

Seawords

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UH Hilo MOP Turtle Tags with NMFS

Jason Trimble, UH-Hilo MOP Student Coordinator

The University of Hawai'i at Hilo's Marine Option Program (MOP) teamed up with the National Marine Fisheries Service and sea turtle scientist George Balazs to conduct turtle tagging at Punalu'u Beach Park in Ka'u, Hawai'i earlier this month. Three separate classes led by UH Hilo professor Dr. Jason Turner assisted Balazs with his research. The turtle tagging program has been utilizing undergraduate students for turtle research since the 1970's and has become a flagship activity for UH Hilo MOP, which has participated in the program for almost three decades.

Balazs has conducted much of his research on French Frigate Shoals in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands, which is the primary nesting site of Hawai'i's green sea turtles, with 90-95 percent of the population

nesting there. Some of his early research showed a dramatic decline in nesting female green sea turtles, which resulted in the species being listed as endangered in 1978 under the provisions of the Endangered Species Act. Due to conservation efforts in the state, as well as at the federal level, the status of the green sea turtle has since been lowered to threatened as populations rebuild in Hawai'i.

This marine reptile (*Chelonia mydas*) is native to the Hawaiian Islands and is the most common sea turtle found locally. Green sea turtles get their name from the body fat coloration, which is tinted green due to a diet of mostly seaweed. Although the turtles can weigh up to 400 pounds, most found at Punalu'u are classified as sub-adults and weigh less than 100 pounds.

Punalu'u Beach Park has always been a place where green sea turtles are found in high densities feeding on the *Pterocladia* seaweed inside the bay. In the past 20 years as threats of hunting have waned, the number of sea turtles basking on the black sand beach has increased.

continued on page 7

At the same time that the turtles were being captured, processed, and released, a separate group of students worked on public relations. Punalu'u is considered to be one of the best black sand beaches on the Big Island; in addition it's the best place to view green sea turtles in their natural environment. As a result, the beach is a popular tourist destination. At any given time there were dozens of tourists surrounding the sampling station asking questions. Students were armed with pamphlets with the research activities in many different languages and were instructed to answer questions and dispense literature on the threatened sea turtle. This educational part of the project is considered to be just as important as the data itself. It is not uncommon that local residents express concern about the handling of the sea turtles so the utmost care is given throughout the research process. Without the approval of the local residents it would be impossible to conduct such a successful research and educational outreach program at Punalu'u.

The importance of this research site is undeniable. The area has been one of the longest studied areas in green sea turtle research in Hawai'i. It boasts a low tumor rate among its population and even receives an occasional visit from an endangered nesting hawksbill sea turtle.

Despite this importance, the area is being considered for development. Many argue that this proposed development will interfere with the scientific and cultural importance of the site, and has thus made it a political hotspot. An alternative plan under consideration is for the state to purchase the land from the large-scale developers in order to preserve it for educational and cultural purposes. This proposal is getting a great deal of support. Hopefully with the cooperation of either the developers or the government the site can be maintained and used many years down the road for future MOP students to come.



MOP students hold a turtle upright so that George Balazs (holding calipers) can measure the width of the shell to estimate mass.

Photo taken by Melissa Netze

...Turtle Tagging from page 1

dramatically. Some days there may be up to a dozen turtles resting on the beach.

When the Punalu'u turtle tagging project was first started by Balazs in the 1970s, nets were used at night to catch the turtles in the bay. This strategy required an overnight camping trip – usually multiple nights – in order to get enough turtles tagged for research. Overall, it required extensive time and labor and reflected a disturbingly low green sea turtle population.



*MOP students hold a turtle upright so George Balazs can measure the width of the shell to estimate mass
Photo taken by Melissa Netze*

Thanks to Balazs and the Endangered Species Act, the process has changed and is easier for researchers. Now, three teams of five to six people swim out to catch turtles and place them on a float, which consists of an inner tube with a plywood base. After the turtles are captured, they are brought to the beach where data are collected. The job requires quite a bit of strength, with the largest turtle captured during this trip weighing approximately 150 pounds. In addition, these seemingly slow moving marine reptiles are quick and powerful swimmers and can easily shake one or two experienced swimmers with ease; thus careful teamwork was required.

After the student teams returned to the beach with the captured turtles, Balazs got to work. Measurements of the carapace length and width were taken, and mouth contents were analyzed. The

turtles' tags were recorded, and, if needed, another was inserted. In the past, tags were attached to the armpit of the flippers, but now electronic PIT tags are inserted under the skin in the rear flipper. Fibropapillomatosis tumors and other injuries or ailments are also noted. Fibropapillomatosis is a tumor forming disease that can severely affect green sea turtle health. The turtles at Punalu'u demonstrate high site fidelity, with Balazs finding the same turtles at this location year after year. Some turtles caught on this most recent research trip had been tagged back in the early 1990s by past MOP trips. This data can show how fast these turtles develop, and assess the impact of fibropapillomatosis tumors, which have shown to be in low concentrations at Punalu'u.

THE KA'Ū CALENDAR

Volume 5, Number 8

The Good News of Ka'ū, Hawai'i

Hearing on Punalu'u Park Purchase S



Cleaning up the Pond

Community members from throughout Ka'ū joined together in May to clean an invasive aquatic plant that has been choking the pond at Punalu'u Black Sand Beach. Kaweni Ibarra and Kai Enriques pull the plants to shore as Evan Enriques corrals

Photo by Julia Neal

Guy Enriques

Novice politician for change

3/19 (2008)

Big Island Weekly

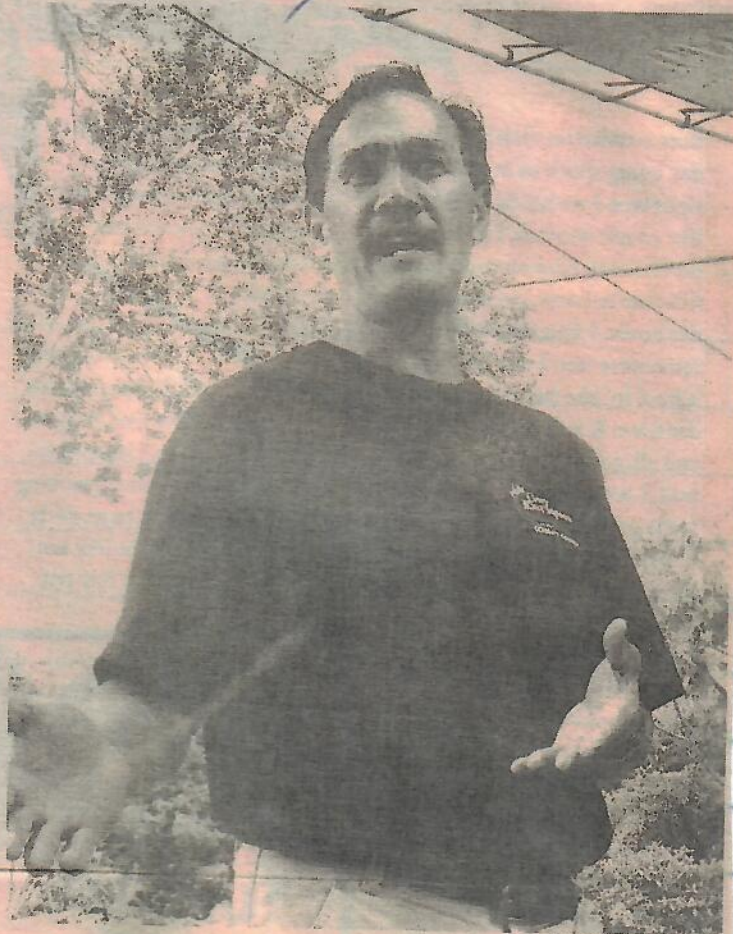
► Hadley Catalano

He's a novice politician but that is exactly what Guy Enriques believes his district needs. So at age 53, the volleyball coach, small business owner and active member of the Ka'ū community is not waiting for change. Instead, to use a phrase he preaches to his players, he is "being the change he wants to see in the world."

Enriques is hoping to translate his success on the courts into success on the campaign trail in his bid for the County Council, District Six (Puna, Ka'ū, South Kona) seat currently held by Bob Jacobson.

His energetic and impassioned speech to the over 40 attendees at his most recent "Meet and Greet" held in Oceanview on Sunday was held at the Princess Victoria Ka'ualani House of Greg and Gail Smith.

