



Cooper Center's Volcano Community News



NEWSLETTER #435

DECEMBER 2025

All newsletter submissions MUST be in by the 10th 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.

Mahalo Volcano Rotary

As 2025 comes to a close, Cooper Center Officers and Staff want to extend a very heart warming mahalo to Volcano Rotary Club. This group of Volcano residences are the ones that have kept our monthly Food distribution going strong. There are always there on a Monday to wait patiently for the Food Basket to deliver all the food items to be packaged for the Wednesday distribution. Without them I'm not sure if we'd have enough people to do all the packaging of the bags.

Then they show up again in 2 days to set up tents and stand there rain or shine to deliver all those bags to the many that need them. Cooper Center couldn't do it without them.

Mahalo, Volcano Rotary. And watch for their Sunday Cookie Sale at our regular market on December 14th



Lets Continue These Thoughts

Cooper Center put a call out to our awesome community to donate food and/or cash to support the Pantry for the Holiday Season... and they came through with shelf stable goods or checks. What a great place we live and a great community as well. Mahalo to all, and Happy holidays .



Rain or shine our volunteers are there to hand out food. l to r are Jan, Susan (Rotary), Gayle, Terraence and John (Rotary).

Wrapping Party



Wrapping will begin
on Monday, Dec. 8th
starting at 9 on the deck.
Bring scissors and tape.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

As you may or may not have noticed, Christmas Day and New Years Day both fall on a Thursday. As with other County/State holidays, Cooper Center will be closed. That being said Thursday the 25th of December (aka Christmas Day) we will be closed, we will not have our evening market.

There are a couple of vendors that say they will show up anyway. Know that they will be in violation of their Agreement with Cooper Center Council. They will be on their own. No water, no toilets, no lights and absolutely no support staff, as all our staff will be at home enjoying thie Christmas or New Year's Day.



Cooper Center Community Pantry News

The Cooper Center Community Pantry drive-through food pantry is a week early due to the holidays on Wednesday, December 17th from 9:30-11:00am. Especially needed are canned goods, veggies, proteins, tuna, spam, canned chicken, canned meats, etc. Whatever you can we will accept. Non-perishable unexpired goods can be donated at the Cooper Center Bookstore. Mahalo

Volcano Newsletter News Submissions

All submissions must be by email, ads, articles, and unclassifieds to Linda Ugalde kilaueatutu@gmail.com, on or before the 10th 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 10th. 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 10th 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

FOR SALE: Wood RTA DIY desk, Excellent Condition, Never Used, NOT Pressboard. \$125 or Best Offer, Retail \$600. **FREE:** Unframed Rectangular Mirror, Good Condition, approx. 5 1/2 ft X 3 ft. Please call auntie Frances at 808-985-8646 & leave name, number, & message.

House sitting, Pet sitting, contact Heather Stella at 808-756-2516 or heatherstellaart@gmail.com

Publisher's assistant wanted parttime: typing, transcribing, editing, marketing, archiving, photo optimizing and/or social media skills a plus. Will train right person. Email:

IslandMoonlight@gmail.com

CAREGIVING in Volcano area. Private, personal respite and home health care, healthy meals, light housekeeping, therapeutic rehab and massage. Licensed and experienced, CNA trained, excellent refs. Text: 808.987.2036.

COOPER CENTER DOG ADOPTION EVENT

**SAT, DEC 6th,
11AM - 3PM**



**ACTION 4 ANIMALS
HAWAII**

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

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

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.

Alaula Kipuka Refuge
yamahilo.wixsite.com/akrefuge
Every Sunday at 2:00 pm
808-443-9202

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

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 October 2025

Volcano Golf Course **2.50**
data collected by
Janis Hamersma

Volcano Village **4.59**
data collected by Jim Bush

Mauna Loa Est. **5.04**
data collected by JJ Jasinski

Royal Hawn Est. **8.65**
data collected by Tom Pico

Fern Forest **9.70**
data collected by Drew Kapp

Ohia Estates **7.03**
data collected by Phil Haysmer

Volcano Rotary December 2025

It's a good time to talk about peace on earth

Peace is a cornerstone of Rotary's mission as a humanitarian organization.



