

Aloha 

FRIDAY 3/11/19

\$1 Oahu, \$1.25 neighbor islands



STARADVERTISER.COM

Advertiser

The Pulse of Paradise

Katherine Kealoha used cocaine, FBI says

By Nelson Daranciang
ndaranciang@staradvertiser.com

The FBI says former Deputy Prosecutor Katherine Kealoha "participated in recreational cocaine use" with her brother and others involved with them in a drug distribution conspiracy.

The allegation is contained in an FBI affidavit to support a search warrant request for the data on the cellphone Kealoha's brother, Big Island physician Rudolph B. Puana, was carrying when FBI agents arrested him Feb. 12.

Kealoha and Puana are charged in a Feb. 7 federal grand jury indictment with conspiring to and distributing the prescription painkillers oxycodone and fentanyl, and the anti-anxiety drug alprazolam, or Xanax. The siblings are also charged with steering a Honolulu...

SHARK ATTACKS

They're up but risk still low

A new study provides historical context that should

IN THE WATER

What victims of shark attacks worldwide were doing when they were bitten:

53% >> Surfing/board sports

30% >> Swimming/wading

6% >> Snorkeling/free diving

5% >> Scuba diving

3% >> Body surfing/horseplay

3% >> Other shallow-water activities

Source: International Shark Attack File

A large piece of Mitch Milan's surfboard is missing after a shark attacked him Oct. 8, 2017, off Davidson's Beach on Kauai.

University Preview Day

OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, March 2, 2019
10 am to 2 pm

UH Mānoa campus

hawaii.edu/experience



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII MĀNOA

the MĀNOA experience

hulu police investigation of the conspiracy away from them.

They pleaded not guilty to the charges and are scheduled to stand trial in April. The trial probably will get postponed because Kealoha; her husband, retired Honolulu Police Chief Louis Kealoha; and three former members

Please see **KEALOHA, A11**

Falls of Clyde receives no qualified bids

By **Nina Wu**
nwu@staradvertiser.com

There were no qualified bids for the historic ship Falls of Clyde.

The deadline to submit a bid was 11 a.m. Thursday. State officials gathered before the 140-year-old Scottish ship at Honolulu Harbor on Thursday afternoon to open the sole offer received by mail, and it turned out to be a hoax.

"We were optimistic a bidder would step forward and purchase this ship, however we did not receive any qualified bids that were able to meet the requirements," said Derek Chow, deputy director of the state Department of Transportation Harbors Division, in a statement. "While a lot of people may want to see the ship restored, paying for it remains an issue."

The only bid — a typed letter mailed through the U.S. Postal Service with no return address — offered 25 cents and was signed by someone pretending to be Vladimir Putin, president of Russia. It came with a quarter taped to the paper letter, but did not come with the \$1.5 million performance bond required by

Please see **CLYDE, A11**

help temper the public panic when incidents occur



PHOTO COURTESY SHARON MILAN

Julian Perkins was bitten by a shark Sept. 8 while surfing outside of Pounders in Late. Perkins is pictured at Kailua Beach with the surferboard he was riding during the attack.

CINDY ELLEN RUSSELL / CRUSSELL@STARADVERTISER.COM

shark attacks' study. The new research reveals the U.S. Atlantic Coast/Gulf of Mexico and Southern Australia regions also showed noticeable increases in shark attack rates — a doubling in the past 20 years.

Each of the three trending regions has its own dominant shark species: bull sharks off the Atlantic and Gulf coasts, white sharks in Southern Australia and tiger sharks in Hawaii.

Midway said that because complete data were not available for all the locations studied, the shark attack rates were calculated using only the resident human population. Visitor counts — a significant segment of ocean users in Hawaii, Florida, Australia and other areas where shark attacks are more common — were not considered.

With Hawaii's surging visitor arrivals —

AROUND THE ISLES Recent shark bite incidents in Hawaii

>> **Feb. 4, 2019:** Hanalei Bay, Kauai. Surfer injured on left leg by tiger shark.

>> **Sept. 8, 2018:** Pounders, Late, Oahu. Surfer (Perkins) bitten on right forearm.