During the half-hour speech Enriques sought to address these topics: "I want to answer four questions for you all today. Who's Guy Enriques, why is he running, what is he going to do and what does it mean for you?"



HADLEY CATALANO

Guy Enriques.



BIG PRESENCE

10-28-09 HSB
'Uncle George' ever entertaining as he

The annual Merrie Monarch Hula Festival in Hilo will seem considerably subdued without "Uncle George" Naope — and it's not just because of the flashy clothes. The beloved hula master died Monday at age 81. At the Merrie Monarch, an event he launched with Dorothy "Auntie Dottie" Thompson in the 1960s, Naope was a one-of-a-kind presence, often holding court from a peacock-fan wicker chair when not firing up the crowds.

showcased ancient hula in modern world

Born on Oahu and raised on the Big Island, Naope studied hula under his great-grandmother Mary Malia-Pukaokalani Naope and then with kumu hula 'Iolani Luahine and "Mama" Fuji, mother of Auntie Edith Kanakaole. He would later teach in Hawaii, the mainland and abroad, including in Japan, Guam, Australia and Germany. In 2006 the National Endowment for the Arts awarded its highest honor for the folk arts to Naope.

Diminutive yet larger than life, Naope has left a rich legacy of hula and Hawaiian culture here and throughout the world. Aloha, Uncle George.

Nā Wai Nāhiku: seven steps to perfection



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

Ohe'o Gulch in Hana is the site of Nā Wai Nāhiku, the Seven Sacred Pools. Far mauka of the pools is the source of its water, Waimūki (whisperings of wizards) Falls. 'Ohe'o Kapo Gulch is the entire name of the gulch. It is named for the goddess Kapo and the 'ohi (bamboo) that symbolizes her. Elders say that Kapo sways like a beautiful reed in the wind. In times past, these pools were reserved for only ali'i to use and the kapu was well guarded. Below the pools, at the mouth of waters that flow from Waimūki Falls is Kūloa Point Beach. It is said that the name Kūloa (long waiting) refers to the long periods of wait-

ing required in religious ceremonies held there in times past.

Elders have said that the name Nāhiku (the sevens) refers to the trail of life toward perfection. Elders pointed out that when young people erred and their elders hoped to win them back to the ways of goodness, they would go through a prayer-guided climb through the seven pools. Nā Hiku is called sacred or fortunate for those who keep climbing toward beauty and perfection of the soul.

The climb to perfection began in the sluggish, brackish water of the pool, 'Akahi akahi (inexperienced), located nearest Kūloa Point beach. The second pool is Luakapu. Luakapu means profound, referring to the sense created by removal of a kapu, restriction or spiritual burden. 'Ekolu, the third pool, is also called "A Kō Lū Pi'i Kua," meaning "The road to perfection is a straight and narrow path." It is

third of the steps to perfection.

The name of the fourth pool, 'Eha'eha, represents the "pain and longing" of a man's spirit in its quest to perfection. Moving through the ceremony, the quest requires personal sorrow for errors committed, repentance and the will to be free from all past error. The participant is purified in this pool. It is the midpoint in the ceremony, when one can almost perceive 'Iolani, the Bird of Perfection. The easiest way to move through this pool is to swim, because the climb up the trail is difficult.

The fifth pool, Lāulima, is above the bridge. Lāulima symbolizes removal of the kapu or error through recognition of reverence and goodness in the soul, mind and heart. The sixth pool, Eō ano, refers to the novice "answering the call with a song in the heart." Nā Hiku, the seventh pool, is the culmination in perfection or cleansing and is the last step in reaching the stars. This is the largest pool and the high surrounding cliffs create a natural cathedral-like experience. Looking upward above Nā Hiku, all that one sees are the waterfall



Kūpuna say the name Nāhiku (the sevens) refers to the trail of life toward perfection.
— Photo: Liquidlibrary

and the heavens.

It is interesting that the pool beneath the bridge is not counted in the seven steps to perfection. In fact, elders cautioned against swimming in that pool. However, today, one can witness young people jumping from the bridge into that pool. Today, protocols of our ancestors are ignored at many of Hawai'i's historic and natural sites. Hawaiians believe that break-

ing protocol always results in a burden.

The gods and guardian spirits of Hawai'i reside in the water, rocks, sand and plants around these sites. Quiet and respectful behavior and the obligation to provide care for the area are required of man. We need to demonstrate and teach our keiki and mo'opuna that traditions of respect for our spiritual guardians are always foremost. ■

PUNALUU PASSION

The history, culture and customs of a community come alive in a new film

By Katherine Nichols
knichols@starbulletin.com

AFTER many years in Los Angeles, filmmaker Danny Miller moved to Pahala on the Big Island and quickly found his passion in residents' dedication to nearby Punaluu.

"Families who had been there for generations wanted to get the word out," says Miller. "They wanted to show the larger community how unique and beautiful Punaluu is and why it's been such an important part of the lives of the people who live there."

A three-year labor of love that Miller calls "mostly a volunteer effort" ensued. The result is a 28-minute DVD called "The Punaluu Experience." It explores the world of the honu, or Hawaiian green sea turtle, and the fishing grounds and heiau of the area. Miller also incorporated interviews with longtime residents and kupuna who share stories about what the magical stretch of beach means to them. Marine biologists George Balazs and Jason

Turner provide a different perspective about the "living classroom and laboratory."

One look at the exceptional cinematography and footage of sea turtles hatching sets this documentary apart. And one look at Miller's credentials explains why.

Originally from Florida, the 44-year-old completed film school in Los Angeles before embarking on a documentary about the history of Catalina Island, a place that lost most of its heritage. That's why Miller, who says he's "always had kind of a thing for islands," was so impressed to find the indigenous culture in Hawaii "very much alive and growing."

In Los Angeles he spent years making documentary films for the Nature Conservancy and National Audubon Society. He also produced behind-the-scenes segments, promotional trailers and DVDs for studios such as Universal, DreamWorks, Columbia, Castle Rock, Disney, Imax and MGM. A remote plantation cottage in need of renovation proved the perfect respite from the hectic pace of Los Angeles, but eventually the part-time escape became his full-time home.

It wasn't just the elders who inspired Miller to begin this project. Students told him of camping and fishing on this land every summer to

learn its history, culture and customs. "Their lives have been changed by that place, and it's really amazing," he says.

Keolalani Hanoa started the free children's program and was a vocal advocate for Punaluu. But she died in 2006 before Miller completed the documentary. He says her death was a "great loss that really inspired us to follow her vision."

