



WAIAKEA HIGH SCHOOL

155 W. KAWILI STREET

HILO, HI 96720

# KA NUHOU NO NA MAKUA NEWS FOR PARENTS

A PARENT/COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

MAY 2010

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## A Message from the Principal

Aloha Warrior Community-

It is amazing how quickly a school year goes by. I would like to personally thank all of you for your continued support of our students and the Waiakea High School family. All of our staff members have worked tirelessly to make this school year a successful one. As we plan for School year 2010-2011, please make every effort to be involved in your children's education. We are always looking for parental assistance.

Congratulations to all students for a job well done. Good luck and best wishes to our graduating seniors, you have worked hard to get to this point in your lives. Have a safe summer.

Sincerely,

Kelcy Koga, Principal

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## Message from the Registrar's Office

**Final Year-End Transcript** for Seniors: SENIORS requiring a final transcript to the college/university of choice must submit a transcript request form with the mailing address to the Registrar's Office (A202) by June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Cost is \$1.

**Report Card Pick-Up:** End of the year report cards will be available for pick-up on Monday, June 14. Students requesting a report card to be mailed home must submit a self-addressed, postage-paid envelope to the Registrar's office. The student's name must be printed on the upper left-hand corner of the envelope.

**Transferring Students:** A student **not** returning to Waiākea High School next school year must have a parent/legal guardian come in to sign a release form to authorize the transfer of student records to the forwarding school. A Release Packet will be available for pick-up after June 14, 2010.

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**Schedule Pick-Up for 2010-11 school year:** Course schedules will be available for pick-up on Tuesday and Wednesday, July 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>, from 9:00 am – 12:00 noon. **Payment for yearbook** (\$50), and **student fees** (\$27 for seniors and juniors, \$26 for sophomores and freshman) will be collected at this time. Separate payments by cash or check are requested, payable to Waiākea High School. **ID pictures** for all NEW incoming students will be taken at the main office. Campus tour guides, NJROTC information, locker rental and PTSA sign-ups will also be available.

**Class Schedule Changes for 2010-11:** Schedule changes due to summer school enrollment and scheduling errors are ongoing at the Registrar's office and will continue till 4:00 pm, Wednesday, July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2010. Thereafter, schedule changes will be through the student's respective academy counselor. Students with a confirmation or payment receipt for summer school should process a schedule change as soon as possible.

**New Incoming Students:** Students transferring from schools outside of the Waiakea complex (public or private), must have a Release Packet from the previous school which includes a transcript, current report card and health record. A birth certificate or passport and two proofs of residency verification (i.e. most recent utility bills, escrow or tenant agreement, etc.) are also required. If applicable, an approved GE, legal guardianship document, and/or a notarized Power of Attorney may be required. When all documents are available, please call the Registrar's office at **974-4888 ext 241**, to schedule an appointment.

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Jake Vallespin (right), a student in Mr. Sam Halsted's Building Construction class, created four portable shelves for the library. This talented sophomore was able to create a mold, cut, nail and glue the shelves for the library staff to use to display reference materials and other beautiful books.

Currently on display on one of the shelves is an exhibit of books donated to the library by the members of Alpha Delta Kappa, an international honorary organization for women educators. The local affiliate includes these members: Nanette Hiraoka, June Kawashima, Carolyn Mizuno, Margaret Torigoe and Rae Yamana.

The group recently donated two books to the library: Contemporary Hawaii Woodworkers: the wood, the art, the aloha by Tiffany D. Shafto and Lynda McDaniel; and Have a Little Faith by Mitch Albom.



## HAWAII STATE DECA CONFERENCE

The 2010 Hawaii State DECA Career Development Conference was held on March 22, 2010 at the Honolulu Convention Center on Oahu. Waiakea High DECA students competed in various competency-based role playing and written test events. In this statewide competition between 12 schools, the following Waiakea High students earned awards:

### Business Services Marketing

- **Melanie Isa**, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Written Test Medallion
- **Nixon Jack**, Two Role Play Medallions
- **Kaede Kanzawa**, Role Play Medallion

### Retail Merchandising

- **David Lau**, Two Role Play Medallions, 4th Place Written Test, Top Six Finalist Medal, 2nd Place Trophy

**David Lau** competed in the International Career Development Conference that was held in Kentucky from April 23-27, 2010. Congratulations to all students on a job well done!



Front (L-R): **Melanie Isa, Kelly Nakamichi**

Back (L-R): **David Lau, Kaede Kanzawa, Nick Jack, Anela Nishimoto**

# IET-Engineering Academy: Robotics

What would get 20 WHS students up at 4:00 am on a Saturday, make them drive to school and brainstorm solutions to a difficult challenge? FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) robotics is the answer!

