

Chancellor committed to students

By Joie Nishimoto

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Behind every college campus, there is one person who takes the lead.

Leon Richards has been chancellor at Kapi'olani Community College for almost five years. When he first stepped onto KCC ground at its initial location in Pensacola in 1971, Richards was an assistant dean who then worked his way up.

With about four decades of work experience in the University of Hawai'i community college system, Richards has experienced a variety of challenges to improve KCC, while never straying away from his idea that students come first.

Richards had taken some time to sit down for an interview with Kapi'o.

Kapi'o: Since you started at Kapi'olani Community College in 1971, what changes have you seen on campus?

Richards: Since I came here in '71, of course, all these buildings (have) been built. I think also our student enrollment has about doubled, in the sense that we are approaching at least 10,000 students.

I think we've added some new career and technical programs to the college since that time.

We've at least made a considerable effort to reach out and provide every service to the state of Hawai'i and our community, and that can be done through online classes or taking our programs into areas where certain populations are not represented in the state, like for instance our nursing program (in Leeward Community College and Windward Community College).

Kapi'o: And they still get their degree from KCC?

Richards: Yes, and they are still KCC students, although they would be attending classes in another campus.

Those facilities would be open for us on those campuses. Since (1971), we've also expanded our programs to the neighbor islands.

So what I've seen over the years



SEAN NAKAMURA / KAPI'O

Chancellor Leon Richards has many years of experience at Kapi'olani Community College. Richards has been the chancellor for almost five years. He started working as an assistant dean and worked his way up to senior academic dean, vice chancellor and vice chancellor of the community colleges. Richards has made efforts to help alleviate the ongoing parking problem as well as adding more online classes to accommodate for the growing amount of enrollment.

that KCC has become more and more a statewide CC, not only in terms of enrollment but in terms of programs.

Kapi'o: You mentioned that enrollment has almost doubled. What has been done to accommodate all of these students?

Richards: Some of the things that we've done, like I've mentioned, are offering our programs at some of the other campuses. This will ensure that students that they don't have to commute.

Let's say that they live in Waianae or in Kahuku, they could go to Leeward or Windward. That way, they save us in terms of parking spaces and also classroom spaces. Also, we've put classes online and in hybrid format.

We felt essentially that the student population was growing. This college made an effort to at least put classes

online. Once a class goes online, students from any part of the state can take that class. What we're seeing is that we have close to 30 percent of our classes either online or in a hybrid format, which is part-online, part-face-to-face. This has helped us in terms of accommodating the large influx of students.

Kapi'o: Is parking still an issue here?

Richards: Parking is still a major concern. We don't have enough parking. As a result, we've partnered with Diamond Head Theatre. Students can park there during the day, and DHT uses our facilities in the evenings and weekends when they have plays.

Also, we've created overflow parking at our CIP (Culinary Institute of the Pacific) site, where we plan to build a four-year program. In the

past, we've also partnered with the Department of Land and Natural Resources for the last year (except for this current year).

Students could park across the street, but they plan now to build a park, so we no longer park there. We also moved in terms of working with The Bus company to see whether or not they can increase the number of buses coming here, especially in the morning when a lot of students come on campus.

We encourage students to carpool or to take the bus, or come on bicycles and things of that sort to really save our environment.

We recently completed our Long-Range Development Plan. What it does is outline new facility developments, like what new facilities we will need, in let's say 15 to 20 years, to accommodate at least our programs

and students.

The Board of Regents have approved, in principal, at least our LRDP. We'll work with faculty, staff and students in terms of what priority we should go with facilities to match student needs.

Kapi'o: What has been your proudest accomplishment on campus?

Richards: It has been really quite the opportunity to work with and for faculty and staff, and also students.

Seeing a number of students who come to this campus and who have as the years go by gone on to achieve some great things.

For me, providing an atmosphere where faculty can do their job in teaching and working with students

RICHARDS: See page 3

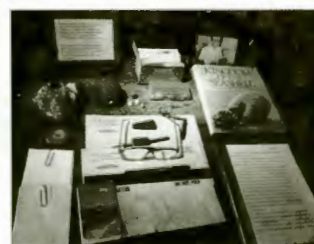
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Art connoisseur? Going to Big Island any time soon? Check out the Kohala gallery review by Alike Pfaltzgraff.

Grant for Native Hawaiians gets extension up to \$5 M from STEM

By Iiwileo Pacarro
STAFF WRITER

Native Hawaiian students interested in studying Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) were given an extension on a grant funded by the National Science Foundation. This year 58 students will benefit from the \$5 million grant.

The grant, known as Ha Kilo, was given to Kapi'olani Community College (KCC) to advance the students research in natural sciences.

Ha Kilo, which translates to "life guardians," is named after ancient Hawaiians who looked over the well-being and balance of the ahupua'a.

Like these guardians, the grant helps Native Hawaiian students research about natural sciences through TCUP Ecological Ahupua'a Monitoring in Urban Polynesia (TEAMUP).

