

Throw a gingerbread house soiree

By How-To-Heidi
STAFF WRITER

Let's pretend for one moment that you have budgeted your funds to buy great gifts for all your friends, have time to go shopping for your family and that finals aren't looming around the corner. With all that stress out of the way, take the holiday season in stride and embrace the festivities by throwing a grandiose gingerbread-house-making party.

As much as I'd love to instantly remedy the possibility that you've never made a gingerbread house from scratch before, I've sadly used up all my insta-abilities on the aforementioned three points above. Therefore, How-To Heidi is here to help walk you through your first of many successful gingerbread house soirees.

1. Gingerbread. While elementary schools around the island have its students create houses out of milk cartons and graham crackers, here at community college we're going to encourage the concoction of true gingerbread.

Mix butter, sugar, molasses, cinnamon, ginger, cloves and baking soda in a large bowl until smooth. Then slowly blend the flour and water in until you have a rather stiff dough. Throw this in the refrigerator



JENNIFER LAZARIUK/KAPI'O

Impress family and friends during the holidays by creating your own gingerbread house with this how-to guide.

for roughly 30 minutes or until firm. Preheat your oven to 375 degrees.

2. Building Blocks. My forte is not in architecture, so luckily, building a house made of gingerbread does not have to be nearly as daunting. There are three templates scattered around the newspaper for you to use: the

gable (rectangle with a pointed top), the side (small rectangle) and the roof (large rectangle). Cut these out or print your own at <http://bit.ly/rAIBIH>.

Take the chilled dough and divide into six even pieces. Flatten each division with a rolling pin on a floured

surface, then create the elements of your house by placing a template on the flattened dough and cutting away the edges with a knife. Make two of each shape. Place on greased cookie sheets and bake for 15 minutes at 375 degrees or until firm. Cool for 10 minutes.

3. The Royal Key. In truth, the crux of any gingerbread creation lies in the frosting. Without this medium, gumdrops will roll and houses will crumble. Royal frosting, an element that is as simple as it is essential, is what will provide a malleable surface that will dry firm to keep everything in the position that you place it.

Beat egg whites until foamy and gradually add in the sugar and lemon extract until it's thick. I suggest using an electric mixer.

Pipe the frosting generously on the edges of your gingerbread and assemble the house so it stands.

4. Bedazzle. The best part of making a gingerbread house lies in the candy-based, home-decorating aspect of it. Gather whatever your imagination can work with and get festive. Marshmallows become snowmen, red vines can be roof tiles, candy canes turn into doorways and pretzels pass as windows. Use frosting to stick everything into place or to create icicles from the edges of the roof.

When you're done, send photos of your finished product to me at How-ToHeidi@gmail.com and let me know what candies you used to decorate.

Happy holidays!

(Wall, 2 pieces)

FROSTING

Ingredients

- 4 egg whites
- 4 cups sifted confectioners' sugar
- 1 teaspoon lemon extract

GINGERBREAD

Ingredients

- 1 stick (1/2 cup) butter, room temperature
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1/4 cup molasses or dark corn syrup
- 1 tablespoon cinnamon
- 1 1/2 teaspoons ground cloves
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 tablespoons water

(Roof, 2 pieces)

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Protesters join the Occupy Wall Street movement in Honolulu at Thomas Square on Beretania Street.



3

Maui Invationals draws in acclaimed college basketball teams from across the nation.

Occupy Wall Street spreads to isles

By Remington Taum
COPY EDITOR

What began as the protest Occupy Wall Street (OWS) in Manhattan's financial district Sept. 17. has spread across the world and made its way to Honolulu.

The movement is to fight back against major banks, multinational corporations, Wall Street and the top richest 1 percent of the people, whom the protesters believe "write the rules of an unfair global economy," according to occupywallst.org.

"There would already have been motions to change it," Mike Medoff, 24, emergency medical technician major said about the effectiveness of the protesting.

Though the epic feat began in the Big Apple, it quickly made its way across the country and inspired protest sites in Los Angeles, Seattle, Honolulu, New Zealand, Oakland, Calif., Boston and Philadelphia.

Not only have they occupied the streets and parks, but even created "Occupy the Highway," which is when the protesters marched from New York City to Washington D.C. on Nov. 22., according to occupywallst.org.

The protesters have made their stay in Thomas Square in Honolulu in early November, but were originally camping out at Magic Island before



LYLE AMINE/KAPI'O

Against the top richest 1 percent, protesters began Occupy Wall Street on Sept. 17. Protesters in Hawai'i joined in and have made their stay in Thomas Square.

they were moved. They plan to stay as long as they can. Protesters hope to see change in the system, according to a Hawai'i News Now article posted on Nov.27.

"It seems like a lot of (people are

coming together) for a lot of different reasons," said Ben Pries, 29, emergency medical technician major.

Though Occupy Wall Street and Honolulu is covered in the media, students on campus are still in the

dark about the protests.

"I have no idea what it's about, it's gone on for too long and nothing really is coming out of it," Medoff said.

The protest has been going on for

more than two months and the police in big cities such as New York, Los Angeles and Philadelphia want the protesters evicted, and have made

OCCUPY: See page 8

Early season tournament draws in fans

By Alika Pfaltzgraff
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

An early season barometer for the nation's best, the EA Sports Maui Invitational, now in its 28th year, once again lived up to its title as the premiere early season tournament in the country.

