Central Bark Dog Park Opens

The community's dream of a wonderful place for animals and their people is being realized with the recent Grand Opening Celebration of the Hawaii Island Humane Society’s Central Bark Dog Parks. The Central Bark Dog Parks are the first completed phase of the new 12-acre Animal Community Center.

Everyone is invited to bring their dog and let them play in a controlled, safe and fenced environment. There’s lots of shade and seating for the dog’s owners too!

The Central Bark Dog Park is open on Saturday, Sunday and Wednesday from 9 am to 4 pm on a temporary basis while the grass continues to grow in.
Aloha Friends of Hawaii Island Humane Society,

We’re happy to report that the Hawaii Island Humane Society’s Central Bark Dog Park recently held a Grand Opening Celebration and it was a rousing success. All dogs and humans in attendance had lots of time to have fun and socialize.

If you have not had a chance to visit the Central Bark Dog Park we encourage you to bring your dog and let them play off leash in a controlled, safe and fenced environment. There’s people benches, ample parking, shade areas for those hot Kona days and a bone-shaped splash pad to cool our pooch pals in the large dog park. We’re sure you’ll be impressed!

The Grand Opening of the Central Bark Dog Park is the first completed phase of the new 12-acre Animal Community Center. Our capital campaign committee is actively fundraising to complete subsequent phases including bigger areas to house more animals, a cat barn, welcome center, veterinary clinic, kupuna room and an education center.

The underlying infrastructure for all phases of the Animal Community Center is now complete including rough grading, electrical, water, parking lots, lighting, plumbing, landscaping and fencing. Fundraising is ongoing to complete future phases and to allow Hawaii Island Humane Society to move all Kona shelter operations to the Animal Community Center.

Consider donating to the Capital Campaign to help the Hawaii Island Humane Society build our community’s dream of a wonderful place for animals and their people.

Donna Whitaker
Executive Director
Hawaii Island Humane Society

Adam Atwood
President
Hawaii Island Humane Society
Mahalo to the AGL Golf Tournament, Daniel & Alicia Hollis, Peter & Jeanne Mandell, Allison & Lloyd Segal, Sam & Lisa Savinovich, Michael & Leslie Saviage, and Tom & Gunilla Follett for raising $4,360 for HIHS!

Mahalo to the Dogs and their humans who participated in Kai ‘Opua Canoe Club’s 4th Annual DOG PADDLE. A portion of their entry fees were donated to HIHS.

Mahalo Jack Arrillaga (pictured here with Waimea Shelter Manager Natalie Tavares) for donating $1,000 from his Bar Mitzvah. Jack’s mother, Justine Stamen Arrillaga, donated $500 as well. He also collected other donations for a total of $2,855. Happy 13th birthday Jack!

Mahalo to Pearl for donating her birthday gifts and raising $3,390 for our Mainland Transfer Program.

Happy 9th Birthday to Rosey Wawner! Instead of presents, she asked friends for donations to the animals of Hawaii Island Humane Society. Here she is with the items she collected along with $117! Mahalo and Happy Birthday Rosey!

Mahalo to Keaau High School’s National Honor Society and Ms. Cynthia Kay for the donations! They collected food, towels, toys and $116.25 for the animals!

Clyde Aoki presented Adam Pereira, HIHS Keaau Shelter Manager, with Subaru’s annual SHARE THE LOVE campaign contribution of $5,000. Mahalo Subaru Hawaii for your generous support of Big Island animals.
Congratulations to Hawaii Island Humane Society’s Volunteers of the Quarter Barbara Kildow and Scott Dodd!

Barbara and Scott serve as Co-chairs of the Animal Community Center’s Capital Campaign. Caring and committed are two words that come quickly to mind when anyone describes Barbara and Scott. Mahalo for all your hard work on behalf of the animals, our community and the Animal Community Center!

Over 300 party animals packed the house for the 22nd Annual Tropical Paws at the Four Seasons Hualalai.

We are incredibly thankful for the generosity of our Tropical Paws sponsors, donors and attendees who raised over $250,000 for the animals on Hawaii Island.

MAHALO TO OUR SPONSORS
- Kona Veterinary Service
- Keauhou Veterinary Hospital
- Mauna Lani Sea Adventures
- Bank of Hawaii
- Hawaii Water Service
- Daniel S. Peters
- Ali'i Veterinary Hospital
- Hawaii Trust Estate Counsel
- Aili Kaups

Connect with us at hihs.org
THE LAST DECADE OF HIHS:
Advancing from just Animal Control to Animal Welfare

❖ A major component of the mission of the Hawaii Island Humane Society is to eliminate pet overpopulation.