When people work to create peace in our local communities, that change can have a global effect. By carrying out service projects and supporting peace fellowships and scholarships, our members take action to address the underlying causes of conflict, including poverty, discrimination, ethnic tension, lack of access to education, and unequal distribution of resources.

Here are four roles that Rotarians in our community and around the world are taking to create a more peaceful world:

Practitioners: Our work fighting disease, providing clean water and sanitation, improving the health of mothers and children, supporting education, and growing local economies directly builds the optimal conditions for peaceful societies.

Educators: Our Rotary Peace Centers have trained over 1,300 peace fellows to become effective catalysts for peace through careers in government, education, and international organizations.

Mediators: Our members have negotiated humanitarian ceasefires in areas of conflict to allow polio vaccinators to reach children who are at risk. Peace Centers have trained over 1,300 peace fellows to become effective catalysts for peace through careers in government, education, and international organizations.

Advocates: Our members have an integral role as respected, impartial participants during peace processes and in post-conflict reconstruction. We focus on creating communities and convening groups that are connected, inclusive, and resilient.

And some of us are working to create peace through food. So look for our holiday cookie table at the Volcano Farmer's Market on Sunday, Dec. 12. Our members are all making their favorite holiday cookies and we'll be selling them that day. All proceeds go to our continued efforts to bring peace and joy to world, however we can.

Submitted by Mike Leidemann



Volcano Seniors December 2025 Calendar

Dec 4 – Business Mtg,
Games, Potluck

Dec 11 – Games, Potluck

Dec 18 – Gift Exchange,
Games, Potluck

Dec 25 – Christmas, No
Meeting

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

NEW Thursday Night Community Mindfulness Circle

Join us for a new Mindfulness Community Circle on Thursday nights at the Cooper Center. We meet at 6:30 PM, just after the Thursday Night Market. Expect circle sharing, community support, and an introduction to simple mindfulness practices. Adults of all ages are welcome. For questions, contact Erica Harvitt at e.harvitt@gmail.com (Note that we will not meet on Thanksgiving Day or Christmas Day).



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

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

Holistic Design embracing
Interior & Exterior environments



LUCERO INTERIORS

RESIDENTIAL > WELLNESS > RESORT

Jule Lucero, NCIDQ, IIDA, WELL & LEED AP

808.807.4221

jule@lucerointeriors.com

❄️ HELE ON DOWN TO THE JINGLE BELL SWAP MEETS! 🕯️

Treat yourself! Come join us for Volcano's December HOLIDAY EXTRAVAGANZA Swap Meets. Held 2nd & 4th Saturdays, December 13th & 27th from 9AM to 1PM at Cooper Center on Wright Road in the Historic Heart of Volcano Village. SHOP LOCAL!

There's ALL KINE GOODIES available, both New & Used. SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE... Oodles and Boodles to choose from. It's Onolicious Grinds, LOCAL Items, & Live Music by Simply Penny.

Expect Handmade Rugs & Jewelry, Crafts & Art, Koa & Woodwork, Plants & Arrangements, Furniture & Clothing, Hawaiiana & Kulolo, Cakes & Snacks, Crystals & Incense, Pet Treats, Collectibles & Antiques, Community Service Tables... TREASURES & GIFT ITEMS GALORE!!!

Thrift Store & Bookstore also open.

Great gift items, good food & fun, live music, nice prices. It's sure to be your One-Stop Shop for Unique Christmas Presents & Stocking Stuffers. PLUS NO NEED TO DRIVE INTO TOWN OR FIGHT THE CROWDS. As an added holiday bonus, if we are VERY lucky, we may have snow (Mauna Kea & Mauna Loa) or an eruption (Kilauea), possibly BOTH. We'll see you there!

New vendors coming in monthly as space allows. For questions or like 1 table? Call Auntie Frances at 808-985-8646 & leave name, number, & message.

