



# Cooper Center's Volcano Community News



NEWSLETTER #432

SEPTEMBER 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.

## Fall Festival at Cooper Center Friday, October 10<sup>th</sup> 4pm-7pm

This year, on Friday, October 10<sup>th</sup> we'll now be having an Italian celebration to honor Discover's Day. We've planned an awesome meal, bar and music, so please plan on joining us at 4p to 7p on Friday the 10<sup>th</sup> of October.

First things first. Our meal will be a fabulous Pasta Dinner with your choice of Pomodoro or Alfredo Sauce and your pick of meatballs or chicken breast. Pomodoro Sauce (tomato based) will be vegan and Alfredo (cream based) is vegetarian. We'll also have a big garden salad courtesy of McCall's, homemade garlic bread and dessert. Plates will be \$15 and portions will be plentiful.

At the bar we'll have Antipasto appetizers for sale for \$4.00, not an Italian drink is our margarita, also wine or beer on tap for \$5.00 and if you remember to bring your "Cooper Cup" you will get a \$1.00 off your drinks. Come and enjoy your drinks and appetizers while relaxing with new and old friends.

See you 10/10 at 4p at the Fall Festival!



## Volunteer Gratitude & Next Steps

We extend our deepest gratitude to every volunteer who gave their time, energy, and aloha to support the Cooper Center's recent cleaning and maintenance project. Your hard work and spirit of service made a tremendous difference in preparing our shared facility for the improvements ahead. Thanks to you, the center is not only refreshed but also ready for the next phase of care—painting the facility hall and kitchen. This important work will ensure our community space remains welcoming, safe, and vibrant for all who gather here. We mahalo you for your continued support and look forward to working side by side again in the coming weeks.

Mahalo!

Sherrie Galdeira,  
Chief Executive Officer

## Cooper Center Community Pantry News

The Cooper Center Community Pantry drive through food pantry is on Wednesday, September 24<sup>th</sup> from 9:30-11:00am.

## 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

\*\*\*\*\*

**House sitting, Pet sitting,** contact Heather Stella at 808-756-2516 or [heatherstellaart@gmail.com](mailto:heatherstellaart@gmail.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

**FOR SALE:** Kenmore High Efficiency Washer Energy Star, incl. New Hot/Cold H2O hook up & drainage hoses. Fair condition, \$50. Please call Auntie Frances at 808-985-8646 & leave name, number, & message.

## No Hand-Written Notes to VCN Please

Volcano Community News (VCN) entries are digitally accepted due to the nature of illegible handwriting making it difficult to ensure accuracy. Please submit all VCN entry requests to [kilaueatutu@gmail.com](mailto:kilaueatutu@gmail.com). It is the responsibility of the requestor to locate assistance with digital submissions.

Mahalo, editor

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## 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 July 2025

**Volcano Golf Course**                      **1.15**  
**data collected by**  
**Janis Hamersma**

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

**Mauna Loa Est.**                              **5.20**  
**data collected by JJ Jasinski**

**Royal Hawn Est.**                              **8.45**  
**data collected by Tom Pico**

**Fern Forest**                                      **10.45**  
**data collected by Drew Kapp**

**Ohia Estates**                                      **8.47**  
**data collected by Phil Haysmer**

# Volcano Rotary September 2025



## Rotary still pushing for end to polio

For four decades, Rotary International has been a leader in the long world-wide fight against polio. And the battle is nearly over: The number of children paralyzed by polio has been reduced by 99 percent over the last four decades, and new cases of the disease have been eradicated in almost every country in the world with a few exceptions, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Papua-New Guinea.

Rotary's initial commitment to this effort in the 1980s led to the launch of the PolioPlus program, a major global initiative aimed at eradicating the disease. Since then Rotary has been a key partner in this effort, working alongside international organizations and national governments. The results: more than 430 million children worldwide have been vaccinated since 2017. And Rotary members have contributed almost \$100 million to that effort.

While the job is almost done, Rotary is still strongly behind this effort. And our Rotary clubs across Hawaii are still deeply involved. This year, those clubs have pledged to raise almost \$50,000 from individual members to help the effort to stamp out polio in those view remaining places — and to make sure it doesn't resurface in the future.