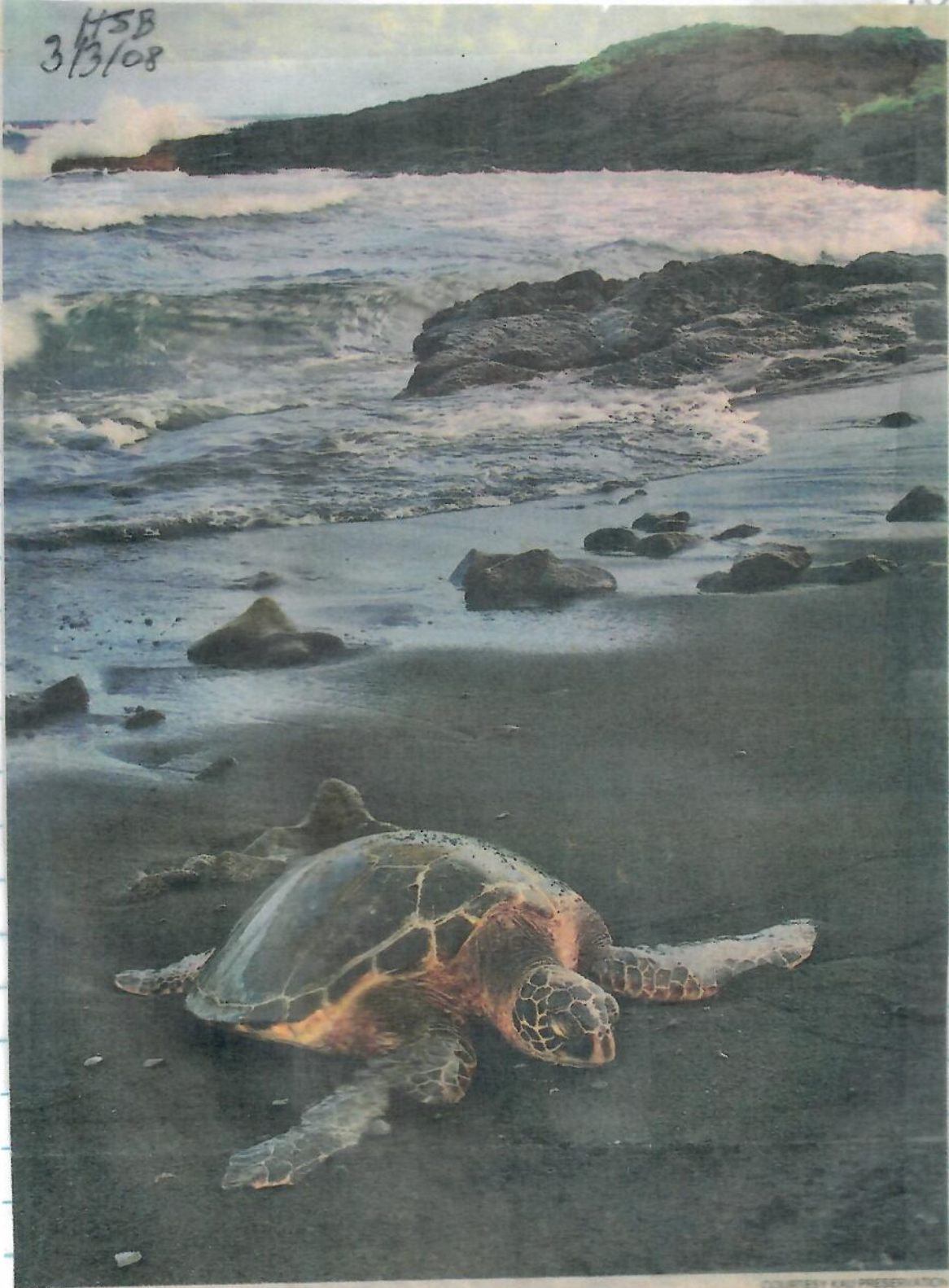
Several others volunteered to finish "The Punaluu Experience." Composer Demetrios Oliveira, born and raised near Punaluu, donated a score for the film, as did Academy Award-winning composer James Horner, who allowed Miller to use selections from the soundtrack of "A Beautiful Mind."

The Hawaii Community Foundation funded the film and made it possible to distribute it to Hawaii public libraries and public schools. In the end, everyone seemed to unite behind one purpose. And that, according to Miller, is "to protect this sacred place."

To order "The Punaluu Experience," visit www.kaupreservation.org or call 928-8144. A \$25 donation (including shipping) benefits the nonprofit group Kau Preservation, which works to protect the Kau coastline.



HSB
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COURTESY KAU PRESERVATION

The honu, or Hawaiian green sea turtle, is the central character in "The Punaluu Experience," which offers stunning views, below, of the black sand beach on the Big Island's Kau coast.

MARCH
THE KAU CALENDAR 2006
Ka 'Ohana O Honu'apo:

Ka 'Ohana O Honu'apo members greeted and thanked Trust for Public Land's Hawai'i advisory members and national staff, on Feb. 13, for helping with the preservation of 225 acres along the coast at Honu'apo, from the lava flow to the pier and landing. Kupuna Margaret Dancel gave the prayer. A light rain and clap of thunder followed the blessing.

Josh Stanbro, TPL's Hawaiian Islands Project Manager, said he wanted to bring TPL's national staff and funders to see what a rural community like Ka'u could accomplish. He said TPL's mission is doubly important in areas like Ka'u, which are often underserved by government and non-profit organizations because of their remoteness and small populations.

Reed Holderman, Vice President & Regional Director for TPL, came from San Francisco and shared with Ka 'Ohana O Honu'apo president John Replogle that TPL has assisted with successful restoration of estuaries. He offered to help Ka 'Ohana O Honu'apo with information and resources.

"The visit also provided a



Ka 'Ohana O Honu'apo members greet TPL helped to broker the purchase of 225

chance for representatives from Sen. Daniel K. Inouye's office and the Hawai'i Electric Light Company to see the conservation project. HELCO provided grant funding to TPL to help cover expenses incurred in the effort to save Honu'apo and Sen. Inouye's office was instrumental in securing nearly \$1.5M in Federal NOAA funding," Stanbro said.

The Trust for Public Land can be reached at www.tpl.org. Also visit www.kaucoast.org for more about Ka'u coastal lands.

Mahalo to the Trust for Public Land



Trust for Public Land board advisors and staff from Hawai`i and the Mainland. 5 acres at Honu`apo, which will become a county park.



Auntie Margaret Dancel told TPL about moving to Ka`u from Miloli`i when she was young and fishing along the coast with her family.

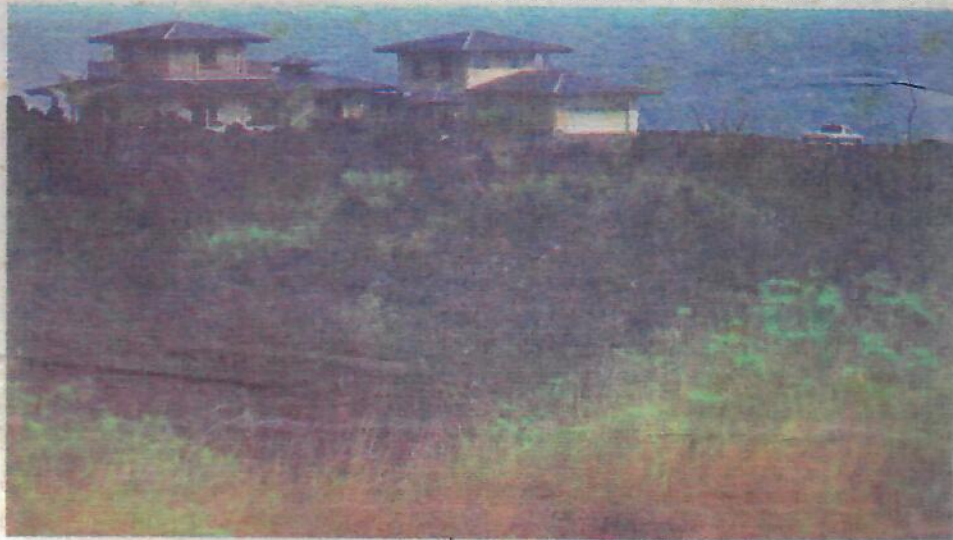
Turtle Study, Screening Requi

Owners of the coastal property between Kawa and Honu'apo, where the house complex with two buildings rises out of the lava on Conservation land, will be required to submit a landscaping plan to make the structures less visible in the view plane along the scenic Ka'u Coast. The owners will also be required to conduct a study to determine whether lighting from the house affects endangered turtles who live along the coast. April 13 is the date the landscaping plan and turtle study are due, 90 days after the state Board of Land and Natural Resources handed down the decision in Honolulu.

Earlier recommendations by the

Dave Gulko of the state Division of Aquatic Resources and Larry Katahira of the National Park Service. The board voted unanimously to require the Carrolls to work with the state and National Park staff on a turtle lighting study.

The Carrolls had also been questioned about unpermitted grading beyond the original footprint of an area graded by previous owners, which is now the location of the Carroll house and yard, and for building a rock wall without permits. Lim provided an affidavit from contractor Michael Tonini stating that the Carrolls did not impact the area outside of the previously graded area. He also presented a declaration from Jas



For permits to build on Conservation land, owners promised the home would blend into the landscape and not impair the view of the scenic coast.

red for House on Ka`u Coast

one structure. She told the board, "We can not make new laws to break laws."

According to the minutes, Hanoa told the Board of Land and Natural Resources members that they are "incapable of coming to the legal questions or getting answers because truth and integrity is not important," and that her organization, "Ka`u Preservation has no other stance then to file litigations on this house."

When questioned by board members, Hanoa stated that there should be no house allowed on the Conservation land. If the State made a mistake in allowing the Carrolls to build their home, the Carrolls should receive

compensation from the State, and the house should be removed, the minutes reported her saying.

Bob Graham, another board member of Ka`u Preservation, also flew to Honolulu to attend the meeting. The minutes included his testimony: "What's been going on here is the condoning of one violation after another without anything being done."

The minutes reported that Earl Hanoa attended the meeting and said "the Carrolls desecrated the land by grubbing the land and the Board needs to set things straight." The minutes also report Hanoa saying, "Ka`u is the last undeveloped land in the state and needs to be protected."