"The goals of the grant are to implement new learning continuum that advances Native Hawaiian students in biology, ecology, bio-technology, eco-engineering, and technology and to implement Native Hawaiian community of practice that connects Native Hawaiian students, mentors, and undergraduate researchers with faculty, researchers, and community partners," said Keoki Noji, KCC's STEM marketing coordinator.

Students who want a career in biology, ecology, biotechnology, eco-engineering and technology will benefit directly through this grant through funding for their research and partnership opportunities in the community.

Faculty and staff from KCC's STEM/TEAMUP program coordinate with students to help them along their education. The partnership continues with these students as long as they are following through with their education.

"Many programs work hard to recruit and enroll students, but forget to continue assisting the students after the contact is made," said Noji.

"The TEAMUP/Ha Kilo grant avoids this pitfall and assists the students through every phase of their college career."

The main funding from this grant goes to two summer programs for students to help retain the knowledge they have acquired.

The first summer, students take part in a six-week program with the Summer Ecological Experience.

The students will immerse themselves in mathematics and science to help them get ready for the upcoming semesters.

The second summer, students participate in a Summer Undergraduate

Research Experience (SURE), which will give them hands-on experience in research. Students work with people from the Waikiki ahupua'a to research the ahupua'a and hypothesize ways to improve the ecosystem.

In addition, students also receive help from faculty to transfer to a four-year university. STEM/TEAMUP is also partnering with the University of Hawaii at Manoa to help students with the transfer.

"There are several factors that can make the transfer from a community college to a four-year university difficult," said Noji.

"One of the goals of the grant is to make the transition for these students as seamless as possible."

At this time STEM/TEAMUP is still looking for personal to assist with the grant.

The funding starts this year so everything is still in the setting up process.

Students who are interested in applying for this upcoming summer can contact Keoki Noji (knoji@hawaii.edu), Dr. John Rand (jrand@hawaii.edu), or Keolani Noa (keolani@hawaii.edu).

You can also go onto the STEM website (<http://stem.kcc.hawaii.edu>) to download the applications for the STEM programs.

Dancing for good health



RIE MIYOSHI / KAPI'O

Choreographer Minami Sasuga visited KCC on Tuesday, Jan. 11, in the Ōhi'a cafeteria to teach students dances that will help those with Alzheimer's. Simple movements help to keep patients' minds active.

Workshops to enhance skills

By Joie Nishimoto
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

As classes begin to ebb away from introductions and cross into the course material, there are options for students to learn how to enhance their skills.

The Secret of Success (SOS) Program offers a variety of workshops throughout the semester. The program provides skills and resources to aid students on campus to get through college.

The SOS workshops are held all semester – 51 of them will be offered until May – and there are also some offered in the fall. The workshops vary: some are related to certain subjects, such as history, while others teach students basic skills like Microsoft Word or how to find the right learning style.

Collette Higgins, dean of arts and humanities and associate professor of history, teaches three workshops: Thinking Through History, Learning Styles and Queen Kapi'olani and KCC. She has been instructing workshops since the mid-1990s.

According to Higgins, the SOS workshops help students learn skills that professors normally assume they have.

"No one ever teaches learning styles," said Higgins. "You can't take a class on it, but (SOS workshops) act like a stand-alone class."

Students who want to learn more about the SOS workshops can pick up a flyer in the Lama Library or visit the Web site at <http://library.kcc.hawaii.edu/SOS/index.html>.

SCHEDULE:

Tips for a Successful Transfer to a 4-Year College

Presenter: Gemma Williams
Tuesday, Jan. 25 in Ilima 104 (Maida Kamber Center), 12:15 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Library Resources

Presenter: Joy Oehlers
Wednesday, Jan. 26 in Lama 116, 10:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

Making the Most of College

Presenter: Kalani Fujiwara
Thursday, Jan. 27 in Lama 116, 10:45 a.m. to 11:48 a.m.

Thinking Through History

Presenters: Colette Higgins and Brian Cassity
Monday, Jan. 31 in Lama 116, 12:15 p.m. to 1:15 p.m.

Microsoft Word 2007 Basics

Presenter: Arnie Reyes
Tuesday, Feb. 1 in Lama 201, 12:15 p.m. to 1:15 p.m. and Wednesday, Feb. 2 from 10:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

Taking Notes in College

Presenter: Kalani Fujiwara
Thursday, Feb. 3 in Lama 116 from 10:45 a.m. to 11:48 a.m.

Improve Your Vocabulary

Presenter: Mavis Hara
Monday, Feb. 7 in Lama 116 from 12:15 p.m. to 1:15 p.m.

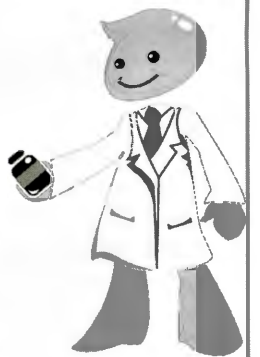
For a full schedule of the semester, go to <http://library.kcc.hawaii.edu/SOS/schedule.html>.

