

For Immediate Release

Contact: Janis Wong, media relations
The Kohala Center
jwong@kohalacenter.org
direct: 808-325-1114, office: 808-887-6411

Stories of Kahalu‘u and Keauhou

KAMUELA, Hawaii—March 5, 2009—“Stories of Kahalu‘u and Keauhou,” a history of Kahalu‘u and Keauhou and recorded life stories of kupuna who lived there, will be aired this month on Na Leo ‘O Hawai‘i channel 53.

The three-part series features kupuna Mitchell Fujisaka and Allen Wall sharing their stories with cultural historian Kepa Maly. Maly gives additional background on the ahupua‘a gleaned from old Hawaiian language newspapers.

Na Leo lists air times as 7:30 p.m. on March 10, 9 a.m. March 13, 6:30 p.m. March 15, 7 p.m. March 21, 4:30 p.m. March 23, and 7 p.m. March 27.

The programs were recorded on DVD as part of a Preserve America Grant awarded to The Kohala Center by National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) in recognition of efforts to preserve the historical and cultural significance of the ahupua‘a of Kahalu‘u and Keauhou.

The “Stories of Kahalu‘u and Keauhou” DVD is available from The Kohala Center or can be viewed at www.kohalacenter.org/kahaluubay/culture.

“It has been a dream of mine to present our kupuna on video and to share their life history,” said Cindi Punihaole, public outreach and volunteer coordinator with The Kohala Center, which manages the Kahalu‘u Bay Project. “In this way we are able to continue the heritage of our Hawaiian culture. An important part of our work at The Kohala Center is to understand the culture. If you understand the culture you can understand the environment. We are about understanding what was in the past in order to understand where to go. Kupuna guide us to restore the beach and bay at Kahalu‘u in a rightful and respectful way—the *pono* way for our children.”