



IN THIS ISSUE

- ▶ Message From Kalani pg 1
- ▶ Palapala Ho'omau Church Ho'olaule'a pg 1
- ▶ Senate Commends Volcom Hawai'i pg 2
- ▶ Chuuk State Legislature Training pg 2
- ▶ Rat Lungworm Health Alert Hāna pgs 3, 4

- ▶ Hawai'i Taiwan Reciprocal Drivers License Agreement pg 5
- ▶ CIP Funds to Kualapu'u Elementary Public Charter School pg 5
- ▶ 10th Annual Maui County Agriculture Festival pg 5
- ▶ Art Night at the Capitol pg 6
- ▶ Hawai'i State Science & Engineering Fair Awards Ceremony pg 6

MESSAGE FROM KALANI

In the midst of the health crisis emerging in our district from the threat of Rat lungworm, I am so very proud of our small yet resilient community. We have rallied - becoming informed, being supportive of each other and proactive. I am seeking additional resources to assist all affected, from our growers, to our educators and healthcare professional. I encourage everyone to share mana'o with your neighbors and continue to thrive in our beautiful island home.

J. Kalani English

SENATOR J.KALANI ENGLISH
HAWAI'I STATE SENATE 7TH DISTRICT

HĀNA, EAST AND UPCOUNTRY MAUI,
MOLOKA'I, LĀNA'I AND KAHO'OLAWÉ



PALAPALA HO'OMAU CHURCH
HO'OLAULE'A IN KIPAHULU



Sen. English presents Erin Lindbergh with Senate Proclamation upon the Sesquicentennial Celebration. April 2, 2017.

Sen. English attended a Ho'olaule'a at Palapala Ho'omau Church and presented a Senate Proclamation to family, friends and supporters of the Church on the celebration of its sesquicentennial on April 2. For 150 years, the church has stood along the Southeast coast of Maui. After the church was built in 1867 by Congregational missionaries, members of the community gathered to worship. As residents moved away to work in the plantations or in the tourism industry, the church was abandoned.

In 1964, the church was restored and on the following Thanksgiving Day, worshippers gathered for the first service since the 1940s. In 2012, the Palapala Ho'omau Preservation Society was established to care for the church. The Society's goal is to return Palapala Ho'omau to an active role in the community.

The Senate Proclamation Sen. English presented states in part: The Hawai'i State Senate is pleased to recognize institutions in our communities that have withstood the test of time and catalytic changes in our society. Palapala Ho'omau Church "Church of Enduring Scriptures" is such, and has stood serenely along the Southeast coast of Maui for 150 years. Congregational missionaries from Lahaina built the church in 1867. The little church became a beacon in Kipahulu, Maui where members of the community gathered to worship and share fellowship.

The Senate of the Twenty-Ninth Legislature of the State of Hawai'i recognizes Palapala Ho'omau Church for its revival as a place of worship and community gathering and extends its sincerest aloha for its continuity.



VOLCOM HAWAII COMMENDED BY HAWAII SENATE

Sen. English recognized Volcom Hawaii on the floor of the Hawaii State Senate on April 4th, for their philanthropy and deep commitment to our statewide communities. Volcom is an internationally recognized surf, skate, and snowboard brand that was established in 1991. Volcom Hawaii represents the local contingent that promotes a “live like this” motto, with the emphasis on giving back, protecting the ‘āina and oceans, and promoting a viable and healthy community. For the past eight years, Volcom Hawaii has invested in the people with their “Hawaii Gives Back Program” and their Sustainability Programs. A portion of sales and proceeds from products and the Volcom Pipe Pro go towards this fund.

At the end of this year’s Volcom Pipe Pro, they presented a \$60,000 to the Boys and Girls Club of Hawaii and a \$16,000 check to the Live Like Sion Memorial Fund. To date, Volcom Hawaii has donated a total of \$450,000 to the Boys and Girls Club of Hawaii, Sunset Beach Elementary, and the Live Like Sion Memorial Fund. Volcom’s Sustainability Program, in collaboration with Sustainable Coastlines Hawaii, is deemed a Deep Blue Certified Event. Sustainability is an official part of their mission statement and both their surf team homes on the North Shore are powered with solar energy. Hawaii is the center of surfing, and Volcom recognizes the deep roots of community, and love for the ocean and ‘āina that is an integral part of Hawaii. More importantly, Volcom’s contributions to the youth of Hawaii and local communities is inspirational and representative of being good stewards of our ‘āina.