If you would like to know more about this effort, and how you can help: I suggest checking out the website: [www.endpolio.org](http://www.endpolio.org)

Meanwhile, why not stop in at one of our regular meetings and get to know some of your neighbors who are part of this effort? Our regular meetings are at 8 a.m. on first and third Thursdays of each month at the Volcano Art Center's Ni'aulani campus. Sure, it's early...but we always have free coffee and homemade breakfast snacks.

*Submitted by Mike Leidemann*



## Volcano Seniors September 2025 Calendar

**Sept 4** – Business Mtg,  
Games, Potluck

**Sept 11** – Games, Potluck

**Sept 18** – Games, Potluck

**Sept 25** – Bingo, Games,  
Potluck

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

## Here's a more detailed look at the history:

### 1979:

Rotary's first major polio immunization project involved vaccinating six million children in the Philippines.

### 1985:

Rotary made a historic pledge to immunize all the world's children and launched the PolioPlus program.

### Ongoing Commitment:

Rotary continues to play a vital role in global polio eradication efforts, contributing billions of dollars and countless volunteer hours.

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 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



**ALOHA FOLKS... VOLCANOITES  
 & WANNA-BE'S ALIKE!**



Fall on in to September's Volcano Swap/Craft Meets. Held 2nd & 4th Saturdays, September 13th & 27th from 9AM to 1PM in the Magical Heart of Volcano Village at Cooper Center on Wright Road.

KEEP IT LOCAL! Featuring local items & wares, onolicious food, live music, & a great reason to shop till you drop.

There's ALL KINE STUFFS... Gently Used Plus New Treasures. Expect Jewelry, Quilts, Koa, Furniture, Plants, Art & Crafts, Clothing, Gifts & Decor, Gadgets, Tools, Honey & Hawaiian Kulolo, Sun Catchers, Pet Items & Treats, Stained Glass, Cakes & Snacks, Collectibles, Antiques, Crystals & Gemstones.

Bookstore & Thrift Store also open.

New vendors coming in regularly as waiting list allows. Like 1 space to sell your goodies, or need more info? Call Auntie Frances at 808-985-8646 & leave name, number, & message.



Have a Wonderful Labor Day! ☺



Hau'oli La Hanau 'O Queen Lili'uokalani! 🌺



Happy Birthday Queen Lili'uokalani! 🌺

A Hui Hou,

Auntie Frances Roberts-Bennett 🌺

**AGNETA FIA BARBRO VIVEKA MATTICE**

**A**gneta Fia Barbro Viveka Mattice, 77, of Volcano, died peacefully at home on June 3, surrounded by family and friends. Born in Malmö, Sweden, Fia was a passionate and ardent advocate of the arts and arts education on Hawaii Island and a 30-year employee of the Volcano Art Center. a tireless volunteer, she was co-founder and president of the Hawaii Island Art Alliance, and a co-creator of the juried exhibitions, Hawaii Nei and Quilts in the Forest. Fia also made invaluable contributions to the State Foundation on Culture and Arts, Arts in Public Places Program. She also served as a founding member of Volcano School of Arts and Sciences and Three Mountain Alliance; her contributions truly made good happen. Fia was a cherished partner, mother, grandmother, friend, and connector of people. Survived by husband, David Mattice of Hilo; sons, Dan Alexander of Seattle and Lukas (Toshiko Yoda) Mattice of Japan; brothers, Mats

(Tessa) Bergenmalm and Erik (Inga) Bergenmalm of Stockholm, Sweden; cousin, | Pia Ericsson Palm of Malmö, Sweden; numerous nieces and nephews, in-laws and one granddaughter.

A celebration of Fia's life will be held September 28, 2025, 2-5pm at Volcano Art Center, Niaulani Campus. Donations can be made to Hawaii Island Art Alliance at [www.hiaa-online.org](http://www.hiaa-online.org)





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

### SUNDAY WALK IN THE PARK – PU'ULOA PETROGLYPHS

Sunday, September 14, 2025 - 10:00 am to 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 explore the Pu'uloa Petroglyphs. Participants will meet at the trailhead.

