

2023

ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

FERN FOREST

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

WWW.FERNFORESTCOMMUNITYASSOCIATION.COM



ANNUAL MEMBER'S MEETING

DECEMBER 3, 2:00 PM

FFCA LOT

11-2864 ALA KAPENA RD.

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MEMBERS MEETING AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Counting of Ballots Commences
3. Reading and Acceptance of Minutes
4. Reports
5. Open Discussion
6. Ballot Results & Review
7. Adjournment

Photos courtesy of Tati Melo | Melissa Fletcher | Kehaulani La'a | Leimomi Shearer

Editing and Content Melissa Fletcher | Tati Melo

MAHALO PLENTY!

FFCA BOARD

Aloha Fern Forest Members. It's that time again! We've put together an information packed newsletter for you and we'd like to start it off with a shout out to a few generous people who help our community:

- to the volunteers that help make our community better.
- to BIISC and Franny Brewer for their help in getting funding for the Himalayan Raspberry Project.
- to the volunteers on the ground making the Raspberry Mitigation Project happen.
- to Tati Melo for her volunteer work in newsletter and design needs
- to our Volunteer Fire Chief, Rick Rego and Charlie Co. 5, who volunteer their time to help with fires in our area and train new volunteer fire fighters.
- to Volcano Friends Feeding Friends who volunteer their time to help keep families in need fed.
- to Lori Glazebrook for gathering together the Homesteaders and Naturalists among us on the Homesteading page and in the directory that we've shared here.
- to Ells who does a great job in keeping our roads maintained and is always willing to pitch in and help where needed.
- to Patty, our new Office Manager who dove right in to learn the job and nuances of our community.
- to Brandee who does so much for the association in keeping up the books, updating Member Lists, handling mail and more.
- to Steve Strauss for his wisdom and guidance in legal matters.
- to the League of Women Voters and Susan Irvine for their excellent and professional help in election counts and methods.
- to those who encourage the 'Doers' in the community and find ways to be supportive and positive; to those who pay attention to the good work being done and help keep our community a positive place.

MAHALO NUI LOA



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

BY MELISSA FLETCHER

Aloha Fern Forest Members,

It has been a year of many positives and challenges within the FFCA and community. We've appreciated support from the community and the inspiring, grassroots efforts popping up, including the Himalayan Raspberry Mitigation group and the Homesteading group.

A brief recap of the year's successes:

- Nearly 3 rounds of roads will have been completed by the end of December, on budget.
- Rolled out a helpful, new website earlier this year.
- Retained excellent general legal counsel.
- Have stayed on track with spending.
- Continued with Zoom options, even during in-person meets
- Implemented online payment option and calendar of events
- A new Office Manager began learning the ropes after Filiesha Lerand passed.
- Hired a new accounts management company after Ken Ah Lo passed.
- Completed partial upkeep at the roads lot, permit is pending to replace meter pole.
- Finalizing equipment purchase in order to supplement the limited scope of current single, small machine.
- FFCA was once more targeted with attempted litigation by a chronic litigant. The entire suit was dismissed, litigant cannot bring the charges up again in any way in Federal court. You can see full summary on the FFCA website under Documents>Legal.

Positive, engaged board members are critical to a healthy board - they help to lessen the load in getting necessary work done. I hope in the coming year you'll continue to show appreciation for the work the board members volunteer and that more members will find ways to help lessen the communal load. Even Members who aren't on the board can join various subcommittees or volunteer groups. As you make your decisions on the ballot, I hope you vote for people that will bring positive attributes to the board and community.

Mahalo Nui Loa, Melissa Fletcher

HOW YOUR BOARD WORKS

- FFCA (Fern Forest Community Association) is comprised of its Members (lot owners in Fern Forest) and a volunteer Board (Members in good standing tasked with administration and implementation of road maintenance in Fern Forest).
- FFCA is not an HOA (Home Owner's Association). There are no CC&Rs (Community Codes and Regulations), no strict HOA guidelines for personal property beyond county codes.
- There are five seats available on the board each year with a requirement that at least 3 seats be filled at any given time.
- Terms are staggered - one year a minimum of three seats open, the next, two. Repeat. A board member can run for two consecutive terms. If they are filling a vacancy, that counts as a full term.
- Currently it is not within FFCA's authority to create/host/fund community events unless road related.
- FFCA (and through membership, Members) owns and manages the Ala Kapena lot, allowing some room to 'lease' (at no financial charge, to date), or allow access to, groups that have insurance. Such groups can arrange independent functions, such as the Trunk or Treat hosted by VFFF, Volunteer Fire use, AA meets, etc.
- Trust is placed on the board to make all business decisions on road management matters, per our Bylaws. Members do not vote on most road decisions. Members are given opportunity to be heard by writing or attending a Board Meeting and speaking during open discussion time.