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Richards:

Continued from page 1

and where students can at least feel comfortable in an environment where they can feel respected.

I feel that the faculty and staff are open and that students can have a dialogue. And they see their faculty and staff as role models. To me, that has been the biggest achievement in terms of focusing this campus on students because I say time and time again, we do our best to meet the needs of students.

As long as we put students first, then this college will continue to grow. We do require a lot from our students, but our students do not disappoint us, either in terms of transferring to four-year campuses or going into a career in a technical program and being able to score top in the nation.

Kapi'ō: As chancellor, do you also have to face certain hardships?

Richards: Yes. I think as you are aware (of) the financial difficulties that this state is experiencing. We realize that we are a part of the solution to helping the state recover from the economic downturn.

As a result, there are budget cuts. At times, we don't get all the money that we request or ask for. In that sense, that can be a letdown. But if we don't get the money from the state, then we will write grants and things of that sort and apply for grants from

the federal government or we will raise money from private companies and individuals.

We've been quite successful in raising funds. This is why I say we're part of a solution. We don't just sit back and say, "We don't have this, we don't have that." We are more proactive. We will go after money and funds.

Kapi'ō: Do you have any advice for students?

Richards: Take advantage of the resources you have here. You have very good faculty, infrastructure. The faculty and staff here cares, and they are friendly and outgoing.

So my advice is: Don't wait. Take advantage. We're here to provide opportunities for students. If you don't have money, apply for financial aid. If you're having trouble in a

class, there is tutoring. Don't waste this opportunity. If you want to study abroad, we have scholarships where your expenses are paid.

In this time and age, there are many, many opportunities. Take advantage of this and go for it.

Ask questions. If the students are not here, then there is no need to have an institution. Work very hard. If you have problems and questions, ask us.

We're here for you. But I'll also say to students that education can be both fun and hard work. It's up to you to make it that.

Don't look upon as education or going to class as a chore. Look at it as, "I'm getting an opportunity to learn something new." Have fun. Take time to study, but take time to enjoy, because this time of your life will not come again.

Calendar of Events

Monday

Martin Luther King Day – No school!

The 23rd annual King parade, which stretches from Magic Island along Kalākaua Avenue up to Kapi'olani Park, will start at 9 a.m. At Kapi'olani Park, a Unity Rally will feature food, music and more.

Tuesday

Speed Dating

8 p.m., Apartm3nt

Feeling socially stifled? For a mere \$35, you can avoid endless nights of bad first dates and cram them all into short sessions at the newest bar in the Century Center. The DateandDash evening will also feature an after party that will let you mingle with those people you just awkwardly met.

Wednesday

American Idol's Season 10 premiere

7 p.m., Fox Channel

The 10th season of the newly altered show will sadly feature no Simon Cowell as new judges Steven Tyler and Jennifer Lopez will bookend stalwart Randy Jackson. But with the two-hour premiere starting at 7 p.m., at least we can laugh at the hilariously untalented hopefuls that entertain in these early-season shows.

Thursday

"The 19 Year Old's Map"

5 p.m., Sinclair Library Room 110

The University of Hawai'i's East Asian Film Society will present a free screening of this disturbing film about a disturbed 19-year-old newspaper delivery boy who keeps tabs -- and a map -- on his neighborhood. Directed by Mitsuo Yanagimachi and originally released in 1979, this is the second of three Yanagimachi films the EAFS will screen this month. For more information, contact Matt Winchell at mj23@hawaii.edu.

Friday

DRI

6 p.m., Loft

At nearly 30 years old, these Dirty Rotten Imbeciles seem to have perfected their act. This four-member Texas band mixes hardcore punk with thrash metal. Dirty and rotten indeed.

Saturday

Legends of Hip Hop

8 p.m., Blaisdell Arena

With tickets ranging from \$35-\$100, you can check out former platinum artists who've already used up their second 15 minutes with VH1 reality shows. Salt-N-Pepa, Doug E. Fresh, Rob Base and Grandmasters "Furious 5" featuring Melle Mel, Scorpio and Dynamite make up the where-have-they-been lineup.

Sunday

NFL conference championship games

Super Bowl appearances will be earned on Sunday as the NFC championship (10 a.m., Fox) and AFC championship (1:30 p.m., CBS) will be decided. With reigning champ New Orleans already ignominiously ousted from the playoffs by Seattle, the field is wide open.

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Apple extends its iPhone for Verizon users

By Sean Nakamura
PHOTO EDITOR

Greetings Big Red users, you've finally got your wish, an Apple iPhone 4. After years of negotiating and whining, Apple and Verizon have finally brokered a deal to have a partnership with both the company and carrier, respectively.

On Jan. 11, Apple and Verizon announced that the iPhone 4 would be available on Verizon bands on Feb. 10.

The Verizon Wireless iPhone 4 is exactly the same as the AT&T device. Sporting the Retina Display screen, 5 megapixel camera, front-facing camera for FaceTime and the usual galore that the current iPhone offers.

