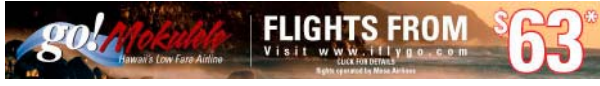




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DIARY

Eat, then LEAF

BY LUCY JOKIEL | JUN 15, 2011

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DAVID LEAF / In February 2007 David Leaf launched LEAF Hawaii. He then converted it to a 501(c) (3) nonprofit corporation in April of that same year. The next month, LEAF participated in the Compassion Capital–Hawaii Moving Forward Fellows Program at UH–Manoa. The Fellows program’s mission to build organizational capacity helped LEAF move ahead very quickly in developing its organizational stages. The grant from Compassion Capital enabled LEAF to create a sustainable strategic plan, which has helped carry LEAF toward its long-range goals and objectives.

LEAF has partnered with the Honolulu Community Action Program (HCAP) to begin developing a healthy food system model at its 2-acre Waimanalo farm project. Phase one involved clearing the land of overgrown elephant grass and preparing the soil for growing. The cleared area will be used to create vegetable and herb gardens, as well as some long-term fruit and flower-bearing tree planting areas.

The volunteers are currently working with LEAF’s farm development team to design a complete farm plan that could someday function as a model for other small farms in the area.

In the meantime, LEAF will maintain a traditional hale for its outdoor classroom and learning center, as well as a gathering place for the community to share knowledge about growing healthy food and to demonstrate healthy cooking.

LEAF will partner with the Institute for Human Services (IHS) to offer a “green basics” horticultural training program for the homeless. Kaiser Permanente recently awarded IHS a grant to begin such a program for shelter’s guests who are interested in learning both basic horticulture skills and pre-vocational skills that could lead to various jobs in the green sector.

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This week

Eminent Domain or Imminent Domain?

Three years ago, Hawaii’s then-Gov. Linda Lingle proclaimed her vision of a “fundamental transformation of our economy,” which would move away from the current one based, as she claimed, “too narrowly on land development.” The first Republican governor since Bill Quinn, Lingle uttered the heresy in her 2008 State of the State address.

Plastic Patrol

Even when campaigns fail and change seems impossible, activists like those with the Surfrider Foundation stay optimistic enough to eventually overcome the hurdles. With about 300 chapters worldwide—from Oahu to Japan—and four chapters in Hawaii alone, the group is celebrating International Surf Day on June 20th, an event started in 2002 by Matt McClain, the marketing and communications director of the Surfrider Foundation Headquarters in California.

Divvy it up

Eight months after the legislation became law, small businesses in Hawaii have finally been awarded \$13 million in grants as part of the federal Small Business Jobs Act of 2010. The new law is one of President Obama’s most recent efforts to pull the economy out of the gutter by providing critical resources to help small businesses continue to drive economic recovery and create jobs.

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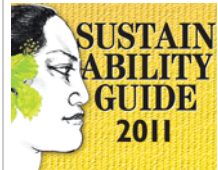
Laurie from LS
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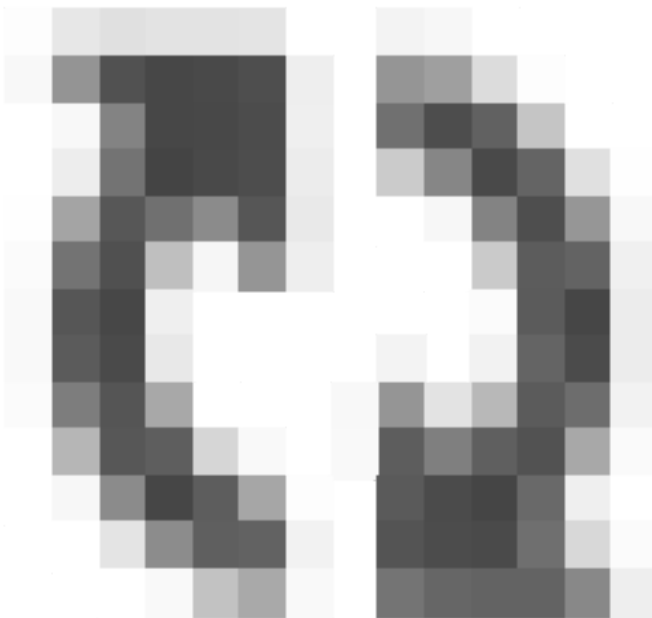
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HOME FREE

On Friday the City Council approved a bill tightening the monitoring and inspection of properties classified as historic homes. A majority of historic homes found throughout the Islands are turn-of-the-century Victorian homes in Manoa Valley and plantation homes in 'Ewa Beach.

BIKING BATTLES

On Fri., May 27, a sign-waving rally for safe streets was held at Kaimuki Community Park to inform the community about the prospective changes concerning Waialae Avenue thoroughfare. Impending changes for the street include restriping and repaving, but there are no foreseeable plans to include any bicycle accommodations.

Eat, then LEAF

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Human Rights & Housing

Confucius, in his Commentary to Hexagram 21 in the 3,000-year-old Chinese oracle "I Ching" wrote "Innocence and guilt are clearly distinguishable in the eyes of a just judge." In the case of American homelessness, that just judge was a United Nations investigator, Raquel Rolnik, who sent a report to the UN in February 2010 stating, "The US is guilty of human rights abuses and shameful neglect of 2.5 to 3.5 million homeless people." With the congressional budget for affordable housing plummeting from \$83 billion in 1978 to supposedly \$1.3 billion today, the priorities of the American government at all levels are not proving to be affordable housing. You cannot hide that dirty little secret from the international conference (APEC) that President Obama is hosting in Waikiki this summer.

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“Winning!”

I'm not sorry for what happened in the past. I can empathize, but I didn't do anything to anybody so I feel not one iota of repentance [May 11: "Ocean Face-Off].

Everybody's included

[June 8: "Sit, Listen, Be Silent"] I think Ernesto Pujol is an amazing artist. If what he says is that he is a nobody and merely points the way then I would have to say the performers are amazing for taking the risk to be in his performance.

Racist rhetoric

[May 11: "Ocean Face-Off] Historically speaking, Racism was a product of colonization and expansionism, and it was not exclusive to the Europeans (whites). The Spanish, French, Russians, etc.

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