“Hawaii is the center of surfing, and Volcom recognizes the deep roots of community, and love for the ocean and ‘āina that is an integral part of Hawaii,” said Sen. English. “More importantly, Volcom’s contributions to the youth of Hawaii and local communities is inspirational and representative of being good stewards to our ‘āina.”

Kaimana Henry and Tai Van Dyke are two surfers from Maui who were recognized by the Senate. Kaimana Henry is from Hāna, Maui,



Sen. English with Kaimana Henry (left) and Tai Van Dyke (right), recognized on the Senate floor for philanthropy through Volcom Hawaii’s “Hawaii Gives Back Program” and their Sustainability Programs. April 4, 2017.

where he learned to surf at 7 years old. Today Kaimana is a professional surfer who is sponsored by Volcom, he also takes care of the Volcom houses on the North Shore of O‘ahu. Most recently, Kaimana won the 2016 Da Hui Backdoor Shootout, held at Pipeline, and he also won the Qualifying Series (QS) international surf event at Rangiroa, French Polynesia in 2016.

Tai Van Dyke was born and raised on Maui and has been one of Volcom’s top team riders since the 1990s. Tai helps to manage Volcom Hawaii’s Team of surfers—a diverse group of professional surfers that represents Hawaii in international surf competitions. Tai manages the Volcom Houses on the North Shore and is a mainstay in the local surfing community. He is also a talented surf photographer.

SEN. ENGLISH TRAINS THE CHUUK STATE LEGISLATURE IN MICRONESIA

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) invited Sen. English to be a part of a resource team that would assist in providing training to the Chuuk State Legislature and its newly-elected members. During the training, he provided the Chuuk Legislators with a comparative analysis on a variety of topics that included: the structure of the Hawaii State Legislature, the role of the Senate and the House of Representatives, the role of legislative committees, the budget cycle and other responsibilities and operations related to legislative duties. The resource team also provided training in promoting inclusiveness and gender equality in law making, oversight, and representation process while encouraging robust debates on current and emerging development priorities.

“In the past, I have participated as a resource person for other UNDP training programs in the Pacific region,” said Sen. English. “Our roles as legislators in Hawaii serves as a model for other developing countries in the Pacific.



RAT LUNGWORM HEALTH ALERT UPDATE

HAWAI'I DEPT. OF HEALTH HOSTS INFORMATION TOWN HALL IN HĀNA

An estimated 250 - 300 people attended the DOH sponsored community meeting in Hāna at Helene Hall April 6.

Dr. Lorrin Pang, Hawai'i Dept. of Health; Kay Howe, Professor, College of Pharmacy, UH Hilo; Lissa Fox Strohecker, Maui Invasive Species Committee (MISC); and Robyn Pfahl, Hawai'i Farm to School Coordinator, teamed up to inform an anxious East Maui community after three confirmed cases of *Angiostrongylus cantonensis* (rat lungworm disease) have emerged. Local Health Care Professionals, Farmers, Gardeners, Parents, Educators, Keiki, and Food Handlers were in attendance.

Dr. Pang presented a thorough introduction of the systematic pathology of transmission of the parasite to humans through ingestion and the effect of parasitic meningitis as the human immune system is triggered to fight the parasite.

Prof. Howe shared her and her son's terrifying first-hand experience with the disease. She also shared her profound depth of research and knowledge from years of study on Hawai'i Island which has a long history of battling this disease.

Prof. Howe stressed that while much is being learned through the tragic first-hand cases locally and the subsequent research at UH Hilo, federal funding and support is essential for broader studies of this health crisis and eradication efforts. Help from USDA is needed for pest control. Recent data revealed that of 557 rats collected and tested, all were infected. MISC will require additional support for surveying, specimen and data collection.

Robyn Pfahl stated that there has been support for education and prevention from Sen. English, CTAHR (College of Tropical Ag. and Human Resources), Maui County and UH Hilo. Through her outreach program, partnering with Lehn Huff, Maui School Garden Network Coordinator, has education material available to Dept. of Education, (DOE). Cooperation and support with Dept. of Ag. to extend crop protection, rat and snail protection for farm operations.

