

'Iauali (January) 2015 | Vol. 32, No. 1



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# OHA INVESTITURE

PAGE 14

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## MEASURING IMPROVEMENTS IN THE LIVES OF HAWAIIANS

### Hau‘oli Makahiki Hou!

**A**s the New Year begins, we all set goals, or resolutions, for 2015. Do you want to lose weight? Do you want to get a college degree? Do keiki want to do better in school? Do parents want financial literacy help to better provide for their ‘ohana or to move into stable housing?

If you have enrolled in a program to do any of the above, OHA may have helped.

Yes, we are improving your quality of life.

Our strategic results will tell you that Native Hawaiian students, as of the 2012-2013 school year, had a 64 percent proficiency in reading and a 49 percent proficiency in math. Those numbers might sound meager to you until you consider this: It is a 16 percent increase in the students who performed at a high rate of proficiency in reading and a whopping 53 percent increase for students in math.

Our dedicated teachers in the Department of Education deserve a standing ovation for helping Native Hawaiians reach new levels of success. But behind the scenes, away from the spotlight, OHA has been helping as well. Our partners made sure almost 650 students got help to improve their test scores. Once Native Hawaiian students are college bound, we give more than a half-million dollars a year for scholarships.

Studies have shown that those with a college degree will make about a million dollars more, over their lifetime, than those with only a high school diploma.

We’ve fought to successfully restore water to Central Maui streams, supported Hawaiians asserting their traditional rights, provided economic stimulus funds for Native Hawaiian businesses through our Mālama Loans, and our partners have given dozens of Native Hawaiians a step up in their quest to gain housing in Hawai‘i.

But we want to do more. Every dollar we spend in grants stays in Hawai‘i and grows in ways that boosts the economy for everyone. We provide a social-service safety net that is designed to benefit Hawaiians – but in reality, everyone benefits when we uplift our people.

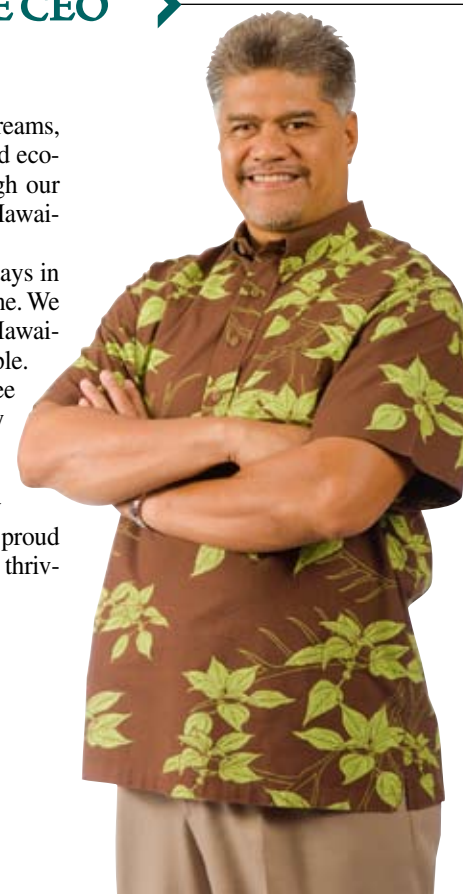
You’ve undoubtedly heard of rifts within OHA from the trustee level on down. But let me assure you – though we have many political pressures, we are all working for our beneficiaries.

I’ve come to know the staff at OHA, and I know they have the best interests of our beneficiaries at heart. They work every day to improve the lives of Native Hawaiians. That’s why I’m proud to be Ka Pouhana at OHA and am confident we will become a thriving Hawaiian Nation.

‘O au iho nō me ke aloha a me ka ‘oia‘i‘o,

*Kamana‘opono M. Crabbe*

Kamana‘opono M. Crabbe, Ph.D.  
Ka Pouhana/Chief Executive Officer



**Kamana‘opono M. Crabbe, Ph.D.**  
Ka Pouhana,  
Chief Executive Officer

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BY LISA ASATO

A new Board of Trustees, led by new Chairman Robert Lindsey, will govern OHA for the coming years.

### EA | GOVERNANCE

#### Leveraging state funds **PAGE 6**

BY HAROLD NEDD

OHA’s 2015-2016 budget request will promote the leveraging of monies to boost the state’s return on investment.



#### ON THE COVER

Lei hulu, from 2012, left, and 2014, are symbols of office for OHA trustees. They are presented to newly elected trustees at Investiture. - Photo: Zach Villanueva



Laney White. - Courtesy: DLNR/Naomi Worcester

## ‘Iaualili | January 2015 | Vol. 32, No. 1

### ‘ĀINA | LAND & WATER

#### Kure Atoll volunteers sought

**PAGE 13**

BY CHERYL CORBIELL

Kure Atoll is an extremely remote location, and hardy volunteers are being sought for a six-month stint for summer 2015.

### ‘ALEMANAKA | CALENDAR

#### Calendar of Events **PAGE 18**

COMPILED BY KATIE YAMANAKA

The month ahead promises toe-tapping Hawaiian music concerts, a once-every-two-years Hawaiian quilt show in Waimea, Hawai‘i Island, and a chance to take in a long view of island history through an exhibit celebrating 125 years of Bishop Museum.

## GOVERNANCE

EA

To restore pono and ea, Native Hawaiians will achieve self-governance, after which the assets of OHA will be transferred to the new governing entity.

# First-time trustee Lei Ahu Isa brings legislative, education board experience to OHA

By Garrett Kamemoto

For Trustee Leina'ala Ahu Isa it's all about relationships. Ahu Isa is the newest trustee at the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, elected by voters to a four-year term to an at-large seat.

She was encouraged to run for office by her mentor, the late state Sen. T.C. Yim, who she says told her, "with my experiences and with my mana'o that I can bring to the

authority to appoint board members.

She is a principal broker at the Hilton Grand Vacations Manage-

how the host culture brings value to the visitor experience. "If we don't have a culture in Hawai'i, the tourists won't come."

create somebody's condominium." She notes the city and state already require impact fees from major developers for the impact projects have on infrastructure and the public.

She thinks corporations could pay a share for their use of the Hawaiian culture.

And she thinks much like a university, OHA should start a nonprofit that can collect donations to benefit less fortunate Hawaiians. "I'm sure Hawaiians all over the world would donate for the betterment of the Hawaiian people," Ahu Isa said.

All of her ideas would require considerable buy-in from fellow trustees, legislators and the public. Ahu Isa said she's prepared to use her relationships to enhance the future of Native Hawaiians. ■

**"I tell my students, be nice to everybody because you never know when they are going to be your boss. That's my philosophy."**

— Leina'ala Ahu Isa, Trustee



Trustee Lei Ahu Isa. - Courtesy photo

ment and has taught at Hawai'i Pacific University.

She said she fosters good relationships with a broad range of people. "I don't fight with anybody," Ahu Isa said. "That's why people remember me. I don't have to campaign. They just remember that when I say I'm going to do (something), I do. I'm not the kind that talks and doesn't do, because nobody is going to vote for you."

It's a lesson she passes on in her classes.

"I tell my students, be nice to everybody because you never know when they are going to be your boss. That's my philosophy."

She continues to maintain her ties in the state Legislature and believes her experience – as a lawmaker responsible for allocating money, and a BOE member who had to request funds from the Legislature – will be valuable at OHA.

"As Hawaiians, we always enter negotiations with the spirit of cooperation because that is how I was raised by my Hawaiian grandma. We don't yell and scream. We go in and say this is what we bring of value ... and then they reciprocate.

"We wrestle with bringing value to the table."

But Ahu Isa also believes OHA needs to look beyond government for money to support the Hawaiian people.

As a broker at the Hilton, she sees

table to help the Hawaiian people, I should run for OHA."

This is the first time she has run for office without her mentor, who died earlier this year.

She placed her name on the ballot, though she didn't do much campaigning. In the general election, she was the third-highest vote getter in the race for three at-large seats and was elected to the seat vacated by Trustee Oswald Stender, who decided not to run for re-election.

Ahu Isa previously served eight years in the state House of Representatives, and served as an elected member of the state Board of Education, stepping down after voters approved a constitutional amendment that gave the governor the

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As of Dec. 29, OHA's West Hawai'i Office will have a new home. Come visit us at our new location:

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# OHA trustees select new chairman, leaders of subcommittees

By Harold Nedd

**H**awai‘i Island Trustee Robert K. Lindsey Jr. has been named the new chairman of the policy-making board for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

Lindsey succeeds Colette Machado, the trustee for Native Hawaiians on Moloka‘i and Lāna‘i, who has led OHA’s Board of Trustees the past four years.

“I welcome this new opportunity to play a more significant role in helping to push for the best results for our beneficiaries as well as to ensure that our organization is being responsive to their needs,” said Lindsey, who has been a trustee since April 2007.

Lindsey’s appointment came

**I welcome this new opportunity to play a more significant role in helping to push for the best results for our beneficiaries as well as to ensure that our organization is being responsive to their needs.”**

— Robert K. Lindsey Jr., Hawai‘i Island Trustee

during a reorganization meeting on Dec. 9, where OHA’s Board of Trustees also selected a vice chairman and leaders for its three subcommittees.

Dan Ahuna, the trustee for Native Hawaiians on Kaua‘i and Ni‘ihau, is the board’s new vice chairman, replacing Oswald Stender, who

retired in November.

As for the three subcommittee leaders, they have all been re-elected to four-year terms, taking their oath of office just prior to being selected to be the chairperson for their respective subcommittees.

Trustee Rowena Akana has been selected to lead the Committee on



Trustee Robert Lindsey was unanimously elected chairman of the Board of Trustees at a reorganization meeting on Dec. 9. - Photo: Nelson Gaspar

Asset and Resource Management; her vice chairman will be Trustee John Waihe‘e IV.

Waihe‘e will also lead the Committee on Beneficiary Advocacy and Empowerment; his vice chair-

man will be Trustee Peter Apo.

In addition, Trustee Carmen “Hulu” Lindsey will continue to lead the Committee on Land and Property; her vice chairman will be Ahuna. ■

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\*Children born between August 1, 2011 and July 31, 2012 are eligible for the 3-year-old program.

\*Children born between August 1, 2010 and July 31, 2011 are eligible for the 4-year-old program.



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## GOVERNANCE

EA

To restore pono and ea, Native Hawaiians will achieve self-governance, after which the assets of OHA will be transferred to the new governing entity.

# OHA budget request will emphasize leveraging state funds

By Harold Nedd

A two-year budget that the Office of Hawaiian Affairs intends to present during the upcoming 2015 Hawai'i legislative session is beginning to take shape.

The proposed plan would call for leveraging an estimated \$7.4 million in state funds to help maintain some visible signs of progress by helping Native Hawaiians and others improve their health, secure stable housing, upgrade skills in reading and math, move up the socioeconomic ladder, make ends meet and protect legal rights.

The state's return on this investment over the next two years would be more than \$20.5 million.

"For that reason, it is with enthusiasm and hope that OHA plans to request \$7.4 million total in state funds for the 2016-2017 fiscal years to use as leverage to heavily invest over the next two years in addressing six specific areas that are ultimately about helping statewide efforts to strengthen families and communities," said Kamana'opono Crabbe, Ka Pouhana and Chief Executive Officer at OHA.

OHA's proposed budget request comes at a time when it continues to work closely with community-based partners to bring new attention, needed resources and a strong policy voice to addressing some urgent needs considered critical to efforts to steer Hawai'i in a desirable direction.

Speaking recently at an investiture ceremony attended by Gov. David Ige and other high-ranking state officials, Crabbe mentioned

that OHA remains encouraged by some visible signs of progress with efforts to improve conditions among Native Hawaiians.

In the months ahead, the immediate challenge will be maintaining some of this positive momentum as demand remains strong for OHA grant money to help address issues in housing, education, health, income, and social as well as legal services.

**It is with enthusiasm and hope that OHA plans to request \$7.4 million total in state funds for the 2016-2017 fiscal years to use as leverage to heavily invest over the next two years in addressing six specific areas that are ultimately about helping statewide efforts to strengthen families and communities."**

— Kamana'opono Crabbe, OHA Ka Pouhana and Chief Executive Officer,

At the same time, nonprofit organizations are increasingly tailoring marketable services to OHA priorities to help them stay afloat and meet critical needs across the state. These are the same community partners that have proved their value by enhancing OHA's efforts to play a strong role in helping create a solid future for Native Hawaiians and all people of Hawai'i.

For example, OHA research shows that Native Hawaiian students who participated in the Hawai'i State Assessments in school year 2012-2013 tested at 64 percent proficiency in reading and 49 percent proficiency in math. Those figures represent a significant improvement from the 2009-2010 school years, when Native Hawaiians tested 55 percent in reading and 32 percent in math, according to OHA research.