The iPhone for Verizon, however, will be utilizing Verizon's current CDMA or EV-DO – also known as 3G on its network – and not the latest

LTE technology (which features faster speeds) that Verizon has been slowly rolling out.

Verizon's bloat ware like VCast will not be in the iPhone – for those of you who dislike the application from other phones that Verizon offers – and there won't be any carrier logo branding just like the original iPhone from AT&T.

There are a few small differences that the Verizon iPhone has. The antenna that outlines the phone now has four symmetrical pieces of the exact size of its opposite side. This is to accommodate the Verizon's CDMA bands that it runs on. Lastly the volume buttons and mute switch has been bumped down a little bit, which will require new cases as current generation cases will not fit properly.

The Verizon iPhone news has been met with delightful comments.

Unhappy AT&T customers will be able to make the switch to Verizon if service in their area is not at optimal ratings. Envious Verizon users will finally be able to obtain their wish to have an iPhone 4.

Here's a breakdown of the pros and cons of the new long-awaited Verizon iPhone.



Advantages of the Verizon iPhone:

- Verizon Wireless users will finally be able to use an iPhone on their network.
- New antenna design to accommodate CDMA might have better resistance against the "death grip" phenomenon.

Disadvantages of the Verizon iPhone:

- CDMA or EV-DO (also known as 3G in Verizon) will not be supporting the new LTE technology Verizon is currently rolling out.
- Unlike AT&T's iPhone, the Verizon version is not GSM capable and therefore cannot be taken abroad for international travelers.
- Due to the incompetencies of Verizon's network capabilities, Verizon's iPhone will not be able to simultaneously support voice and data (text messages, e-mail, Internet browsing) at the same time.
- Volume buttons and mute switch has been pushed down slightly, so current cases are incompatible, and consumers must therefore wait for new cases for the Verizon version roll out.

Find a little slice of the Mediterranean in Waikiki

By Mahoro Kusunoki
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Have you dreamed about having a wonderful pizza or spaghetti while you are looking at the beautiful Mediterranean Sea?

It sounds like a perfect plan, however, many of you, including me, cannot accomplish this dream because it's too far, too expensive and we simply have no time in our full schedule. It's a fantastic dream for most of us.

But if you want a little slice of the Mediterranean in Hawai'i, I highly recommend Arancino di Mare. Located on Kalakaua Avenue, you can get salad, free refills of focaccia and one plate of pasta for \$10 with a kama'aina discount for what normal customers pay \$17.95 at lunch time (10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.). It's a pretty good deal for what you get.

I've only been there four times but I'm a big fan of the restaurant, especially when I found out about the \$10 lunch special.

The joyful lunchtime started off with a pleasant surprise. My friend and I expected a crowded establishment, but we were happy to enter into a dining room with few patrons. As soon as we entered the restaurant, we were embraced by a merry, mature feeling that Arancino creates.

The meal kicked off with a Caesar salad, sliced cheese and one piece of anchovy on the top, which prepared my empty stomach for what would



PHOTO COURTESY OF MAHORO KUSUNOKI

Arancino di Mare, located along Kalakaua Avenue, offers Mediterranean cuisine, such as spaghetti con polpetta. Locals can receive a kama'aina discount for salad, focaccia bread and a plate of pasta for only \$10 during the lunch hours.

come next: spaghetti pomodoro (spaghetti with tomato sauce).

The color of the tomato sauce was a soft orangeish-red, and it looked very natural and simple. But the tomato sauce is mellow and delicate. I always make my tomato sauce a little sour, so I wonder what makes this sauce so mild. It was a magical fullness of richness. I enjoyed every bite of the spaghetti, and the noodles were, of course, al dente, which I love.

My friends had fettuccine alfredo (fettuccine with white cream sauce) and spaghetti con polpetta (spaghetti with homemade pork and beef meat-

balls). I am not a cream pasta eater, but this fettuccine alfredo changed my bias and made me want to order it the next time I visit here.

The sauce was rich but not so strong you had to give up finishing it. I didn't get a chance to steal a taste of the meatballs spaghetti, but I know my friend loved this and was willing to finish it even though she was stuffed to the limit.

The servers were attentive from the beginning to end. Whenever I go there, the service is always fast and the quality is great. One of my friends arrived at the restaurant late,

so we tried to calculate the time and ordered for him anyway. The salad was served while he was not yet there, and the server asked us if we wanted to put the salad in the refrigerator to keep it cold. The waiter even considered if it's okay for my friend to eat the salad and the pasta at the same time.

Everybody can make a good meal if they use perfect ingredients in a perfect timing. But a truly great dish always comes with a great value of consideration and love. And that will always make people happy.

So if your dreams of traveling to



Arancino di Mare
2552 Kalakaua Ave.
Honolulu, Hawaii 96815
Tel: (808) 931-6273

<http://www.arancino.com/en/index.html>

Parking with validation costs \$10, so if you're looking to save, walk, bus or find street parking.

Italy keep you up at night, then I suggest you get a slice of Sicily and head down to Arancino di Mare, where the waiters are warm and the food delicious.

