Aloha,

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April 27 KPAA Meeting Focuses on "The Health of Kauai’s Watersheds"

Register now to attend KPAA’s Wednesday, April 27 meeting for members and friends from 3 to 5 pm at KCC’s new OCET Building, Room 106C&D.

Michael H. Kido, Director, Hawaii Stream Research Center at University of Hawaii at Manoa, will discuss How Healthy Are Kauai’s Watersheds - Building Sustainable Watershed Communities. He will talk about the state of the watershed within Kauai’s ahupuaa, as measured by a watershed health index that incorporates 19 metrics impacting surface water. He’ll also demonstrate tools being developed to measure and monitor the watersheds in the years ahead. This topic is especially relevant now, given several initiatives underway, including designation of important agricultural lands, plans to develop hydropower to increase the island’s renewable energy production, and the scheduled update to regional plans and the General Plan. Here’s a downloadable flyer and it’s easy to register for the event.

Collaborative Leadership Network Website Launched

If you have ever considered convening a diverse group of people to tackle a large-scale problem or have wondered how to facilitate meetings where people with different points of view are supposed to come up with collective decisions, there is a new web-based resource just for you. The Collaborative Leadership Network (CLN) was launched in March, the culmination of foundational work by the Cross-Sector Collaboration Study Group, convened by the Omidyar family to study and share diverse approaches. KPAA's Diane Zachary was one of the study group members. This website is designed to inform and inspire individuals and groups who are (or could be) using cross-sector collaboration to tackle some of Hawaii’s toughest problems. The content-rich resource features six unique strategies for approaching collaboration, as well as examples, stories, tips, tools, and resources. The site is designed to evolve as new material and resources are added. By joining the CLN ohana (at no cost), you can contribute examples, offer comments, and share your ideas. As a member, you will also receive occasional updates announcing new material. Go to: http://collaborativeleadersnetwork.org/.

In Development – New Community Indicators Report for Kauai

Is Kauai’s aloha spirit alive and well? This is just one of the 57 indicators KPAA’s is looking at for the 2010 edition of its biennial community indicators report Measuring What Matters for Kauai. With the guidance of a community advisory committee and with the professional expertise of Ken Stokes of The Kauaian Institute, we’re looking at indicators that reflect our quality of life on Kauai. The purpose is to determine if we are moving in desired directions or if not, what are the opportunities to turn things in a more desirable direction. Here’s a teaser of what we found in a telephone survey conducted for us in March 2011 by FAQ Hawaii to gather data for the report: 62% of Kauai residents over 18 feel the aloha spirit is getting stronger (11%) or is the same as ever (51%). This is an increase from the total of 51% reported in the 2008 report, where 13% said it’s getting stronger, and 38% said it’s the same as ever. The new report is scheduled to be published in July and is supported by the County of Kauai, Ulupono Initiative and the Hawaii Community Foundation.

Collective Impact – Creating Large-Scale Social Change

Kauai is confronted by some big issues - unemployment, lack of affordable housing, student test scores, and more. Have you ever wondered if the approaches being used on Kauai toward broad social change are as effective as they might be? Are you interested in exploring how we can build on our aloha spirit and find a way to do things differently and better to attain more successful outcomes? A thought-provoking article "Collective Impact," featured in the Winter 2010 issue of the Stanford Social Innovation Review, and a January webinar on the same topic offered examples of large-scale projects that were able to create significant change. It emphasizes that large-scale social change is not solely the responsibility of the nonprofit sector – it requires involvement of government, business and the community at large. Several community members have met to begin discussing whether a new approach to these major issues
is needed on our island. If you’d like to join this important conversation, please contact KPAA’ at 632-2005 or send an email to be notified of the next gathering.

KPAA’s Grant-in-Aid State Parks Project Completed

Using State funds appropriated by the 2008 Legislature, KPAA completed a project at the end of March that included major improvements to the first two miles of the Kalalau Trail in Napali Coast Wilderness State Park (Pono Pacific Land Management LLC, contractor) and to three buildings in the CCC camp in Kokee State Park, in partnership with Hui O Laka (Kikiaola Construction, contractor). The wonderfully refurbished Foreman’s Cabin is seen in this picture. This project was overseen by the Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources State Parks Division and it provides an example of how the not-for-profit sector such as KPAA and Hui O Laka can partner with government to enhance the state’s natural resources.

Complete Streets Workshop Slated for April 20

Kauai County Council recently passed a resolution supporting Complete Streets, which is a new way of designing roadways to focus on moving people, not just moving cars. Complete Streets is a method of building roads to accommodate all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and bus riders. Planning and designing for “out-of-automobile” trips will create opportunities to reduce cost, congestion and pollution while increasing health, safety and livability. Mark your calendars for a free Complete Streets Public Workshop, presented by Paul Zykofsky, manager of the Center for Livable Communities at the Local Government Commission, on Wednesday, April 20th from 6 – 8 pm at the Kauai War Memorial Convention Hall. The workshop is sponsored by Get Fit Kauai, Communities Putting Prevention to Work and the National Complete Streets Coalition. Registration not required. Refreshments will be served and everyone attending has a chance to win a bike and helmet.

Not-for-Profit Management Certificate Program Gets Underway

If you are a new or aspiring executive director, board member or staff member of a small or medium not-for-profit on Kauai, Kauai Community College’s new Not-for-Profit Management Certificate Program may be just what you’re looking for. It will be offered through OCET from May 7 to December 17. This program includes eight modules that may be taken individually or take them all to earn the certificate. Those seeking certification may be eligible for significant tuition assistance. View the program materials and contact OCET at 245-8318 for more information.

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