🎄 Mele Kalikimaka Me Ka Hau'oli Makahiki Hou! 🎁
🎁 Merry Christmas & Happy New Year! 🎄

Wishing you and yours a safe and joyous holiday season,
Auntie Frances Roberts-Bennett 🌸



NEW HOPE VOLCANO CHRISTMAS FAIR

Saturday

Dec. 6 - 8am-3 pm



Over 30 vendors
Jewelry, Wreaths, Food,
Plants, Pottery, Crafts & more...
Come check it out!

Merry Christmas &
Happy New Year





The Staff and Board of Friends of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park would like to wish everyone a joyful holiday season.
Mele Kalikimaka & Hau'oli Makahiki Hou!



2025 has been a fruitful year for the Friends of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park, featuring programs like the Guardians of the Trails, Youth Rangers, the Hawksbill Turtle program, invasive species removal, trail restoration, new trail development, and much more. Our achievements are thanks to your support, allowing us to continue our mission.

Mahalo nui loa,

Board members: Cathy, Kenneth, Aaron, Tanya, Sarah.

Staff: Elizabeth, Lynette, Stephen, Hunter, Novi, Waylon, EJ, Kelson, Mardani, Conner, Kelly.



Friends of Hawaii Volcanoes National Park is the 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@fhvnp.org - Web: www.fhvnp.org
Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/fhvnp and on Instagram @friendsofhawaiiivnp

Volcano Gravel Invasive Plant Removal

Ginger • Tibouchina • Blackberry removal
Kubota tractor with backhoe
Excavation available
call: Glenn (808) 381 8876

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

COOPER CENTER THRIFT & BOOK STORE

EVERY 1ST & 3RD
SATURDAY
EVERYTHING
IS HALF PRICE
CHECK IT OUT!



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



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

We Will Beat ANY Fireplace or Stove Price in Hawaii*

Hawaii Fireplaces
Hawaii's Only Full-Service Fireplace Store
64-1035 Mamelahoa Highway, Unit E
Kamuela - U'Iolani Plaza next to HPM
contact@hawaiiireplaces.com
www.hawaiiireplaces.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.

Award winning

Café ONO



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

Kipuka Graphics
& Design
808-967-8553
kipuka22@yahoo.com
kipukagraphics.com

afordable certified graphic design



THE VOICE

News from the Volcano Community Association

December 2025

Aloha Volcano Ohana,

Volcano Health Needs Survey Update

The VCA's Volcano Medical and Healthcare Needs Assessment is complete. Results are being shared with community organizations, government leaders and healthcare systems. The next step is to engage providers of care, whether individuals or established healthcare organizations, to collaborate with our community to bring services to Volcano.

Highlights of the study include: significant geographic barriers to receiving timely medical care in Hilo and Kea'au, the absence of a primary medical care provider, and aging-in-place services in our community.

In addition, the population in the area is growing, and those over 65 years of age are over-represented. Urgent care services are frequently sought due to access barriers to primary medical care. These and other findings support

advancing planning to secure health care services for the Volcano community. A "Volcano Hub" could serve as a critical access point for medical and healthcare. And not just for residents, but also for visitors to Hawaii Volcanoes National Park.

The survey and report was made possible through the VCA Community Plan Committee and the many volunteers, who contributed valuable assistance.

The full report may be accessed at the Volcano Community Association website: <https://vca946.wixsite.com/vca1>

If you are interested in receiving updates, please contact Kathleen Mishina: kmmishina@gmail.com.

Forest Impact Survey

The VCA encourages community members to complete a new survey developed by the VCA's Forest Overlay Committee to guide future planning efforts. Complete the next page or use the QR code to access the survey.



VCA Monthly Meetings are held on every third Monday at 5.00pm at Cooper Center. Please notify the VCA Board via vcaboardcontact@gmail.com so that we can prepare a seat at the table. VCA always welcomes volunteers with great energy and ideas.