Walk in the footsteps of the kūpuna (elders) to Pu'uloa (hill of long life), a sacred and awe-inspiring gallery of ki'i pohaku (images carved in stone). These simple etchings document the life and culture of the native Hawaiian people and spiritually, cradle the piko (umbilical cord) of their children. It brought hopes of receiving the blessings of a long and prosperous life.

Of interest: This coastal trail traverses a 500-550 year old lava field to one of Hawai'i's most extensive petroglyph fields. A site that has approximately 23,000 petroglyphs, many viewable at a boardwalk constructed for this purpose. The petroglyphs are very fragile. Stay on the boardwalk.

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-20250914/> for updates and for more information about this event.

Friends of Hawai'i 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)  
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## Lucky We Live!



### Aloha Volcano Ohana,

Living in Volcano, you likely have received incredulous reactions of family or friends who live elsewhere, once they learn that you live on Kilauea, one of the world's most active volcanoes.

At the time of this writing, we await the thirty-first fountaining event since this eruption began back in the early morning of December 23, 2024.

Not only is Kilauea one

of the most active, but it is also one of the most accessible volcanoes on the planet, and it was for this reason that Thomas A. Jaggar founded the Hawaiian Volcanoes Observatory (HVO) in 1912, and now operated by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS).

Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park was established in 1916, designated as an International Biosphere Reserve in 1980, and a World Heritage Site in 1987.

The current eruption is noteworthy in the recorded history of eruptive events in the Park, due to the number and magnitude of fountaining events, some reaching heights of up to 1,300 feet, exceeded only by the 1,900 foot fountains of Pu'upua'i in Kilauea Iki in 1959 (which made the cover of LIFE magazine and dwarfed New York's Empire State Building), and the 1,500 foot fountains of Pu'u 'o'o from 1983 – 1986.

While many who live in the Volcano area either work for or volunteer in the Park, many might not be aware of just why Kilauea and Mauna Loa are so active, and how they differ from other volcanoes thousands of miles away in the so-called "Ring of Fire" (think Japan, Washington State, etc.). These classic conical shaped volcanoes are formed along the Pacific plate boundary

**VCA Monthly Meetings** are held on every third Tuesday at 5.00pm at Cooper Center. Please notify the VCA Board via [vcaboardcontact@gmail.com](mailto: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.

convergence/divergence with coastal plates, the amount of dissolved gases released, and the viscosity of the lava it is trying to escape from.

The Hawaiian Archipelago was shaped differently, as our islands have been formed over millions of years, as the Pacific Plate we sit atop moves ever slowly over a “hot spot” towards the Northwest, at about the pace of 3-4 inches per year. This hot spot pushes magma to the surface that becomes the molten lava we know, and Hawai’i Island, comprised of five separate volcanoes; Kohala, Mauna Kea, Hualalai, Mauna Loa, and Kilauea, still being formed.

As older islands move away from the hot spot they lose their connection to it, their volcanoes become dormant then extinct (think Diamond Head), and they begin the slow process of eroding back under the ocean from which they first arose. Imagine that every island in our archipelago was formed on this very spot. Midway Atoll was formed here, and is now the last in the Hawaiian Ridge to remain above sea level, and the youngest volcano in the chain {Kama’ehuakanaloa Seamount) just 22 miles Southeast of us – mind boggling isn’t it?

Lucky we live!



### **Volcano Health Needs Update**

The Volcano Community Association would like to thank all of you who have completed and submitted the recent VCA Health Needs Survey found on the middle pages of the August edition of the Cooper Center Newsletter. It will be with community-wide participation that this survey demonstrates the true need for the services in the Volcano community, and with the actual needs demonstrated and documented, enables next steps towards bringing these services to our doorstep.



## Volcano School of Arts & Sciences September 2025 News

### Volcano School Celebrates New School Year

The Volcano School of Arts & Sciences Hawai'i-Focused Public Charter School located in Volcano Village celebrates back-to-school season for returning 'ohana as well as new students and faculty.

