



“E Ala Na Moku Kai Liloloa”

Presidential Caucus
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Proposed Changes to the Haleiwa
Special Design District
Council Chair Ernie Martin
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Barrier Planning at the DOT
Senator Gil Riviere
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John John

*Spirit, Arts
Photography ©2016*

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Photo: banzaibetty.com



Waimea Bay. Photo: banzaibetty.com



Waimea Bay. Photo: Ole Seyler

**John John
Florence wins
the “Eddie”**

John John Florence of Haleiwa wins the Quiksilver in Memory of Eddie Aikau Big Wave Invitational, February 25, 2016 at Waimea Bay.

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Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

The article, North Shore Families Deserve Clean and Safe Water, by Blake McElheny, in the February 17 issue of the North Shore News, seeks to promote public awareness of the important and complex issues regarding water supplies, stream water quality, land use, water use, and human impacts on our environment, including Kaiaka Bay. These issues are very important, but the article contained a number of statements that were incorrect or misleading.

1) The article states that water from Lake Wilson, during major rainstorms, are a major contributor to harming water quality in this watershed. In fact, Lake Wilson reduces flooding by capturing water during storms and slowing the water downstream. Without Lake Wilson, rain events would produce more flash floods, with increased erosion along streambeds and increased deposits of clay and silt into Kaiaka Bay.

2) The discharge from the Wahiawa Wastewater Treatment Plant is treated to R1 sanitation standards. After primary treatments, ultraviolet light treatments ensure that coliform bacteria are not released into Lake Wilson, and the system captures and treats any flow occurring during a power outage. Treated discharge from the Schofield Wastewater Treatment Plant is discharged into Kaukonahua Stream below the Lake Wilson dam, not into the Wahiawa Irrigation System.

3) The article stated that "the 2014 State of Hawaii Water Quality and Assessment Report to Congress listed all water bodies that are part of the Kaiaka Bay Watershed as "impaired" and containing up to 185 parts per trillion of Atrazine. The EPA threshold for Atrazine in drinking water is 3,000 parts per trillion, and scientific evidence indicates that levels below that threshold do not pose a threat to human health (<https://safewater.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/212077787-4-What-are-EPA-s-drinking-water-regulations-for-atrazine->). Metals such as zinc, copper, chromium, magnesium and manganese naturally occur at unusually high levels in the rocks and soils of Oahu. They came from the volcanic magma that created the island. Pesticides can be detected in Kaukonahua Stream, but are at levels far below EPA thresholds. Manoa Stream had much higher levels of pesticides than streams in rural areas (Hawaii Department of Health, 2013-2014 State Wide Pesticide Sampling Pilot Project Water Quality Findings).

4) The soil fumigant DBCP was detected in

drinking water in Waialua in 1992 and 1993. The Board of Water Supply subsequently installed activated carbon filters to address that issue, and routinely conducts tests to ensure that drinking water is safe for North Shore residents.

Mr. Timothy E. Steinberger, Director, City and County of Honolulu, Department of Environmental Services, has stated, "Overall, water quality problems in Upper Kaukonahua stream are mild when compared with other impaired streams on Oahu. The State Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) considers the mauka areas of the Upper Kaukonahua watershed to be higher quality than most on Oahu, thus requiring less active management programs than other areas where the bulk of their watershed protection efforts are focused." (pp 267-268 in http://health.hawaii.gov/cwb/files/2013/05/Integrated_Upper_Kaukonahua.pdf).

I appreciate the author's intent in writing this article, but felt the record needed to be corrected.

From Jeff Scott, Ph.D.

Aloha Editor,

As a thirty year resident of the North Shore of Oahu and resident owner on Pahoe Rd. across from Sharks Cove for the last thirteen years, there are a number of great things I've learned while living in our very special community.

Treat your family, friends, community, neighbors, and the environment with respect. Through your actions, be a good steward of the land with honest, kindness, and humility. Sadly, when those bedrock values are ignored, it impacts all of us.

You might have read about or seen the "circus" of nine (or is it now ten?) food trucks, lights, traffic, tourists, and noise that have appeared over the past months on the lots next to Foodland. This is the current phase of the "Sharks Cove Development" by Hanapohaku LLC, which bought the property from the highly respected Niimi family in 2014, after subdividing the lots in 2009.

My neighbors and I live along the narrow private Pahoe Road, on the other side of the development, which is utterly under siege over the past several months from the spillover effects on our road and homes due to the poor planning on the three parcels now owned by Hanapohaku. We have felt like hostages in our homes with cars jamming our street, using our driveways, patrons who are provided no bathroom on the property are using the bushes or our front yards, leaving beer bottles and litter, we heard loud live music and videos blasting, our kids and dogs are not safe playing in our own front yards -- stress levels are high -- it's like a war zone.

We are not against a properly planned B-1 "Neighborhood" Commercial use on these lots. Planning can be done well, as many businesses and landown-

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ers who have taken the time and care to engage and respect the community on the North Shore know so well. But we are against the kind of poor planning and misguided development that is happening at Sharks Cove and that is deliberately avoiding the proper public review process.

Did you know that Hanapohaku never notified the neighbors on Pahoe Road about its food truck or development plans? Has never presented its food truck or development plans to the community or the North Shore Neighborhood Board? Has refused to conduct an environmental review and traffic study? And has entirely avoided the public scrutiny and hearing that would come treating their development on these connected parcels as a Special Management Area Permit "major" permit? By claiming that the value of each parcel's development at just under \$500,000 (the legal trigger for a "major" review), and splitting up the permit applications over several months, Hanapohaku gamed the City's permitting system. Something is really wrong here.

Hanapohaku LLC claims to be "environmentalists and stewards of the land." Talk is cheap. If they want to prove these claims to the community, the local neighbors, and the many environmental stewardship organizations that opposed this unplanned and chaotic development, which has racked up numerous

finances and permit violation so far, then Hanapohaku should rescind the three current SMA "minor" permits and begin a proper planning process with full community engagement.

Follow the law. Respect your neighbors.

That's all the community is asking for. Simple right?

Mahalo and regards
John W. Thielst
Pahoe Road Neighbors Hui

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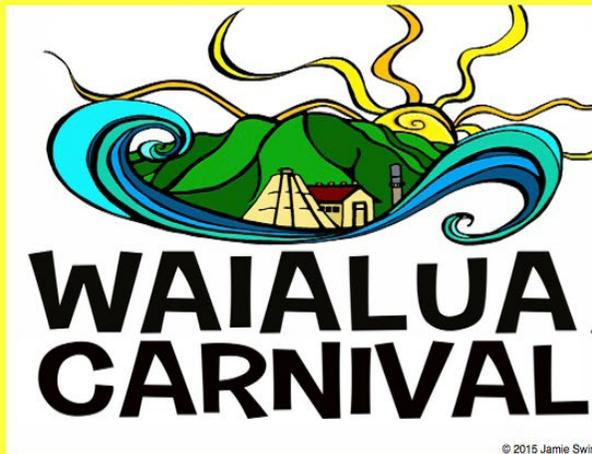
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