In the year ahead, OHA is expected to renew its focus on closing the stubborn achievement gap that separates Native Hawaiian students from their peers across the state. Of the \$7.4 million requested from the state, about \$1.2 million would go to closing achievement gaps that threaten to undermine the future success of Native Hawaiian students. When leveraged with matching funds from OHA and community partners, the total for education would be increased to \$2 million over the next two years.

For another example, OHA research shows that its efforts have resulted in a higher percentage of Native Hawaiians who are living healthier. The percentage of obese Native Hawaiians decreased

to 39 percent in 2013 from 44 percent the previous year.

Of the \$7.4 million requested from the state, an estimated \$920,000 would go to encouraging Native Hawaiians to eat healthier and become more physically active. When leveraged with matching funds from OHA and community partners, that investment in improving health would increase to \$1.8 million over the next two years, according to research by OHA.

In addition, OHA's research offers some encouragement for the organization's efforts to improve a sense of economic well-being among Native Hawaiians. In 2013, the homeownership rate for Native Hawaiians steadily increased for the fourth consecutive year to 57 percent, which represents 38,936 homeowners.

Of the total state funds requested in the proposed budget, an estimated

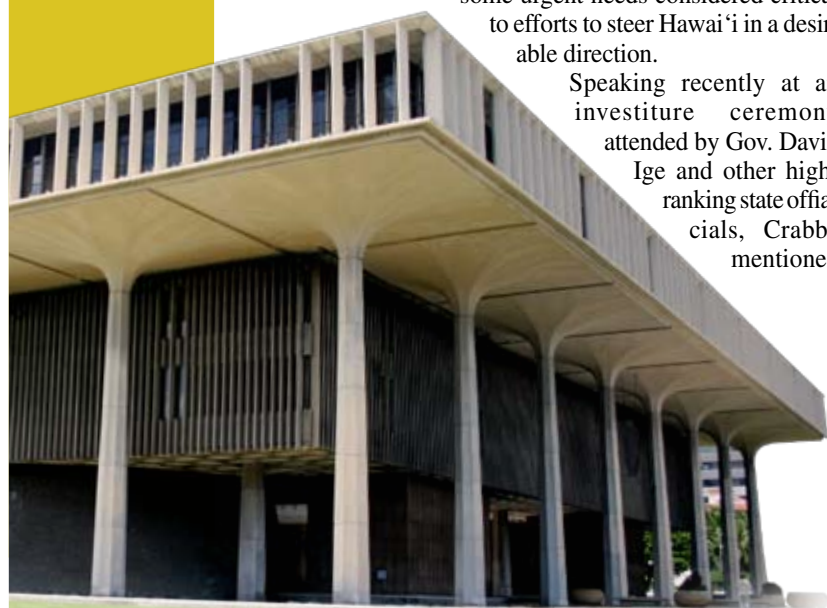
\$910,000 would go to helping Native Hawaiians obtain housing, in part, by becoming more creditworthy and better at managing financing. When leveraged, the state's return on what OHA considers an investment in helping to improve Hawai'i's homeownership rate would be an estimated \$5.8 million over the next two years.

To round out the other six areas targeted in the proposed budget, OHA is focused on leveraging over the next two years potentially:

- \$910,000 from the state to heavily support career-training programs aimed at getting a higher percentage of Native Hawaiians better ready for Hawai'i's workforce. When leveraged with matching funds from OHA and its community partners, the state's return on the investment would be \$2.3 million over the next two years.

- \$830,000 from the state to heavily invest in providing emergency services to help prevent Native Hawaiian families from succumbing to unforeseen financial hardships as well as assistance with financial planning to help more Native Hawaiians make smart-money decisions. When leveraged, the state's return on this investment would be about \$1.3 million over the next two years.

- \$1 million to continue to address the high demand for legal services considered critical for perpetuating Native Hawaiian culture as well as efforts to ensure important state laws passed by the Legislature are enforced to benefit all of Hawai'i's people. ■





# OHA trustees laud new governor

By Garrett Kamemoto

“My name is David Ige.”

That simple introduction from the inauguration speech of Gov. David Ige struck a nerve with many. Ige followed that statement by discussing where his ancestors came from and how it influenced him. He explained that his issei (first generation) grandparents from Japan had a saying, “Kodomo no tame ni: For the sake of the children” – that they sacrificed to their children could have a better life.

He saluted his mother, who was watching his inauguration from a hospital, by saying, “Okage sama de – All that I am, I am because of you.”

Ige was elected as governor in the November elections and will serve a four-year term. Shan Tsutsui will continue to be lieutenant governor.

The reflections on his culture, and the fabric of the state’s culture, struck a nerve with the trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

Trustee Carmen Hulu Lindsey attended the inauguration and said, “His speech was very warm, very sincere and I received it very well. I thought he was very humble and he was sincere about wanting for everybody to participate in solving the existing problems.”

New Chairman of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs Robert Lindsey Jr. served with Ige in the state House of Representatives and called Ige a “man of integrity and fairness.”

Lindsey said Ige cared not only about his district, but all of Hawai‘i’s people. He added, “during his campaign and at this inauguration ... I saw and heard that same integrity, fairness and concern for all who call Hawai‘i home. I congratulate him and look forward to a great working

relationship. I mua!”

The state Capitol building has been described as a wind tunnel by many. It was an apt description on a blustery day in December when the new governor was sworn in. The winds of change, some said.

The ceremony ran ahead of schedule, so much so that musician Raiatea Helm was asked to fill some time so the swearing-in of the new governor would be done in accordance with the state Constitution.

In his speech, Ige asked for assistance: “I ask you to help me with the heavy lifting that I cannot do alone. Join me in dreaming the dreams, setting the path and doing the hard work necessary for the sake of all of us in Hawai‘i.

“And so I say to you, my friends, I look forward to working with all of you – to make good things happen.”

Trustees said they are ready to oblige. ■



Hawai‘i Supreme Court Chief Justice Mark Recktenwald administered the oath of office to Gov.-elect David Ige as his wife, Dawn, looks on. - Courtesy: Office of the Governor

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Marilyn Martinez, the first recipient of OHA's Lava Aid Evacuation Program, holds a check for \$500. - Photo: Lukela Ruddle

# OHA lava evacuation aid available to Native Hawaiians in Puna

By Lukela Ruddle

In the wake of Hurricane Iselle residents of Puna are now faced with the possibility of evacuating their homes in the path of a lava flow.

Since June 27, 2014, the lava has traveled about 13 miles across forested land and has begun to encroach on the town of Pāhoa. Due to the unpredictability of the direction and speed of the flow it is difficult to forecast, with any certainty, which areas of Puna will be affected.

Recognizing the difficulties of Puna beneficiaries in this predicament, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs Board of Trustees allocated \$300,000 for a Lava Aid Evacuation Program to assist Native Hawaiians facing evacuation. Native Hawai-

ian households in the affected areas are eligible for \$500 of relief aid. OHA's Lava Aid program will be able to assist up to 600 Hawaiian households.

To receive aid, you must be Native Hawaiian or a parent or legal guardian of Native Hawaiian children under the age of 18, your primary residence must be in Puna, and Hawai'i County officials must have required you to evacuate your resi-

dence due to the lava flow.

As of this writing, the County of Hawai'i has designated eight mandatory evacuation zones clustered around the town of Pāhoa.

However, OHA is encouraging those who may face evacuation not to wait but to get pre-registered to quicken the process of receiving aid, should evacuation be required.

Eligible Puna residents can pre-register at either of two OHA Hawai'i Island offices.

For more details, please visit [www.oha.org/lavaaid](http://www.oha.org/lavaaid) or call our West Hawai'i office at 327-9525 or our East Hawai'i office at 920-6418 to schedule an appointment. ■

*Lukela Ruddle is the community outreach coordinator in OHA's East Hawai'i Office.*

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OHA Board Actions

Compiled by Garrett Kamemoto

The following actions were taken by the Office of Hawaiian Affairs Board of Trustees, and are summarized here. For more information on board actions, please see the complete meeting minutes posted online at oha.org/about/board-trustees.

Dec. 9, 2014		Board of Trustees								
Motion		Ahu Isa	Ahuna	Akana	Apo	Apoliona	H. Lindsey	R. Lindsey	Machado	Waihe'e
To nominate Trustee Robert Lindsey as the Chairman of the Board of Trustees.		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
To nominate Trustee Dan Ahuna as the Vice-Chairman of the Board of Trustees.		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
To accept and approve the Chair's appointment of the following committee chairs and committee vice chairs of the Board of Trustees:		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Asset and Resource Management Committee: Trustee Rowena Akana, Chair Trustee John Waihe'e IV, Vice Chair		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Beneficiary Advocacy and Empowerment Committee: Trustee John Waihe'e IV, Chair Trustee Peter Apo, Vice Chair		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Land and Property Committee: Trustee Carmen "Hulu" Lindsey, Chair Trustee Dan Ahuna, Vice Chair		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

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NATIVE HAWAIIAN » NEWS | FEATURES | EVENTS

## THE GIFT



By Claire Ku'uleilani Hughes,  
Dr. PH., R.D.

The gift arrived after Christmas. I thought ... should I do something frivolous and crazy with it, or should I give it to others to use, or should I do something useful with it? I know you have received a similar gift and, like me, have just blown it! I thought, perhaps, if I approached it with a strategy, I could use it to benefit my family, me, you and your family. It certainly is generous enough. If I involved others ... it could be even bigger and far better. My mākua and kūpuna always encouraged this.

I must have heard it a zillion times by the time I was 21. "You must live a "purposeful life." "Rely on yourself to make things happen," they'd say. Then, the "lecture" on spreading your gifts to help others. That was because they, and their forebears, did that. Have you guessed yet, what my special "gift" is? My gift is a brand new year! And, I am determined not to waste it, as eventually, there won't be any more.

Let's agree, last year seemed far shorter than usual. "It just flew by." This happens, when there is no plan. And, isn't it absolutely exasperating to find time has passed ... is gone, and nothing you wanted to do got done? Experts suggest that carefully planning can put every moment to its best and fullest use. Our Hawaiian kūpuna planned everything. We may think that they were "happy-go-lucky." At least, that's what others say about Hawaiians. Way back in time, however, our kūpuna planned everything ... the planting, fishing, building and special celebrations were all based on a master plan.

Kāne of the 'ohana gathered and planned the crop, field and workers

to do planting or harvesting. Fishing, building or repairs around the kauhale were planned, the same way. Executing the plan went "seamlessly," as everyone knew their role ... and, things got done without talking about it. That's how our ancestors achieved so much with a few workers.

Mākua and kūpuna, take charge, plan the family events for 2015. Think about graduations, significant birthdays, holidays, school events ... even weddings that will occur this year. Mark a 2015 calendar with all the "big" dates. Then, planning backward from the event date ... mark the date for completion of each step in preparation for that event to be fully accomplished. Assign a "manager/organizer" for each event. Do this for each event. Now you have a "significant events" calendar and a designated "manager" responsible for all 2015 events.

Then, mākua or kūpuna, you are responsible for teaching the managers how to be responsible. Also, plan dates for big jobs around the house ... like, repainting a room, mending a fence, updating the front entrance ... you know, things that never seem to get done. Assign responsibility to the younger members of the 'ohana and then help them. At the end of 2015, you will have accomplished a lot, with a record of it, too.

My wish, in 2015, for all Hawaiian families ... is a healthier year. So, plan for family health and commit to making one or two key changes ... the ones your doctor has been suggesting. Put the "health plan" on your new 2015 calendar. Plan ways to eat healthier meals, like adding a fruit or vegetable to your meals. Plant a papaya tree, or two or three ... depending on family size, and add some 'uala and kalo. Not an entire patch, but enough to add fresh vegetables to a family meal, or two. Assure success, assign a grandchild the task of researching plant varieties that grow best in your community (see the UH Extension website, [www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/site/Extprograms.aspx](http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/site/Extprograms.aspx)). Look up the type of soil and fertilizer that will help. Planting just a few things won't require a huge

SEE CLAIRE ON PAGE 19



# Marcus Mariota wins inaugural Polynesian College Football Player of the Year Award

## His whirlwind week of honors caps off with Heisman

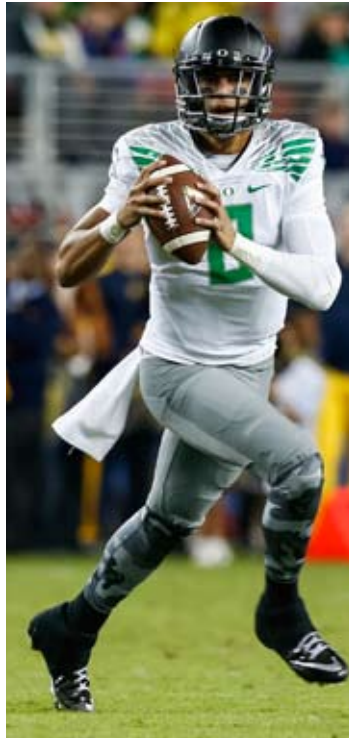
By Lurline McGregor

Four days before becoming the 2014 Heisman Trophy winner, local boy Marcus Mariota, University of Oregon quarterback and St. Louis School alumnus, was named Polynesian College Football Player of the Year.