>> **April 19, 2018:** Shipwreck Beach, Poipu, Kauai. Bodyboarder bitten on inner right thigh by tiger shark.

>> **March 31, 2018:** Kukio Beach, North Kona, Hawaii island.

INSIDE



The UH basketball team will honor its 3 seniors Saturday

SPORTS / C1



local
Kokua Line B2
Obituaries B7

views & voices
Our View A12
Your Letters A12

business
Business Report B4
Stocks B6

sports
Ferd Lewis C1
NFL C5

detours
Comics D2-3
Television D4



GREAT RATES TRUSTED SERVICE

30 YEAR FIXED MORTGAGE RATE*

4.00% SIMPLE INTEREST

4.256% APR

...at some locations the rates have increased over recent decades.

Hawaii's shark attack rate per 1 million population was the highest of all the regions but is still minuscule, according to Steve Midway, assistant professor in the Department of Oceanography and Coastal Sciences at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge and co-author of the "Trends in global

common — were not considered.

With Hawaii's surging visitor arrivals — nearly 10 million in 2018 — the rates of shark attacks here are even lower than reported in the study, Midway said.

"It's not a new message in terms of the big picture: The risk is low and that's been known," he said.

"What we did that was new and a little bit different was look at the place and time globally over more than

Please see SHARKS, A10

Kukio Beach, North Kona, Hawaii island. Stand-up paddleboarder suffers severe wounds on right arm and leg from tiger shark.

Source: State Department of Land and Natural Resources

Handwritten note: 6 x 18 7/8 x 7 1/8



538-NEWS
CALL TO SUBSCRIBE
Our 138th year, No. 29

Territorial Savings Bank

Call us today:

