

Kokua Kitchen expanding ways to deliver hot meals

Dennis Fujimoto
THE GARDEN ISLAND

KAPA'A — According to the Salvation Army, one in five adults and one in four children live in a food-insecure household.

Captain Mitham Clement of the Salvation Army's Lihue Corps said hunger affects households above the poverty line as well as below.

Several years ago he founded the Kokua Kitchen to help address the problem. Since then, the Salvation Army-opened Kokua Kitchen-Hanapepe Corps serves dinners once a week.

More recently, several popular Kaua'i restaurants have signed on to help feed Kaua'i's hungry by preparing food for the Kokua Kitchen.

Wednesday, the dining area at the Hukilau Lanai was quiet in anticipation of the dinner crowd, but the bowels of the kitchen bustled as Bobby Krause oversaw a crew wrapping trays of food and rice.

"They have been doing this for several weeks, now," Clement said. "The food they're preparing is for the Kokua Kitchen lunch on Thursday."

Clement said Hukilau has been doing lunch once a month and Gaylord's at Kiloana chips in for the third Tuesday of the month. Joe's on the Green at

Kiahuna also does one meal a month.

"These are model restaurants," Clement said. "We're hoping more will follow their example."

Under the "Cooking for Kokua" program, Clement explained they "would be very pleased to have the staff prepare food for a specific meal for 'The Kitchen.'"

He's trying to make it as easy and convenient as possible for participants. Restaurants can prepare a full meal, only an entree or an entree and a vegetable.

Clement calls it "rescuing surplus food."

"Food that has not left the kitchen will be greatly appreciated," he said.

According to the "Cooking for Kokua" flier, the Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act, signed into law in 1996, protects good-faith food donors from civil and criminal liability should the product later cause harm to its recipient.

The Emerson Act gives uniform federal protection to food donors who may cross state lines. The law protects individuals, corporations, partnerships, organizations, associations, governmental entities, wholesalers, retailers, restaurants, caterers, farmers, gleaners, nonprofit agencies and more.

Volunteers who prepare cook and serve the food — in addition to cleaning the kitchen at the completion of the meal — also dine with those being served, providing emotional support and sharing the spirit of aloha.

Additionally, through a 4-H program, several student groups turn out to help decorate the dining hall to give it a more homey feel.

The Kokua Kitchen strives to reach out to those families who are living in parks and on the beaches, those living in transitional housing and low-income families and seniors who have limited food resources.

"Anyone in need is welcome to drop in and have a meal," Clement said.

The Salvation Army, Lihue Corps serves hot meals every Tuesday at 5 p.m. and every Thursday at 11:30 a.m.

Hot meals at the Salvation Army's Hanapepe Corps is served on Mondays at 5 p.m.

For more information, contact Judy Rachap at 651-8123. To schedule food pickups, contact Kokua Kitchen manager Cecilia Perreira at 652-1286 or 332-8908.

► **Dennis Fujimoto**, photographer and staff writer, can be reached at 245-3681 (ext. 253) or dfujimoto@kauaipubco.com.



Dennis Fujimoto / The Garden Island

Hukilau Lanai chef Bobby Krause prepares rice for the Salvation Army Kokua Soup Kitchen as Viren Olsen and Adam Phelps get other dishes ready for transport.

Recount

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Baptiste would have had to face Fukushima — who received the second largest num-

ber of votes — in November.

Nakamura said the blank votes and overvotes were not counted.

Baptiste needed 8,172 out of a possible 16,342 possible votes to win, and he garnered

8,173 votes. Some 23,000 registered voters didn't vote in the primary, officials said.

Fukushima said challenging Nakamura's decision would be "like running up a 100-foot wall" because of the aforementioned court decisions.

"We had the best legal minds look at that interpretation, and we are finding out it is pretty much an iron-clad interpretation," Fukushima said.

Though mounting a legal challenge may be pointless, Fukushima said there are many people on Kaua'i who would fund that effort.

"Being a businessman myself, the question is, 'Why put good money over a bad situation?'" Fukushima said.

Fukushima said consultation with Michael McCartney, chairman of the Hawai'i Democratic Party, also encouraged him to consider pursuing an audit.

"That would probably be the only remaining course of action at this point," he said.

Fukushima said statewide and county Democratic party leaders also have encouraged him to seek an audit.

While he is not aware of any voter irregularities, Fukushima said mistakes can occur because electronic and mechanized voting machines are "sensitive."

"The concern is absentee votes," he said. "Absentee voters don't have the chance to re-vote should he or she make a mistake."

Hoff said he talked with Nakamura on Thursday about signing papers to trigger an audit.

"To me, it is such an important issue," Hoff said. "The margin of error on electronic equipment can be one in a thousand or 10,000."

Hoff also said the mistakes can happen because two election vendors were used.

"There are a lot of questions that need to be answered," he said. "They need a runoff election so that people can have confidence in their leaders."

Taylor said she has secured forms asking for an audit and may file them by Friday's deadline.

"My interest is very much in this direction at this moment," she said. "And the reason is that the highest thought is to save Kaua'i now."

Pleas was not immediately available for comment yesterday.

► **Lester Chang**, staff writer, can be reached at 245-3681 (ext. 225) or lchang@kauaipubco.com.

