

ALOHA FESTIVALS 2005



Nā Honu Hawai'i

Aloha Festivals theme celebrates

The Spirit Within

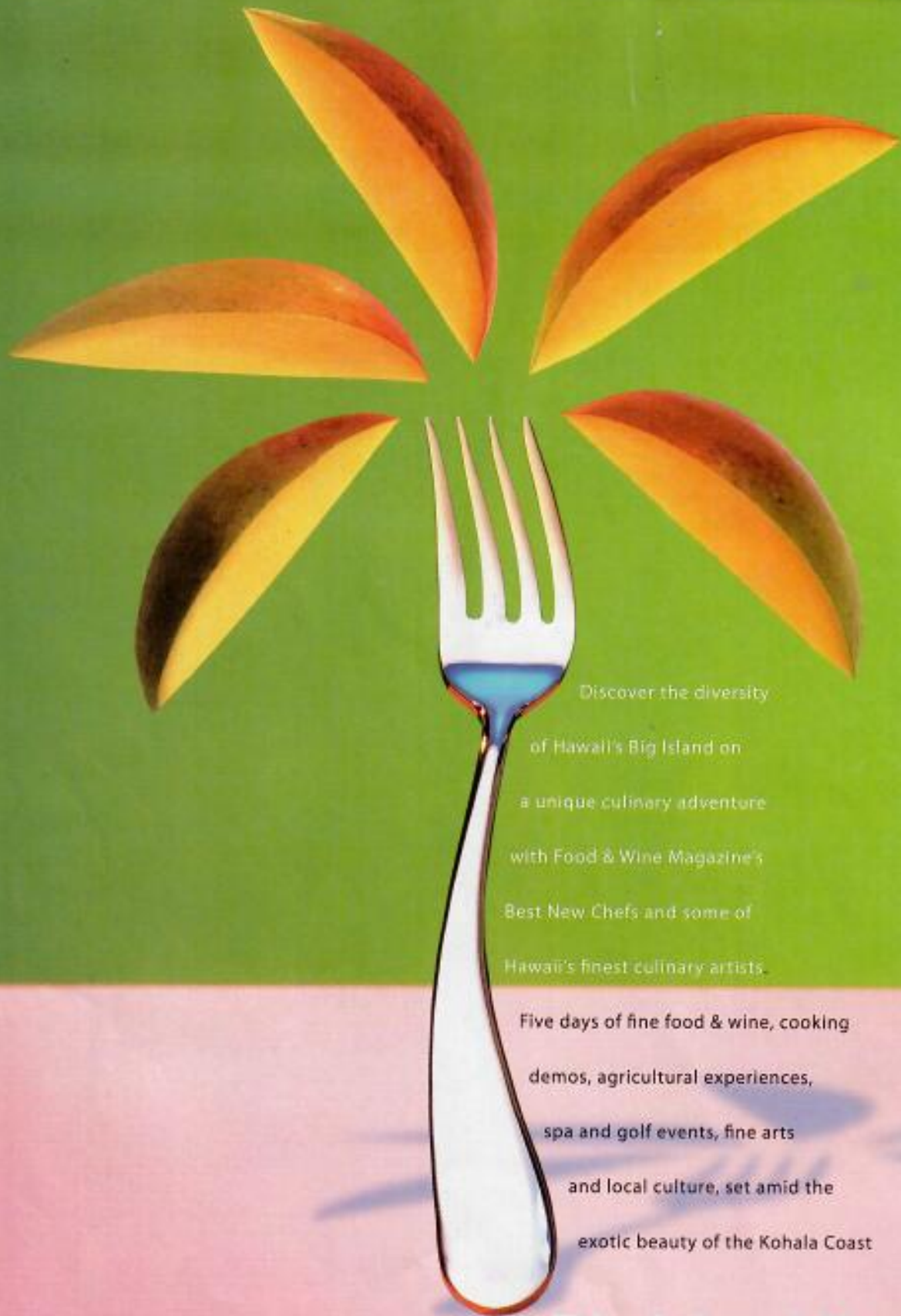
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Aloha and mahalo from Gloriann Akau

Big Island Festival manager Gloriann Akau with members of the Halau O Kekubi at the rim of the volcano after last year's Royal Court investiture.



Photo: Charles R. West

Aloha and welcome to our 2005 Big Island Aloha Festivals. We have a great lineup of events that stretch from Waimea to Kea'au. Our activities begin August 27 with the dramatic royal court investiture at Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park and end September 25 with a performing arts extravaganza at the sixth annual Queen Lili'uokalani Festival.

This year's theme, "Na Honu Hawai'i," is a special one. I was taught that the honu represents humility and we must learn to be humble. It's important to ask how to do things and to ask permission to do them."

KonaViews ...proud to support the Aloha Festivals

Aloha kakou!

KonaViews magazine is pleased to again produce this informational and colorful 32-page program guide to all the 2005 events on the Big Island. Since the goal of KonaViews is "spreading Aloha" — what does it better than the Aloha Festivals!

Mahalo nui loa to the advertisers for their participation (see page 29) and to the KonaViews team: Writer Fern Gavelek; designer Carol Wright; office manager Debbie West-Wu; photojournalist Charles R. West (who covered many of the events last year); and contributing photographers Carol Wright, Fern Gavelek and Michael O'Brien.

Mahalo to Hagadone Printing for a print job well done and to Islandwide Distribution, Everett Sweet and Lani Olsen's volunteer team for distributing the guide islandwide.

We also want to gratefully acknowledge the members of our community who make this celebration of the culture of our islands possible — dedicated volunteers, enthusiastic attendees, and this year's presenting sponsors, Hawaiian Airlines and Hawaii Tourism Authority.

Show your kokua — buy an Aloha Festivals ribbon!

Tovi Daly, KonaViews publisher

Aloha Festivals theme celebrates Hawaiian life of land and sea

The 2005 Aloha Festivals theme is Na Honu Hawai'i "The Spirit Within." It pays tribute to the Hawaiian life of the land and the sea by focusing on honu or sea turtles. It honors the symbolism of honu in Hawaiian culture, the belief of honu as an ancestral guardian and the responsibility to respect the ocean and practice marine conservation.

Honu have lived since the ages of dinosaurs. "They are the true ancients of Hawai'i, having dwelled in our islands' ocean waters for millennia," reads a statement by Aloha Festivals. Honu symbolize longevity, peace and the spirit within for Hawaiians, while they are beloved throughout the world as creatures of peace, hope, humility and love.

Honu are also 'aumakua, ancestral spiritual guardians of Hawaiian families. Hawaiians maintain personal, intimate relationships with their 'aumakua and feel their ancestral guardians nurture and love them. Similar to grandparents, Hawaiians feel their 'aumakua keep them on the right path (pono).

Keen observers of nature and protectors of the sea, Hawaiians also care for honu, ensuring their return to land to bear their young in the sands of their birth. Now endangered and bordering on extinction, this year's theme points out that it is the responsibility of all people to ensure the honu's survival for all generations.

See inside pages for more about the honu and the theme design.



2005 Big Island Aloha Festivals

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- 3:00 - 4:00 pm Aulani's Hula Halau
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**'Parade lady' receives
Ka Pua Maeole Award**

Approximately 150 persons volunteer to stage the Big Island's 20-some Aloha Festivals events that span four weeks. Gloriann Akau, Big Island manager, annually recognizes a volunteer or family that is instrumental in making Aloha Festivals happen with the "Ka Pua Maeole" Award. Meaning "The Flower that Never Wilts," the recognition is awarded this year to Lani Olsen-Chong of Waimea. Unique to the Big Island Aloha Festivals, Akau says she instituted the award to say "thank you and recognize volunteers that "go the extra mile." The award was presented to Doreen Kama, royal court director and wardrobe coordinator, in 2003 and to the Souza family of Kona in 2004.



Lani Olsen-Chong of Waimea acknowledged as a volunteer that "goes the extra mile."

Lani will be honored during an award presentation at the second annual Waimea Festival Aug. 28 at Parker Ranch Center. She has been involved in organizing the Aloha Festivals Paniolo Parade for nearly 16 years. Fondly known as "the parade lady," she also organizes Waimea's Twilight Christmas Parade. Though she has scores of volunteers (see next page) Lani seemingly does it all—from distributing the applications to parade entrants and writing the narratives for the parade announcers to filling key positions and picking the lineup. Regular parade planning meetings start months in advance and preparation is key.



"Lani does an excellent job," says Akau. "She has dressed the parade up, taken it to a different level." Akau adds that Lani has been doing the parade the entire time Akau has served as Big Island manager.

"I learned from the very best," explains Lani. "The first parade in 1990 was the toughest - I had no clue what I was doing. But under the expertise of Nelson Fujio, I learned quickly. He was so supportive! He flew to the Big Island, special, to see me do my first parade. It was so successful, I guessed I could 'do this again another year.' How was I to know Auntie Gloriann would stay Island Manager this long?"

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'Hats Off' to Dedicated Parade Volunteers

By Lani Olsen-Cbong

As recipient of the Ka Pua Mae'ole Award, Lani says it's fitting to say mahalo to the many individuals that helped her as she "couldn't have done it without them."

Coordinating a parade is not an easy job; in fact it can get very stressful at times. However, I learned to delegate, ask for help and make promises that I may not have always kept. In fact, I am amazed that my family is still speaking to me and that some of my friends remained friends after all I've put some of them through...

The FAMILY – a classic example of being there for each other. Although every year, my children and their families probably wished I'd retired the position, they never failed to be there when I needed them. All four daughters have responsibilities when it comes to the parade: At 'check-in' desk, Shannon Berdon (my oldest) and Monica Hurley (#3 daughter), along with a staff of six-to-eight volunteers, check in all entries, making sure applications are complete, narratives in order and all participants have parade ribbons and parking passes.

Kalae Kawamura (#4 daughter and my right hand) with a staff of three-to-four volunteers takes control at the start – positioning all units in line. Eleu Wills (#2 daughter) and husband John, along with a staff of eight-to-ten volunteers, take control at the end of the parade route. As entries enter Waimea Park, they are directed to their respective areas for dismounting and parking. Numerous horse trailers have already been lined up prior to the start of the parade.