VCA Board: James Morgan – President, Elaine Lee – VP, Jane Field – Treasurer, Directors: John Lakatos, Ed Clapp, Blair Norris and Kim Weisenborn.

Community Survey on Concerns and Impacts of Native Forest Clearing in the Volcano Region

This survey was developed by the Forest Overlay Committee of the Volcano Community Association to gather input from community members about forest conditions and community priorities in Volcano's residential areas. It is our hope that this survey will help give a structured voice to the experiences and concerns of the residents in our Volcano Community. You can take the survey online at <https://bit.ly/Volcano-Survey> or by scanning the QR code provided, or filling in below and dropping off at the VCA Sunday Market table or mailing to: VCA, P.O. Box 600, Volcano, HI 96785

Which subdivision in Volcano do you live in?

Volcano Village

The Volcano Golf Course

Mauna Loa Estates

'Ōhi'a Estates

Royal Hawaiian Estates

Orchid Isle Estates

Fern Forest

Other (specify):

How much of a problem are feral pigs in your neighborhood or subdivision?

Very serious problem

Somewhat serious problem

Minor problem

Not a problem

Not sure

If you feel feral pigs are a problem, please describe the types of impacts you've noticed (for example, digging or rooting in yards, damage to native forest).

How concerned are you about development or clearing of native forest in the Volcano region?

Not concerned at all

Slightly concerned

Moderately concerned

Very concerned

Extremely concerned

Have you noticed or been personally affected by the clearing of lots in your neighborhood? If so, in what ways?

Have you noticed a decline in native plants or animals in your neighborhood or subdivision?

Yes

No

Not sure

If yes, please describe what changes you've noticed and to which plants or animals.

Would you like to see more restrictions on pin-to-pin clearing in the Volcano region?

Yes

No

Maybe

Other (please specify):

Is there anything else you would like to share about the clearing of native forest in Volcano? If so please provide your ideas on what the VCA can do about any of the issues above. Mahalo.

Are you concerned about the impact that clearing of native forest is having on the spread of invasive species (e.g., Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death, kahili ginger) in the Volcano region?

Not concerned at all

Slightly concerned

Moderately concerned

Very concerned

Extremely concerned



Volcano School of Arts & Sciences

December 2025 News

Volcano Winery Events Help Fund New Volcano School Work-Based Learning Program

In this joyous Makahiki season, Volcano School students and staff are thankful for all we've been blessed with, especially the longstanding partnerships with many individuals and organizations in the Volcano community and beyond. One important partner is the Volcano Winery, which has sponsored fundraising events over the years. The Volcano Winery is now providing even more financial support with a portion of vendor fees, dedicated booths, and other donations going to the school at the monthly Sunday Mākeke and Saturday Pa'ina events.

The Mākeke is held on the 2nd Sunday of every month 12pm-4 pm and features live music, food vendors, wine, and artisan crafts. Participating vendors include Art by Victoria K, Auntie Francis Artisan, Bella Anela, Big Island Smokehouse, Delightful and Delicious, Hot Lava Latte Company, Kimi's Cookies & Things, Namana Nani, Raja's Indian Food, Taylor's Bears & Buddies, Treehugger Products, Treasures of the Tree, Unique Creations Gifts, Universe Carvings, With Sprinkles Please and Yolanda's Gifts with Aloha. In partnership with Animals 4 Action, this lively community gathering also features pet adoptions. The Pō'aona Pa'ina is on the 4th Saturday of every month 2pm-5pm and features live music, ongoing talk-story sessions with the winemaker, and vendors. You can support the school by

coming to these fun events, donating funds or items for sale, or hosting a booth. Vendor fees are waived for any fundraising for the school.

Through these events and donation collections, the Volcano Winery's raised over \$3,300 in 2024. These funds combined with a Title IV grant of \$10,000 and funds raised from the upcoming Spring event will go toward establishing a Work-Based Learning program to provide internship and mentorship opportunities for high school students to gain real world experience in careers of their interest.

For more information, or to inquire about becoming a vendor, donating, or hosting a booth for the school, contact Volcano Winery at 808-967-7772.