With those recognitions, he accomplished two firsts – becoming the first Polynesian to win the Heisman and becoming the first winner of the inaugural Polynesian College Football Player of the Year Award.

In Honolulu, Polynesian Hall of Fame co-founders Ma'a Tanuvasa and Jesse Sapolu jointly announced Mariota's selection from a list of five finalists. "Mariota is a great role model for our youth and a source of great pride for Polynesians everywhere," said Tanuvasa. The other four finalists were Scott Harding (Tuvalu), University of Hawai'i; Hau'oli Kikaha (Hawaiian/Samoan), University of Washington; Nate Orchard (Samoan), University of Utah; and Anu Solomon (Hawaiian), University of Arizona.

"We wanted this to be a horse race but it wasn't," said KITV4 sports director Robert Kekaula, a member of the selection committee. "All the nominees have strong stats, but when we made the decision two weeks before it was announced, Mariota was playing so well that there was no question of who was on top, the decision was unanimous. He is a perfect representative of



Marcus Mariota. - Courtesy: Eric Evans/GoDucks.com



The Polynesian College Football Player of the Year Award will be presented at a ceremony in January. - Courtesy: Polynesian Football Hall of Fame

everything this award stands for – a great future ahead of him, integrity and humility. And he's a really nice guy."

The other members of the selection committee are past college football head coaches Dick Tomey, LaVell Edwards and Ron McBride, ESPN SportsCenter anchor Neil Everett, NFL player personnel expert Gil Brandt and inaugural Polynesian Football Hall of Fame inductee Kevin Mawae.

"I am very honored and humbled to be the recipient of the first Polynesian College Football Player of the Year Award," said Mariota, who is of Samoan ancestry. "I hope this

opens the door for many other Polynesian athletes."

Mariota continued his shout-out to his fellow Polynesians and Hawai'i in his Heisman acceptance speech in New York.

"To Hawai'i nei, thank you for teaching me humility and respect – two aspects of my life that I will never change," he said in a speech broadcast live on ESPN. "To the Polynesian community, I hope and pray that this is only the beginning. Young Poly athletes everywhere, you should take this as motivation and dream big and strive for greatness."

The honors were among many he received in the week leading up to the Heisman announcement on Dec. 13. Mariota was also named Walter Camp Football Foundation National Player of the Year, and won the Maxwell Award, Davey O'Brien National Quarterback Award and the Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Award.

The Polynesian Football Hall of Fame was founded in July 2013, and the first inductees were announced three months later. "It was our intention from the outset to create an award for the best Polynesian College Football Player of the Year," said Sapolu, "but we wanted to start with recognizing the older players first. Once we got that off the ground we were able to do this. We're also thinking of a NFL Player of the Year Award in the future."

The formal presentation of the award will take place during the Polynesian Football Hall of Fame Enshrinement Weekend at the celebration dinner on Jan. 23, 2015. The Hall of Fame exhibit is scheduled to open the following day in its new permanent home at the Polynesian Cultural Center in Lā'ie. ■

*Lurline Wailana McGregor is a writer, television producer and author of Between the Deep Blue Sea and Me.*



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**Wai'anae High School Cafeteria**  
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**Lāna'i High & Int. School Cafeteria**  
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**Hāna High & Int. School Cafeteria**  
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# Putting our family's land, heiau in trust

By Lurline Wailana McGregor

"I sign this document, and something that we were supposed to protect is gone, forever. Now, we're haole as s--- and we go to private schools and clubs and we can barely speak pidgin, let alone Hawaiian, but we've got Hawaiian blood, and we're tied to this land and our children are tied to this land. Now, it's a miracle that for some bulls--- reason 150 years ago, we own this much of paradise, but

mother Louise Aoe McGregor purchased a 9.08-acre homestead lot in Hau'ula, O'ahu. My grandfather Daniel Pamawaho McGregor was born and raised in Hau'ula, where his grandfather had been a konohiki of that ahupua'a. My grandparents built a house on the lower part of the lot and lived on it for about 10 years, during which time they lost two children at birth and buried them on the property in unmarked graves. A fire destroyed the home and they moved off the land. Although they continued to



The author at a recent cleanup of the property.

we do. And for whatever bulls--- reason, I'm the trustee now. And I'm not signing."

This was Matt King's seminal speech in Alexander Payne's movie *The Descendants*, based on the book by Kauai Hart Hemmings. As his relatives listen in disbelief, poised to toast their windfall, Matt (George Clooney) declares that he will not sign the papers to sell his family land to developers, who have already drawn up plans for a luxury resort. This scenario of Hawaiian families selling inherited land is a familiar one, and Matt's decision to not sign was the right thing to do for the right reasons, at least from a Hawaiian perspective. But it was also unsustainable, as the issue would surely come up again in the future when he was no longer trustee.

On Aug. 25, 1906, my grand-

hold title to the property and the family continued to visit it and pick mangoes throughout the years, no one moved onto it again. My grandmother always counseled the family to hold on to the land, and I do not recall anyone in my parents' generation ever talking about selling it, even after both grandparents had passed.

In 2006, exactly 100 years since my grandmother acquired that property, the family decided to sell it. With the exception of my mother, my grandparents' and parents' generation had all passed. Among the 18 heirs, each with an undivided interest in the property, only three were under 60 years old and not everyone was financially well off. Squatters, cockfighters, marijuana growers, all-terrain vehicle (ATV) racers and others used the land illegally over the years and left their



A recent blessing at the heiau. - Photos: Courtesy Franz Schmutzer

## Cleanup days and tours

Community work days are held on the property the second Saturday of each month. Also, in 2015, HILT will be offering three Talk Story on the Land Educational Tours of the heiau.

For information on volunteering or tours, email Tina Aiu, Hawaiian Islands Land Trust O'ahu island director, at [christina@hilt.org](mailto:christina@hilt.org). To learn more about HILT's conservation work throughout Hawai'i or to donate, visit [hilt.org](http://hilt.org).



The author, left, with Tina Aiu, O'ahu island director of the Hawaiian Islands Land Trust.

trash. For the most part, though, hau trees had taken over, making it difficult to walk through the property and obstructing the once sweeping view of the ocean from Kahana to Lā'ie. My generation grew up knowing little about the history of the property, which includes a large heiau on the middle section, because our parents and grandparents didn't talk about it. The next generation knows even less.

We started trying to learn the history of the land and were fortunate to hear oral histories from Cy Bridges, who remembered picking mangoes there when he was young, and who listened to the stories of his kūpuna.

The heiau, called Maunawila Heiau, was one of three adjacent heiau and was cared for by Makuakaumana, the prophet who accompanied Pā'ao when he sailed from Kahiki to Hawai'i. Because of Makuakaumana's association with it, Maunawila heiau, which is the last remaining relatively intact heiau in Ko'olauloa, is thought to have originally been heiau ho'ōla, or a healing heiau. Many sites remain throughout the property and there is clear evidence of agricultural terraces, mounds and alignments, for which radiocarbon dating has indicated Hawaiian activity on the land by 1270 AD.

The man who had bulldozed an ATV track through the property

made an offer to buy it. The family did not agree to the sale right away because we were in the process of trying to qualify Maunawila Heiau for the National Register of Historic Places, which fortunately caused the prospective buyer to withdraw his offer. We approached the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and the Trust for Public Land to assist us in identifying a buyer who would be willing to conserve the heiau and involve the community in an educational and cultural stewardship of the property. We were referred to the O'ahu Land Trust, now the Hawaiian Islands Land Trust (HILT).

It took until July 2014 for HILT to finally receive grants from the Hawai'i State Legacy Lands Conservation Commission and the Honolulu City and County Clean Water and Natural Lands Commission to consummate the transfer of the property to its land trust, where it will be protected in perpetuity. The Ko'olauloa Hawaiian Civic Club and the Hau'ula Community Association are full partners in overseeing the care of the land. To date, hundreds of community members and Brigham Young University anthropology students have participated in ongoing cleanups that are held monthly, and a management plan to build trails and place signage is underway.

As my cousin Davianna McGregor explained to the Hau'ula community at a recent blessing of the land, our family was no longer able to properly care for the land, and we did what we felt was best to protect it by putting it into a land trust. The next generation, which may include even more heirs, will not be saddled with either the tax liability or the ongoing debate about whether to sell. It was a hard decision, but we know that our grandparents and our parents would be happy with the outcome. ■

*Lurline Wailana McGregor is a writer, television producer and author of Between the Deep Blue Sea and Me.*



# Kure Atoll volunteers sought for summer 2015

By Cheryl Corbiell

**K**ure Atoll (Moku Pāpapa), located 1,400 miles north-west of Oahu, is the most northern coral atoll in the world, and few people can visit or reside on the 6-mile oval-shaped atoll that lies within the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument in the North-western Hawaiian Islands.

## How to apply

The state Department of Land and Natural Resources is seeking five volunteers to work at Kure Atoll for the Summer 2015 field camp from March 2 to Oct. 2, 2015. Deadline to apply is Feb. 9, 2015.

To see a job description and application instructions, visit <http://1.usa.gov/12X7tFG>.

For information about Kure Atoll, visit [kureatollconservancy.org](http://kureatollconservancy.org), [papahanaumokuakea.gov/visit/kure.html](http://papahanaumokuakea.gov/visit/kure.html), and Kure Atoll's Facebook page.

However, twice a year the state Department of Land and Natural Resources Forestry and Wildlife Division seeks five Habitat Restoration volunteers to work for six months at Kure Atoll's Seabird Sanctuary. For individuals who are passionate about conservation, volunteering at Kure Atoll is a unique opportunity.

Kure is an extremely remote work location. Access is limited to scheduled vessel or plane trips every six months. Home for the small team is a concrete structure and an elevated wooden bunkhouse. Each individual lives in an 8-foot-by-10-foot room. Outside contact is limited to text-only emails sent via satellite phone and no Internet access.

Ilana Nimz, from Waimānalo, O‘ahu, was a volunteer in 2010, and returned to Kure to work in the seal-pup program in 2011, and a

third time as a temporary employee with DLNR in 2012. “I was studying conservation biology and marine science at University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, and once I heard about the volunteer positions, I wanted to go,” said Nimz. “Working on Kure confirmed for me I wanted to work in conservation and on islands.”

Volunteers work 40 hours per week, but not an 8-to-5 job. Depending on the task, the team works evenings and weekends. Jobs include native plant propagation, seabird and shorebird surveys and banding, monk seal monitoring, vegetation surveys and ocean debris removal, but the main work is invasive plant removal.

“Major physical effort goes into removing the invasive plant *Verbesina*, or commonly called golden crownbeard,” Nimz said. “This aggressive plant had overgrown the central plain. Almost nothing grows under *Verbesina*, which grows 6 feet tall. The plant threatens native plants and young birds. After one season of removal, I could see the regrowth of native plants. In most conservation work, an individual doesn’t immediately see the result of conservation work, but at Kure, every month I saw improvement. Kure provides immediate rewards.”

Kure volunteer Laney White was selected for the 2013 winter season. “I was on the U.S. mainland, had studied environmental biology and dropped everything to volunteer at Kure. My first trip to Hawai‘i was for DLNR’s Kure two-week orientation session in Honolulu. The opportunity to work for six months among thousands of endangered birds, plants and the Hawaiian monk seals was on my bucket list of achievements,” said White. “I never felt alone among the sizable and diverse wildlife population. I became more passionate about undoing what we’ve done to the Earth.”

The teams have to be watchful about Kure’s delicate ecological balance and even a native plant can cause a problem. “Makaloa is a native plant that grew vigorously and overtook the seeps, which are



Laney White gathered the native bunch grass kaweelu (*Eragrostis variabilis*). Kaweelu is planted in areas recently cleared of the invasive golden crownbeard (*Verbesina encelioides*) and provides important habitat for ground nesting and burrowing seabirds. - *Courtesy: DLNR/Naomi Worcester*

freshwater (spots),” Nimz said. “We cleared the plant to open the water for the assorted birds that end up on the Kure as a temporary stop-over. The seep provides fresh water for those birds while they recuperate before heading to where they intended to go.”

When White was on Kure, she helped plant the native grass kaweelu around the seeps to provide habitat for burrow-nesting seabirds, such as Tristram’s storm-petrels. “The kaweelu is also protection for the endangered Laysan duck young ducklings, which was recently introduced to Kure,” said White.

