



# Cooper Center's Volcano Community News



NEWSLETTER #431

AUGUST 2025

All newsletter submissions MUST be in by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month. Ads placed must provide us with snail mail addresses or ad will not be placed. This Volcano Community News, published by Cooper Center Council, will reinstitute the requirement that ALL submission must be in a digital format. We will not digitize a hand written submission for anyone. If you need help digitizing an unclassified, or article, Cooper Center offers that service.

## Notice of Temporary Closure of Cooper Center

The Cooper Center will be closed from **August 17–23, 2025** for essential maintenance and deep cleaning. During this time, **all programs, workshops, markets, and events—including the book and thrift store will be cancelled/closed.** If you are interested in volunteering to assist with painting, cleaning, or pressure washing, please contact us at [cooper-centercouncil@gmail.com](mailto:cooper-centercouncil@gmail.com). Thank you for your understanding and support as we care for our shared community space."



above: Jane and Paul Field



## \*\*\* Volunteer Highlight of the Month

Paul & Jane Field:  
A Partnership of Purpose

Since making Volcano their home in January 2012, Paul and Jane Field have embodied the spirit of community service. Even before their arrival, they intended to volunteer at Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park, and they followed through without hesitation. More than a decade later, they still dedicate a combined 20 hours per week at the park.

But their generosity extends far beyond the park grounds.

Paul and Jane have been a vital part of our Cooper Center's Food Pantry Program, regularly assisting with monthly food bag distribution. Previously, they lent their time washing dishes with Friends Feeding Friends. Their commitment extends to many other local efforts as well, including the Volcano Rotary, Volcano Emergency Response Team, and Volcano Community Association, where they continue to serve in active and supportive roles. They also contribute their time and talents to the Art Center and share their voices in their church choir.

Their approach to volunteering is as seamless as their partnership—supporting each other while giving back with intention, compassion, and heart.

## Back-To-School Event

Date: August 2, 2025

Time: 8:00am-2:00pm

Location: The Village Church Volcano  
19-4276 Wright Rd, Volcano 96785



The Village Church Volcano invites students Preschool through 12<sup>th</sup> grade to a fun, free Back-to-School event! Join us for school supplies, backpack decorating, free clothing, and more - while supplies last!

If you would like to help, we are accepting donations of school supplies, new or lightly used clothing, and/or monetary gifts to support kiei in our community. Every backpack, pencil and prayer will make a difference. Contact The Village Church Volcano at [tvcvolcano@gmail.com](mailto:tvcvolcano@gmail.com)

Let's start the new school year strong-together in faith and love!

see Volunteer on page 3

## Volcano Newsletter News Submissions

All submissions must be by email, ads, articles, and unclassifieds to Linda Ugalde [kilaueatutu@gmail.com](mailto:kilaueatutu@gmail.com), on or before the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to month it's being submitted for. All ads must also give us their snail mail address for invoicing. Articles for non regular submissions may not be over 300 words. For additional information email me or call 808-936-9705. No calls after 5pm.

Volcano Community News (VCN) is not responsible for errors in submitted articles, that is the responsibility of the submitter.

## Advertising

Ads: 1½" x 2½" \$40.00 per month, with 6 month pre-payment 10% reduction (\$216) in unchanged ad. For 2½" square ads it's \$60. per month. For 6 months 10% reduction (\$324). Back page (2½" square) is \$70 per month and \$378 for 6 months. Rates for larger ads on request. Ads are placed as submitted. It is not our job to change or fix an ad. Must be submitted in the size requested. Minimum resolution for ads is 300 dpi. Ad and payment must be received by the 10<sup>th</sup>. Clearly state if ad is being run for 1 month or if it's going to be longer. Again payment must be made by the 10<sup>th</sup> or ad will be pulled.

Checks for ads should be made out to **Cooper Center Council**, and mailed to:

P.O. Box 1000  
Volcano, HI 96785,

and identify ad that's being paid for.

The "Voice" on pages 6 & 7 is produced with full editorial license by Volcano Community Association, not Cooper Center Council.

Editor: Linda L. Ugalde  
Layout & Design by  
Kipuka Graphics

## UNCLASSIFIEDS

\*\*\*\*\*

**Room for Rent:** Retired Senior seeking roommate for daily companionship. Single bedroom with shared bathroom available in Royal Hawaiian Estates. Room has private entrance through its own lanai; shared kitchen and living room. Ideally seeking another retired individual. Please call (808)-985-9288 or call/text (808)-631-1292 for more information.

\*\*\*\*\*

**FOR SALE:** Kenmore High Efficiency Washer Energy Star, incl. Hot/Cold H2O hook up & drainage hoses. Please call Auntie Frances at 808-985-8646 & leave name, number, & message.