Robyn and Lehn arranged additional meetings scheduled by Maui School Garden Coordinators for Hāna School and a RLW workshop at UHMC on April 7, 2017. A video will soon be made available of Prof. Kay Howe's presentation and distributed to CTAHR, UHMC Ag Department, Maui County Farm Bureau, Hawai'i Farmers Union United, Maui Invasive Species Committee, Department of Health, Maui District Health Office.

"I am pleased that our community is quickly responding and taking action to a real threat that could affect all of our lives," adds Sen. English. "This is not the first time that we come together to combat a regional health problem while in its initial stages and prevent it from becoming an actual hazard in the State and affecting residents and visitors as well."



Dr. Pang fielded questions from the audience. Here are some of the questions raised and answered by the team and with information contributed by health professionals, farmers and two survivors:

Q - When someone survives the meningitis provoked by ingesting the parasite, do they develop any immunities against a second infection if ingested again?

A - No, though further studies are needed.

Q - Are dogs and cat at risk, livestock?

A - Yes. In puppies it is deadly. (see Precautions for prevention)

Q - Does UV light or chlorine kill the parasite in catchment water tanks?

A - No. Boiling water in question is the safest practice.

Q - Is the parasite communicable between humans?

A - Only through blood transfusion.

Q - Are mongoose, like rats, a preferable host for the parasite?

A - Unknown, take same precautions around mongoose feces.

Q - Does vinegar, food grade hydrogen peroxide, soap or UV light kill the parasite during the washing?

A - No. Parasite thrives in an acidic environment so vinegar is not advisable. Hydrogen peroxide and UV light has not proven effective.

Q - Are there alternative parasitic drugs or purge methods tested that can halt the parasite if ingestion is suspected?

A - Only if treatment kills the parasite before it reaches the brain. Treatment should be done immediately or within 3 weeks.

Q - How soon after ingesting slug do symptoms appear?

A - 1-3 weeks.

Q - How long can the parasite survive outside the host?

A - 3 hours.

Q - Which slugs are the preferred carriers?

A - Cuban slug, Semi-slug, African Snail, prawns, crabs. But all slugs should be treated with cautionary suspicion.

"Good turnout and questions," said Dr. Pang, "it reflects the community's attitude to resolving this complex issue and they continue to work on this long after the meeting has ended".

On April 11, Cynthia Nazario-Leary, Lynn Nakamura-Tengan and Kylie L.T. Wong from UH Mānoa Extension CTHAR faculty returned to Hāna to address a group of growers, landscapers and home gardeners from Hāna, Kīpahulu and Nahiku. They shared updated procedures for hygiene, rat and slug control and all discussed and shared tips on avoiding transport of slugs, trapping and disposing. Also discussed were the different behaviors and habitats of the semi-slug only recently found in the area. A variety of pesticides, trapping methods and safe disposal were demonstrated. The group collectively expressed their concerns for market product and public consumer protection.



Prof. Kay Howe, UH Hilo, and Robyn Pfahl, Hawai'i Farm to School Coordinator demonstrate slug trapping methods. Helene Hall, Hāna. April 6, 2017.

RAT LUNGWORM HEALTH ALERT UPDATE CONTINUED

We have learned that particular ecosystems, just like East Maui, are ideal for the transmission of the parasite. Since it has emerged here, it is imperative that our way of living has to change - being observant, proactive, informed is more critical than ever. The team outlined the fundamental hygienic practices necessary as a preventative. The parasite is not visible so to get an upper hand on controlling the spread of the parasite calls for a war on rat feces - minimizing and eradicating rats, slugs and snails.

Rats' lungs host the first stage of incubation, the larvae is passed through the rat feces, the slugs that travel over the rat feces ingest and carry the parasitic third stage larvae as they raid the veggie garden, banana bunches, papayas, pineapples, damp garages, pet food dishes by night leaving the third stage slime trail behind them. By morning they all flee to dark places, some smaller slugs hide in the dark folds of vegetation by day. If ingested by human (or some animals) the larvae enter the bloodstream through the intestines and the body's natural defense attacks the larvae. The larvae will eventually die, humans do not pass the larvae on through their feces, however the ensuing battle takes a deleterious toll on the body, often with long term effects, especially devastating in children's developing and vulnerable systems. Crabs, frogs, snails, prawns and possibly opihi may be carriers and if not cooked properly when eaten may introduce the third stage larvae through the intestinal track.