Both White and Nimz lived their dream working on Kure. “Leaving the high-tech world behind allows individuals to focus on Kure’s robust habitat and wildlife and really pay

attention to nature. It was an amazing experience both as an individual and as a conservationist.”

Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument is administered jointly by three co-trustees – the U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Department of the Interior and the State of Hawai‘i. A management board comprised of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, State of Hawai‘i and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs oversees the day-to-day management of the monument. ■

*Cheryl Corbiell is an instructor at the University of Hawai‘i Maui College-Moloka‘i and coordinator for TeenACE and ACE Reading programs.*



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# OHA 2014 INVESTITURE STRIVING FOR PONO

BY LISA ASATO



Newly elected trustees receive their lei hulu, from left, Leina‘ala Ahu Isa, Rowena Akana, Peter Apo, Carmen “Hulu” Lindsey and John Waihe‘e IV. - *Photo: Francine Murray*

With the elections just behind them, five newly elected trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs formally took office at the 2014 OHA Investiture ceremony, amid a reorganization of the Board of Trustees that saw Hawai‘i Island Trustee Robert Lindsey ascend to the chairmanship.

At-large Trustees Rowena Akana, John Waihe‘e IV and Lei Ahu Isa, a first-time trustee, together with O‘ahu Trustee Peter Apo and Maui Trustee Carmen “Hulu” Lindsey formally took office Dec. 10 during a ceremony at Central Union Church. As the five trustees stood at the head of the church and faced the pews, their loved ones simultaneously tied lei hulu, feather lei, around their necks, which they wore as symbols of office for Office of Hawaiian Affairs trustees.

Addressing the crowd of hundreds of attendees, Board Chairman Robert Lindsey and OHA Ka Pouhana, CEO Kamana‘opono Crabbe congratulated the new trustees and pledged to work together.



Trustee Colette Machado of Moloka‘i, second from left, mingling with OHA staff as Kamehameha Schools Trustee Corbett Kalama stood nearby. - *Photo: Alexis Panoncillo*

OHA staff danced hula as the musicians of Project Kuleana led the singing of “Ka Na‘i Aupuni,” with help from OHA Trustees Haunani Apoliona, not pictured, Peter Apo, Carmen “Hulu” Lindsey and Rowena Akana. - *Photo: Francine Murray*



“As the new chairman of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, I am extremely honored and privileged to welcome our five newly elected trustees who will be serving us as servant leaders at our peoples’ table to continue to do the hard work that we need to do on behalf of our beneficiaries. ...” Lindsey said. “It is with enthusiasm and hope that I look forward to working closely with all of you to fulfill our obligation to helping create a better future for our beneficiaries.”

Offering his congratulations, Crabbe told the new trustees in his address, “I look forward to working with each and every one of you as well as the board leadership, and consistent with this year’s theme, “E na ‘i i ka Pono,” in the words of our great king and



OHA Chairman Robert Lindsey, left, and newly elected Gov. David Ige. The two served in the state Legislature together in the 1980s, when they served in the House of Representatives. - *Photo: Zach Villanueva*

sovereign Kamehameha ‘Ekahi, I look forward to our continued efforts as a call to all of our people to stand together to strive to obtain not just pono but justice. There is much work ahead of us that remains to be accomplished – to fulfill not only his legacy but the monarchs thereafter.”

Following the day’s theme of “E na ‘i i ka Pono, Strive to Obtain Pono,” speakers tailored their remarks, at least in part, around the

SEE INVESTITURE ON PAGE 17

## Prepared text of the speech given by Ka Pouhana, CEO Kamana‘opono Crabbe at the 2014 Investiture

**M**e ke welina a ke aloha e na kini, ka lehu, o ka mano e na hoa makamaka o Ko Hawai‘i pae ‘āina mai ka pua koali e luliluli ana i ka makani Kūehulepo o Kalae ma Ka‘ū a hiki loloa i ka pua hinahina e ha‘a ana i ka lau makani o Nihoa ‘o ka Inuwai a i kela mau moku i ka‘ili la malaila ma Papahānaumokuākea, aloha mai, aloha no, aloha no kākou e...

I would like to begin by offering my congratulations to the five trustees who are beginning their new four-year terms. A special welcome to new Trustee Lei Ahu Isa, who joins the Office of Hawaiian Affairs for the first time.

In the words of our great king and sovereign Kamehameha Ekahi, I look forward to working with each and every one of you to continue our efforts to “na‘i wale no

‘oukou, i ku‘u pono ‘a‘ole pau” a call to all of our people to stand together, for his deeds are our deeds, which are not yet complete. There is much work ahead of us that remains to be accomplished to fulfill not only his legacy but the monarchs thereafter.

In keeping with the theme for this year’s investiture, I wanted to take a few minutes to update you on how we are striving to close some of the critical gaps between Native Hawaiians and others across the state.

As you may know, improving Hawaiian education remains a high priority for us at OHA.

In school year 2012-2013, Native Hawaiian students who participated in the Hawai‘i State Assessments tested at 64 percent proficiency in reading and 49 percent proficiency in math.

Those figures represent a significant improvement from

the 2009-2010 school years, when Native Hawaiians tested 55 percent in reading and 32 percent in math.

Our efforts also resulted in a higher percentage of Native Hawaiians who are living healthier. For example, the percentage of obese Native Hawaiians decreased to 39 percent in 2013 from 44 percent the previous year.

As for our efforts to improve a sense of economic well-being among Native Hawaiians, our research provides some encouragement as we focus on helping more Native Hawaiians become homeowners.

In 2013, the homeownership rate for Native Hawaiians steadily increased for the fourth consecutive year to 57 percent, which represents 38,936 homeowners.

Another priority for OHA has been protecting the aina as part of a larger effort to honor the past while preparing for the future.

As the state’s 13th-largest landowner, we manage more than 27,000 acres of lands set aside for cultural, educational, environmental and agricultural purposes.

An example of our focus on being responsible stewards of such natural resources as land and water is the result of the settlement from the Nā Wai ‘Ehā case, which led to 12.9 million gallons more water per day being restored to two Central Maui streams.

This past year we endured many challenges with respect to a renewed effort to address opportunities to achieve political recognition as well as re-establish our sovereign status.

President Obama is often quoted that “The arc of history bends towards justice.” If such is true, then this is a unique moment in time for kanaka maoli and we must all ensure that we create the kinds of opportunities to seek

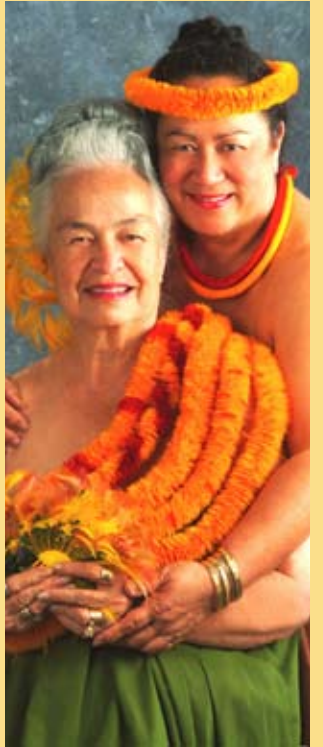
justice whenever and wherever possible.

After 121 years of cultural oppression, social despair, and political remorse IT IS HOPE, HOPE for your children, and even more so HOPE for our grandchildren that shall be the beacon to sustain our desires for a better future for Hawai‘i not just for Native Hawaiians but for all who live in our one hanau, these birth sands of our kūpuna.

If politics is the art of possibilities, then diplomacy is the skillful mastery of opportunities.

Therefore, from here on forward we shall envision not just the possibilities, but capitalize on the opportunities. With the leadership of an ali‘i consortium comprised of the Lunalilo Trust, Hale o Na Ali‘i and The Queen

SEE CRABBE ON PAGE 16



Paulette Kahalepuna, right, and her mother, Mary Louise Kekuewa. - *Courtesy: Iwalani Walsh Tseu Foundation Breast Cancer Awareness Project/Marc Schechter photo*

**T**he Office of Hawaiian Affairs shares in mourning the passing of Hawaiian featherwork (haku hulu) master artist Paulette Nohealani Kahalepuna.

Together with her late mother, master artist Mary Louise Kaleonahenahe Kekuewa, they expressed their dedication to OHA’s mission through their delicate craft. For many years, the two created the lei hulu (feather lei) presented to newly installed trustees. These precious works symbolize the tremendous responsibility that OHA trustees bear as leaders of our lāhui.

The Kahalepuna legacy lives on in the skilled hands of Paulette’s daughter, Mele Kahalepuna Chun, who continues their tradition of crafting and sharing the art of feather work with others. ■



Ka Pouhana Crabbe renewed a call for working together to achieve Hawaiian self-governance. - *Photo: Nelson Gaspar*



## CRABBE

Continued from page 15

Ka'ahumanu Society, we should envision a nation-building process in 2015 that embraces such principles of:

- Kākou (Inclusiveness) vs. mākou (exclusion)
- Pono (fairness) rather than special interests
- Integrity opposed to fraudulence (duplicity, untruthfulness)
- Justice for all in contrast to justice for a few

The real aspiration for our community is less about political action or inaction but more about individual and collective empowerment for the lāhui, economic opportunity, respect and equality. Let us shift the focus of health disparities, academic underachievement and incarceration to a cultural, strength-based foundation of thriving lands in Hawaiian hands and the mana

that will allow us to navigate our own destiny. The dialogue at the kitchen table, at family reunions and morning coffee at Starbucks must be on the kind of educational system parents wish for their children, sustainable economies consistent with cultural practices for up-and-coming entrepreneurs, and environmental stewardship championed by indigenous knowledge and ancestral wisdom. Let us sacrifice today for the generations of tomorrow so they can live in a Hawai'i that affords them a path to walk in both worlds with tremendous cultural dignity and esteem while living in an ever-changing 21st century of new horizons and bigger challenges.

I close with a simple question, Pehea la ka pani o ka mo'olelo? In 10, 50, 100 years from now how will our story end? What will we tell the unborn offspring of their inheritance we bequest on to them when faced against all odds? More so, what did OHA do to uplift our people?

OHA's success is being consistent with purpose. That means staying true to our mission by advocating for Native Hawaiians to improve their well-being, providing targeted resources that fulfill our mission and to facilitate collaboration among organizations and agencies to enhance our community's collective ability to better the conditions of kanaka maoli. If we stay on this course, it is possible to build a beloved nation that is recognized nationally as well as internationally.

This can only be achieved by investing in relationships with others that share a common purpose through collective action and by earning the trust of our community. If we stay focused, stand together and aspire for greater integrity, we can and will achieve broad, lasting change that empowers Hawaiians and strengthens Hawai'i. A mo'olelo or story that begins in our voice, but ends in refrain by our great grandchildren as we strived for pono.

Mahalo nui loa! ■

## OHA staff create kähili used in Investiture

By Alexis Panoncillo

**M**o'omeheu (culture) is what defines a nation. It is important to carry on the legacy that has been left behind by our kūpuna to ensure that traditions of our people are never forgotten. Here at OHA, we strive to perpetuate culture in many ways.

Put together by the hands of OHA staff, the kähili symbolize perpetuation of Hawaiian culture through continued practice of cultural values, stewardship and aloha.



Lei hulu, in the poepoe style, created by Francine Murray. - Photo: Alexis Panoncillo

"Kähili was an insignia of rank and status of our Ali'i and therefore have a huge cultural significance to our lāhui," said Pilialoha Wong, executive assistant to the community engagement director. "Ho'omau" means to perpetuate, so learning the art of kähili-making and passing on this knowledge ensures that cultural traditions continue to thrive."

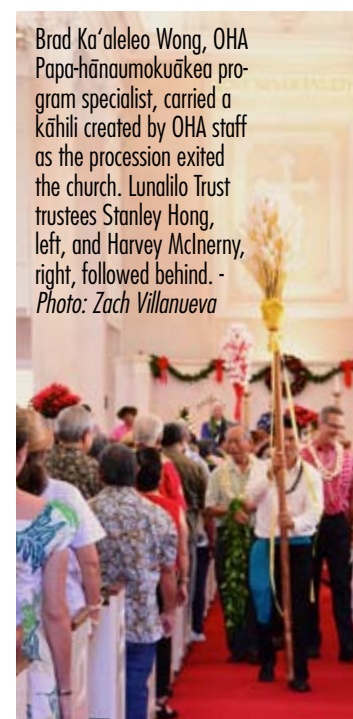
OHA compliance manager Kai Markell stated that "as staff learn the significance of a very sacred tradition, 'ike Hawai'i and the traditions of our kūpuna live on."

Employees were also taught the craft of lei hulu and began creating their poepoe style lei.