### WE NEED YOUR HELP

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO  
PET, PLAY WITH OR WALK SHELTER DOGS  
IN THE VOLCANO, HI AREA



EMAIL FOR INFO:  
[DOGS@A4AHAWAII.COM](mailto:DOGS@A4AHAWAII.COM)

[WWW.ACTION4ANIMALSHAWAII.COM](http://WWW.ACTION4ANIMALSHAWAII.COM)

Holistic Design embracing  
Interior & Exterior environments



## LUCERO INTERIORS

RESIDENTIAL > WELLNESS > RESORT

Jule Lucero, NCIDQ, IIDA, WELL & LEED AP  
808.807.4221  
[jule@lucerointeriors.com](mailto:jule@lucerointeriors.com)

## Worship Services & Meditation Groups

\*\*\*\*\*

Catholic Sunday Mass  
St. Theresa's in Mt. View  
5:30 pm on Saturday  
10:00 am on Sunday

\*\*\*\*\*

New Hope Christian Fellowship  
Hilo Side of Akatsuka Orchids  
Sunday Svc. 8:30am  
Pastor Ray Glory, Jr.  
Pastor Jason Morton  
[newhopevolcano.com](http://newhopevolcano.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

The Village Church  
Sunday Service at 10 am  
Wednesday Bible Study 6:30 pm  
19-4276 Wright Rd  
Volcano, HI 96785  
email: [tvcvolcano@gmail.com](mailto:tvcvolcano@gmail.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

Society of Friends (Quakers)  
Royal Hawaiian Estates  
Every Sunday at 2 pm  
new phone # 808-443-9202

\*\*\*\*\*

The Baha'i Faith / Mauna Loa Est.  
6-7 pm Tuesdays  
All are welcome! 551-6329

\*\*\*\*\*

The Unitarian-Universalists of Puna  
10:30 am Sundays in HPP  
Call: 967-7295 for a ride.

\*\*\*\*\*

Hale Lokahi 'Elua  
Mini Retreat every Sunday  
In person at 19-3856  
Old Volcano Rd.  
On Zoom at 10:30 a.m  
call (808) 756-0439

\*\*\*\*\*

Volcano Insight Meditation Group  
Mary Grace Orr, teacher  
10 AM Sundays, on Zoom  
Monthly in person at VAC  
for info and link, email:  
[mgrace.orr@gmail.com](mailto:mgrace.orr@gmail.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

Family of Faith  
Church of the Nazarene  
18-1325 Old Volcano Rd - Mt View  
Sunday Worship @ 9 am  
(808) 491-8413

## Rainfall in Inches for the Month of May 2025

<b>Volcano Golf Course</b> data collected by Janis Hamersma	<b>2.28</b>
<b>Volcano Village</b> data collected by Jim Bush	<b>5.68</b>
<b>Mauna Loa Est.</b> data collected by JJ Jasinski	<b>5.20</b>
<b>Royal Hawn Est.</b> data collected by Tom Pico	<b>8.45</b>
<b>Fern Forest</b> data collected by Drew Kapp	<b>10.45</b>
<b>Ohia Estates</b> data collected by Phil Haysmer	<b>8.47</b>

# Volcano Rotary August 2025



## Busted! Let's dispel some myths about Rotary

Many people still have some outdated ideas about Rotary. So it's time to do a little myth-busting

**Myth 1** – Rotary is for men only. Actually, this used to be true. But after years of advocacy, the organization began admitting women in 1989, and almost half the members are women now

**Myth 2** – Rotary is for old people. It's true that our Volcano membership tends to skew toward retirees, but we've got more energy than a lot of younger people we know.

**Myth 3** – You have to attend every week. There are no attendance requirements, and in Volcano we only have two official meetings a month. Attendance is not taken.

**Myth 4** – It's only for business people. Our membership base is a broad cross section of people from diverse backgrounds, cultures and professions.

**Myth 5** – Membership is by invitation only, False. Anyone can visit and join a Rotary club. It is an open to all men and women who simply believe in helping others. We do invite you to check us out, though.

Still have questions? Drop into one of our meetings at 8 a.m. on the first and third Thursdays of each month at the Volcano Art Center. Or talk to us while we're cleaning the highway, helping with food distribution, or working with some of the other volunteer groups in Volcano

*Submitted by Mike Leidemann*



## Volcano Seniors August 2025 Calendar

**August 7** – Business Mtg,  
Games, Potluck

**August 14** – Games, Potluck

**August 21** – Cooper Center  
Closed for Maintenance.  
Bon Dance in Hilo

**August 28** – Bingo, Games,  
Potluck

The Volcano Seniors Club meets every Thursday morning at Cooper Center from 9-12.

Volunteer from page 1

this advice:

When asked what motivates them, they reflect:

"Volunteering helps enhance our physical strength and mental sharpness. The people we meet and work with are energizing, and we continue to build meaningful connections. Being retired gives us the freedom to contribute to this beautiful place we call home."

While they acknowledge the physical challenges that come with advancing in years, they remain as involved as ever. Even during their interview, Jane paused to greet a new resident and invite them to connect with the community through service.

To couples considering volunteering together, Paul and Jane offer

"Just do it. Try it. Find your shared interest—even if you don't find it at the same time. There is always something for everyone."