The games, which began Nov. 23, ran through Nov. 25. The event attracted hundreds of rapid fans, scouts, some local and most from out of state.

The tournament got its start in 1982, when Chaminade beat a top-ranked Virginia by five points, in what many cite as one of the greatest upsets in college sports history. That victory spawned the Maui Classic.

Chaminade, the small college nestled in Kaimuki that shares facilities with St. Louis High School, hosts the event every year and has managed to pull off a total of seven victories since beating Virginia - no small feat for a Division 2 school with a recruiting budget of less than \$5,000.

This year's lineup was one of the most loaded brackets in recent his-



ALIKA PFALTZGRAFF/KAPI'O

From Nov. 23 to Nov. 25, the 28th EA Sports Maui Invitational lived up to its premiere early season tournament.

tory, featuring Georgetown, Memphis, Kansas and Duke.

The latter two teams would eventually square off for the tournament crown, in what was arguably the game of the season thus far.

Coach Mike Krzyewski, who entered the tournament 12-0 in Maui, left the tournament 15-0, narrowly eclipsing Bill Self's tenacious Jayhawks in a 68-61 victory.

The win upheld his flawless record

and title as the only coach to never lose in the tournament.

Duke received the coveted Wayne Duke Championship Trophy, and a Koa embalmed surfboard to be housed in its trophy case.

Teams that have participated in the event have gone on to win a staggering 62 out of 73 NCAA championships, which speaks volumes to the caliber of the competition.

Since the tournament's inception, The County of Maui has invested more than \$1 million in the Lahaina Civic Center, with renovations including new flooring and permanent air conditioning.

The investment has paid off dividends, as its transformation has attracted far more than just the teams participating.

Notable attendees for this year's games included Maui-native Shane Victorino of the Philadelphia Phillies, Danny Ainge, GM of the Boston Celtics, and Luke Walton of the Los Angeles Lakers, who served as interim assistant coach for Memphis.

Also in attendance were two legendary NBA figures with sons competing against each other for the national spotlight.

Doc Rivers, who currently coaches the Boston Celtics, watched

MAUI: See page 8

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Lōkahi Tree in need of donations

By Joie Nishimoto
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

As a result of the current economic crisis, programs meant for providing help to needy individuals are also beginning to face difficulties in enduring trying times.

The Lōkahi Giving Project, one of Hawai'i's most prominent non-profit organizations, is suffering with a shortage of items to donate to struggling families and individuals this holiday season.

Mariellen Jones, co-founder of Lōkahi, said normally by this time of the year, its warehouse would be full of goods at maximum capacity.

"We are way behind this year," Jones said. "It's the toughest year I've seen."

Jones said there has been a shortage of donations, and due to a suspension of emergency funds Lōkahi started preparations for the upcoming holidays weeks later than anticipated. As a result of a late startup, donation drives that support Lōkahi have either donated to another organization or said it was too late to start up another drive.

"I'm really afraid," Jones said. "This is the first time that I'm actually worried. The warehouse would normally look like a Wal-Mart. We just need to have a lot of faith now."

At press time, Jones could not divulge how many families and individuals are in need of donations, but she said the number is expected to be in the thousands. Last year, Lōkahi sent donations to 8,000 individuals and 1,600 families for its Adopt-an-

UPCOMING EVENTS

Honolulu Marathon Expo

Hawai'i Convention Center

10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Dec. 7

9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Dec. 8

9 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Dec. 9

9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Dec. 10

Honolulu Marathon 10K Race Day Walk

Sunday, Dec. 11, at Kapi'olani Park

8th Annual Honolulu Gift Fair Made for Hawai'i at Neal Blaisdell Center

3 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Dec. 16

9 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Dec. 17

9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Dec. 18

Individual and Adopt-a-Family programs, respectively.

In a bleak economy, those who regularly donate to Lōkahi are now the ones in need, Jones said. With the cost of living continuing to go up, people struggling are not just in the lower class anymore.

Although Lōkahi has received few donations, volunteers have been working extra hours to promote the program. Currently, only five people work at the warehouse located on Ilanikai Street, and no one gets paid. Jones said the volunteers work a mul-



JOIE NISHIMOTO/KAPI'O

The warehouse that the Lōkahi Giving Project uses to house its holiday donations is unusually sparse this year. With the current economic crisis coupled with a delayed startup, the nonprofit that helps families in need, finds itself without.

titude of jobs.

"It's like we're all 18 years old and working around the clock," she said. "There are five of us working like 15 jobs."

Jones said she and her volunteers planned on working during the holidays, including Thanksgiving, to make up for time lost and in hopes of getting donations.

Pomai Uyehara, special events coordinator, is in charge of planning events statewide. She said Lōkahi would be at a variety of events this month with a tree that holds names

of families and their wish list items.

"We're looking forward to being busy," Uyehara said. "I have to coordinate with Trini Kaopuiki (the Lōkahi Giving Project spokeswoman) and Mariellen and host all of these events."

Uyehara said the biggest event is Lōkahi Day, which was held Dec. 2 at various shopping malls across the state. Ala Moana Center and Windward Mall were the designated spots on O'ahu where people could donate items or money.

In addition, Jones is also looking

to reach out to college students who may be interested in donating or volunteering at the events.

"(College students) are so talented," she said. "You can make a difference. You may not have a lot of physical resources, but you have a lot of friends. Even one post on Facebook can help a lot."

