8TC7.

Businesses Follow Strict Rules for Masks, Distancing, Sanitation

Stricter rules regarding face masks, sanitization, and social distancing were put in place last month by Mayor Harry Kim. He issued Emergency Rule No. 3, which mandates face masks or coverings for all customers of essential businesses age five and older, and all employees who have contact with others, to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

The mayor's COVID-19 Emergency Rule No. 3 stipulates that a business shall disallow entry to anyone who refuses to wear a face mask or covering. Exempted from wearing face masks are persons with health or medical conditions that prohibit the use of face masks or coverings.

Rule 3 also calls for all customers to sanitize their hands at entry, and hand sanitizing stations must be set up in the customers' path at the entrance.

Kim said the County's COVID-19 Prevention and Education Task Force will work with businesses to ensure compliance from employees and customers.

"These are stricter than the Governor's rules, because we want to make sure that our community stays healthy and safe," the mayor said. Rule 3 was

prompted in part after the recent outbreak of the virus among fast food workers and their families in Kona.

"We want these rules to be in place, while focusing on being reasonable so that people can make a living," said the mayor.

The Rule strongly recommends that one customer per 250 square feet be allowed into an establishment to ensure the six-foot distancing requirement, and to increase social distancing.

Rule 3 calls for businesses to discourage hoarding of essential supplies, and mandates that businesses post signage and communicate special hours for high-risk populations.

Businesses that handle food production and consumption are to have employees use gloves while handling food, and employees who handle any payment transaction by cash or credit card must sanitize or change gloves before serving the next customer.

All businesses are required to assign,



"No mask, no entry," states a sign outside Mizuno Superette in Pāhala, complying with Rule 3 handed down by Mayor Harry Kim.

Photo by Julia Neal

train, and schedule employees to sanitize carts, conveyors, counters, handles, knobs, and other common touch areas, the Rule says.

Hawai'i Coffee Association: Waiver to Help Retain Coffee Pickers

Hawai'i Coffee Association has announced a waiver for workers from outside the country for coffee season in

Hawai'i. President Chris Manfredi said the waiver comes from the Department of Homeland Security, with support from the U.S Department of Agriculture. "The temporary final rule changes certain H-2A requirements

to help U.S. agricultural employers avoid disruptions in lawful agricultural-related employment, protect the nation's food supply chain, and lessen impacts from the coronavirus (COVID-19) public health emergency. These temporary flexibilities will not weaken or eliminate protections for U.S. workers," says a Homeland Security statement.

"Under this temporary final rule, an H-2A petitioner with a valid temporary labor certification who is concerned that workers will be unable to enter the country due to travel restrictions, can

start employing certain foreign workers who are currently in H-2A status in the United States immediately after United

States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) receives the H-2A petition, but no earlier than the start date of employment listed on the petition. To take advantage of this time-limited change in regulatory requirements, the H-2A worker seeking to change employers must already be in the United States and in valid H-2A status.

"Additionally, USCIS is temporarily amending its regulations to protect the country's food supply chain by allowing H-2A workers to stay beyond the three-year maximum allowable period of stay in the United States. These temporary changes will encourage and facilitate the continued lawful employment of foreign temporary and seasonal agricultural workers during the COVID-19 national emergency. Agricultural employers

should utilize this streamlined process if they are concerned with their ability to bring in the temporary workers who were previously authorized to work for the employer in H-2A classification. At no point is it acceptable for employers to hire illegal aliens."

Acting Secretary of Homeland Security Chad F. Wolf said, "This Administration has determined that continued agricultural employment, currently threatened by the COVID-19 pandemic, is vital to maintaining and securing the country's critical food supply chain. The temporary changes announced by USCIS provide the

needed stability during this unprecedented crisis."



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KA PEPA PĀHALA

Volume 18, Number 5

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May 2020

Most Parks Closed, Fishing, Swimming, Exercising Allowed at Shoreline

Most county and state parks around the island, including those in Ka'ū, are closed. All county parks remain closed to picnicking, camping, or any kind of gathering. People are allowed to cross parks to the ocean but not allowed to sit, stand and talk with one another, lounge or lie down on the beach, or otherwise loiter. Violators face a warning or outright arrest. Penalties for breaking emergency rules are up to a \$5,000 fine and up to a year in jail.

Both the state and county have announced that more park use could be allowed over time, with strict social distancing as long as COVID-19 cases continue.

The following county beach parks around the island are available daily from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., "for the purposes of direct access to and from the ocean and shoreline in order to engage in outdoor exercise, fishing for and gathering food, and use of restroom and shower facilities":



Fishing by kayak for food, like this man at Punalu'u, is an approved use of the ocean during the pandemic.

Photo by Julia Neal



Some county parks have been opened with limited access to restrooms and walking to the shore. Pāhala Community Center Park building and grounds with the children's playground remains closed.

Photo by Lora Botanov

Kahalu'u Beach Park, Magic Sands Beach Park, Wai'aha Bay Beach Park (Honl's), Kawaihae Canoe Area, Honoli'i Beach Park, Kaipalaoa Landing Beach Park, Bayfront Beach Park, Reed's Bay Beach Park, and Lili'uokalani Gardens.

Restrooms at Ka'ū's two county beach parks, Punalu'u and Honu'apō-Whittington Beach Park, remain closed.

Open restrooms, daily from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., include Mo'ohau Bus Terminal, Lincoln Park, Bayfront Soccer Fields,

Bayfront Beach Park, Liliuokalani Gardens, Reeds Bay Beach Park, Honoli'i Beach Park, 'Alae Cemetery, Shipman Park, Kurtistown Park, Kahalu'u Beach Park, Magic Sands Beach Park (La'aloa), Wai'aha Bay Beach Park (Honl's), Kailua Park (Old A/Maka'eo) beach only, Waikoloa Pu'u Nui Park, and Waimea Park tennis courts only. Veterans Cemetery No. 2 restrooms are open 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. Gilbert Kahele Recreation Area restrooms are open 24 hours.

Post Office, from pg. 1

to deliver all packages to everyone, no matter where they live. No other delivery system guarantees universal and affordable delivery to the entire country.

"Trump is refusing to give emergency funding to the U.S.P.S. -- putting hundreds of thousands of workers at risk of unemployment, and millions of Americans at risk of being left without this critical service. He even threatened to veto Congress' recent stimulus package if it included aid for the Postal Service, and said he will block emergency aid unless the Postal Service quadruples its prices.

"This is unacceptable. Our postal workers have put their lives on the line to continue serving the American people. Many seniors and veterans rely on the Postal Service to receive their medication and benefits. And without it, vote-by-mail would be im-



Pāhala Post Office separates customers from staff at the counter with a clear plastic curtain and a blue-taped access to the counter for transactions.

Photo by Julia Neal

Stay at Home, from pg. 1

pay rent.

In addition, social distancing requirements remain in place across the state through the end of May.

The governor issued the initial emergency proclamation for COVID-19 on Mar. 4, 2020 followed by: March 16 - Supplementary proclamation suspending certain laws to enable state and county responses to COVID-19; March

Stat at Home, pg. 7

possible, causing people to have to choose between staying safe and exercising their right to vote.

"Many of us are familiar with this saying, 'Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds.'

"Let's ensure that neither a pandemic nor Trump will stop them."

She urged the citizenry to add names to a petition to save U.S.P.S. at tiny.cc/6pwunz.

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She's 88, Sews 90 Face Masks

Eighty-eight year old Doris Davis, of Pāhala, sewed more than 90 face masks to give away. Thirty have gone to 30 local seniors who usually get together for meals and activities on weekdays at Pāhala Senior Center, but are unable to gather during the COVID-19 pandemic. Another 60 masks, created by Davis, have gone to Maui for the Kula Hospital and friends there.



Doris Davis, of Pāhala, sewing 30 masks for Pāhala senior center members. She has made 60 more for Maui's Kula Hospital and friends.

Photo by April Joy Pitcher

Davis is an artist, author, and fashion designer, using her sewing machine as one of her many creative tools.

Her activities in recent years have included the board of the Friends of Ka'ū Libraries, marching in the Nā'ālehu Fourth of July Parade, assisting at the Pāhala Senior Center, and working the reading and book sales booths at numerous community events. She was also named the Island's Senior of the Year by the County Office of Aging.

Stars over Ka'ū - May 2020

by Lew & Donna Cook

Planets

No bright planets are visible at chart time. Venus was up at sunset, but it set an hour and a quarter before chart time (10 p.m. on May 15th). Jupiter will rise at about 11:12 p.m. on the 15th and Saturn at 11:30 p.m. On the first of May, these times are 12:06 a.m. and 12:25 a.m., while at the end of the month, they are a couple hours earlier, at 10:08 p.m. and 10:26 p.m. for Jupiter and Saturn, respectively. Mars will rise at around 1:20 a.m.

Fridays Sunrise and Sunset times:

Date	Sunrise	Sunset
May 1, 2020	5:53 am	6:45 pm
May 8	5:50 am	6:47 pm
May 15	5:47 am	6:50 pm
May 22	5:45 am	6:53 pm
May 29	5:44 am	6:55 pm

The sun will pass directly overhead (meaning a vertical pole casts no shadow) at local solar noon around May 14 (South Point) until May 18 (Volcano) depending upon your location.

Date	Moon Phases	Moonrise	Moonset
Full Moon			
May 7, 2020		7:31 pm	7:03 am**
Last Quarter			
May 14		1:03 am	12:35 pm
New Moon			
May 22		5:52 am	7:11 pm
First Quarter			
May 29		12:10 pm	1:11 am**

Local Attractions

The Hilo 'Imiloa Planetarium may continue its closure through May but there is a wealth of information at 'Imiloa@home. See imiloahawaii.org/imiloaathome for great information.

Visitor Bureau Chief Gives Ideas for Tourism Recovery

Ideas for COVID-19 recovery to the visitor industry on this island came to the County Council in April. Ross Birch, Executive Director of the Island of Hawai'i Visitors Bureau, gave his report via video conference. He presented Hawai'i Tourism Authority statistics, showing hotel occupancy rates plunging from 80 percent on Feb. 29 to under 10 percent by April 11. Fear of spreading and contracting COVID-19, accompanied by travel and quarantine mandates, created the plunge in tourism along with massive unemployment.