Paul and Jane continue their work not for recognition, but to help maintain the strong, trusted relationships between the Cooper Center and the greater Volcano community. Their steadfast presence, shared purpose, and deep love for this place serve as a shining example of the impact two dedicated individuals can have—together.

Mahalo nui loa, Paul and Jane for inspiring us all to give back with love and purpose. Your commitment inspires us all to serve with kindness, dedication, and aloha.



**BODYWISE Body Tools**  
Massage Therapy in Volcano

## Pain Relief

Call for appointment

Rebecca Gonzalez, RN, LMT

Office: 808-333-5913

Cell: 808-640-7656

Over 20 years experience

MAT#2224

## Kilauea Nails

Manicures • Pedicures • Gelish • Facial  
Waxing • Gift Cert • Specializing  
in Chronic Nail Conditions

By Appointment Only  
808-937-4833

## Volcano's Handy Guy

Phillip specializes

in the maintenance of water systems.

He sells water pumps and Ultraviolet water purifiers. He worked as a Sears appliance repairman and repairs washers, dryers, dishwashers, garbage disposals, etc. He has been doing home repairs in Volcano since 1992.

Call him at 967-7100

**Der Oskar LLC**  
**Tree Service**  
**808-365-4482**  
**Volcano HI**

## Volcano Grown Produce!!



LETTUCE, SPINACH, STRAWBERRIES

OTHER VEGES & JAMS

Sundays 6-10am at Cooper Center  
Wednesdays 2-5pm at our farm stand  
Or by appointment

**McCall Flower Farm, Inc**

19-4277 Haunani Road Volcano, Hawaii

Jeff 937-1056 or Landline 928-6456

mccallsfarmandstainedglass@hawaii.rr.com

## ALOHA FRIENDS & NEIGHBORS!

Cruise on over to August's Volcano Swap/Craft Meet. Held Saturday, August 9th from 9AM to 1PM at Cooper Center in the Historical Heart of Volcano Village on Wright Road.

SHOP LOCAL!!! It's Super Shopping, Onolicious Grinds, Live Music by Simply Penny, & Great Prices. Expect a Variety of Talented Local Artisans & Crafters. Plus ALL KINE GOODIES... both New & Gently Used Treasures, Hawaiiana, Kulolo & Snacks, Furniture, Jewelry, Pet Items & Treats, Plants & Produce, CHOKE Yard/Garage Sale Type Items, Clothing & Gifts. Thrift Store & Bookstore also open.

Like 1 table? Pick up the short version of Cooper Center's Vendor Form in Bookstore & turn in after completion. You'll be contacted once it's processed. For more info, call Auntie Frances at 808-985-8646 & leave your name, phone number, & message.

Enjoy the Perseid Meteor Shower!  
Happy Statehood Day!

A Hui Hou,  
Auntie Frances Roberts-Bennett

P.S. Swap Meet schedule will return to its usual 2nd & 4th Saturdays in September.

## Cooper Center Community Pantry News

The Cooper Center Community Pantry drive through food pantry is on Wednesday, August 27<sup>th</sup> from 9:30-11:00am. The pantry could still use shelf-stable foods such as 5 lb bags of rice, pasta sauce and canned fruits.



Hawai'i became the fiftieth state on August 15, 1959 and is a state holiday. It is also called Admissions Day.



## Friends of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park Hawai'i Volcanoes Institute Presents

SUNDAY WALK IN THE PARK – EXPLORING KĪLAUEA IKI  
Sunday, August 10, 2025 – 10:00 am to 1:00 pm

This monthly program on second Sundays is aimed at bringing together the members of the Friends of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park to explore the park's beautiful trails. This month we will hike the Kīlauea Iki Trail.

Descend through a lush rain forest to the floor of the solidified, however still steaming Kīlauea Iki Crater lava lake. Peer into the 1959 vent that erupted to a height of 1900 feet located below the Pu'upua'i cinder cone.

Of interest: Walking through a rain forest, viewing native birds, walk on the 1959 lava lake, view steam vents, cinder cones and spatter cones.

Ahu (stacked rocks) mark the trail across the crater floor.

Sturdy footwear, water, raingear, sun protection, and a snack are recommended.

This event is presented by the Friends of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Program cost is \$5.00 for Friends members. Non-members are welcome to join the Friends in order to attend. And, of course, additional donations are always accepted. Park entrance fees apply.

Please check <https://www.fhvn.org/events/sw-20250810/> for updates and for more information about this event.

