



Cooper Center's Volcano Community News



NEWSLETTER #436

JANUARY 2026

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.

Volcano Health Care Needs Community Meeting 2/7/26

The Volcano Health Collaborative (VHC) has been reactivated to assist the Volcano Community Association to bring medical and health care services to Volcano. As some of you may remember, the VHC was established in January 2005 by many dedicated residents who first identified this unmet need.

The VHC will be holding a community meeting on Saturday, February 7 at 6:00 pm at Cooper Center. The purpose of the meeting is to summarize the results of the Medical and Healthcare Needs Assessment conducted by the Volcano Community Association. Residents are welcome to attend and provide input for the planning process.

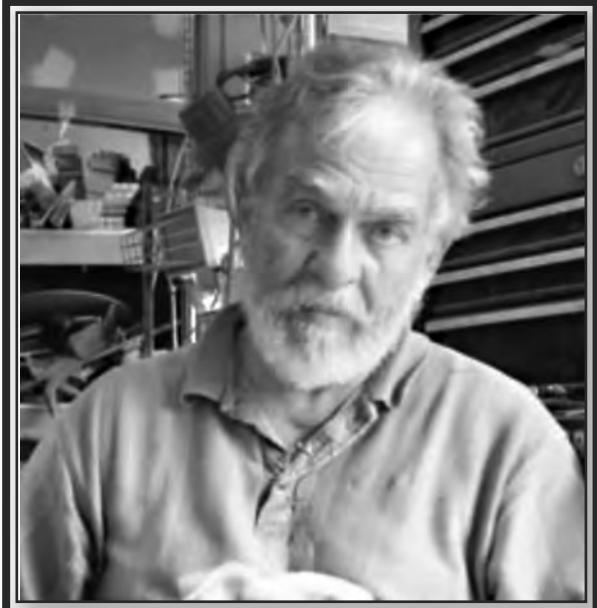


Happy New Year 2026!

Celebration of Life.

Roger George Schweitzer

Roger was born in Germany and migrated to the US at age five with his mother. After his schooling he joined the Navy as a proud submariner. After service he moved to Kauai and worked in construction. Eventually moving to the big island and finally in Volcano. Again in the construction industry as an inspector. He has been a volunteer with Cooper Center and the Volcano Rotary Club, famous for rotary-rotary chicken and "Lobster in the Forest". A volunteer handyman and friend to all. Come and celebrate Roger at Cooper Center on February 6th starting at 6p, please come and celebrate our long time community member who did so much for so many organizations. Cooper Center, Volcano Rotary, Hawaii Volcanoes National Park and others.



Roger George Schweitzer
April 28, 1949 - November 25, 2025

We are looking also for donations to help cover his expenses as he has no family here. Donations will run through Veterans groups, Cooper Center so it is then a charitable contribution, please note that on any checks.

Cooper Center Community Pantry News

The Cooper Center Community Pantry drive-through food pantry is a week early due to the holidays on Wednesday, January 28th 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

to 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

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.

Local resident has firewood he can share. Contact john at 808-315-1192.

A special Mahalo to Heather of Volcano Cookshop for providing warm and delicious breakfast burritos to the volunteers at the Christmas Wrapping Party on December 8th.



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 November 2025

Volcano Golf Course 5.92
data collected by Janis Hamersma

Volcano Village 6.9
data collected by Jim Bush

Mauna Loa Est. 6.25
data collected by JJ Jasinski

Royal Hawn Est. 14.9
data collected by Tom Pico

Fern Forest 16.18
data collected by Drew Kapp

Ohia Estates 12.75
data collected by Phil Haysmer



Volcano Seniors January 2026 Calendar

Jan 1 – No Meeting

Jan 8 – Business Mtg, Games, Potluck

Jan 15 – Games, Potluck

Jan 22 – Games, Potluck

Jan 29 – Bingo, Games, Potluck

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

Volcano Rotary January 2026

Our Rotary members want to thank everyone in the community who supported our second annual holiday tree lighting event in November. It was a great night and we're already looking forward to doing it again next year. In the meantime, we welcome visitors to our regular club meetings at 8 a.m. on the first and third Thursdays of each month at the Volcano Art Center's Ni'aulani campus. Come join the fun and fellowship.