Kohala Bound

By Alike Pfaltzgraff
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

"I thank God for giving me these artifacts," reads an unearthed inscription contained within one of hundreds of seashells lining the aqua-marine interior of Kenji's House.

Tucked above an unassuming road alongside Kohala, Hawai'i, Kenji's House is not your typical art gallery. The story of how it came to be is as fascinating as the artifacts themselves.

Kenji Yokoyama lived and died in Kapa'au, located on the northern tip of the Big Island. He was amicable with those in proximity, but more or less reclusive. Few knew him on a personal basis, and even fewer knew the secrets contained within his space. Indeed there was an ineffable mystic about his property, whose aura drew the attention of local artist Catherine Morgan. As a bona fide art purveyor, surveyor and participant, she dedicated several paintings to the mysterious abode, and grew quite attracted to the domicile.

Yokoyama passed away in 2004, and while going by one day, Morgan was baffled to discover the state trying to throw away his artwork and shell collection.

"I thought I'd lost my mind," Morgan said. "I picked up a lot of rocks, and I don't know what they

meant, but they looked important to me. My primary intention was to hang onto the artwork and shell collection."

She eventually sought out the new owners of the building, and through gentle persuasion, convinced them to let her turn the property into an art gallery that would illuminate the verdant community that had nourished her all her life.

The renovation became a catalyst for Morgan and her contemporaries to organize an artistic coalition of sorts, dubbing themselves the North Kohala Artists' Co-operative. They transformed two floors of the upper floor into an unofficial gallery to showcase local talent, while rearranging Yokoyama's artifacts in the first floor to highlight the man's riveting personality.

Upon entering Kenji's House, one is immediately struck with the salty aroma of a fisherman's den. Dilapidated shackles, rustic shelves and tattered fishing nets are all strewn about the room in an effort to elucidate the beauty amidst the banal. Impressive and expansive in both depth and scope, what remains is a testament to a man who sought solace in the things most of us take for granted.

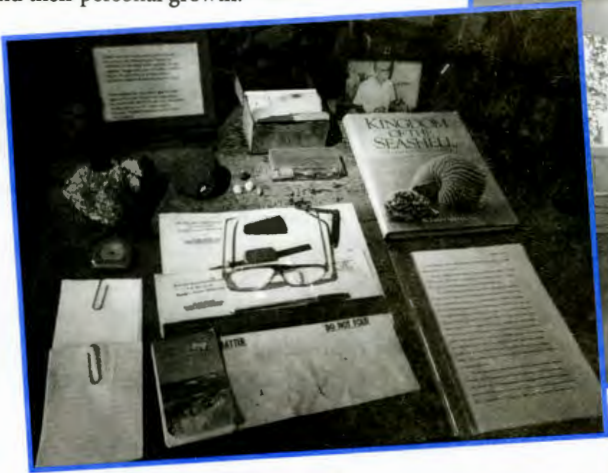
And then there are the shells. Hundreds of seashells – characterized by different shapes, hues and sizes

– are preserved, some in dulcet tact, others glued together creating miniature figurines redolent of wild animals on hiatus. Upon further examination, many contain miniature notes handwritten by Yokoyama himself, containing details as to where he found them and personal philosophies of varying degrees of poignancy.

In the second floor of the gallery, Morgan's work is featured prominently amongst her peers. Her paintings strike a very fundamental nerve, connecting roots to imagery in a reciprocal dynamic that subverts the charmingly simplistic titles of the pieces themselves.

Morgan hopes to organize future film festivals in the gallery that center around life in Kohala, employing the help of its young denizens.

"We have so many talented kids running around this town that don't know what to do with their artistic energy," Morgan said. "We hope to provide a means for them to express themselves in a way that's beneficial to both the community and their personal growth."



ALIKE PFALTZGRAFF / KAPI'O

Top: Hundreds of messages have been scattered about in Kenji's House. Above Left: Kenji's personal affects rearranged for display. Above Right: Cathy Morgan expounds upon the significance of Kohala and the Big Island.

For more information, visit <http://www.kohalaartists.com>.

健康な日系1世～3世ですか？

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Faculty are prohibited from soliciting their own nominations. Solicitation will result in disqualification.

THE VIEW WE TAKE

Misconstrued political rhetoric often destitute of absolutes

Jan. 8 set the stage for one of the most atrocious massacres of our political system and resulted in six deaths and 14 injuries. Among the victims are Gabrielle Giffords, an Arizona U.S. Congresswoman, a federal judge and a 9-year-old girl. The act is heinous enough, but the motives behind the shooting only exacerbate the gravity of the situation.



Loughner

On a quiet Saturday morning in Tucson, Ariz., a gunman opened fire at a meet-and-greet with Republican congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords outside a shopping mall. The shooter killed six people and hit Giffords with a point-blank shot to the back of her head. Giffords miraculously survived, and her condition is improving as she is now reported to be responding to simple commands and opening her eyes.

Jared Lee Loughner, 22, has been arrested and charged in federal court for killing a judge and another federal employee and attempting to kill Giffords and two others.