Friends of Hawaii Volcanoes National Park is an official philanthropic partner of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park – We are a non-profit 501(c)3  
PO Box 653, Volcano HI 96785 - (808) 985-7373 - email: [admin@fhvn.org](mailto:admin@fhvn.org) - Web: [www.fhvn.org](http://www.fhvn.org) - Find us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/fhvn](https://www.facebook.com/fhvn)  
Instagram: [www.instagram.com/friendsofhawaii/vnp/](https://www.instagram.com/friendsofhawaii/vnp/)

**VILLAGE PROPANE**  
MT VIEW  
DELIVERIES AVAILABLE

18-1340 VOLCANO RD  
MT VIEW VILLAGE  
P.O. Box 71566  
MT VIEW, HI 96771  
(808) 640-6914

ROLAND G. IGNACIO  
OWNER

MON - FRI 10:00 - 6:00  
SAT - SUN 9:00 - 5:00  
IF DOOR OPEN WE'RE OPEN

**Hands on Firewood**

Split Dried Upcountry Invasives,  
Bundles, Bulk, and Special Orders  
Small/Large Hearths, Kindling.  
Delivery and Stacking Available  
Campfire Bags and Boxes.

**Just Call Mike, The Wood Guy!**  
**808-372-2630**

Award winning  
**Café O'No**

**VOLCANO GARDEN ARTS**

Where our community goes for beautiful  
home-cooked lunches in our historic garden setting.  
**We do catering!**  
Vegan and gluten-free options  
Visit us **Thursday-Sunday 11am to 2pm**  
19-3834 Old Volcano Rd  
(808) 985-8979 [cafeono.net](http://cafeono.net)

**The Hawai'i Fireplace Advisor**  
In-home Consulting Since 1979

**R. Jeffrey Mermel**

call or text: 808-987-7748  
[Jeffrey.Volcano@gmail.com](mailto:Jeffrey.Volcano@gmail.com)  
PO Box 342  
Volcano, HI 96785

**Kilauea PC Mobile Computer Services**

On site computer solutions  
and support for your business,  
home, or home office.

PC Diagnostics and repair  
Computer Networking Services  
Consultations and Upgrades

Michael Boucher 808 896 0060  
[mike@kilaueapc.com](mailto:mike@kilaueapc.com)

Windows XP, Vista, 7, 8, 10 Server 2003, 2008, SBS and Exchange Server

**Microsoft**  
CERTIFIED  
Technology  
Specialist

Kipuka Graphics  
& Design  
808-967-8553  
[kipuka22@yahoo.com](mailto:kipuka22@yahoo.com)  
[kipukagraphics.com](http://kipukagraphics.com)

afordable certified graphic design

**We Will Beat ANY  
Fireplace or Stove  
Price in Hawaii\***

**Hawaii  
Fireplaces**

Hawaii's Only Full-Service Fireplace Store

64-1035 Mamalahoe Highway, Unit E  
Kamuela - U'ilani Plaza next to HPM  
[contact@hawaii-fireplaces.com](mailto:contact@hawaii-fireplaces.com)  
[www.hawaii-fireplaces.com](http://www.hawaii-fireplaces.com)

887-0022 Division of Hawaii Air Conditioning

Installation • Restoration • Dehumidification • Service • Chimney Sweep

\*Special offers apply to select qualifying equipment. Call for complete details.





### Volcano Health Care Services Survey

The Volcano Community Association is conducting a survey to determine what health care services are most needed in the area. Your responses are confidential and will not be used for any other purpose. You may make copies for others, but please, **Only one survey per person**. All results are the property of the Volcano Community Association. *Thank you for your participation! Additional comments are welcomed!*

**Deadline to mail, or drop off, your survey: August 31, 2025**

**Mail to: Kathleen Mishina; P. O. Box 1257, Volcano, HI 96785, or**

**Drop off location:** Volcano Community Association table at Cooper Center's Sunday Farmers Market.

1. How old are you?

- ☐ 18-34
- ☐ 35-49
- ☐ 50-64
- ☐ 65-69
- ☐ 70-79
- ☐ 80+

2. What is your gender identity?

- ☐ Male
- ☐ Female
- ☐ Prefer not to say

3. Do you live

- ☐ Alone
- ☐ With a spouse or family member(s)
- ☐ With a caregiver or friend
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

4. Where do you live?

- ☐ Volcano Village
- ☐ Volcano Golf Course
- ☐ Mauna Loa Estates
- ☐ Royal Hawaiian Estates
- ☐ Ohia Estates
- ☐ Volcano Farm Lots
- ☐ Hawaiian Orchid Isle Estates
- ☐ Hawaii Volcanoes National Park
- ☐ Fern Forest
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

5. What is your employment status?

- ☐ Full-time
- ☐ Part-time
- ☐ Unemployed
- ☐ Retired
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

6. Do you have a primary medical care provider (medical doctor or advanced practice nurse)?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

7. How often do you visit your primary medical care provider?

- ☐ Only when I'm not feeling well
- ☐ 1-2 times per year
- ☐ 3-4 times per year
- ☐ 5 or more times per year

8. If you have a primary medical care provider, where is his or her office located?

- ☐ Hilo
- ☐ Keaau
- ☐ Pahoa
- ☐ Pahala
- ☐ Naalehu
- ☐ Waimea
- ☐ Kona
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

9. How do you get to your primary medical care provider's office?

- ☐ I have a car and drive myself.
- ☐ Someone else drives me.
- ☐ I ride the bus.
- ☐ I have no one to take me.
- ☐ I take the taxi, Uber, or Lyft.
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

10. Have you used the ambulance to receive non-life threatening care at a hospital?

- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes
- ☐ If yes, how often in the last year have you taken an ambulance for non-emergency care?  
\_\_\_\_\_

11. How many times have you gone to an urgent care clinic because you were unable to get an appointment with your primary medical care provider?