FRIENDS – loyal to the end. Every year Ned Salvador and his "gang" from Kohala meet us at 4:30 a.m. at the starting

line (Church Row) as we prepare to set cones and barricades along the parade route. Designated "lunas" from the gang are Ned Salvador, Uncle Butch Lincoln, Bernard Ho'opai, Bozo Salvador and Kublai Rabang. Along with some 30 volunteers, they provide security along the entire parade and traffic detour routes.

BLUE and LOU COLEMAN coordinate the 12 parade marshals on horseback. The marshals' job is to ride along side the parade, ensuring participants and spectators are safe. After patrolling the entire route, they proudly ride together as the "final" mounted parade unit.

The satisfaction of doing the event comes when we witness the joy in people's faces as they watch. When I get bombarded with calls and comments about how wonderful the parade was, it makes up for all the hard work and stress, which is soon forgotten as we prepare for another year.

My sincere gratitude to my family and friends for their dedication over the years. Key people from our parade team that have passed on are Oli Olsen, Gordon Lindsey and Jiro Yamaguchi.

"Thank You" is such a small way of showing my appreciation to those who have helped me to make our parades so successful. I am fortunate to be loved by so many who can't say "NO" when I ask for their kokua. Even the husbands, wives, partners, children and grandchildren sacrifice because they, too, are up at the early hour, sometimes waiting in the car while set-up takes place.

And FINALLY...at approximately 4:30 p.m. on parade day ... a long 12-hour day comes to an end for the 50+ parade volunteers. **Mahalo to all!**



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Danny Akaka is state's Ambassador of Aloha

Story and Turtle Independence Day photos by Fern Gavelek

Big Island resident Danny Akaka of the Mauna Lani Bay Hotel & Bungalows is one of four individuals honored this year by the statewide Aloha Festivals for exemplifying this year's theme, "Na Honu Hawaii—The Spirit Within." Akaka has been named an Ambassador of Aloha and will ride in the Aloha Festivals Floral Parade on Oahu September 17 with turtle expert George Balazs, limu scientist Dr. Isabella Abbott and Donna Kahakui, long distance paddler for ocean awareness.

Besides being a Hawaiian kahu (priest), musician and ocean navigator, Danny Akaka has been the resident Hawaiian historian and director of cultural affairs at the Mauna Lani Resort for more than 20 years. He is one of the caretakers of the resort's Turtle Ambassador Program and believes "understanding the plight of the honu is to malama 'aina, or take care of our surroundings."

The Mauna Lani's Turtle Ambassador Program was pioneered 16 years ago by Oahu's Sea Life Park and the resort. Every year, anywhere from a few dozen to a few hundred sea turtles hatch at the park from brood stock the park has owned since the early 1970s (prior to the Endangered Species Act). Most are tagged with National Marine Fisheries Service tags and released into the ocean in the first 24 hours of their life, but a few turtles are sent to qualified facilities like the Mauna Lani, as part of an educational loan program.

While the honu are in residence at the Mauna Lani, hundreds of school children are brought annually to the hotel to enjoy a lively tour of the saltwater ponds. They learn about the turtles and other marine life: sharks, puffer fish and a wide variety of tropical fish. The Mauna Lani serves as ambassador to the honu for a couple years until they reach a size and weight deemed appropriate for release into the wild. Before release, honu undergo a veterinary check.

On July Fourth ("Turtle Independence Day"), the captive-raised turtles are gathered and escorted to the ocean as Akaka blows the conch shell. This year, Halau Hula O Kukunaokala performed a special dance and chant to honor two sacred honu. "In Old Hawai'i, some turtles were considered sacred. The hula they performed told about the meeting of 'Ea'Ea, the female guardian turtle that belonged to the Kona Chieftess Keakealanwahine, and Kaiaka, the sacred male turtle from Molokai," explains Akaka.

"The honu is a cultural symbol for Hawaiians and for some, their 'aumakua (personal family guardian or deity)," he continues. "It was kapu (forbidden) for a person to eat turtle meat if the honu was his 'aumakua." Ancient Hawaiians had a symbiotic relationship with their 'aumakua—they did not harm or eat it and the 'aumakua warned and reprimanded humans in dreams and visions. Akaka adds that turtles were a source of food for other Hawaiians, but only ali'i could raise turtles in loko (ponds) for food.

Turtle's homing ability

"Since we started the program, we've released over 150 honu," says Akaka. Some of them are tagged with monitoring devices to track their navigation by George Balazs, a NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service Protected Species biologist, also being honored in the Oahu parade. (See next page.)

"Protecting our honu and ocean is one aspect of malama aina," explains Akaka. "Hawaiians believe everything is interconnected and if one aspect or link is missing, then there cannot be a whole. If there is a missing part, then things don't balance." Akaka adds that honu are survivors since prehistoric times and it is important we learn from them. "They are the ultimate navigators," he says. "They return home."

Both Akaka and Balazs contributed to the International Year of the Ocean Sea Turtles Coloring Book, available online by visiting www.cyoto98.noaa.gov/books/seaturtles/seaturt1.htm. They modified the book for use in Hawaii and it is in both Hawaiian and English text. For more info on Hawaiian honu, a suggested website is www.turtles.org.

Sick turtle hotline. To report what appears to be a sick, injured or dead sea turtle in West Hawaii, contact the Hawaii Preparatory Academy Sea Turtle Hotline at 881-4200 or the DNLR Enforcement Division of Conservation and Resources, 327-4961.



Danny Akaka sits on the steps of the Eva Parker Woods cottage at Mauna Lani prior to a "Talk Story" evening (see next page). Left: Akaka blows the conch at the Mauna Lani Resort's Turtle Independence Day on July 4.



A hui ho honu!

Turtles raised as part of the Turtle Ambassador Program at Mauna Lani Resort are released when a few years old. The honu are tagged, given a health check, and with much fanfare and the sound of the conch shell, they are transported in an Independence Day decorated cart and released into the Pacific. For more info about the honu, visit www.maunalaniculture.org.



Oahu turtle czar works closely with Big Island to ensure turtles' future

George Balazs, a NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service Protected Species biologist on Oahu, has devoted his 34-year career to the recovery of the Hawaiian green turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) and recently was honored by the National Wildlife Federation with its National Conservation Achievement Award.

Through the use of radio telemetry, Balazs tracks where turtles go. One Mauna Lani turtle made the news after a nine-month, 3,000-mile journey around the Hawaiian Islands before returning to the Mauna Lani area. "Turtles have a great homing ability and this turtle returned to the coastline it was released from," explains the Hawaiian honu expert. Following migration routes of tagged honu could possibly lead to guidelines for longline fishing boats.

According to Balazs, turtles practice "natal homing," returning "to the sands of their birth" to replenish the next generation, and the next, and so on. "Sands of their birth doesn't mean a specific spot with perfection," stresses Balazs. "It sometimes is a strip of coastline some miles long; or it's a cluster of small islands a few or more miles from one another. In addition there are strays."

Balazs says this is good because for sea turtles to survive, adapt and endure over the centuries, they need to be flexible. "Sea levels rise, and fall. Island and coastal areas sink and are eroded away. New nesting areas have to be found and that's how it's most likely done, by turtles 'missing their mark' occasionally," he continues.



Students valuable field assistants

Students, including youth from Hawaii Preparatory Academy (below), serve as field assistants for Balazs to hand capture, tag and measure turtles around the Big Island. Learning hands-on the importance of science, data collection and teamwork, HPA students also assist with the Mauna Lani program. Info is entered into a database to learn more about the reptile's biology. Areas studied include honu growth rate, habitat use, behaviors, developmental and reproductive migrations and population trends.

In fact, Balazs led research from 1967-2004 that showed a 600 percent increase in nesting females on East Island, an isolated atoll in the French Frigate Shoals of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.

The Shoals is the principal rookery for the Hawaiian green turtle and at least 50 percent of all nesting occurs on East Island. "Hawaiian green turtle population is well on the way to recovery," Balazs emphasizes. He attributes much of the population increase to the Endangered Species Act; he was instrumental in getting the honu listed in 1978. But he also believes education has changed perceptions about sea turtles from a source of food to a native species people are proud to protect. (See story by Balazs on page 30.)



"Twilight at Kalahuipua'a"



At the Eva Parker Woods Cottage

Every month when the full moon rises, Mauna Lani Resort offers an enchanted evening of entertainment on the lawn of the resort's oceanfront Eva Parker Woods Cottage. Hotel guests and Hawaii residents are all welcome to join Danny Kaniela Akaka for "Twilight at Kalahuipua'a," a night of music, dance and storytelling.

Danny Kaniela Akaka is one of Hawaii's most famous personalities and Mauna Lani's 'Native Son.' No one knows more about the legends of Hawaii than Danny. He Mauna Lani's Cultural Historian. He is a kahu (Hawaiian priest), speaks fluent Hawaiian, performs as a musician and dancer, has twice sailed with the Hokule'a (Hawaii's famed ocean-voyaging canoe), and is a caretaker of Mauna Lani's endangered Hawaiian green sea turtle program. He is young, energetic, full of life, and the father of five children, including a set of twins.

"Twilight at Kalahuipua'a" was designed to perpetuate the traditional folk art of storytelling. Everyone in attendance - not only the professional entertainment - is invited to share stories, family histories, songs, and dance. It gives hotel guests a chance to experience the true aloha spirit, and residents the opportunity to meet and share stories with people from around the world.

The charming Eva Parker Woods Cottage houses historical artifacts that were excavated at Kalahuipua'a, the land now called Mauna Lani. Its oceanfront location marks the piko (spiritual center) of the resort's ancient Hawaiian fishponds, making it the perfect venue for this full moon event.

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Symbolism key to artistry of logo



Aloha Festivals took a cultural approach to developing the logo and artwork for the 2005 theme, "Na Honu Hawai'i – The Spirit Within." The new theme is a tribute to the Hawaiian life of the land and the sea and focuses on the sea turtle or honu. It is the honu's form, and ultimately its deeper meaning, that are the basis for the art.