Even though they would be helping others, students can benefit from donating or volunteering. Community service looks good on résumés,

LŌKAHI: See page 8



LYLE AMINE/KAPI'O

The U-Pass at KCC sold all 1,400 stickers this fall semester, offering student bus riders admission at discounted rates.

U-Pass to undergo a \$25 fee increase

By Remington Taum
COPY EDITOR

Every semester, students line up to buy the U-Pass. Instead of having to buy a new bus pass every month, students have been able to purchase the U-Pass for a one time fee of \$125. Although, starting Spring semester, there will be a \$25 increase in the U-Pass price, bringing the U-Pass to \$150.

Available at the Office of Student Affairs (OSA), all 1400 stickers were sold out for the fall semester, and for the Spring 2011 semester, they sold 1239 tickets.

The U-Pass has been available for \$125, which is a \$300 value. TheBus Company received instructions from the city to increase the price to \$150. The last price increase happened Fall 2010 with another \$25 jump from \$100 to the current \$125.

Students who buy and know about the U-Pass believe that the one time fee of either \$125 or \$150 is a better deal than \$60 per month for a monthly bus pass.

"I mean, it's fair...\$50 is not bad at all," said Aprilei Ramirez, 21, pre-dental hygiene. Ramirez also used to take the bus. "...[Students] save a lot

with just a one time pay."

However, each person that purchases the U-Pass causes TheBus Company to lose money, because of the one time pay.

"I believe the increase may help to offset the cost for TheBus Company," Alfie Gonzales, OSA assistant coordinator and Board of Student Activities student advisor said.

Gonzales also believes that the increase won't affect the sales of the U-Pass, and students will still be saving money even though there is

U-PASS: See page 8

Out without a bang, ban upsets New Year's

By Alikia Pfaltzgraff
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

With every New Year comes a renewed focus in life: new goals, new ambitions and a new way of living. What won't be coming this year, however, is the ability to blow things into oblivion – at least in Honolulu that is.

On Jan. 2, 2011, Honolulu passed an ordinance prohibiting the use of most public fireworks, including fountains, sparklers and aeries. The only type of firework allowed under the bill is firecrackers, with a \$25 permit required to obtain them.

According to the state, the ban was issued in order to decrease the amount of fireworks-related injuries, monitor air-quality related health issues and lower the amount of collateral trash sprawled out amongst city streets and gutters.

The ban came after years of deliberation and controversy, and while the law has passed, the debate has yet to end.

Hawai'i has had a love and hate relationship with fireworks for decades, with many decrying its ostracising, citing ancestral tradition as reason for its importance. Others

have been advocating for its ban for a long time, and are elated with the results.

"I believe that the ban is a good thing in terms of safety," said culinary student Jessie Stantum, "because there have been too many careless accidents in the past involving fireworks."

The Fourth of July was the first major test for the ban and it proved to be an overwhelming success in the eyes of public safety officials, as only four fireworks-related incidents were reported as opposed to the 27 accidents garnered last year.

Before July 4, the Honolulu Fire Department held a four-week long amnesty program in which citizens could turn in contraband fireworks to fire stations around the island, no questions asked. By the end of the program they had amassed more than 6,000 pounds of explosives, speaking to the state's predilection for pyrotechnics.

Whether the permit will continue to be enforced remains to be seen, as many will continue to illegally pop fireworks on their own accord. A

FIREWORKS: See page 8

Two Takes: returning vs. regifting



By Alik Pfaltzgraff
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The holidays are right around the corner, and with it comes the inevitable sense of confusion and disappointment felt when receiving and dispensing with tacky Christmas presents.

Holiday experiences have a way of profoundly shaping your world-view as a youngster. You didn't get the Big Wheel you wanted, you got the Hot Wheel and with it, a soul-crushing dose of reality at age 7.

Of course, by the time you hit your 20's, the mystical allure of Christmas time has all but dissipated in a cloud of Obama-like false hope and shattered dreams. You now know that you will never receive the gifts that you long for, and have learned to cope with Santa's failures.

But what do you do when you receive that extra-small Crazy Shirts from your distant uncle even though he knows you're 6 feet 7 inches?"

Some people might use the opportunity as a way to pass along their burdens to someone else, effectively relieving you of the trouble this holiday comes with. This phenomenon is colloquially known as regifting.

This is a dangerous option however, because if the regiftee finds out that the gift you've given them has been regifted, they will know that you don't really care about them enough to go out and purchase what appeals to them.

You simply played hot potato with a terrible gift, becoming a terrible friend in the process.

No, your best bet here would be to return the undesired item to the store in exchange for something that you actually want to wear, not something that you would have worn 10 years ago.

Why hold on to a gift you know you'll never use just because granny doesn't know that you stopped wearing Hurley in elementary school?

Go to T&C Surf and exchange that Hurley shirt for that RVCA button-up you've been too broke to afford.

Of course, if the person didn't include a receipt with their gift, and they ego-tistically and illogically assumed that said gift would be of total value to you, immediately sever ties with them as they are probably a terrible friend.



By Nix Kinney
STAFF WRITER

Receiving presents can be a delicate situation. Throughout the years, we've all mastered our artificial and pleasantly surprised faces, and we found the best way to segue into the most innocent "but what is it?" clause. Because, no matter what people's intentions are, we all end up with gifts that we don't want.

Post-Christmas leaves us with the predicament of what to do with these items, and while exchanging objects for cash seems like the best way to stoke our need for consumption, it may be more beneficial to simply exercise regifting.

