



August 26, 2016

- September 2 – Bat monitoring with Paul Hosten
- September 7 – Dual Swim Meet with Molokai Dolphins, 4:30 warm-up
- September 7 – Family Night at the Public Library, 6:30-7:30pm
- September 9 – Lei making class, Kauhale preparation
- September 10 – Saturday Market
- September 15 – Palaau House, tentative
- September 16 – Hala weaving class, Kauhale preparation
- September 19- 22 – Student Conferences

### **Aka`ula School – Home of the Voyagers!**

#### **Island News**

#### **The Owl on the Side of the Road**

**By Brian Leer, Junior**



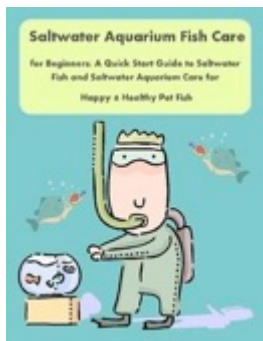
Last week I went for a drive at night, and on the side of the road, there sat a barn owl. I turned around, and it was still sitting there even with cars passing by. I got out of the car and walked towards it. It didn't move; it just looked at me. When I got close enough to catch it, I saw its wing was broken. Poor owl! I took it home so my dad could patch it up. When I got home its talons pierced right through my finger and my dad tried getting it out, but the grip was really strong. After 10 minutes of having the owl's sharp talon in my finger, he finally let it go. When I caught the owl I did not think about what I was getting into. My dad did the best he could to fix the wing, but the wing was badly broken. My dad was



giving up on dealing with it, so we called the Maui vet and they said they would have a look at it. When we got to the clinic we were the only people with a bird. The rest were people with dogs. The vet said they would take care of the owl and do surgery on the wing after it healed a little bit. Today they called to tell us it's doing fine and starting to fly again. I really miss the owl and want to have him back when he's able to fly again.

#### **Maintaining A Salt Water Tank**

**By Geovanni Kaapuni, Freshman**



Have you ever thought about starting your own saltwater aquarium? If so, you might want to consider these facts before making your decision. The key for keeping a saltwater tank running smoothly is to keep up with the routine maintenance tasks. Replacing the filter media, cleaning the tank glass and testing the tank water, and performing regular water changes are extremely important. Changing the water in the tank is one task that cannot be skipped. Maintaining high water quality is key to keeping your fish healthy. Expect to spend at least ten to fifteen minutes a day and then at least two hours a week maintaining the tank. On top of that expect to spend an additional three to four hours a month for a full tank cleaning. Maintaining a saltwater tank is not an easy task, but it is an extremely rewarding experience.

#### **Kitkat**

**By Gracie DeVera-Kuahuia, Grade 8th**

I wish I had my feline brother back. He was as soft and fluffy as if he was my blanket. He would stare at me with his bubble eyes. He constantly wanted attention. He would roll on his back and slowly fall asleep. There he was, my fat, lazy kitty, so unique. Now he is my angel cat floating in the sky. If I had one wish I would ask to say goodbye one last time. I love you, Kitkat. You're forever in my heart, and you lighten my heart with the spark of your love.



## A Herd Of Horses

By Hina Chow, 8<sup>th</sup> grade



I was standing behind the white fence, looking at the moving herd. I had never seen so many types of horses. There were Morgans, bays, paints, Andalusians, and even thoroughbreds. After a few minutes, they began to run. With high tails, fast legs, pointed ears and incredible energy, they captured my attention. After they ate, they ran even more. To this day, the horses run on the hills of Kualoa, free and as fast as the wind.

## Mo'omomi Clean Up

By Wilson Trenner, 5<sup>th</sup> grade

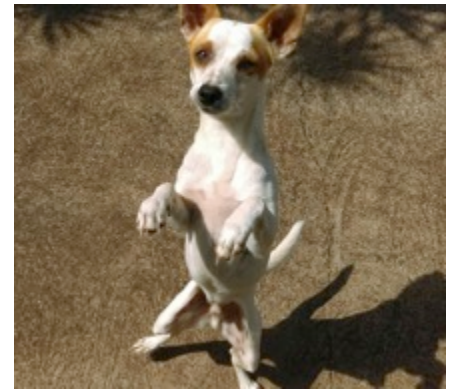
I went to the Mo'omomi beach cleanup. When I got there I got a free hat. The road was bumpy going to the longer side of Mo'omomi. There was a lot of garbage to clean up and after we were done we went back and ate food. Then I played in the water. This was my third clean up. I hope more people come next year.