Submitted by Mike Leidemann



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OTHER VEGES & JAMS

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Wednesdays 2-5pm at our farm stand
Or by appointment

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Jeff 937-1056 or Landline 928-6456
mccallsfarmandstainedglass@hawaii.rr.com

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ALOHA FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS!

Start this New Year off with a BANG by joining us at January's Volcano Swap Meets. Held this month only on the 3rd & 5th Saturdays, January 17th & 31st from 9AM to 1PM in the Magical Heart of Volcano Village at Cooper Center on Wright Road. Usual schedule of 2nd & 4th Saturdays will resume in February.

SUPPORT LOCAL! It's Great Shopping from a vast selection of ANY KINE STUFFS, Ono Grinds, & Live Music by Simply Penny.

Featuring New & Gently Used Treasures such as: Local Jams & Plants, Antiques & Collectibles, Handmade Jewelry & Crafts, Art & Hawaiiana, Kulolo & Cakes, Clothing & Snacks. Bookstore & Thrift Store also open.

Resolve to check us out!

To vend, or for more info, call Auntie Frances at 808-985-8646 & leave your name, number, & message.

Have a wonderful New Year & Best of Luck
with Those Resolutions.
It's a chance for us ALL to start over.

A Hui Hou,
Auntie Frances Roberts-Bennett

2026 is the Year of the Fire Horse





Friends of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park

Hawai'i Volcanoes Institute Presents

SUNDAY WALK IN THE PARK – HALEMA'UMA'U TRAIL

Sunday, January 11, 2026

10:00 am – 12:00 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 Halema'uma'u Trail.

Descend 425 feet (130m) at the southern edge of Kilauea Caldera through a rain forest that has been re-established numerous times, to the floor of Kilauea Caldera.

Of interest: A unique biological diversity of plants, birds, insects; formations of "pahoehoe" lava, steam vents, walk on the 1974 lava flow and a panoramic view of a volcanic caldera.

Distance .8 miles one way, 1.6 miles round trip. | Difficulty: Moderate | Meet at Kilauea Visitor Center

Bring: Water, food, hat, sun protection & rain gear. Be prepared for hot, dry, wet and windy weather conditions.

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.fhvp.org/events/sw-20260111/> for updates and for more information about this event.

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@fhvp.org - Web: www.fhvp.org
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THE VOICE

News from the Volcano Community Association

January 2026

Aloha Volcano Ohana,

2025 is now history, and it reminds us all of just how quickly time passes, and just how important it is to make the most of our time here, and actually do all that we can in order to make a positive difference.

Your Volcano Community Association has been doing just that, and as a volunteer organization, WE NEED YOUR HELP! A very small fraction of our neighbors in this community raise their hands to volunteer and try to help improve our community, and if you are reading this and you have yet to be actively involved, we urge you to make this your New Year's resolution, to give back to your community in 2026. Please come and join us.

The Volcano Community Association Annual Meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 27, 2026 at the Cooper Center Meeting Hall starting at 5.30pm.

Refreshments will be available. Please arrive at 5:30 to renew your VCA membership or to become

a member, and the meeting will begin promptly at 6:00pm. This is a chance for you to meet your VCA Board of Directors, and to learn more about the organization and its many initiatives and efforts in our community.

You will also be introduced to and hear

short presentations from leaders with other organizations in the community, such as Volcano School of Arts & Sciences, Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, Volcano Art Center, our local Rotary Chapter, Forest Overlay Committee, Volcano Health Collaborative, and Volcano Planning Committee, to name a few.

How Is the VCA Actually Working to Improve Your Community?

The VCA has always had our community's best interests at heart, as we respond to the needs shared with us by our community members. Past results point to the creation of the Cooper Center, Volunteer Fire Station #19, improvements to the

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.