View along the coast from Pohue Bay, named as a special place to preserve. Photo by Nicole Rapoza of Nicole's Creation: in Na`alehu

ree Press

oken opinion, the other side. 9/21/08 Volume 4, Number 18

Revolution: New voters back Enriques

by Andrew Walden

Munching on watermelon and other delicious pot-luck dishes at the Pahala Plantation House, about 100 District 6 residents celebrated the sweet taste of victory September 20. Councilmember-elect Guy Enriques greeted his hard-working volunteers and told them he was very proud and that they should be proud as well. Enriques won with 52.2% defeating incumbent councilman Bob Jacobson by more than 10 percentage points 2,354 to 1,894.

Starting with the 400 people at Enriques' kickoff rally last winter, hundreds of District 6 residents from Puna, Ka'u and S Kona worked for eight months to make this day a reality. The lessons of this victory can be applied statewide to liberate communities such as Moloka'i which are oppressed by socialist-sponsored gangs of thugs who justify their crimes with unending fountains of politically correct rhetoric.

The Ka'u Listening Project Report, commissioned in September, 2007 by Big Island Mayor Harry Kim documented a community terrorized by Jacobson's backers. After years of living in fear, Ka'u residents finally reached their breaking point when Jacobson sponsored resolution 169-07 which in its original form would have directed the County to take kuleana

continues on page 5

Revolution: New voters back Enriques

continuing from front page

plots at Punalu'u beach and also take part of the decaying Sea Mountain resort site. Under Jacobson's proposal the new county properties would then be placed under the management of Ka'u Preservation led in part by convicted drug dealer Ralph P. Dedman. Dedman's kuleana plot at Punalu'u was the only one not included on the County's seizure list.

Victory required organization and strategy and that came from Dylan Nonaka. Nonaka's day job finds him serving as Governor Lingle's East Hawai'i liaison. But in his off hours, he designed a system which turned the hard work of Enriques' volunteers into a solid list of voters pledged to support Enriques at the polls. Almost 750 of these voters showed up to vote for Enriques in the absentee and walk-in voting prior to Primary Day. When the first read came in at about 6:30PM, they gave Enriques a 2-1 lead. Jacobson never caught up.

There is much to be learned from the numbers. Jacobson's supporters in the HGEA, local media, the Angel Pilago's mayoral campaign, and the hard left pulled out all the stops but they couldn't find any new voters. Jacobson's 1,894 votes in 2008 are almost identical to the 1,912 votes he received in 2004.

Enriques did not win by changing the minds of Jacobson's cult-like supporters. Instead Enriques and his volunteers worked to bring new voters into the process and to mobilize discouraged voters. Statewide, turnout was 36.8% but in District 6, turnout was over 50% and in Ka'u districts most directly impacted by the reign of terror imposed by Jacobson's supporters, turnout likely soared far higher. Pahala, in past elections had had one of the lowest turnout rates in the state. When the precinct-by-precinct numbers come out we may find it had the highest turnout on September 20.

The lessons are here for all who wish to learn. The hard left in Hawai'i is a minority with fixed views—few of Jacobson's core supporters switched even though Jacobson's KPI cronies were led by convicted criminals and were proposing their own development plan for Punalu'u—complete with blueprints for a so-called "school" and "housing" for "teachers and students". In spite of all the protestations about Hawaiian rights, few of Jacobson's core supporters were perturbed to discover that Jacobson had proposed a resolution which would have seized numerous historic Hawaiian-owned kuleana plots and handed over control of them to his KPI cronies. Their politics are not the product of reason but of a delusional cult-like faith.

The campaign was led by a core group of Ka`u residents many of whom were born and raised in Ka`u, had moved to the mainland for a while and then returned. They did not come back to Ka`u in order to place themselves under the thumb of thugs. Not only did the work but they also contributed \$1000s from their own pockets to the campaign which was heavily financed by donations from residents of Pahala, Na`alehu and Ocean View.

The hard-left dictatorship over normal people is imposed partly thru physical intimidation but mostly through ideological browbeating. The effect is enhanced through creation of the illusion that normal people are a minority. This illusion is created by hard-leftists who occupy positions of authority in the media, in the university, in K-12 education, in some churches, in unions, in the legal profession, and in the arts. KPI drew in several such people to its list of so-called "experts."

Enriques and his team of volunteers have shattered the illusion and shown the way out of the trap. The key was to bypass the media and all the phony experts and go directly to 100s of individual voters one at a time

Ka`u residents can expect to continue to be challenged by those who seek to once again silence them -- especially as the Ka`u Community Development Plan begins holding meetings. While KPI is going to lose the \$10,000s in financial support given annually thru Jacobson's office, it continues to receive money from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. Development decisions will continue to be governed by the Hawai`i Supreme Court's decision in Angel Pilago's 1995 PASH case. PASH provides a mechanism for the legal extortion of developers by phony activists and also provides a system by which developers can buy off opponents.

The challenge is to chart a third path--rejecting the old-boy system of development motivated by tax base and political connections and also rejecting the phony activists who demand millions in settlement payments before allowing development.

Guy Enriques is one of only a very few elected officials committed to this third path. District 6 is lucky to have him.



Demetrius Oliveira and Joe Demozuelle plan to launch a community radio station for Ka'ū, with the help of Ka'ū High School students in Pāhala. See page 3.



Christmas season features a Pāhala parade, a fund-raising Holiday Concert for the Boys & Girls Club and many other events. See Calendar section, pages 9 and 10.



THE KA'Ū CALENDAR

Volume 8, Number 1 The Good News of Ka'ū, Hawai'i December, 2009



Hundreds of community members flocked to Punalu'u Beach to watch over rare hawksbill turtle hatchlings as they scurried from their nest to the ocean. This was the best recorded season for hawksbill nesting of Punalu'u on record. Photos by Julia Neal

Honu'ea: Best Punalu'u Hawksbill Nesting Season

Hundreds of community members converged on Punalu'u in November to watch 42 hatching hawksbill turtles make their way to the ocean from their

nest. The Hawaiian name for hawksbill turtle is honu'ea. Its scientific name is *Eretmochelys imbricata*, and the species is the rarest turtle in the Pacific Ocean. Many people are familiar with the hawaiian monk seal, that is commonly seen at Punalu'u, but very few people have ever seen the honu'ea. This rare and endangered turtle has had five nests at Punalu'u this year.

Excavations of the nests are overseen by the Hawai'i Island Hawksbill Turtle Recovery Project, a partnership between the National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, NOAA Fisheries Service, non-profit organizations like The World Turtle Trust and Hawai'i Natural History Association,

and private landowners. The Hawksbill Project guards the nest during the two-month long incubation of some 170 eggs laid in each nest. The nests are dug along

Hawksbill Nesting, pg. 15



Charrette Revs Up Ka'ū Plan

"How do we connect the opportunities to the people of this place? How do we insure the benefits come back to our families?" These are two of the challenges of the Ka'ū Community Development Plan as it brings together community desires and strategies for the next 20 years.

Ka'ū's resilient families need economic security. "Earn it. Grow it. Keep it!" advised PlaceMaker CDP manager Howard Blackson. He was referring to making money, building enterprise and keeping that money in Ka'ū to make the economy stronger.

He also observed: "We want opportunities but need it with context of relationship of the land."

Creating the CDP involves strategies for economic development, suggestions for improving walkable villages and workable farms and ranches as well as keeping Ka'ū, Ka'ū.

"Be Ka'ū. Don't try to be Kona. Don't try to be Hilo," another planner urged.

The CDP process reached its midpoint in November with a two- and six-day charrette at Nā'ālehu Community Center, where 300 people participated. With a wrap-up luncheon and presentation Nov. 21, the CDP

Charrette, pg. 3

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Punaluu Bay ceremonies honor Balazs, turtle work

Published: Sunday, October 12, 2008 8:07 AM HST

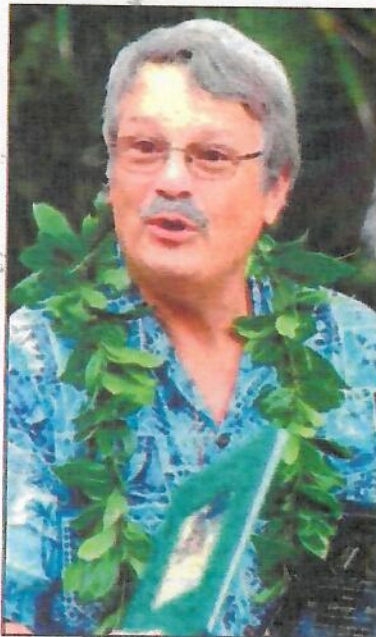
Commemoration ceremonies were held recently at Punaluu Bay on the south coast of the Big Island marking 25 years of cooperative efforts between the Marine Option Program (MOP) at the University of Hawaii at Hilo and George Balazs of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Research activities have involved numerous faculty and staff, and more than 2,000 students from UH-Hilo, who have worked with Balazs in his effort to learn more about the diet and movements of green sea turtles (*Chelonia mydas*) in Hawaiian waters. Much of that research has taken place at Punaluu Bay, known as a particularly rich area for the study of sea turtles. Participating in the event were UH-Hilo MOP faculty coordinators Lisa Parr and Jason Turner; longtime staff MOP coordinator John Coney; UH-Hilo Vice Chancellor of Research Michael Crosby and Walter Dudley, director of the Kalakaua Marine Education Center at UH-Hilo.