(CONT'D ON PG 5)



ROAD MANAGER'S REPORT

BY MELISSA & ELLS

62 miles - that is the approximate number of road miles that run through our subdivision. Among these miles of roads are various kinds of road bases; we have a bit of pavement, many miles where a good road base created during the development of the subdivision decades ago, which holds up the gravel overlay longer, and many roads that never had good road base work done. They have more issues than others, including occasional small sinkholes, run off, and ruts. If your property is toward back, far ends, or a dead end road in the subdivision, your road may be one of the latter types.

FFCA road methods are common to the area and terrain - on gravel roads we first reclaim gravel that gets swept to the sides from vehicle use and rains. We use that to fill in any pot holes or rough spots. We then supplement areas in need with more aggregate, usually 1 1/2" minus base-coarse, spread and compact with the tractor. This works three fold - it saves cost of new gravel, sweeps the sides allowing for drainage, and reinforces a slight crown to the roads so that most rain water flows to the sides instead of down the middle.

Our current scheduling method starts at one end of the subdivision and down each road until we get to the other end, pausing if there is an area in particular need, then returning to the plan. Because side roads and some other areas don't get as much traffic, these are often scheduled for maintenance every other pass.

By the end of December we should be nearing completion of our 3rd pass this year from front to back of the subdivision.

Easements have been an ongoing challenge. We fix the mower, only to run it for a few days and have it break down in need costly repairs again; it isn't a great machine for the job. To sub the work out would tax the budget far too much only for a very temporary fix. But! Over the last few years we have been saving and we are ready to purchase reliable equipment that can start carrying more of the needed load to handle our roads and easements. Stay tuned and thank you for driving with care on the roads. We work hard to keep them maintained for you. If you feel any road is in urgent need of attention, please first check the website to see which road we're on and if the road in question is next. If it isn't coming right up soon, please call the office or email to let us know. Thank you much!

ABANDONED VEHICLE REMOVAL

1. To report an abandoned vehicle, call **Police Dispatch at 935-3311**. The County Abandoned Vehicle Coordinator cannot make arrangements for removal of the vehicle until a police report is received.
2. A Police Officer will locate the vehicle and attach a notice advising the owner to remove the vehicle within 24 hours. If the vehicle has been removed, no report is initiated. If the vehicle is still at the scene 24 hours later, a police report is initiated.
3. After the police report is approved by the supervising officer it is then sent to the Traffic Services Section (TSS) of the Police Department. TSS will then forward the police report to the Abandoned Vehicle Program. To check the status of an abandoned vehicle that has already been reported please call TSS at (808) 961-2226 or (808) 961-2227.
4. Once the police report is received, the Abandoned Vehicle Coordinator makes arrangements with the contracted towing service contractor to remove the vehicle within 72 hours. If the vehicle is derelict, it is hauled to the waste metal recovery site. If not derelict, the vehicle is hauled to the impound site and the Abandoned Vehicle Program attempts to notify the registered owner by certified mail. Registered owner is then charged for towing and storage of the vehicle.
5. If the vehicle is missing from the site when the Abandoned Vehicle towing contractor arrives, the case is closed.

ROAD FEE 2024

MRMA Fees for 2024 will increase to \$190.00

Rates held unchanged for as long as possible. Due to rising costs, there will be a small increase this year of \$10 (5.5%).

The community needs delinquent Members to accept kuleana (responsibility) in bringing their mandatory road fees up to date.

ROAD FEE PAYMENT OPTIONS

- PAYPAL** - Members can use the PayPal feature on the FFCA website (www.fernforestcommunityassociation.com)
- CREDIT CARD** - Members can call JB Services. There are processing fees with options 1 & 2.
- CHECK, MONEY ORDER, CASHIERS CHECK** - Mail to JB Services (US based documents only)
- MONTHLY PAY PLAN** - Call JB Services to arrange a plan.
- SIX-YEAR PAYMENT OPTION** - This is a one-time, payment-in-full option: If a Member pays 6 or more overdue payments then FFCA may allow outstanding late fees and interest to be forgiven.