Refuse Station, Annual 4th of July Parade, Donations to the VSAS for student scholarships, Food Basket, etc..., but improvements are often not easily won.

In 2025 the VCA and several subcommittees have made notable progress toward improvements to the Volcano Community.

We all owe a great debt of gratitude to our neighbor and VCA member, Kathleen Mishina, who has worked tirelessly towards bringing Health Services to this underserved community. She created the Health Needs Survey recently, and with the help of her daughter, was able to produce an impressive comprehensive analysis based on results received back from the community, The Volcano Health Initiative, which she has submitted to various local law makers and committees, who so far have been very supportive.

Additionally, the Volcano Health Collaborative, formed 15 years ago, has been reinvigorated by leaders in our community, and they will be joining forces in an effort to get

this Health Initiative across the line – again, improvements are often not easily won :) A community meeting is planned for February to share updates on the Health Initiative, and further meeting details will be provided in the February newsletter.

Also, based on concern expressed by many in our community, The Forest Overlay Committee was assembled earlier in 2025, comprised of both VCA Board members as well as community members with vast knowledge and experience in this arena. Working with both the community, state and county representatives, and government agencies, the FOC has made encouraging strides towards sensible protections to this special and fragile forested environment we are blessed to call home.

And the Volcano Planning Committee, again comprised of long-time leaders in our community, as well as VCA leadership, has been actively working on community improvement initiatives for ages, and appear to be

poised to bear tangible fruit.

Listening to community input, improvements and added safety measures to Highway 11 between Mt View and Volcano Village, have been proposed to elected officials and government agencies, and it looks as though we will all be the beneficiaries of those efforts in the near term, thanks to the efforts of diligent and determined volunteers in Volcano.

Without community engagement and effort, none of these volunteer community organizations would exist, nor would any meaningful improvements to this beautiful community we all call home. Please join us and become a steward of this special place, and make the time to do your part, as it is kuleana we all share.

Mahalo nui loa

**VCA Annual Meeting
Cooper Center Meeting Hall**

Tuesday, January 27, 2026
5:30 - 7:30pm (ish)



Volcano School of Arts & Sciences January 2026 News

Volcano School Celebrates 25 Years

The Volcano School of Arts & Sciences 'Ohana celebrates its 25th year of providing quality education to our keiki. We offer our deepest mahalo nui loa to the countless people--founders, kumu, staff, parents, graduates and community partners--who have dedicated hard work, good will, and mana'o over the past quarter century since the initial planning meetings 25 years ago.

Founder Dina Kageler is one of the selfless givers. "When the state legislature passed a law allowing the creation of public charter schools in 1999, we immediately began working on an application to start a school in Volcano. I had two very young children and wanted a more hands-on, experiential learning environment than was available in a regular public elementary school," she said.

That original group of parents, educators, and community members envisioned a place-based school unique to our area. "Kilauea was in our back yard; we wanted to use this place that was so important in Hawaiian culture, as well as being a national park and

UN World Heritage site, as one focus of our curriculum." Kageler said, noting that they wanted to create a good foundation. "Since then it's grown in more directions than we anticipated and succeeded more than we'd dare to have hoped for," she continued.

In addition to being a founder and parent, Kumu Kageler served multiple terms on the VSAS governing board and was the school's long-time music and art teacher. She spearheaded a defining aspect of VSAS for many years: the Spring Musical. For 17 years students learned the natural history of the area by doing a live performance of theater skits, puppetry, and musical numbers of original songs (many of which were composed by Kageler).

With this unique education, VSAS graduates have gone on to success in many fields: a USGS volcanologist who found her calling in elementary school, a speech-language therapist, a Native Hawaiian Harvard University graduate, a NPS law enforcement officer, as well as many others.

However, this is the primary purpose in VSAS looking back on what we've built: to see where we are now, and

how we can build on that foundation to best serve our current and future students. To that end, throughout the first semester Kumu Wolfgang's fifth grade class (i.e., The Wolfpack) has created an oral history of VSAS.

