

Ōlelo Launa

www.rkca.org
Autumn 2006

A Day with Santa is Set ...

BY JENNY GUASCH

Mark your calendars for the annual day with Santa at the Royal Kunia Recreation Center field on December 2, 2006 from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.

This year's event will highlight a Holiday Card Drawing Contest for age groups ranging from two to twelve year olds. There will be one grand prize and two consola-

tion prize winners for each age group. All materials will be provided and we encourage all children to participate.

Santa will be available for picture taking with the children. Dress up your kids for that special holiday photo!

This community event is very well attended and volunteers are really needed to stuff goody

bags, man the bouncers, work at the refreshment tent and supervise the holiday card drawing contest. Please call the Association office at 688-9001 or directly e-mail [Jenny Guasch \(jennyguasch@yahoo.com\)](mailto:jennyguasch@yahoo.com) to volunteer.

What happened to our Wiliwili trees?

Recently, several of the wiliwili trees that graced the entrance to Royal Kunia were cut down. Sadly, these trees had died and were removed for safety reasons. It is unknown at this time if the other trees will survive the attack of the African gall wasp that has decimated many trees on Oahu and in our commu-

nity. The wasp, which is smaller than a mosquito, is not harmful to humans or plants other than the genus *Erythrina* which includes the indigenous wiliwili and non-native tropic coral and coral trees.

The wasp lays eggs in the leaf and stem of the tree and the pupae develop causing the lumpy gall.

This gall is what deforms the leaves and stems and is what is most noticeable. Trees are being injected with an insecticide in hopes of saving them. Be forewarned that many more trees in Royal Kunia will be removed over the next few months.

Inside this issue:

Barking Dogs	2
Trees and Mailboxes	2
Royal Kunia Update	2/3
Important Phone Numbers	4

HEAD'S UP KUNIA!

- The RKCA board meeting start time is now 7:00 pm. Call 688-9001 to confirm place and time of meeting.
- HPD no longer handles animal complaints. Call the Humane Society at 946-2187 for noise or abuse complaints.
- Royal Kunia is patrolled by off duty HPD, however, if a resident sees or hears any suspicious activity—call 911! Don't assume the off duty HPD officer is there or that someone else will call. Be Proactive!

BARKING DOG DEVICES

A dog owner is in violation of the City & County of Honolulu's animal nuisance law when their dog barks intermittently for 30 minutes or constantly for 10 minutes to the disturbance of others.

The Humane Society initially responds with a letter advising that a complaint has been made and includes educational materials on why dogs bark and measures that the owner can take to alleviate the barking. Additional complaints can result with an investigator visiting the complainant and the dog owner to resolve the problem. Fines can escalate up to \$1,000.

While barking is a natural form of canine communication, excessive barking can be due to prolonged confinement, loneliness or boredom. Dogs that aren't exercised enough often bark to release tension.

There are devices on the market that can assist in training a dog not to bark excessively.

Citronella collars can be purchased or rented from the Humane Society. Citronella anti-bark collars work by dispens-

ing a spritz of citronella scent when the dog barks. Dogs dislike the smell and it interrupts barking. The collars can be purchased at the Humane Society.

When available, a citronella collar can be loaned for two weeks. Call 946-2187, ext. 228, to rent a collar.

Another type of aversive collar is a aversive sound collar: This collar emits a high-frequency sound when your dog barks. Some are activated by the noise of the bark, while others are activated by the handler using a remote-control device. The rate of success for this type of collar is reportedly rather low.

Shock collars are not recommended because they cause pain and can create other behavior problems.

The words "barking dogs" on any Internet website will bring up a score of companies selling some form of ultrasonic device to curb nuisance barking.

Some of the ultrasonic devices can work, if conditions are right. These devices are not a collar but a stand-alone device that can be mounted or set on furniture. They work by emitting high-frequency sound whenever a

sharp noise, i.e. barking, is made. The idea is the noise, which humans cannot hear, will distract the dog from barking and eventually train the animal not to bark.

These type devices work best for the dog owner. It has to be set up in line of sight of the animal and many of the devices must be calibrated to pick up on the pitch of the dog's bark. Obviously if there are several different breeds with different barks, the device won't work properly. Most of these devices only work within a radius of 25 feet. Other noises, such as wind, can diminish the effectiveness.

Call the Humane Society at 946-2187, ext. 1 for nuisance complaints regarding barking.

Visit the Hawaii Humane Society's website for further information at <http://www.hawaiianhumane.org>

ROYAL KUNIA UPDATE

BY REPRESENTATIVE KARAMATSU, 40TH DISTRICT

This past legislative session, the legislature adopted Senate Concurrent Resolution 141 that requests the City and County of Honolulu to maintain the current zoning of a 172-acre parcel of real property in Royal Kunia, which prevents any new development of homes and commercial buildings. After its adoption in the Senate, the resolution was referred to and passed out of the House Economic Development and Business Concerns Committee, which I chaired, on April 20, 2006. The

resolution achieved the concurrence of the legislature when the House adopted it on April 21, 2006. To follow up on this resolution, we sent correspondence to Mayor Mufi Hanneman, City Council Chair Donovan Dela Cruz, and City and County of Honolulu Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) Director Henry Eng, alerting them about the adoption of the resolution and to ask that Royal Kunia Community Association (RKCA) Government Affairs Chair Lance Widner be

updated. In subsequent correspondence from DPP Director Eng, he stated that any zone change request must be presented to the applicable neighborhood board before the application is submitted to his department. We forwarded a copy of his letter to Waipahu Neighborhood Board Chair Richard Oshiro to ensure that any zoning change request communicated to the board be forwarded to RKCA.

(Continued on page 3)