JB SERVICES (JBS):

Phone:
(808)756-7304
Email:
jbsffca@gmail.com
Address:
Pobox 4548
Hilo, HI 96720

TREASURER'S REPORT

BY AMY CAMPBELL

Included in this report are the January through September 2023 financials and the anticipated expenses for October through December 2023. Monthly financial statements are first prepared by JB Services, LLC, then posted to the FFCA website upon board approval. The website updating process has been streamlined this past year, so statements are updated monthly. Please note, there may be a lag of 1-2 months as finances are prepared and reviewed.

2023 (CASH BASIS) INCOME & EXPENSES

January - September 2023

<u>INCOME</u>			
Annual Fees	297,477	475,000	
Other Income Prior Fees Collected	45,485	375,000	
Total Income	342,962	100,000	
<u>EXPENSES</u>			
<i>Administrative</i>			
Bank & PayPal Charges	75	200	
Insurance Directors & Officers	17,670	18,200	
DCCA Filing Fees	68	75	
Web/Maintenance/Hosting/Zoom	4070	1,000	
Office Supplies/Postage/Printing (Newsletter/Ballot/Mailings not incurred at time of report. Est \$8,000)	3,653	12,000	
<i>Professional</i>			
Professional & Contract Services	38,199	54,000	
Legal Fees	21,372	7,000	
<i>Facilities</i>			
Repairs & Maintenance	2,566	14,300	
Annual Road Maintenance Fees	360	360	
Real Property Tax	1,100	1,133	
Portable Toilet Services & Supplies	1,117	0	
Security Services/Monitoring	63	200	
Utilities	1606	2,300	
<i>Road Maintenance</i>			
Road Materials & Supplies	65,802	90,332	
Road Labor & Services	82,540	113,300	
Insurance General Liability	5,445	5,600	
Road Equipment Materials & Supplies	6080	9,000	
Jan- Sept 2023 expenses	251,786	329,000	
*Estimated Expenses Oct - Dec	60,000	46,000	
Total Expenses	311,786	375,000	

2024 PROPOSED BUDGET

Anticipated Income & Expenses

<u>INCOME</u>			
Potential Assessments			
Estimated Collected Assessments			
Estimated Short Fall			
<u>EXPENSES</u>			
<i>Administrative</i>			
Bank & PayPal Charges			
Insurance Directors & Officers			
DCCA Filing Fees			
Web/Maintenance/Hosting/Zoom			
Office Supplies/Postage/Printing/Newsletter/Ballot			
<i>Professional</i>			
Professional & Contract Services			
Legal Fees			
<i>Facilities</i>			
Repairs & Maintenance			
Annual Road Maintenance Fees			
Real Property Tax			
Portable Toilet Services & Supplies			
Security Services/Monitoring			
Utilities			
<i>Road Maintenance</i>			
Road Materials			
Road Hauling and Labor & Services			
Insurance General Liability			
Road Equipment Materials & Supplies			
Total Budgeted Expenses			
Budgeted Emergency Reserve			
2024 Budget			

ANNUAL MEMBER'S MEETING 2023

DECEMBER 3, 2:00 PM

FFCA LOT

11-2864 ALA KAPENA RD.

ANNUAL BOARD ELECTION

FFCA MEMBERSHIP STANDING & VOTING RIGHTS

In order to have your vote counted in the election, your membership must be in good standing. The FFCA Bylaws (Article II Sections 1 and 4, and Article XIII Section 4) define the criteria for a membership that is in good standing. To be considered "in good standing," a member must pay all Mandatory Road Maintenance Assessment (MRMA) fees for a given property/TMK.

The FFCA's accounting firm, JB Services, sends a notice in January of each year informing the member of the amount owed to keep their account in good standing for that calendar year. The due date is February 1st. If not received by March, a late fee may be assessed. The accounting firm sends a second letter in July each year to any members whose accounts are delinquent. Members should notify JB Services right away if their mailing address changes.

Members may submit payment with a mailed ballot or at the Annual Member's Meeting, in person, in order to have their vote counted. Per the bylaws, "if a member in default shall pay the delinquency in full at or before the start of the meeting... or shall make full payment of his delinquency at the time such member submits a ballot for said meeting, then such member shall be considered a member in good standing as to such lot." If you intend to pay your MRMA fees and submit your ballot at the Annual Members Meeting, please arrange to arrive early so that your payment can be processed and your ballot can be certified.