Equestrians

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said he has been mischaracterized as not wanting equestrians on the trail.

He said he wants to ensure equestrians and pedestrians can use the trail safely, and would only support the equestrian trail project if a fence is put up to separate users.

Sim-Godbehere said a five-foot high, five-foot wide hedge, as suggested by Rapozo, would work. But she rejected the idea of a vinyl fence because it "would detract from the whole experience of being out in that beautiful place."

Godbehere said the naupaka plant, because it is hardy and doesn't require intense maintenance, would work.

Sim-Godbehere also said national research shows the chances of horse-pedestrian accidents are slim.

"We also found a complete lack of reported incidents involving equestrian, pedestrian, equestrian-to-cyclist accidents or incidents," she said.

Sim-Godbehere said Curt

Cottrell, the statewide program manager of the Na Ala Hele trail program for the state Department of Land and Natural Resources, said he has not received any complaints about horses or reports of horse and pedestrian accidents over the past 10 years.

Equestrian Janine Hashitane said riders and pedestrians can co-exist on the trail, and presented a video tape of a day when horse-riders, walkers, dog-owners and bicyclists used the trail at the same time without problems.

The event, which was approved by the government, drew the likes of councilwoman JoAnn Yukimura, Thomas Noyes, chairman of the Ke Ala Hele Makalae, a Kaua'i-based citizens advisory committee, and island radio personality Ron Wiley.

Wailua resident Glenn Micken said he wanted to know whether the federal government, which has provided more than \$30 million for the pathway, would demand reimbursement of some funds if plans for equestrian uses were abandoned.

Rapozo said Tom McCloskey offers solutions that everyone seeks — working with other owners above the trail to donate land for the lateral expansion of parts of the trail.

Rapozo said he was under the impression the plans always called for a fence, and that there is a need for a buffer of some sort.

Doug Haigh, chief of the Public Works' Building Division, said the county administration will hold a workshop — initiated by the council — between 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Thursday at the Lihue Civic Center to look at alternatives.

A vegetative barrier could work, but not a fence, he said.

"We are open to a solution that is going to be the best," Haigh said.

For the safety of the equestrians and residents, Rapozo said county officials should consider a fence as a sound alternative.

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OBITUARIES

Michael Furukawa

Michael Hitoshi Furukawa of Kapa'a died Sept. 17, 2006 in Honolulu at the age of 56.

Born Aug. 9, 1950 in Pu'unene, Maui, he was a senior vice-president for Grove Farm on Kaua'i.

He is survived by his wife, Ellen Furukawa of Kapa'a; sons Jon and Dean Furukawa of Honolulu; daughter Kristine Furukawa of Honolulu; mother, Doris Furukawa of Kahului, Maui; and brothers, Ronald (Norma) Furukawa of Kahului, Maui; and Thomas (Estelle) Furukawa of Tigard, Ore.; an aunt, uncles, cousins, a niece and a nephew.

A celebration of his life will be held on Saturday, Oct. 21, at 4 p.m. at Puakea Golf Course lawn in Lihue. Casual attire is suggested, and the family requests no flowers.

Arrangements are being handled by Nuuanu Memorial Park & Mortuary and Ballard Family Mortuary.

Tomie Yamauchi

Tomie Yamauchi of Lihue died peacefully at home on Sept. 25,

2006, at the age of 75.

Born in Ibaraki-ken, Japan on March 5, 1931, she was the owner of Tomi's Restaurant and also retired as a cook from Restaurant Kiibo.

She is survived by her daughter Kris Tomiko Yamauchi-Taniguchi; son-in-law Eddie Taniguchi III; granddaughter Hoku Tomika Yamauchi Taniguchi; sisters and brothers in Japan; brother-in-law James Kikuo Yamauchi; sister-in-law Sumie Yamauchi and Madeline Yamauchi; numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband Robert "Tadashi" Yamauchi, sister-in-law Betty Fusae Sora, brother-in-law Edward Satoru Yamauchi.

Private services will be held. Kauai Memorial Gardens & Funeral Home assisted the family with arrangements.



Tomie Yamauchi



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You may contact Tony Pajela of Garden Island Security at 645-1547 or 245-3232; or Suzette Kane of A&B Properties at 335-2749 if you have any questions.

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Arinaga

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spokeswoman, wrote in a prepared statement.

The investigation, prompted five years after the incident,

was initiated after former Kaua'i Police Chief K.C. Lum put Arinaga on administrative leave. The suspension came on the heels of Arinaga blowing the whistle on three vice officers who are accused of not

attending a mandatory training in Maui. A hearing for that case is pending.

Arinaga insisted on an investigation of the three officers and Lum did not permit one, according to court documents in the suit Arinaga filed against the county.

The results of any settlement in that suit are sealed. A protective order is in place barring Arinaga from discussing the results of the settlement, if any.

In the suit, Arinaga accused Lum of retaliation, a violation of the state's Whistleblowers' Protection Act.

Lum said at the time that Arinaga was put on leave over an internal investigation of the 2000 incident, and nothing more.

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Wena Villarín, a certified dental assistant, checks the teeth of Head Start student Wailua Ragsac during the health fair Friday at Kaua'i Community College.

provider with programs on four islands. It has operated on Kaua'i since 1982.

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