Cultural advisor and Kumu Hula Blaine Kamalani Kia and artist Cal Yonamine took the image of the sea turtle and created a design both rooted in Hawaiian culture and reflective of the spirit of the festival. The artwork appears on the 2005 t-shirt, ribbon and other collateral.

Yonamine began with a backdrop of aqua water line drawings that start from both the left and right sides of the canvas and move inward horizontally, eventually evolving into a honu figure. The repetitive water lines represent ocean. The water drawings transition from water to sea turtle, lending the illusion that honu recede with the tides, arrive at the sands of their birth to have their offspring, and then return once again to the sea. Vertically, the water lines form a vertebrae, which is the conceptual foundation of the design.

"Symbolically, this *kua*, or backbone, represents ancestors who stand firm as the foundation of the Hawaiian people and who have set values and traditions for future generations," explains Charlian Wright, Aloha Festivals executive director. "At the core, or center of the artwork, the honu takes full form and appears stacked bottom to top. This is called *paepae*, or the building mound, and it symbolizes the Hawaiian family *mo'okua'uahu* or genealogy. The design of the backdrop is the ancestral connection."

With the backdrop of the design established, the artist superimposed two stylistically distinct honu images, each with their own symbolism, for the front and back of the t-shirt.

"It's important to work symbolic elements into the logo because I've experienced, in the last decade or so, of how our younger generation is in need of cultural understanding and spirituality," emphasizes Kumu Hula Kia. "The idea of the backbone is to remind all people that the backbone of your family is important, vital and essential in today's society." He adds "we all need a sense of *ohana* (family)" to thrive and achieve a "sense of place."

Each component of the 2005 design was analyzed to ensure it represents and promotes Aloha Festivals in order to connect it to its cultural past while perpetuating its future. Kumu Hula Kia says the concept of using the honu in the logo, which is an 'aumakua or spiritual guardian for some Hawaiian families, encourages curiosity. "It's for people to recognize who they are and where they came from... an incentive and motivation to seek for more about yourself and family," he details. "Because the heart, in itself, could indeed, be where you will find your 'aumakua, or your connection to a higher power."

Festivals t-shirts carry honu theme

A single honu nui, or big turtle, is positioned on the back of the shirt, facing forward. Its positioning is significant for two reasons. First, it confronts the notion that we must sustain the survival of the honu for generations to come, much as Aloha Festivals sustain Hawaiian traditions. The second is that it conveys the true meaning of aloha as the honu's forward stance reveals its head, "as if to honi." The honi is the traditional form of greeting in ancient Hawai'i that involves the touching of noses and the oral transmission of ha, or breath and spirit. The idea is to look at the honu nui and to embrace "the spirit within."

On the front of the shirt, honu 'ekolu, or three sea turtles, appear from small, medium to large. This size progression is a familiar design in Hawai'i and derived from ancient petroglyphs. The three honu appear in succession to represent belief systems such as Past/Present/Future, Land/Ocean/Sky and Preservation/Perpetuation/Conservation.

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John, Danny,
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(Kai was camera-shy this time)



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Aloha Festivals Hula

(Sung to the tune of "Hukilau")

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Festivals

Big Island Festivals,
Da bes' of all da Festivals!

Everybody, love da Festivals,
Bring da Auntie,
An' da Tutu, an' da Keiki all!

Where Ms. Aloha Nui
Stay winking at me,
An' de sing da kin' Falsetto
Like you neva' wen' see,
Mai, we all goin' to da Festivals
Da bes' of all da Festivals aroun'!

Get your ribbon, for da Festivals
One pretty ribbon
For wear to da Festivals.
If no mo' ribbon for da Festivals,
You goin' stay crying
'Cause you no can go da Festivals.

With one da kin' ribbon, an one T-shirt,
You gunna have fun,
An' you even can flirt!
Come, we goin' to da Festivals,
Da bes' of all da Festivals aroun'!



Aloha Festivals: a 59-year celebration

Hawaii's largest festival is the only statewide celebration in the US. Aloha Festivals was created in 1946 as Aloha Week, a cultural celebration of Hawaii's music, dance and history intended to preserve our unique traditions. Spanning nearly two months, it has become a celebration of our Pacific, Asian and Western cultural influences, encompassing 300 events on six islands. Nearly 30,000 volunteers labor together to stage the events, which are attended by nearly 1 million — a festival truly of the people of Hawaii by the people of Hawaii. Festivals are funded through sale of Aloha Festivals ribbons as well as corporate and private donations.

Support the Aloha Festivals Wear a Ribbon!

Purchase an Aloha Festivals ribbon on the Big Island at the following locations for a nominal fee:

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- Hapuna Beach Prince Hotel, Kohala Coast
- Mauna Lani Bay Hotel & Bungalows, Kohala Coast
- Parker Ranch Center and Store Waimea
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- Puna Fresh Foods, Kea'au Center
- Taro Patch Store, Honoka'a • Waimea Country Lodge
- Volcano Art Center Gallery
- Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park

Wear your Aloha Festivals ribbon and enjoy the special Big Island ribbon discounts listed below. Be sure to check the Big Island Aloha Festivals Calendar of Events on the next pages for event activities that offer discounted admission or require entry with an Aloha Festivals Ribbon.

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Offers and participation may vary and are subject to change. Restrictions apply. Aloha Festivals ribbon must be presented at time of purchase and is also good for discounts offered at participating merchants on O'ahu, Maui, Kaua'i, Lana'i and Moloka'i.



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Big Island Aloha Festivals 2005 SCHEDULE

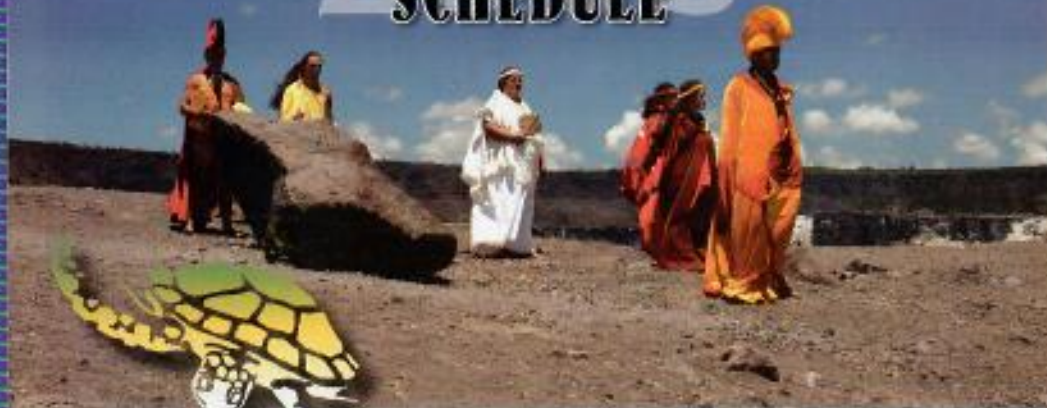


Photo by Charles R. West

SATURDAY AUGUST 27

Royal Court Investiture Ceremony and Hawaiian cultural events at the volcano



Photo by Charles R. West

Hawaiian Arts and Crafts

Cultural practitioners demonstrate and offer their crafts including ti leaf skirt and lei making at the Volcano Art Center Gallery at Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. 9am-2pm. Park admission waived with an Aloha Festivals ribbon, 967-7565.



Photo by Dawn Gallagher

Hula Kahiko Performance

Traditional hula and chant are staged outdoors at the Hula Pa next to the Volcano Art Center Gallery at Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Enjoy Hālau Hula Ka Makani Hali 'Ala O Puna ("The Returning Fragrant Winds of Puna"), under the direction of kumu hula Ehulani Stephany. 10-11am. Park admission waived with an Aloha Festivals ribbon. 967-7565.



Photo by Charles R. West

Royal Court Investiture

At high noon when the sun is at its zenith, the Big Island Royal Court will be adorned with the reigning symbols of Hawaiian monarchs to the sights and sounds of chants and hula. Above, Frank Souza, Jr. receives the feathered cape and helmet. At Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Park admission waived with an Aloha Festivals ribbon, 885-7786.



Signifies an Appearance
by the Royal Court

SAT AUG 27

Hawai'i's World Heritage Festival

Celebrate the cultural diversity of the Aloha State through cuisine, traditional crafts, art and ethnic performances. Discover Hawaii's rainbow of nationalities: Hawaiian, Filipino, Japanese, Okinawan, Puerto Rican, Portuguese, Korean and more 10am-3pm in Kalakaua Park, Hilo. Free, 933-9772.



SUN AUG 28



Photo by Charles R. West

Parker Ranch Center Waimea Festival



Parker Ranch Center hosts the official opening of the Big Island's Aloha Festivals with the debut of the 2005 Royal Court and the bestowing of the annual Ka Pua Mae'ole Award. The festival features an array of Hawaiian exhibits, interactive demonstrations, performing arts and keiki fun. Enjoy novel activities that highlight Waimea as the birthplace of the Hawaiian paniolo and home to the world-class industries of astronomy, agriculture and education. Features programs about Hawaiian turtles, this year's Aloha Festival theme. 11am-3pm. Free, 329-0833.

SAT SEPT 3

Royal Pikai and Ho'okupu

The Royal Court visits the ocean with offerings of the land and then the Mo'i and Mo'i Wahine receive a ceremonial washing in preparation for a successful reign. Spencer Beach Park, Kawaihae, 7:30am. Free, 885-7786.



Photo by Michael O'Neil

SAT SEPT 3



Photo by Charles R. West

Ms. Aloha Nui Pageant

One-of-a-kind beauty pageant featuring plus-sized women of 200 pounds or more; Ms. Aloha Nui reigns as the "Hostess with the Mostess." Hawaii Naniloa Resort, Hilo, 7pm. Shown above is 2004 winner Roana Mae Kaiwi of Hilo. Discounted admission with an Aloha Festivals ribbon that must be worn upon entry, 896-0323.

SUN SEPT 4



Aloha Sunday Church Services

Join the Royal Court 11am for worship at Ha'ilii Church in Hilo. Free.