## Long-John

By Nicole Rodrigues, Grade 8

It was a humid, rainy day when my dogs started barking like crazy. I came outside to see what was going on. A little white dog came up to the fence with his tail between his legs. I quickly climbed over the fence and he came right up to me, so I picked him up. He shivered in my arms. I then took him into my house and away from my other dogs. After a few hours I decided to give him a bath. He was really scared and tried to run out of the shower several times. We tried to get him to eat and drink but he would only take a small bite and sip. After a few days he started to eat and drink normally. Now, he feels safe, is happy as can be and loves to give kisses. Sadly, I am moving to a house that won't allow pets. He is now available for adoption. His name is Long-John, and I hope he finds a wonderful forever home with people who will take good care of him and love him.



*Editor's note: Since the writing of this article, Long-John has found and is enjoying his forever home! ☺*

## Names

By Kaleo Aiana, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

For Hawaiians the most precious moment of a person's life involves a very difficult process, receiving their names. Every name comes with a lot of thought and love. My name is Saije McKenzie Kaleohokumanaiaikalani Willing-Aiana. My Hawaiian name means "the voice of the stars from heaven above". Each name comes with a story or an important moment, family link, same first letter, or some other significant reason. I have a family that takes a very long time to name things, especially babies. Every child should have a name that their parents choose just for them.





**The Storm Provides**  
**By Kamaehu Ward, 7th grade**

The phrase, “the storm provides,” may seem very confusing but in real life the storm actually did provide for my family and I. It started one night when we watched the “Good Dinosaur” and the bad characters said, “The storm provides”. The next day we went backside on our boat. It was a beautiful and bright day. We picked opihi and went diving. After that we had lunch. Then out of the blue we saw a huge bolt of lightning. Next, a huge thunderclap shook us. That’s when we knew that it was definitely time to go. As we started heading home we let out the lines to try our luck. All of a sudden it started raining cats and dogs and we froze our butts out there. My littlest sister’s lips were dark purple. We passed waterfalls that were rich chocolate brown and at least six feet wide. While trolling I finally went to the back of the boat to sit down, when my mom yelled that we got something. I turned around and I saw the reel dumping line. I jumped on the reel and started cranking. When we got it to the boat it was a gigantic blue and silver ono. We gaffed the ono and started whacking it on its head to knock it out. We kept trolling for a little while and then decided to shoot home. Whenever you see a storm consider going into it and it may provide you with just what you need, even if you’re cold and in pain. After all, “no pain no gain.”



**I Would Like To Sail On The Hokule`a**  
**By Paije Pawn, Grade 7**

I would like to sail on the Hokule`a someday. We got a call from Ms. Kim, when she was on the Hokule`a in Long Island, New York. We asked a few questions. I was very interested. I was going to ask a question but I was too shy. Ms. Kim sent a photo of the Hokule`a. Hopefully they will call again. I would be willing to do studies needed to sail on the Hokule`a. Sadly, they ended the call.



**Shoyu Poke vs. Limu Poke**  
**By Kalai Helm, Grade 8**

Aloha, and thanks for coming back for another food review. Today I will be comparing two types of poke: shoyu poke and limu poke. First, let me tell you that poke is cubed raw fish. Shoyu poke is mixed with shoyu, chopped round and green onions, and chili peppers. Limu kohu poke is seaweed mixed with cubed fish. I like to add pa`akai (salt), inamona, chili pepper, and round onions. I eat my poke with fresh poi. Tip: You can use different types of fish to make poke, such as, ahi, aku, nenuke and o`io. I think mixing it with your hand is better than mixing it with a spoon. My favorite poke is shoyu poke! I rate it a 10. I rate limu poke a 5. I`m not a fan of limu!



**Campus News**  
**Music**

**By Alaijah Pastrana, Grade 8**

Music is very amazing. We sing different kinds of music including songs from the 50’s and 60’s. There are songs from the Beach Boys and James Brown. Sometimes we have a theme for the day. If you sing you will receive a good grade. I am singing for an A in music. I love when we have themes because there are songs I love. Fridays we choose our own theme, but it can’t have swearing.