Kumu Xanthe (also a founder) put the students in contact with the other founders and others involved in those early days. The students planned their questions and interviewed as many as they could. Why did you want to start the school? Do you have any kids? What do you think about the new high school? Kumu Star Carlin--founder and retired VSAS 3rd/4th grade teacher--visited the class waving a clipboard and asked, "Why was this important at the beginning of our school?"

Are you curious about why--or about any other memories of the early days of VSAS? Find out at the VSAS Ho'ik'i 2026 at the Volcano Art Center Niaulani Campus. In addition to artwork from many students, The Wolfpack will share their oral history as we as a school community move into the next quarter century. Mahalo nui loa to all and best wishes for the new year.

—pau—



The Wolfpack with Kumu Wolfgang & Kumu Star

January 2026 Events at the Volcano Art Center & Gallery

Save The Date: The Love The Arts annual fundraiser event: “Earth, Wind & Fire” takes place on Saturday, February 21st, from 4:30pm to 8:30pm at Volcano Art Center’s Niaulani Campus in Volcano Village.(19-4074 Old Volcano Road). This annual gala is our main event to raise funds for Volcano Art Center which allows us to fund classes, exhibits, workshops, and offer the creative arts experience in this uniquely nurturing and inspiring environment.

Hawaiki to Hawai‘i: A glass exhibition about a time when nature held the power by artist Daniel Moe opens January 10th – Feb 15, 2026, daily 9am -5pm at Volcano Art Center Gallery in Hawai‘i Volcanoes National Park.

Hula Arts at Kilauea: Hula Kahiko performance on December 13th with Hālau Pelehonuamea & Kekoa Harman with Hula Hālau Ka Leo Ola o Nā Mamo at 10:30am. Held outdoors at the kahua hula (hula platform) in Hawai‘i Volcanoes National Park. Park entry fees apply. (808) 967-7565.

Sounds at the Summit: You are invited to come and enjoy Maui based artist Tempa & Naor in concert at the Volcano Art Center Niaulani Campus in Volcano Village. (19-4074 Old Volcano Road), January 10th, at 5:30pm. For tickets Call (808) 967-8222 or visit www.volcanoartcenter.org.

Ceramics Classes: 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.

After School Drawing with Ken Charon: A series of 6 drawing classes for children at VAC Niaulani Campus in Volcano Village on Tuesdays, from January 6th to February 10th, 2026, from 2:30pm – 3:45pm. For art lovers ages 8 to 14 years old. Ken’s lessons focus on drawing things from life. Portraits, landscapes and still-life’s will be encouraged to prepare for more personal imaginary works. Field trips into the Niaulani Rainforest will also be included, weather permitting. Discounted grant funded class fee.

Zentangle® Basic & Beyond: Join Lydia Meneses on January 10th, from 10am – 1pm at VAC Niaulani Campus in Volcano Village. Zentangle is an easy-to-learn, relaxing and fun way to create beautiful images by drawing structured patterns.

Thursday Night at the Center: For any lover of nature; for any world traveler; Madagascar is a must see – a top of the top ten destinations! Join Jay Robinson on January 22, 6pm at VAC Niaulani Campus on his journey to discover the wildlife, national parks and ecoregions that make this incredible island so special.

Thursday Night at the Center: Volcanology 101, January 29, 6pm. at VAC Niaulani Campus. Have you ever wondered what causes a volcano to erupt, why volcanoes have different shapes, or why some eruptions are explosive while others produce only lava flows? Join Dr Lis Gallant, an Assistant Professor in the Geology Department at UH Hilo, for a lecture and Q+A session on the basics of volcanology.

“Stained Glass – An Introductory Class” will be held at Volcano Art Center Niaulani Campus (19-4074 Old Volcano Road) on Saturdays, January 10th – January 31st, from 9am – 1pm.

Soul Fitness: Join PK for senior exercise class every Thursdays, 11:30am – 12:30pm, and every Tuesdays Fit & Firm from 9am – 10am., 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.