FRI SEPT 9



Photo by Michael O'Brien

**E Hula Mai Kaua
Couples Hula Competition**

Unique couples hula competition that showcases age group divisions 4-9pm at Lu'au Grounds at Outrigger Keauhou Beach Resort. This year's event offers \$2,500 to the "best" hula couple in the state. Free, 883-9005.

SAT SEPT 10

Great Waikoloa Ho'olaule'a



Entertainment begins noon until 7pm including Royal Court appearance, narratives describing Hawaiian carving and games. Enjoy Hawaiian-style food. Headliners include Pali, Braddah Smitty, Na Kupuna 'O Kona Ali'i, and Aulani's Hula Halau. At the Waikoloa Kings' Shops. Free, 885-7786

**Kindy Sproat Falsetto
and Storytelling Contest**



Photo by Charles R. West

Honoring Big Isle storyteller Clyde "Kindy" Sproat, this 14th annual competition pits contestants who throw their voices into the upper registers of the musical scale while combining the art of storytelling. Contest begins 7pm at the Hapuna Beach Prince Hotel. Entry with Aloha Festivals ribbon and discounted admission on pre-sale Tickets, 880-1111.

Puna Festival of Aloha



The talents of Hawaii's fastest growing district is 10am-2pm at Kea'au Shopping Center. Enjoy a welcoming oli and hula, keiki activities and arts and crafts. Headliners include slack key and uke player Keiki Kahumoku and Volcano songwriter Howard Shapiro. Wear your Aloha Festivals ribbon and be eligible to win some great prizes in a lucky drawing. Free, 933-9772.

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**SAT & SUN
SEPT 10 - 11**

Poke Golf Shoot-Out Invitational

Tee off is 8am Saturday at this zany golf tourney that benefits Kawaihae Transitional Housing. Fee, 880-1111.

Aloha Festivals Poke Contest



Photo by Charles R. West

Entrants vie in numerous poke culinary categories for a purse of \$15,000 in cash and prizes. After the contest, the public is free to sample this Hawaiian raw fish appetizer. 11am at the Hapuna Beach Prince Hotel. For info on contest entries and public admission, 880-8111.

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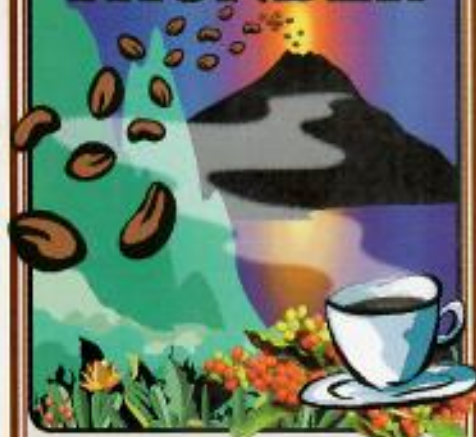
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SAT SEPT 17



Paniolo Hat Lei Contest

This 12th annual contest salutes the Hawaiian paniolo's tradition of wearing a hat lei that was fashioned by his sweetheart. Contest entries line up 9am at Parker Ranch Center's Fireside Food Court for judging and prizes and are on display until 2pm. The contest and exhibit features fresh, dried, shell and feather hat lei. Free, contact 885-4100 for contest details.

Aloha Festivals Paniolo Parade and Waimea Ho'olaule'a



Photo by Carol Wright

The official Big Island Aloha Festivals parade celebrates its 30th anniversary with floats, marching bands and equestrian units, plus the former Big Island Aloha Festivals Mo'i and Mo'i Wahine of the past 30 years. Co-sponsored by Parker Ranch Center, the parade steps off 10am from Church Row on Hwy. 19 in Waimea and proceeds to Waimea Park for outdoor entertainment, crafts and friendly fun. Free, 885-7786.

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Photo by Carol Wright

WED-THURS, SEPT 21-22

Kupuna Hula Festival

Seniors vie in kane, wahine and mixed hula competition at King Kamehameha's Kona Beach Hotel in Kailua. Enjoy crafts, demonstrations and appearance by Royal Court, 6 p.m. This popular event often sells out! Discounted admission with Aloha Festivals ribbon, 961-8592.

FRIDAY SEPT 23



Keauhou Shopping Center Events

Festivities begin at 4 pm. Enjoy a Polynesian Show with Polynesian Paradise at 5 pm, followed by a special appearance by Na Palapalai, winner of the 2005 Na Hoku Award for both Best Group of the Year and Best Hawaiian Album for "Ke 'Ala Beauty." Also an appearance by the Royal Court. 322-3000.

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Candlelight Peace Walk slated Sunday, September 25

Celebrate 20 years of Kona Coast's Candlelight Peace Walk honoring United Nations International Day of Peace & World Peace Day. Gather with torches, candles, and flashlights in the park adjacent to Huggo's Restaurant on Alii Drive. The event features the sounding of the conch shell, spontaneous prayers, dances and song. Mayor Harry Kim's signed proclamation, encouraging the mana'o "spirit" of Hawaiian heritage and the goal of 'aloha' to reach all shores, will be read. Enjoy a late dinner at nearby home, 325-5099.



Head to Hilo for a fun-packed finale!



SAT SEPT 24

KWXX Hilo Ho'olaule'a

Hilo's downtown area turns into a giant block party 4:30-10pm. Enjoy dancing, entertainment, ethnic foods and Hawaiian arts and crafts. The lineup at press time includes Opihi Pickers (seen left) Nuffsedd (right), Kekai Boyz, Sudden Rush, Lopaka, Panaewa and Mixjah. Free, call 935-5461. For up-to-date lineup see www.kwxx.com.



SUN SEPT 25

Queen Lili'uokalani Festival

Showcasing the late monarch's love for music, this sixth annual event features music, games, crafts, hula halau, aerial floral drop, ethnic dance performances and local foods. Time is 10am-4pm at Lili'uokalani Park in Hilo. Shuttle bus service from Civic Auditorium parking lot to park. Admission free with an Aloha Festivals ribbon, 961-8706.



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Investiture photos
by Charles R. West

ROYAL INVESTI

SAT., AUG. 27 at NOON

When Hawaii's last reigning monarch, Queen Lili'uokalani, was dethroned in 1893, many believed the traditions of the centuries were lost. Fifty-four years later, Aloha Festivals installed its first royal court. Each year since, Hawaiians have stepped forward to serve as symbolic royalty. With strict adherence to protocol and authentic costumes, the Aloha Festivals Royal Court is a living, teaching tool.

A conch shell hushes the crowd to signal the arrival of the Aloha Festivals Royal Court. Towering kahili (feather standards) frame the procession of the cloaked king, his lei-bedecked queen and their attendants. The court's attire and actions are a historical reenactment of the entourages of Hawaiian ali'i (royalty).

The ceremony begins when the sun is at its zenith, the hour the ancient Hawaiians believed the sun would deliver full power to the crown of the king's head. The king receives the mahioli (helmet) and the queen is given the lei niho palaoa, a carved whale bone necklace shaped like a tongue.

Court members assume designated personae once dressed. Proper protocol dictates that one should never directly address – or step in front of – the king. Photos may be taken at designated breaks. All questions should be directed to the kalaimoku (king's counselor).

The first official event of the Aloha Festivals on the Big Island is the Royal Court investiture set at the historic rim of Halemaumau Crater at Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, traditional location for the investiture of island chiefs. It is wise to arrive at the crater rim by 11:30, or even earlier to see the programs at the Volcano Art Center.



Outfitting the Royal Court

A living, teaching tool, the Aloha Festivals Royal Court is a re-enactment of the entourages of ancient ali'i. The court pays tribute to the state host culture and presides at many Aloha Festivals events. Court members are volunteers of Hawaiian descent and chosen for their attitude in portraying their kupuna (ancestors).

Towering feather kahili standards are used to mark the king's presence similar to ancient times. The blowing of a conch shell announces the court's arrival and proper protocol followed. Court members include kahili bearer, chanter, a taboo (kapu) stick bearer, if spearsmen (who intercede if anyone gets too close to the king), chiefesses, ladies in waiting, princess, mo'i wahine (queen), mo'i (king) and

Mo'i Kaha Kai Souza, dressed in the Big Island's priceless handsewn yellow feather cape.



Arrive Early for Volcano Center Cultural Events

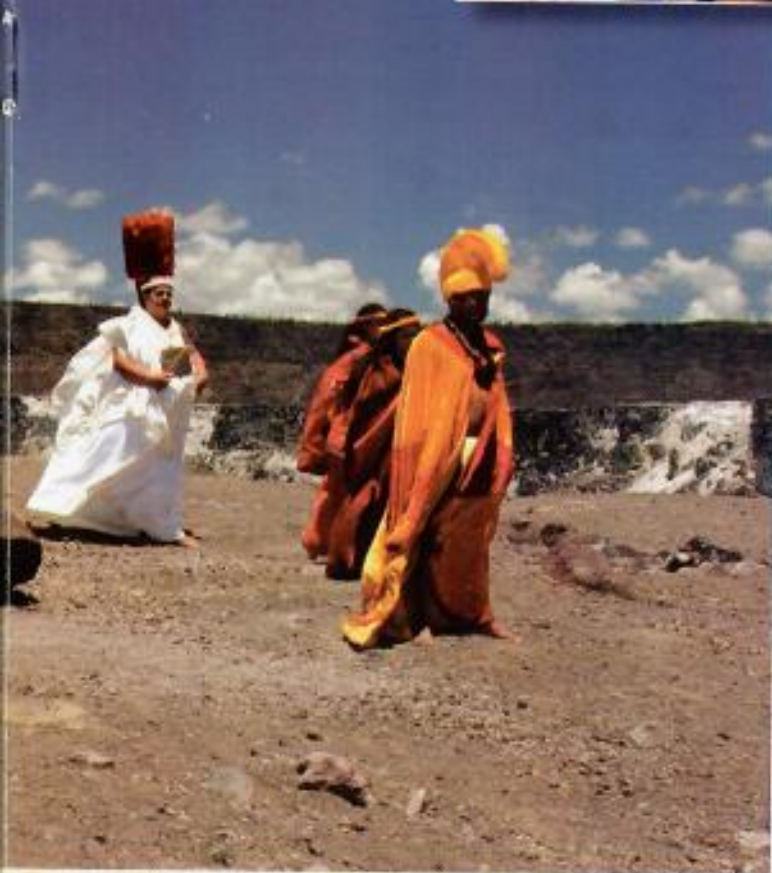
Hawaiian Arts and Crafts Cultural practitioners demonstrate and offer their crafts including ti leaf skirt and lei making at the Volcano Art Center Gallery at Hawaii Volcanoes National Park. 9:00am–2pm. Traditional hula and chant are staged outdoors at the Hula Pa next to the Volcano Art Center Gallery. Enjoy Hālau Hula Ka Makani Hali 'Ala O Puna ("The Returning Fragrant Winds of Puna"), under the direction of kumu hula Ehulani Stephany. 10–11am. Park admission waived with an Aloha Festivals ribbon. 967-7365. - Photo credit Dave Gallagher



URE SET AT VOLCANO'S RIM



2004 Mo'i Kaha Kai Souza receives the king's mahioli (helmet), while mo'i wahine Leialoha Hurwitz is given the lei niho palasa, a carved whale bone necklace.



kalmoku (counselor). Costumes are from pre-Western contact Hawai'i or the Victorian Kalakaua era of the mid-1800s. Court director Doreen Kama is in charge of costumes and accessories.