Lonoikamakahiki! Volcano School Hosts Makahiki Runners

Volcano School hosted some 70 runners and support staff from the annual Ka Makahiki 'Aha Pule 'Āina Holo or "Lono Run," a six-day contemporary ceremonial relay run around Hawai'i Island launched by Lanakila Mangauil in 2014 to herald in Lono season. On November 13, some 70 runners and support staff started in Honoka'a, ran down the Hāmākua Coast to Hilo, then on to Kīlauea. After protocols at Halema'uma'u, Volcano School host the group at the Keakealani Campus, where dinner, showers and a place to sleep for the night were offered. The Volcano School community is honored and grateful to Lanakila and all of the runners for including us in this special event for the past four years.



Po'okula Kalima Kinney presents Volcano Winery check to High School students, 'Ike Hawai'i Kumu Kilion Young, and Counselor Kyenne Milhoan.

December 2025 Events at the Volcano Art Center & Gallery

Christmas in the Country: Annual Wreath Exhibition: continues through December 31, 2025, gifts, crafts, ornaments and decorations made by Hawaii Island artists open 9am-5pm Daily in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park.

Call to Artist for the 2026 Niaulani Sculpture Garden: Deadline for submission: December 15th, 2025, (808-967-8222).

SAVE THE DATE: Mark your calendars for the annual Love the Arts fundraising event, to be held on February 21st, 2026. The chairperson for this event is Jesse Tunison. Jesse has previously served on the board for 10 years and has organized many past VAC events. Tickets are on sale now! Visit www.volcanoartcenter.org or call (808) 967-8222 for more information.

Hula Arts at Kilauea: Hula Kahiko performance on December 13th with Kumu Keahika`aiohelo Naoho Kanahele w/ Hālau Kaleo a Keahialapalapa at 10:30am. Held outdoors at the kahua hula (hula platform) in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Park entry fees apply. (808) 967-7565.

Jazz in the Forest: Christmas Jazz You are invited to come and enjoy a swinging evening of jazz at the Volcano Art Center Nialani Campus in Volcano Village. (19-4074 Old Volcano Road), December 13th, at 5:30pm. For tickets or more information call (808) 967-8222 or visit www.volcanoartcenter.org.

Ceramics Classes: We are thrilled to have you join our creative community. Here, you will have the opportunity to explore various techniques, work with different clays and develop skills at your own pace. For questions about our ceramics classes or to register call (808) 967-8222. Classes are on Wednesdays 3:30pm – 6:30pm, Saturday or Sunday, from 10am -1pm.

Lehua Christmas Ornaments: Celebrate the season with a touch of island magic with Puakea Soares Mercado, on December 6th, from 10am – 12pm at VAC Nialani Campus (19-4074 Old Volcano Road) for a festive and creative experience where you'll learn how to hand-paint a vibrant lehua blossom on a 2" to 3" natural pine wood round using acrylic paints.

Food From Wood: Mushroom Cultivation: Instructor Zach Mermel will teach the basics of wood based mushroom cultivation in "Food from Wood: Growing Edible & Medicinal Mushrooms on Logs, Stumps, and Wood Chips" on Saturday, December 13, 2025, from 9am – 2pm at Volcano Art Center's Nialani Campus.

Paint Your Own Silk Scarf Holiday Edition: Just in time for Christmas! this workshop would make a great gift! Reward yourself by creating your very own inspired silk scarf. Big Island artist and instructor Patti Pease Johnson teaches the Paint Your Own Silk Scarf workshop on Saturday, December 20th, 2025, from 9:00am-12:30pm at VAC Nialani Campus.

Soul Fitness: Join PK for senior exercise class every Thursdays in December, 11:30am – 12:30pm, and every Tuesdays Fit & Firm from 9am – 10am., at Volcano Art Center Nialani Campus (19-4074 Old Volcano Road) All equipment provided. For more information or to register call Puakea Soares Mercado at (808) 315-9130.