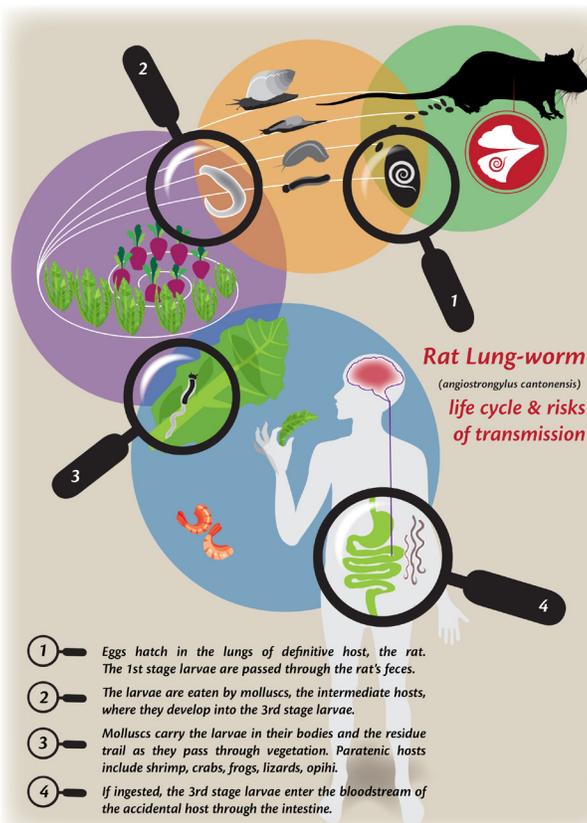
Smart Precautions

All water consumed and used for washing fruits and veggies should be potable standard.

Adopt a hyper cleaning habit with fruits, veggies, cooking surfaces, cutting boards, knives, refrigerator, etc. Food brushes and food thermometers are important handy tools.

If on a catchment system, clean tank roof and gutters often. Change water filters regularly, a 15 micron filter is preferred.

Generally slugs are active by night and hide in cool, damp, dark places by day. They can be found along the under plastic and terracotta planters, along the lip of pots, under leaves and rocks, in damp dark garages, shops and laundry rooms, under petfood bowls and in pet food storage containers.



Use gloves or utility tools clearly marked for this purpose. Store tools in a antiseptic solution. - **never handle** slugs, snails, dead rats or feces with bare hands. Dispose of slugs and snails in a jar with tight fitting lid filled with a 15% salt water solution. This kills the slug and prevents pets or rats from eating. Do not leave dead slugs out in the open. They may be dead but the parasite is transmittable for hours.

Commercial slug bait is effective, read labels carefully, some are toxic to pets. There are simple methods to attract and trap/kill slugs. One method demonstrated uses a dark tarp or black plastic garbage bag. Lay flat on the ground - folded 3 times with water sprinkled between layers. Place a rock on top to secure in place overnight. Using gloves and utility tongs, unfold the layers and remove the slugs gathered between folds. Place in salt water jar.

Use appropriate traps to kill rats. Do NOT handle carcass without gloves, place in sealed plastic bag, dispose in trash containers with lid firmly closed.

If transporting potted plants, truckloads of dirt or rock, inspect contents thoroughly before distributing on your property. The parasitic nematode can survive deep in the soil.

Properly cook prawns, crabs, opihi, frogs, vegetables, (165°) or freeze for 24 - 48 hours.

Adopting these practices daily will become second nature in a short time and will reduce the risk of interaction and exposure to the parasite.

Be alert to symptoms

Hypersensitivity to skin, headache, parasthesia (a burning or prickling sensation that is usually felt in the hands, arms, legs, or feet, but can also occur in other parts of the body), pain that moves from one area of the body to another - neck and shoulder, leg next day, back to head. The vague initial symptoms mimic other diseases, like leptospirosis and typhus, these must be diagnosed and treated with antibiotics quickly. If these or flu-like symptoms appear, see your doctor immediately.