OHA communications specialist Francine Murray wore her lei hulu to OHA's 2014 Investiture.

She shared, "The lei hulu class at OHA offered an opportunity for Kalani Akana (OHA's culture specialist) to ho'omau, mentor staff and teach them the traditional Hawaiian practice of feather artwork. The students not only learned to do the intricate work, they learned patience and to harness positive thoughts to be woven into the lei, which made it uniquely Hawaiian and made with aloha." ■

*Alexis Panoncillo is a student helper in OHA's Digital Media Program.*



Brad Ka'aleleo Wong, OHA Papa-hānaumokuākea program specialist, carried a kähili created by OHA staff as the procession exited the church. Lunalilo Trust trustees Stanley Hong, left, and Harvey McInerney, right, followed behind. - Photo: Zach Villanueva

One of the most beautiful traditions of Hawaiians is our expertise in feather work. OHA employees were taught feather work through techniques used to create kähili (feather standard) and lei hulu (feather lei).

Kähili were built using 500 to 700 single ko'o (branches), and red or yellow string, which were used in binding the feathers together. Each of OHA's Lines of Business, or paia, contributed about 50 ko'o of each color.

At OHA's 2014 Investiture, which took place on Dec. 10, the completed kähili were carried into Central Union Church at the start of the ceremony.

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# INVESTITURE

Continued from page 15

word “pono,” Hawaiian for upright and good.

“The value of pono is a very sacred value,” said Kahu David Kaupu, as all nine trustees stood before him. “It is sacred of course in the scriptures. Sacred in the New Testament as well as the Old Testament. It is sacred also for the Kingdom of Hawai‘i,” he said. He was referring to the words uttered by King Kamehameha III in 1843 upon the restoration of the sovereignty of the Hawaiian Kingdom after a brief takeover by a British lord. Those words – Ua mau ke ea o ka ‘āina i ka pono – live on through the state’s motto, often translated as “The life of the land is perpetuated in righteousness.”

“You will recall that Kamehameha with his wisdom instituted the ‘ōlelo no‘eau that has become for us the motto of our land,” Kaupu said. “And in that motto he declared that righteousness, or pono, is the only way is the only proper way for our people and our ‘āina.”

In his address, Crabbe renewed a call for working toward Hawaiian self-governance.

“This past year we endured many challenges with respect to renewed efforts to address opportunities to achieve political recognition as well as re-establish our sovereign status. President Obama is often quoted that ‘the arc of history bends towards justice.’ If such is true then this is a unique moment in time for kanaka maoli that we must all ensure that we create the kinds of opportunities to seek justice whenever and wherever possible.

“After 21 years of struggle, it is hope – hope for our children, hope for our grandchildren that shall be the beacon to sustain our desires for a better future for Hawai‘i not just for Native Hawaiians but for all who live in our one hanau, the birthlands of our kūpuna.”

Crabbe also called for collaboration. “With the leadership of an ali‘i consortium comprised of Lunalilo Trust, the Queen Ka‘ahumanu Societies and Hale o Na Ali‘i, we should envision a nation-building process in 2015 that embraces such principles as



OHA Compliance Manager Kai Markell waited to lead a procession of pū blowers into the church, after which all the trustees and honored guests would follow. - Photo: Zach Villanueva



OHA Trustee Haunani Apoliona, left, and OHA Ka Pouhana Kamano‘opono Crabbe, right, posed after the ceremony with Gov. David Ige, staffer Denise Iseri-Matsubara, Honolulu Mayor Kirk Caldwell and Ige’s chief of staff Mike McCartney. - Photo: Zach Villanueva

kākou, inclusivity, versus mākou, exclusion. Pono, fairness, rather than special interests. Integrity opposed to duplicity, and justice for all in contrast to justice for a few.”

In addition, Crabbe highlighted successes of the Hawaiian community, including:

- Among Hawaiians in the state public school system, proficiency increased to 64 percent from 55 percent in reading, and to 49 percent from 32 percent in math, from school years 2009-2010 to 2012-2013.

- Native Hawaiians are graduating “at the highest rate we have ever seen,” according to data collected from the University of Hawai‘i system.

- In health, the percentage of obese Native Hawaiians decreased to 39 percent in 2013



Board Chairman Robert Lindsey welcomed the five newly elected trustees, including first-time trustee Lei Ahu Isa. - Photo: Zach Villanueva

followed by a board reorganization vote that placed Lindsey as chairman and Kaua‘i and Ni‘ihau Trustee Dan Ahuna as vice chair. (See story page 5.) Moloka‘i Trustee Colette Machado said during the vote that she took the unprecedented step of giving up her charimanship after four years to make the transition as smooth as possible.

During the Investiture ceremony, Lindsey took a moment to remember Paulette Kahalepuna, a master in the ancient Hawaiian art of feather lei making, who died in September.

“We will joyfully honor her memory today by presenting to the five newly elected trustees the last lei hulu (feather lei) Paulette has made for our Investiture ceremony. These symbolic gifts are cherished in honor of the beauty, vibrancy and pride that reflect our Hawaiian culture. Let us honor our heritage as Hawaiian people and Paulette’s memory

by performing our duties in a way that inspires confidence and support as we strive to obtain pono for our beneficiaries.”

Some 400 people attended the morning ceremony. Among the crowd were newly elected Gov. David Ige, former Gov. John Waihe‘e, state lawmakers, Honolulu Mayor Kirk Caldwell, new University of Hawai‘i president David Lassner, trustees of ali‘i trusts, and members of royal and benevolent societies.

Kamehameha Schools Trustee Corbett Kalama said the Investiture was “rejuvenating for me.”

“Every time you have something like this ... it’s a reaffirmation that our Hawaiian people are important not only to our Hawaiian community but the state of Hawai‘i,” said Kalama, who is vice president of real estate investments and community affairs for Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation and a former board member of OHA’s Native Hawaiian Revolving Loan Fund.

Annelle Amaral, president-elect of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs, called the ceremony a “lovely gathering done in a very dignified way. I thought it was very nice indeed.”

As for how OHA and the association will collaborate, she said she needs to sit down with the new trustees to see “how it is we can work together.” ■



Members of the royal societies exited the church before heading to the ‘aha‘aina, or luncheon, at Parish Hall. - Photo: Alexis Panoncillo



Dan Ahuna of Kaua‘i is the new vice chair of the Board of Trustees. - Photo: Zach Villanueva

from 44 percent the previous year.

- As an example of OHA’s responsible stewardship of natural resources, a settlement was reached in 2014 in the Nā Wai ‘Ehā contested case, restoring an additional 12.9 million gallons of water per day to two Central Maui streams.

The five newly elected trustees had been sworn in the day before the Investiture by Intermediate Court of Appeals Associate Judge Lisa Ginoza. The swearing-in was





Football game with College of Hawai'i players, Mō'ili'ili, Honolulu, 1919. Early football players often wore mismatched outfits and inconsistent padding or helmets. - *Courtesy: Bishop Museum*

### CHANGE: 125 YEARS THROUGH THE EYES OF BISHOP MUSEUM

*Now through March 16*

Commemorating the 125th anniversary of Bishop Museum, this exhibit takes visitors on a trip back in time to explore how Hawai'i has transformed with historic photographs from the museum's archives. You can also test your knowledge of local sports history, peruse vintage menus or put your ear to an antique telephone. Other cultural objects from the museum's collection will be showcased in an array of creative audio, video and other media. Bishop Museum. Admission applies. 847-3511 or bishopmuseum.org.

### NA MELE MAE'OLE: NEVER FADING SONGS

*Sat., Jan. 24, 6 p.m.*

The Hawaiian Music Hall of Fame presents the second in a three-part concert series fundraiser, honoring the late Rev. Dennis Kamakahi. Featuring George Kuo, Danny Akaka Jr. and Aaron Mahi, the tribute highlights three stages of Kamakahi's career, from his early development to his time with Sons of Hawai'i, to his enduring legacy. Kawaiaha'o Church. \$30 general,



The Hawaiian Music Hall of Fame plans a Jan. 24 tribute concert to the late singer and composer Dennis Kamakahi, a 2009 inductee. - *Courtesy: Hawaiian Music Hall of Fame/Phil Spaulding photo*

\$20 students. Groups of 10 or more are \$20 per person. 392-3649, admin@hmfhof.org or hmfhof.org.

### MAKAHIKI CHALLENGE *Sat., Jan. 31*

This annual 3-plus mile challenge includes trekking over big hills and maneuvering through difficult obstacles – and lots of mud. Designed to test participants' physical endurance and mental toughness, the Makahiki Challenge is a competition but also a time to respect and enjoy the beauty of the island. Challenge participants

will be rewarded with live music and cold beer from Kona Brewing Co. Kualoa Ranch. makahikichallenge.com.



Staying clean isn't an option at the Makahiki Challenge, which traverses hills, obstacles and muddy trails at Kualoa Ranch. *Courtesy: Makahiki Challenge*

### HENRY KAPONO, JOHN CRUZ, BROTHER NOLAND CONCERT

*Fri., Jan. 30, 7:30 p.m.*

Three legends in the Hawaiian music community come together for a special concert to share their most popular songs as well as some fantas-

tic new collaborations. Henry Kapono, John Cruz and Brother Noland blend their distinct voices in an evening of unforgettable music. Maui Arts & Cultural Center, Castle Theater. \$12-\$55. (808) 242-7469 or mauiarts.org.

### 2015 BIENNIAL HAWAIIAN QUILT SHOW

*Sat., Feb. 7, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.*

Ka Hui Kapa Apana o Waimea, the oldest Hawaiian quilting group on Hawai'i Island, holds its biennial Hawaiian quilt show featuring



Nā Hōkū Hanohano Award-winning Waipuna on stage at the 2014 'Ukulele Picnic. - *Courtesy photo*

traditional quilts, a chance to do pattern-tracing, a "learn how" station and craft sale. The club strives to perpetuate the art of Hawaiian quilting by collecting, preserving and creating patterns, and by teaching others. Mana Christian Ohana (formerly Kahilu Hall) in Waimea. Free admission. (808) 938-5728.

### POW! WOW! HAWAI'I

*Sat.-Sat., Feb. 7-14*

More than 60 murals are painted during this weeklong festival by more than 100 international and local artists. Visit unique art exhibitions, artist lectures and a fun block party with Night Market. Pow! Wow! celebrates the coming together of culture, music and art. Each event is held in or around the Kaka'ako area. 223-7462 or powwowhawaii.com.

### ANNUAL 'UKULELE PICNIC, HULA SHOW AND BENEFIT CONCERT

*Sat.-Mon., Feb 7-9*

This three-day events includes a hula show from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, followed by the seventh annual 'Ukulele Picnic on Sunday from 11 a.m. to sunset, featuring Grammy- and Na Hōkū Hanohano Award-winning Hawaiian slack key guitar masters and 'ukulele musicians. The third annual 'Ukulele Museum Benefit Concert will be held from 7-9:30 p.m. Monday featuring Waipuna and other special guests at an O'ahu venue. All other events will take place at Mauna Lani Bay Hotel on Hawai'i Island. ukulelepicnicinhawaii.org/en.

### ALOHA MUSIC CAMP

*Sun.-Sat, Feb. 8-14*

This weeklong immersion into the music, language, dance and culture of Hawai'i offers attendees a chance to learn to play slack key guitar, 'ukulele or steel guitar. Dance hula, make lei, sing songs, build Hawai-

ian instruments or just take in some great music and stories. The camp was created by the famed Beamer 'ohana along with other respected musicians, performers and instructors in the islands. Coconut Beach, Kapa'a, Kaua'i. Special kama'aina rates available. (650) 733-4643 or alohamusiccamp.com. ■



# Kūlana Hawai'i can help with goals for a healthier 2015

By Aukahi Austin, Ph.D.

A new year is a great time to start on those health changes you've been meaning to make. Kūlana Hawai'i can help you do it.

As a weight-management program sponsored by OHA and HMSA for the past three years, Kūlana Hawai'i has helped over 1,100 people to make health changes, lose weight and live the long, healthy and happy life they've always wanted. As one participant shares: "It has given me peace of mind. I've lost weight and inches. I feel better. My health is better. I don't have to go to the doctor as often."

We tailor our comprehensive approach so that each participant can get the exact type of supports needed to be successful. We encourage people to make small changes that they can keep for life instead of big shifts that are hard to maintain. This one-step-at-a-time approach allows habits to form as people find the balance that is right for them. "The reason that Kūlana Hawai'i has worked for me and others is the combination of exercise, dietitians, psychologists, developing new habits and meeting others in the same boat," says another participant, Arma.