King's feather cloak

One accessory that stands out above the rest is the king's feather cloak, with each feather individually sews. It is yellow, the king's color since ancient times, and the cloak is the only one of its kind used during Aloha Festivals statewide.

"At first we only used it at the investiture, because it is so fragile," says Kama. "But we decided we wanted more people to see it and so we use it at different events."

According to Gloriann Akau, the cloak is about five feet long and was made by the mother-daughter team of Mary Lou Kekuewa and Paulette Kahalepuna, renown feather artists. "It was financed by the Hapuna Beach Prince Hotel for \$2,500," Akau explains. The cloak is reminiscent of the yellow feather capes made from the feathers of the extinct 'o'o (or mamo), a Hawaiian Honeycreeper. It was estimated that King Kamehameha's cloak took feathers from 80,000 mamo. Akau said this cloak is probably made of chicken feathers.

"It is a magnificent cloak and we are taking good care of it," stresses Kama. "The ladies who made it are Gloriann's cousins. They have said they'd charge \$50,000 to make another one!"

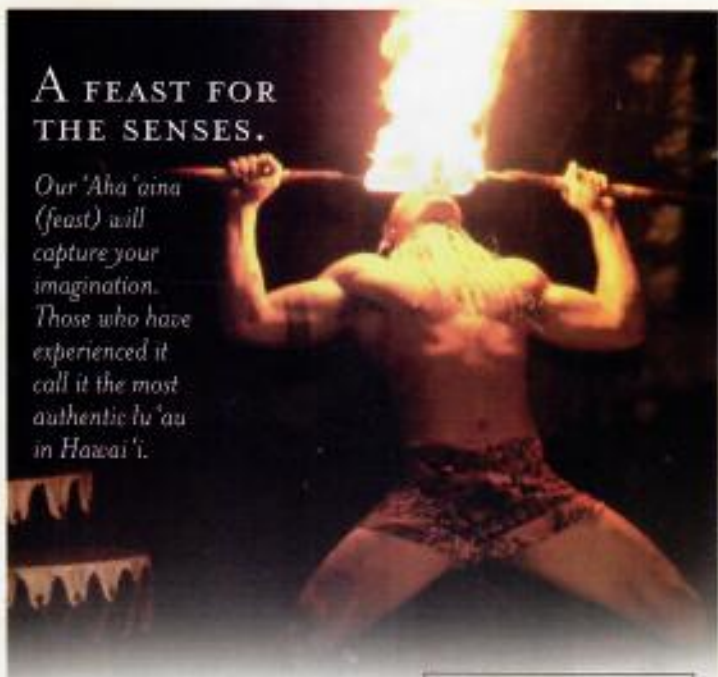


Dancers from Halau O Kekui of the Edith Kanaka'ole Foundation perform in the ancient kahiko hula style.



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Royal Court presides

A panel of judges chooses the Royal Court. Both king and queen must have Hawaiian ancestry. Others include the kalaimoku (court counselor), court director, queen mother, high chiefs and chieftesses, habili bearers, ike (spearmen), chanter, taboo stick bearers and warriors.

County fireman serves as Aloha Festivals mo'i

"I think it is a great opportunity to celebrate my heritage and Hawaiian culture," says Darren Kalani Kaleleiki, when asked about being the 2005 mo'i (king) of Aloha Festivals. "It's going to be different and yet a good thing to do."

Kaleleiki, who gets his Hawaiian heritage from his father, is new to Aloha Festivals. While most mo'i first serve in other royal court positions, Kaleleiki is starting off at the top. "He was willing and able to try, and we said we'd help him," says Gloriann Akau, Big Island Aloha Festivals manager. "He was serious, committed and changed his vacation so he could serve."

A firefighter and paramedic with the County of Hawaii, Kaleleiki works out of the Waimea Station and says the job has its rewards. "It's good to help people in need." Kaleleiki moved to the Big Island in 2000 after serving for nine years as a paramedic on Oahu. An alumni of Hawaii Baptist Academy, he and his wife Kawehi have two children.



Officially, Kaleleiki becomes festival mo'i at the investiture August 27 at Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. He looks at his reign as a period of discovery. "Being involved with Aloha Festivals is good for me to do. I will be able to get back (in time), to experience how our culture was." Kaleleiki adds



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The contest stages hula palua or a unique interactive couples-style of dance. Meaning "To come and dance, you and me, to come and dance together," E Hula Mai Kaua focuses on the interaction between the couple during the dance. Couples compete in age divisions: keiki, 'opio, makua and kupuna. Prizes are being awarded in each age division and one Overall Award is being given to the halau with the highest total combined scores.



ALOHA FESTIVALS 2005



For room reservation at the Outrigger KEAUHOU call (808) 322-3441.

Aloha Festivals events



The 2005 Big Island Royal Court members are from left: Keiki Ali'i (Prince) Keali'iae'akanaka'ole Tristram-Jordain Garmon, Kalaimoku (Counselor) Drake Kalani Pua, Mo'i Kane (King) Darren Kalani Kaleleiki, Mo'i Wahine (Queen) Naomi Leiola Garmon-Mitchell, Wahine Keiki (Princess) Amanda Marylynn Ka'i'inilokahi Andrade, and Lady-in-Waiting Cecelia Lokelani Block.

that he's curious about how Hawaii used to be, with its laws and protocol.

"There was a lot of respect for so many things, and that is so important," he explains. "We try to instill that importance in our children, that they must respect their elders and the land."

Kaleleiki's cousin, Drake Kalani Pua, serves as his kalaimoku (counselor). A sort of personal assistant, he helps the mo'i with his costume and receives gifts given to the royal court. Protocol dictates that it is kapu (forbidden) to address the king and instead, you should speak through the kalaimoku.

Investiture has special meaning for mo'i wahine

Serving as this year's mo'i wahine (queen) is Naomi Leiola Garmon-Mitchell. The Waimea resident gets her Hawaiian ancestry from her mother's side of the family; she is the granddaughter of Edith Kanaka'ole.

Garmon-Mitchell has served as a chiefess and lady-in-waiting in previous Aloha Festivals Royal Courts. Her family has been involved with Aloha Festivals for many years and her nephew, is this year's kamali'i kane (prince). She explains that his long name, Keali'iae'akanaka'ole Tristram-Jordain Garmon, honors the family's genealogy as he is named after several people.

"What's really special is that my family's halau (Halau O Kekuhi) dances at the investiture," she explains. "It will be an honor to have my family dance to us, in the court." Garmon-Mitchell adds that her mother, Ulu Kanaka'ole Garmon, regularly participated in the investiture as a chanter. "She chanted for the arrival of the new queen," she continues. "Mom retired last year and now my sister, Pua, is taking over and will chant for me."

The Honoka'a High School alum says she wanted to be queen "to honor Auntie Gloriann in her last year." (Akau is retiring this year as Big Island manager). "I've always believed that Auntie Gloriann is the queen."

Aside from Aloha Festivals, Gorman-Mitchell enjoys singing with the Honoka'a High School Alumni Ensemble that performs annually at the Honoka'a Peoples Theatre. She is married to Anthony Mitchell and enjoying time off after working 16 years in landscaping at the ancient Hawaiian fishponds at the Mauna Lani Resort.



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SUNDAY, AUGUST 28, 11 AM - 3 PM • Waimea

Paniolo fun, Hawaiian at Parker Ranch Center



Photo by Charles West

Parker Ranch

Two legendary Parker Ranch families – the Lindseys and the Kawamotos – will be represented at the second annual Parker Ranch Center Waimea Festival on August 28. The event officially opens the Big Island Aloha Festivals and debuts the 2005 Royal Court. The fun starts at 11 a.m. and admission is free.

The Waimea Festival is an interactive and living showcase that features an array of exhibits, demonstrations, fun activities, entertainment and Big Island vendors in the areas of performing arts, crafts, food, games and conservation. The Festival also includes novel activities that highlight Waimea as the “birthplace” of the Hawaiian paniolo and the home for world-class industries such as astronomy and agriculture.

Giving the paniolo his due, Waimea Fest has Hawaiian-style cowboy activities and entertainment headquartered near the larger-than-life Ikua Purdy statue at Parker Ranch Center. Falsetto singer Leabert Lindsey and his Paniolo Band headline the Paniolo Stage at noon. Get out your chaps and lei papale for the Parker Ranch Store Best-Dressed Paniolo Contest—all ages are welcome and competition is at 12:45 p.m. Win cash or Parker Ranch Store gift certificates.

The Tropical Expressions Line Dance Team, directed by Violet Ray, takes the



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Photo: Michael Darden

Photo by Charles West

Left, Living Treasure Aunty Elizabeth Maluiki Le demonstrates Iauhala weaving. Above, MC Vaughn Kalawa encourages little contender in the Parker Ranch Store Best-Dressed Paniolo Contest.

activities, astronomy Waimea Festival



The 2005 Royal Court makes its first official appearance at Sunday's Waimea Festival. Enjoy line dancing performances, and learn how, too. Romance is always a possibility with this paniolo!