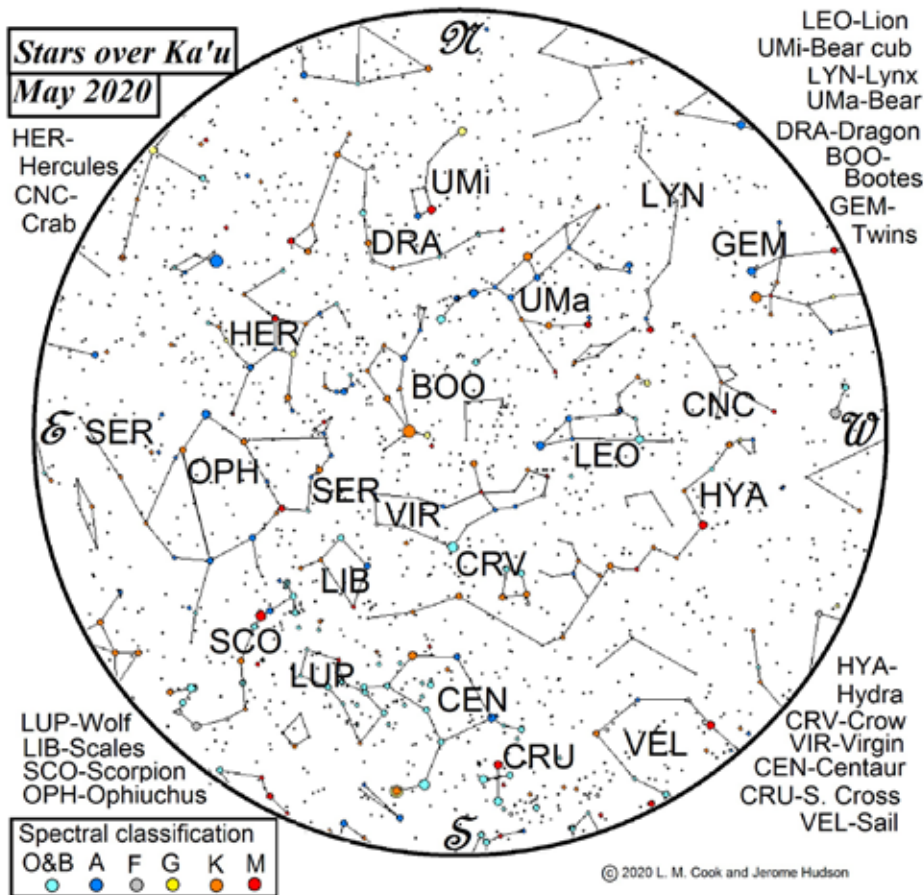
Birch described the situation as "a wild ride" and "unlike anything we have ever seen in tourism." He said he supports restrictions on travel and accommodations for tourists,

insisting that the visitor industry backs mitigation measures to stop COVID-19 "before we can start again." Birch shared his suggestions for restarting tourism once the pandemic is gone.

He recommended that the first visitors go to "drive-to" destinations, away from congested urban areas. He predicted that travelers will be attracted less to crowded places. He said venues with fewer COVID-19 cases and strong preventative measures will do better in attracting and serving visitors.

He said precautions taken by airports and airlines will be necessary to keep visitors and locals safe.

Birch predicted that hotels on Hawai'i Island will stay closed at least until the end



How to use this map: Hold this map over your head so that the northern horizon points toward the north on the Earth. For best results, use a red flashlight to illuminate the map. If you are looking east, hold it in front of you so that east is on the bottom. For south views, south at the bottom, and for west, west at the bottom. Use this map at the times shown on in its upper left corner. Keep this page handy and show it to your keiki next month. They probably have bedtimes before the time of the chart shown here. Check the colors of the stars with the color version at KauCalendar.com.

The constellations are presented with their 3-letter abbreviations, with their common names shown in the margins. This is done to take advantage of the truly dark skies Ka'ū is blessed with when there is no bright moon and the skies are clear of vog. The star charts are produced from a sky Atlas program written by Jerry Hudson, who has given us permission to publish it. Thank you, Jerry.

of May and noted that previous bookings for July are strong and that some groups scheduled for March through June have moved to Fall or 2021. According to Birch, "Airlines will ramp up slowly, with limited flights through the end of June. In order to bring back visitors, the "initial price point for air-

fare and accommodations needs to be very competitive," he said.

As a destination, travel demand remains strong for Hawai'i, said Birch. He also recommended creating unique experiences allowing social distancing, and promoting small group activities.

Farm Bureau, Farmers Union Unite for Food Security

A report on COVID-19 impacts on Hawai'i agricultural producers was produced by a working group of farmers and ranchers, including



Fely Villegas, of Pāhala, grows food at home and also takes care of this garden at Pāhala Senior Center, growing corn, fruits, and vegetables for kūpuna food security.

Photo by Lora Botanova



Volunteer firefighters Lizie Stabo and Terry-Lee Shibuya help with Food Basket distribution in Ocean View.



A long line of cars queued in the Ocean View Park & Ride lot and down the road on Thursday, April 23, where 'O Ka'ū Kākou distributed free food. However, the line moved quickly due to the efficiency of the volunteers. Photo by Nalani Parlin

members of Hawai'i Farm Bureau and Hawai'i Farmers Union United. The working group submitted findings and recommendations

to the state House of Representatives Select Committee on COVID-19 Economic and Financial Preparedness in April.

The report states that, after urgent health issues, "feeding our community is the most critical challenge we face in the continuing coronavirus pandemic. With no clear end to the crisis within sight, we are already seeing the attention of leaders from around the world shift as food producer markets contract and transportation networks are shaken to their core. Hawai'i's tenuous dependence on just-in-time delivery and importing 90 percent of our food has left our communities exposed to another heightened threat."

The report suggests there is a second curve to flatten: food insecurity. Food banks and non-profits are struggling to feed

Hawai'i families on a massive scale, states the report. Food banks' usual sources of funds and donations are diminished. In a typical month, states the report, the Hawai'i

Foodbank purchases roughly \$33,000 in food. In the first four weeks of the pandemic, "it has had to make \$640,000 in purchases to

Food Security, pg. 6



Boys & Girls Club staff members carry food to families in Ocean View as part of the Kūpuna Keiki Kau Kau.

Photo from Boys & Girls Club

The Ka'ū Calendar

KA'Ū SPORTS REPORT

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May 2020

Sports: Hoped for Spring, Look to Fall, Honor Athletes

During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, all Spring interscholastic sports were cancelled in April by the Hawai'i High School Athletic Association and its member leagues. HHSAA Executive Director Chris Chun issued a statement, saying the decision to cancel was "extremely difficult for all involved considering the impact it will have on our students, parents, coaches, and administrators throughout our state."

He said HHSAA and its member leagues prepared for a variety of emer-

gency situations and "used that same spirit and planning by expressing a willingness to discuss and explore every scenario and option possible to save the spring season. However, because the health and safety of our student-athletes and communities are our top priorities, there is no viable option to salvage the spring season... We will continue to build upon the progress made in anticipation for the long-awaited return to sports."

you all have very bright futures ahead. We hope the lessons learned while participating in education-based athletics, along with the friendships and memories made, will make a lasting impression."

HHSAA member leagues are Big Island Interscholastic Federation, Inter-scholastic League of Honolulu, Kaua'i Interscholastic Federation, Maui Interscholastic League, and the O'ahu Interscholastic Association.

Messages thanking departing Seniors in sports at Ka'ū High are posted on Twit-



Trojans Girls Softball Team.

Photo from Ka'ū Athletics

ter by @Ka'ūAthletics:

Track: "Today we would have Honored Seniors Melinda Eder, Sidrielle Candaroma, Michael Rodarte & Luke Watson after their Meet! We Thank you for the Memories! #c/o2020 #Quarantine #HoomanaMau"

Boys Volleyball: "Today we would have Honored Seniors Seth Eder & Kyson Toriano after their Senior Game! We Thank you for the Memories! #c/o2020 #Quarantine #HoomanaMau"

Baseball: "Today we would have Honored Seniors Seth Eder, Raymond Polido-Kalili, Michael Rodarte, Kainalu Satkosky & Kyson Toriano after their Senior Game! We Thank you for the Memories! #c/o2020 #Quarantine #HoomanaMau"

Baseball: "Today we would have Honored Seniors Seth Eder, Raymond Polido-Kalili, Michael Rodarte, Kainalu Satkosky & Kyson Toriano after their Senior Game! We Thank you for the Memories! #c/o2020 #Quarantine #HoomanaMau"

so much to team and forever will have a place in my heart. I'll never ever forget all the memories that we've had on bus rides, practices, and in the locker rooms. I love all you guys so much and I'll miss playing high school sports so much. MUAHHH!"



Trojans Track Team.

Photo from Ka'ū Athletics

Scoring-Live.com, where interscholastic sports scores and stats of players are recorded for schools all over the nation, created the platform to honor Hawai'i student-athletes in the Class of 2020: the Senior Shoutout.

A message on the website says, "ScoringLive sends congratulations and best of luck to all the graduating seniors this year, but in particular to the hundreds of student-athletes that we've had the privilege of covering during their high school athletic careers."

Filtering by school using the navigation panel, anyone can read these messages and see the photos.

All graduating seniors who participated in any sport during the 2019-2020 school year are encouraged to submit the following: name, school, a brief written message of aloha, and a photo the student has permission to use. The student can then send to scoringlive@gmail.com, using the subject ScoringLive Shoutout.



Trojans Boys Baseball Team.

Photo from Ka'ū Athletics

#Quarantine #HoomanaMau"

Softball: "Today we would have Honored Seniors Marilou Manantan & Deste-nie Alani-Horan after their Senior Game! We Thank you for the Memories! #c/o2020 #quarantine #HoomanaMau"

One tweet also honors Athletic Trainer Moses Whitcomb:

National AT Month was in March - "With the school closed, we could not honor KHPES AT Moses Whitcomb properly! We gave him an AcTion Shirt at today's 'Grab-N-Go' Meal Pick Up in DH! Thank you for the work you do to help our student-athletes! #staysafe."