Jeff Kuwabara attended on behalf of the MOP program at UH-Manoa and Donna Brown represented MOP at Maui Community College. John Kahiapo attended on behalf of the state Department of Aquatic Resources, and Ron Whitmore and Diane Ley represented the County of Hawaii.

Some 20 UH-Hilo students were also in attendance, as was Dale Zarella, noted Maui artist who created the turtle monument at Punaluu Beach Park. All the attendees honored Balazs for his dedication and service to the collaborative efforts.

"The mission of the Marine Option Program is to foster the study of the natural history and cultural heritage of the sea, to provide outreach to the local community, and to promote marine stewardship," Dudley said. "This partnership has significantly contributed to MOP's mission over the past 25 years and will continue to do so in the years ahead."



Click Photo to Enlarge
 George Balazs of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration is honored at ceremonies at Punaluu Bay. - John Coney/UH-Hilo Mop



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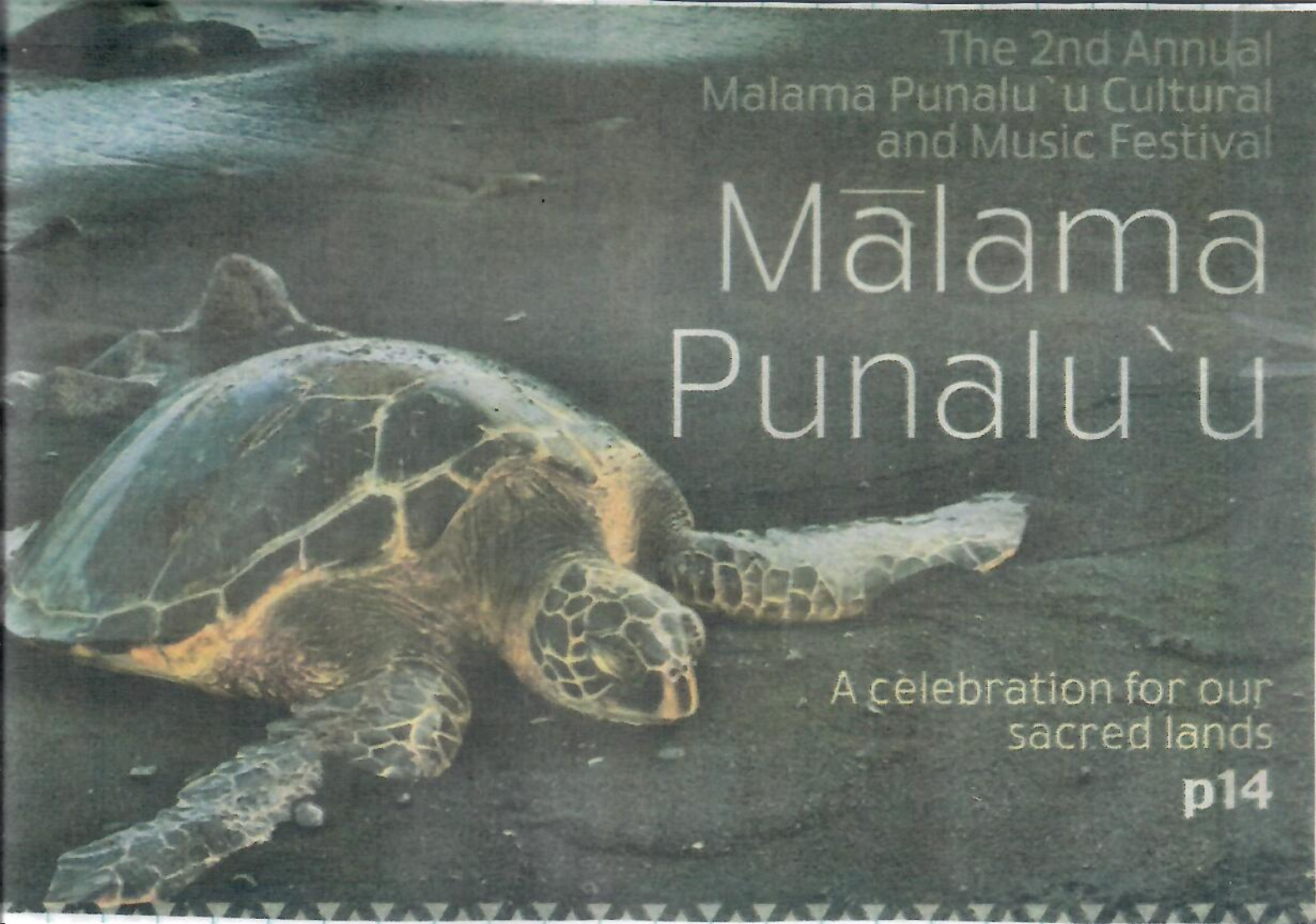
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Mālama Punalu'u

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p14



Questions?

SEPTEMBER 9, 2009 | Big Island Weekly [3]

2009

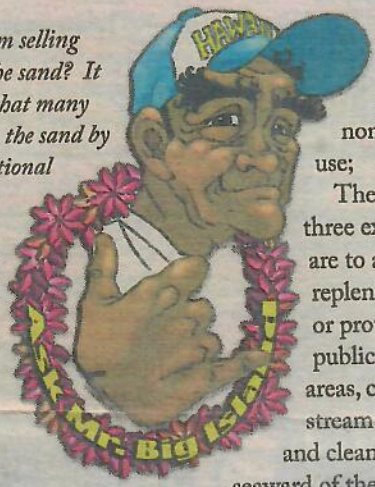
Taking sand from beach

The poke contest proved to be an awesome event full of good food and good competition. Check out the story on page 14, if you did not go then there is always next year. Luckily for us, the contest has been going strong for 18 years with no end in sight.

Now on to the first of two questions this week:

Mr. Big Island, do you know what state or county laws protect the sand on our beautiful beaches? Almost every time I visit Punalu'u Black Sand Beach or the Green Sand Beach I find someone filling a bottle or plastic bag with sand to take home. I always ask them to leave the sand, explaining that it is a limited resource. At the shops on Punalu'u Beach tourists can find black, green, and white sand for sale. This encourages people to collect the sand right off the beach. Several tons of sand are removed from the beach each year.

stop people from selling and stealing the sand? It is interesting that many tourists return the sand by mail to the national park after experiencing a spate of bad luck.



According to the Department of Land and Natural Resources, there really is no law against taking a small amount of sand. There are laws for taking a large amount of sand and taking sand for commercial use. The statutes are as follows:

Chapter 171.58.5 of Hawai'i Revised Statutes states:
Prohibitions. The mining or taking of sand, dead coral or coral rubble, rocks, soil or other marine deposits seaward from the shoreline is prohibited with the following exceptions:

1. The taking from seaward of the shoreline of sand for use in excess of one cubic yard per person per

day for reasonable, personal, noncommercial use;
The other three exceptions are to allow replenishment or protection of public shoreline areas, clearing of stream mouths, and cleaning of areas seaward of the shoreline for state or county maintenance.

Taking of sand on a regular basis for use as a product for sale would be considered as constituting a commercial use, which is not permissible.

Mr. Big Island does not condone taking sand from our beaches, and would suggest that folks who are opposed to this write the Department of Land and Natural Resources at 1151 Punchbowl St., Honolulu, HI 96813.

1/30/09 HTA

Too close to honu

Turtle feeding, petting reported at Keaukaha beach

By **BRET YAGER**
Tribune-Herald staff writer

Call it harassment or too much love; either way, it isn't the pono way to hang with the sea turtles.

At Carlsmith Beach Park in Keaukaha, people are feeding handfuls of grass to the green sea turtles, swimming with them, nuzzling up to them. Even getting nipped by them.