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

January 2026 Events & Updates at Hawai‘i Volcanoes National Park



HAWAII NATIONAL PARK, Hawai‘i – January kicks off the new year off with a flurry of special events! It’s Volcano Awareness Month, ten 2026 fee-free dates have been announced, and park ranger programs at Kīlauea and Kahuku are going strong. Plan ahead for these events, photos are available:

Kīlauea Volcano Eruption. For more than a year, Kīlauea volcano has been erupting episodically from its north and south vents within the summit crater, Halema‘uma‘u. The 38-and-counting eruptions are contained within Hawai‘i Volcanoes National Park. 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 is heavy and parking is limited. Plan ahead and check the park website for eruption viewing locations, parking tips, and more. Want to know when Kīlauea is erupting? Sign up for free Volcano Notification Service emails through the USGS Hawaiian Volcano Observatory.

Volcano Awareness Month. January 2026 is the 17th annual Volcano Awareness Month (VAM) on the island of Hawai‘i! Throughout the month, the USGS Hawaiian Volcano Observatory (HVO) scientists, along with close partners, will promote the importance of understanding and respecting the volcanoes on which we live. Numerous VAM events are happening in Hawai‘i Volcanoes National Park, and more are scheduled outside the park. Go to the USGS HVO website to download the calendar and find out more.

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: January 3, 17, 24 and 31. 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.)

‘Ōhi‘a Lehua Hike. Learn about the vital role of ‘ōhi‘a lehua in native forests, the many forms of the ‘ōhi‘a tree, and the threat of a fungal disease, Rapid ‘Ōhi‘a Death, on this ranger-guided hike. Visitors will be able to identify the many differences of the most prominent native tree in Kahuku on this program, which is an easy, one-mile, one-hour walk.

When: Saturday, January 10 at 9:30 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.

Remembering Halapē. This talk-story and living history presentation commemorates 50 years since the devastating locally generated 1975 tsunami impacted the island of Hawai‘i and reshaped the coastline of Hawai‘i Volcanoes National Park. Learn about local tsunamis, what to do when a tsunami strikes, and hear the stories of Boy Scout Troop 77 who were camping at Halapē on November 29, 1975. Jackie Pualani Johnson and team will perform “Halapē ‘75: A Crevice in Time,” adapted from first-person survivor stories. When: Saturday, January 24 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Where: Meet at the Kahuku Visitor Contact Station. Turn into Kahuku near the 70.5-mile marker on Hwy 11 in Ka‘ū.

Pu‘uolokuana Walk. Join park staff on an easy 0.4-mile 45-minute guided interpretative program at Pu‘uolokuana cinder cone, a prominent feature of the Kahuku Unit. Learn how the pu‘u (cinder cone) was formed and its various uses over time. Enjoy breathtaking views of Ka‘ū from its peak and learn why Pu‘uolokuana is considered kumu waiwai, a source of wealth. When: Saturday, January 31 at 9:30 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.

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

Construction Updates

Phase Two of the Disaster Recovery Project is underway and includes the rehabilitation and redesign of Kīlauea Visitor Center (KVC). The structural steel support for the covered hālau (pavilion) on the west end of KVC is up, the roof and 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.

Find Us at 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 Welcome Center at Kīlauea 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.

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 is nearly complete. Line installation on new poles near the park entrance will begin soon to provide more reliable electricity for the park. More information and the Environmental Assessment can be found online.



Keanakāko‘i provides close-up views of the eruption. NPS Photo

Volcano Community News

Cooper Center Council
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JANUARY EVENTS

Voyage From Hawaiki: A glass exhibition

by Daniel Moe at VAC gallery in HVNP

January 10th - February 15th

1/6 - 2/10 - After School Drawing with Ken Charon

1/10 - Stained Glass Workshop

1/10 - Zentangle: with Lydia Meneses

1/10 - Tempa & Naor in Concert

1/10 - Hula Kahiko in the Park

1/22 - Thursday Night at the Center:

Madagascar with Jay Robinson

1/29 - Thursday Night at the Center:

Volcanology 101

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

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