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

Holiday Hours:

HVNP Gallery- open daily 9am -5pm
closed on Christmas Day
New Years

Holiday Hours:

Nialani Campus Administrative Office & Gallery
open M – Sat, 10am -4pm Closed on Christmas &

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.

Volcano Festival Chorus Celebrates the Holidays

The Volcano Festival Chorus is celebrating the holidays with its annual concert, "Everywhere Christmas Tonight." The concert is a gift to the community from the Kilauea Drama and Entertainment Network (KDEN). The musical performance is on Saturday, December 13th, at 7:00pm in the Lehua Room of the Kilauea Military Camp. Please park at the Kilauea Theater and follow the path past the chapel to the Lehua Room.

The chorus will perform a mixture of sacred and secular holiday music under the direction of Melanie Oldfather, accompanied by Walter Greenwood with Jan Gandy on the flute. "The first half of the concert is a bit more traditional. The second half has lighter music blending favorite lyrics with different melodies and some chorus favorites" says Oldfather. "The Volcano concert is special as it feels wintry as we sing. It helps get one in the mood for the holidays!"



As always, admission is free, donations will be gratefully accepted.)Come join with us to celebrate the season. For additional information, you can contact KDEN at 808-982-7344 or email: kdenhawaii@gmail.com.

**Kilauea Drama and
Entertainment Network**

December 2025 Events & Updates at Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park



Kilauea Volcano's Ongoing Eruption. December 23 marks the one-year anniversary of the current Kilauea summit eruption, with more than 35 eruptions so far from the north and south vents within Halema'uma'u crater. Eruptions have lasted between eight days to just 4 ½ hours, producing spectacular lava fountains ranging from 50 meters (164 feet) to 450 meters (about 1,500 feet) high. The eruption is in a closed area but is easily visible from many open areas along the caldera rim. Stay out of closed areas! Hazards include volcanic gas, steep unstable cliff edges, earth cracks and the potential for falling airborne rock material.

During eruptions, park visitation surges, traffic increases and parking is limited. Plan ahead and check the park website for eruption viewing locations, parking tips, and more. Want the inside scoop when Kilauea is erupting? Sign up for free Volcano Notification Service emails through the USGS Hawaiian Volcano Observatory.

Construction Updates

Disaster Recovery Project Milestones. Phase One is done! The Phase One Disaster Recovery construction projects resulting from the 2018 Kilauea eruption and summit collapse are complete and include:

- Uēkahuna restrooms: Open
- Park entrance roundabout: Open
- Uēkahuna observation deck: Open
- Exit pullout lane: Open
- New administrative lane to reduce congestion at the entrance: Open

Phase Two of the Disaster Recovery Project is well underway and includes the rehabilitation and redesign of Kilauea Visitor Center (KVC). The structural steel support for the covered hālau (pavilion) on the west end of KVC is up, the wood framework on the new restrooms is visible on the east end, and septic installation is underway. Work to convert offices into visitor areas, increase space for the Hawai'i Pacific Parks Association (HPPA) store, and exhibits in English and 'ōlelo Hawai'i is ongoing. KVC, its restrooms and sidewalks, are closed during the project, and should reopen in late 2026. In the meantime, park rangers and the HPPA store have relocated to a temporary Welcome Center in the park and continue to serve visitors.

Make Your Way to the Welcome Center! Kilauea 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 Welcome Center at Kilauea Military Camp (KMC). Take Crater Rim Drive West, a little over a mile from the park entrance and 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.

Switchback Work Underway 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 should be complete by December 31.

Where to Go? The comfort station with flushing toilets is open at Uēkahuna. The Nāhuku comfort station is open. 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. 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.

Got Water? Visitors should bring their own water to Hawai‘i Volcanoes National Park. The water station at Kīlauea Visitor Center is unavailable during renovations. A drinking fountain is available at Uēkahuna, and the bottle-filling station will be reinstalled there soon. Water is available for purchase at Volcano House.