This sounds like a cheap and thoughtless way to handle gift giving, but au contraire.

Regifting makes use of the old adage that "one man's trash is another mans treasure," and if we perpetuate such giving habits, then the present will eventually find its way to someone who appreciates its worth.

True to form, this holiday debacle began as such, with the gifter recognizing some initial value in the item when they bought it. It just so happens that you view it with a different perspective.

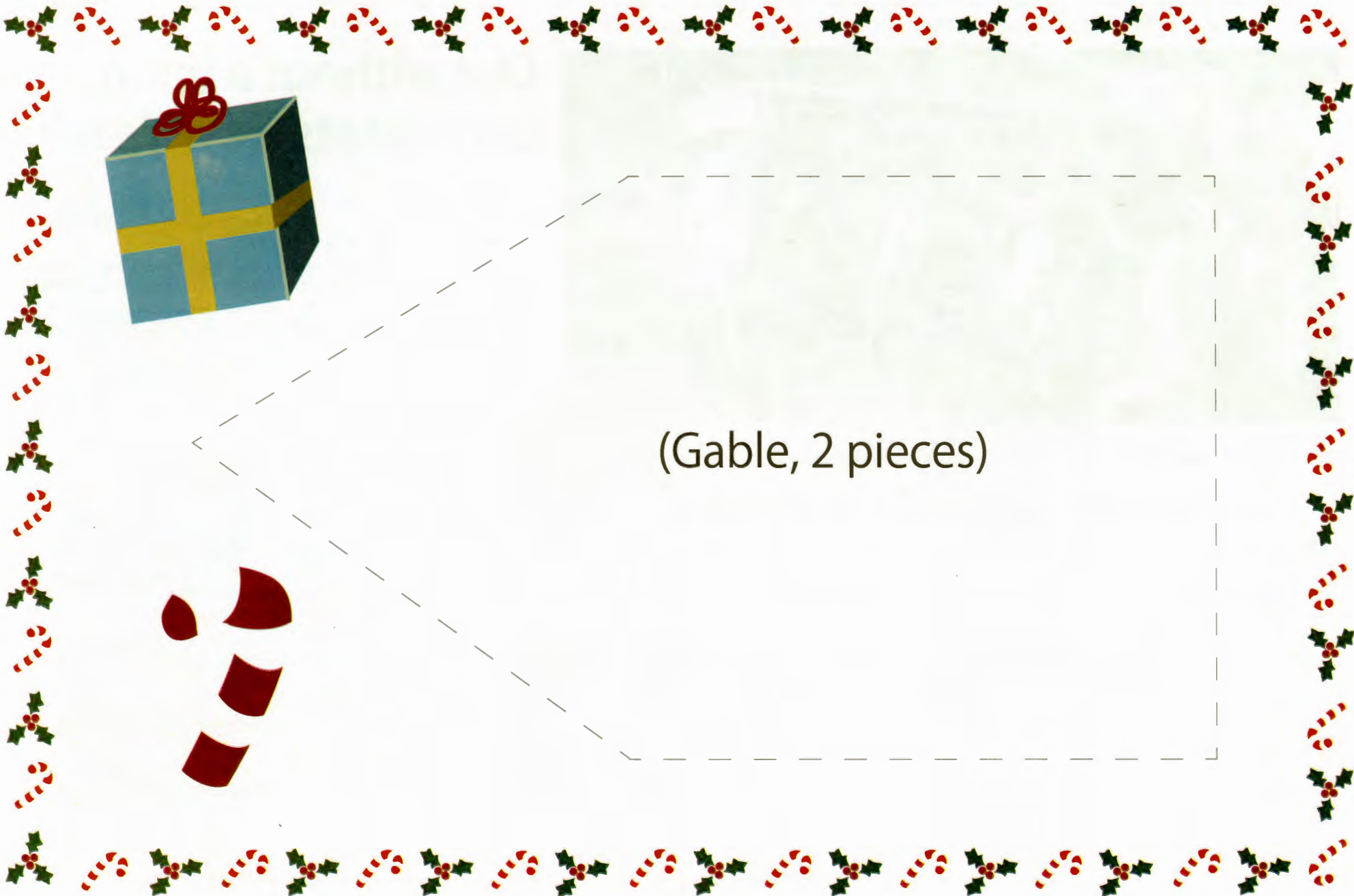
In passing gifts forward, you play the same game of roulette, but with no cost to yourself.

But when used to its highest potential, regifting can have philanthropic results. Instead of returning an item in order to purchase something that better suits your desires, why not re-gift to the homeless and less fortunate.

Lōkahi Tree is always looking for donations around the holidays, and under privileged families could benefit from many of your unwanted presents. In this way, you help perpetuate gift giving instead of personal consumption.

Regifting has the possibility to not only save you a lot of money, but benefit those less fortunate.

If the holidays are indeed the season for giving, then perhaps it's time to decide whether you want to give a gift back to a store, or forward and toward someone in need.



Countdown to Christmas



Dec. 11: Honolulu Marathon
Sponsored by Honolulu Marathon Association. They expect to have more than 35,000 runners. It will start on Ala Moana Boulevard near Queen Street.

