

West Hawaii Today

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In Brief - Schools

by Local Sources
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Rotary scholarship deadline is April 5

The Rotary Club of Kona Community Foundation is accepting college scholarship applications from West Hawaii high school seniors for its Jim and Sis Bedingfield and its Ken and Marge Clewett scholarships.

The foundation will award one \$4,000 Bedingfield scholarship and one \$8,000 Clewett scholarship. Each scholarship is paid out in four annual installments.

Eligible students are generally those who would have difficulty continuing their education without some type of financial assistance. Candidates for either scholarship are evaluated on five areas: community service and activities; scholastic and academic achievement; leadership, personal involvement on campus; extracurricular activities, employment experience; and financial need. The only requirement is the candidate must be a graduating senior of a West Hawaii high school.

Scholarship applications can be obtained from any West Hawaii high school guidance counselor, or by contacting Peggy Peckham at 326-1101.

The deadline for submitting applications for either scholarship is April 5.

The foundation is a 501(3)- tax-exempt organization established in 1989 with the primary goal of soliciting funds for and providing college scholarships to West Hawaii high school students and for selected community projects. For more information about the foundation and how to contribute, call Gretchen I. Watson-Kabi at 326-6509.

Savings project offered at 2 West Hawaii schools

Children at Konawaena Elementary School and Kanu o ka Aina New Century Public Charter School are now able to open a savings account and start saving for their future.

In a partnership between Dr. Michael Cheang, of the University of Hawaii at Manoa, local credit unions, the Hawaii Alliance for Community Based Economic Development and funding support from the Hawaii County Resource Center, up to 375 West Hawaii children have the opportunity to open a savings account, set a savings goal and receive \$25 for saving their money until the end of 2010.

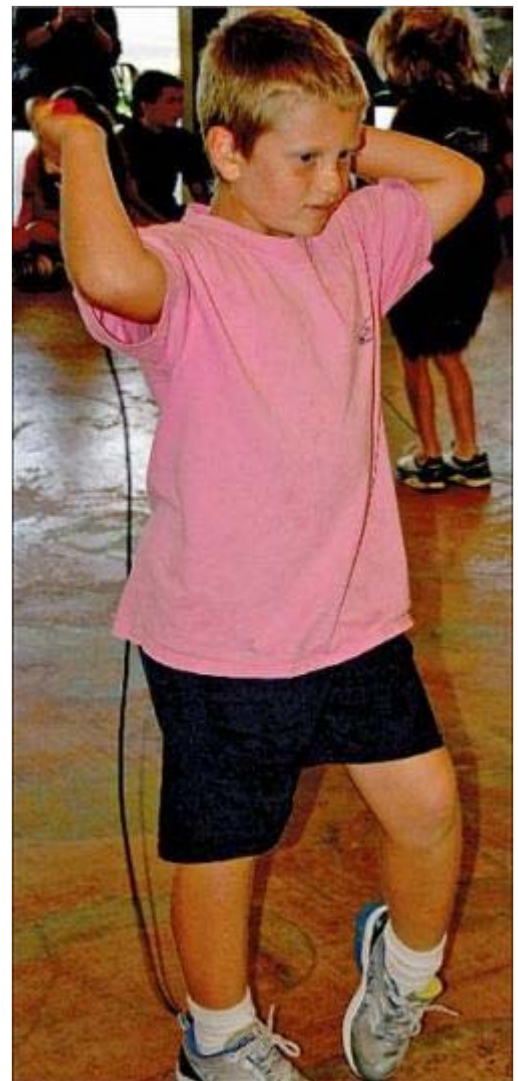
The Children's Saving Project provides children an opportunity to learn about finances while saving for a goal, whether a toy, video game or for college education. Hawaii First Federal Credit Union and Hawaii Community Federal Credit Union will go into the schools at least once a month to collect deposits from children.

For more information regarding the Children's Savings Project on Hawaii Island, contact Larissa Meinecke at the Hawaii Alliance for Community Based Economic Development on Oahu at 550.2661 or assetpolicy@hacbed.org.