Many public high schools will fire up their stadium lights to honor the Class of 2020 on Friday nights through May 29. Lights are planned to come on at 8:20 p.m. (2020 hours on a 24-hour clock) for 20 minutes and 20 seconds. "This is not a public event," states the tweet from De-

partment of Education, "so #stayhome-stayhealthy #HI4PublicEd #PublicSchool-Proud #bealight."



Athletic Trainer Moses Whitcomb, pictured with Ka'ū Athletic Director Kalei Namohala, was honored with a t-shirt in March, National Athletic Director Month.

Photo from Ka'ū Athletics



Trojans Boys Volleyball Team.

Photo from Ka'ū Athletics

careers."

Filtering by school using the navigation panel, anyone can read these messages and see the photos.

All graduating seniors who participated in any sport during the 2019-2020 school year are encouraged to submit the following: name, school, a brief written message of aloha, and a photo the student has permission to use. The student can then send to scoringlive@gmail.com, using the subject ScoringLive Shoutout.

school year are encouraged to submit the following: name, school, a brief written message of aloha, and a photo the student has permission to use. The student can then send to scoringlive@gmail.com, using the subject ScoringLive Shoutout.

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KA'Ū SCHOOL & YOUTH

Nā'ālehu Launches Lessons & Computer Deliveries

Taking learning to the students is the goal of Nā'ālehu Elementary School, as children stay home during the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition to online lessons and virtual sessions with teachers, students receive gifts from school –



Nā'ālehu Elementary staff volunteers, Dayna Santiago, Rose Acevedo, Shelly Badua, Cynthia Baji, and Minda Brown, handed out student learning resources and packets at Discovery Harbour Community Center. See the schedule for the next delivery into student neighborhoods below.

in the same family. Students need not be present for the learning resources to be retrieved. Please note the grade of each child. Distribution times are organized by the first letter of the student's last name at the site closest to their home.

Supplies will be given out simultaneously.

Everyone is asked to observe social distancing rules, staying 6 feet away from others during pick-up. See the school website, naalehu.hidoe.us, for more information and updates.

Distribution at Nā'ālehu Elementary has pick-up from 8 a.m. - 8:20 a.m. for A-H; 8:20 a.m. - 8:40 a.m. for I-P, and 8:40 a.m. - 9 a.m. for Q-Z.

Distribution at Discovery Harbour Community Center has pick-up from 8 a.m. - 8:20 a.m. for A-H; 8:20 a.m. - 8:40 a.m. for I-P, and 8:40 a.m. - 9 a.m. for Q-Z.

Distribution at Ocean View Mālama Market has pick-up from 9:30 a.m. - 9:50 a.m. for A-H, 9:50 a.m. - 10:10 a.m. for I-P, and 10:10 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. for Q-Z.

Distribution at Ocean View Community Center has pick-up from 5 p.m. - 5:20 p.m. for A-H, 5:20 p.m. - 5:40 p.m. for I-P, and 5:40 p.m. - 6 p.m. for Q-Z.



Principal Darlene Javar and Nellie Davis with Chromebooks that were handed out at Nā'ālehu Elementary School and Ocean View to students studying at home.

Photo by Bob Martin

computers, and written lessons and supplies. It's called the Learning Packet and Student Resource Distribution, where families drive through for a pick-up. The next ones are scheduled for Monday, May 11.

The packets have been available for pick-up every two weeks. One family member may pick up for several students

Those who come to campus to pick up free student breakfasts are encouraged to also pick up their packets at the same time.

For the latest updates on resource distribution and announcements, check the school website at sites.google.com/k12.hi.us/naalehu-elementary-school and *The Ka'ū Calendar* daily blog.

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Food Security, from pg. 4

keep up with demand. It is also encountering other challenges unique to these times, such as having to outbid other food banks and grocers across the country due to demand for long shelf-life goods and consumer hoarding."

With unemployment in Hawai'i at nearly a quarter million since March 1, the reports says the public has "intensifying fears" and "uncertainty" about access to "the basic necessity of food. Adding to this perfect storm is the threat of a literal one, as hurricane season nears. We would be gambling with lives to assume a pandemic is the only crisis Hawai'i may face in the coming months. Local farmers serve as a lifeline. They are our greatest defense against food insecurity and our greatest hope for future resiliency. They need our support as much as we need



Ocean View keiki who are members of the Boys & Girls Club receive free food on weekdays. Photo from Boys & Girls Club

theirs."

The report notes that short term food needs will be partially funded by about \$4 billion in COVID-19 funding through the CARES Act. The report suggests establishing a Food Security Subsidy Fund and Program, to directly provide funds to local food producers that provide free or discounted fresh produce or prepared meals. The report recommends direct funding to local food producers for farm inputs and other production costs.

The report recommends appointing a local farmer or rancher to the House Select COVID-19 Committee on Economic and Financial Preparedness.

The report also recommends expansion of programs like SNAP, the Pay-check Protection Program,

and USDA programs such as small producer grants, grants to organizations facilitating direct farm to consumer delivery, loan forgiveness/forbearance, technical assistance to navigate the federal opportunity process, reimbursement of transportation cost payment program, and microgrants.

The report suggests requiring state food programs to purchase a minimum of local food. For example, increase Department of Education meals to have at least 25 percent be local food within five years.

The report also suggests the state issue an official statement supporting and re-opening farmers' markets that comply with health restrictions to protect vendors and customers across the state. The report suggests a "certification" classification for these markets.

For long-term needs, the report recommends shovel-ready agricultural projects, especially in irrigation, food hub and aggregation site development, and future harvesting facilities.

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EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

On-Campus Classes, Graduation Go Virtual, Alternative

All public and charter school campuses in Ka'ū and Volcano will remain closed for the rest of the school year and graduation ceremonies will likely go online with a possible drive-thru reception of diplomas. The statewide decision, due to the uncertainty of the continuing COVID-19 pandemic, was announced mid-April by state Superintendent of Schools Christina Kishimoto. She said distance learning will continue until May 28, to be followed by summer school – also online. Those needing to catch up to graduate this year will receive an extended time to study.

Class of 2020 High School graduation will be untraditional this year. There will be no filling up the Ka'ū gym with family and friends, music and hula; no inspirational keynote speaker close to the graduates. There will be neither up-close photography, nor hugging and piling on the lei and balloons at the Pāhala school campus.

Kishimoto called the decision emotional and said, "We understand the importance of this milestone," but emphasized, "The safety of our community is paramount."

Celebratory options under consideration include drive-by handing out of diplomas, with schools decorated for the event. Kishimoto said that any alternative commencement program would be with



Teachers and administrators in Ka'ū are taking toiletries and other necessities to students living remotely, using the school bus and private vehicles. Lane Uyeda (center) is the Homeless Liaison Coordinator for the area and coordinated with Salvation Army to provide such basics as toothpaste and toothbrushes. Ka'ū High & Pāhala Elementary School Principal Sharon Beck (right) also helped.

Photo by Jason Britt

"strict safety protocols."

She noted that 15 area superintendents will be involved in the planning for reopening the campuses. They and their teachers and staff, will work on improving online learning, with more than 12,000 devices (computers) loaned to students. Also supporting distance education are printed lessons and activities, and 24/7 educational

programs on television in partnership with Hawaiian Tel and Spectrum. She said early college courses through University of Hawai'i are available for students to get ahead while learning at home, and that teacher training has been expanded online. The superintendent

noted that there will be money issues for the Department of Education and said that everyone needs to be fiscally prudent to be ready for next year. She said the DOE encourages only essential spending in preparation for next year.

Locally, school administrators, teachers, and staffs reached out to families to make sure children are equipped with computers, course programs, and printed educational packets. Some delivered them directly to community drop-off places and homes in remote areas. Others provided them for pickup at the schools. See Nā'ālehu story on Page 10.

Teachers and staff also delivered toiletries and other necessities to remote students using a school bus and private vehicles. Lane Uyeda, a teacher at Nā'ālehu School, is the Homeless Liaison coordinator for the area and worked with Salvation Army to provide such basics as toothpaste and toothbrushes. Ka'ū High & Pāhala Elementary School Principal Sharon Beck also helped.

Alumni & Friends Look to 2021 Ka'ū Reunion

Ka'ū High and Pāhala Reunion for alumni and friends has been cancelled. The annual event is held in Las Vegas. A message in late April from the organizing committee says, "Hope you are all staying healthy in this crazy world that has become the new normal for all of us. Our committee has been monitoring the situation related to the



Carol Andrade and the late Priscilla Obado promoting Las Vegas and Pāhala reunions for alumni and friends. Photo by Julia Neal

pandemic to determine whether having the annual Las Vegas reunion would be feasible or not. As the reunion date gets closer, there is still too much uncertainty so we have decided to cancel the 2020 reunion. We will hopefully be able to all meet again in 2021.

"For those of you who submitted your registration earlier, we will send you refunds or return your uncashed checks soon. We know that this is an event that we all look forward to and this cancellation may be disappointing but we all must stay healthy so we can get together in 2021!"

"On an even sadder note, Priscilla Obado recently passed away and we wanted to send our condolences to her family. As you all know, for the 16 or so years that the class of '59 hosted this reunion, Priscilla worked tirelessly in many different capacities. The reunions would not have happened without her dedication and hard work. We are extremely grateful for and appreciative of her commitment to this event."

Stay at Home, from pg. 3

21- Second supplementary proclamation implementing mandatory 14-day self-quarantine for visitors and residents enter-

ing the State of Hawai'i; March 23 - Third supplementary proclamation mandating social distancing measures throughout the state; March 31 - Fourth supplementary proclamation implementing a mandatory 14-day self-quarantine for people traveling between the islands in the State

of Hawai'i; and April 16 - fifth supplementary proclamation implementing enhanced social distancing requirements and an eviction moratorium.