If you are not sure whether your account is in good standing, you can contact JB Services by email (jbsffca@gmail.com) or by phone (808)756-7304. Provide your name and the TMK number for the property you are querying, and Brandee at JBS can tell you whether the account is in good standing or what sum must be paid to bring the account current. If you are unsure, please check with JBS before submitting your ballot, so that you can submit the correct sum to bring your account current. The FFCA Board recommends that you check your account and submit your payment and/or ballot upon receipt of the newsletter or as soon as possible to ensure that your ballot is received in a timely manner.

Please note: If a Member owns more than one lot, they are able to cast more than one vote (one vote per lot). If only one lot is up to date then they may only cast one vote.

CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS

PRESIDENT

Melissa Fletcher

SECRETARY

Leslie Leber

TREASURER

Amy Campbell

Do you have a positive attitude and interest in serving on the board? We want to hear from you!

We are always interested in having applications for good candidates on file. Please visit the website to download an application. You can email it back to the FFCA office, or stop by during operating hours to fill one out or drop off. Mahalo!

(CONT'D FROM PG 2 SIDEBAR)

- A copy of FFCA Bylaws can be found at the website: FernForestCommunityAssociation.com.

*The term 'Easements' refers to the entire width of the mapped road, including any uncleared sides. Our roads are not currently developed to deeded width. Easements should not be mistaken for any Member's personal property. No permanent alterations or personal property are permitted in easements, including vehicles, trash, rock walls, fencing, concrete, etc.

*These summaries are not legal opinion or advice and should not be construed as such.



COMMUNITY NEWS

2023 SUMMARY FROM VOLUNTEER FIRE

Not much has changed since last year with the Volunteer Fire Station. We aim to have one training per month at the lot. As of last month there are three active VFD personnel that live in the immediate area and one unit (truck) available. One unit is in for repairs. We have also purchased an old unit from a Kona VFD that's also in for repairs.

We have two great volunteers on leave of absence for the unknown future and one new member that has joined who is currently on probationary status.

Station update: FFCA has been successful in getting the mechanical engineering done and permits through Helco for replacing the main and meter box. It is routing through county now.

2023 Calls: We had several structural and vehicle fires in the forest this year. There was an instance of someone burning trash/brush that got out of hand and caused a dangerous scene and we helped with the brush fire in Volcano on Highway 11.

On the heels of Maui's tragic fire, I'd like to remind the community of these safety measures:

- Please do not conduct illegal burns.
- If you have a small cooking fire, please always be aware of winds and if we are in a dry season. Those conditions don't mix well with fire. If in doubt, don't.
- Always keep a hose/bucket of water ready with any fire.
- Keeping brush away from any combustibles is always a good idea! At the very least, make sure plants and brush are kept very short for at least a 20 ft buffer zone around structures
- Keep access open to the structure for fire apparatus if needed.
- Keep fire suppressants handy – having fire extinguishers and fire blankets on the ready can save a home and lives.

Mahalo,

Rick Rego, VFD Captain, Co. 5 Charlie, Glenwood

ZOOM MEETINGS

In 2024 meetings will be a mix of on-site and virtual. All on-site meets will be accessed via Zoom, while some meets will only be via Zoom. Zoom meetings meet standards of a public meeting.

Members can call the office or check our Facebook group in advance for updates or questions.

If a Member doesn't have internet access, Zoom does have a dial in option. Details below. The link can be found in FFCA's website and Facebook group.

To join a Zoom Board Meeting (by computer or smartphone), go to:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89161976753>

To call in by telephone, please dial [720-707-2699](tel:720-707-2699) (toll free) and enter the meeting ID when prompted:

Meeting ID#: 891 6197 6753

EQUIPMENT WITH METAL TRACKS MUST BE TRAIERED

Please be aware, heavy equipment with tracks must be trailered the entire way to Member's lots. Any repairs needed to community roads due to untrailerred equipment may be assessed to the lot owner who hired the equipment and/or any subcontractor who brought the equipment. Please kokua, spread the word, and make sure if you hire the work, the operators are made aware. Mahalo.

VOLCANO FRIENDS FEEDING FRIENDS (VFFF) UPDATE

On behalf of Volcano Friends Feeding Friends (VFFF), a non profit community organization whose mission is to *'Nourish the Physical, Spiritual and Mental Well-being of Na Po'e Hawai'i'*, I would like to thank the Fern Forest Community Association for their support in our recently completed Puna Strong 2 'Ai Pono' grant.