"This year has gotten off to a great start. Several staff have mentioned—and I agree—that this has been the smoothest, strongest start of school so far, said Po'okula (Principal) Kalima Kinney. "We are fortunate to have such experienced and caring teachers and staff," she said. In addition to all the returning faculty and staff, Volcano School is pleased to welcome the following new staff: Lehua Parker – 3rd grade, Erica Wells – 4th grade, Arianna Henry – Special Education Teacher, Billie Ramirez – Behavior Support Specialist, Shaun Rapoza – Educational Assistant, Melody Thornhill – Office Clerk, Tiani Kinney – Adult Supervisor.

"I'm absolutely delighted to be here," said Kumu Lehua Parker, the new VSAS third grade teacher. "I'm from here, and have family in Waipio Valley, Na'alehu and Kohala, as well as Hilo on my Japanese side." Prior to joining VSAS, Kumu Parker, a graduate of the University of California at Berkeley, taught at San Diego Community College. In her first couple of weeks at VSAS, she is impressed with how seamlessly the teachers work together for the benefit of the students. "I'm learning a lot watching how different teachers decorate and organize their classrooms, and how everyone knows all the students," she continued. "I have so much aloha for everyone--their dedication to the mission and purpose of the school."

Yli, a recent graduate of Kea'au middle school, just started 9th grade at VSAS. "Everyone is very welcoming here and there are more programs," she said.

"People are more easygoing." She is looking forward to the school's Running Start program, which provides the opportunity to earn credit for online classes, and even earn college credit for some work.

Jahaziel, who has been with VSAS since Kindergarten, graduated from the VSAS middle school earlier this year and is returning as a 9th grader. "High school is different," he said. "It's more advanced, you have to pay attention and have more focus." Is he ready for that? "Yeah, middle school was good preparation for what I'm doing now in high school," he said.



Happy Hanoa (Gr. 2) proud of his work.



High school students oli at morning Piko Wehena (opening protocol).

Jamison had been a Kula 'Amakihi community-based learning program student until this year, when he got a slot in the 4th grade classroom on campus. "I like being with Kumu Erica every day," he said.

"I'm excited that in high school this semester we'll be doing a multi-disciplinary focus on the theme of wai [which means fresh water], incorporating science, social studies and English," said High School English Kumu Jacquie. The mission of the school is "Learning from Volcano's unique natural and cultural resources to become creative global citizens." For more information, visit [www.volcanoschool.net](http://www.volcanoschool.net).

### VSAS Vision of a Graduate



### Volcano School Ho'olaule'a 2025

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Volcano School Ho'olaule'a will be held September 27<sup>th</sup>, 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 event.

### VSAS Core Values

**Kūlia** - Kūlia i ka nu'u. Strive to reach the summit.

**'Ohana** 'Ike aku, 'ike mai, kōkua aku kōkua mai; pela iho la ka nohona 'ohana. Recognize and be recognized, help and be helped; such is family life.

**Aloha** - Me ke aloha



# September 2025 Events at the Volcano Art Center & Gallery

**Art Speaks** - Listening Session on September 9th, from 4 – 6pm The Volcano Art Center invites artists, cultural practitioners, arts educators, nonprofit leaders and advocates to discuss shaping the future of Arts and Culture in Hawai'i. Hosted by Representative Kapela, Chair of the State Committee on Culture and Arts, this is an opportunity to share experiences and challenges as creatives in Hawai'i, discuss ways to strengthen and support for arts across generations, and build collective vision and momentum for cultural policy change. At Volcano Art Center's Niaulani Campus (19-4074 Old Volcano Rd.) for more information call (808) 967-8222.

**Hawaii Nei Invitational Exhibition** continues through September 28th. The gallery is open daily, 9am -5pm in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. While the exhibit is free to attend, park entrance fees apply.

**Hula Arts at Kilauea:** Hula Kahiko performance Kumu Moses Kaho'okele Crabbe w/ Hālauolaokalani on September 13th, 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:** Come join us on September 13th at 5:30 pm. at the Volcano Art Center Nialani Campus for a great evening of musical enjoyment. Featuring the music of jazz trumpet virtuoso Miles Davis. Tickets are \$25 for VAC members (\$30 non-members)! Ticket holders will be able to purchase beer, wine, as well as pupu. Doors open at 5pm. Get you tickets online at [www.volcanoartcenter.com](http://www.volcanoartcenter.com) or call (808) 967-8222.