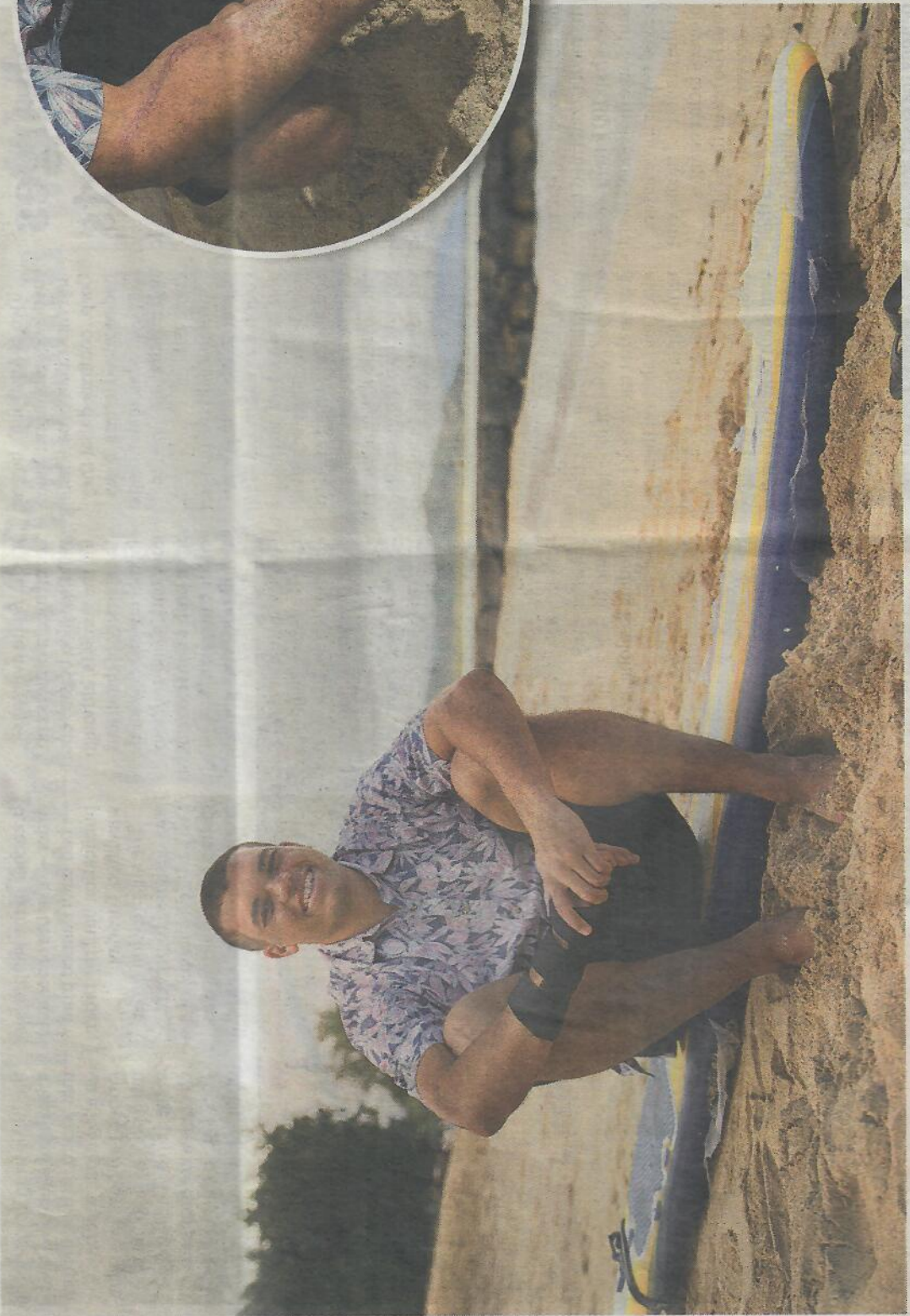
206-8199

*Using the rate and APR shown a loan of \$300,000 (based on a \$400,000 home with 25% down payment) will have 360 monthly principal and interest payments of \$1,432.25. *Rates as of 02/27/2019. Rates and terms are subject to change without notice. All loans are subject to credit and underwriting approval. Other terms and conditions may apply. No prepayment penalty. Owner occupant only.



dictment with conspiring to and distributing the prescription painkillers oxycodone and fentanyl, and the anti-anxiety drug alprazolam, or Xanax. The siblings are also charged with steering a Honolulu police investigation of the

A new study provides historical context that should help temper the public panic when incidents occur



Julian Perkins is still undergoing therapy on his right arm, which was bitten Sept. 8 by a 10- to 12-foot tiger shark while surfing outside of Pounders in Laie. Inset, Perkins' wounds after extensive surgery.

CINDY ELLEN RUSSELL / CRUSSELL@STARADVERTISER.COM

PERKINS' WOUNDS

SHARKS

Continued from A1

50 years," providing a historical context that might contribute to a better understanding of the risk.

The study authors also hope the information will temper the hysteria that often accompanies shark attacks and "contribute to a more scientifically grounded discussion of sharks and their management and conservation."

A closer look

From 1960 to 2015 there were 1,215 reported "unprovoked" shark attacks in the U.S., most resulting in minor skin injuries. Twenty-four, or roughly 2 percent, were fatal over the 55-year period. Of the 133 documented shark incidents in Hawaii waters from 1970 to 2015, only seven, or 5 percent, were fatal. (Researchers used the shorter time period in their analysis of some of the regional data.)

Midway, who specializes in fish ecology, said he was intrigued by a spate of seven shark attacks off North Carolina in the summer of 2015 and contacted George Burgess at the International Shark Attack File at the University of Florida in Gainesville, a recognized clearinghouse for shark attack reports worldwide.

"We did this to exhale and take a step back when shark

the way to the beach.

"What we've learned is that the year-to-year variation is not something we get excited about. The real trend is that in certain areas of the world, the attack rate has gone up higher in the last 20 years or so, and other areas did not show that pattern," Burgess said.

"Of interest is the pattern of increases in areas that have sharks in abundance and humans in some abundance."