Many of our participants are referred by their doctors because of conditions such as diabetes, high blood pressure and high cholesterol. Others come because they want to be more active, lose some weight or prevent health problems down the road. Adults of all ages, from 18 to 88, have been a part of our



Kūlana participants take classes like hula and aqua Zumba at Ala Moana Beach Park, below. - Courtesy photos: Kūlana Hawai'i



program and have been successful in a variety of ways. Beyond just losing weight and inches, they have more energy, increased their daily physical activity, reduced body pain, improved their diabetes, blood pressure and cholesterol, take less medication and generally feel better about themselves.

"Even with my numerous ailments, and weight-related problems, Kūlana Hawai'i has taught me that it's not too late to get healthy, lose weight and enjoy life," Arma said. "I was lost. I was headed down the same road as my parents. Eating poorly, never exercising, having diabetes, all kinds of aches and pains. By supporting this program, OHA said to me, 'You are important and being healthy is attainable.'"

"Kūlana" means stature, the way you carry yourself. When people make healthy lifestyle choices, they feel better about themselves. It shows in their kūlana. The health attitude you have on the inside shows on the outside in the habits you have and the choices you make. It's these choices and the way you live your life that will show in the pounds and inches you lose and in the health improvements you see. That's what Kūlana Hawai'i is all about.

We are currently open for new enrollment. Kūlana Hawai'i is free for Native Hawaiians and HMSA members. It's a great time to try something new and get started with living healthier!

If you would like to join the program or hear more information about Kūlana Hawai'i, please call us at (808) 525-6234 or visit our website at [www.iolalahui.org/kulana](http://www.iolalahui.org/kulana).

*Aukahi Austin, Ph.D., is program director for Kūlana Hawai'i, a program of I Ola Lāhui, where she also serves as executive director.*

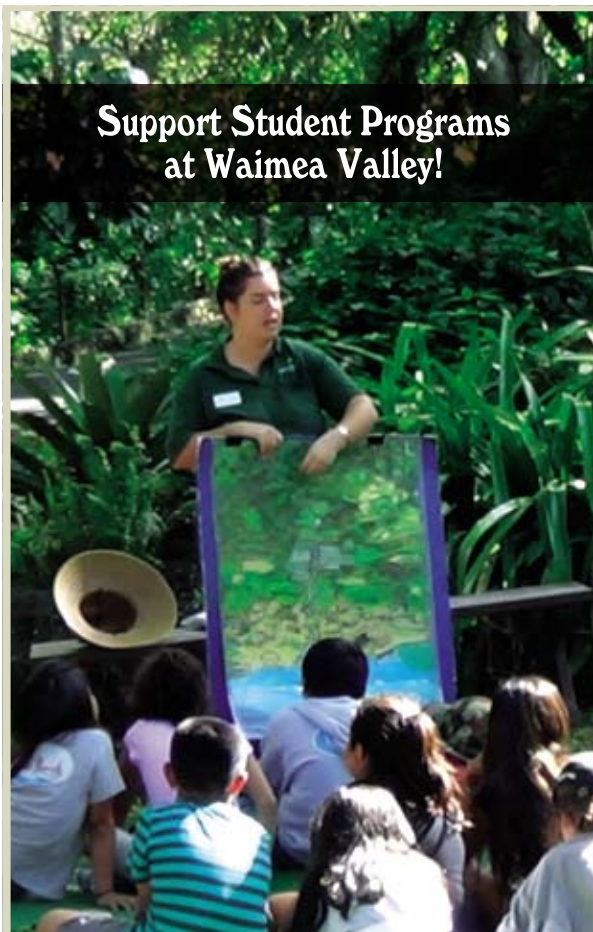
## CLAIRE

Continued from page 10

yard. Homegrown food tastes best and adds many nutrients at little cost to family meals.

We know the Hawaiian health issues. There are ways to assure a prolonged period of good health and ways to reduce severity of illnesses ... if we heed the doctor's suggestions. Many health issues and complications are related to being overweight. Our Hawaiian ancestors were muscular and lean. The difference is, that in 2014, our lives and foods we eat are very different from the "fish and poi" diet in old Hawai'i. If we could use our "ancestral knowledge," eating like them ... we'd be healthier. We can do better ... select better, exercise better, sleep better. Come on, let's make 2015 healthier and use our gifts wisely. ■

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## OHA West Hawai'i

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs' West Hawai'i Office has moved to a new location.

The new office at 75-1000 Henry St., Suite 205, Kailua-Kona, HI 96740, opens its doors Dec. 29. It is located across the street from Walmart.

Contact information remains the same: phone is (808) 327-9525 and fax is (808) 327-9528. Hours are Monday through Friday, 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. closed on state and federal holidays. The Hawaiian Registry Program is available from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

## HMSA scholarships

Hawai'i high school students graduating in 2015 are being encouraged to apply for the 10th annual HMSA Kaimana Awards and Scholarship Program.

The scholarships are based on the student's athletic and academic achievement, sportsmanship and community involvement. HMSA will award up to 15 scholarships valued at \$5,000 each.

Applicants must have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.75 in their senior year, and must have played on a league-recognized team during at least one of their high school years. Special focus will be on student athletes in lower-profile sports.

The application deadline is Feb. 13, 2015. For information visit [hmsa.com/kaimana](http://hmsa.com/kaimana).

## U.S. DOE grants

The U.S. Department of Education awarded seven University of Hawai'i campuses a total of \$69 million in grants to support programs serving Native Hawaiians.

The grants will support the programs such as Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) education; and Native Hawaiian culture and languages.

Windward Community College also received funding to create a Hawaiian language-based childcare facility for infants and toddlers of its students.

## 'AHA PŪNANA LEO DAY PROCLAMATION CEREMONY



Then-Gov. Neil Abercrombie proclaimed Oct. 24, 2014, " 'Aha Pūnana Leo Day" in recognition of the program being awarded the world's first accreditation of an early childhood education program conducted through an endangered and indigenous language by the World Indigenous Nations Higher Education Consortium (WINHEC). In an August article in *Ka Wai Ola*, OHA's letter supporting WINHEC accreditation was described as crucial in helping secure the recognition, which helps the 30-year-old program retain and attract additional sources of funding. Standing, from left, are: Sen. Gilbert Kahele, Dr. William "Pila" Wilson, Colin Kippen, Dr. Larry Kimura, Kamehameha Schools CEO Jack Wong, Sen. Clayton Hee, Wai'ale'ale Sarsona, Governor Abercrombie, Office of Hawaiian Affairs CEO Dr. Kamana'opono Crabbe, Georgenne Weisenfeld, Lolena Nicholas, Nāmaka Rawlins, Sen. Clift Tsuji, Dr. Kanoe Nāone, 'Aha Pūnana Leo Executive Director 'Ekekelā Aiona, Dr. Walter Kahumoku and 'Alike McNicoll. They are joined by students and teachers from Pūnana Leo o Wai'ānae. - Courtesy: Office of the Governor

"In 2008, the Board of Regents embraced the University of Hawai'i's mission to serve as a model indigenous-serving university," said UH President David Lassner. He said the grants, "really represent the opportunity to deliver on that mission and advance our service to Native Hawaiian people, culture and heritage."

## 'Birds, not Rats!'

The Kaua'i Forest Bird Recovery Project's crowdfunding "Birds, not Rats!" campaign to protect native birds on Kaua'i by controlling rats with humane, self-resetting rat traps has surpassed its goal of \$10,000. As of this writing, with 43 days left, it had raised \$15,587.

Kaua'i is home to eight native

forest bird species, three of which are listed as endangered. The state has identified rats as a major threat to the birds. The project hoped to raise at least \$10,000 for rat control through small donations. The project is a collaborative project of the state, University of Hawai'i and Garden Island Research and Development Inc. To contribute by Jan. 31, visit <http://bit.ly/1zGM530>.

## Distressed birds

Sea Life Park is asking the community to keep an eye out for baby seabirds in distress. New shearwater fledglings can be injured by winter weather patterns. The park says fledglings can be disoriented while flying at night by streetlights and other exterior lights.

Park curators say if you see a fledgling that shows no signs of injury, it is best to leave it alone, however, if the bird is injured, the park asks people to pick up the bird from behind wrapping it in a cloth, placing it in a box with air holes and taking it to Sea Life Park for rehabilitation. The park will accept injured birds 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

## Ka Makana Ali'i

Four national fashion retailers are headed for Ka Makana Ali'i, a 1.4-million-square-foot regional mall, a partnership between DeBartolo Development and the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

Three Gap Inc. brands: Old Navy, Gap and Banana Republic, and

Forever 21 are the latest retailers to be added to the lineup of retailers headed toward the West O'ahu development. Macy's is the anchor tenant for the development, which is expected to draw 150 retail offerings, two hotels and office space.

Ka Makana Ali'i is expected to financially support programs benefiting Native Hawaiians through the partnership with DHHL. The first phase of the center is scheduled to open in 2016.

## Financial educator honored

A Native Hawaiian financial educator has been honored as an Innovative Financial Educator by Visa Inc. for her work to assist 560 students on the Wai'anae Coast become college- and career-ready.

Lahela Williams was chosen as one of seven nationally recognized financial educators. She is a Hawai'i Community Assets program coordinator.

"Having the opportunity to teach kids about budgeting ... making money, saving money, growing money allows me to help students from Wai'anae to Waimea in becoming part of something bigger – a movement for financial autonomy," Williams said.

Williams received a scholarship from Visa to attend the National Jump\$tart Coalition's National Educator Conference in November. The coalition advances financial literacy among preschool to college-age youth.

## Launch my Business

Aspiring business owners can get the information and skills they need to build their businesses at the Patsy T. Mink Center for Business and Leadership's Launch My Business Workshop.

The intensive eight-week workshop will help entrepreneurs identify their markets, manage cash flow and tap into available resources. Sessions begin Feb. 17, 2015. The fee for the workshop is \$300 for workshop materials and free counseling by subject matter experts. Register by Feb. 13, 2015. To register, visit [www.mcbl-hawaii.org](http://www.mcbl-hawaii.org). ■



**NOTICE OF CONSULTATION  
SECTION 106 OF THE  
NATIONAL HISTORIC  
PRESERVATION ACT OF  
1966 AS AMENDED (2006)  
KAMEHAMEHA HIGHWAY,  
SOUTH KAHANA STREAM  
BRIDGE REPLACEMENT  
DISTRICT OF KOOLAU-  
LOA, ISLAND OF OAHU,  
AHUPUAA OF KAHANA  
FEDERAL-AID PROJECT  
NUMBER: BR-083-1(55)  
TAX MAP KEYS: [1] 5-2-  
005:003 & 5-2-002:01**

Notice is hereby given that the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and State of Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT) propose to replace the South Kahana Stream Bridge and realign both approaches to the bridge. This proposed project is a federally funded HDOT project. It will be considered a federal action and undertaking, as defined by Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966,

as amended (2006). The project site is on Kamehameha Highway at the southeast corner of Kahana Bay. The project would result in taking a small portion of Kahana Valley State Park for realignment of the roadway approaches to the replacement bridge. A temporary detour road and bypass bridge will be installed upstream of the existing bridge for the duration of construction.

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) for this project occupies about 5.6 acres or 245,000 square feet. It extends along and on both sides of the Highway and is approximately 1,790 feet long by 200 feet wide, at its widest point. The land-side area of the APE on both sides of the stream consists of mostly fill material which was placed during construction of the existing bridge.

Pursuant to Section 106 of the NHPA, Native Hawaiian organizations and Native Hawaiian descendants with ancestral, lineal or cultural ties to, cultural knowledge or concerns for, and cultural or

religious attachment to the proposed project area are requested to contact Ms. Christine Yamasaki via email at [christine.yamasaki@hawaii.gov](mailto:christine.yamasaki@hawaii.gov), or by U.S. Postal Service to Hawaii Department of Transportation, 601 Kamokila Blvd., Room 609, Kapolei, Hawaii 96707.

Please respond by January 16, 2014.

**NOTICE OF CONSULTATION  
SECTION 106 OF THE  
NATIONAL HISTORIC  
PRESERVATION ACT OF  
1966 AS AMENDED (2006)  
Waimea Trails and Greenways  
Increment 1, Lindsey Road to  
Kahawai Street  
Lalamilo Ahupua'a,  
South Kohala District  
Federal-Aid Project  
No.STP-0100(51)  
Tax Map Key(s): [3] 6-5-03: 004  
por; 005 por; 007 por; 044 por;  
6-6-03:006 por; 013 por**

Notice is hereby given that the County of Hawai'i is proposing

construction of Increment 1 of the Waimea Trails and Greenways (WTG) project, also known as Ke Ala Kahawai o Waimea ("the stream trail of Waimea"). Increment 1 is the initial section the WTG project, a planned multi-use path that will eventually extend 4.8 miles. The project is located in Waimea, South Kohala District, Hawai'i Island.

