

County releases name of Lumahai drowning victim

THE GARDEN ISLAND

The Kaua'i Police Department yesterday released the name of the man who drowned at Lumahai Beach Sunday.

Dwayne Trotti, 43, of Killen, Ala., died Sunday afternoon while trying to rescue a swimmer in distress, county officials said.

When a 14-year-old Honolulu boy was swept out near the river mouth at Lumahai on the North Shore, Trotti and two other Alabama men, along with the boy's grandfather and another visitor, attempted to save him.

Battling strong currents, rough seas and a 4-foot shore-break, the group was able to bring the boy ashore, but by the

time surfers and boogie-boarders had helped the rescuers in, Trotti was unconscious.

A retired police officer attempted to administer CPR on the beach, and firefighters and emergency medical technicians continued life-saving efforts upon their arrival.

Despite that, Trotti was pronounced dead Sunday at Wilcox Hospital.

The 14-year-old boy and the other Alabama men were taken to Wilcox for treatment, but county officials offered no updates on their conditions at press time last night.

Trotti is the 13th drowning victim on Kaua'i this year, said Mary Daubert, county spokeswoman, in a statement.

Man apparently drowns at Kehena

ASSOCIATED PRESS

HILO — An autopsy was ordered to determine the cause of death of a California man who apparently drowned in waters at Kehena Beach on the Big Island, police said Monday.

The lifeless body of Johathan Cupp, 45, of Hollywood,

was reported Sunday afternoon, Capt. Steven Guillermo said. When officers arrived on the scene, fire rescue personnel were attempting to revive Cupp with cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

Cupp was transported to Hilo Medical Center, where he was pronounced dead. The autopsy was scheduled for today.

Zonta

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businesses to help make these simple wishes come true. Because of logistical limitations, only monetary donations can be accepted. Gift certificates and used or new items, while appreciated, should not be submitted.

Cathy could use educational toys

Cathy is 16 months old and was born at just 26 weeks gestation. She receives Early Intervention services through Easter Seals of Kauai because of her prematurity. Her parents are working and providing Cathy with her everyday needs but times are tough. Cathy would benefit from some educational toys to help her reach her full potential.

see doctors who aren't available on Kaua'i. His mom has done a great job of taking care of him, but it gets tiring trying to take care of her medically needy child.

The family could use toys, household items and a nice holiday meal. It would ease some of the burden that this family faces.

Drug exposure takes toll on Jana

Jana, 2, was prenatally exposed to drugs. She lives with her grandmother, who is her primary caregiver. Grandma works full time to make ends meet. She is receptive to suggestions and assistance to help Jana reach normal development milestones.

Toys, household items and a nice meal would brighten this family's holiday season.

Checks should be written to Zonta Club of Kauai Foundation 501(c)3. Donations are tax-deductible, and should be mailed to Zonta Club of Kauai Foundation, c/o Dimples Kano, P.O. Box 1120, Kapa'a HI 96746. For more information, contact Kano at 822-9882.

Problems complicate baby Michael's life

Michael is a 6-month-old baby who lives with his mom, brother and extended family. He was born early and, as a result, has medical problems, including breathing difficulties. He has to go to O'ahu to

OBITUARY

Arnolfo T. Molina

Arnolfo T. Molina of Koloa died Dec. 17, 2006, at Wilcox Memorial Hospital at the age of 71. Born Sept. 21, 1935, in Santa Ilocos Sur, Philippines, he was a dishwasher.

He is survived by his wife Rosamilia Molina; two daughters, Maribel Molina and Mary Ann (Lyle) Kobashigawa; son Arnold Molina; mother Ana Molina; five

grandchildren; and brothers, sisters, nieces and nephews.

Friends may visit with the family from 2 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 23, in St. Raphael's Church in Koloa, where Mass will be celebrated at 3:30 p.m.