Two honu in particular have gotten so used to handouts of fresh grass they come swimming whenever they see people approach, said resident Tonia Jordan, who lives in the adjacent Mauna

Loa Shores condominiums and visits the sheltered lagoon area daily.

"We'd like to have it where the tourists and everyone else can enjoy the turtles. It's just that they feed them, and the turtles are starting to nip at them," said Jordan, who said there needs to be a clear sign near the shoreline pointing out the activity is prohibited.

Green sea turtle populations have been slowly declining worldwide for decades. Since 1973, they have been protected under the federal Endangered Species Act. They are considered threatened — defined as "any species which

is likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future."

The interaction is not only illegal, but it's bad for the turtles. Grass is not a natural food source and it can affect their metabolism and the functioning of their digestive systems. Also, they can become dependent on people for food, reducing their ability to forage in the wild. "The turtles swim up, looking for food, and they follow you around. It's gotten out of hand," said park user Mapuana Peterson, who is trying to

See **TURTLES** Page A10

TURTLES From front page

organize volunteers from Mauna Loa Shores to mount an information campaign for the folks who come down to the park.

In the past month or so, turtles have gathered in crowds around the steps leading into the water at the park, and so have the people, she said.

"Our hope is to educate the public so we're not putting the honu at risk," she said.

Last week, she observed three green sea turtles at the stairs with people feed-

ing them grass. Other turtles soon gathered around for the feast.

"By five o'clock, there were 10 turtles and people were still petting and feeding them," she said.

Jordan even watched one man use a bundle of grass tied to a rope to lure a turtle right out of the water.

That kind of activity is out of line, said John Kahiapo, a Department of Land and Natural Resources education specialist who was astonished to hear the news.

"They're a threatened species, so you're not supposed to get close to them or harass them, and that would be a form of harassment," Kahiapo said. "And you're not supposed to feed any form of marine life."

Adult green sea turtles are herbivores, meaning they eat only plants, but juvenile green sea turtles are carnivorous. Their diet consists of jellyfish and other invertebrates.

Kahiapo said he'd inform DLNR rangers and ask them to keep an eye on the area.

People who see someone feeding turtles can advise them of the law. In East Hawaii, they can also call 327-7780, 969-5067 or 327-7795. On weekends, holidays, and after hours, they can call the state Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement at 643-3567.

For violations such as killing, harming or harassing a turtle, people can call the Enforcement Division of the National Marine Fisheries Service at 961-7291.

E-mail: Paul.Hager@hawaii.gov
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WILLIAM ING/Tribune-Herald

Liša Koda, a visitor from California, feeds tufts of grass to a pair of green sea turtles that were interacting with swimmers Tuesday in a sheltered lagoon at Carlsmith Beach Park. Koda was following the lead of other swimmers who were offering grass to the honu. During the half hour or so she was in the water, Koda and her two acquaintances were joined by a third green turtle, and one of the turtles nipped her on the abdomen without causing any bleeding.

Turtle Markers Line Ka'ū Cor

Turtles are now swimming along Hwy 11 on brown and white signs, drawing motorists' attention to points of interest along the Ka'ū Heritage Corridor. The corridor, which starts at Manukā State Park and ends at The Ka'ū Desert Trailhead, has a corresponding drive guide, which points out to visitors and residents alike, special places along the highway. The signs were put up in mid-May.

The guide tells some history of Ka'ū and mentions highlights such as Honu'apo, Punalu'u Black Sand Beach, historic buildings in Pāhala, Wood Valley Temple, Kula Kai Caverns, Ka Lae (South Point) and Mahana Bay. It gives facts about the area, drive times, travel



tips, Hawaiian pronunciations and instruction on respecting turtles and Ka'ū's special places. Golf course, gas stations, accommodations and restaurants are also listed.

The goal of the guide is to help visitors understand more about the areas they

ridor of Heritage Sites

are driving through, "instead of just driving from point A to point B," said Skylark Rossetti, HIEDB senior project manager and also a radio personality on KAPA. She said that many of our island residents might not know about these "cool places," and using the guides they

can stop and learn more about a place or do a driving tour with their family.

Rossetti mentioned some of the key people who helped with the project: Marilyn Nicholson, of Volcano Art Center; Marge and Dennis Elwell, of Nā'ālehu Main Street; Brenda Domondon, coffee

farmer; Teresa Alderdyce, of the Ka'ū Family Center; Marya Schwabe, of Wood Valley Temple; Leina'ala Enos, of Queen Lili'uokalani Children's Center.

The heritage corridor project started in 2004 with the Hāmākua Coast and moved on to Volcano. HIEDB hopes to continue the project around the island.

To see the drive guides online, visit www.hiedb.org/Driverguide.htm. Drive guides are also available in businesses in the district. People interested in getting a guide or distributing the guides can visit the HIEDB located in downtown Hilo at 117 Keawe St. or call 935-2180.

Sea Turtles Love Grass

I decided to go diving at Papohaku for my Sunday day off, and after an hour or so looking for shells in the surf line I decided to come out. As I was getting ready to exit the water I looked behind me and saw a large outline passing by. At first I thought shark but it was a large turtle. I felt drawn toward it and swam a couple of strokes then remembered the \$10,000 fine for harassing sea turtles. I stopped and hung motionless. The turtle stopped, turned around, and came one arm's length from me and hung in the water motionless. It bowed its head for me to stroke. I desperately wanted to touch it but remembered its endangered status. It looked up at me

with sparkling blue-black eyes despite the thick green algae on its shoulders. Then, satisfied that it had given this temporarily frozen person a good look, it flapped a fin and was gone.

I couldn't help but tell all about my amazing experience. My landlord and landlady shared that they were in the ocean also in Hilo with Japanese tourists who were bombarded with turtles doing the same thing. They confided that the locals usually feed them fresh lawn clippings and that's probably what they were looking for.

Karen Ashley

*The
MOLOKAI
DISPATCH
8/10*

6/7/07 VB Ni | Punalu'u: the new Hokuli'a?

by Andrew Walden

Hawai'i
Free Press

"Should we destroy our sacred lands for a money game? Help us save Punalu'u."

That sales pitch helped convince over 3,500 Big Island residents and visitors to sign petitions opposing development of the Sea Mountain resort at Punalu'u, Ka'u. But accusations are emerging that Ka'u Preservation, the group spearheading the petition drive, and Hawai'i County Councilman Bob Jacobson, Hawai'i's only Green Party elected official, are themselves involved in Punalu'u conflicts of interest. Some observers see the Ka'u development fight as an emerging repeat of the Hokuli'a dispute. Many of the same self-appointed activists who involved themselves in extracting "concessions" from Hokuli'a, before happily allowing it to be built, are now working with Ka'u Preservation against Sea Mountain Five.



It's OK for us to build a resort
if we call it an eco-campus.

At a June 4 public hearing in Na'alehu, the Hawai'i County Council will hear public testimony on resolution 169-07, Draft Two, introduced by Jacobson, whose district includes the Punalu'u area. The resolution would authorize the County Director of Finance to begin the process of negotiating purchase of approximately 150 acres of privately owned land "extending at least 2000 feet inland."

Drafts One and Two of the resolution list 20 parcels to be acquired, comprising much of the land owned by "SM Investments", developers of the controversial proposal to build a 1,000-unit condo complex and an eco-hotel in partnership with Jean Michael Cousteau. Drafts One and Two also targeted for acquisition almost all of the area Hawaiian kuleana plot owners, except one—a 1.46 acre property (TMK 9-6-001-007) located across the street from the ocean owned by Ka'u Preservation's President, Winifred Pele Hanoa and her family.

Kalei Taylor, owner of one of the targeted kuleana plots is an attorney with the City of Portland, Oregon. She was outraged to discover Hawai'i County attempting to take her family property. In a May 17 letter e-mailed to numerous Hawai'i elected officials and media, Taylor explains: "My family owns property at Punalu'u. It has been in our family from the time of my great-great-grandparents, David and Kahoopai Kahana (Kaapana) Waiiau. My great-grandparents are Kaleiluluikalehuaakamaileamekahalaleiokeakualoawahineu'iopanaewa Waiiau Whittington and Richard "Dick" Whittington. The County Park at Honuapo is continues on page 6

Punalu'u: the

continuing from front page

lovingly named after him."