Increment 1 is a County of Hawai'i federally-funded project, and is considered a federal action and undertaking as defined by Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended (2006). Increment 1 is a one-mile long section of paved, multi use path located between Lindsey Road and Kahawai Street. It is the first of four increments of the WTG project. Increment 1 will be paved, vary from 10 to 12 feet in width, and be ADA accessible, except where technically infeasible. The "Area of Potential Effect" (APE) is a 30-foot wide corridor following the path alignment.

An Archaeological Inventory

Survey (AIS) was completed for Increment 1 in 2009 by Cultural Surveys Hawai'i. A complete pedestrian survey identified a total of three historic properties consisting of four features within the APE. These historic properties included a collapsed and severely damaged concrete ford or bridge, a remnant portion of a paved road, an earthen ditch segment, and an intact concrete ford and roadway. All three historic properties will potentially be affected by Increment 1 improvements.

The State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) reviewed and approved the AIS in 2009, and recommended that a preservation/interpretive plan be developed for one feature, a ford crossing, which lies in the path of the trail's stream crossing. The County is preparing this plan and it will be submitted to SHPD for review and approval prior to project construction.

The FHWA and the State of

SEE **PUBLIC NOTICE ON PAGE 26**

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## Teach For America impacts our most vulnerable communities

*Trustee's note: Mahalo nui to Trever Asam, who contributed this month's column. Asam taught seventh-grade geography and eighth-grade U.S. history in the D.C. Public Schools from 1998 to 2001.*

I never expected to find myself at Paul Junior High School in Washington, D.C. Born and raised in Hawai'i, I assumed I would come home after attending college on the mainland but wasn't able to find the right opportunity. Instead, I applied and was accepted into Teach For America, a program that places college graduates in under-resourced school districts with the goal of eliminating the achievement gap.

Teach For America was not yet established in Hawai'i, and I was placed at a junior high school in Washington, D.C. Four months after graduation, I was hanging posters and preparing a classroom for my first day as a seventh-grade teacher in the Washington, D.C., public school system.

A veteran principal led the school, staffing it with a diverse mix of young and experienced teachers. The teachers – many of whom had come through Teach For America – confronted challenges as they arose, holding themselves to the high standard of ensuring that every child had the opportunity to excel. The pairing of idealism and energy inspired dedicated work by teachers and students and earned well-deserved results.

In 2006, Teach For America brought its program, its energy and its ideals to Hawai'i. There are 183 corps members impacting over 13,000 students in 44 schools across O'ahu and Hawai'i Island this year. They teach science,



Robert K. Lindsey, Jr.

Chair,  
Trustee, Hawai'i

math, language arts and special education in our most vulnerable communities, where their dedication and commitment are most needed. Fifty-seven teach on the Wai'anae Coast and 63 teach on Hawai'i Island (including 19 in the Pahoia region). Over 150 alumni also remain in Hawai'i, the majority of whom are still teaching in Hawai'i's public schools.

A growing number of Teach For America teachers in Hawai'i are kama'āina who discover that Teach For America offers an opportunity to return home and give back to their community. Rather than investing themselves in far-flung school systems without the support of family and culture, they engage with – and bring their talents to – their own schools and communities.

Teach For America has embraced this movement, recognizing the special value added by teachers familiar with Hawai'i's unique culture and specifically recruiting kama'āina and Native Hawaiian applicants. This year the Hawai'i corps is one of the most diverse corps nationally: 30 percent grew up in Hawai'i, 15 percent identify as Native Hawaiian, 44 percent received Pell Grants, 35 percent are the first in their family to attend college, 65 percent are people of color and 44 percent have previous professional experience.

After leaving Washington, D.C., I became a lawyer and am now in private practice in Honolulu. I am an active member of the Teach For America Hawai'i board and proud to be one of the 37,000 Teach For America alumni who are working at every level of education, policy and other professions, to ensure that all children can receive an excellent education. ■

## Native Hawaiian Scholarship 'Aha Time

Aloha from Kaua'i and Ni'ihau!

Mahalo this month to my fellow Trustees, who have elected me Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees. In this role, I will work with our newly elected Chair of the Board, Trustee Bob Lindsey of Hawai'i Island, to lead our fellow Trustees. I will also serve as Vice Chair of the Land and Property Committee, chaired by Trustee Hulu Lindsey of Maui. With these new leadership roles come increased responsibilities to my fellow Trustees, to

OHA and to our beneficiaries. I look forward to working with the Trustees, our Administration and everyone else who wants to work to lift up our Hawaiian people. Other leaders elected to serve the next two years are:

- Asset and Resource Management Committee: Trustee Rowena Akana (Chair) and Trustee John Waihe'e IV (Vice Chair)
- Beneficiary Advocacy and Empowerment Committee: Trustee John Waihe'e IV (Chair) and Trustee Peter Apo (Vice Chair)

In November, I attended the Native Hawaiian Scholarship 'Aha that was held on Kaua'i at Kaua'i Community College's One Stop Center. Attendees learned about scholarships available to Native Hawaiian college students and had the opportunity to meet with scholarship providers from Kamehameha Schools, Ke Ali'i Pauahi Foundation, Hawai'i Community Foundation, Liko A'e Native Hawaiian Leadership Program, Native Hawaiian Health Scholarship Program, and Alu Like. This event, which OHA co-sponsors, continues to gain heavy interest. It was moved to a larger venue and still had a packed room.

I wanted to share with you what I shared with those who came that night, when I extended my aloha from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs,

including my fellow Trustees, and all of our employees, from Lihu'e to Hilo to Washington, D.C. The scholarship 'aha is one small way OHA is working to build a better Native Hawaiian community that is wiser, healthier and equipped with more opportunities. Education is so basic, yet it is one of the very areas where our people need the most help. There is money out there for anyone who wants to go to college and everyone can afford it. It will take time and commitment on the part of students, but they can make it happen.

By attending an 'aha, attendees are taking some of the first steps to help get you on the road to a college degree, and additional life and job skills to help them build a better life.

College is not just about going to class, reading books and writing papers. Rather, it is an investment in a person and having a better future. Over a lifetime, a college graduate will earn over \$1 million more than a non-graduate. And I want anyone who reads this to have that opportunity. The path to a college degree is not always easy, and will sometimes be hard. But money shouldn't be part of those difficulties. Instead, people should worry about succeeding in their chosen programs. During any challenges, remember to stay positive and focus on achieving good results and that life is about giving it your personal best.

Also, here's a shout-out to Waimea Valley, which held its third annual Makahiki Festival featuring the return of the Ke'alohi Hula Competition in November. Eight hālau competed in this event, which recognizes Ke'alohi Hula 'o Waimea (Waimea's Brilliant Hula Dancer).

Finally, I want to send a sincere mahalo and my very best wishes to Capsun Poe, who worked as my Senior Aide, as he moves to the staff of OHA Chair Bob Lindsey where he will serve as Secretary of the Board of Trustees.

Mahalo nui loa for reading! ■



Dan Ahuna

Vice Chair,  
Trustee,  
Kaua'i and  
Ni'ihau



## OHA in the Digital Age

It is such an exciting time for OHA as we enter the 21st Century and the Digital Age.

The world has its challenges with the advent of technology. Security and privacy issues are just the tip of the iceberg.

OHA communications manager Garrett Kame-moto remarked, and I agreed with him as the king was always ahead of his time: "If King Kalākaua were here when Apple iPhones went on sale, he'd be the first in line!"

And this is just one reason why Act 195 should be repealed. Technology software can identify not only ancestral history but be kept track through iCloud. Way cheaper than spending millions of dollars (\$27M Akaka Bill) and the Native Hawaiian Roll, Kana'iolowalu (\$4M+).

IMHO, it would have been more fruitful, productive if OHA gave all the Kau Inoa enrollees and in fact, ALL the Hawaiian people iPads filled with apps on educational information about OHA and Native Hawaiian history, issues,

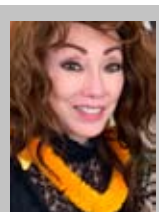
etc. Interaction could take place with OHA through digital means and to express their mana'o.

OHA must be more inclusive, more transparent so that our people can TRUST the Trustees once again. Aunt Gladys Brandt was my mentor, as well as Senator T.C. Yim, and I have always admired her grace and dignity she carried as an OHA Trustee. David Shapiro said it best, "Any accepted path forward must rise from the Hawaiian community, and the state and federal governments

have no business trying to organize or control it" ("Take cue from Hawaiians and end enrollment effort," *Star-Advertiser*, Volcanic Ash, May 18).

Our former Governor and the Legislature should not have created a law that mandated an issue that was OHA's kuleana. E kala mai if I am being disrespectful, but just wanted to share.

Hau'oli Makahiki Hou and May Akua Bless Everyone! ■



Lei Ahu  
Isa

Trustee, At-large

## Embracing transparency: New leadership finally comes to OHA

A no'ai kakou ... Happy Year of the Sheep! Big Island Trustee Robert Lindsey has been selected as our new Chairman of the Board. Trustee Dan Ahuna is our Vice-Chair. Trustee John Waihee IV chairs the Beneficiary Advocacy and Empowerment Committee and Trustee Hulu Lindsey chairs the Land and Property Committee.

As many of my readers know, I have worked diligently for many years to make OHA accountable to our beneficiaries and to make our decision-making process more transparent. This call for openness has made me very unpopular with the past two OHA Chairs.

After years of having my requests get absolutely nowhere, I was finally forced to file a lawsuit against OHA in September 2013 to make it more transparent. Now that a new leadership team is in place, this lawsuit may no longer be necessary.

As the new Chairperson of the Asset & Resource Management (ARM) Committee (henceforth the "Budget & Finance" Committee), I will oversee all fiscal and budgetary matters and ensure that OHA's trust fund is properly managed.

The Budget & Finance Committee also oversees OHA's real estate and develops policy on land use, native rights, and natural and cultural resources. It also approves all grants and evaluates OHA programs to decide whether we should continue funding them.

Now that decision making has shifted to a new majority, I feel confident that our



Rowena  
Akana

Trustee, At-large

beneficiaries will be pleased with the upcoming changes.

### EMBRACING TRANSPARENCY

If you haven't already heard, you may now go to OHA's website at [www.oha.org/about/board-trustees](http://www.oha.org/about/board-trustees) to watch live meetings of the OHA Board of Trustees. Be sure to tune in on the days we have our meetings. For a meeting schedule, please call me at (808) 594-0204.

### NEW LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mahalo nui loa to Governor Neil Abercrombie for his constant support of Native Hawaiian issues, which goes all the way back to championing the Akaka bill while he was in Congress. He can take pride in being the Governor that finally made the ceded lands settlement a reality with the transfer of Kakaako Makai to OHA.

I would also like to thank State Senators Malama Solomon and Clayton Hee, and Representative Faye Hanohano for their dedicated service to the Native Hawaiian Community while serving in the state Legislature. I wish them well in their future endeavors.

While OHA now has to work even harder to educate the new incoming legislators on unresolved Native Hawaiian issues, I have high hopes that we will have another successful session and get more things done for our beneficiaries.

Aloha Ke Akua.

*Interested in Hawaiian issues and OHA? Please visit my website at [www.rowenaakana.org](http://www.rowenaakana.org) for more information or email me at [rowenaa@oha.org](mailto:rowenaa@oha.org).* ■



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## What does the Office of Hawaiian Affairs do?

"What does the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) do?" is the question I am most often asked as an OHA Trustee.

OHA was established by the delegates of the 1978 Hawai'i State Constitutional Convention. The Hawai'i Constitution charges OHA with a very complicated and sweeping mandate to manage a group of trust assets, on behalf of its approximately 250,000 Hawaiian beneficiaries living in Hawai'i. Trust assets include a Wall Street investment portfolio, commercial real estate properties, cultural properties, such as Waimea Valley (O'ahu), and a number of grants from various sources. These assets have a total annual worth that hovers around \$550 million and growing.

OHA's annual operating budget of approximately \$40 million includes about \$10 million in contracts that go to every conceivable service, such as accounting, law, janitorial, construction, catering, flowers and more. About \$14 million is paid as wages to our employees, who in turn pay for housing, clothing, transportation, food, education, medicine and entertainment.

OHA funds the Native Hawaiian Legal Corp. (NHL), which fights for access to land and water. If not for NHL, working in conjunction with other legal organizations and OHA's in-house compliance team, many of our beaches would be closed to the public, Mākuā Valley would still be an active firing range, and many historic sites would have been destroyed. OHA also helped fund the Humpback Whale Sanctuary, and is a co-manager of Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument in the Northwest Hawaiian Islands.

OHA also funds a number of annual flagship events, such as the Merrie Monarch hula competition,



**Peter Apo**

Trustee, O'ahu

The Kamehameha Schools Song Contest, Nā Hōkū Hanohano music awards, Hawai'i Book and Music Festival and many more smaller events throughout the State for the benefit of all Hawai'i.