Treatment

Currently, a spinal tap is the only method of diagnosis. Large doses of steroids counter affect of inflammation from meningitis. Pain medication are administered to help relieve symptoms.

RESOURCES

College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources and UHMC Ag Department
<https://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/site/>

<http://manoa.hawaii.edu/ctahr/farmfoodsafety/rat-lungworm/>

Maui County Farm Bureau
<http://www.mauicountyfarmbureau.org>

Hawai'i Farmers Union United
<https://hfuuhi.org>
Hāna Chapter

Haleakalā Chapter
<http://www.mauifarmershaleakala.com>

Maui Invasive Species Committee
<http://mauiinvasive.org/2016/06/21/rat-lungworm-disease/>

<https://mauiready.org/ratlungworm>
http://health.hawaii.gov/docd/disease_listing/rat-lungworm-angiostrongyliasis/

<http://pharmacy.uhh.hawaii.edu/rlw/education.php>

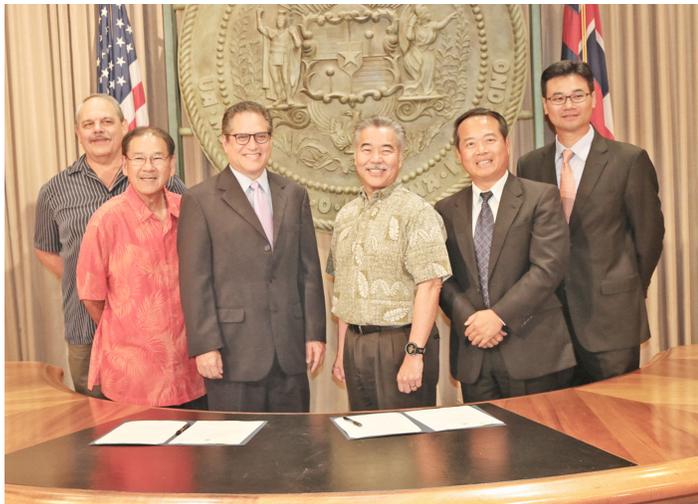
<http://pharmacy.uhh.hawaii.edu/rlw/faq.php>

HAWAII AND TAIWAN SIGNS RECIPROCAL DRIVERS LICENSE AGREEMENT

State of Hawai'i Department of Transportation Director Ford Fuchigami and Taipei Economic and Cultural Office Director-General Chow Minn-Gan signed a reciprocal driver's license agreement on April 5 in the Governor's office. Under the agreement, Republic of China (Taiwan) nationals residing in Hawai'i with a valid Republic of China driver's license are exempt from taking a road test, as well as a written exam. They can now obtain a class 3 or standard license upon completing of a regular physical exam.

Similarly, Hawai'i State residents with a valid Hawai'i driver's license residing in Taiwan for a minimum of one year can acquire a license within 12 months of entering the country without taking a road or written exam. Taiwan has signed similar reciprocal driver's license agreements with states across the U.S. that include Alabama, Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas and Washington.

"This agreement with Taiwan marks an important milestone in the development of bilateral relations with foreign governments," said Sen. English. "It will also bring greater convenience to residents of both Hawai'i and Taiwan."



\$144,910 RELEASED FOR CIP AT KUALAPU'U ELEMENTARY PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

The Department of Education (DOE) recently announced the release of Capital Improvements Projects (CIP) funds to Kualapu'u Elementary Public Charter School. A total appropriation of \$144,910 will go towards walkway and ramp projects as part of much needed improvements throughout the campus. The project was awarded to Island Construction & Demolition, LLC. "I worked with my colleagues to secure the funds appropriated in the budget for Kualapu'u Public Charter School," said Sen. English. "These improvement projects are important in providing a safe environment for our students."

10TH ANNUAL MAUI COUNTY AGRICULTURE FESTIVAL



The 10th Annual Maui County Agriculture Festival was held on April 1 on the grounds of the Maui Tropical Plantation in Waikapū. Hosted by the Maui County Farm Bureau (MCFB) in partnership with the Office of Economic Development, the event provided an opportunity to raise awareness about Maui agriculture while invigorating the island industry. The event featured a variety of local produce, live entertainment, food trucks, an animal petting area, coffee, crafts and an educational tent.