- ☐ I can always get an appointment.
- ☐ 1-2 times in a year
- ☐ 3-4 times in a year
- ☐ 5 or more times in a year

12. Do you have health insurance? Check all that apply.

- ☐ Medicare
- ☐ MedQuest
- ☐ Medicaid
- ☐ HMSA
- ☐ AlohaCare
- ☐ UHA
- ☐ Kaiser
- ☐ Veterans Administration
- ☐ Aetna
- ☐ AARP
- ☐ United Health Care
- ☐ No health insurance
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

13. What kind of medical care provider do you see most often?

- ☐ Family or general practice
- ☐ Internal medicine
- ☐ Cardiologist
- ☐ Behavioral / mental health
- ☐ Women's health / OB or GYN
- ☐ Substance use disorder / Pain medicine
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

14. How important is it to have a primary medical care provider in Volcano?

- ☐ Very important
- ☐ Important
- ☐ Not important
- ☐ Don't know

15. What type of medical care provider do you think that Volcano needs the most? Choose one.

- ☐ Family or general practice
- ☐ Internal medicine
- ☐ Urgent care
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

16. What other type of health care service is most needed in Volcano? Choose one.

- ☐ Pharmacy
- ☐ Laboratory
- ☐ Xray
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

17. If there was a primary care medical provider in Volcano, would you transfer your care?

- ☐ Yes (go to question 19)
- ☐ No

18. If you answered "no" to question 17, please explain:

- ☐ I like my current health care provider.
- ☐ I need a medical specialist.
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

19. If a primary care medical provider was available in Volcano 1 to 2 days per week, would visit her/him for medical care or services?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ If no, why not? \_\_\_\_\_

20. Have you used Tele-medicine appointments with any of your medical care providers?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

21. Do you have long term care insurance?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ I don't know what this is.

22. The average cost for adult day care is \$100/day and includes help with bathing, mobility, feeding, toileting, dressing, as well as socialization. Do you think this cost is acceptable?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

23. The average cost for Assisted Living is about \$7,000 per month. Do you feel this cost is acceptable?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ I don't know what this is.

24. Do you need help with mobility, bathing, feeding, dressing, toileting or supervision?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ No, but I help someone with these things.

25. Most of us can't predict how independent we will be as we age. If you needed help with self care, which would you choose? Check all that apply.

- ☐ My spouse or partner will help me.
- ☐ I would most likely move in with my family.
- ☐ I would like to be in an Assisted Living facility.
- ☐ I would want to have in-home personal care and chore services as long as possible.
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_



# Volcano School of Arts & Sciences August 2025 News

## Artists in the Schools Kapa Residency for Volcano School Keiki

Volcano School is fortunate to be selected each year to work with artists through the Hawai'i State Foundation on Culture and the Arts (SFCA) Artists in the Schools (AITS) program. This year, our pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, and first grade students participated a 14-session visual arts residency on using the Hawaiian heritage art form of kapa to learn about ourselves, Hawaiian History, and our place. The sessions were conducted by kapa artists, Puakea Fisher-Forester.

Students were able to use kapa, puppets, and storytelling to show what they learned. With an emphasis on



PreK students working kapa. Alana Black, Boone Corrao, and Tano Christie (above front to back) Cruz King-Gates and Alana Black (below left to right)

symbolism and metaphor through Hawaiian mythology and sensory participation, students explored plant fibers and colorants of their natural environment to apply to the Hawaiian heritage art form of kapa-making. Students developed relationships with the life source of their art supplies and broadened their appreciation of place-based historical art forms that are both practical and beautiful. Through this experience, students gained valuable skills not only in artistic creativity and self-expression, but also in perseverance, attention to detail, problem-solving, collaboration, communication, and leadership.

Mahalo to the Hawai'i State Foundation on Culture and the Arts, resident artist Puakea Fisher Forester, and VSAS teacher Joan Patton for bringing this extraordinary experience to our students. Mahalo e Representative Jeanné Kapela and Senator Dru Kanuha for their ongoing support of the SFCA Artists in the Schools program for our keiki.

## VSAS 'Ohana on the March

Over two dozen students, parents, and teachers marched in the annual Volcano Village Fourth of July Parade. Students carried the school banner, handed out treats, and blew bubbles along the parade route. Special



Volcano School students and parents in July 4th parade.

acknowledgements to VSAS Social Worker, Kim Miller; HS Science kumu and parent, Megan Clowe; parent volunteer, Rachele Castillo; and the Volcano Community Association, for supporting this fun family event.

