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/ Community / Community News /

< Na Moku Ola: 2010 saw many m...

Pet of the Week>

- Community News
- Student Spotlight
- Engagements
- Weddings
- Anniversaries
- Community Calendar
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Local Briefs

December 19, 2010

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Gingerbread event aids youth group

KAANAPALI - Visitors may see, smell but not taste 29 gaily decorated gingerbread houses at the Sheraton Maui Resort & Spa daily during the holiday season, courtesy of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Maui and eight sponsors.

The gingerbread village resides by the hotel's Black Rock Steak & Seafood restaurant.

Big Brothers Big Sisters held its benefit Gingerbread House Celebration on Dec. 11 at the Sheraton Maui, involving more than 100 decorators. The latter included mentors, or "Bigs"; mentees, or "Littles"; Big Brothers staff and directors; families; and sponsors.

The annual event raised about \$3,000 for the organization, said Executive Director Krislyn Mossman.

Sponsors were Advanced Roofing Solutions Inc., Akiona ohana, Aloha Sheet Metal LLC, Emerald Club Realty, HNU Photonics, Makani Nui Associates, Maui Medical Group and Tanikai & The Pint Size Corp., the hotel said.

Hui Hoaloha Ladies group tours MMMC

WAILUKU - Hui Hoaloha Ladies, a group dedicated to philanthropy and involving the public in community service, recently toured Maui Memorial Medical Center.

The Maui Memorial Medical Center Foundation and the hospital hosted more than 45 group members on a Nov. 30 facility tour that included staff presentations and an opportunity to ask questions.

Also, guest speaker Leslie Wilcox, president and chief executive officer of PBS Hawaii, talked about her role and PBS' newest projects, and the challenges and opportunities facing nonprofits.

MMMC Foundation Executive Director Lani Correa indicated such events provide an "empowering" forum, where community members and key hospital personnel can exchange information, dialogue and feedback.

For more information on hospital tours, call the MMMC Foundation at 242-2630 or send e-mail to lcorrea@hhsc.org.

Marine sanctuary seats still available

HONOLULU - The Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary has extended the application deadline to Jan. 15 for seats on its sanctuary Advisory Council.

The sanctuary seeks to fill 10 primary and 10 alternate seats representing business/commerce; commercial shipping; conservation; ocean recreation; resident at large; tourism; whale watching; Lanai island; Molokai island; and Honolulu City & County, plus a research alternate seat.

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Members serve two-year terms that are staggered. The council advises sanctuary management.

Application kits are available at <http://hawaiihumpbackwhale.noaa.gov>, or contact Council Coordinator Joseph Paulin at (808) 397-2651, ext. 257, or at Joseph.Paulin@noaa.gov.

Send completed applications to him at Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary, 6600 Kalaniana'ole Highway, Suite 301, Honolulu 96825.

Realtors still seek toys for children

WAILEA - Christmas toys are being collected until Christmas Eve for distribution to the Children's Justice Center by Realtors with Maui Real Estate, according to Realtor Donna Hansen.

Hansen, along with husband Bob and son Clint, collected 500 toys at events earlier this month, with a goal to gather 1,500 toys, gift cards or funds to benefit needy children.

Toys may be dropped off at the Hansens' real estate office in the Wailea Town Center. Or, for pickup, call 280-1650 or 874-8473.

Maui credit union awards scholarships

WAILUKU - Nine students were the recipients of \$1,000 scholarships from the Maui County Federal Credit Union.

The students were selected at random.

The scholarship winners and the schools they attend are as follows:

Amanda Van Scoy, Kansas State University; Alyssa Fukuoka, University of Colorado-Denver; Joshua Bio, Universal Technical Institute; Chelsie Kahalekai, University of Hawaii Maui College; Dominique Valencia, Washington State University; Kristi Tintiangco, UH-Hilo; Kekoa Roback, UH-Manoa; Sara Miller, UH-Maui College, and Michael Bayle, University of California, Los Angeles.

Holiday dance, toy drive are Wednesday

KIHEI - Aloha Ballroom Dance Academy will hold a free holiday dance and toy drive for Maui homeless children from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Wednesday at Kihei Community Center.

The event is open to adults in the community and will include two dance classes taught by Rita O'Connor, plus refreshments. Appropriate attire is required.

Organizers ask attendees to bring wrapped gifts for children ages 1 to 17, and tagged with the appropriate age and gender of the recipient. Gifts will benefit children at Ka Hale A Ke Ola and Na Hale O Waine'e homeless resource centers in Wailuku and Lahaina, respectively, and Family Life Center.

For more information, contact O'Connor at ritaoc@hawaii.rr.com or 879-0055.

College student wins scholarship raffle

ASHLAND, Ohio - Andrew Pacheco, of Kahului, received the \$500 Ashland University Gridiron Club Scholarship.

He is a senior with a criminal justice and sociology double major, and a 2007 Seabury Hall graduate.

The scholarship is given out to a random student through a raffle. Students who attend Ashland University home football games enter the drawing with their student ID, and a winner is drawn at halftime of a football game.

UH-MC oral history project to air daily

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KAHULUI - "Preserving Our Recollections," an oral history project of the University of Hawaii Maui College, is being shown on the college's public access television station, cable Channel 55.

The video project features 250 interviews of a cross section of Maui elders. The project was started in 1999.

The videos will be shown from 2 p.m. to 2 a.m. daily, through Jan. 2.

Maui volunteers attend cancer event

HONOLULU - Caroline Johnson, Key Leeson and Cori Pohle were invited to the American Cancer Society's recent State Volunteer Recognition luncheon in Honolulu.

Johnson, of Kihei, received the national Sunrise Award as an outstanding volunteer for her work in the "Look Good . . . Feel Better" program. She has helped scores of women learn how to deal with hair loss and changes in their skin during treatment.

Pohle, volunteer coordinator of the "Road to Recovery" program, ensures that patients have a ride to treatments and medical appointments.

Leeson has led the Macy's team in the "Relay For Life" fundraiser, for which she has volunteered for 20 years.

The Maui office of the American Cancer Society seeks volunteers. People with a cosmetology license, driver's license or ability to speak Filipino languages especially are sought. Call the field office at 244-5554 or see www.cancer.org.

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