Loughner has a history with Giffords and was deeply engaged in politics. He allegedly first interacted with Giffords at a 2007 meet-and-greet – much like the recent shooting venue – and even asked her a question.

“He was like ... ‘What do you think of these people who are working for the government and they can’t describe what they do?’” one friend told The Associated Press. “He did not like government officials, how they spoke. Like they were just trying to cover up some conspiracy.”

According to cbsnews.com, he was unhappy with her response.

“In the time since then, investigators believe perhaps he was tracking



AP

From left, Ellie Steve, 6, Lucia Reeves, 6, and Zoe Reeves, 18, gather for a candlelight vigil outside the offices U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords, D-Ariz., in Tucson, Ariz., Sunday, Jan. 9, 2011. Giffords was critically wounded during a shooting at a political event Saturday in Tucson.

her and targeting her in a very loose way,” Bob Orr, CBS News Justice and Homeland Security correspondent, told CBS chief Washington correspondent Bob Schieffer.

A simple Google search of Loughner will produce an array of responses that all share one commonality: politics. He has been called a loner, pothead, nihilistic extremist, left-wing lunatic, right-wing fanatic and a number of other things. It seems that in the middle of such an egregious act people are more interested in blaming what he was, rather than who he was.

Loughner may have been all these things – surely Pima Community College campus police might concur with a few of these adjectives – but he was also a product of political rhetoric.

We might look at the word selection and propaganda of the past few elections and find Sarah Palin’s recent hit-list, which placed crosshairs across pictures of Democrats including Giffords and used words like “reload,” “aim,” and “fire,” or President Obama’s campaign trail, which saw much of the same rhetoric.

Since the shooting, political figures have been diving left and right to denounce Loughner’s political alignments. Despite his political ideologies, Loughner has had a number of incidents with PCC campus police involving what the school called “bizarre” comments, according to an Arizona-based news station.

Loughner was suspended from Pima Community College in September 2010 because of his disruptive

behavior. From February and September, he met with PCC police five times for causing disruptions. In addition, an article on cbsnews.com states that college police discovered a YouTube video where Loughner expressed that his college was illegal.

His friends from high school describe him as being steeped in politics and “really weird,” a former classmate of Loughner said to the Washington Post. The student goes on to explain that she sat by the door to ensure a quick escape. Even Loughner’s teachers found themselves uncomfortable, including a pilates teacher who wouldn’t teach Loughner unless a police was present.

According to records released by PCC, Loughner was, as one teacher described his comments “bizarre.”

Another student was reading a poem about abortion and Loughner replied, “We should have dynamite attached to babies.” Loughner had five separate incidences in 2010 which involved law enforcement and were all somehow related to his disruptiveness.

Loughner has been charged and made his first court appearance on Jan. 10 and is facing three class A felonies and two class C felonies, which include the death penalty. Loughner’s lawyer is Judy Clark, who previously defended the Unabomber and Timothy McVeigh.

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@hawaii.edu.

CAMPUS VOICES: What are your goals for this semester?

“Get better grades for all my classes.”

Kyle Nitta, 21, architecture



“I don’t want to get sick and be late for classes. Also, I want to get along well with my teachers.”

Shiori Sugahara, 19, liberal arts



“I want to try to do better than last semester and stay on top of things.”

Robert Pearson, 21, IT



“To turn in my projects on time!”

Mafe Andrada, 18, accounting



“I procrastinated last semester, so I don’t want to do that this semester.”

Donald Gahit, 25, travel/tourism



“To not be absent from school.”

Tomoko Kobayashi, 30, hospitality



SEAN NAKAMURA/KAPI'O

It was recently announced that Hawai'i lawmakers have approved the ban on fireworks. The ban went into effect on Jan. 2, according to a report on KITV.com. With the purchase of a \$25 permit, only firecrackers would be legal.

Fireworks ban removes bang from New Year's celebrations

By Sean Nakamura
PHOTO EDITOR

It's a new year and a beautiful year. I'm quite excited to start this new year off with the right attitude.

I bought a bike, so I'll finally be able to bike around town and burn those calories. I intend to start and finish this semester at full speed, which includes homework and my job.

But one thing I will not follow is the new fireworks ban for all of Hawai'i.

According to a news report from KITV, under the new law, firecrackers will still be legal, however, a permit will be required. On the other hand, fireworks such as smoke bombs, fountains and sparklers are now banned.

Although they are not entirely banned, I'm not going to waste \$25 to buy a permit that will only allow me 5,000 pieces of fireworks to create a spectacle on the Fourth of July and most especially Chinese New Year.

I think I, along with the rest of the island, left the year 2010 with a blast, literally.

Aerials, or "dead rats" as my family likes to call them, lit up the skies like the Bellagio water show in Las Vegas.

Families who lived near my street made a bonfire of firecrackers in the middle of the road and did a bon dance around it.

In addition, the streets of Palolo were engulfed with the sound and smoke from Chinese firecrackers.

I've also heard stories of friends across the island talk of mega-cluster

blooming lotus firecrackers lit at once or twining long red firecrackers to create an illusion of a dragon on fire creeping up the air.