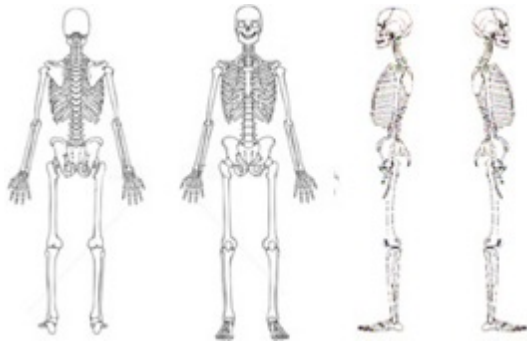
## **Back to the Pond** **By Isla James, Grade 9**

After such a long break from swimming it feels nice to dive back in. Getting back in shape is the hardest part. This year I'm taking swimming seriously, because I want to travel for swim meets. I need to get back in the rhythm of work and fun. High school students take the bus down to the pool instead of the van, which gives us less time to swim. My favorite stroke is butterfly, but right now I can barely maintain my stroke down the length of the pool. Hopefully, working hard everyday will pay off and help me reach my goals.



## **Bones**

**By Sydni Pawn, Senior**



Did you know the human body has 206 bones? Well, Aka'ula students know that because one of our subjects this year is biology! We're currently studying the bones in the human body. Some bones in the skeleton are the cranium (head bone), mandible (jaw), scapula (shoulder bone), fibula (leg bone), and lumbar vertebrae (part of your spine). The list would be even longer if I named the remaining 201 bones. All bones play an important part. They protect organs and give the body structure to be able to move! The periosteum is the outer surface of the bone. It's a thin, dense membrane that contains the blood vessels that nourish the bone and the nerves. Another part is

the cancellous. The cancellous looks spongy and forms many layers within the compact bone. The cancellous protects the inner part of the bone, the bone marrow. It's really awesome to be able to learn more about the human body. I can't wait to hear our next topic in biology!

## **My First Dissection**

**By Mykal Kahinu, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade**

On August 22 2016 Aka'ula School had their first dissection in four years. We dissected cow, pig, and sheep eyes. I had to touch the eye with my bare hand to get a better grip. Thankfully, the eye wasn't preserved in formaldehyde. The eye was preserved in an eco-friendly, nontoxic preservative. The scalpels were very sharp, and we made two incisions. The cornea was very crunchy because all of the protective layers that protect the delicate parts. There are some major differences between the cow eye and the human eye. The cow eye has four muscles that only let the cow's eye move up, down, left, and right, while the human eye has six muscles that allow the eye to move up, down, left, right, and diagonally. This biology class was the best class so far.



## **Beyond Our Shores**

**Dubai**

**By Kamauliola Pupuhi, 6<sup>th</sup> grade**

Dubai is known for its hot and dusty deserts and extraordinary cities. Dubai is extremely hot during the day and the temperature can reach up to 113 Fahrenheit. Even cheap hotels in Dubai are luxurious. We stayed across from the amazing Mall of the Emirates. The arcade had lots of features not usually found in an arcade. We saw many Arabs in their robes. People in Dubai were fasting because it was Ramadan. We went dune bashing on a desert safari. We visited the Burj Khalifa, the tallest building in the world. Dubai is an amazing place and I would like to go back to see what more it has to offer.





**The Gila Monster**  
**By Jalen Kalama, Freshman**

The Gila monster is an animal that I will never forget. It is a reptile and just one of two species of venomous lizards. The range of the Gila monster is Arizona and Mexico. The reptile is named after the Gila River that runs through Arizona and New Mexico. Unlike snakes, which inject venom, Gilas latch onto people. Underground burrows are where they may spend more than 95 percent of their lives. They can also store fat in their oversized tails and can live months between meals. They are desert dwellers and live near desert scrub or grasslands. Gila monsters prey on insects, frogs, lizards, eggs, mammals, and small birds. Gilas are easily identified by their black bodies marked with patterns of yellow, pink, or orange. Gila populations are decreasing due to habitat destruction. They are considered a threatened species and are protected under Arizona law. They may live 20 or more years in captivity and possibly longer in the wild. I'd like to thank my cousin, Mamo, for introducing me to this fascinating animal.



**Wayde van Niekerk**  
**By Nathalie Hosten, grade 7**



Wayde van Niekerk of South Africa is one of the fastest humans on this planet. In the 2016 Rio Olympics, he won the gold medal for the 400 meter run. He also crushed Michael Johnson's world record of 43.18 seconds. Wayde finished the race in 43.03 seconds. That's fast! Wayde's life as a runner was pretty hard. When he was in middle school, he beat the high schoolers in a 200 meter run. This qualified him for a relay. Near the end of the race, Wayde fell. His doctor said that he had torn his hamstring. When a runner tears their hamstring, they can't run. Wayde's stepfather, Steve, said, "I thought it was all over." It wasn't.