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Ka'ū COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Fresh Food Directory Launched for Ka'ū through Volcano

Fresh Food on The Ka'ū Calendar is a new directory, with food sources from growers, sellers and restaurants from Volcano through Ka'ū. See it online at kaunewsbriefs.blogspot.com/2020/04/food-sources-on-kau-calendar.html and read it here. Farmers, ranchers, restaurants, and stores providing food during the pandemic are asked to join the directory at no cost and to update their information by contacting *The Ka'ū Calendar* staff at mahalo@aloha.net and kaucalendarnews@gmail.com, texting or calling 808-937-9965, or contacting *The Ka'ū Calendar* on Facebook:

Ocean View: Farms, Ranches, Retail

DJ's Pizza & Bake Shop, mauka of Hwy 11, Monday - Saturday, noon to 6 p.m., takeout only. Pizzas, creme puffs, cake slices, and full cakes to order. Call 929-9800 See Facebook.

Kahaulani Farms, run by Kini Keka of Ocean View, offers avocados, sapote, papaya, and citrus on Wednesdays at OKK's Nā'ālehu Market..

Kahuku Country Market, mauka of Hwy 11, is open its regular hours, 5 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily.

Ka Lae Garden Thai Food offers takeout along with farm stand fruits and vegetables. Hours are 11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Wednesday through Sunday. Call 808-494-7688.

Ka'ū Boy's Stone Oven offers many different breads, from sourdough to dill, organic and vegan, non-GMO, and cinnamon rolls, baked in a traditional Portuguese oven in Ocean View. Sold at the Wednesday OKK Nā'ālehu Market. Call 937-7854.

L&L Hawaiian Barbecue on the makai side of Hwy 11 is open 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. seven days a week, with takeout only. See the menu at hawaiianbarbecue.com. To order, call 929-8888.

Malama Market, makai of Hwy 11, is daily, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. The store sometimes places a limit on certain items but offers all of its fresh, refrigerated, frozen, canned, and dry foods as usual. Malama Market is owned by Foodland. Call 939-7560.

Ocean View Market, mauka of Hwy 11, is open daily from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. The Kamagaki family owners may limit the number of people in the



Pukana La Farms, of Wai'ōhinu, operated by Rourk Reagan, sells fruits, veggies, jams, and other tasty goods from the farm, in Wai'ōhinu and at the OKK Nā'ālehu Market on Wednesdays. Call 808-494-6952.

Photo by Lora Botanova

Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., takeout only. Call in orders at 929-9677.

Ranchos Ace Housemart Hardware, mauka of Hwy 11, is open Monday through Saturday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. The store offers extensive garden tools, soil, seeds for food plants, and fertilizers. Call 929-7315.

Ocean View: Free Nutrition Services

Ka'ū High & Pāhala Elementary is delivering food weekly on Wednesday to students in Green Sands, Discovery Harbour, and Ocean View.

St. Jude's Episcopal Church Soup Kitchen is open, with a modified menu and increased health & safety standards, every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Hot showers, the computer lab, and in-person services and bible studies are suspended. Services are posted online on Sundays at stjudeshawaii.org.

The Food Basket Food Pantries Distribution, where families can receive 14 days of food per family, Ocean View location and time is to be determined. Call 933-6030 for schedule as dates, times, and places are subject to change.

Nā'ālehu: Farms, Ranches, Retail

ACE Homemart Hardware in Nā'ālehu remains open 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday thru Saturday, and 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sundays. Employees said that backyard food growing appears to have increased since local schools shut down and kids are staying home. The store has found it difficult to keep seeds in stock but is still well supplied with gardening tools, soil, fertilizer, and



Ka'ū Boy's Stone Oven offers different breads, from sourdough to dill, organic and vegan, non-GMO, and cinnamon rolls, baked in a traditional Portuguese oven in Ocean View. Sold at the Wednesday OKK Nā'ālehu Market. Call 937-7854.

Photo by Lora Botanova

gloves. Call 929-9030.

Aloha Mix Food Truck on the makai side of Hwy 11 in Nā'ālehu is open Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. for takeout only. Call 808-756-8359.

Bee Boys in Nā'ālehu Shopping Center is open Monday thru Saturday, 9 a.m. to noon, with a pass-through window open for those who prefer not to enter the store. Call 808-215-0292. Bee Boys also sells online with free shipping to anywhere in the country during the pandemic. The company sells its products made from honey produced by its own hives. It also sources Ka'ū-grown lilikoi from Wai'ōhinu, Ka'ū Coffee, turmeric, and mamake, guava leaf, and other local teas.

Crooked C Ranch off South Point Road sells papaya, spinach, grass- and orange-fed beef, oranges, honey, eggs, bananas, and green bell peppers. See Facebook and Instagram. Call or text Elizabeth and Josh Crook at 808-345-0511.

Hana Hou Restaurant is open for takeout only, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. Retrieve menu by phone, on bulletin board, or at hanahourestaurant.com. They offer mostly burgers, bentos, and pizza, cookies, and dessert bars. Call 929-9717.

Kuahiwi Ranch Store sells locally raised beef, and ranch and farm supplies directly to the public, in Nā'ālehu at 95-5520 Mamālahoa Hwy. Among the offerings are grass-fed and grain-finished beef, and feed for cattle, horses, pigs, dogs, and chicken. Hours are Monday thru Friday, noon to 5 p.m. Call 929-7333.

Miranda's Farms Coffee Shop, between South Point Road and the Kahuku Unit of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park at 93-7136 Mamālahoa Hwy., sells internationally award-winning coffee. Patrons can drive thru to pick up brewed Ka'ū Coffee and pastries from 8 a.m. "until the coffee runs out," usually mid-afternoon, Monday through Saturday. Also available for pick-up is packaged whole and ground Miranda's Farms Ka'ū Coffee

beans. Their coffee is also sold online at mirandasfarms.com.

Orange Wood Estate on South Point Road, owned by Douglas Olsen, sells beef and a variety of citrus, including Ka'ū gold oranges, tangerines, and tangelos. For more information on purchasing

Handy County Guide

A Handy Guide to COVID-19 services and a new call center were announced in late April by County of Hawai'i.

The trifold brochure, *A Guide for Our Community*, was developed to provide information on available programs, including financial assistance, food assistance, medical assistance, help for seniors, and other resources. Copies of the brochure are being distributed islandwide, with an initial press run of 5,000 copies.

The new call center, manned by county workers, will be serving the public Monday through Friday, 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For help, call the Call Center at 961-8665.

"This is a difficult time for so many in our community, and we all need help at times," says the brochure introduction. "The Call Center will be serving anyone who needs extra assistance by taking your contact information and basic request, and then following up with the appropriate service provider."

Download the county guide at scribd.com/document/458064735/2020-04-23-County-COVID-19-Trifold-Guide-for-Community.

from him, call 907-232-1950.

Paradise Meadows Orchard and Bee Farm operates a farm stand from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., seven days a week, less than a mile from Hwy 11, at 93-2199 South Point Road. Offered are honey, macadamia nuts, Ka'ū Coffee, and seasonally: avocados, lemons, watercress, papaya, banana, and kale. See paradisemeadows.com, Facebook, or call 929-9148.

Pukana La Farms, of Wai'ōhinu, operated by Rourk Reagan, sells fruits, veggies, jams, and other tasty goods from the farm, in Wai'ōhinu and at the OKK Nā'ālehu Market on Wednesdays. Call



This photo is of Kini Keka of Kahaulani Farms in Ocean View. She sells avocados, sapote, papaya, and citrus at the OKK Nā'ālehu Market.

Photo by Lora Botanova

store, if necessary. Otherwise, the store is operating with fresh, refrigerated, frozen, canned, and dry foods, and household goods, as usual. Call 929-8800.

Ocean View Pizzeria, mauka of Hwy 11, is open Fridays and Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. and



Rollman Family Salmon offers fresh wild Alaska Salmon from their home in Ka'ū and on the road. See their Facebook.

Photo from Rollman Family Salmon

808-494-6952.

Punalu'u Bake Shop in Nā'ālehu has closed its retail and visitor center, with its kitchen for outdoor dining. However, its employees continue to produce its breads, cookies, and other products that are trucked and shipped to retailers and sold online. See bakeshophawaii.com to buy and gift the locally made products. Call 929-7343 for wholesale and fundraising orders.

Riley Ranch near the police station in Nā'ālehu offers lettuce, kale, chard, arugula, bok choy, salad mix, green onion, and other veggies. Call Amanda and Bryan Riley at 661-619-3601.

Rollman Family Salmon is a source of fish in Nā'ālehu. Trevor and Adria Rollman spend time between Alaska and Ka'ū, and market their catch as a family affair. They offer fillets, smoked, and

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May 2020

whole fish. Contact them for fish through Facebook or at 907-632-8664.

South Side Shaka Restaurant & Bar is offering a full takeout menu from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily, with bar service on the lanai only. The restaurant is offering pick-up, and delivery in Nā'ālehu, Green Sands, and Discovery Harbour. Menu is on the

ulukauhawaii.com or Facebook. Call 929-7900.

Union 76 WikiWiki Mart at the gas station in Nā'ālehu is open daily, 5 a.m. to 11 p.m., providing local beef, fresh fruits and vegetables, canned and frozen food, coffee and juices, and a large array of Costco foods, and cleaning and other household supplies. The store also offers ready to eat



Ka'ū Gold Oranges family also sells beef at OKK Nā'ālehu Market and from their ranch.

Photo by Lora Botanova

Southside Shaka Yelp page. Call 929-7404.

Taco Tita next to Hana Hou is open 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. for takeout only. Call 808-498-4957 or see Facebook.

Ulu Ka'ū Farm, formerly known as Ka'ū Valley

foods, snacks, and drinks. Call 929-7135.

Will & Grace Filipino Variety Store in Nā'ālehu Shopping Center remains open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday thru Saturday, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday. Its array of fresh foods includes produce from backyard farmers in Ka'ū and its own



The sanitation station at the OKK Nā'ālehu Market offers alcohol, bleach or peroxide.

Photo by Lora Botanova

Farm, is open on Tuesdays, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Thursdays, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., selling pumpkin, eggplant, papaya, lemons, limes, oranges, bananas, avocados, radishes, jicama, tomatoes, broccoli, turmeric, turnips, lettuce, green beans, green onions, squash, and more. Bring shopping bags to 95-1178 Ka'ala'iki Road above Nā'ālehu. See

award-winning Rising Sun Ka'ū Coffee. Call 929-9993 or 808-557-4441.