'Ai Pono 'Elua' allowed us to provide participants each month with a plant, education about the plant, how to grow it, a recipe and some of the ingredients to make that recipe. Our goal is to reduce consumption of "unhealthy" foods, encourage growing our own foods, sharing ideas and making new friends.

Participants reflected on how quickly the 10 months flew by, how much they enjoyed getting plants and ideas of how to prepare them.

Formerly VFFF provided monthly meals at Cooper Center. Since 2021 VFFF has provided direct service to members of Fern Forest and nearby subdivisions through the Puna Strong Grant, County of Hawai'i and the Hawaii Community Foundation. VFFF also participated in Kau for Keiki and Vibrant Hawai'i programs. Two members of VFFF recently received certification in the CERT program (Community Emergency Response Training). VFFF's goal is to develop a HUB and Educational Training Center (ETC) for our community.

Future Plans:

- 'Ai Pono 'Ekolu: we're looking for participants who are willing to host a "Garden Party" at their residence. Participants would need to be committed to 18 months of program. More information to be developed.
- Continuing plans to develop a HUB and ETC, and the completion of a community assessment.

For more information or to become a member, please contact: Leimomi at (808) 854-4135 (leave a message), email leimomishearer@gmail.com, or find us on our Facebook page facebook.com/volcanofriends.

—Leimomi Shearer



HUI ĀNUENUE HOMESTEADERS CO-OP

JOIN OUR HOMESTEADING COMMUNITY AND SHARE YOUR TALENTS!

Looking for a way to connect with your community and share your passions? Come to our monthly potlucks and plant exchanges – we'd love to meet you. We're also looking for artists, food producers and plant growers who are interested in selling their creations at local farmers markets. We have space available in our community booth at a number of markets, so no need to worry about setting up. Just bring your products and we'll take care of the rest. Oh, and please stay tuned, as we are working on getting a farmer's market running in Fern Forest as well.

To keep up to date on our events, visit our Fern Forest Homesteaders Facebook page. If you're interested in starting a co-op branch within your circle of friends and neighbors, don't hesitate to reach out to us. We look forward to connecting with you!

Contact Lori Glazebrook for more information via text 808.557.1415 or email loriglazebrook7@gmail.com.

THE "S" TURN

The S turn is private property and the Owners have asked that it not be used for any vending, gatherings, or events. Please respect.

HIMALAYAN RASPBERRY UPDATE

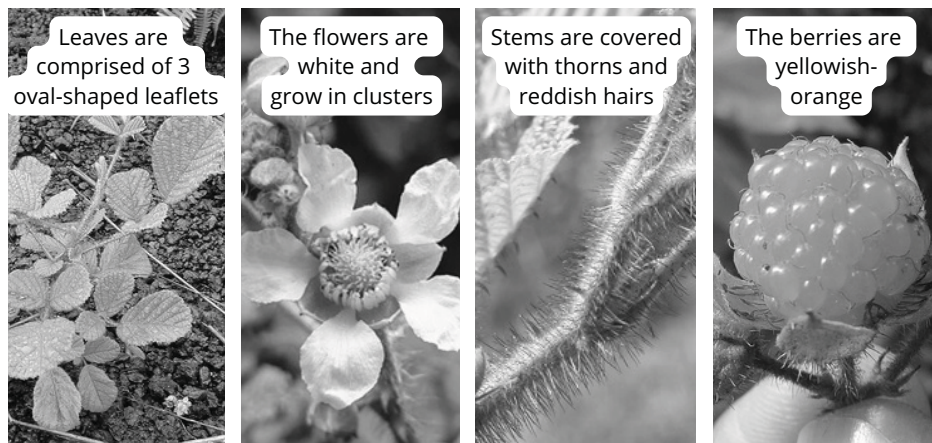
Nestled in the heart of the Pacific, Hawai'i has long been celebrated for its stunning landscapes and unique ecosystems; yet, beneath the lush canopies of 'ōhi'a lies a threat — the relentless invasion of Himalayan Raspberry (*Rubus ellipticus*). This noxious weed is a fast-growing, woody shrub that grows in sprawling, impenetrable thickets, with spiked brambles. Himalayan Raspberry are typically found growing in wet forests at elevations of 2,000 to 5,000 feet.