Burial to follow at St. Raphael's Church Cemetery in Koloa. Casual attire is suggested. Arrangements are being handled by Borthwick Kauai Mortuary.

Holly Jolly Christmas full of friendly competition



Dennis Fujimoto / The Garden Island

Kaua'i Mayor Bryan Baptiste smiles in the background as a local Santa makes his appearance at the Holly Jolly Christmas event.

Dennis Fujimoto
THE GARDEN ISLAND

Good-natured inter-departmental rivalry dominated last Friday's Holly Jolly Christmas at the Mo'ikeha Building, in which Kaua'i Fire Department recruits eked out a victory with their "Christmas Medley," performed in tights.

While police officers tried their best to distract the fire department, going so far as to pretend to write parking tickets on a KFD vehicle parked out front, the KFD recruits scored a narrow victory.

Last year's defending champions, the Office of Community Assistance, settled for third place.

Mayor Bryan Baptiste joined his staff for "Must Be Santa," Public Works offered up "Public Works Follies & Jollies" and the Prosecuting Attorney's Office performed "Twelve Nights

of Christmas for the Scrooge in Thee."

In the wreath and ornament contests, Robbie Kaholokula and Carolyn Carreiro's wreath won Most Creative, while Fay Rapozo in the Offices of Community Assistance took the prize for Most Beautiful/Festive.

Bev Pang of the Anti-Drug office topped the Adult Division Ornament contest and Jolene Peralta of the Finance Office won Most Beautiful/Festive.

Kawehi and Noe Tamashiro, whose mother Sonny works in the mayor's office, won Most Creative and Most Beautiful/Festive, respectively, in the children's ornament division.

"The mayor has always felt the employees should have fun, and events like this demonstrate his commitments to have happy employees," said Teresa Koki, a county outreach specialist.

Budget

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The \$128 million total for new spending on affordable housing includes \$50 million from the surplus to be put into the Rental Housing Trust Fund to get more affordable rentals onto the market.

Money from the fund is used to encourage developers and to assist non-profits in building housing affordable to lower-income families.

Also within her housing proposals is a doubling of spending on services provided to the homeless at shelters and transitional housing projects to \$13 million.

Spending on transportation projects, such as roads, harbors and airports, totals about \$715 million over the two years, including bonds, federal money and other funds.

The budget proposal also includes \$30.8 million to assess and maintain dams and reservoirs across the islands, fol-

lowing the dam break earlier this year on Kaua'i that killed seven people.

Key neighbor island projects include \$22 million for the Kahului Airport access road, \$5.1 million in bonds for Kapa'a Elementary Library, and \$20.9 million for a cargo building at Hilo International Airport.

On Monday evening House Speaker Calvin Say said he and his colleagues needed to delve into the details of the budget proposal.

Say, D-St. Louis Heights-Wilhelmina Rise, said he could already see that it hadn't explicitly hollowed out a space for the state's collective bargaining agreements with its workers.

However, Say said he could guarantee that lawmakers this upcoming session will provide both the agreed upon raises for government workers and a still to be determined sum of money to pay back tax payers. "At this point we'll find a way to do it," he said.

Proposed Kaua'i projects

Gov. Linda Lingle proposed \$32.6 million for capital improvement projects on Kaua'i over the next two years. The total represents 2.5 percent of proposed state-wide CIP spending.

Lingle requested \$729.7 million for O'ahu, \$273.3 million for the Big Island, \$215.3 million for Maui, \$27.8 million for Moloka'i and \$14.6 million for Lana'i.