Highway 11 Power Pole Replacement. HELCO’s Line Relocation and Replacement project continues. Power pole replacement is nearly complete along Highway 11 and almost all the new lines are installed. Pole installation near the park entrance and rainshed will begin soon. The upgrades will provide more reliable electricity for the park and island-wide. 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.

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:** December 6, 13 and 20. 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.)

Santa Comes to Kahuku. Calling all keiki! Santa arrives on his 4WD Kahuku sled bearing gifts for children, merry photo ops and free shave ice, courtesy of the Friends of Hawai‘i Volcanoes National Park. Check out the festive decorations and get your special Kahuku NPS Passport stamp in the Hawai‘i Pacific Parks Association store. **When:** Saturday, December 6 from 11 a.m. when Santa arrives to 2 p.m. **Where:** Kahuku Visitor Contact Station. Turn into Kahuku near the 70.5-mile marker on Hwy 11 in Ka‘ū.

A Walk into the Past with Dr. Thomas A. Jaggar. Ka‘ū resident, actor and playwright Dick Hershberger will give a final performance of his living history program, “A Walk into the Past,” as Dr. Thomas A. Jaggar, the founder of the Hawaiian Volcano Observatory. Hershberger will appear in period costume and deliver his stories in first person at the Kahuku Unit. With support from the Kīlauea Drama and Entertainment Network, he has presented the historical performances for a dozen years. **When:** Saturday, December 13 at 11 a.m. **Where:** Meet at the Kahuku Visitor Contact Station. Turn into Kahuku near the 70.5-mile marker on Hwy 11 in Ka‘ū.

USGS Geology Talk: A Year of Lava fountains at the Summit of Kīlauea. The ongoing historic eruption in Halema‘uma‘u crater, at the summit of Kīlauea in Hawai‘i Volcanoes National Park, began the night of December 23, 2024. Since then, more than 35 episodes of lava fountaining from two vents have added nearly 200 feet of lava to the crater floor and contributed to a cone that stands almost 150 feet above the crater rim. Wahinekapu (also called Steaming Bluff) provides a panoramic view of these newest features on Kīlauea volcano. Join USGS-Hawaiian Volcano Observatory geologist Kendra J. Lynn, University of Hawai‘i at Hilo geology department assistant professor Lis Gallant and park staff at Wahinekapu to hear how this unique eruption has progressed over the past year, with an emphasis on the far-reaching hazards associated with the lava fountains. **When:** Tuesday, December 23 at 10 a.m. **Where:** Wahinekapu (Steaming Bluff). Park at the Steam Vents parking lot and take a short walk out to the bluff. Overflow parking available at Kīlauea Visitor Center.

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 to read the program board. **When:** Almost daily **Where:** Hawai‘i Volcanoes National Park, Kīlauea summit

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

DECEMBER EVENTS

*Christmas in the Country annual Wreath Exhibit
continues through December 31st*

12/6 - Lehua Christmas Ornament Workshop

12/13 - Jazz in the Forest: Holiday Jazz

12/13- Hula Kahiko in HVNP

12/13 - Food From Wood: Mushroom Cultivation

12/15 - Call to Artist: Deadline to Submit

12/20 - Paint Your Own Silk Scarf

Ceramics- Ongoing Classes

Handbuilding with Clay

with Diane Hanzel

Adventures in Clay with Monika Mann

Soul Fitness with PK Mercado

Thursdays 11:30am - 12:30pm

Tuesdays Fit & Firm 9am -10am

Aloha Fridays | 11am -1pm

Free Guided Forest Tour Mondays 9:30am

Holiday Hours:

HVNP Gallery- open daily 9am - 5pm

closed on Christmas Day

VAC Nialani Office & Gallery - open M-Sat

closed Christmas & New Years Day

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



**10% KAMA'AINA DISCOUNT
RESTAURANT & LODGING**

*AVAILABLE EVERY DAY

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
Resident "Volcano Realtor" since 1986

"LIVE VOLCANO"

New list 3/2 res. a cut above
V. Golf & C.C. MLS# 725201
\$529,785.



VOLCANO
THURSDAY MARKET

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

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