Himalayan Raspberry was introduced to Hawai'i in 1960 as an ornamental and for its potential as a fruit crop, but after just one year it escaped cultivation and quickly spread, establishing itself as a pest in both forests and backyards. It is highly adaptable and can thrive in a variety of habitats, from forest understories to open fields, and is particularly problematic in disturbed areas, such as clear-cut forests, roadsides, and abandoned agricultural lands.

It competes with and displaces native plants, disrupting the natural balance of the ecosystem. Perhaps you've encountered it when a branch scratched the side of your car, or when one of its thorns ripped through your garden gloves. Himalayan Raspberry is spread through seeds carried by birds, or through root suckers- even small bits of cut vegetation can resprout and grow! Cutting the plant is only a temporary solution, as the underground root system will simply send up new shoots elsewhere.

While this plant will never be fully removed from the island as a whole, we can mitigate its impacts and reduce its spread. The Big Island Invasive Species Committee (BIISC) is working with the Fern Forest Community Association to develop best practices for controlling Himalayan raspberry. Thanks to a grant from Councilmember Matt Kaneali'i Kleinfelder's office, the project is slated to begin soon. If you live in Fern Forest and would like to offer up your raspberry bushes for control method trials, please contact us at biisc@hawaii.edu.

—Kawehi Young, BIISC Coordinator



FERN FOREST HIMALAYAN RASPBERRY MITIGATION GROUP

WAYS TO LEARN MORE AND GET INVOLVED

1) Join the "Fern Forest Himalayan Raspberry Mitigation Group" on Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/637930185016331>

In coming months we will be:

- Meeting monthly in person and via Zoom
- Developing an informational handout related to Himalayan Raspberry Mitigation Successes and Failures
- Mapping actual removal of HR
- Identifying additional volunteers for each Fern Forest Road
- Organizing work-days by street to identify and mitigate HR on road easements and on residents' property
- Communicating with relevant organizations to promote HR mitigation
- Identifying and contacting County departments and agencies for assistance with outreach, education, and equipment)

2) Pick up a free rack card available at the FFCA office or Hirano Store.



POSITIVE STRIDES IN COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL

Hawaii County has implemented another round of changes for the island's animal control needs by establishing a government-funded Animal Control and Protection Agency. They have announced that the agency will be led by Matthew Runnells, a zoo veterinarian tech from Florida who worked in Disney's Animal Kingdom and ran his own animal related business for nearly 20 years.

"His extensive experience, coupled with his genuine passion for animal care, makes him an ideal fit for this crucial role," Hawaii County Mayor, Mitch Roth, said.

"Formerly operated under a pilot program with Hawai'i Police Department, the agency will continue under that same program with an annual \$3.4 million operating budget and 45 full-time funded positions", reported by Big Island News Now.

For two years the Hawaii County Police Department has struggled to meet animal control needs after the Hawaii Island Humane Society, the nationwide organization that historically held the contract, did not submit a bid in 2020. Hawaii Rainbow Rangers were awarded the contract to begin in November of 2020 but did not end up starting until April 2021. Shortly thereafter, in June 2021, their contract was terminated for lack of meeting requirements.

The primary functions of the new agency are as follows:

- Operating county pounds.
- Examining issues with and proposing updates to existing county animal control ordinances.
- Enforcing county and state animal control laws.
- Investigating animal cruelty and neglect cases.
- Provide a dedicated dispatch for animal control calls.
- Reports from the agency will be given to County Council twice a year ensuring that the public is kept informed.

Priority One — for injured animals, cause of public safety risk, animal cruelty, and situations in which an animal's owner is unable to care for the animal. Call Police Dispatch at 808-935-3311.

Priority Two — for lost or found pets, non-emergency: 808-327-3558

Priority Three — Deceased animals on the roadway: For County roads call the Department of Public Works Highways Division at 808-961-8349. For Highways or State roads, contact the State Department of Transportation Highways Division at 808-933-8866.

Hawaii police advise anyone who finds a stray animal to have it scanned for a microchip by a County of Hawaii Animal Control officer, at a veterinarian's office or by a local rescue group.

3) Scan the QR code below with your phone to view the impressive digital mapping system our volunteers helped gather data for on the HR infestation in Fern Forest. This is an ongoing effort and tracking system:



Questions? Contact Hannah Hedrick by text (812 249-8248), phone (808 968-7013), or email (hedrickhneca@aol.com)



Matthew Runnells

LOST/FOUND

Petco Love Lost is a great resource to help reunite lost pets with their families by simply entering a photo of your missing pet and searching their national lost and found pet database at lost.petcolove.org.