OHA also gives out community-based grants totaling about \$13 million a year, which fall into six broad categories: culture, health, income, education, governance, and land and water. OHA supports 13 Hawaiian-focused charter schools statewide. These schools are preparing the leaders of the future by grounding their education in Hawaiian values. OHA strongly encourages high school students to go to college, and has awarded hundreds of scholarships over the years.

OHA's health grants include supporting services for prevention of diabetes, obesity and heart disease with thousands of participants every year. We also fund programs targeting hundreds of people on four islands to adopt holistic health lifestyles in order to decrease their rates of chronic illness.

The housing programs we support offer financial literacy and down-payment assistance for people who are moving from rentals into homeownership. OHA also funds programs for people recently released from prison or homeless persons qualifying for low-income housing.

One of OHA's flagship initiatives is the acquisition of various culturally valuable lands, such as 2,800-acre Waimea Valley (O'ahu) and 20,000 acres of Wao Kele o Puna Forest lands on Hawai'i Island. OHA also manages commercial real estate properties worth several million dollars.

In the end, OHA is an integral part of the Hawai'i economy and an essential asset of not only the Hawaiian community, but all of Hawai'i. ■

## Hawai'i bond ... Native to Native

Aloha e nā 'ōiwi 'ōlino, nā pulapula a Hāloa, mai Hawai'i a Ni'ihau, puni ke ao mālamalama. Trustees of the National Museum of the American Indian, Smithsonian, traveled to Hawai'i this past December with the purpose to conduct their final Board of Trustees meeting for the year; previously scheduled for 2013 but sequestration delaying it until December 2014. Native nations represented on the NMAI Board have previously included Chickasaw, Ojibwe, Yup'ik, Sioux, Pawnee, Cheyenne, Choctaw, Cherokee, Pueblo of Laguna, Serano/Cahuilla/San Manuel Band of



**Haunani Apoliona, MSW**

Trustee,  
At-large

ment of our Ali'i as they too honor their native, indigenous predecessors. In the days that followed the Mauna 'Ala visit, Trustees began to see the humanitarian and policy work of our Ali'i that made the difference, then and now, for Native Hawaiians.

Day 2 included three sites: 1) the well appreciated visit to 'Iolani Palace and the expressed desire by NMAI Trustees to return to at a future date that would allow for more time and study; 2) Ka'iwakīloumoku – Hawaiian Cultural Center at Kamehameha Schools-Kapālama in Honolulu, Hawai'i; and 3) the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

The third day of visits were devoted to Hawaiian Homelands. The NMAI Trustees spent an hour briefing on Hawaiian Home Lands; the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, the lands and their locations, the challenges ongoing as well as the current and future possibilities; and accomplishments thus far. The NMAI Trustees traveled with the Commission Chair arriving at Waimānalo homesteads. They witnessed the multiservices and collaboration at work for kupuna housing and services, preschool education, QLCC and the deliberate and hard work of the Waimānalo Homestead Association.



A trip to O'ahu by Trustees of the National Museum of the American Indian included visits to Mauna 'Ala, OHA and Ka'iwakīloumoku Hawaiian Cultural Center at Kamehameha Schools-Kapālama, pictured. - Courtesy photo

Mission Indians, Seneca, Tulalip, Comanche, Winnebago, Oneida, Yocha Dehe Wintun, Maya and Native Hawaiian.

The NMAI agenda provided a rare opportunity for Trustees and staff to consider adding five days, of their time and resources, for site visits in Hawai'i, specifically O'ahu, to precede the NMAI Trustees board meeting. And they agreed.

The first day was spent at Mauna 'Ala. Kahu William John Kaihe'ekai Mai'oho presented mo'olelo and history of the "Burial place for the Sovereign and High Chiefs of the Kingdom." He spoke of royal burials before Mauna 'Ala, the founding of Mauna 'Ala, who is interred at Mauna 'Ala and their circumstances, the protocol of Mauna 'Ala and finally the reason for the distinct location of the Lunalilo Mausoleum at Kawaiaha'o and its significance.

Our Native visitors presented lei and mana'o at each of the tombs at Mauna 'Ala; the Wyllie, the Kamehameha, the Charles Reed Bishop, the John Young, and the Kalākaua crypts. The Trustees were most reverent and appreciative for this acknowledge-

The Trustees saw the upcoming development for Hawaiian Homes, as well as the soon-to-be completed self-help projects in the homestead.

Leaving Waimānalo, Trustees traveled to Punchbowl, to overview Papakōlea, Kalāwahine and Kewalo homesteads. They also paused at Punchbowl to drive silently past the gravestone of Senator Daniel K. Inouye, who is honored and well-remembered for his unwavering support of and his years of dedication to Native people as Chair of the Senate Indian Affairs Committee.

The fourth day took NMAI Trustees to the cultural and historic Waimea Valley, one of the last partially intact ahupua'a on O'ahu; then Trustees made their way to Kūkaniloko, piko of O'ahu, place of the birthing stones and more; and finally in the late afternoon continued to Hawai'i Loa for the Polynesian Voyaging Society for briefing.

The final Saturday morning, for those Trustees who remained, was committed to "hoe wa'a."

We traveled from the mountains to the sea, from the east to the west with our NMAI partners – native, indigenous people, together. 25/48 ■



## A new beginning

We begin 2015 with a new Chairman, Robert Lindsey, at the helm of the OHA Board. His role may be new, but his service to OHA and to the Native Hawaiian community is longstanding and deeply appreciated. I would also like to say mahalo nui loa to my colleagues for their continuing confidence in me as the Chairperson of the Land and Property Committee. OHA is the 13th-largest landowner in the State of Hawai'i. I am very aware of the magnitude of our responsibility as stewards of our land assets and I renew my pledge to bring all of my career experience to bear in fulfilling this kuleana.

There is another person who understands his kuleana very well: our new Chancellor at the University of Hawai'i Maui Campus. We are so proud to see a native son return to his home, rich in experience and education, eager and ready to give back to his people. In a recent media interview, Dr. Lui Hokoana reflected on what his late father, a fireman who dreamed big dreams for his children, would say if he could see his son, armed with a doctorate, return to Maui as Chancellor of the local university.

He would say "I told you so!" said Lui. I would like to echo that. From everything I saw of his upbringing and the values his parents instilled in him, I know how blessed we are to have him back to lead and inspire our children to discover their fullest potential. He mentioned that growing up, he wanted to be a fireman like his father. But his parents saw that he could be much more, and they encouraged him to reach higher.

I want to honor the example Dr. Hokoana's parents set of positioning the next generation to do better. Lui is a fine example



Carmen "Hulu"  
Lindsey

Trustee, Maui

of what happens when we take a real interest in our children and bring out the best in them. He is quick to acknowledge the key role other professional mentors played in his life, opening doors for him and entrusting him with career responsibilities that have been pivotal to his growth. He has also been quoted as saying, "People want to be listened to." Amen! On behalf of the people of Maui, "WELCOME HOME, LUI!"

I see many lessons that we can draw from Lui's story as we embark on a new year as trustees of this important institution. It reminds me once again of the critical importance of parental guidance and education in ensuring a bright future for our children and grandchildren. It reminds me of the important role of the kūpuna in lighting the way forward, as well as the necessity for our children to be equipped with the skills to carry the torch forward.

We at OHA must embrace better than ever before the role of being, not just leaders and spokespersons, but bridge-builders. We too need to do a better job of listening. We need to connect the various groups within the community because we all understand the strength that we can summon when we are united in one purpose. That purpose is to build a better future for all of Hawai'i. That purpose must include the uplifting of those who are struggling with poverty and illness; the rehabilitation of those who have made mistakes but want to become contributing members of society; the education of our children; the sustaining of our culture; and the kind of 21st century responsible, economic development that protects our planet and its people.

Yes, if you dream the impossible, the impossible can become a reality. ■

## Ka Moloka'i Makahiki

Native Hawaiians traditionally celebrated Makahiki, a four-month-long season that began in mid-October. The "Makahiki" is a designated period of time following the harvesting season when wars and battles were ceased, tributes and taxes were paid by each district to the ruling chief, sporting competitions between districts were organized, ceremonies dedicated to the deity Lono and celebrations of renewal and perpetuation of the life cycle were commenced.

Ka Moloka'i Makahiki is committed to preserving these ancient traditions, especially those specific to Moloka'i. This nonprofit community-based organization that is made up of volunteers has continuously coordinated these cultural traditions and practices throughout the years. This year it will celebrate 35 years of hosting this community event that aligns the Makahiki season with ancient games and festivities that celebrate the Hawaiian New Year.

To ensure perpetuation of the culture, the annual Ka Moloka'i Makahiki Festival takes place each year in January on Moloka'i and it brings together every school on the island from the elementary schools, middle school and high school. There is no other event in Hawai'i that allows keiki from so many different places to come together, from both Moloka'i and the neighbor islands, with so much aloha and respect for one another while being a Hawaiian cultural practitioner in their own right. The event also has an adult category where adults from Moloka'i as well as from the around the state participate against each other in the same events that the kids participate in.



Colette Y.  
Machado

Trustee Moloka'i  
and Lāna'i

The theme of this year's event is Kīpapa na Ho'okupu, o'o ka Pule (When the Ho'okupu are Nearly Bundled and Arranged, the Prayers will be Answered). This theme will be carried on throughout the festival by the series of lectures, land and ocean activities, hands-on art and craft workshops, sporting competitions, oli composition competitions and traditional ceremonies.

This event will bring together a record number of participants as well as observers who will celebrate both the meaning behind this event as well as the friendly competition. All who participate will feel the spirit of Makahiki as they compete in events such as: uma (arm wrestling), kūkini (running races) and 'ulu maika (Hawaiian bowling), just to name a few.

While the competition can get fierce, it remains friendly among participants. They all compete to have fun and it's not all about winning. Moloka'i being such a small community, the families are usually cheering not only for their school but for the other schools as well because they have 'ohana that attend the other schools too. The sportsmanship exhibited by all participants and celebrating Moloka'i is the best part of the festival.

Last year not only were there teams from Moloka'i but there were also teams from Maui, Hawai'i Island, O'ahu and even a team from Los Angeles, California, that competed.

I'd like to wish the committee a successful event and thank them for their generosity in organizing this event that keeps Makahiki alive on Moloka'i every year. ■

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Continued from page 21

Hawai‘i Department of Transportation (HDOT) are currently reevaluating the Section 106 for Increment 1, and invite you to submit comments on the improvements, recommended mitigation, or other information on historic and cultural sites in the area. Native Hawaiian descendants with ancestral lineage of cultural ties to, cultural knowledge or concerns

for, and cultural or religious attachment to the proposed Increment 1 project area are requested to contact Mr. Robert Sun via email at Robert.Sun@hawaii.gov or by US Postal Service to Department of Transportation, Design Section, Highways Division, 601 Kamokila Boulevard, Room 609, Kapolei, Hawaii 96707.  
Please respond by January 31, 2015.

**KAHANUIAHUPUA‘A**  
Information requested by Sci-

entific Consultant Services, Inc. (SCS) on cultural resources; and traditional, or on-going, cultural activities on or near the proposed the Kualapuu Well No. 2 Project, located in the Kahanui Ahupua‘a, Kona District, Island of Moloka‘i, Hawai‘i [TMK (2) 5-2-012:022 por.]. Please respond within 30 days to Cathleen Dagher at (808) 597-1182.  
**MĀHĀ‘ULEPŪ AHUPUA‘A**  
Information requested by Sci-

entific Consultant Services, Inc. (SCS) on cultural resources; and traditional, or on-going, cultural activities on or near a proposed dairy farm on a 578 acre property within Māhā‘ulepū Valley, Māhā‘ulepū Ahupua‘a, Kōloa District, Island of Kauai [TMK: (4) 2-9-003-001 por. & 006 por. and (4) 2-9-001:001 por.]. Please respond within 30 days to Cathleen Dagher at (808) 597-1182.  
**CULTURAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT NOTICE**  
Information requested by Sci-

entific Consultant Services, Inc. of cultural resources or ongoing cultural practices on lands along the Hilo Bay shoreline in Pi‘ihonua, Punahoa, Ponahawai, Kūkūau 1st and 2nd, and Waiākea Ahupua‘a, South Hilo District, Island of Hawai‘i, TMK: (3) 2-2-004:999; 2-2-005:004, 006, 999; 2-3-001:003, 999; 2-3-002:016, 999; 2-3-003:001, 004; and 2-3-004:001. Please respond within 30 days to Glenn Escott at (808) 938-0968. ■

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*E Ō Mai*

For more information on the Kuleana Tax Ordinance or for genealogy verification requests,  
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For students entering the 6th grade

**HO'OLAUNA**

For students entering the 7th or 8th grade

**KŪLIA I KA PONO**

For students entering the 9th grade