❖ HIHS has gradually implemented more and more spay and neuter programs since 2008.

❖ Spaying and neutering reduces the amount of puppies and kittens born.

❖ Spaying and neutering reduces the urge of pets to wander.

❖ A higher percent of pets coming in to the shelters are sick and injured.

❖ HIHS has matched this demand by treating more pets every year through the Second Chance Fund.

❖ There has been a decrease in the number of dogs and cats taken in at all 3 shelters.

❖ As more pets get a Second Chance, the homes on Hawaii Island become saturated with pets.

❖ HIHS has matched this surplus of healthy pets by sending some to the mainland.

Please help support HIHS spay/neuter, Second Chance and Mainland Transfer programs. These programs are essential to continuing to improve Hawaii Island animal welfare.
I cannot believe how fast the time is going. Summer is coming!
Dayzee and I have had a wonderful school year with many new schools added to our roster, including Waikoloa Middle School, Hilo Union and students participating in alternative schools. We’re spreading our message of kindness, safety and responsible pet ownership far and wide.

Part of responsible pet ownership includes child safety, even around beloved furry friends. Did you know children are most often the victims of dog bites? In fact, 77% of dog bites are to children and the majority of those bites are to the face. You might also be surprised to know that most bites are from a family pet or a pet the child knows and who has never shown any signs of aggression. Teaching children that any dog can bite and to never put their face in a dog’s face is the best way to ensure proper and safe interactions with pets. It’s about respecting each other’s space and learning the safe way to greet a dog. Dayzee and I teach about respecting each other’s “personal bubble.” Most dogs don’t like hugs and kisses. They may tolerate it, but children don’t possess the skills to recognize when, for a dog, the tolerable becomes intolerable.

This one will surprise you: Not every dog that wags its tail is friendly! We used to think a wagging tail meant a happy, friendly dog and many times it still does. But not always! There’s much more to learn about canine behavior. A tail can tell quite a tale.

Children and parents can learn all about responsible pet care and ownership by participating in our summer educational program. Jr. Pals is for kids 9-14 who, over the summer break, meet once a week for three hours. Students learn basic dog obedience skills, dog body language, participate in agility, socialize with kitties and graduate to the volunteer program based on their own skill level. Jr. Pals is offered at all three shelters and space is extremely limited.

Contact us if you’re interested.

Aloha,

Bebe Ackerman and Dayzee
Certified Humane Education Specialist

Keaau Shelter Manager Adam Pereira has been with the Hawaii Island Humane Society for 7 years. He started his HIHS career as an Animal Control Officer, was promoted to a Supervisor and now serves as the Keaau Shelter Manager.

Adam’s favorite part of his job is seeing dogs leaving the shelter with their new owners. In his words, the dogs and people are so happy! Adam’s own dog, Axel, was a puppy he fostered at 5 weeks old. Adam gave Axel lots of massage and swimming time to correct his swimmer’s syndrome and now, at a year old, Axel is a normal, healthy dog.

Most of all, Adam appreciates his team at the Keaau Shelter. He commented, “They are a good team and everyone is doing a great job!” When asked how to make the Keaau Shelter better, he replied, “The Keaau Shelter could use more volunteers to help with walking dogs, cleaning, hanging out with all the animals, taking dogs to the Bark Parks and letting them run. He also noted that he wants to bring spay/neuter awareness to the forefront as we approach kitten and puppy season. We will need foster families for the kitten and puppy litters that are coming in.”

In his spare time Adam likes to camp, fish and ride 4-wheelers and motorcycles to relax.
Mobile Spay and Neuter Clinic Arrives This Summer

Eliminating pet overpopulation on Hawaii Island is a top priority and increased spay and neuter initiatives will help our organization reach its goals.

We launched a matching grant campaign to purchase and outfit a Mobile Spay and Neuter Clinic (Spay Neuter Waggin’) earlier this year. We’re happy to report that we obtained a $100,000 matching grant from the Laurence H. Dorcy Hawaiian Foundation and raised another $120,000 in community donations to surpass the original $200,000 goal to purchase the vehicle. The Dave and Cheryl Duffield Foundation generously provided another $100,000 to the campaign.

The Spay Neuter Waggin’ has been ordered and is expected to arrive this summer. When the Mobile Spay Neuter Clinic arrives, you will see portraits of five cats and four dogs from the Big Island gracing the sides of the van. These local pets were the winners of the photo contest. Mahalo to Charla Photography who kindly donated the photo sessions to capture their images.

Everyone involved at the Hawaii Island Humane Society is excited about the positive impacts this Mobile Spay and Neuter Clinic will have on the remote and rural places on island including the Puna, Hamakua, Kohala, Kau and Ocean View regions.