The kick-off of the six-week build season started on January 9th when this years game was revealed to the World at 4 am (Hawaiian time) by satellite broadcast. Students then had six weeks to build a 120-pound robot from selected parts and scrap metal to compete in this years event called breakaway, a very exciting three on three robo-soccer competition. To spice it up two foot-high bumps are placed on the field and two six-foot high towers, which teams can hang on at the end of the match for extra points, hang over small tunnels teams can use to move from one part of the field to the other.

WHS robotic students met almost nightly till 8 pm either at school or at the shop of our engineering mentor Don Heinzen to build the robot. Junior Kazane Namikawa was the lead driver for the robot while Freshman Nick Winters backed her up. Senior Koa Hedlund was the “human player” in control of returning scored soccer balls. Juniors Reid Nakamura and Mahea Paiva did most of the programming under the guidance of our programming mentor and WHS alumni Riley Ceria. Many other members were scouts, pit crew and documentation presenters at the competition.

We'd like to thank our other mentors who gave up their own time and resources to help our team including: George Gobi who machined parts while the Father and Son team of Chester and Mike Lowrey helped on the mechanics. Generous grants from the TMT (Thirty Meter Telescope), BAE Systems, FedEx and the College of engineering at UH have helped to fund this years endeavors. The team competed in the Honolulu Regional held at the Stan Sheriff Arena from March 25th -27th. Teams from 29 schools from across the State and Mainland will be competing to see who will represent the regional at the World Championships held in Atlanta, Georgia. This is WHS Robotics fifth entry into FIRST after qualifying and competing in Atlanta their last two tries. There will be no rest for the team as Botball has started its build as soon as the FIRST robot was shipped. The team will have to design, build and program a shoe-box sized robot to compete in this years challenge for Botball. That competition was held in May at the Honolulu Convention center and included over 40 teams from throughout the State.

WHS Robotics has never finished out of the top three over its five years of participation in Botball so the pressure is on to keep up with teams trying to knock us off. Anyone interested in gaining mechanical, computer, programming, electrical, documentation or public speaking experience are encouraged to contact Mr. Olive, Mr. Hagiwara or Mr. Murphy for more information.



At Waiakea High School, six career academies drive our curriculum. These academies are: Arts and Communication, Business, Health and Fitness, Industrial Engineering and Technology, Public and Human Services and Pacific Rim Cultures and Natural Resources. The Na Mea Kupaianaha O Waiakea project is a unique database to the careers within each academy. A total of 141 Waiakea High alumni give a face and a name to the many careers that students can choose from.

These alumni were interviewed by students in Mrs. Gloria Kobayashi's Library Research Skills classes since 2005. Each graduate was asked about their chosen career and how Waiakea High School prepared them for it. In this sense, this project whose English translation means "All that is Extraordinary and Wonderful about Waiakea High School," is confirmation that Waiakea High's graduates are contributing and important members of our community. The selected alumni represent every graduating class until 2005 and live in Hilo, elsewhere in Hawaii and across the United States. There are even alumni who live in China, Taiwan and New Zealand.

As each graduate's photo welcomes everyone as they walk into the school library, students have a visual inspiration of who our graduates are and what they might aspire to become. Every visitor recognizes someone's photo. Each person's story is located on the "Na Mea Kupaianaha O Waiakea" link to the school's webpage: [wai-akeahigh.k12.hi.us](http://wai-akeahigh.k12.hi.us). Each story can be accessed by the alumni's name, occupation or graduating class. Among the more notable alumni who have been interviewed are: Mayor Billy Kenoi; entrepreneurs Darren Kimura and Dustin Shindo; architect Rob Iopa; radio personality Darin Gumbs (Gumby); news reporter, Peter Sur; and local medical professionals, Dr. Karen Nakamoto, Dr. Kara Okahara, Dr. Doug Olsen and Dr. Brian Higa.

The celebration is also part of a major fundraising campaign for the Waiakea High School Foundation. The Foundation was established to provide financial support for the academic programs of the school. This year, it purchased special Waiakea High School pins for all graduating seniors who completed a senior project.

This year, Mrs. Kobayashi was awarded a Business Education Partnership grant, which involved all of her 32 students in planning and carrying out the event. They mailed and e-mailed nearly a thousand community members, prepared public service announcements for the April 29, 2010 event, and planned the program for the evening, which was attended by at least 125 people at the school library.

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The 27 Waiakea alumni who were added to the Na Mea project are as follows: Mike Aina, mixed martial arts fighter; Nicole Bautista, internet content manager; Jeff Cabral, rancher; Aaron Caceres, security specialist; Travis Chong, trade and investment officer; Sasha Dominy, fashion designer; Patrick Feng, research chemist; Qiana Foster, credit union branch manager; Andrew Hara, architectural photographer; Michael Inouye, floriculturist; Jaclynn Joseph, fashion model; Leah Kimura, chemical engineer; Mari Kobayashi, entrepreneur; Abi Langlas, baker & business owner; Kim Mashiyama and Janelle Young, 2-D and 3-D animators; Eisha Matsubara, electrical engineer; Kacie Miura, Peace Corps volunteer; Daniel Mueller, airline route analyst; Emily Nashif, technical writer; Nicole Okuna, hotel guest services manager; Dr. Brian Sakamoto, endodontist; Jason Sanborn, trucker & classic car restorer; Thomas Takemoto-Chock, movie producer; Pattie Walkabout, gymnastics club owner & teacher; Lauren Wong, crime scene investigator; and Dustin Yamamoto, environmental engineer.