IS FFCA A COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION OR A ROADS ASSOCIATION?

VOLUNTEERISM & SUBCOMMITTEES

E HELE ME KA PU’OLO

Make every person, place, or condition better than you found it, always

"Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not."

—Dr. Seuss

"If you don't vote, you lose the right to complain"

—George Carlin

SUBCOMMITTEES OPEN TO MEMBERS:

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

To identify new projects, repairs, or maintenance needed and collect bids to present to the Board.

IDENTIFYING COMMUNITY ISSUES

To identify issues that affect roads in the subdivision and implement courses of action that lead to resolution. (ex. Dumped vehicles, dump sites, junk yards, missing signage, etc).

COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

To determine ways that the FFCA can improve community resilience by working with County and local agencies.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH COORDINATOR

The right candidate should have a steady temperament, be able to work well with police and community, and be able to maintain confidentiality as needed. This is a role of liaison between police and community to obtain reports, get updates regarding important concerns to residents, and facilitate information that helps keep our community and members safe. If interested, go to the following website: www.hawaiipolice.com/community/neighborhood-watch.

FIRE FIGHTERS

VFD is always looking for volunteers. Please visit the FFCA website under Community > Volunteer Fire Fighters for more information or contact Captain Rick Rego at (808) 896-2329.

You'll see on the ballot this year an option to change our Acronym from FFCA (FF Community Association) to FFCRA (FF Community Roads Association). The reasoning behind the suggested change stems from Article XIII Section 7 of the Bylaws, "Guidelines for Expenditures of Assessment Collected" which states that "...funds will first be allocated for administrative costs and other purposes reasonably related to road maintenance and the overall implementation of the road assessment program. All other funds shall be used for road maintenance, improvement, clearing...".

For years there has been repeated confusion about what FFCA is and what community responsibilities it should or should not be taking on. The confusion may in large part be due to the name. To many, the term 'Community Association' refers to a group that implements and manages community improvements such as community centers, playgrounds, basketball courts. Because the FFCA is limited in its spending per the bylaws, the current FFCA board and many community members believe a more accurate name would be FFCRA (Fern Forest Community Roads Association). Note that if the vote passes it creates the OPTION for the board to change the name. It does not guarantee a name change and it would take time for the change to take effect.

Please be sure to vote on the ballot that is included in this newsletter and get that mailed back before or bring it to the December 3rd meeting.

COMMUNITY DIRECTORY

Catchment Cleaning

- Kaleo Anderson: 808.985.9227

Food Growers

- David Baily: 808.825.1945 butchering/slaughtering
- Shelby Borders: chickens, turkeys, pekin ducks, eggs. Txt: 808.861.6411
- Amy Campbell: rabbits, chickens, guinea fowl, food plant starts. Txt: 808.740.8228
- Lori Glazebrook/Lawa Pono Forest: Uala greens and starts, Bele plants, various seedlings for your food forest. Txt: 808.557.1415
- Zachary Griffin: ducks, eggs, bananas, chayote, lilikoi and more. 808.339.1757
- Leslie Leber: Fowl, livestock, food forest. leslie.leber@gmail.com Txt: 808.563.0252
- Nikiya & Joey White: sheep, goats, ducks, chicken, quail. Eggs, preserves, pomelo-gingerade. 808.895.6053
- Mark Winters, Puna Grown: Oyster mushrooms 808.724.6761 maiant@gmail.com

Home Services - Construction, Plumbing and Solar

- Melissa Fletcher: Yurt sales and implementation. Drafting, permitting, construction, all phases. www.yurtsofhawaii.com or yurtshawaii@gmail.com
- Tim Hamburg: Big Island Sheds. Storage sheds, greenhouse, cabins, carports, and chicken coops/runs. 808.990.9928 bigislandsheds.com
- Kawika Henele: Journeyman plumber install & repair. Low voltage wiring, power inverters, solar battery maintenance. (Facebook)
- Mark Winters, Puna Grown LLC. construction, solar and minor plumbing issues. 808.724.6761 maiant@gmail.com

Household Needs - Bath, Body, Clothing & Home Care

- Amy Campbell: Seamstress, custom clothing, bath & body goods. Txt 808.740.8228 campbellfarmsales@gmail.com, sowandsewsustainability.myshopify.com