Dec. 12: O'ahu Civic Orchestra's Free Winter Concert
7 p.m. at Eiben Hall at Chaminade University, 3140 Wai'ālae Ave. The concert will include a 70-piece orchestra playing music of the season: "A Christmas Festival," "Messiah Majesty," selections from Lieutenant Kije Suites and "The Nutcracker Suite," "Greensleeves" and more. Free admission and parking.

Dec. 13: Community holiday performances
Come to the Center Court and join some of Hawai'i's best musicians and dancers as they celebrate the holidays at Windward Mall. The schedule of performances includes Tuesday, 11 a.m. to noon, and Waipahu's Elementary Christmas Performance, and on Tuesday from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. for the Farrington High School Band.

Dec. 14:

We're halfway through finals week. Yay!

Dec. 16: Slow Art Friday Festival #12
Sponsored by Arts District Merchants Association, expect more than 250 participants. Pauahi Avenue will be closed, as well as all traffic lanes and sidewalk areas from Bethel Street to Nu'uanu Avenue. Starts at 6 p.m. and goes until 10 p.m.

Dec. 15: "Wicked"
Enjoy hors d'oeuvres and cocktails and get a sneak peek at "Wicked," featuring live performances from cast members and a presentation from the producer from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Neal Blaisdell Concert Hall (Pikake Room) 777 Ward Avenue. RSVP by Dec. 8 to Alisha @ 801-703-2063 or Alisha@MagicSpace.net

Dec. 17: Congressional Gold Medal Parade
Sponsored by City & County of Honolulu, State of Hawai'i and BAE Systems. Parade will honor WWII 442 RCT/100 Battalion veterans. The event is expected to have 1,000 marchers, 40 vehicles, five floats and five bands. It will start at Ft. DeRussy, to Kalākaua Avenue and ends at Kapi'olani Park. It starts at 10 till 11 a.m.

Dec 18: "Nutcracker"
2 p.m. at the Neal Blaisdell Center. Tickets start at \$35 and can be sold at the Neal S. Blaisdell Center Box Office, located at 777 Ward Ave.

Dec 19: Hoku Nai'a dolphin watch and lunch cruise
Children ages 3 to 11 can attend the dolphin watch cruise for free if accompanied by a paying adult. Price for adults is \$94.50. Starts at 9:30 and goes to 11:30 a.m. at Hoku Nai'a Wai'ānae Boat Harbor 85-374 Farrington Hwy.

Dec. 22: Christmas caroling with the Madrigal singers
Enjoy the sounds of Christmas in the lobby of The Pink Palace of the Pacific from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Dec. 21: The Makaha Sons Presents: Makaha Kalikimaka 2011
A prime rib dinner buffet starts this holiday evening at 6 p.m. At 7:30 p.m. the show begins with The Makaha Sons, dancers and guest. Queen Kapi'olani Hotel 150 Kapahulu Ave. in the Peacock Room.

Dec. 20: Teen City "Snow Party"
\$15 with flyer until 7:30 p.m. Text "SNOWPARTY" to 25827 for your chance to get in free. Starts at 7 p.m. to midnight. Located at 4Play Nightclub. 99-016 Kamehameha Hwy.

Dec. 23: Gingerbread house decorating
At the Royal Hawaiian in Waikiki from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call (808) 931-6593.

Dec. 24: O'ahu Open Christmas Eve Potluck Buffet (Community Event)
At the Honolulu Central Seventh-Day Adventist Church from 12:40 p.m. to 2 p.m. For more information call (808) 469-7193. The church is located at 2313 Nu'uanu Ave. Bring any of the following: milk, juice, soda, rice, salad, fruits, kim chee, tofu, poke, popcorn.

Dec. 25:
Merry Christmas everyone! Celebrate with your loved ones!



THE VIEW WE TAKE

Ban on fireworks takes away local entertainment, but saves lives

It has been tradition in Hawai'i that residents pop fireworks to ring in the new year – until now.

Jan. 1, 2012 will mark the first New Year's Day without most public fireworks on O'ahu.

The fireworks ban has stirred up debates for years, and almost one year since its passing, many still oppose the ban. In July, Honolulu Magazine reported that TNT Fireworks expected to lose more than \$800,000 in fireworks sales.

And while banning fireworks does strip away an entertaining practice from the local community, this ban can save lives.

Since 2000, the number of fireworks-related injuries nearly doubled by 2010, according to a 2010 article in The Honolulu Advertiser. Among the 112 fireworks-related injuries treated at hospitals in January 2010, half the injured were children, including seven younger than the age of five. About 75 percent of the injuries occurred while lighting or holding fireworks, reported The Honolulu Advertiser.

In addition, the fireworks ban improves health. Jean Evans, executive director of the American Lung Association in Hawai'i said to The Honolulu Advertiser in January 2010, that firework celebrations on New Year's becomes problematic for people with lung disease.

"There are 175,000 people in Hawai'i with some type of lung disease," Evans said, "and New Year's Eve is one of the worst nights for them."

Smoke emitted from fireworks becomes difficult not just for those with respiratory problems, but also pets and young children.

Prohibiting fireworks also helps improve the environment. The quality of the air, along with the streets is much cleaner now.