Sadly, Hawai'i lawmakers had voted to take away a beloved tradition from us.

Lighting fireworks has been a tra-

"Placing a ban on a tradition among Hawai'i people will never stop them. Illegal fireworks dealers will be grinning, as the black market for fireworks will increase."

dition in Hawai'i, even as far as the time of the sugar plantation workers in the 1800s when the Chinese migrated here.

Taking away a tradition like fireworks from us is like taking away a NASCAR racer's car from him. It's what we know, it's what we love, it's in our blood and we can't resist it.

I take joy in fussing around in the dark for the fuse with my left hand and my incense punk in my right.

When that fuse is finally lit and the sparks shine in my eyes, I scurry back and watch that little box turn into a magical box lighting up the streets and neighborhoods.

I take joy in competing with the other Chinese families on the streets of my grandmother's house in Palolo.

We saw who can light and toss the most blooming lotus firecrackers on the street. We saw who has the loudest long red firecrackers.

We saw who has brightest shower fireworks. Then at the end of the year, when the clock strikes midnight and ushers the new year, we laugh and congratulate each other, "Sun Nian Fai Lok," which means "Happy New Year" in Cantonese.

Placing a ban on a tradition among Hawai'i people will never stop them. Illegal fireworks dealers will be grinning, as the black market for fireworks will increase.

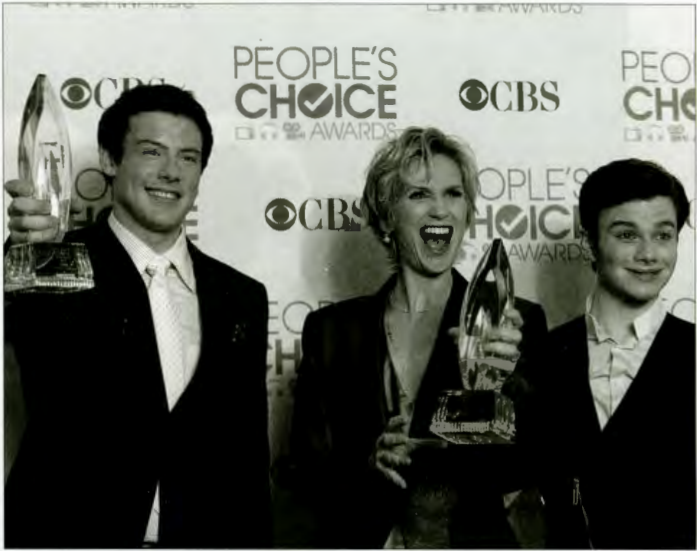
People will still launch aerials and light fireworks. However, the ban may not stop the people from illegally lighting fireworks, but let's hope that these people will be careful and not burn anybody's home down.

I will adhere to the laws that Hawai'i has placed upon us, but I will still marvel at those "dead rats" exploding in the sky, legal or illegal.

I hope in the future that our lawmakers will lift the ban on fireworks. Not for the sake of my tradition, but for the sake of my children and generations to come.

Everyone in Hawai'i should enjoy fireworks, forever. It's a tradition of ours.

kapi'o TOP 10



AP

Can't-miss spring TV

By Joie Nishimoto
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

There was just something about winter break that made me sad. And no, it's not that there was a three-week break from school.

Sure, a break meant time away from studying and more free time to do other things, such as hanging out with friends and family. I've tried to keep myself busy, but there was just something I've been missing since the beginning of break: TV. Most shows take a winter hiatus, so here are the Top 10 shows that I've been looking forward to seeing again.

10. "Gossip Girl" (CW, Mondays, 8 p.m.)

The storylines are getting old. As predictable as this show is becoming, it's still my guilty pleasure. It also helps that there's a gorgeous cast.

9. "Off the Map" (ABC, Wednesdays, 9 p.m.)

I have no idea what this show is about. It looks like a "Grey's Anatomy" meets "Lost." But it's filmed in Hawai'i, so we'll see if this show gets the same amount of hype that "Hawai'i Five-0" has.

8. "Modern Family" (ABC, Wednesdays, 8 p.m.)

I just recently started watching this Emmy award-winning sitcom. Sofia Vergara's character, Gloria, helped me to realize that it's OK that I've had my driver's permit for three years now because she's a terrible licensed driver.

7. "Hawai'i Five-0" (CBS, Mondays, 9 p.m.)

To be quite honest, I haven't gotten into the craze of this show like other locals have. It's probably because I'm still on episode four.

6. "Supernatural" (CW, Fridays, 8 p.m.)

As its title suggests, it deals with all things supernatural, from angels and demons to vampires and fairies. If you love horror movies and thrillers, this show is for you.

5. "Pretty Little Liars" (ABC Family, Mondays, 7 p.m.)

Forget trying to find out who Gossip Girl is. "A" from "Pretty Little

Liars" is more menacing and is willing to ruin each of the main characters' lives. It's amazing to see how far this mystery girl goes to exploit all of the girls' secrets.

