

## BOARD OF EDUCATION GENERAL MEETING

January 22, 2009

### Kaneohe Public Library Programs and Services by Cindy Chow

Kaneohe Public Library, the largest Branch on the Windward side of Oahu, continues to actively provide its patrons with the best in library services in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

A recent interior redesign project, funded by the Friends of Kaneohe Library, included 12 new, comfortable study carrels that are “hot” – duplex outlets are available for laptops and other electronic devices. The carrels are also ideal for our newly implemented WI-FI service, which was also funded by the Friends, and is the only *free*, publicly accessible wireless site in the greater Kaneohe area other than Windward Community College. (We are the second public library in the State – Salt Lake Public Library is the other – to go wireless.) In these challenging economic times, the library is constantly looking for alternative means of financing long-requested services.



*New Carrels in the Quiet Area of the Library*

The Library also continues to provide free Internet access to those who do not own a personal computer or just need one for the moment. These PCs also enable patrons to use Open Office, which includes open source word processing and a spreadsheet. Seven one-hour stations and one fifteen minute express station are available and heavily used. More than 7,000 user sessions were recorded between July and December 2008. All that is required is a valid library card.

The library is one of the few branches that maintains a Web Site. Point your browser to <http://www.hspls.org/kaneohepl>, and note that WINDWARD OAHU under Selected Links is a good place to go if you are looking for information on this side of the island. The Site also includes links to, among others, our Newsletters and a Seniors page. Please take a look.

Traditional public library services are not neglected. Our very strong Youth Services Section continues to provide the best in programs, including the ever popular Oogles 'n Googles on the first Wednesday of the month. The Children's Collection is frequently complimented for its quality, and circulation figures reflect this. Our Young Adult Librarian has added new shelving to make the YA collection more inviting and accessible. Our Audiovisual Collection is also praised, and the \$1.00 per week fee for DVDs remains a bargain.



*New Public Access Catalog and A/V Stands*

The Historical Photographs of Kaneohe Collection is in great demand and brings back sometimes tearful memories of a rural, less hurried Koolaupoko. We hope to digitize selected photos, in the near future, to provide global access.

A few years ago, State funding enabled us to fill gaps in the microfilm collection that was decimated by vinegar syndrome. We now have full runs of the HONOLULU ADVERTISER and the HONOLULU STAR-BULLETIN dating back to 1882 for the ADVERTISER and 1912 for the STAR-BULLETIN. Keeping this collection current consumes approximately 7% of this year's Materials Budget but is worth it. Numerous patrons have profusely thanked us for providing the newspapers, saving them a trip over the mountain to town.

Reference Librarians regularly proctor exams, both written and online, and offer popular "Introduction to the Internet for Beginners" classes, with senior citizens the targeted group. Our main Reference Desk features a prominent "Please Ask" sign that tourists occasionally ask to be photographed by.

Circulation of books (and books on CD), music CDs and DVDs continues to increase, with Sunday probably the busiest day of the week. More than 20,000 items per month are borrowed by our friendly patrons from our efficient Library Assistants who, when not providing public service, are busy preparing new materials for the collection

System resources, such as the very popular e-books and the full-text, online databases, are used and promoted. These *are* available 24/7.

Kaneohe Public Library is a community gathering place and an integral part of this vibrant community. Please visit, and see us in action.

Mahalo for the opportunity to let *us* let *you* know what we are doing.

*Prepared by:*

*Thomas Churma  
Branch Manager*