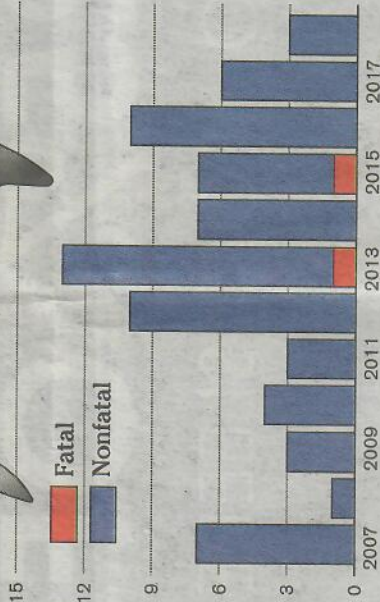
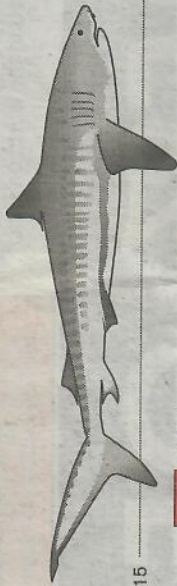
The growing popularity of ocean recreation, especially surfing, is likely one reason for the increase in human-shark interactions and for more diverse areas not historically known for shark attacks emerging in the data. It's also no coincidence the same regions with increasing shark attack rates also have high rates of technology use, including smartphones, email and the internet, which makes it easier to document and share news of shark attacks, he said.

For those same reasons, the ISAF has become better at developing international contacts to facilitate reporting, according to Burgess.

"I don't believe the increases we've seen are because sharks are suddenly hungry for humans, but are due to changes in the behavior patterns of humans, and the ability to report has increased," he said.

Midway, who taught summer marine science classes

UNPROVOKED SHARK ATTACKS IN HAWAII



Source: International Shark Attack File

STAR-ADVERTISER

A harrowing account

Of the untold millions of people who entered the ocean in Hawaii last year, Julian Perkins was one of tail splashed back and forth. I don't really know why it let go; I'm just grateful it did." But that wasn't the scariest part of his ordeal. His right arm shredded and bleeding profusely, Perkins was still a half-mile from shore and vulnerable in the 6- to 8-foot surf, with occasional 10-footers.

"I had to somehow get in with one arm and avoid these big waves," he said. "I started paddling and yelling, 'Shark! Shark! Shark!' I didn't think anyone knew I had been bitten at the time, so I was raising my arm in the air so people could see that I was hurt."

"Then a big wave came

board leashes as tourniquets and rendering first aid.

"They were there the whole time, making sure I was OK. It felt so good to have those six guys with me. Just a few moments before when the wave crashed on me, I thought I was gonna die, so to have them appear made me feel so loved and happy they came."

When he went into emergency surgery at The Queen's Medical Center, doctors were uncertain whether they could save his arm.

"I still have some nightmares, or when I'm in the water I think I see shadows moving, but it's not anything at all," Perkins said. "But I've grown up in the ocean my whole life, and I'm not going to let the fear stop me from doing what I love."

Perkins' harrowing account makes it easy to see why shark attacks elicit a visceral reaction in the public. But his experience also underscores another of the study's messages, that "ultimately, all shark attacks are local," with the risk best assessed at individual beach or surf spots, depending on the day's conditions and activities.

"Be careful when you hear about numbers of whatever going up or down, keeping in mind that whether it's car accidents or falling coconuts to the head or shark bites, each situation is unique as far of causative factors," Burgess said. "You have to look carefully at what both

REDUCE YOUR RISK

- >> Stay in groups and don't wander too far, since sharks are more likely to attack a solitary individual.
- >> Avoid the water during darkness and twilight hours when sharks are most active and have a competitive sensory advantage.
- >> Do not enter the water if bleeding from an open wound, and enter with caution if menstruating; a shark's olfactory ability is acute.
- >> Wearing shiny jewelry is discouraged because the reflected light resembles the sheen of fish scales.
- >> Avoid waters with known effluents or sewage and those being used by fishermen, especially if there are signs of bait fishes or feeding activity.
- >> The presence of dolphins does not indicate the absence of sharks; both often eat the same food items.
- >> Use extra caution in murky water and avoid uneven tanning and brightly colored clothing, as sharks see contrast particularly well.
- >> Refrain from excess splashing, and do not allow pets in the water because of their erratic movements.
- >> Be wary in the area between sandbars or near steep drop-offs,

attacks happen, and look at it from the big picture," Midway said. "It's not meant to be predictive or to tell you how to reduce your chances of getting bitten by a shark. It was designed to provide context to what, relatively speaking, is really a trivial occurrence in just about any one of the regions."