4. "American Idol" (FOX)

"Idol" has been over since May. But even though this show is slowly losing viewers each new season, you'd have to wonder how the show is going to be like now with Steven Tyler of Aerosmith and Jennifer Lopez replacing Simon Cowell, Kara DioGuardi and Ellen DeGeneres on the judges' panel.

3. "One Tree Hill" (CW, Tuesdays, 7 p.m.)

What I love most about this show is the dialogue. I've never seen a show with lines so touching and inspirational. Every time I have a bad day, "One Tree Hill" cheers me up because it makes me believe that everything will be OK.

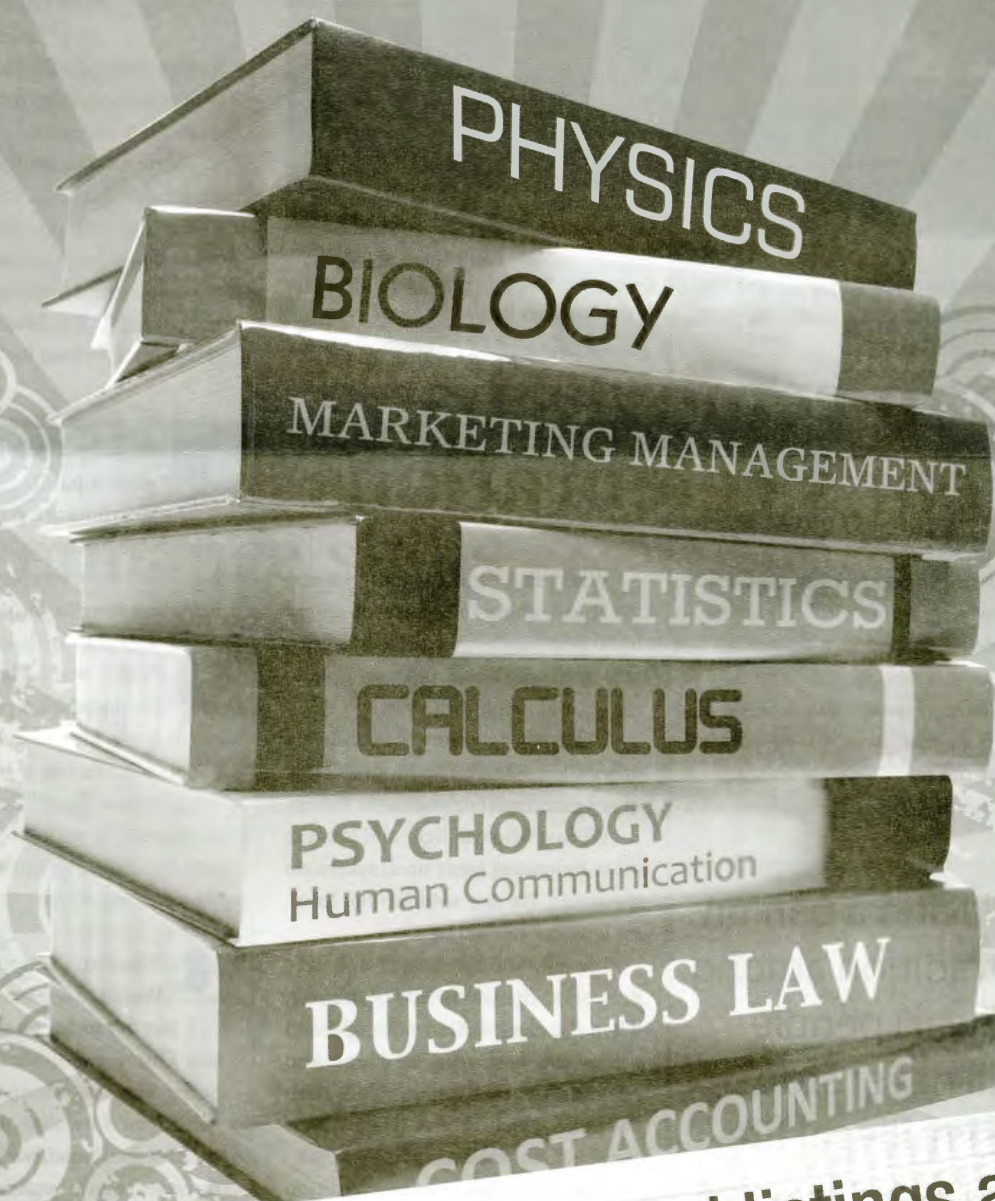
2. "How I Met Your Mother" (CBS, Mondays, 9 p.m.)

I just recently discovered this show and now I just can't stop watching. Neil Patrick Harris, who plays womanizer Barney Stinson, is just hilarious. This show brings happy tears to my eyes and gives my stomach a workout.

1. "Glee" (FOX, Tuesdays, 7 p.m.)

No surprise here. Who doesn't love "Glee?" The show is more than just singing and dancing. "Glee" is a story about the underdogs. You didn't have to be a loser in high school to not enjoy this comedy.

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