## Volcano School & Vibrant Hawai'i Bring Kaukau 4 Keiki to Volcano Families

Volcano School students count on our breakfast/lunch program for fresh, nutritious, locally prepared meals throughout the school year. Since 2021 the school has also provided meal kits during the summer. The past two years Volcano School has partnered with Vibrant Hawai'i—the sponsor agency for the USDA Summer Food Service Program on Hawai'i Island. Under the Kaukau 4 Keiki Department of Education Hawai'i Child Nutrition Program, 5,300 keiki have received varying meal kits filled with local fruits, vegetables, tuna, poi, milk, etc., from June 16 through July 25 at locations island wide. For the second year VSAS has been the local partner, where school staffers and volunteers distributed breakfast and lunch supplies weekly to 100 VSAS and community families (up from 50 families in 2024).



Navigator, Stephanie Ha'o with daughter Bri volunteering at Volcano School (right)

## Save the Date! Volcano School Ho'olaule'a 2025

The 2nd Annual Volcano School Ho'olaule'a will be held September 27th, 10am - 3pm on the Old Volcano Road Campus. Vendors, volunteers, and silent auction, baked goods and thrift donations needed - please contact Manu Goodhue [mgoodhue@volcanoschool.net](mailto:mgoodhue@volcanoschool.net). Don't miss this fun



# August 2025 Events at the Volcano Art Center & Gallery

**Nalu Builds**, continues through August 10th, 2025. An exhibition of handcrafted furniture and functional art using sustainably sourced local woods from the Island of Hawai'i. Daily, 9am - 5pm at Volcano Art Center Gallery in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Call (808) 967-7565 for more information.

**Volcano Art Center Biennial Wood Show:** continues through August 10th, 2025, open Weds. - Sun., 10am - 4pm at Volcano Art Center Niaulani Campus (19-4074 Old Volcano Rd.) Featuring various wood artists who produce one-of-a-kind works using indigenous Hawaiian and exotic woods.

The Volcano Art Center (VAC) is proud to announce the upcoming **Hawai'i Nei Invitational Exhibition**, "Ne'ekau" (move with the seasons). The annual exhibition will be on display from August 16th – September 28th, 9am - 5pm, daily at the Volcano Art Center Gallery in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. The multi-media exhibition showcases six outstanding artists who were selected from the Hawai'i Nei 2024 Art Contest celebrating Hawai'i Island's native species held at Wailoa Art Center. The artists have been asked to explore the migratory motion of various species during different seasons.

**Hula Arts at Kilauea:** Hula Kahiko performance by Kumu Lahela Spencer w/ Hālau Kaleiokaulupalai on August 9th, at 10:30am. Held outdoors at the kahua hula (hula platform) in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Park entry fees apply.

**VAC Ceramic Program.** Saturdays with Monika Mann, August 2nd – September 6th (6 sessions) 10am – 1pm., at VAC Niaulani Campus. Call (808) 967-8222 for more information or visit [www.volcanoartcenter](http://www.volcanoartcenter) to register. All skill levels welcome.

**The Annual Native Plant Sale** is back! Come to the Niaulani Campus (19-4074 Old Volcano Road) on Saturday, August 9th from 10am – 3pm to celebrate the rain forest at Niaulani.



**Thursday Night at the Center:** Join David Jones on August 14th at 6pm, "A Day, Just Like Any Other Day: Hiroshima's Little Boy and Little Girl" is a short narrative story about a young girl's unexpected and unimagined encounter with her destiny as she travels enroute to her school in Hiroshima City. This evening is part of a once-a-month Thursday night series at the Volcano Art Center, focusing on art, Hawaiian culture, and our environment. The series is intended to inspire, enhance your appreciation of art and life experience, while fostering community connections. This presentation is free, although a donation is greatly appreciated.

**Soul Fitness** – an exercise class to improve strength, flexibility and overall well-being. Join PK every Thursdays, starting August 14th, 11:30am – 12:30pm at Volcano Art Center Niaulani Campus (19-4074 Old Volcano Road) All equipment provided. For more information or to register call Puakea Soares Mercado at (808) 315-9130.

**Tai Chi at VAC Niaulani Campus** starting Tuesday August 5th, from 8am – 9am. John Constantinou has been enjoying Yang Style Tai Chi for over 34 yrs. Some health benefits from Tai Chi include improved strength, flexibility, balance, helps calm the mind and reduce stress. Call John at 808 936-9857 for more information.

**Aloha Friday Cultural demonstrations** at VAC gallery in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Every Friday, from 11am. – 1pm.

The Volcano Art Center is a non-profit educational organization created in 1974 to promote, develop, and perpetuate the artistic and cultural heritage of Hawai'i's people and environment through activities in the visual, literary, and performing arts.