"floor" at 1:15 p.m. for some boot-scootin' boogie. Feet will fly when Ray and husband Bill, national award-winning dancers and former promoters of the Desert Sands Dance Festival in Las Vegas, dance a tricky two-step. Ray vows to make a Tush Pusher out of you during lessons for two lines: Big Time and Cotton-Eyed Joe.

Alvin Kawamoto, fifth-generation saddle maker, demonstrates his time-honored art and displays saddles from various islands. Kawamoto constructs saddles that incorporate the functions and decorative elements of distinct locales. A member of the Dry Creek Arts Fellowship, Kawamoto participated this summer in the invitational, juried exhibition and Paniolo Project at the 16th Trappings of the American West in Flagstaff.

Learn more about paniolo at exhibits by the Hawaii Cattleman's Association's Paniolo Hall of Fame and talk story with author Dr. Billy Bergin of the Paniolo Preservation Society. Free, succulent beef tastings, expertly prepared on-location, are provided by the Hawaii Beef Industry Council.

Enjoy food samplings at cooking demonstrations by top chefs in the Parker



Photo by Charles West

Carving photo: Michael Darden

Where's the beef? The Hawaiian Beef Industry Council has the answer...and tastings are free!

Ranch Center Fireside Food Court. The lineup for the culinary exhibition is Food Land Corporate Chef Keoni Chang at noon, Chef de Cuisine John Matsubara of the CanoeHouse at the Mauna Lani Bay Hotel and Bangalows and Daniel Thiebaut, owner of the Waimea restaurant of the same name.

Main stage entertainment lineup

After a blessing by Rev. Abraham Mahi of Ke Ola Mau Loa Church, the arrival of the 2005 Big Island Royal Court opens entertainment on the main stage across from Blockbuster Video. Big Island Aloha Festivals Manager Gloriann Akau is presenting long-time parade organizer Lani Olsen with this year's



Sonny Lim & Friends and Brittni Paiva (above) appear on the main stage, joined by Leabert Lindsey, Sam Kama, and 'Apopo O Na Kamalii'. Skylark Rossetti MCs.

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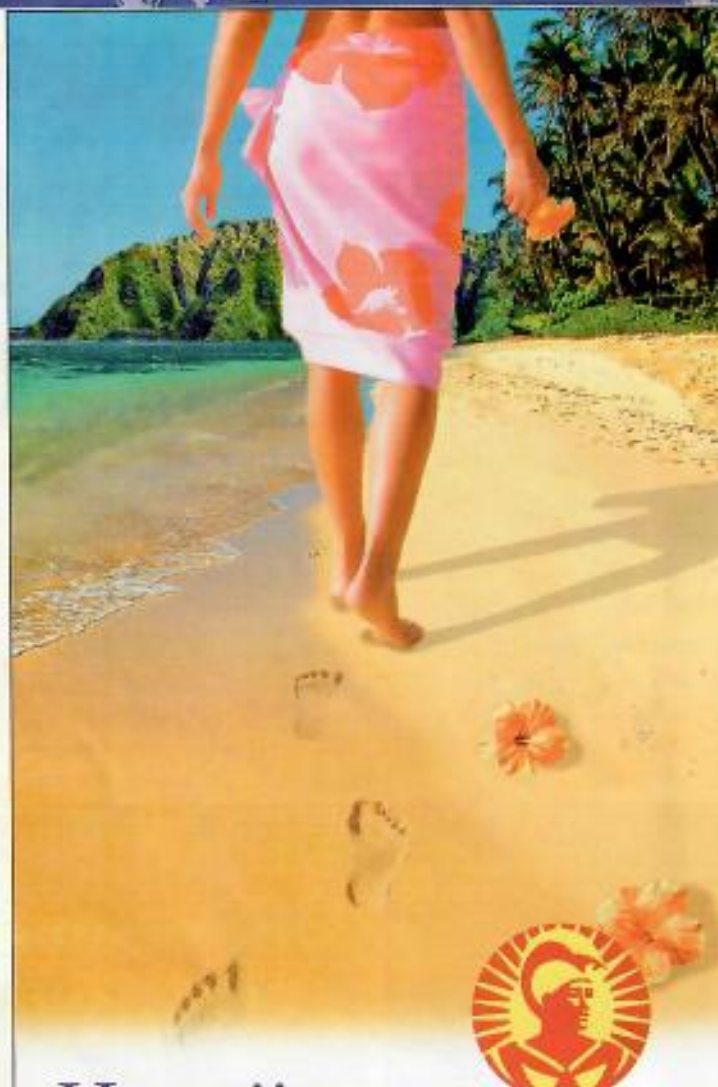
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volunteer award: Ka Pua Mae'ole, The Flower That Never Wilt (see p 12-13).

Emcee Skylark Rossetti mans the mike for a top-notch show that features Sam Kama and 'Apopo O Na Kamali'i, Na Hoku winner and teen sensation Brittni Paiva and a Hawaiian performance by Leabert Lindsey. Sonny Lim & Friends take the stage at 2:15 p.m. and Grammy-winner Lim promises to perform new songs from his soon-to-be released CD on Palm Records.

Aloha Festivals is selling ribbons and merchandise at the Waimea Festival and participating Parker Ranch Center merchants are offering select discounts to ribbon wearers. For an official Waimea Festival program, complete with a listing of Parker Ranch Center merchants offering discounts, stop by the Aloha Festivals ribbon table just outside the Fireside Food Court.

The 121,000 square-foot Parker Ranch Center is located on Mamalahoa Hwy. 19 in the heart of Waimea. For info, 329-0833.



Waimea Fest Roundup

Catch these special features at the festival

Hands-on activities offer fun for the entire family

Numerous artisans are demonstrating authentic Hawaiian crafts and life skills throughout the Parker Ranch Center Waimea Festival. They include master weaver Sam Kama and hula halau 'Apopo O Na Kamali'i, coconut weaving and fern haku lei making; George Place, ohe kapala (bamboo stamping), Thomas Barboza, wood carving and P. Heke, ti leaf roses and lei. Learn four styles of lei making with Mabel Tolentino and how to craft a lei kupe'e (wrist garland) using native materials with Lu Winn.

Ka Hui Kapa 'Apana O Waimea offers free lessons on the echo-style of Hawaiian quilting that includes a free pattern giveaway. In addition, there are numerous vendors selling authentic Hawaiian crafts, wood-turned bowls, war weapons, hooks, shell jewelry and much more.

Traditional plants and speciality orchids

Peter Van Dyke of the Amy B.H. Greenwell Ethnobotanical Garden presents a display on the traditional uses of plants by Hawaiians while Moku Wai Piko Poi exhibits the huli (plant stalks) of different varieties of taro. Oodles of orchids can be had from Kamuela Specialty Orchids.

Learn to love the honu

In conjunction with this year's Aloha Festivals' theme focusing on the honu, the Waimea festival offers marine conservation activities and displays for family fun. Keiki can "go fishing" at the University of Hawaii Sea Grant's Fish for Knowledge Booth or enjoy a puppet show presented by West Hawai'i Explorations Academy. Students of Hawaii Preparatory Academy offer an exhibit on their sea turtle research program while Malamapoko'i of the Kanu O Ka 'Aina Learning Center provides games using natural materials for keiki ages 3-6.



Gateways to the heavens

Five astronomy centers are bringing interactive fun and educational displays to Waimea Fest. They include W.M. Keck Observatory, Canada-France-Hawaii Telescope, UH Institute for Astronomy and The Onizuka Space Center. The Ellison Onizuka Center for International Astronomy Visitor Information Station offers keiki coloring activities and hands-on telescope mirror grinding.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 7 PM Hawaii Naniloa Resort, Hilo

Ms. Aloha Nui Pageant crowns hostess with the mostess

Photographs by Charles R. West

This year's pageant for the "hostess with the mostess" moves to Hilo where it originated, and the Hawaii Nani Loa Resort. Aloha Nui means "big aloha" and this competition is open to gals weighing at least 200 pounds. Originally called the Mrs. "BIG" Big Island contest, the event is in its 13th year and recognizes that "big is beautiful."

"In ancient Hawai'i, women were recognized for their weight," explains Gloriann Akau, Big Island

Aloha Festivals manager. "The heavier, the prettier. It was culturally correct to be big and it made sense for the statuesque Hawaiian."

The pageant will be honored with an appearance by the Royal Court. Entrants compete in four divisions: talent, evening aloha attire, interview and another fashion segment. Admission with ribbon: \$10 advance, \$12 at door. \$15 without ribbon. The fun begins at 7 pm September 3. 896-0323



Roana Mae Kaiwi of Hilo was crowned 2004 Ms. Aloha Nui. Below, The evening sported many impromptu hula performances, both in the lobby and on stage. As judges deliberated, many felt moved to perform, including members of the 2004 Royal Court, the *kalaimoku*, mo'i *Kaha Kai Souza* and dad *Frank Souza*, who served as *kahuna nui*, the court's chief counselor.



Above, pageant director *Lei Souza* starts a flood of floral tributes to the outgoing 2003 Ms. Aloha Nui, *Mabel Tolentino*.

Ms. Aloha Nui contestants included, center, talent winner *Malani Subiono*; L to R, *Cecelia Kaiona Eblacas* (second runner up), *Mary Kana'i Tegman*, *Pearl Kapuahala Whitehawk-Noveras* (first runner up), *Lenora England*.



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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 4 - 9 pm

New location this year: Outrigger Keauhou Beach Resort

Couples hula offers cash for top prize

The third annual "E Hula Mai Kaula" Couples Hula Competition is seeking the "best" hula palua (couple) in the state of Hawaii, according to Nani Lim Yap, event founder. The overall win takes home \$2,500.

This year, the competition moves to the Lu'au Gardens of the Outrigger Keauhou Beach Resort and is 4-9 p.m. September 9; admission is free.

Meaning "to come and dance, you and me, to come and dance together," E Hula Mai Kaula focuses on the interaction between the couple during the dance. Hula palua is a couple's hula; or a male and female dancing together. E Hula Mai Kaula has two divisions: Hula Pa Palua, solo couple or Hula Hui Palua, group couples. All performances will be in the hula 'auana or modern hula style.