**From Waiakea High School Office:**

**Office Hours:**

7:00 am - 4:30 pm  
(School Days only)



7:30 am - 4:30 pm  
(Vacations, Intercessions, Breaks)

**Early release of students:**

Note signed by parent. Include telephone number for verification. Note should be presented to the office before school starts or during recess.

**Deliveries:**

Waiakea High School will not accept any deliveries of flowers, balloons, stuffed animals, food, etc. to students.

**Messages to students:**

Messages to students should be by parent/guardian and for emergency purposes only. After-school arrangements and reminders for appointments should be done prior to coming to school.

Students are **NOT** allowed to leave campus for lunch.

**Dates to Remember**

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| <b>May 26</b>      | <b>Last day of school,<br/>1:47pm release</b>                              |
| <b>June 14</b>     | <b>report card pick-up</b>   |
| <b>July 20-21</b>  | <b>Schedule pick-up, student fees, yearbook payment, ID picture taking</b> |
| <b>August 2</b>    | <b>first day of school for freshmen, Grade 9 orientation</b>               |
| <b>August 3</b>    | <b>first day of school- all students report to school</b>                  |
| <b>August 20</b>   | <b>NO SCHOOL-<br/>Statehood Day</b>  |
| <b>September 6</b> | <b>NO SCHOOL-<br/>Labor Day</b>  |
| <b>October 1</b>   | <b>First quarter ends</b>  |

# Waiakea High Warriors NJROTC

Aloha! Another year is coming to a close and the outstanding cadets here in NJROTC have been busier than ever. March was a great month for our unit, as we had a much needed spring break to reflect on what we have accomplished and prepare for the last quarter of the school year. All of the cadets worked extremely hard for our Unit Personnel Inspection conducted on March 30th. Commander Ken Liles, NJROTC Area Manager from San Diego, flew out to look at the amazing things we have done and he left very impressed with our cadets!

April was another month filled with great events and accomplishments. Starting with our Cadets of the Month: Cadets Orion Schlegelmilch and Josephine Carver. Both cadets contributed significantly to the unit's success, participating in various community service events, exhibiting superior military bearing and academic performance.

The Merrie Monarch parade was a wild success, and although it was pouring rain "Hilo style", we forged through to march the parade route representing Waiakea High School NJROTC with great pride.

On that same Merrie Monarch weekend, 14 cadets had the privilege to travel overnight to Pearl Harbor on the visiting US Navy warship, the fast frigate USS Crommelin, FFG-37. Everything from the meals, transportation and berthing was taken care of by the Captain and crew,



and each of the cadets were able to fire 20 rounds on the .50 caliber machine gun, dress out in a 25 pound Fire Fighting Ensemble, enjoy a "steel beach" barbeque and watch "Sherlock Holmes" on the flight deck hangar door when the sun went down. It was a once in a lifetime experience that the cadets will never forget!

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Once in Pearl Harbor, they toured the Pacific Aviation Museum, and the USS Arizona Memorial. The incredible weekend came to a close with the return flight to Hilo on Monday night. Thanks to another successful year of fundraising, the entire trip was at no cost for the cadets.

The following weekend featured the second wave of cadets attending the Pacific Aviation Museum's first ever "Women in Aviation" conference. The cadets listened to female pilots and flight crew speak about their life experiences in the aviation community. The cadets were included in a webcast of the Navy's news website, and had a short piece written on them for the newspaper "Hawaii Navy News." After lunch and a tour of the museum, the cadets had a guided tour of the USS Arizona where they were treated as "VIP's" and given head of the line privileges for boarding the boat to the memorial. Following this, they had a tour of the USS Bowfin, a fleet attack submarine that fought in the Pacific during WWII. Cadets had time to explore the Submarine museum and buy some souvenirs in the shop.



Our annual awards banquet was held at the Naniloa resort on April 30th, where several civic organizations were present to hand out their prestigious awards to our most deserving cadets. A buffet style dinner was held, and music and dancing followed the award ceremony. A great time held by all!

We have to say goodbye, or "Fair winds and following seas" to Cadets Chris Gallegos, Dylan Ayers, Alex Magno, Bo Rasse, and Sydney Wilcox. They are graduating this year and we wish them the best in future endeavors.

Finally we would like to say thank you to our principal, Mr. Kelcy Koga, for his support of our unit this year. We also couldn't do it without the support of all the staff at Waiakea High as well as our great booster club and the family and friends of our all our cadets. Have an awesome summer and see you next year!

**Have a Safe Summer Break,  
Everyone!**