Nā'ālehu: Free Nutrition Services

The Food Basket - Food Pantries Distribution, where families receive 14 days of food on the second and fourth Thursday of the month from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. The May dates are the 14th and



Stacy Richards, a Master Gardener and teacher of growing foods. She sells seeds and plants that are edible, on behalf of the University of Hawai'i Master Gardener Program. She and Tim Kallai, an arborist, with 20 years of sustainable farming background, run Kahuku Ahupua'a Farm & Retreat in Ocean View. See facebook or email terraces.kau@gmail.com. Contact her for garden starts and learning to garden at 808-430-3444.

Photo by Lora Botanova



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808-329-1677

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Keauhou Shopping Center
808-322-2311

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www.ktasuperstores.com



28th. Location is Sacred Heart Church at 95-558 Mamalahoa Hwy. The program is called Loaves and Fishes. Call 928-8208 or 933-6030 for schedule as dates, times, and places are subject to change.

Nā'ālehu Elementary serves Grab-and-Go breakfasts from 7:30 a.m. to 8 a.m., and lunches, from 11:30 a.m. to noon, weekdays.

Home Meal Delivery for Seniors in Nā'ālehu is available through the County Nutrition program. The meals supplant the late morning lunches

Mondays through Fridays that seniors enjoyed at the Senior Center, which is shut down due to social distancing protocols. Call Roann Okamura, Elderly Activities Division Operations Director of the county Parks & Recreation department, at 961-8708.

Pāhala: Farms, Ranches, Retail

Ka'ili Mali'e Farms in Pāhala sells vegetables – including green leafy lettuces, Chinese cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower – Ka'ū Coffee, and much

Fresh Food, pg. 14

NU PEPA NĀ'ĀLEHU

Volume 18, Number 5

The Good News of Ka'ū, Hawai'i

May 2020

Wiki-Wiki: Masks, Distancing & Long Hours to Serve Public



Wiki-Wiki Mart's staff, L-R: kneeling, Kevin Hashimoto, Vernon Takaki. Standing: Michael Mochizuki, Darlene Galigo, Dorothy Mata, Ipolani Reyas, Isaac Matthews, and Jose Ortiz.

Photo by Carl Okuyama

Wiki-Wiki Mart in Nā'ālehu, open 5 a.m. to 11 p.m., seven days a week, announced extra staff last month, to make sure people wear masks and practice physical distancing while on the property. Kevin Hashimoto is the new security guard. Wiki-Wiki sells foods, drinks, supplies, and gasoline, and refills propane tanks.

Carl Okuyama manager for Wiki-Wiki LLC, Union-76, and 'Ohana Foods, said, "Wiki-Wiki Mart loves Ka'ū and will do our best to keep our community safe. Wearing of a face mask or Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is required to enter the store. People who are sick and cannot come into the store, instead may call the store for take-out kitchen food. Call 808-929-7135, pay over the phone with credit card, come to the store and park, call from your car, and have our associate bring you the order. Pick up of groceries or deliveries is not available."

Okuyama said that manager Darlene Galigo will schedule Essential Associates Kevin Hashimoto and Amu Mata to oversee



Amy Okuyama sews masks for the employees at the 76 station and Wiki-Wiki Mart in Nā'ālehu.

Photo by Carl Okuyama

face mask and distancing compliance for staff and customers. Amy Okuyama, of the Wiki-Wiki Mart family, sewed masks for all employees.

GoLikeLocals.com Offers Artisans Free Online Listing, Future Business

Local artisans can increase sales by joining Big Island Artisan Market online at GoLikeLocals.com; it's free, says Kelly Rene, a founder and organizer of Big Island Artisan Market. The Market first opened on Thursdays, Feb. 6, at Nā'ālehu Hongwanji, but soon shut down during the pandemic, when selling arts and crafts was deemed non-essential business by state government.

Artisans were turned away from markets in Ocean View, Nā'ālehu, and Volcano. The Ocean View Swap Meet and Big Island Artisans Market shut down, and the others quickly reduced their sales to food, food plants, seeds, and cleaning and gardening supplies. That left artisans, crafters, and resellers of non-food items with nowhere to go but online.

The goal of GoLikeLocals.com – produced by Rene, family, and friends – is to

bring income back into the artisans' wallets and "build an online shopping experience that supports the local economies." It showcases "the incredible talent here on the south end" of Hawai'i Island, said Rene.

She said the increasing foot traffic during its short time at Nā'ālehu Hongwanji was "respectable for a brand new market in a brand new location." She called the permission



of the Hongwanji to hold it there, "a very supportive gesture." Locals and visitors stopped in. "We even had a tour bus stop." She said the number of vendors and customers grew until COVID-19 hit. "With only a few weeks under our belt, the decision to close in the interest of public safety was made" by the government.

Rene, friends, and family soon repurposed an old

website. She said the free listing and use of GoLikeLocals.com is open to all. It provides direct links to the artisan vendors to carry out their own transactions.

Locals artisans on board include Yolanda Morales, of Ocean View, who makes head and hand lei, and sells pareos/sarongs; and photographer Jon Mikan, of Volcano.

"The goal is to help the smallest of our businesses, and impact our future. None of us are non-essential and this may just save some local businesses in this time of crisis," said Rene.

She said another goal at Big Island Artisan Market, once it is allowed to reopen to foot traffic, is to extend its Thursday walk-in market at Nā'ālehu Hongwanji to more days and help local vendors make a living closer to home. Rene also owns Big Island Bed & Breakfast. See GoLikeLocals.com.

Local Food, from pg. 1

welcome, healthy change to the menu.

In addition to helping through fishing and assisting with the Food Basket, 'O Ka'ū Kākou hands out fresh produce, eggs, milk, hotdogs, and chicken to anyone in need, including several times last month in



Ocean View. OKK and Kawachi also work with Ka'ū Hospital Food Manager Keone Grace to purchase food for the community at wholesale prices. Grace also buys and donates food to his local community in need. Others stepping up to help include Councilwoman Maile David, who donated \$6,000 to OKK to purchase food, and Ka'ū Hospital's Dr. Deborah Brackett, who donated \$500.

Local Ka'ū starlet Hunnay DeMello – who was recently featured on the TV show *Little Big Shots* for her hula-dancing prowess – shares the dates and location for the food giveaway on her Facebook. DeMello and her mother Monica also help to pass out food on days of distribution, along with other volunteers. One giveaway in April included a choice of kalua pork prepared by Nā'ālehu School staff, kalbi beef, frozen chicken thighs, or ham. Other items

offered were soda, fruit cups, Vienna Sausage, SPAM, tofu, and a variety of vegetables, including carrots, celery, spinach, and potatoes. In April, OKK also donated \$600 worth of food to St. Jude's, which cooks and gives free lunches to the needy, while Grace contributed fresh-baked cookies to the lunches. Kawachi said, "We have been getting a fantastic response. Everyone is joining in and helping." Anyone wanting to help out or join OKK should contact OKK secretary Nadine Ebert at okaukakou.org@gmail.com.

Another helping hand is the Boys & Girls Club of Hawai'i Island, which received \$20,000 in funding from the County Council in April. Board members and other volunteers drive hot food five days a week to Nā'ālehu School, where Boys & Girls Club staff receives it and delivers it to the

Local Food, pg. 15



Wayne Kawachi and Harley Kaniho hand out fresh fish in Nā'ālehu for kūpuna.

Photo by Jana Kaniho

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KAHUKU TO MILOLI'I

Volume 18, Number 5

The Good News of Ka'ū, Hawai'i

May 2020

Industrial Scale Solar Farm Decision for Ocean View May be Soon

The fate of the 6.75 megawatt industrial scale solar installation that is slated for construction among homes in Ocean View may soon be decided by the Public Utilities Commission.

What could be the final filings in the case were made mid-April by the parties to the prolonged case. Judging by directives given to the parties, the PUC may make its decision based on whether the 26 sites where solar is planned by one company on Ocean lands are considered one aggregated project, or 26 separate projects.

One project or many, the installations have been heavily opposed by local residents, including their state and county representatives. Those opposed testified that if allowed to be built on three-acre housing lots, the solar installations will have the effect of industrializing a rural residential community and will lead to depressed property values, increased crime, and eyesores in place of wide open spaces.

The project has its origins in the Feed-In Tariff Program, which was conceived in about 2008 as an incentive for the rapid introduction of renewable energy to Hawai'i. Lucrative rates of 26.8 cents per kilowatt hour were offered, and the "FIT Queue" was established for applicants willing to construct solar installations no larger than 250 kW (or a quarter megawatt). This size was chosen to facilitate quick and easy construction, or "plug and play."

Claiming there was no FIT rule to stop them, two developers acquired sites in Ocean View and sought to further capitalize further on the already generous FIT rates by acquiring multiple places on the FIT Queue.

One developer, Solar Hub, acquired 19 sites in the Ranchos subdivision and one in the Kula Kai subdivision, both in Ocean View. All the sites were adjacent to three-phase power lines, which, if used, will save the developer substantial costs in transferring power to the grid.

A second developer, a hui of principals from RevoluSun, acquired the rights to lease 22 sites in the South Kona subdivision and one in Ranchos. If they had been able

to acquire all the applications they sought, Solar Hub would have built a five MW project, and RevoluSun would have built a 5.75

Hub sold the 68 places in the FIT Queue on Hawai'i Island, O'ahu, and Maui, including the 20 in Ocean View, to SPI. Solar Hub

that the developers must pay for interconnection costs. HELCO prorated the \$3 million price tag among the developers. RevoluSun declined to pay and, in a deal which included a confidentiality clause, SPI Solar acquired RevoluSun's applications and sites. SPI took 18 months to pay the \$3 million non-refundable deposit to HELCO, in spite of FIT rules stating this must be done in two weeks.

In 2015, HELCO announced the project to the Ocean View community at a meeting. Many in the audience expressed anger. Threats against the project were leveled, including panel theft and the use of installations as targets for shooting guns. The spirited resistance was reported in the press. Magazine articles, video reports, blogs, and radio shows questioned the rationale of generating industrial-scale power in a residential area.