Landscaping - Land Clearing, Tree Services, Fencing

- Zachary Griffin: tractor service, fencing, wood chipper, plants and other farm supplies. 808.339.1757
- Brandi Kamalani-Ann Amaral: Ryder's Landscape Solutions 808.557.7051 ryderslandscapesolutions@gmail.com, Rydersolutions808.godaddysites.com

- Kramer Landscaping Services: 808.740.8221 License#:GE-055-761-9200-01
- Dan Moxley: Cutting Edge property development and landscaping. Licensed and insured. Specialty work, tree cutting & clearing property lines 808.747.6583
- Rain Om: Lawn mowing. 808.300.9816 Raingrowsflowers@gmail.com
- Jim Toves: Handyman work and landscape maintenance 808.747.6088

Mapping

- Scott Sweet: Mapping for farmers and permaculture designers. Terraunda.com

Painting, Custom Furniture, Fine Woodwork

- Corey Woodberry: Painting, minor carpentry, custom wood pieces (counters, bars, islands, coffee tables, cutting boards) 808.498.6002 corey@cew.services

Physical, Mental, Emotional Health

- Lori Glazebrook: Somatic practitioner 808.557.1415 www.feelfocusflow.community lori@feelfocusflow.community
- Rain Om: Tai chi, chi kung, and yoga body connection, massage therapy. Dance for keiki and adults. @TheFern.BigIsland 808.300.9816 Raingrowsflowers@gmail.com
- Tom Pettine: Massage therapist. Insured and licensed in Hawaii (MAT-16834). Swedish, deep tissue, myofascial release and craniosacral therapy. (Facebook)
- Analise Williams: Former child and family therapist & psych instructor. AZ performance coaching, focus on rebuilding mind, body, spiritual health. (Facebook)
- Elizabeth Fenton: Therapeutic Massage (MAT-12004). 808.365.6818

Tax Preparation

- Robert Kern & Johnny Sharp Tax Office: 808.982.9052 bobtaxkern@gmail.com

Tech Support and Graphic Design

- Eric Campbell: PC and Mac troubleshooting, graphic design and small batch printing on clothing, signs, and gifts. campbellfarmsales@gmail.com

FERN FOREST COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
C/O DATA PROCESSING SERVICES, INC.
99 Aupuni Street, Suite 206
Hilo Hi, 96720

STAMP

ADDRESS LABELS

USEFUL RESOURCES

TRANSFER STATIONS

Glenwood: Tue, Fri, Sun
Volcano: Mon, Thu, Sat
6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

RECYCLING CENTERS

Keaau Transfer Station
Mr. Kays Recycling in Hilo

POST OFFICES

Volcano: Mon-Fri 7:30am-3:30pm
Sat 9-10am
Mt. View: Mon-Fri 9am-3:30pm
Sat 11am-12pm

HELCO

Report a power outage / downed line
(808) 969-6666

NON-EMERGENCY 911

(808) 935-3311

KULEANA HOTLINE

Report suspicious activity in public places
(808) 961-2219

CRIME STOPPERS (808) 961-8300

BIG ISLAND SUBSTANCE ABUSE COUNCIL (808) 969-9994

HILO MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES (808) 974-4300

COMMUNITY GROUPS

FERN FOREST COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

www.facebook.com/groups/1920712384838343

GLENWOOD FERN FOREST BULLETIN BOARD

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/395371867297879>

FERN FOREST FARM & HOMESTEADING

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/495812198976485>

ANIMAL CONTROL: (808) 327-3558

FREE SPAY / NEUTER CLINIC

Pet-Fix (808) 990-3548
Please donate whatever amount you can!

VOLCANO UPDATES & INFO

<https://www.usgs.gov/volcanoes/kilauea/volcano-updates>

FOOD BASKET (808) 963-6030

OFFICE OF AGING (808) 961-8626

HELE ON BUS SCHEDULE (808) 961-8744

FFCA CONTACT

PHYSICAL ADDRESS:

11-2864 Ala Kapena St.
Mountain View, HI 96771

PHONE: (808) 968-9070

EMAIL: ffcahawaii@gmail.com

MAILING ADDRESS:

POBox 4548
Hilo, HI 96720

OFFICE HOURS:

Mondays & Saturdays
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Wednesdays
12:00 - 4:00 PM

WEBSITE:

www.fernforestcommunityassociation.com

FACEBOOK:

Fern Forest Community
Association

BILLING AND PROPERTY INFO:

JB SERVICES

Po Box 4548
Hilo, HI 96720

PHONE: (808)756-7304

EMAIL: jbsffca@gmail.com