Up until the ban went into effect,



SEAN NAKAMURA / KAPI'O

Though the fireworks ban strips away local tradition, the ban will save lives. The smoke that is emitted from fireworks becomes difficult not only for those who have lung disease, but also for pets and young children. Hawai'i is also the sixth state to prohibit the use of consumer fireworks. The ban went into effect on Jan. 2, 2011, prohibiting use of sparklers, fountains, "spinning wheels" and "paperless" firecrackers. Public firework shows will still be displayed across the island.

it was common for spectators of the fireworks show at Ala Moana Beach Park to bring their own fireworks as they waited for the show to start. Young people would throw their cherry blossom fireworks up into the air, only to have them land into ponds and streams. In a public setting, people are less likely to pick up their trash in comparison to those who pop their fireworks on their home street.

The fireworks ban went into effect Jan. 2, 2011, and it prohibits the use of consumer fireworks – sparklers, fountains, "spinning wheels" and

"paperless" firecrackers – on the island without a valid permit, which is attainable for \$25.

According to the Honolulu Star-Advertiser, O'ahu residents with a permit are allowed to use firecrackers only between 9 p.m. on New Year's Eve until 1 a.m. on New Year's Day, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Chinese New Year and from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m. on the Fourth of July. People with permits are allowed to purchase up to 5,000 firecrackers.

Hawai'i is the sixth state in the U.S. to prohibit consumer fireworks. According to the U.S. Consumer

Product Safety Commission, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, Delaware and Massachusetts also have bans placed on fireworks.

According to The Honolulu Advertiser, 39 states allow most consumer fireworks, and only six allow sparklers or novelty firework items.

The debate of whether or not to put an end to public fireworks has been ongoing for decades, reported The Advertiser. Talks began as early as 2000, but at the time the decision was split and there was not enough pressure to encourage lawmakers to take drastic action.

And while people may still complain about it, they should rethink and be thankful our government cares for our well-being. Those who still want to have fun on New Year's Eve can attend any of the public firework displays on the island or purchase a permit for firecrackers.

The view we take is written by the editors of the Kapi'o. We welcome all responses to this subject. E-mail "Letter to the Editor" at kapi'o@hawaii.edu.

CAMPUSVOICES: What is your favorite Christmas song and why?

"Jingle Bells.' The sound of bells remind me of Christmas. It fills my heart with joy."

Oliver Fermin, 21,
natural science



"Chris Brown's 'This Christmas.' It reminds me of how special it is to spend Christmas with family."

Nigel Nabua, 22,
natural science



"Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire' by Nat King Cole. It's very soothing and suitable for the season."

Raz Campo, 21,
natural science



"O Holy Night' because it is a religious song."

Amanda Amonl, 21,
information technology



"Silent Night' because it brings back good memories of childhood."

Chaylah Luaifoa, 18,
liberal arts



"All I Want for Christmas is You' by Mariah Carey because it's upbeat and in the spirit."

Nadia Rosa, 26,
nursing

Don't break the bank for gifts



LYLE AMINE/KAPI'O

It can be quite the decision when shopping for Christmas gifts, especially when your friend bought you an expensive gift and yours was from the sales rack. Try shopping online, majority of the items are new, and a lot of things are available that aren't on the island. Maybe even keep your ears open for rumors on what your friend or co-worker got you.

By Hannah Mitchell

STAFF WRITER

It's a few days before Christmas and you and your best friend are gift exchanging. You unwrap the gift as soon as she's out of your sight, and then you realize that she bought you the expensive dress you have been gawking at for more than a month now.

It would be an ecstatic moment if you hadn't bought her present from the sales rack. Now you feel embarrassed, or stingy, or both.

One of the hardest parts about Christmas is buying other people's gifts. Since there is a surprise factor involved, you do not know if you spent too much or too little on their gift until it's too late.

The sad thing is that it happens every time you open a gift.

Best friend? Too much.

Significant other? Way too little.

Co-worker? Darn, forgot they were such big spenders.

Of course, Christmas is not all about how much everyone spends. It does help take the anxiety out of shopping when there is an idea on how much to spend. It also narrows down your options as you walk through the crowded aisles.

After many Christmases you may notice that people remember what you got them last year. If you spent too much, they spend more the next Christmas. If you did not spend enough, they tend to spend less. This helps you meet somewhere in the middle.

Also try to remember if the person you are shopping for has been labeled a big spender. If they have, it's always safe to spend a tad more.

If you do not have a lot of money to spend, try to buy gifts from places that are not well known.

For example, if I buy someone a

top from PacSun, they will know how much it costs. It's similar to buying a gift card. There is not much room for interpretation when it comes to how much you spent.

Try to find gifts from places that you can't look at and automatically know that it costs \$10.

Online shopping is also a good way to go. Prices vary and there are a lot of things available there that you can't find on the island.

Amazon.com is a good place to shop online. Majority of the items are also new.

Another idea is to keep your ears open for rumors on what your friend or co-worker may have gotten you, because people cannot keep secrets.

The average time for a woman to keep a secret is 47 hours; one person will tell another person. If it is something huge, everyone will know, and may start to throw hints at you. That

"One of the hardest parts about Christmas is buying other people's gifts. Since there is a surprise factor involved, you do not know if you spent too much or too little."

person will also try to keep you from buying that item for yourself.

If you are shopping for a best friend there is a large range of how

much that could be spent. About \$40 to \$50 is a pretty safe amount. Even if they do spend more, they can't get upset because you did spend quite a lot on them.

If you are shopping for a co-worker, think about how close you are to that co-worker. Do you hang out outside of work? If so, consider them as a friend when you are shopping.

Be careful though. You do not want to bring a huge present to work and watch all the others stare with envy.