# August 2025 Events & Updates at Hawai‘i Volcanoes National Park



**Kīlauea Eruption and Visitor Impacts.** Kīlauea volcano continues to attract many thousands of visitors to Hawai‘i Volcanoes National Park who are excited to observe the historic eruption. During fountaining episodes, traffic is often stop-and-go miles before the park entrance. Construction detours add to the congestion entering and exiting the park. While some eruptions are visible from areas along Highway 11, the park reminds everyone not to park along the highway shoulders, which are meant for emergency pullovers. Stopping along the highway creates unsafe conditions and more congestion. Be patient and expect delays through September when the entrance construction will be complete. When entering the park, know where you want to go, follow all signage, traffic control directions and the 5-mph speed limit through the detours. Be aware that there could be a line for restrooms and portable toilets during periods of heavy visitation.

## Construction Updates

**Construction Continues.** Disaster Recovery construction projects resulting from the 2018 Kīlauea eruption and summit collapse continue. Visitors should expect delays, detours, and traffic control at the park entrance and Crater Rim Drive – especially during the volcano’s ongoing eruptive episodes.

**Roundabout and Realignment Work.** The new roundabout traffic circle near the park entrance is almost done! Please slow down, drive safely and stay alert! The roundabout is part of a larger plan to realign Crater Rim Drive that includes an additional administrative lane for park staff and partners at the entrance, and an exit pullout before the highway. The realignment project should be finished this September and will make driving in the park much easier and safer.

**Welcome to the Welcome Center!** Kīlauea Visitor Center is closed for renovation but park rangers, the NPS Passport stamp station, Junior Ranger books, visitor services and the Hawai‘i Pacific Parks Association store have relocated to the temporary Welcome Center at Kilauea Military Camp (KMC) on Crater Rim Drive east, about a 1.2-mile drive from the closed visitor center. Park at the adjacent ballfield; parking in front of KMC is for registered guests only. The Welcome Center is open daily from 9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. The renovated visitor center is scheduled to reopen in Summer 2026.

**Uēkahuna Update.** The deconstruction project to remove buildings and infrastructure damaged by the 2018 summit collapse is complete and the observation deck at Uēkahuna is now open. This area, where Jaggar Museum and the USGS Hawaiian Volcano Observatory facilities once were, offers views of Kaluapele (Kīlauea caldera), improved trail access and lots of parking. An outline of the former Jaggar Museum footprint includes stones from the historic building’s original columns. The Uēkahuna comfort station will reopen to visitors in the weeks ahead.

**Switchback Work Scheduled for Kīlauea Iki Trail.** The western switchbacks of Kīlauea Iki Trail are temporarily closed for repairs and safety upgrades. The work occurs Monday through Thursday from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m. and the switchbacks are open to hikers outside of those hours. The rest of the popular 3.3-mile trail is open. The work will be complete by September 30.

**Where to Go?** Portable toilets are available behind the Welcome Center at Kilauea Military Camp, at the nearby ballfield parking lot, near Kīlauea Visitor Center and the Volcano Art Center Gallery, and at Uēkahuna. Vault toilets are available at Kīlauea Overlook, Kīlauea Iki Overlook, Devastation, Maunaulu, Hilina Pali Overlook, Kulanaokuaiki, the end of Chain of Craters Road, Kīpukapuauulu day use area, and Kahuku. The Nāhuku comfort station is open. Please note that there could be a line for restrooms and portable toilets during heavy visitation.

**Got Water?** Visitors to Hawai‘i Volcanoes National Park need to bring their own drinking water for their park adventures. The water station at Kīlauea Visitor Center is unavailable during the renovation closure. A bottle filling station will be reinstalled at Uēkahuna once it reopens in the months ahead. Water is available for purchase at Volcano House.

**Highway 11 Hole Drilling and Power Pole Replacement.** HELCO’s Line Relocation and Replacement project continues with hole digging and power pole replacement along Highway 11 in the park. The upgrades will provide more reliable electricity island-wide. Sections of this line were built in the early 1950s. The project went out to the public for comment. More information and the Environmental Assessment can be found online.

## Park Events

All events are free, but park entrance fees apply. Some programs are sponsored by the Friends of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park and Hawai'i Pacific Parks Association. Programs are subject to change or cancellation without notice. Check the park calendar for more information.

**Fee-free Day for the Great American Outdoors Act.** August 4 is the fifth anniversary of the Great American Outdoors Act (GAOA), landmark legislation that has made a huge difference for the National Park Service and Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. The GAOA provides up to \$1.3 billion a year for five years and enables parks to make large-scale repairs and improvements. At Hawai'i Volcanoes, GAOA funds support critical fence and greenhouse repairs, water treatment system rehabilitation and improvements to Mauna Loa Road. **When:** Monday, August 4 – all day **Where:** All fee-charging national parks

**Kahuku Unit Guided Hikes.** Weekend ranger-guided hikes are back in Kahuku! Topics and routes vary, inquire with rangers at the Visitor Contact Station. **When:** August 2, 3 & 16 **Where:** Meet at the Kahuku Visitor Contact Station. Turn into Kahuku near the 70.5-mile marker on Hwy 11 in Ka'ū.