Ian Cook named to honor roll

Ian Cook, a freshman at The Governor's Academy in Byfield, Mass., has been named to the honor roll for the first semester of the 2009-2010 academic year. Cook, the son of DJ and Deirdre Cook, of Waimea, received honors.

To be eligible for the honor roll, a student must achieve a semester grade point average of 3.0 or better, with no grade lower than a



Second-grader Jaden Dutton participates in Hualalai Academy's Jump Rope for Heart benefit, which is a national fundraising program sponsored in part by American Heart Association. The program promotes physical activity, heart healthy living and community service to children. In the past, students have raised more than \$3,000 annually for the American Heart Association and the school has been able to purchase equipment such as basketballs, hula hoops and other various items. - Special To West Hawaii Today

C-plus. To earn selection to the high honor roll, a student must achieve a semester grade point average of 3.3 or better with no grade lower than a B-minus.

Founded by bequest of Gov. William Dummer, The Governor's Academy is America's oldest boarding school. The Academy has operated continuously since its founding in 1763 on the site of the ancestral Dummer home in Byfield. The school enrolls approximately 380 young men and women in grades 9-12.

Waimea school garden receives award

Malaai: The Culinary Garden of Waimea Middle School formally celebrated its fifth anniversary March 3 by accepting a prestigious Cooke Foundation Beautification Award for the organic garden which was once a Parker Ranch pasture. The award included a \$5,000 gift to the school to help sustain the classroom garden.

But the stunning visual transformation -- from knee-high kikuyu grass to a beautiful, productive vegetable, fruit and flower garden -- belies a more subtle but significant shift both in school and community awareness of the value of this kind of hands-on experiential learning.

Not only did Waimea Middle School students grow and harvest more than 6,000 pounds of fresh produce in Malaai in 2009 to taste and share with their families, faculty and friends, but in the process, they learned about healthier food choices, the cycles of nature, the stories and cultural practices of past generations and civilizations, and how to work together and problem solve. They learned about food self-reliance, safety and sustainability. They are not alone.

In the five years since Waimea community friends helped start this not-for-profit school garden, nearly 50 other Hawaii Island schools have started or are planning to start a learning garden and have joined The Kohala Center's Hawaii Island School Garden Network.

Kona Pacific opens enrollment

Kona Pacific Public Charter School is accepting applications for kindergarten through sixth grade for school year 2010-11. Open enrollment will continue through March 31. Parents and students are invited to visit the school and tour the classrooms. Come hear about the school's innovative program, inspired by Waldorf education and rooted firmly in the land and culture of Hawaii.

School tours will be held at 8:15 a.m. March 25, April 29, May 6 and May 20. Please attend to learn more about this public charter school and to submit an application.

Kona Pacific is a tuition-free public school. If there are more applications than spaces available for a particular class, applications received during this enrollment period will go into a lottery draw.

The Kona Pacific campus is located above Kona Community Hospital in Kealahou. For more information or to obtain an application, call 322-4900, e-mail info@kppcs.org or visit kppcs.org.

Michelle Simon named to dean's list

Michelle Simon was one of more than 850 students named to the dean's list at Pacific Lutheran University for fall 2009.

Simon, who is majoring in computer programming, is a graduate of Kealahou High School and the daughter of Ed and Connie Simon, of Kailua-Kona.

The list recognizes outstanding academic achievement, as it requires a grade point average of at least 3.5 for the term. Dean's list standing becomes part of a student's official transcript and is a distinguishing factor for students going on to graduate or professional school.

Pacific Lutheran University offers more than 3,600 students a unique blend of academically rigorous liberal arts and professional programs that prepare them for a lifetime of success -- both in their careers and in service to others. The university is located six miles south of Tacoma in suburban Parkland, Wash. For more information, visit plu.edu.

HPA's Inman wins county spelling bee

Hawaii Preparatory Academy eighth-grader Madison Inman correctly spelled "calisthenics" to win this year's Hawaii Island District Spelling Bee Thursday. The competition was held at HPA's Gates Performing Arts Center.

Alyssa Volivar, of Kamehameha Schools' Keaau Campus, was the runner-up. Both students will represent the Hawaii District at the

Hawaii State Spelling Bee, which begins at noon on Sunday at the Paliku Theater on Oahu.