Ironically, Ka'u Preservation calls Punalu'u a place, "Where the... last Hawaiian lands remain intact." One of the testimonies in support of 169-07 comes from Duluth, Minnesota resident Matthew Standal who describes himself as "a white, Midwest college student" and explains he, "went Punalu'u to hear activist Pali Dedman talk about native Hawaiian rights. What he said about the importance of this beach to many native Hawaiian families and their ancestors changed my life." An Elsa K Dedman is listed as one of the co-owners of Hanoa's TMK not being targeted for seizure. Resolution 169-07, Draft Two would take land belonging to other Hawaiians such as Taylor leaving Hanoa's as the only remaining Hawaiian-owned land in the area.

Taylor points out that other property owners, "did not receive notice from the County or the Council member who is introducing this resolution 169-07." Hanoa did not respond to an email request to comment for this article.

In a May 30 article on the kuleana land dispute at Punalu'u, Kristine Kubat, a former anti-electricity protester who is now editor of *Big Island Weekly*, completely ignores the existence of Drafts One and Two writing, "The parcel (Taylor) identifies as belonging to her 'ohana is not, however, among those included in the proposal sponsored by Jacobson." The day after Kubat's article hit the streets, Jacobson emailed a previously unknown "Draft Three" of 169-07 to *Hawai'i Free Press*. This alleged "Draft Three" does not target Taylor's property or that of the other individual kuleana plot owners originally targeted for acquisition by Jacobson under Drafts One and Two.

Kubat writes, "In an early version of the resolution, (Jacobson) erroneously listed a number of parcels privately held by small landowners in the area." She quotes Jacobson saying, "It was my fault that the numbers got in there. It was never the intention to take land from any families there."

The Hawai'i County Council Clerk reported Friday, June 1 having no knowledge or record of any "Draft Three" of 169-07. The council, meeting that day, did not have

169-07 on the agenda. The Council Clerk's office posted an announcement stating the purpose of the June 4 public hearing is to discuss "Resolution 169-07, Draft Two".

Apparently Jacobson and Kubat expect the public to believe that it is just pure serendipity that the only TMK not "erroneously" included in Drafts One and Two of 169-07 belong to the President of Ka'u Preservation, Inc. Somehow nobody is expected to believe that the alleged "Draft 3" suddenly appeared because Jacobson was caught red-handed.

Kubat writes that Jacobson claims, "he has made several public attempts to clarify the mistake, including an announcement made at the May 1st council meeting when the measure was first introduced." This in spite of the fact that Jacobson, on April, 27 introduced Draft Two with language identical to Draft One targeting everyone's property except Hanoa's. Reporters were unable to find any evidence that Draft Three existed prior to Taylor's letter and reporters' investigations.

Management Plan

There are problems beyond the question of favoritism in land acquisitions. Jacobson's resolution also endorses an as-yet-unwritten management plan, bypassing any public bidding process. The resolution states: "...to ensure the public interests in accessing and utilizing the area are served into the future, Ka'u Preservation Inc, is currently working on a management agreement and plan for the area, that will include best practices for resource management and use..."

Even if Draft Three is real, the fact remains that an adjoining property owner is being invited to manage the County's property at Punalu'u. Explains Taylor, "...this raises a conflict of interest question when one person's land is exempt, and that person is also being hand picked for a contract to potentially manage and run the land surrounding her and her family's own property. This exempt land would also rise in value substantially if it is the only parcel left available for development."

As Taylor points out about "...the Council's choice to use Ka'u Preservation, Inc. (to manage the property after acquisition) and their proposed plan. The cart is well

new Hokuli`a? . . .

before the horse here.”

Asked about this, Jacobson claims: “There is no existing management agreement with any community organization. Such an agreement would be negotiated if this passes. Other applicants would also be examined at this time.”

Contradicting Jacobson, all three drafts of 169-07 include the following: “Whereas, to ensure the public interests in accessing and utilizing the area are served into the future, Ka`u Preservation, Inc. is currently working on a management agreement and plan for the area, that will include best practices for resource management and use....”

This indicates that the council would be devolving its’ authority to “manage” and “plan” for County property to a private organization. Jacobson would have the council vote that Ka`u Preservation’s as-yet-unwritten plan, “...will include best practices for resource management and use...” This language would be highly prejudicial to any so-called open bidding process. As a result of this language, competing bidders, public employee unions, individual members of the public, Sea Mountain Five, and adjoining property owners could seek redress in court.

Public Records Request

Hawai`i County Code Section 2-83, quoted by Taylor in a letter to the Council Clerk’s office asking for public records “ reads: “No officer or employee shall use or attempt to use the officer’s or employee’s official position to secure or grant unwarranted privileges, exemptions, advantages, contracts or treatment, for oneself or others....”

Taylor is requesting public records pertaining to Punalu`u including:

- “Copies of all information exchanged by and between Councilman Robert (Bob) Jacobson and Pele Bangay Hanoa dba Ka`u Preservation, Inc”

- “Copies of any proposed management plan by Ka`u Preservation, Inc...”

- “a copy of Councilman Jacobson’s Gift Reports...”

- “Copies of information on County back-up tapes for email and file servers on which deleted information ... may be contained.”

Kubat claims in *Big Island Weekly*: “(Jacobson) has given ...everything on Taylor’s list he could find. ‘Some things can’t be provided,’ (Jacobson) explained. ‘Pele doesn’t use email.’” It is not clear why Winifred Pele Hanoa’s alleged non-use of email would prevent a proper response to a public records request. Moreover the website of Ka`u Preservation, Inc at the bottom of the page describing Hanoa’s biography contains the following: “Send an email to Pele.” When viewers click the link they are connected to pele@kaupreservation.org.

Contradicting the story told by Kubat and Jacobson, Taylor reports receiving an email containing only copies of the public testimony submitted prior to the June 4 hearing. Says Taylor: “I suppose that’s a good way to delay getting info prior to the meeting.” In her public testimony submitted prior to the June 4 meeting Taylor explains, “To date we have received documents non-responsive to the request. We have not received copies of any emails between Councilman

Jacobson and Pele Hanoa and/or Kau Preservation. Jacobson is quoted as stating that Pele has no email. So, whose email address is pele@kaupreservation.org?"

Council Resolutions require only one reading before a final vote of the full Council. Resolution 169-07 was heard by the Council Committee on Finance May 1 at which time the eight council members present voted to hold the June 4 public hearing.

Competing Developer?

Ka'u Preservation's website gives clues as to the possible content of their "management plan." Those who genuinely oppose development at Punalu'u may be dismayed. When the soothing eco-rhetoric (such as physically impossible phrases like 'zero-impact housing') is stripped out, their plans sound very much like a development including:

- create a world-class 'Eco-Campus',
- student and teacher housing,
- a cultural and educational center open to the public,
- improved parking and facilities for visitors and residents...
- ...we can create jobs and economic opportunity...

One might ask how "student and teacher" is different from "tourist and tour guide", how many square feet will the "cultural and education center(s)" be, and how many units of "housing" and "parking" are planned by Ka'u Preservation? Is this a management proposal for a county park or a competing development proposal with an unusually thick coat of what eco-activists call 'greenwash'?

Sea Mountain is also working overtime to apply a thick coat of "greenwash" to their development plans including a plan to give 56 shoreline acres to the County, provide a cultural center, a nature preserve, construct additional facilities and restore the pond.

The strong similarities between the two competing proposals is a sign that Resolution 169-07 may be part of an effort by green activists to use the power of eminent domain to remove Sea Mountain Five and install the activists themselves as the new developer. This would be one step beyond what activists did at Hokuli'a where they pretended to oppose construction of the development until \$200 million in "community benefits" were paid out. At one point, according to court documents released by Hokuli'a developers, several individual activists demanded cash payments for themselves in order to settle the suit.

Links to Hokuli'a plaintiffs

Ka'u Preservation has strong links to Hokuli'a plaintiffs and Protect Keopuka Ohana (PKO). According to the biography of President Hanoa posted on the Ka'u Preservation website, Hanoa "served for eleven years as one of the Board of Directors and Advisor for the Native Hawaiian Legal Corporation... She also serves as a member of the Board of Directors and Advisor for Keopuka Ohana, a non-profit organization working to protect the pristine environment of Hawai'i."

The Native Hawaiian Legal Corporation

Enriques launches Council campaign

2/7/08

by Andrew Walden

Honolulu Free Press

An overflow crowd spilled out on to the lawn of the Pahala Community Center January 26 as Ka'u community leader Guy Enriques kicked off his campaign to win the Hawai'i County Council District 6 seat. District Six includes Puna Mauka, Ka'u and South Kona.