Wayde's coach, Tante (Aunty) Ans, suggested that he should run in the 400-meter races, instead of 200 and 100 meter races. This helped. When Wayde's hamstring healed, he began to train for 400-meter races. Wayde's mom was also an outstanding runner, but she was unable to continue her career past high school because of Apartheid. She said that when Wayde crossed the finish line, winning the gold medal and breaking Michael Johnson's world record, it was the proudest moment of her life. Wayde was a premature baby; the doctors gave him only 24 hours to live. Look how far he's come!

**The Tasmanian Tiger**  
**By Mamo Kapuni, 6<sup>th</sup> grade**

The Tasmanian tiger was originally found in Tasmania but has gone extinct. This relative of the Tasmanian devil lived in eucalyptus forests, wetlands, and grasslands. The scientific name of this creature is *Thylacinus cynocephalus*. The Tasmanian tiger hunted kangaroos, small rodents, and birds. Each Tasmanian tiger had its very own unique stripe pattern. This animal also had the largest jaw of any marsupial in the whole world. In the early 1900s there were rumors that the Tasmanian tiger was responsible for the killing of European poultry and sheep. The early Europeans misunderstood this creature, thinking that it was nothing but a ferocious animal and that resulted in it being hunted to extinction. The only known video of a Tasmanian tiger was taken in the 1930s. Unfortunately, it was in black and white so it was hard to see the color and size. In the 1930s the last Tasmanian tigers slowly died in captivity. Scientists declared that this creature officially went extinct in 1986. In 1995 a park ranger in Tasmania supposedly saw a Tasmanian tiger, and then the exact same report came from Indonesia. Neither sighting was confirmed.



## Giddy Up!

**Peyton Gillespie, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade**



A lone cowboy rides upon his steed along the dusty, worn trail. The strong steed kicks up dust as it carries its rider through the blazing hot desert. A loud, but stern “Giddy up” echoes through the canyons. Actually, it was just me. Part of my trip to L.A. was learning to horseback ride. My grandparents took me to a ranch where they own two horses named Lucas and Annie. When I first got on Annie, I was sure I’d fall off. With my grandma on foot leading Annie and my grandpa following on Lucas, we rode to the paddock. I was taught the basic commands like “hold” and how to put pressure on either side of the horse with my leg to turn left or right. Then we did some figure eights and some stops and starts. After I got used to it, grandma gave grandpa the lead so he could “pony” me like grandma was doing. We did this for a while until it got so hot we and the horses could hardly stand it. The horses were practically panting! Then we went back to the stables where I had a

cowboy! I had a wonderful time being with my grandparents and getting an introduction to horseback riding. YEEHAW!!!

## Blueberries

**By Madison Trenner, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade**

My cousins, Natalya and Chloe, and my brother and I crawled under the bird net aiming for the ripe blueberries in grandma Bianca’s blueberry patch. We picked the fresh blueberries and ate a couple of green ones. Grandma Bianca shared a secret that if you plant different varieties of blueberries they pollinate better. The blueberry patch has been there for 40 years. My cousins and I picked blueberries until noon for a delicious cobbler we couldn’t wait to eat. Ripe blueberries, too many too pick, our bellies are full.



## Stonefish

**By Kamaka Adams, 8<sup>th</sup> grade**



“That rock just ate that fish!”

“Well it probably wasn’t a rock, but more like stonefish”

“Oooh.”

The stonefish’s size depending on its species, but they usually grow to 14-20 inches and weigh up to five pounds. Their skin is usually brown or grey, with red, orange or yellow patches. Their dorsal fin is modified into 13 spines. When the stonefish feels threatened or pressure is applied to it, it releases venom. The heavier the pressure, the more venom is released. The stonefish is an ambush predator. It waits patiently for its prey, and in the blink of an eye, the prey is dead. The whole attack lasts 15 seconds. If taken

out of the water, it can survive 24 hours. This camouflaged beast of the sea is one not to trifle with.



## Moose In The Yard

**By Hina Chow, 8<sup>th</sup> grade**

At exactly 11:12pm the yard sensor went off, warning everyone in the house. I was in Alaska visiting my grandparents for two weeks and my family and tutu were sitting at the dinner table. Beep, beep! I jumped up. I ran to the door and peeked outside. It was still light with a luminous full moon overhead. Standing in the yard were two moose. I turned to my family and said, “ There are moose in the yard.” I watched the moose until they were out of sight. Seeing them was amazing. I had never seen anything so breathtaking.