Poster contest winners announced

The Kailua-Kona Lions Club has announced the winners of the recent "Sight Is Beautiful" poster contest. A total of 264 posters were entered from three schools -- Kona Christian Academy, Kealakehe Elementary School and Innovations Public Charter School.

The following first place winners were submitted for Region Zone judging:

Kona Christian Academy

Kindergarten -- Jaron Nichols; First grade -- Maya Calilao; Second grade -- Kulani Paikuli Campbell; Third grade -- Shanti Eskelsden; Fourth grade -- Malaca Marks; and Fifth grade -- Brianne Lauren

Kealakehe Elementary School

Third grade -- Simone Laomabel; Fourth grade -- G102, Mary Rose Palafox; G101, Malia Shimabuka; G204, Jaisele Paguirigan; G202 Taisua Tsaia

Innovations Public Charter School

Fourth grade -- Paiton Lee Lins

Posters will be on display at the Kailua-Kona Lions Club annual pancake breakfast Sunday at Hale Halawai. Tickets for the fundraising event are available from members and will also be available at the door.

Winning posters will be on display at the District 50 Lions Convention to be held in Hilo April 29 to May 2. Monetary awards were distributed to all the entrants.

Rotary foundation scholarship available

The Rotary Club of Kona Community Foundation is accepting vocational/trade school scholarship applications from West Hawaii High School graduates for its Ron and Kathy Hawkes Vocational Scholarship.

The foundation is a 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization that was established in 1989 with the primary goal of soliciting funds for and providing college scholarships to West Hawaii high school students and for selected community projects.

The foundation awards one \$1,000 scholarship each year to a deserving West Hawaii school graduate, which it pays out in two annual installments (\$500 per year). Candidates must be a graduate of any West Hawaii high school, such as Kealakehe High School, Konawaena High School, West Hawaii Explorations Academy, Hualalai Academy, Makua Lani Christian High School and High School of the Pacific. This scholarship program is administered without regard to race, creed, color, age, religion, sex, national origin or physical disability.

The Ron and Kathy Hawkes Vocational Foundation application can be obtained from any West Hawaii high school guidance counselor or by contacting Peggy Peckham at 326-1101. Deadline for submitting applications is April 5.

For more information about the Rotary of Kona Community Foundation and how to support it with a tax-deductible contribution, contact Gretchen I. Waston-Kabei at 324-6509.

Schools invited to Earth Day concert, events

In April, Recycle Hawaii and Earth-Friendly Schools Hawaii will sponsor "Caring for the Earth Month -- 'A Billion Acts of Green.'" The project celebrates the 40th anniversary of Earth Day and supports the Earth Day Network in promoting a worldwide education, action and media campaign connecting millions of individuals and catalyzing "A Billion Acts of Green."

Events are being planned around the world. On April 17 and 18, there will be Global Days of Service with millions of volunteers around the world cleaning parks and beaches, planting trees and participating in recycling projects.

On April 22, the 40th anniversary of Earth Day, world citizens will commemorate a Global Day of Action by demanding a binding global climate change agreement from their governments. On April 25, a Global Day of Celebration will honor and celebrate the contributions of volunteers and the commitment of millions of people to protect the environment. Major musical acts and honored speakers are planned at events in cities around the world.

One of the major events on the Island of Hawaii is the "Caring for the Earth Month" concert. The concert will take place at 10:30 a.m. April 20 at the Palace Theater in Hilo. The concert is free and open to all schools and organizations working with youth.

There will be music and dance performances as well as the presentation of "Creating Ha," a production that includes music, performance art, poetry, chant and hula. Organizations working on social, environmental and cultural issues will have tables at the concert with information for students. The concert is funded in part through a grant from the Healing Our Island Community Fund.

Schools, organizations, businesses and government agencies in Hawaii are invited to celebrate the 40th anniversary of Earth Day by participating in "Caring for the Earth Month -- 'A Billion Acts of Green.'" To register and be listed on the Recycle Hawaii Calendar of Events or to reserve seats for a school or organization for the "Caring for the Earth Month" concert, call 985-8725, e-mail artpeace@hawaiiantel.net or visit recyclehawaii.org.

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