Guy Enriques

Enriques told the rally, "I'm tired of settling for less. The roads flood, there is no economic growth, and the schools need help. Our land is protected, but the people are neglected. We still have only two police officers to patrol a district the size of O'ahu."

Enriques' opponent, incumbent councilmember Bob Jacobson has lost support in the community after backing Ka'u Preservation, Inc, (KPI) a group whose leaders include a convicted drug dealer. Jacobson spent most of 2007 pushing a resolution directing the County to buy land at Punalu'u, Ka'u occupied by the remains of the 1970s-era Sea Mountain Resort. In its original form, Jacobson's resolution 169-07 would also have seized the kuleana plots of native Hawaiians at Punalu'u—except for the plot owned by KPI leaders. 169-07 would have handed management of the properties to KPI. Other Council members rejected these moves and amended the resolution before passing it. Reports indicate that the terms offered in the resolution are not acceptable to Developers who want to re-vitalize the former resort and negotiations are at a standstill.

V4 N3

Jacobson's group so outraged the community that Hawai'i County Mayor Harry Kim continues on page 4

state Department of Land and Natural Resources staff, which would have required the house to be painted a color to blend in with the surroundings, were deleted by the board. The off-white color of the house stands out against the hillside when viewed from Kawa surfing beach and also from the highway and the Na'alehu scenic lookout. The owners had promised when seeking a permit to build on the Conservation land that they would make the house blend into the surroundings.

During the meeting in Honolulu, Hilo attorney Steven Lim, representing owners David and Mary Carroll, offered to plant a hedge to diminish the appearance of the house in the coastal view plane. He also suggested that the study be carried out to determine to what extent lights from their house affect endangered turtles that may be nesting in the area. According to the board's minutes, Lim said he has consulted with

The Ka'u Calendar

Bahadur Rai taking responsibility for placing an unpermitted one-foot high dry stack rock wall around the edge of the property. He said that the purpose was to prevent vehicles from being driven over the edge of the parking area. Lim acknowledged his client did not follow the approved plans submitted to the Department and has no problem with fines recommended by the DLNR staff.

According to the BLNR minutes, Keolani Hanoa, of Ka'u Preservation, appeared at the meeting in Honolulu and said the case is about the violation of state land use laws. She said the Carrolls applied for an exemption of the Special Management Area (coastal permit) and promised there would be no tractors nor grubbing on their property, which is designated by the state as Conservation land. She also asked the board to take action on the Carrolls having built two separate buildings instead of one, as their permit approved only

Special Places, Cont. from page 1

Ka'alualu Bay, Kauna Point, the Great Crack, Ha'ao Springs and the entire Ka'u Coast, from Manuka into Volcanoes National Park with a 1000 foot setback from the shoreline.

At the committee's Ocean View meeting on Jan. 27, access to Pohue Bay was a popular topic. Easy access to the beach has been closed off to the public for several years by the adjacent private

landowner who owns thousands of acres between Hwy 11 and the shore. Vern Yamanaka, who manages the land adjacent to the public shore at Pohue, has said there are important petroglyphs to protect and that the carrying capacity of the land next to the beach and the road going there, for maintenance and liability purposes, require limiting the number of people driving through the property.

Citizens attending the special

Places meeting said that those who are willing to walk down a long trail are still able to go to the Pohue at no charge. One citizen reported that families and groups wanting to camp there can pay \$300 to the owners of the adjacent land, "and take 15 to 30 people down there for the weekend. This is running a business," he objected.

Another speaker said that Pohue should be open to the public, not only for the fit who can walk there, but for the young children,

handicapped and elderly.

A man said he was worried about public access to all of Hawai'i's beaches and said that a California developer is taking the community to court over public access to a beach on Kauai. Another said that Pohue should also be open to the elderly and children, at no cost. Father Bartholomew of Ocean View talked about the infirm making their way to the beach.

Continued on page 21

Don Nitsche, owner of Bouganvillea Bed & Breakfast in Rancho, remembered when Pohue was accessible in the 1990s and said a road was open, on and off, depending on who was planning development for the area. "I love Ka'u and we have to have progress, but we need to keep it as is, as much as possible. We need to allow expansion and growth that are planned by the people who live here."

John Replogle, Ka'u's representative on the commission, said he would personally like to see the Ka'u shore protected 3,000 feet back from the coast and rules that would prohibit any building from obstructing the view of the coast and the horizon. He said Ka'u's clear night sky needs to be protected with lighting codes. "I tried to convince the County Council to make Ka'u a museum, but they wouldn't go for it," he joked.

The special places list will be sent by the commission to Mayor Harry Kim for his consideration.

Recycle Hawai'i in Pahala

Recycle Hawai'i is a 501(c)(3) Non-profit educational organization serving the Island of Hawai'i. The mission of Recycle Hawai'i is to promote resource awareness and recycling.

Volunteers are needed to help plan and implement a rural community recycling program in Pahala, Ka'u District.

For more information contact:
Pahala Community Recycling
Coordinator Sheri Lawson at 937-8121
OR
Paul J. Buklarewicz, Executive Director
969-2012

Recycle Hawai'i
PO Box 4847,
Hilo, HI 96720
(808) 329-2886 or
(808) 961-2676

www.recyclehawaii.org

*Funded by a grant from the USDA Rural Utilities
Service & County of Hawai'i,
Department of Environmental Management.



**OBJECTIVES OF
THE NMFS/HPA MARINE TURTLE RESEARCH PROJECT
AT KEAWA NUI, SOUTH KOHALA, HAWAII**

OVERALL: To ensure the long-term conservation and biological recovery of marine turtles in the Hawaiian Islands and the habitats upon which they depend.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES:

1. To determine the approximate number of turtles and their size-classes, by species, resident to this location.
2. To determine the types of life-support activities undertaken by the turtles.
3. To ascertain the food sources utilized by the turtles.
4. To calculate growth rates and estimated ages at sexual maturity.
5. To determine adverse impacts to the turtles, both from humans (i.e., fishing nets, rubbish) and from natural factors (i.e., parasites, shark predation).
6. To estimate the recruitment rates of juvenile turtles to the Keawa Nui population from pelagic habitats.
7. To determine coastal movements and breeding migrations being undertaken by the turtles.
8. To examine the health status of the turtles with regard to the fibropapilloma (tumor) disease affecting other Hawaiian sea turtles.

METHODOLOGY: The above objectives will be accomplished by establishing a group of tagged turtles at Keawa Nui for longterm monitoring to compare with groups of tagged turtles currently under study elsewhere throughout the Hawaiian Islands.

Candidate Q&A



Enriquez, Guy

Candidate biography

Date of birth: (No response)
Place of birth: (No response)
Residence: (No response)
Job/profession: (No response)
Fun fact: (No response)

1) Why are you running for County Council?

I am running to provide a more balanced and representative voice for communities throughout District 6. I will provide leadership that truly represents the constituents, by making myself approachable, open to all and acting on the majority. I am an advocate of teamwork and building strong relationships and will work hard at creating a unified County Council.

2) What is the biggest problem in your district, and how would you fix it?

The biggest problem facing District 6 is vog as it presents an immediate health risk. Unfortunately it cannot be fixed, but the impacts on health issues can be addressed through constant updating of warning systems, emergency plans, community education, and providing a safe house for community residence on days with extreme vog levels.

3) What is your solution for disposing of East Hawaii's garbage, once the Hilo landfill is closed?

We need to instill the will and the desire of the people of Hawaii to take recycling seriously. I would support combining state-of-the-art recycling facilities, a recycling program that creates strong financial incentives for residents to recycle, and a less costly waste-to-energy solution. Look for public/private partnerships on all of the above.

4) What would you do to improve emergency services in rural areas?

I would encourage Civil Defense to establish a radio station in rural areas to broadcast emergency notifications as vog levels or tsunami warnings for fishermen/campers in remote areas. Rural communities in Ka'u are the farthest anywhere in the state from any critical emergency care. I would support research and establishment for on-demand air ambulance at Ka'u Hospital.

5) Hawaii County's unemployment rate rose to 6 percent this summer. What would you do to create jobs on the Big Island?

I would increase the funding to the county's Research and Development Department and task them with the role of establishing innovative incentives to encourage new business in agriculture (farming, ranching, bio-fuel) and sustainable natural energy resources (wind, geothermal, solar, wave, hydro). Creating new business in these areas will decrease unemployment and the heavy dependency on fossil fuel.

Hawaii Tribune-Herald