Burgess said the study, also co-authored by Tyler Wagner of the U.S. Geological Survey, provides "good statistical oomph" to the notion the shark attack risk is slight, with far more people killed or injured by jellyfish, stingrays, sunburn, sand hole collapses, surf accidents and car crashes on

for high school students in Hawaii in 2005 and 2006, said less known factors may be at play as well, including coastal development, environmental conditions and changes in the annual cycles of prey fish that draw sharks to nearshore waters.

"Data on how many sharks are in the water and how many people are in the water are not widely available, and we don't monitor shark population dynamics well," he said. "There are a lot of lower-level things going on that we don't fully understand."

The study's findings may be of little comfort to the rare few who beat the odds.

knowing that's their territory and we're visitors to their home."

During that morning surf session outside Ponders, Perkins was sitting on his board, looking left at others catching waves.

"It snuck up on the other side of me or underneath; I didn't see it at all beforehand," he said. "It grabbed onto me, and I knew straight away what was happening. I saw the shark on my arm and remember very clearly that I was surprised it didn't go for my legs. It almost jumped out of the water."

"I saw its head and eyes, and I could tell it was a tiger shark by the structure of its

through and crashed right on me, and I went over the falls. My leash came off, and I was treading water out there with one arm and trying to stay afloat, trying to stay calm, trying not to use energy and trying to get away from the shark and the waves."

A friend, Mitchell Hashimoto, was farther in and retrieved Perkins' board, bringing it back to him and then quickly paddling to shore to call 911. Other surfers — Jesse King, Bret Marumoto, Flynn Novak, Drew Wilkinson, Jose Gomez and Ryan Hailstones — came to his aid in the water and on the beach, using their surf-

participants were doing and don't just fall for the numbers. You have to be skeptical about what might have influenced it."

ISAF tips for lessening the risk of encountering a shark and not wandering far to keep from becoming isolated in the water; not wearing shiny jewelry that resembles fish scales when reflecting light or brightly colored clothing, since sharks see contrast particularly well; and avoiding murky and contaminated waters and areas being used by fishermen, especially if there are signs of bait fish or feeding activity.

as these are favorite hangouts for sharks.

Source: *International Shark Attack File*

ATTACKS IN U.S.

Of the 66 unprovoked shark attacks worldwide last year, 32 were in the United States. Of those, 16 were in Florida, three were in Hawaii and one was in Massachusetts, where the victim was killed.

International Shark Attack File



2017 VOLVO S90 DEMO SALE

2017 T6 INSCRIPTION (U7696) 7,422 miles
MSRP ~~\$64,400~~ Now Only \$41,688 or **\$580 per month!***

2017 T6 MOMENTUM (U7695) 4,687 miles
MSRP ~~\$64,400~~ Now Only \$42,688 or **\$596 per month!***

2017 T6 INSCRIPTION (U7633) 3,761 miles
MSRP ~~\$64,400~~ Now Only \$44,688 or **\$628 per month!***

CUTTER VOLVO CARS WAIPAHU
94-177 Farrington Hwy. | 563-9900 | cuttervolvocars-hawaii.com

*On approved credit. Prices/pymts shown are after all applicable incentives applied. Incentives &/or finance rates may have specific eligibility requirements &/or may be avail. only to certain customers &/or apply only to specific vehicles &/or may not be combinable on specific vehicles. Not all buyers will qualify. Payments based on 72 months, 4.60% APR, \$5,500 down: U7696, U7695, U7633. Vehicle may not be exactly as shown & is subject to prior sale. All prices/pymts plus 4.7129% tax, lic, registration, doc fee of \$295, dit. installed access. Images are for illustration purposes only. Offer ends March 7, 2019. DOC FEE