In August 2015, HELCO applied to the PUC for permission to construct the high voltage line, which led to a PUC-chaired community hearing in February 2016. This was attended by about 80 residents, all of whom spoke against the project. A petition against the project, signed by 650 residents, was presented. The PUC Chairman, Randy Iwase, heard criticisms of the way the project

Solar, pg. 15



Photo of solar installation at Miloli'i. In Ocean View, the three-acre lots would be graded edge to edge and surrounded by a chain link fence carrying signs like "Danger," "Keep Out," and "High Voltage."

Photo by Peter and Annie Bosted

MW project. However, the constraints of the FIT Queue in 2011 limited Solar Hub to 4.5 MW, and RevoluSun to 2.25 MW, for a total of 6.75 MW.

Solar Hub, lacking capital to build out its applications statewide, sold its 68 places in the FIT Queue to SPI Solar, a company based in Shanghai. This caused quite a ruckus in Honolulu, as Solar Hub did not get permission from any of the then-separate companies of Hawaiian Electric for the sale, as required by the FIT rules. Also, the PUC's "Plug and Play" standard only allows "shovel ready" projects in the Queue.

Solar Hub and SPI Solar back-tracked and legally "restated" their sales agreement, reclassifying it as a loan. SPI, Solar Hub, and Hawai'i Electric Company all assured the PUC that Solar Hub would not sell its applications until after the FIT contracts had been executed. Those assurances were ignored when, on March 12, 2013, Solar

had paid \$1,000 for each place in the Queue, and sold each place to SPI for an estimated \$350,000. According to filings made by SPI, that company spent over \$6 million for Solar Hub's sites and applications in Ocean View.

Meanwhile, HELCO ordered studies of what engineering would be needed to connect 6.5 MW of output to the grid. The upshot was that a new substation and high voltage overhead line should be built. The FIT rules state

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Volume 18, Number 5

The Good News of Ka'ū, Hawai'i

May 2020

Aquarium Fish Collecting May Resume, South Point to Miloli'i

Aquarium fish collecting may resume from South Point up the coast of Ka'ū, to Kona through North Kohala. An Environmental Impact Statement, released April 23, proposes limits to commercial and recreational collecting in the West Hawai'i



Commercial aquarium fish collecting has been shut down since 2017 and a new EIS concludes that limited collection should be allowed. The sign at Papa Bay indicates collecting is prohibited.

Photo from EIS

Fishery Management Area. The proposal would limit the number of licenses to ten, a drop from an earlier proposal of 14. It would place a bag limit of five yellow tang

and five kole per day. The two species accounted for 90 percent of aquarium collectors' take along Hawai'i Island's west coast, until the Hawai'i Supreme Court shut down the aquarium industry in 2017 and ordered the EIS. The court ruled that aquarium collecting must comply with the Hawai'i Environmental Policy Act.

The EIS estimates that the industry would infuse a direct \$1.8 million to \$3.7 million, and indirect \$9.1 million to \$18.7 million, of socioeconomic impacts into the island's economy. The earlier draft EIS proposed more fish be taken, but drew opposition from the Center for Biological Diversity, the Humane Society of the United States, and a group called For the Fishes.

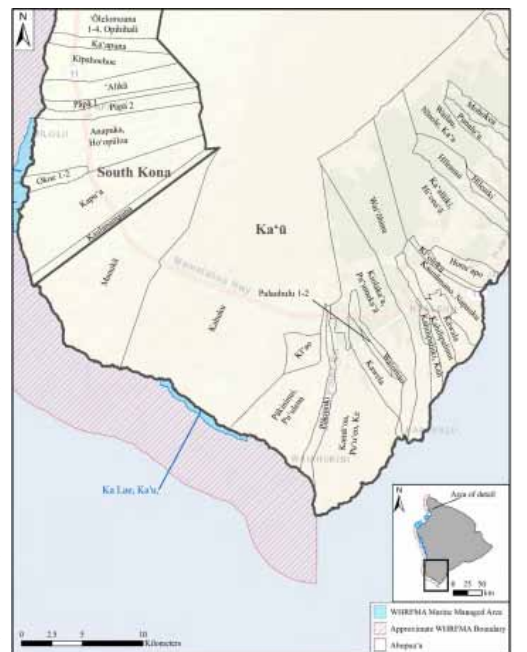
The EIS was written by Santec Consulting Services and the Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council, with input from the state Department of Land & Natural Resources and its Aquatic Division. National Marine Fisheries Service, Coral Reef Ecosystem

Program, and other agencies and non-profit groups.

The final EIS proposes to limit the take to no more than 2 percent of the islandwide population of each fish. The EIS presents research, concluding that the fish could survive with a take of between 5 percent and 25 percent per year.

The final EIS would limit recreational collectors to five fish per day and prohibit their sales. However, it would allow the use of fine mesh nets for commercial and recreational collectors.

The EIS includes photos, sketches, maps and much history of fishing and habitation of Miloli'i and Ka'ū Coasts. It also includes a history of commercial aquarium fishing in Hawai'i. See the entire report on the state Office of Environmental Quality Control website at oeqc2.doh.hawaii.gov/EA_EIS_Library/2020-04-23-HA-FEIS-Hawaii-Island-Commercial-Aquarium-Permits.pdf.



The proposed area for commercial aquarium fish collecting is shown in the shaded area of the near shore waters on the west side of Ka'ū.

Map from the EIS

Hawai'i Wildlife Puts Pause on Beaches, Supports Community

Hawai'i Wildlife fund is redirecting its efforts during the pandemic. The organization is shifting from volunteer events like the beach and shoreline cleanup days in Ka'ū. A statement from the organization says, "During this new era of the Coronavirus pandemic while our team is still working hard to further our mission to protect Hawai'i's plants, animals, culture, and environment," volunteers are encouraged to "shift your efforts to supporting our island communities (if you haven't done so already) in whatever

ways you are able (by donating time, money, homemade masks, delivering food, etc.) in addition to continuing to caretake our beloved Hawai'i nei and planet Earth. We are hopeful that this current situation will bring countries, islands, and communities together to support each other through this challenging period."

Hawai'i Wildlife Fund suggests the KANU Hawai'i's Respond with Aloha website for opportunities to get involved at kanu-hawaii.org. "You can also help support farm-

ers and businesses by buying local (think zero waste and sustainable) and getting take-out from restaurants that remain open at this time. Those itching to get outside and enjoy a little nature therapy... can join Hawai'i Wildlife Fund and friends with Sustainable Coastlines Hawai'i to promote #antisocial-cleanup efforts through hosting solo D.I.Y. style cleanup events at a beach, community park, trail, campus, or a yard. And for some light humor, we'd recommend the "Nature Rx" YouTube channel – however, language

may not be suitable for kids!"

See the Hawai'i Wildlife Fund YouTube channel for educational entertainment, events, and keiki environmental education videos at Hawai'i Wildlife Fund's YouTube Channel. Check social media and calendar from more.

Hawai'i Wildlife Fund is working on developing COVID-19 safety protocols and procedures for future wildlife fieldwork operations with volunteers. Hawai'i Wildlife Team for Ka'ū includes Megan Lamson and Nohea Ka'awa.

Free Vegetable Seeds for Ka'ū

The Ka'ū Seed Library is dedicated to distributing free vegetable seeds to home gardeners in our district. The seed library is sponsored by the University of Hawai'i Extension West Hawai'i Master Gardeners. Sandra-Lee Sundstrom is the curator, and maintains a diverse collection of seeds that grow well in Ka'ū climate and soils. Her husband, Ray, helps with the distribution.

For the past two years, Ka'ū Seed Library has been housed at the Nā'ālehu Public Library. With the current closure of the building due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Ka'ū Seed Library is now at [facebook.com/groups/222541412156096/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/222541412156096/).

After joining the Facebook group, Ka'ū Seed Library patrons can request



Sandra-Lee Sundstrom. Photo by Ray Sundstrom

free seeds weekly, selecting from the current list published every Monday. Requests emailed by the following Wednesday are available for pickup Friday. If needed, by individuals or an overwhelming response,

Free Seeds, pg. 15



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KEEPING HEALTHY IN KA'Ū

Volume 18, Number 5

A Journal of Good Health, Food, and Fitness

May 2020

Ka'ū Hospital Protects its Residents, Prepares for COVID-19

A story on Hawai'i's rural hospitals during the pandemic featured Ka'ū Hospital. It aired on Hawai'i Public Radio in late April, with Ka'ū Hospital Administrator Marilyn Harris describing the challenge

a month ago.

Hawai'i Public Radio's *The Conversation* aired reporter Ku'uwehi Hiraishi's interview with Harris and Jessie Marques, Executive Director of Ka'ū Rural Health Community Association. Marques told HPR that Ka'ū District is 921 square miles – an area the size of O'ahu. Ka'ū is the only hospital in the district, with 21 beds, 17 of them for long-term care patients.

Harris told HPR that, should a COVID-19 case come to Ka'ū Hospital, the first option would be to transfer the person to Hilo Medical Center. Should Hilo have too many, Ka'ū Hospital could take the patient. Should Ka'ū experience a tremendous surge, Ka'ū Hospital could add more beds. One of its challenges, however, is that it is equipped with one ventilator.

As of this publication, there were no

confirmed COVID-19 case in Volcano, Ocean View, or Pāhala, the home of Ka'ū Hospital. One case was confirmed in the 96772 zip code area, where Discovery Harbour, Mark Twain, Green Sands, Kamaola, Nā'ālehu, Wai'ōhinu, and South Point neighborhoods are located. Concerning a possible surge in Ka'ū, Harris said, "Of course we are praying that does not happen."

Concerning readiness, Harris said, "We have a very small medical staff so we don't have a lot of backup should one of them get sick. The only kind of positive in all that, is that with respect to the impact of our location, I'm getting access to needed supplies. We've had to deal with a number of natural disasters over the years, from the volcano to the earthquakes to brushfires. So in some ways, that is sort of an advantage, so we kind of know how to prepare, so we have what we need."

She mentioned the hospital received donations of N95 masks from community members, who obtained them during the 2018 Kīlauea eruption. She said widespread testing is key but that she has not seen enough testing yet in Ka'ū.