"This is the first competition dedicated solely to hula palua and its popularity is growing," she explains. "Selected hula halau from across the state, as well as internationally, are invited to participate."

Entrants are competing for trophies and cash prizes in four age groups: keiki, ages 8-12; 'optio, ages 13-21; makua, ages 22-50 and kupuna, ages 51 and older. The overall winner is the hula pa palua (solo hula couple) with the highest score earned from any age category. For more info, 883-9005.



SAT. SEPT. 10, 10 AM - 2 PM
Kea'au Shopping Center

Puna Festival of Aloha

An oli and hula by Halau Hula Ka Makani Hali Ala O Puna brings Hawaiian performing arts to Kea'au Shopping Center for the Puna Festivals of Aloha.

The halau opens the 10 a.m.-2 p.m. event on Sept. 10 that stages Hawaiian entertainment, arts and crafts, a plant sale and free keiki craft activities. Puna Fresh Foods offers free samples of locally grown products and sells Aloha Festivals ribbons. Wear your ribbon and be eligible for lucky drawing prizes throughout the day.

Enjoy live music featuring slack key and uke player Keiki Kahumoku (who played on the Grammy winning *Slack Key Guitar, Vol. 2*), Volcano songwriter Howard Shapiro, and other guests. Shapiro will sing from his chart-topping "We are 'Ohana: Songs of Hope" and his upcoming CD. 933-9772 for info.



Howard Shapiro



Photo by Charles West

SATURDAY, SEPT. 10, NOON-7 PM • Waikoloa Kings Shops

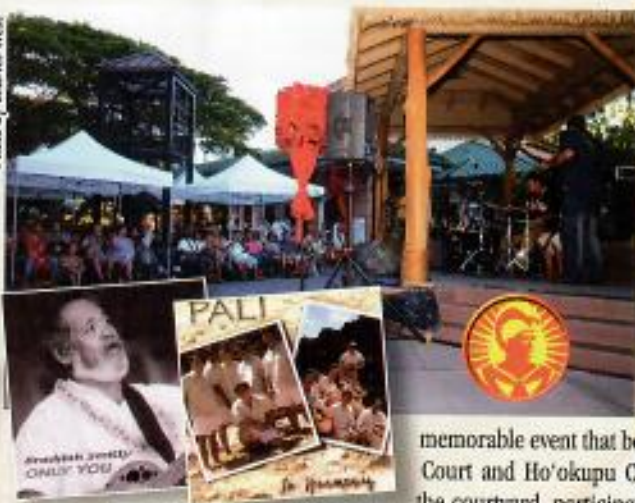
12th annual Great Waikoloa Ho'olaule'a

Waikoloa Beach Resort celebrates Hawaii's rich cultural heritage with this

memorable event that begins with the procession of the Royal Court and Ho'okupu Ceremony at 11:30 am. Throughout the courtyard, participate in a fantastic mix of Hawaiian arts and crafts such as coconut and ipu (gourd) painting, lei making, wood carving, petroglyph rubbings, and Hawaiian games.

The entertainment lineup includes hula performance at noon, Braddah Smitty at 1 pm, No Kupuna 'O Kona Ali'i at 2 pm, Aulain's Hula Halau at 3 pm, and 4-6 pm Pali.

The legendary Braddah Smitty learned from and played with the likes of Sonny Chillingworth, Mike Malanui, Gabby Pahinui, Eddy Palama, and The Sons of Hawaii. Pali brings a more contemporary slant to Hawaiian music, with four-and-five part vocal harmonies. Their *In Harmony* CD won the Hawaii Music Award for "Contemporary Album" in 2005.



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2004's winner Matthew Kupuka 'a in white shirt with proud family. Big Island Festival Manager Gloriann Akau is left.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 7 pm • Hapuna Beach Prince Hotel

Kindy Sproat Falsetto and Storytelling Contest

*Falsetto and Poke Photos
by Charles R. West*



Vying for a recording contract, contestants throw their voices into the upper registers of the musical scale to vie in this popular Aloha Festivals event. In its 14th year, the Kindy Sproat Falsetto and Storytelling Contest laid the groundwork for other similar Aloha Festival contests on O'ahu, Maui and finally this year, on Kaua'i.

Kindy Sproat and wife Cindy enjoy the performances. Vaughn Kalawy, upper right, placed second; third was won by Bill Wynn of New Jersey. Hear last year's winners on Hula Records's new *Falsetto Winners, Vol. 6 CD*.

Besides singing in falsetto, Aloha Festivals contestants tell the story of their chosen song. It could be info on when it was written or tell about the events or inspiration surrounding the mele's composition. Participants have the option to tell the story in Hawaiian or English, and a prize is also given for the best use of Hawaiian.

The contest honors internationally celebrated singer-storyteller Clyde "Kindy" Sproat of Hawi. In 1988 Sproat received a National Heritage Fellowship Award by the National Endowment for the Arts. Reserved for America's top folk artists, Sproat has since performed at numerous folk art festivals and Carnegie Hall.

Since last year's contest, Hula Records has released an album by Kindy titled *Na Mele Kupuna*. "When I'm singing a song, I'm singing a story," he shares. "Storytelling is as important as the singing. It provides a precious glimpse of the time, event, love, or heartbreak that inspired the writer. These cherished stories will slip away if not repeated often by the singers."

Due to construction at the Waikoloa Beach Marriott, the Kindy Sproat Falsetto and Storytelling Contest relocates this year to the Hapuna Beach Prince Hotel. Time is 7 p.m. on Friday, September 10. Call 880-1111.



**SATURDAY & SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10 - 11
Hapuna Beach Prince Hotel**

Weekend celebrates Poke

Poke Golf Shoot-Out Invitational. Tee off is Sat Saturday at this zany golf journey that benefits Kawaihae Transitional Housing. Fee, 880-1111.

Aloha Festivals Poke Contest

Entrants vie in numerous poke culinary categories for a purse of \$15,000 in cash and prizes. After the contest, the public is free to sample this Hawaiian raw fish appetizer. Ham at the Hapuna Beach Prince Hotel. For info on contest entries and public admission, 880-8111 or see www.PokeContest.com



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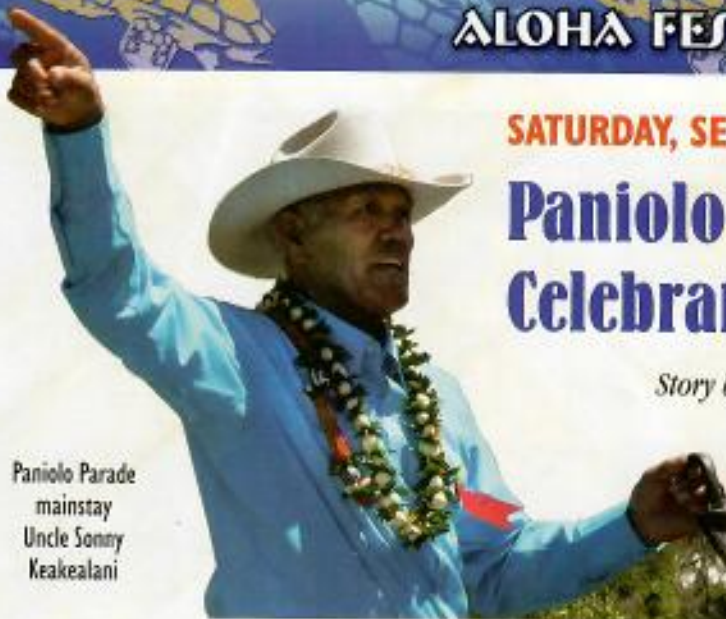
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 AT 10 AM • Waimea



Paniolo Parade: 30th year Celebrating Big Island horsemen

Story by Fern Gavelek, 2004 Parade Photos by Carol Wright

Paniolo Parade
mainstay
Uncle Sonny
Keakealani



C o-sponsored this year by Parker Ranch Center, the 2005 Aloha Festivals Paniolo Parade celebrates its 30th anniversary. All former Aloha Festivals kings and queens have been invited to ride in the parade, which steps off 10 a.m. from Church Row and proceeds to Waimea Park for an all-day ho'olaule'a.

Parade coordinator Lani Olsen-Chong shares, "This year's Grand Marshal, Alfred 'Sonny' Berdon, has been an ocean-going person for many years with his Ali'i Kai boat business." The Grand Marshal and Ambassador of Aloha are chosen in conjunction with the annual Aloha Festivals' theme. This year's theme, "Na Honu Hawai'i" focuses on the honu and ocean conservation (see sidebar below and related stories on page 10-11).

The Aloha Festivals Paniolo Parade is characterized by colorful pa'u equestrian units. Horses and riders are adorned with coordinating lei representing the materials and colors of each island; for example, the Big Island is represented by the red pom-pom flowers of the lehua blossom. An equestrian paige carries a sign announcing the pa'u contingent made up of a princess, attendants and gaily costumed "pooper scoopers."

The pa'u skirt recalls the days when female riders sported long skirts to protect their clothes. Traditionally, seven kukui nuts are placed at the waistline to hold up the drapes of the skirt's 16 yards of fabric.

For more on the parade, see Lani Olsen-Chong's mahalo story on page 5.



A paniolo from the Oahu unit cares for his banner. See other paniolo lei hats at the Lei Hat Contest, 9am-2pm at Parker Ranch Center's Fireside Food Court. Right, a pa'u rider representing the Big Island dismounts, with no help from wind. The skirts are reputed to be 16 yards long.

Ladies from the Ka'ahumanu Society (named for wife of Kamehameha I, known to wear lei of yellow honeycreeper feathers) wait to present their ho'okupu to the Royal Court while a pa'u rider hands his offering to the kalaimoku (Counselor).

Below left to right: lady-in-waiting chants; 2004 Mo'i Kaha Kai Souza; and his father Frank Souza as Kahuna Nui (Chief Counselor), overseer of all.



This year's parade honors all of all previous Royal Courts.