**Zentangle with Dina Kageler:** Join us for Lava Layers, on September 13th, from 10am – 1pm. at VAC Nialani Campus for another journey in our place-based explorations of Zentangle-inspired art.

**John Dawson Studio Sale:** The Volcano Art Center is hosting a unique studio sale of Big Island artist John D. Dawson at the Nialani Campus in Volcano Village on September 20th & 21st, from 10am – 3pm. The sale includes original acrylic and watercolor paintings, rough sketches, and pen and ink drawings from decades of work as a professional illustrator.

**Soul Fitness with PK:** senior exercise class every Thursday in September, 11:30am – 12:30pm 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.

**Thursday Night at the Center with Marc Hughes:** “Denizens of the deep “at VAC Nialani Campus in Volcano Village (19-4074 Old Volcano Road), September 25th at 6pm. Marc will be showing videos of rarely seen behavior of animals filmed a few miles offshore in Kailua Kona.

**Celebration of Life in honor of Fia Mattice** at Volcano Art Center's Nialani Campus in Volcano Village, September 28th, from 2-4pm.

**Tai Chi with John Constantinou** at VAC Nialani Campus starting Tuesdays, in September, from 8am – 9am. He has been enjoying Yang Style Tai Chi for over 34 yrs. Some health benefits from Tai Chi include improved strength, flexibility, and balance. Tai Chi also 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.

## Adult & Pediatric First Aid, CPR/AED Certification Class

**A**loha VERT Volunteers – We will again be offering an Adult & Pediatric First Aid, CPR/AED Certification class on October 18, 2025, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Cooper Center. This course teaches students to recognize and care for a variety of first aid emergencies such as burns, cuts, scrapes, sudden illnesses, head, neck and back injuries, heat and cold emergencies, and how to respond to breathing and cardiac emergencies to help victims of any age. Students who successfully complete this course will receive a certification to perform this level of first aid, valid for two years:

**WHAT:** Adult & Pediatric First Aid, CPR/AID Certification Class

**WHERE:** Cooper Center

**WHEN:** October 18, 2025

**TIME:** 9:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m.

**COST:** Free

If you are interested in taking this class, please contact:

Doug Wilson at 808-985-9362 or email him at [douscelle@aol.com](mailto:douscelle@aol.com). Class size is limited.

## 🌸 Volunteer Group Highlight of the Month – September 2025 🌸

**T**he Senior Program at Cooper Center is a vibrant cornerstone of our community, gathering weekly at the Cooper Center Community Facility to share joy, support, and plenty of smiles. Their generous spirit shines through in the array of delicious potluck dishes they graciously share with fellow volunteers who work tirelessly to support and maintain our facility and programs.

In August, these incredible kupuna went above and beyond—playing a key role in getting our newsletter out in record time by folding hundreds of copies with efficiency and care. Their dedication, warmth, and teamwork remind us why they are an essential part of the Cooper Center family.

Mahalo nui loa to our Kupuna Program for your steadfast stewardship, generosity, and the many ways you enrich our community. We look forward to folding, sharing, and celebrating with you for many months to come!

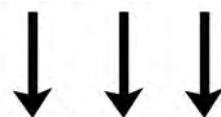


## What's New?

**C**heck out the latest addition by the bulletin board at Cooper Center. There is now a suggestion box for you positive ideas to better our Community.