That could turn out bad. If you are shopping for many co-workers, try to buy stocking stuffers. Stocking stuffers are cheap and the number of items makes them feel like you spent more than you did.

Wrap them up in a little bag and tie it with a bow. Each one should not cost more than \$5, unless you have a large amount of co-workers.

Shopping for significant others can get tricky. Some couples break their bank with jewelry and electronics, while others treat it like you are shopping for a best friend.

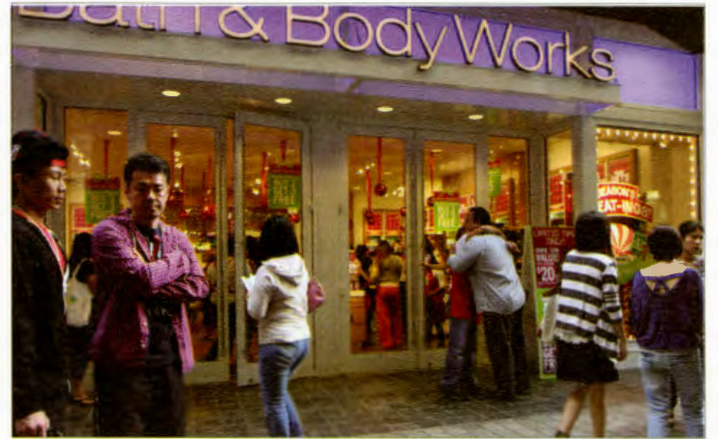
Consider how long that you have been with this person. If you two have only been together a month, maybe it's best not to buy a ruby ring.

I would say to start at \$30, then for each month you have been dating add \$5. If it has been a year, I suggest spending about \$90.

Christmas should not be about worrying. It should be about enjoying the serenity of a day off, good food and great people. Take the nerves out of shopping and relax.

You see how easy it is? Now you know how much to spend per person.

kapi'o TOP 12



LYLE AMINE/KAPI'O

'Tis the season

By Joie Nishimoto

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas. Thousands flock to the malls trying to get the best deals on the items on their personal wish list. Ah, but haven't we been told as kids that Christmas isn't about receiving the presents – it's about giving.

In the spirit of Christmas and all that is merry, the Kapi'o has compiled a list of things students would want for Christmas. Some of these you can get for your friends, family and loved ones, and others... Well, let's just say that they might require a bit of work or persuasion.

And rather than having a Top 10, we have 12, so please read the following in the tune of the classic Christmas carol, "The Twelve Days of Christmas."

"On the x day of Christmas the Kapi'o gave to me..."

12. 12-month agenda

It can be difficult juggling school and work. Luckily, agendas can help keep your life in check. Life will be so much easier with one of these in your new backpack. (See No. 6.)

11. Bakers baking

At the Kapi'o, we love having bake-off competitions. It's a chance for us to show off our cooking abilities and creativity. If you know someone that likes to cook, consider purchasing some kitchen necessities such as pots, pans and utensils.

10. Tenth season of "Smallville"

The CW show featuring one of the most popular superheroes of all time wrapped its final season earlier this year. The DVD was released just in time for Christmas. Or if you want to relive the 10 years it took farm boy Clark Kent to become Superman, the series DVD box set is selling for less than \$150.

9. Pairs of boots

As I said earlier, winter usually means colder weather. We don't get the luxury of rocking warm boots at any other time of the year. Now's your chance.

8. Magazine subscriptions

Yearly subscriptions to magazines make good and affordable presents. There are also deals online where you can get discounts on subscriptions.

7. Cups of beans are grinding

College students like coffee. It helps them get through a long day of classes, so invest in a coffee or espresso maker for someone before

he or she falls asleep in class again.

6. Bags a packin'

The new semester is just a month away. Time to get rid of your JanSport bag with the stuck zipper and get a new one.

5. \$5 foot longs

This one's directed at Subway. Dear Subway, we've been very good this year. Please bring back the \$5 foot longs. Love, the Kapi'o.

4. Four-day weekends

We're still recovering from our tryptophan overdose, so it would be nice if we'd get a little more time off throughout the semester for more R and R.

3. Buy three, get two free at Bath and Body Works

Shopping at BBW can be addicting. The time you spend trying on new fragrances and browsing through their entire collection can add up to hours. It's hard to narrow it down to one purchase, so go ahead and buy three products off the signature collection and you'll get two free.

2. Gift cards

Gift cards are an easy gift to give. If you know someone who likes a certain product or brand, chances are they wouldn't mind getting a gift card from those places.

1. Fully-decorated Christmas tree

Wouldn't it be nice to come home to a big and colorful Christmas tree with the fresh scent of pine after a long day of studying or shopping? We think so.

Occupy:

Continued from page 2

arrests as the protesters defy the law. The protesting has even made it against a possible tuition raise at Baruch College, The City University of New York. Students were found chanting against the increase, according to occupywallst.org.

Occupy Honolulu protesters are expecting a similar raid to happen, like the ones that occurred in Oakland and New York, according to a KITV news article.

Police also arrested eight protesters the first night, and many left but later returned to the street corner.

"(I've mostly heard) through newspapers and radio. It seems to be the media giving skewed portrayal of it (Occupy Wall Street)," Pries said. "I think they (protesters) are approaching it pretty well."

People of all ages, from 18 to 75 have joined the camp site at Thomas

Square, according to an article posted by Honolulu Civil Beat. Those who are camping on the corner of Bereetania Street and Ward have created a live stream for their Occupy Honolulu site.