"The Maui County Agriculture Festival is a wonderful event that provides the general public with the opportunity to engage with local farmers," said Sen. English. "It is a great educational opportunity to learn more about Maui's agriculture and its impact on our day-to-day lives."

Innovation is a key component to agriculture in the future and the STEM program grows minds to innovate. 4-H and Future Farmers of America have been key to providing agricultural experience to our youth. Various agricultural programs received awards and scholarships from the Maui County Farm Bureau Growing Future Farmers program. Funding was also provided to Kula Elementary School to purchase supplies to expand their farm program. Other beneficiaries were: Lahainaluna Future Farmers of America; Maui 4-H Live Stock Club; Moloka'i 4-H Livestock Club; Lāna'i 4-H Livestock Club; Moloka'i Middle School VEX IQ Team 434 - STEM Robotics; Moloka'i High School STEM Robotics; Kualapu'u Elementary School STEM Robotics; Pukalani Elementary School Stem Imagineers and Maui High School Band.



The Festival is one of many activities carried out by the Farm Bureau to grow Maui's agriculture. "Growing Future Farmers" program provides mini-grants to farmers and ranchers enabling them to innovate and implement new practices in their operations. The Farm Bureau also works with agencies to develop agriculture friendly programs for the State Enterprise Zone (EZ) Program. This program was established by the Hawai'i State Legislature to help stimulate certain types of business activity and increase employment in targeted areas of the State.

"Policies that support our local farmers, encouraging good agricultural practices and increasing our local food production is one of the Senate's legislature priorities," said Sen. English. "I am pleased to see the Maui Farm Bureau engaged in so many productive activities."

J. KALANI ENGLISH
Senate Majority Leader

COMMITTEES

Vice Chair, Senate Committee on
International Affairs and the Arts

Member, Senate Committee
on Hawaiian Affairs

Member, Senate Committee
on Transportation and Energy

Member, Senate Committee
on Ways & Means



Hawai'i State Legislature
Bill Status and Documents
www.capitol.hawaii.gov/

HOW TO REACH US

Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 205
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813
ph 808-587-7225
fax 808-587-7230

From Maui, toll free 984-2400 + 77225
From Moloka'i and Lāna'i,
toll free 1-800-468-4644 + 77225
e-mail: senenglish@capitol.hawaii.gov

To receive this newsletter by
e-mail, please send your request to:
english4@capitol.hawaii.gov

Join us on Facebook
facebook.com/HawaiiSenateMajority

ART NIGHT AT THE CAPITOL

On April 7, the State Capitol opened its doors to the public for the 9th Annual Art At the Capitol event. This annual event began in 2008 as an initiative to welcome the public to view the variety of art that is displayed throughout the State Capitol. Through a partnership with the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts, more than 900 pieces of artwork are on display at the Capitol in legislative offices and open areas.



The theme of this year's Art Night at the Capitol was "Onipa'a: The Spirit of Lili'uokalani." The event focused on Marianna Pineda's Queen Lili'uokalani Statue which is located on Capitol Mall. In 1975, House Bill 1117 was introduced to create the statue of the Queen. The purpose of the statue is to "exemplify and symbolize the character and spirit of Hawai'i, its past, its present and its future."

This year the event featured two competitions, the People's Choice Award and the Capitol Legislators Award. Legislators participated in the event where they were tasked with creating a piece of art to be displayed at the event. The public was then tasked with voting for their favorite piece of art created by the legislators in the two categories. The winners were: Capitol Legislators Award: Sen. Laura Thielen and People's Choice Award: Sen. Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran.

"Art Night is a fun a way for us as legislators to open our offices to the public," said Sen. English. "There are many exceptional pieces of art placed throughout the Capitol and these pieces should be for all to see."



The Public viewing art and enjoying Art Night at the State Capitol. April 7, 2017.



Sen. English awards recipients on Visitation Day & Awards Ceremony of The 60th Hawai'i State Science & Engineering Fair (HSSEF) held at the Hawai'i Convention Center. April 10-12, 2017.