**Picnic in the Park.** Pack a picnic or buy some *kaukau* from a food vendor and join us in Kahuku for free day of hula and mele (Hawaiian music)! Kumu Hula Keala Ching and his *hālau* Nā Wai Iwi Ola will open the festivities at 11 a.m., followed by Kumu Lori Lei Shirakawa Katahara and Lori Lei's Hula Studio at noon. At 1 p.m., Nā Hoku Hanohano award-winning recording artist Kainani Kahaunaele will perform with her trio. This festive day of mele and hula is sponsored by the Hawaii Pacific Parks Association and co-sponsored by Friends of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. **When:** Saturday, August 9 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. **Where:** The Kahuku Visitor Contact Station. Turn into Kahuku near the 70.5-mile marker on Hwy 11 in Ka'ū.

**Stewardship at the Summit Rainforest Restoration.** Volunteer to help remove invasive, non-native plant species that prevent native plants from growing in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Wear sturdy hiking shoes and long pants. Bring a hat, rain gear, day pack, snacks and water. Gloves and tools are provided. Under 18? Parental or guardian accompaniment with written consent is required. Visit the park website for details. **When:** August 9, 16, 23 & 30. Meet at 8:45 a.m. **Where:** Meet project leaders Paul and Jane Field at Kīlauea Visitor Center parking lot on the dates above. (The meeting place is open during the visitor center renovation.)

**Ranger-Guided Programs at Kīlauea Summit.** Did you know that Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park offers free guided programs nearly every day? Experience Life on the Edge at Uēkahuna, Explore the Summit and other ranger programs by checking the park calendar for dates, times and descriptions or drop by the Welcome Center. **When:** Almost daily- **Where:** Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park, Kīlauea summit

### 🐾 Important Community Notice: ADA Animal Compliance & Safety 🐾

The Cooper Center Council (CCC) is committed to maintaining a safe, inclusive environment for all. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), we honor the rights of individuals with trained service animals, while also ensuring that all animals on site are well-behaved and under control.

Per ADA guidelines, staff may only ask:

Is the animal required because of a disability?

What work or task has the animal been trained to perform?

We cannot request documentation or require special vests, but any animal showing aggression, disruptive behavior, or poor control may be asked to leave—even if it's a service animal. This protects the well-being of our visitors, volunteers, vendors, and Board Officers.

Thank you for helping us maintain a respectful and safe community space.

Learn more at [www.ada.gov](http://www.ada.gov) or contact us at [coopercentercouncil@gmail.com](mailto:coopercentercouncil@gmail.com).

# Volcano Community News

Cooper Center Council

P.O. Box 1000 Volcano, HI 96785



Cooper Center  
Wright Road

Non-Profit Org  
U. S. Postage  
Paid  
Permit No. 12  
Volcano, HI  
96785

\*\*\*\*\*CART-RT SORT \*\*WSS POB

RESIDENT  
P.O. BOXHOLDER  
VOLCANO, HI 96785



**VOLCANO  
ART CENTER**  
WHERE PEOPLE, ART AND NATURE MEET

## AUGUST EVENTS

### Exhibits

*Nalu Builds* continues through August 10th

*VAC Biennial Wood Show:*

continues through August 10th

*Hawai'i Nei Invitational* on display

August 16th - September 28th

8/9 - Hula Kahiko in HVNP

8/2 - 9/6 - Saturday Morning Ceramics  
with Monika Mann

8/9 - Plant Sale at Niaulani

8/14 - Thursday Night at the Center:  
Hiroshima Day with David Jones  
Aloha Fridays | 11am -1pm

Soul Fitness with PK Mercado  
starting August 14th, 11:30am - 12:30pm

Tai Chi - Tuesdays starting  
August 5th 8am - 9am.

Free Guided Forest Tour  
every Mondays at 9:30am

Office: (808) 967-8222  
Gallery in HVNP: (808) 967-7565  
volcanoartcenter.org



## 15% KAMA'AINA DISCOUNT

\*AVAILABLE ALL DAY FRIDAY. LOYALTY CARD REQUIRED.  
PICK UP YOUR LOYALTY CARD AT THE RESTAURANT

RESTAURANT, LODGE & GIFT SHOP  
OPEN DAILY

kilauealodge.com | 808.967.7366  
19-3948 Old Volcano Rd, Volcano Village, HI



**COLDWELL BANKER**  
ISLAND PROPERTIES

Luxury Service with Aloha Spirit

Ron Rigg RB-15044

808-936-1962 [ron@ronrigg.com](mailto:ron@ronrigg.com)

Resident "Volcano Realtor" since 1986

## "LIVE VOLCANO"

New Architect design 3/3 bath  
V.Golf & C.C. MLS# 714939  
\$549,785



Open Thursdays  
3pm till 6pm  
at Cooper Center

## Bookkeeping + CFO

808-313-9730

See further.  
Plan smarter.

Steer your  
business with  
confidence.

Free  
Consultation

**Helmbright**

Steve Mosciatti, CEO,  
Scholar of Exemptions & Deductions  
25 Year Volcano Resident  
[clarity@helmbrightfinancial.com](mailto:clarity@helmbrightfinancial.com)

"Let's talk. I could be your  
small business financial expert."