Having created spin-offs all over the world, protesters will continue to spread their message even though there are arrests and evictions happening at majority of the occupy sites.

Occupy Wall Street, Honolulu, Maui, New Zealand and most of the movement places have Facebooks, websites that they are using to get out their message. There is also media coverage for those who are interested in following the status of the protesting.

"Media coverage of what protesters are asking for, (we) don't see much of that," Pries said.

Currently, the demonstrators at Thomas Square are waiting to see how the Honolulu Police Department will handle any evictions.

Maui:

Continued from page 2

his son Austin - Duke's freshman point-guard, face off against Michigan's Tim Hardaway Jr., son of Tim Hardaway, also in attendance.

The event was broadcast live in high definition on ESPN, ESPN 2, and ESPNU.

Games were also streamed world-

wide on ESPN360.com, with color commentary provided by Jay Bilas and Jimmy Dykes, among others.

Local food vendors such as Hula Grill and Cool Cat Burgers curated the event, along with locally brewed beer from the Maui Brewing Company available to thirsty patrons.

That an intimately sized gymnasium in Lahaina, Maui, could become the beckon for top-tiered basketball

programs across the country, speaks to the prestigious nature of the competition and location.

And while there may be larger venues in other areas, with hi-tech scoreboards and scantily clad cheerleaders, when it comes to hosting a high-octane tournament in the middle of the Pacific Ocean, Maui nō ka 'oi.

U-Pass:

Continued from page 3

the price increase.

Though OSA usually sells out of their U-Passes every semester, not all students are happy about the raise.

"I don't really like it," Jeffery Cadiz, 19, liberal arts major said. "I know it's cheap, but (if you) think about how expensive books and tuition are, it's beneficial for it (U-Pass) to be cheaper."

Like the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa including the bus fee into tuition, KCC would go through a long process to implement this.

The student congress, or the

Associated Students of Kapi'olani Community College (ASKCC) would be the group that would take on the responsibility of possibility adding the fee into tuition.

If KCC had enough students that disagreed with the increase, ASKCC would have to check with the student population to see if they would like to add a tuition fee, explained Gonzales.

"An idea (bus pass fee) that may not be too popular due to the recent approval to raise the price of tuition," Gonzales wrote in an e-mail.

The process would then include meetings with the KCC U-Pass group and TheBus company to discuss

details and decide on an amount. Not only will KCC have to work with TheBus and get students' input on campus, but also hold public hearings discussing the possibility of implementing the fee.

The process continues on with ASKCC drafting a proposition to the Board of Regents (BOR), only if the KCC task force sees a push toward including the fee in tuition. The BOR would need to vote to approve the fees.

"It's a good deal (U-Pass increase)," Ramirez said.

Lōkahi:

Continued from page 3

and students can also participate in internships at Lōkahi.

Jones said people assume that because Lōkahi is partnered with KHON2, the organization does not need help. That is not the case, she said.

"We're so well-known so people assume that we're OK," Jones said. "We're not."

But although the organization is suffering, Uyehara said it's important to stay hopeful that people will come through and give to the needy.

"We're still looking forward to this time of year," she said.

Lōkahi hopes that students will participate in Lōkahi, whether it be volunteering at an event or donating a small item.

"This generation is the most powerful," she said. "It blows my mind sometimes."

Items that are high in demand are basic necessities, such as toilet paper and diapers. Families in the Adopt-a-Family program often request clothes, toys and bags for their children.

Those who are interested in helping a family in need can fill out a donor form on the Lōkahi website (www.lokahigivingproject.org) and a volunteer will match the form with a family. Jones said social service agencies recommend names of families

and individuals to the Lōkahi program, and donations are first handed to the social service agency.

The agency then gives the donations to the family, so donors are not required to meet with the family. In return, about 80 percent of families and individuals who receive donations become donors for other people in need.

"It's so exciting to see it (donors giving back)," Jones said. "It's very gratifying."

Jones and former KHON2 news anchor Leslie Wilcox established Lōkahi in 1985. Its mission statement, Jones said, it is to provide people with opportunities to "relieve the burden of struggling individuals and families, especially the working gap group through donations of goods, cash equivalents, enriching experiences and advocacy."

Although Lōkahi is mostly known for its projects during the Thanksgiving and Christmas season, it also hosts events all year round. But right now, Lōkahi is trying to pull through the holiday season.

"The need doesn't go away," Jones said. "I don't want to tell some mom that we don't have enough toys for their child. And I don't want a kid to wake up on Christmas Day with nothing."

penalty for fireworks violations is a fine of up to \$2,000, or imprisonment of up to five years.

The permits may be procured from the Honolulu Fire Department, as well as Satellite City Halls, and enables persons 18 and older to possess up to 5,000 firecrackers. For those younger than 18, it is illegal to pop firecrackers. Those seeking permits must apply for a firecracker permit no less than ten days in advance. For more information, call FPB at 808-723-7162.

Fireworks:

Continued from page 3


student, who asked to remain anonymous, said that they will continue to pop fireworks during holidays because it had become a family tradition.

Neighbor islands are unaffected by the ban, but residents there are urged to celebrate New Year's festivities with caution.

As it stands, firecrackers may only be used on New Year's Eve, Chinese New Year and the Fourth of July. Other cultural ceremonial events seeking usage need to be approved by the Honolulu Fire Department. The

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