Harris has past experience with a pandemic. She worked on the SARS Pandem-

Hospital, pg. 15



Sitting outside with masks and distancing is the practice at Ka'ū Hospital for people waiting for patients and going to the lab or to see a health practitioner. The aim is to protect kūpuna, long term care patients during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Photo by Lora Botanova

to ensure that long-term patients remain isolated from those who have other medical issues. The hospital set up an outdoor medical screening area for people going for testing at its lab or to see a medical care provider. It established a no-visitor policy for the hospital building more than

As of this publication, there were no

More Volunteers Needed for Hawai'i Medical Reserve Corps

More Hawai'i Medical Reserve Corps volunteers are needed by the state Department of Health and Healthcare Association of Hawai'i. Volunteer health care professionals would provide medical evaluation and care, vaccinations, and assist with distributing medications in the event of COVID-19 surges in island communities. Medical Reserve Corps volunteers may also support preparedness activities such as community education and training.

A statement from DOH says, "With COVID-19 as unpredictable an enemy as Hawai'i has ever faced, preparing for the possibility of a medical surge in our health care facilities has never been more important."

Register online at the state of Hawai'i's Na Lima Kakoo volunteer health care professionals online registration page, nlk.doh.hawaii.gov.



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KA PEPA VOLCANO

Volume 18, Number 5

The Good News of Ka'ū, Hawai'i

May 2020

KDEN Looks toward Festival Chorus, Living History & Spring

All 2020 Kīlauea Drama & Entertainment Network productions are cancelled. "We just do not see that we'll be able to get back to business as usual before the end of the year," writes Executive Director Suzi Bond. She also made an appeal to the community for donations toward future productions.

Bond wrote that KDEN hopes to be able to sponsor the Volcano Festival Chorus, which usually starts rehearsing in September. The group also hopes to continue its Living History program at Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park when it reopens. It is called A Walk Into the Past with Ka'ū resident Dick Hershberger playing Dr. Thomas Jaggar. Hershberger, dressed in period costume, presents a one-hour live walking performance to bring back to life the founder of Hawaiian Volcanoes Observatory.

Bond predicted that KDEN's schedule will resume in Spring 2021 with the comedy



The cast and crew of Kilauea Drama & Entertainment Network's Flower Drum Song, promoting the show during a parade. Theatrical productions are suspended for 2020. Executive Director Suzi Bond is fourth from the right.

Photo from KDEN.com

How The Other Half Loves by Alan Ayckbourn, followed by Gilbert and Sullivan's

Pirates of Penzance in July 2021.

Instead of productions, KDEN plans to

use this Summer to clean out and reorganize its containers. "We will probably have more than one work party to get this accomplished. We will announce those work parties as the time gets closer," reported Bond.

"We will also be suspending our fundraisers at Amalfatano's till further notice. We hope to be able to hold some kind of celebration for KDEN's 18th birthday on June 9th. This leaves us in a bit of a pickle as we have no money coming in, but we still have utilities and other bills to pay. We know people's finances are all affected by COVID-19, but if you could see your way to sending us a little donation, we would be most grateful... Please help support the arts any way that you can," wrote Bond.

Checks can be made out to KDEN and mailed to HCR 3 Box 13089, Keaau, HI 96749, or one may donate via kden.org. Questions? Call Bond at 982-7344 or email kden73@aol.com.

Fresh Food, from pg. 9

more, all grown on the former Hester farm above Pāhala. It offers pick-up and delivery in the Pāhala area. Call Marlene or Rodney Freitas at 808-987-2578 or 808-987-8918, or connect to them through Facebook.

Long's Drugs on Pikake Street in Pāhala is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. It offers refrigerated and dry food, sundries, cleaning supplies, and hosts the CVS pharmacy. Call 928-6252.

Mizuno's Superette on Pikake Street offers hot coffee and food to microwave. It also sells fresh vegetables; canned, refrigerated, frozen, and dry

foods; chicken feed; and alcohol. It sells many gardening and household goods, plus cleaning supplies. It is open Monday thru Friday, 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Saturday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sunday, 8 a.m. to noon. Call 928-8101.

R&G Store is open on Kamani Street from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily. It offers frozen, refrigerated, and dry food, and alcohol. Call 808-928-8155.

Pāhala: Free Nutrition Services

The Food Basket Food Pantries Distribution, where families can receive 14 days of food per family, Pāhala location is Ka'ū District Gym at 96-1149 Kamani Street, distributed by the 'O Ka'ū Kākou Pantry. Call 933-6030 for schedule as dates, times, and places are subject to change.

Home Meal Delivery for Seniors in Pāhala is available through the County Nutrition program. The meals supplant the late morning lunches Mondays through Fridays that seniors enjoyed at the Senior Center, which is shut down due to social distancing protocols. Call Roann Okamura, Elderly Activities Division Operations Director of the county Parks & Recreation department, at 961-8708.

Volcano Village: Farms, Ranches, Retail

Aunty Pon's Food Truck at 19-4030 Wright Road is open for takeout Tuesday through Saturday from 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Order ahead by calling 808-785-5795. See auntyponsthaifoodtruck.com.

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Café Ono on Old Volcano Highway is open for takeout, Friday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call ahead to confirm hours and to order, 985-8979. See cafeono.net for menu.

Hawai'i True Value Hardware on Old Volcano Highway, is open daily, 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. In addition to hardware, it sells soil and garden tools. Call 808-967-7969.

Kilauea General Store,

on Old Volcano Highway, is open daily 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. and is the pick-up place for Lava Rock Café. Pick-up for Big O's Sandwiches & Coffee, also in the store, is 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., daily. Big O's Pizza pick-up is 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., Tuesday thru Saturday. The store offers canned, dry, and refrigerated foods; alcohol; and household goods. From local farms, the store sells such produce as cabbage, lettuce, mushrooms, tomatoes, bell peppers, lemons, and limes. Call 967-7555.

Kilauea Lodge, at 19-3948 on Old Volcano Hwy, is open for take out by calling 967-7366. A 15 percent discount from prices on the standard menu is offered. Take out breakfast from 7:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. and lunch and dinner from 11 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Special family meal offers are posted on the Kilauea Lodge Facebook, along with a menu link. Wine is available by the bottle and beer is available by the bottle and can. See highwaywestvacations.com/properties/kilauea-lodge#about.

Lava Rock Café is open for takeout through calling the adjacent Kilauea General Store. Hours for pick-up are 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Tuesday thru Saturday. Alcohol is available in Kilauea General Store. Call in orders to 967-7555 and see lavalodge.com. Big O's Sandwiches & Coffee inside Kilauea General Store offers subs from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and pizzas from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Call in



Find Volcano Mushrooms at OKK's Nā'ālehu Market, on Facebook and Instagram, or email volcanomushrooms@gmail.com. Photo by Lora Botanova

orders to 808-967-7555; pick up at Kilauea General Store.

McCall's Volcano Produce sells fresh produce, like lettuce, arugula, beets, bok choy, broccoli, carrots, collard greens, daikon, green onions, kale, sweet and Irish potatoes, radishes, spinach, swiss chard, tomatoes, watercress, zucchini, rhubarb, blackberries and blueberries, and a variety of herbs. Jeff and Caludia McCall sell their produce on Sundays at the Volcano Farmers Market at Cooper Center, 6 a.m. to 10 a.m.; at their farm stand on Wednesdays from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. at 19-4277 Haunani Rd.; through Volcano Cookshop; and by appointment by calling 937-1056.

Thai Thai Bistro & Bar, at 19-4084 Old Volcano Hwy, is open for takeout only Thursday through Tuesday, 11:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Call in orders to 808-967-7969. Alcohol is available at its adjacent True Value Hardware store. See lavalodge.com/thai-thai-bistro.html.

Volcano Cookshop offers Volcano-area delivery on **Fresh Food, pg. 15**

Kilauea Lodge, Friends Help Nourish the Hungry

Kilauea Lodge donated about 100 dinners to folks in need in the Volcano area. The Lodge donated one dinner for each \$25 dinner purchased for Easter Sunday. The dinners were handed out to people already assigned meals, with the help of volunteers from Friends Feeding Friends Volcano. The Friends weekly dinners are canceled for now, but the volunteers are also helping hand out 14 days of food to those in need in Volcano, in conjunction with The Food Basket.


Kilauea Lodge continues its take out meals with its drive through service. Call 808-967-7366 or see Facebook. Check the menu at our Fresh Food on The Ka'ū Calendar directory of takeout and food from farms and ranches on page 8 and online at kaunewsbriefs.blogspot.com/2020/04/food-sources-on-kaucalendar.html.



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Fresh Food, from pg. 14



Kilauea Lodge crew that provided meals for needy.

Wednesdays and Fridays. All menu items are delivered cold, to heat up or freeze for a later date. See facebook.com/heatherandkurtelson for the menu. Call 808-634-6061 to order. Orders must be placed by noon, the day before delivery. If ordering McCall's produce, orders must be made two days before, by 6 p.m. Volcano Cookshop charges a \$3 delivery fee. The delivery range is from Volcano Golf Course down to Kahaualea Road (At-katsuka Orchids). Pick-up for people in Fern Forest or Glenwood is available. Payment by Paypal or Venmo is preferred; credit card by phone (3.5% fee), check, or cash are also accepted.

Volcano Farmers Market, at Cooper Center on Wright Road, off of Old Volcano Highway, is open on Sundays from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m., with much local produce, island beef, and prepared foods. Call 808-967-7800.

Volcano Mushrooms are available at OKK's Nā'ālehu Market on Wednesdays. Contact to order on Facebook, Instagram, or email at mushrooms@gmail.com.

Volcano Store, on Old Volcano Highway, is open daily from 5 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. The store has fresh produce, along with refrigerated and frozen food, alcohol, and household goods. It is the only propane provider in Volcano. Call 967-7210.

Volcano Winery is open for curbside pick-up of wine and cheese spreads. Winery visits and tastings are temporarily suspended. Call ahead for

pick-up between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., Tuesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. See volcanowinery.com. Call 808-967-7772. The winery is located at 35 Pi'imauna Drive.

Volcano Village: Free Nutrition Services

The Food Basket Food Pantries Distribution, where families can receive 14 days of food per family, Volcano location is Cooper Center at 19-4030 Wright Road. Call Kehau at 443-4130 or 933-6030 for schedule as dates, times, and places are subject to change.

