

Kaua`i Planning & Action Alliance, Inc.

Bringing people together to create a better future for Kaua`i

ALLIANCE IN ACTION

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Reflections for a New Year

This is the time of year I begin to reflect on what has been accomplished in the past year and what lies ahead. I am grateful for the generous and collaborative spirit of the hundreds – probably thousands – of people who share their time and energy for the benefit of our community. Many of them assist with KPAA's initiatives, and many more lend their creativity and talents to issues, projects and organizations throughout the island. It seems that what unites us as an island is our appreciation for the grandeur of Kaua`i's beauty, our sense that aloha and neighborliness are tremendously important, and our desire to leave a healthy and prosperous legacy for the future. Sometime we hear that Kaua`i is at a tipping point – facing changes that will forever alter our rural character and quality of life. Certainly we are seeing changes and it is up to us to determine those we want to embrace and those we should turn our back on. If you haven't read it lately, take a look at the vision for Kaua`i contained in our General Plan (see <http://www.kauai.gov/Portals/0/planning/Ch2.PDF>). How do we make sure this vision is the Kaua`i we will pass along to future generations? I look forward to joining you in pursuing this vision in the New Year.

With best wishes,
Diane Zachary

KPAA's First Fundraiser a Success – “Brunch on Board the Pride of Hawaii”



NCL America hosted KPAA's first fundraiser aboard the Pride of Hawaii on Saturday, November 11th. Guests were treated to music by slack key guitarist Paul Togioka, a champagne reception and a special tour of the ship. Keynote speaker Warren Haruki, President and CEO of Grove Farm, shared the Grove Farm's initiatives in “Building Community,” including reforestation conservation projects with youth organizations, a water purification project for Central Kaua`i, an agriculture plan for the Mahaulepu Valley, and other projects.

Classroom Volunteers Needed for Elementary Schools



Inspire learning! Are you ready to make a difference in a child's life? KPAA's *Community Volunteers in the Classroom (CVC)* project continues its recruitment effort for volunteers to work in elementary school classrooms. Working as little as one hour a week, volunteers will assist students with reading, math, and other subjects. This project is part of KPAA's goal to provide additional community support for public education, led the Education Action Team, composed of



Tim Hoxie presents a check to Diane Zachary and Sarah Shiraki from A&B Foundation for the CVC program.

business, community and education representatives. Call KPAA's Sarah Shiraki at 632-2005 to sign up to become a volunteer or to find out more.

Hospitality Leaders Gathered for "Greening Kaua'i's Visitor Industry" Conference



"Leadership and vision are necessary for a sustainable tourism strategy," says keynote speaker Dr. David Simmons of Lincoln University, New Zealand

As part of its goal to find ways to reduce Kaua'i's solid waste, KPAA organized a conference on *Greening Kaua'i's Visitor Industry*. About fifty visitor industry leaders met on November 9th at the Sheraton Kauai Resort to discuss the progress island businesses are making in becoming more "green" and to share ideas of what more could be done. Use of new technologies and practices are enabling businesses to save money, conserve resources and better protect the environment. Several hotels are using increasing their energy efficiency through use of compact fluorescents, installing light motion detectors, retrofitting air-conditioning systems, and changing linens every third day. Water is conserved through irrigating with reclaimed water and retrofitting toilets. Businesses are increasing the number of items they recycle and reducing the volume of their waste, for example through use of cardboard bailers. Many businesses are changing their purchasing practices to utilize products with high content of recycled materials and more eco-friendly cleaning products. To view the speakers'

Powerpoint presentations, go to KPAA's website www.kauainetwork.org. The conference was supported by the Hawai'i Tourism Authority, County of Kaua'i, Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative, Kaua'i Economic Development Board, Kaua'i Visitors Bureau, Princeville at Hanalei, Po'ipu Beach Resort Association, Sheraton Kaua'i Resort and Kaua'i Community College.

Directory of Community Organizations

One of KPAA's services to the island is the website www.kauainetwork.org. The site includes a searchable database of community organizations on Kaua'i called the "**Directory of Community Organizations**". The directory is a tool for agencies and residents to quickly find the nonprofit resources that meet their needs. You can promote your organization and help with building community on Kaua'i by including your agency, non-profit, or grassroots organization. There is no fee to be listed. You may go to the website to enter your listing online, or print out the Organization and Service forms, fill in the blanks and mail or fax to KPAA. We appreciate your participation and so will the community!

Community Indicators Project Nears Completion

Work on the *Measuring What Matters for Kaua'i* community indicators project is nearly complete. In October and November a telephone survey of Kaua'i residents was conducted. Four hundred people from all parts of the island shared their opinions on a number of issues related to our island's quality of life. Data from many county and state departments and nonprofits that has been gathered, analyzed and summarized. The next step is for the Indicators Advisory Committee to review the draft report. The report will be made public in early 2007 and is designed to provide information for decision-makers in government, business and nonprofits. The report also will help us determine Kaua'i's progress toward achieving the community vision in the *General Plan 2000*.

Drug Use Mitigation Update

KPAA continues to assist four committees tackling issues related to substance abuse on the island. The Prevention Committee has supported the launch of the Parent Project, a training program for parents with difficult or challenging teenagers or children. To find out when the next class will begin, contact Bev Pang in the Mayor's Office at 241-6392. The Drug Treatment and Community Integration Committees have been working on programs to create housing for those leaving drug treatment or prison. Several transitional homes have been established by the Ke Ala Hoku program, which combines housing and supportive services for the participants. While considerable work has been done, new programs have been created and use of ice has declined slightly, substance abuse remains a serious problem on Kaua'i and work on this important issue continues. And we bid a fond aloha to Roy Nishida, who is retiring as the Anti-Drug Coordinator, and wish him the very best.

Holiday Recycling



Don't forget to recycle your Christmas tree at any of the transfer stations around the island. All those cardboard boxes can be recycled too. Can't figure out what to do with your styrofoam packaging material? The UPS Store in Kukui Grove Shopping Center happily accepts Styrofoam peanuts and packaging.

Mahalo to KPAA's New and Renewing Members

KPAA welcomes the following General and Supporting Members who have joined or renewed their membership since October 25, 2006. We appreciate their continued support of our mission and goals!

New General Members

Kaua`i Health and Wellness Association

Renewing General Members

State of Hawai`i, Kaua`i District Health Office
Royal Order of Kamehameha I, Chapter 3, "Kaumualii"
Saiva Siddhanta Church (*Patron – Kou Level*)

New Supporting Members

American Savings Bank

Questions about KPAA? Comments? Please visit or contact us!

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***Aloha: It's Kauai's Spirit
One Island, Many Peoples, All Kauaian***

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