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Economics of Sports and Recreation Events

Sports and recreation is one of six job clusters that were seen as possible areas of job growth in Kauai’s Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy completed in 2010. With funding from the County Office of Economic Development, KPAA prepared an inventory of sports and recreation events that attract visitors from within and outside the state and necessitate at least one overnight stay. KPAA contracted with Dr. Jerry Agrusa, a professor of Travel Industry Management at Hawaii Pacific University, to focus on these events to determine their economic impact on the island. His study was just completed and the results confirmed that the economic impact from sporting events gives a much-needed boost to the island’s economy. A conservative estimate of the revenues generated directly from these events is $4,310,005. Dollars spent by participants and spectators, as well as their accompanying friends and family members, extend beyond the event. For example, these visitors rent cars, eat at local restaurants, take tours, and more. The total impact on the local economy is determined by using a widely accepted multiplier of 1.66, for an estimated total impact of $7,154,608. Download the report at: www.kauainetwork.org/publications.
Kalalau Trail Restoration Work Continues

Recent trail work by Pono Pacific Land Management LLC, working under contract to KPAA with State funding, has targeted miles 6 to 10 in Napali Coast State Wilderness Park. Pono Pacific is experienced in rehabilitation techniques appropriate for this severely eroded wilderness trail. They are utilizing environmentally-friendly protocols to increase public safety yet retain the rustic aesthetics of this world-renowned trail. They are clearing brush and removing dirt that has slid onto the trail on the mauka side with a goal of creating a trail about 2 to 3 feet wide. Before work began, a botanical survey of threatened and endangered plants was conducted so these could be avoided and protected during the project. The State Parks Division of the Department of Land and Natural Resources will be assessing archeological features that may be present so these too can be preserved.

Proposed Waimea Sports Complex

About 250 sports enthusiasts of all ages attended the January 22 presentation of the proposed Waimea Sports Complex Master Plan in the Waimea Theater. Using County funds through the Office of Economic Development, KPAA contracted with Kimura International, Inc. to conduct a feasibility study of expanding Waimea Canyon Park to include additional sports fields and features. The resulting master plan was developed based on input from a previous public meeting and the guidance of a Steering Committee of government, education, sports and business leaders. It is envisioned that the park will be developed in phases; the proposal includes baseball and softball fields, soccer fields, a football field surrounded by a track, basketball courts, along with amenities such as restrooms, picnic tables, playgrounds, announcing booths and concession stands. An economic analysis is being prepared and will be included in the final report to be presented to the County Council on March 27. To view the proposed plan go to: www.waimeasportscomplex.tumblr.com.

Keiki to Career Kauai Highlights

Work is nearly complete on a draft three-year action plan to establish a collaborative continuum of education and community services for children, youth and young adults so they are “ready to learn and ready for life.” Public talk story sessions will be held in March to gather ideas and feedback on the draft Keiki to Career plan. The dates and locations of these sessions will be announced soon.

Nineteen school, nonprofit, business and government leaders from Kauai attended a
conference in Kapolei in late January on "Reimagining School and Community Partnerships." We had an opportunity to share the exciting initiative that is unfolding here on Kauai.

KPAA was delighted to receive a grant from the Marisla Fund of the Hawaii Community Foundation in support of the Keiki to Career initiative. KPAA serves as the “backbone” organization, providing coordination and facilitation services to all the groups involved.

**Kauai's Shining Stars in Education**

Kauai Department of Education invites everyone to watch the fourth episode of its *Kauai's Shining Stars in Education* show, featuring stories from the Waimea Canyon Middle School Science Fair, Inaugural Kauai Interscholastic Federation Wrestling Tournament and Kauai District Spelling Bee. The show airs on Hoike’s **Channel 54 on Sundays 8 pm, Mondays 5 pm, and Thursdays 10 am.** You can also watch it by following the *Kauai's Shining Stars in Education* link on the home page of [KauaiSchools.org](http://www.kauaischools.org).

**Mayor's Community Meetings**

Mayor Bernard P. Carvalho, Jr. has announced the dates for the next round of community outreach meetings as part of the county’s ongoing outreach effort. There will be a report on regional and island-wide topics of interest including an update on the new landfill location, customer service online surveys, the status of Coco Palms, and the island-wide Road Resurfacing Project. Meetings will be held from **6:00 to 8:00 pm** on:

- Tuesday, February 19 – Hanapepe Neighborhood Center
- Tuesday, February 26 – Kapaa Neighborhood Center
- Thursday, February 28 – Koloa Neighborhood Center

**For County Water Customers**

The Kauai Department of Water (KDOW) is going to make a decision soon about the fee charged for hooking up to new water. This fee affects any new development or home expansion that requires additional water service. The KDOW staff is preparing to make a recommendation to the KDOW Board on changes to the schedule and rules and they are seeking public input. For more information about these changes and to offer your
opinion, go to: www.kauaiwater.org. The deadline to comment on the water service development fee has been extended to March 8, 2013.

Mahalo to KPAA New/Returning Members

Since November 2012, our new and renewing members are:

**General Members**

- Hanalei Roads Committee
- Kauai Community College
- Kauai Island Utility Cooperative (KIUC)
- Kekahu Foundation (KKCR)

**Supporting Members**

- Jeff Calegari
- Laurie Ho
- Kauai Nursery and Landscaping, Inc.
- MacDougall & Associates
- Samuel W. Pratt
- Brad Rockwell
- Larry Rugoff

**Patron Members**

- follow this link to join a great network of people and organizations working to make Kauai an even better place for all of us.

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