On Call Emergency Food Pantry is open at Cooper Center, Tuesday through Friday, 11 a.m. until the food is gone. It is operated by The Food Basket. Call 808-933-6030.

Free Seeds, from pg. 12

the seeds will be mailed.

General instructions for pickup are: at the tent, stay in the vehicle – no walk-ups – and tell the Sundstrom's the pickup name. Bonus points for those who write their name in large letters on a piece of paper to show them.

Ka'ū Seed Library distributed over 1,000 seed packets to home gardeners since going online.

The Sundstroms told *The Ka'ū Calendar*, "We go forward with the intention of helping to establish abundant food gardens in every 'ohana we can."

Contact Ka'ū Seed Library on Facebook, or by email at kauseedlibrary@gmail.com.

For expert gardening advice from a Master Gardener, visit the library's companion Facebook page, Ask an MG, at facebook.com/groups/496050041159272/.

Local Food, from pg. 10

homes of club members, many of them isolated in remote Ocean View neighborhoods. The food is prepared in the Hilo kitchen of Boys & Girls Club.

Until the COVID-19 pandemic blew ashore, Boys & Girls Club offered a thriving program to some 40 Ocean View youth. An after-school bus dropped them off at Ocean View Community Center on weekdays, and Club staff drove them home after the program. The youth were supplied with computers, assistance with homework, and other activities. Many of the keiki are from the Marshallese and Hawaiian communities. Fundraising for the program is ongoing and donations can be made through BGCB's GoFundMe page.

The County of Hawai'i Nutrition Program is providing five meals a week to seniors in Ka'ū. Instead of the seniors gathering at their senior centers, county staff members deliver five frozen meals once a week to their homes. About 37 bundles of prepackaged meals are going to Pāhala seniors, 22 to Nā'ālehu seniors, and 42 to Ocean View seniors.

Ka'ū High & Pāhala Elementary and Nā'ālehu Elementary hand out prepared breakfasts from 7:30 a.m. to 8 a.m., and lunches from 11:30 a.m. to noon, on weekdays to anyone 18 years and younger who is old enough to feed themselves. Each youth must be present to collect their meal.

Hospital, from pg. 13

ic when she served in the administration in the Department of Health for Ontario, Canada.

Hiraishi reported for HPR only "light details" about the one COVID-19 in Ka'ū. Whether the case is related to travel, or if victim is a resident or visitor, had not yet been released to the public.

Listen to the interview with Harris and Marques at hawaiipublicradio.org/post/conversation-how-hawaiis-rural-communities-prepare-covid-19.

Solar, from pg. 11

ect had exploited loopholes in laws and the FIT program, by aggregating what should be 26 stand-alone projects into a single utility-scale project. West Ka'ū's state Rep. Richard Creagan told Iwase that he would introduce legislation banning the construction of energy plants in residential areas.

In August 2016, two Ranchos residents, Peter and Annie Bosted, filed a formal complaint with the PUC against HECO and HELCO for mismanaging the FIT in allowing the giant project to proceed. They asked the Commission to remove the projects from the FIT Active Queue.

In filings, HECO claimed that under the FIT Program, the 26 projects in question are all stand-alone projects. They stated that they followed all applicable rules, orders and laws. They took the position that the FIT Program does not contain a prohibition against different developers clustering separate projects in proximity to each other as long as each site has its own TMK number.

Since 2016, the Bosteds have filed numerous briefs, including scores of attached documents, to back up their claim that the utility companies mismanaged the FIT Program by allowing a program with a primary goal of speed and simplicity to be compromised by the Ocean View project that is under-funded, complex, and uses out of date technology to produce energy that will be expensive and not in the interests of ratepayers.

Last year, SPI filed a Motion to Dismiss, asking the PUC to dismiss the Bosteds' complaint. The Bosteds opposed the motion as the motion would leave questions regarding the proper administration of the FIT Program unresolved.

In December 2019, the PUC asked the parties to discuss whether the projects should be considered one aggregated project or many projects. The PUC asked the parties to take into account the Competitive



Young man and his dog receive food five days a week.

Photo from Boys & Girls Club

Bidding Framework and "The Monet Case" dating back to 2011.

Since 2006, the PUC's Competitive Bidding Framework references, by size, which projects should be bid. On the Big Island, the limit is 2.72 MW, or one per cent of the island's energy needs or capacity. Any project that exceeds the 2.72 MW limit should be bid and cannot be in the FIT Program.

In 2011, Sam Monet asked for a ruling on a proposed project. He intended to divide a 500-acre parcel into small parcels, each with its own TMK, in order to create sites for multiple FIT projects. The PUC ruled that although his proposal would satisfy the one-facility-one-TMK rule, the aggregation of 25 FIT projects was "closer in concept" to a single large project as it would be organized, maintained, and managed as one project and it would be operated and managed by a single entity.

A third case, which the PUC may consider relevant, is the Castle and Cooke solar park on O'ahu. In that case, the developers asked the PUC for permission to develop four solar farms on contiguous sites, claiming that the economies of scale could be passed through to the consumer. The PUC was assured that each farm would be independently owned and managed by four separate entities. However, when the PUC learned that the whole project would be managed by one entity, it reversed its earlier decision and denied the permissions that it had previously given.

In filings since January 2020, the parties – including the Bosteds and the utility companies – have, at the behest of the PUC, filed numerous arguments debating whether the Ocean View project is one or many. The last filing was mid-April. It will be up to the PUC to decide when its decision should be made. The PUC will also decide if the project gets a stop or a go.

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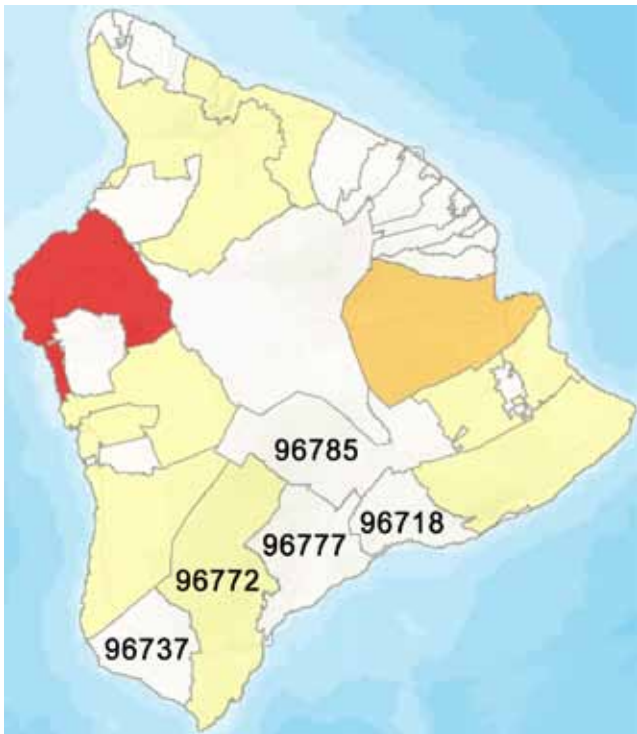
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April: One COVID-19 Case Reported in 96772 Zip

As of this printing, only one COVID-19 case was reported in the Ka'ū District, with the person identified as being in the 96772 zip code, which includes South Point Road, Wai'ōhinu, Kamaoa, Discovery Harbour, Green Sands, and Nā'ālehu. It was unreported as to whether the person is a local infected when traveling, infected by other travelers here on the island, or infected from within the community. Representatives of businesses that are open in Nā'ālehu said they were unaware of any connection to their establishments.

The first hospitalization of a COVID-19 victim on the entire island was reported on April 23. According to the state Department of Health, the man was admitted to Kona Community Hospital, with no connection to travel. Its Infection Prevention and Employee Health Director, Lisa Downing, RN, said, "Our top priority is maintaining the health and safety of our staff and patients." She said the hospital has been "preparing with our federal, state, and county partners to respond to a confirmed novel coronavirus case since Feb-



No COVID-19 cases so far in the zip code areas of Volcano, Pāhala, and Ocean View. White indicates zero cases, light yellow indicates one to five cases. The 96772 area in Ka'ū has one case recorded.

Map from DOH

ruary." The Kona Hospital statement said the Department of Health's on-call virologist was consulted and "supports the hospi-

tal's care management of this patient, which includes precautions to protect our patients and staff." The hospital's COVID-19 emergency management playbook is designed to protect all involved by: Minimizing number of employees who enter the patient's room; following precautions defined by the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, to include standard, contact, airborne, and eye protection; and accommodating the patient in an airborne isolation room.

The total cases for this island, as of Sunday April 26, were 70. Of those, 49 had recovered and been released from quarantine. No one had died.

For the state, 606 people were infected. The death toll was 14 people. At least 482 people had recovered.

For the U.S., almost 1 million people were infected. More than 55,150 people had died. At least 109,000 people had recovered.

For the planet, almost 3 million people were infected. More than 206,000 people had died. At least 861,500 people had recovered.

COVID-19 Testing Sites, Dates Announced for Ka'ū

Free COVID-19 Screenings are at Bay Clinic during business hours, with appointment. Call 333-3600.

Beginning Wednesday, May 6, a testing team from Aloha Critical Care in Kona will provide testing at St. Jude's every other Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The next drive-thru screening in Nā'ālehu will be Wednesday, May 13 at Nā'ālehu Community Center from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Screening will be carried out by

Ali'i Health, with support from County of Hawai'i COVID-19 Task Force, Premier Medical Group and Pathways Telehealth.

It is recommended for to bypass the screening queue at community test sites – and to verify testing locations, times, and dates – by calling ahead to Pathways Telehealth, option 5 at 808-747-8321. The free clinic will also offer on-site screening to meet testing criteria. Physicians qualify those for testing, under the guidance of Cen-

ter for Disease Control and Hawai'i's COVID-19 Response Task Force.

Those visiting screening clinics will be asked to show photo ID, and any health insurance cards – though health insurance is not required to be tested. Patients are also asked to bring their own pens to fill in forms.

Wearing masks is required for everyone.

For further information, call Civil Defense at 935-0031.

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