

# KIA konnexion

May 2020

*KIA was formed in 1987 to be a forum for  
concerned Kakaako business owners*



## KIA Board News

The KIA Board of Directors has continued their service to all members by providing the monthly newsletters and holding their monthly Board meeting. Due to the stay-at-home, work-at-home order by Governor Ige in March, the KIA Board held their April 8th meeting via a conference call. It was a very efficient and productive meeting, led by KIA President Jeff Sandborn and held with seven Board members and Sherry Goya, KIA Executive Director. It now looks like the May 13th Board meeting will be held via conference call again.

## 690 Pohukaina Project

Three KIA Board members have volunteered to join the 690 Pohukaina Project Stakeholder Advisory Group, which is working with Strategies 360 on behalf of the Hawaii Department of Education to form the advisory group and facilitate a series of collaborative work sessions.

This landmark project in Kakaako marks two firsts for Hawaii - the first public school to be part of a mixed-use community development and the first vertical school in the State. The five to seven story complex will serve students in PreK through 5th grade. There will be shared use of Mother Waldren Park between the DOE and City. Also being planned are two affordable rental housing towers, as well as a multi-story parking for school and rental housing, along with commercial properties.

Jared Kashiwabara, Michael Libertini, and Steve Sullivan will be asked to review all parts of the project and provide critical feedback and recommendations. Their input will be utilized to enhance the project's benefits for the community and to identify and attempt to mitigate any potential challenge the project may create.

This is just Phase 1 of the project outreach and there will be follow-on public meetings and multiple ways to gather further input from the community.

## KIA Member News

Safety is the number one priority for **Belfor Hawaii** when it comes to restoration. On the front lines of the Coronavirus crisis, they have trained emergency response professionals and are providing cleaning services for exposed buildings and facilities. Their cleaning and decontamination services reduce the risk of infection or illness, cross-contamination, and can prevent downtime in operations. Check out this video link recorded of a town hall meeting with environment experts, industry leaders from DUCTZ Indoor Air Professionals International and CTEH Environmental Consulting, answering questions related to the Coronavirus:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TEMQIFgZfBY&t=1s>.

Contact Kaylin Yoshida for more information at (808)436-9674 or email [kaylin.yoshida@us.belfor.com](mailto:kaylin.yoshida@us.belfor.com).

At the **John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM)** the circumstances of COVID-19 has brought out the best in its MD 2020 and MD 2021 members of the Gold Humanism Honor Society (GHHS). These medical students emphasized with the MD 2019 graduates, now hospital interns, who are on the frontlines of the virus. They have launched a last hurrah for the school year, the Aloha JABSOM-19 Project.

Keawe'aimoku Kaholokula, Ph.D., is the Professor and Chair of the Department of Native Hawaiian Health at JABSOM. Dr. Kaholokula and his team have gathered data from several states about Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders to determine COVID-19 affliction rates. Some factors considered include chronic illness, smoking, vaping, consuming alcohol, and access to healthcare. It is important to highlight that the rates of COVID-19 positive cases within these states are greater than those reported for African Americans and American Indians, two racial/ethnic group receiving much of the national attention regarding COVID-19 risk. Contact information for Dr. Kaholokula at 808-692-1047 or [kaholoku@hawaii.edu](mailto:kaholoku@hawaii.edu).

The **Children's Discovery Center** is closed until further notice due to the COVID-19 pandemic. They have an "At Home Learning Resource" on their website at [www.discoverycenterhawaii.org](http://www.discoverycenterhawaii.org) which has STEM Fun, Art Adventures, Learning with Literacy, and Move & Groove, all with activity ideas. Please consider supporting the Center and their employees with a tax deductible donation.

*be safe!*

**Kakaako Improvement Association**

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*photo courtesy of HCDA*