This pa'u rider represents the Big Island. Inset, keiki dancers from Halau O Po'ohala dance under the direction of Kumu Hula Hulali Covington.



Islands' Pau Riders and Paniolos

Each island is represented by the island's flower and color, and each pa'u rider "princess" is attended by an equestrian page carrying a banner, a paniolo cowboy, and ladies in waiting.

- Red / lehua from 'ohia tree: Big Island
- Green / kukui: Molokai
- Yellow / ilima blossoms: Oahu
- Pink / lokelani rose: Maui
- Orange / kaunaba: Lanai
- Purple / mokihana: Kauai
- Gray or blue / hina hina: Kaho'olawe
- White or brown / pupu o ni'ihau: Ni'ihau



And following the parade

... a Ho'olaule'a



Food & treats for all. These keiki enjoy shaved ice from Auntie Peaches' Ono-licious Poi Balls booth.

Two large tents offer Hawaiian arts and crafts.

Big Island Ambassadors of Aloha have ties to sea

There are two Big Island Ambassadors of Aloha in 2005: Marc Rice of Hawaii Preparatory Academy and Pi'i Laeha. Rice and his students (shown below) assist NOAA biologist George Balazs in various honu research and tagging projects.

Laeha is manager of the fish ponds at the Mauna Lani Bay Hotel & Bungalows where hatchlings from Sea Life Park are nurtured and studied until they are large enough to be released and tagged at the annual July 4th Turtle Independence Day (see stories pages 6-7). HPA students offer a presentation about their turtle project at Waimea Fest (see page 22).



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WED. & THURS., SEPT. 21-22, Kailua-Kona



Kupuna Hula Festival

Photos by Carol Wright

It's all fun during the annual Kupuna Hula Festival—an Aloha Festivals event coordinated by the Elderly Activities Division of Hawaii County's Parks and Recreation. At press time in late July, the \$10 tickets were almost sold out, according to Lynn Kunitake (left) of the division's Special Programs Office. She says that 19 senior halau are participating in 2005 and each gets a "fair share" of the seating, with overflow enjoying the performances via largescreen in the lobby.



The Sept. 21-22 event is annually at King Kamehameha's Kona Beach Hotel and attendees are required to wear an Aloha Festivals ribbon.

The Kupuna Hula Festival stages solo performances on Wednesday and finishes with group competition and awards on Thursday. There's also non-competitive, internationally-themed performances, a Royal Court appearance, plus arts, crafts and skill demonstrations. Info, 322-1812.

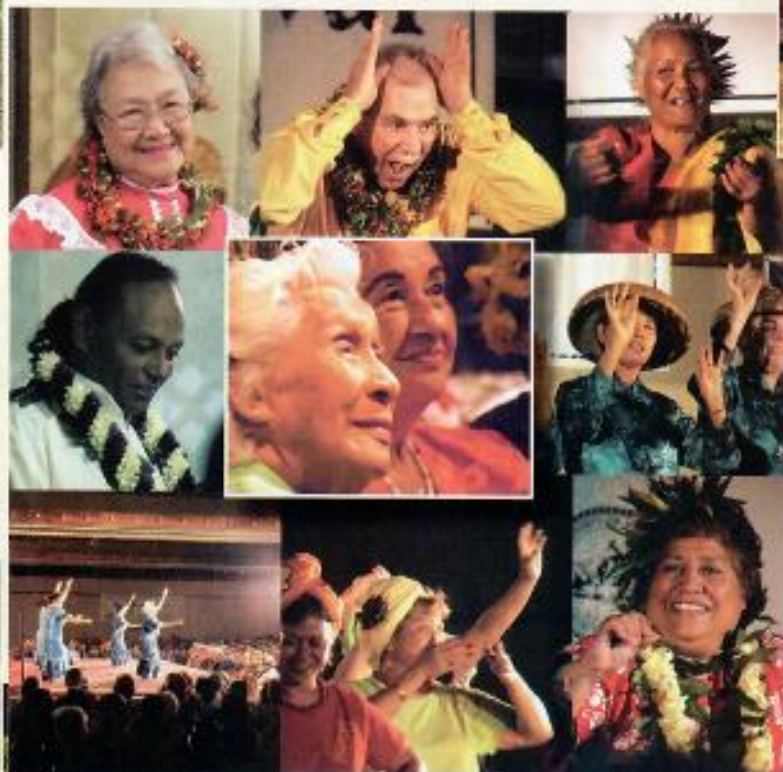


Paniolo spirit garnered Ke Ola Pono No Na Kupuna first place in the Mixed Group division. Left, Waimea's Mabel Tolentino ties one on and holds official bustle inspection.



Right, kumu hula George Naope greets Tiki Hartman, who studied with the Merrie Monarch founder in Honolulu in the 1950s. She later toured the world as a hula dancer.

The festival's MC, KAPA DJ Tommy "Kahikina" Ching (below center), was often targeted for good natured ribbing. Below right, Lani Tiki Lee (Tiki Hartman's daughter), instructor of Na Kupuna 'O Kona Alii of Kailua-Kona, entertains the audience with her bantering interchange



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**SATURDAY,
SEPTEMBER, 24
4:30-10 pm Hilo**

KWXX Downtown Hilo Ho'olaule'a

Sudden Rush & Opihi Pickers are just two of the many bands performing live on three stages at the 12th annual ho'olaule'a in downtown Hilo.



Sprawling along Kamehameha Avenue in Downtown Hilo, this 12th annual block party boasts three entertainment stages, arts and crafts and food booths. "Last year we had a crowd of over 15,000," says organizer Chris Leonard of KWXX Radio. "We'll have between 15 to 20 bands performing island music." The lineup at press time is Nuffseid, Opihi Pickers, Kekai Boyz, Sudden Rush, Lopaka, Panaewa and Mixjah. Free, the ho'olaule'a is 4:30-10 p.m. Sept. 24 and the fun stretches from Waiannuene Avenue to Mamo Street. Phone KWXX for info, 935-5461.

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25
10AM - 4PM Hilo**

Queen Lili'uokalani Festival

Showcasing the late monarch's love for music, this sixth annual event features hula halau, aerial flower drop, ethnic dance performances and local foods. The queen bequeathed the land for public use; the Japanese garden was built to honor the Japanese immigrant sugar plantation workers.

The festival runs from 10am-4pm at Lili'uokalani Park in Hilo. Shuttle bus service to and from Civic Auditorium parking lot is free, and festival admission free with an Aloha Festivals ribbon, 961-8706.



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Hawaiian sea turtles journey 'home'

by George Balazs, NOAA

The green turtle (*Chelonia mydas*), called honu in Hawaiian, can frequently be seen feeding on marine plants in shallow coastal waters. Following decades of over-exploitation, the population has now shown encouraging signs of recovery after receiving protection in 1978 under the U.S. Endangered Species Act. Elsewhere in the Pacific and worldwide green turtles continue to be threatened with extinction from excessive hunting for food, including commercial use.

As adults, green turtles in Hawaii migrate once every 2-5 years across hundreds of miles of open ocean to breed at isolated French Frigate Shoals (24 °N, 166 °W), the mid-point of our island chain. During the summer months, females come ashore at night to excavate nests and deposit eggs in the sandy islets at this special location. In the daytime, both the adult male and female turtles bask peacefully in the sun along the shoreline.

Newly hatched turtles emerge from underground nests after the eggs incubate for about two months. The hatchlings then swim to sea and drift at the surface in oceanic currents where they feed on small invertebrate animals. After growing to dinner-plate size, they show up mainly in the near shore island waters extending from the Big Island to Niihau. Here they graze on algae and seagrass and sleep on the bottom under protective coral ledges.

As vegetarians, green turtles grow slowly taking more than two decades to reach an adult breeding size of 200 pounds or more. Although numbers have clearly increased during recent years, green turtles living at certain areas in Hawaii continue to be threatened by a disease that forms fibrous growths on the eyes, neck, flippers and mouth. A mysterious virus that only affects sea turtles is believed to be the cause of this often fatal affliction. Research is underway to find ways to prevent or control the disease.

The hawksbill (*Eretmochelys imbricata*), or honu'ea, is also native to Hawaii, but there are very few of these critically endangered turtles remaining. Nesting occurs on several small, unprotected sand beaches on the Big Island, Maui, Molokai and Oahu. A recent study, using earth-orbiting satellites to track hawksbills, suggests that the adults nesting at Kamehame, in the Ka'u district of Hawaii, live on the opposite side of the island along the rugged Hamakua coast. Hawksbills are known to feed heavily on sponges, an invertebrate that is toxic to most other animals. Sometimes hawksbills themselves are poisonous when people eat them.

THE JOURNEY HOME — Photo by renowned Big Island Wildlife Photographer Victoria McCormick. In the summertime when the sun is at its highest, some adult female Hawaiian green sea turtles and most of the males begin their ocean journey back to the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands' nesting sites. Some swim as far as 800 miles or more in their pilgrimage to complete the journey of the Honu. Visit www.victoriacormick.com for more honu images.

The leatherback turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*) is a regular visitor to Hawaii's offshore waters, but does not nest on our beaches. The leatherback is the world's largest turtle and can weigh up to 2000 lbs. Leatherbacks seen in Hawaii are thought to originate from breeding sites in Mexico, Costa Rica, or Malaysia.

Sea turtles have always been a traditional part of the Hawaiian culture, as elsewhere throughout Polynesia and other islands of the Pacific. Hawaiian legend relates that a mystical turtle named Kauila makes her home at Punaluu Bay on the Big Island. Kauila could transform herself into human form and watch over the children as they played along the shore. The people in this region are said to have loved Kauila as their guardian, and for her spring of pure drinking water that flowed into the bay. Even today, some people of Hawaiian heritage revere sea turtles as their amakua, or personal family deity.

Turtle watching as a part of eco-tourism has become an increasingly popular activity, second only to whale watching. Dive tour operators frequently promote sea turtles as the major attraction of underwater sightseeing. Watching turtles from shore has also become popular, even from high rise hotels.



The mystical turtle named Kauila makes her home at Punaluu Bay on the Big Island. Kauila could transform herself into human form and watch over the children as they played along the shore.

Painting by Herb Kane

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