Summary of proposed capital improvements

Project Title	FY 2008	FY 2009
Armory Renovation, Hanapepe	\$1.1 million	-
Kalaheo Elem. Admin./Classroom	\$5 million	-
Kilauea Elementary Cafeteria	\$4.5 million	-
Kapa'a Elementary Library	\$5.14 million	-
Rockfall Mitigation	\$1.3 million	-
Lihu'e Airport Parking Lot Expansion	-	\$3.18 million
Port Allen Harbor, Navigational Improvements	\$500,000	-
Retaining Walls	\$1.6 million	\$4 million
Slope Protection	\$100,000	-
Guardrail, Shoulder Improvements	\$1 million	-
Waimea Canyon Drive/Koke'e Road	\$2 million	-
Intersection Improvements	-	\$1 million
Traffic Operation Improvements	\$1.2 million	\$1 million

— Source: Biennium budget, summary of governor's CIP request by island

Aloha 'Ike funds come during season of giving

THE GARDEN ISLAND

NUKOLI — The Grove Farm Foundation and Pioneer Hi-Bred gave \$45,000 to Kaua'i's Aloha 'Ike program yesterday at the Kaua'i Economic Development Board's quarterly meeting.

KEDB's education committee oversees Aloha 'Ike, a partnership started in 2004 between the state Department of Education and the community to enhance educational opportunities for all Kaua'i students, from kindergarten to 12th grade.

Representatives from both Grove Farm and Pioneer attended the meeting at the Hilton Kaua'i Beach Resort to present checks for \$30,000 and \$15,000, respectively, to Ed Nakaya, chair of KEDB's Education Committee, and Dave Kane, fundraising chairman for Aloha 'Ike.

Tom Shigemoto and Gini Kapali, representing the A&B Foundation, also presented a \$2,500 grant to KEDB grant for its strategic planning process.



Dennis Fujimoto / The Garden Island

Kaua'i Economic Development Board's Dave Kane and Ed Nakaya accept a \$30,000 grant from Marissa Sanblom of the Grove Farm Foundation for the Aloha 'Ike program at the KEDB quarterly board meeting at the Hilton Kaua'i Beach Resort yesterday morning. Pioneer also contributed \$15,000 to Aloha 'Ike, and A&B gave \$2,500 to the KEDB Strategic Plan.

Chief

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Police Commissioner Tom Iannucci said he was in support of the interpretation made by the County Attorney's Office.

"It's common sense," Iannucci said. "It'd be nice to have some-

one that knows about Hawai'i."

Furtado said she was not contesting the County Attorney's Office, but did voice her concern.

"I'm not pleased with their interpretation, but I'm glad they gave us an opinion," Furtado said.

The interpretation had been deferred from the Police

Commissioner's meeting in November because the County Attorney's Office hadn't had time to review the request.

Though no timeline has been set for the police commission to hire a consultant for recruiting a police chief, at least three bids have been accepted.

The bidding for consultants is

closed, Furtado said, and commissioners will likely make a selection in January on which one will be tasked with hiring the chief.

■ Amanda C. Gregg, staff writer, can be reached at 245-3681 (ext. 252) or agregg@kauaipubco.com.

Young

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each line of service paying for itself," he said. "This would be a transition over the years."

The new rate would allow the company to break even on less-than-container load shipments that require more handling — and more space for loading and unloading — than full con-

tainers, Catalani said.

"It takes a lot of space to consolidate and deconsolidate," he said. "It's a relatively difficult process to make profitable."

The company has been working with the Farm Bureau to help farmers on Maui consolidate shipments, Catalani said.

A little less than a quarter of the company's business involves LCL shipping, he said. The

company expects business as a whole to increase 2.4 percent each year.

"Even with relatively modest growth rates, we're going to have cargo capacity issues," he said.

If the change goes through, the cost of each six-pack of soda shipped as less than a container load on a pallet would rise 2 cents, according to Catalani's

calculations.

Any change in price likely would be handed along to consumers, said Melanie Zaima-Higashi, manager of Royal Hawaiian Movers.

"Young Brothers is the only deal in town," she said. "The customer will have to pay more."

The PUC has 45 days to review the company's expenses and revenues, after which it may hold public hearings on the application.

■ Charlotte Woolard, business writer, can be reached at 245-3681 (ext. 251) or cwoolard@kauaipubco.com.

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