Just use the paper on the clipboard and place your idea in the space on the box lid. No need for any signature. We look forward to any good way to better our area

Susan Bagley



**SUGGESTIONS**

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# September 2025 Events & Updates at Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park

## 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.

**Plein Air Painters Celebrate the Beauty of Kahuku.** The Kahuku Unit of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park has a multitude of inspirational landscapes, and there is a dedicated cadre of plein air (open air) artists who frequent Kahuku to capture these beautiful scenes. The Friends of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park will sponsor an exhibition of these paintings and an opening reception to meet the artists on Saturday, September 20 from 10 a.m. to noon. In addition to the reception, the artists will be painting on the lānai of the Visitor Contact Station (VCS). Come experience how different artists approach the same subject as they paint the iconic Pu'u O Lokuana cinder cone, or bring your own equipment and paint with them. The paintings will be on display in the VCS from September 18 through September 28. There are no sales at this event. **When:** Saturday, September 20 from 10 a.m. to noon **Where:** Kahuku Visitor Contact Station. Turn into Kahuku near the 70.5-mile marker on Hwy 11 in Ka'u.



**Fee-Free Day for National Public Lands Day.** National Public Lands Day (NPLD) is the largest, single-day volunteer effort for public lands in the U.S. Help us protect the Hawaiian rainforest and volunteer to remove invasive, non-native plants that prevent native plants from growing in the park. Wear sturdy hiking shoes and long pants. Bring a hat, rain gear, day pack, snack and water. Gloves and tools are provided. Under 18? Parental or guardian accompaniment or written consent is required. No advance registration is required, but space is limited to the first 25 participants. Contact [field@hawaii.edu](mailto:field@hawaii.edu) ahead of time. Park entrance is free. **When:** Saturday, September 27, 8:45 a.m. to noon. Meet project leaders Paul and Jane Field at Kīlauea Visitor Center lānai. **Where:** Participating public lands nationwide.

**Kahuku Unit Guided Hikes.** Weekend ranger-guided hikes are back in Kahuku! Three Saturday hikes in September feature the iconic 'ōhi'a lehua tree. Learn about the vital role 'ōhi'a lehua serve in native Hawaiian forests, the many forms of the 'ōhi'a tree and the threat of the fungal disease, Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death. Visitors will be able to identify the many differences of the most prominent native tree in Kahuku on this program, which is a one-mile or less one-hour walk. **When:** September 6, 13, and 27 **Where:** Meet at the Kahuku Visitor Contact Station. Turn into Kahuku near the 70.5-mile marker on Hwy 11 in Ka'u.

**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:** September 6, 20 & 27 (National Public Lands Day). 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.)



Two scarlet blossoms on an 'Ōhi'a lehua bloom in Kahuku

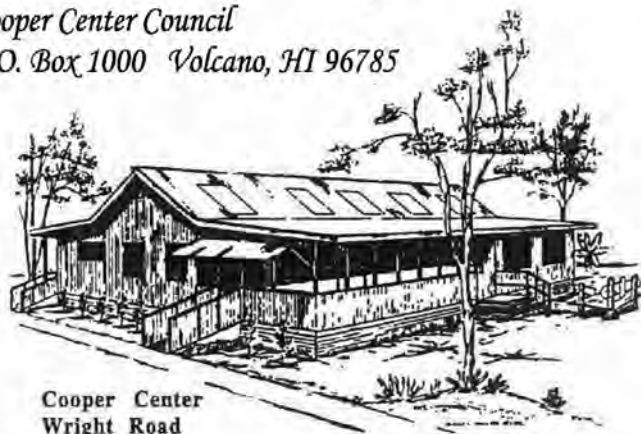
NPS Photo/M.Newman

**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



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## VOLCANO ART CENTER

WHERE PEOPLE, ART AND NATURE MEET

### SEPTEMBER EVENTS

#### Exhibits

*Hawai'i Nei Invitational* on display  
through September 28th

9/9 Art Speaks - Listening Session

9/13 - Hula Kahiko in HVNP

9/13 Jazz in the Forest: Miles Davis- JP  
Thoma ans the Jazztones

9/13 - Zentangle: Lava Layers  
with Dina Kageler

9/20- 9/21 - John Dawson Studio Sale

9/25 - Thursday Night at the Center  
with Marc Hughes

9/28 - Celebration of Life  
in honor of Fia Mattice

Soul Fitness with PK Mercado  
Thursdays 11:30am - 12:20pm  
Tai Chi - Tuesdays 8am - 9am.

Aloha Fridays | 11am -1pm  
Free Guided Forest Tour Mondays 9:30am

Office: (808) 967-8222  
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