

Q3 2022—Issues and Programs Report—HPR News

Hawai'i Public Radio does daily reporting on issues important to its community of listeners. Coverage is guided in part by a list of issues put together with input from the station's Community Advisory Board and HPR's Broadcast Committee and approved by HPR's Board of Directors. Issues include Education, Healthcare, Native Hawaiian Culture, Economic Issues, Homelessness, Housing, Environment, Community Planning, Immigration and Assimilation, Local Food and Agriculture and Arts and Culture.

The station airs a locally produced and hosted public affairs talk program, "The Conversation," airing from 11am to noon each weekday. That program features guests and listener call-in segments. Each Monday from 6:30pm to 7:00pm HPR airs a half-hour locally-produced program on medical developments and trends called "The Body Show," and each Thursday from 6:30pm to 7:00pm HPR airs a half-hour locally-produced program on technology called "Bytemarks Café."

In addition, local news reporters cover these topics of interest and importance to the state-wide listening community, typically filing reports of 2-3 minutes airing each day on Morning Edition from 5am to 9am and on All Things Considered from noon to 1pm and 4pm to 6pm.

For the purposes of this report, we will focus on stories and coverage in the areas of Arts and Culture, Economic Issues, Local Food and Agriculture, Education, Healthcare, Community Planning and the Environment

ARTS AND CULTURE

7/7/22—New Honolulu museum of art exhibit features iconic landmarks and people of the 1850s. "Mauka to Makai, Honolulu Cityscapes of the 1850s" will feature about 30 prints, watercolors and drawings. They show the city's iconic landmarks, businesses and people. Seen above is a piece of work from 1855 depicting King Kamehameha III's funeral procession. HPR's Jayna Omaye reports.

7/19/22—New Honolulu exhibit shares critically endangered practice of hula ki'i, Hawaiian puppetry Kumu hula Auli'i Mitchell has worked for more than 30 years to bring back the critically endangered practice of hula ki'i. Now, he has curated an exhibit at the Downtown Art Center featuring puppets of all sizes. HPR's Jayna Omaye has more.

8-5-22—Nā Hula Festival in Honolulu returns with live performances—Jayna Omaye. The Nā Hula Festival returns in person this Sunday at Kapi'olani Park in Honolulu. The popular event was canceled in 2020 and held virtually last year due to the pandemic.

9/9/22—Ethnomusicologists on Hawaiian music and mental well-being among Molokai students—Savannah Harriman-Pote. Soon after professor Keola Donaghy took over the Institute of Hawaiian Music at the University of Hawai'i Maui College, he started to dream big. He applied for \$2.5 million in grant funding from the U.S. Department of Education for a range of programs, which included the opportunity to offer Hawaiian music instruction to students on Molokai.

ECONOMIC ISSUES

7/25/22—Uncle Kū Aloha Ice Cream Sandwiches take tasty treats to the continent—Russell Subiono. It's not every day Hawai'i businesses grow large enough and expand to the continental U.S. But that's the story behind Uncle's Kū Aloha Ice Cream Sandwiches. The Conversation caught up with owners Paul and Barbara Logan at their home in Waialua to learn more.

8-9-22—"We felt relief:" Hilton housekeepers return to work with new contract—Casey Harlow. Many hotel workers struggled to make ends meet the last two years — even when properties were fully occupied. Now, Hilton housekeepers are returning to full-time work thanks to a new contract. HPR's Casey Harlow spoke with one employee about how the return of daily room cleanings affects her.

8-24-22—New owners emerge in Coco Palms Resort development, Kauai residents remain critical—Sabrina Bodon. Influx ownership and lack of capital have hindered building permits over at the Coco Palms Resort on Kauai, which has been in ruins since 1992. But new ownership at the Wailua property is trying to get ahead. HPR's Sabrina Bodon reports.

9-6-22—Tourism industry expects a busier than normal fall season—Casey Harlow. The busy summer travel season is usually followed by a slower fall season, but how is it faring this year? While visitor demand remains strong in the coming months, industry professionals are keeping an eye on potential challenges. HPR's Casey Harlow has more.

LOCAL FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

8-26-22----Hawai'i-grown staples like 'ulu, kalo and 'uala are now available recipe-ready at local retailers—Ku'uwehi Hiraishi. A statistic most people in Hawai'i know is that 85% to 90% of our food is imported. To help Hawai'i families shake their dependence on imported staples like rice, the Hawai'i 'Ulu Cooperative is working to provide recipe-ready packs of locally grown staples like 'ulu or breadfruit.

9-13-22—Local coffee farmers brace for yields up to 40% lower than usual—Catherine Cruz. Coffee farmers across the state are bracing for what could be one of their worst years for production, according to the Kona Coffee Farmers Association. That will likely mean higher prices for coffee drinkers as well.

9-20-22--Kauaïi event features dishes made with invasive species to raise awareness of environment—Jayna Omaye. The nonprofit Waipā Foundation began hosting an annual “Makana Waipā: Eat the Invasives” in 2017. But it was canceled for the past two years due to the pandemic. It returns this weekend.

EDUCATION

8-3-22—73 rooms among 7 Oāhu schools have higher levels of carbon dioxide—Casey Harlow. The state Department of Education is continuing to monitor air quality in classrooms after a study found nearly 1,200 classrooms had limited air ventilation.

8-5-22—UH West Oāhu opens doors to new nursing students—Zoe Dym. University of Hawaiï West Oāhu students can get nursing degrees without transferring to another campus beginning this fall. The UH West Oāhu Pre-Nursing Pathway addresses the nursing shortage in rural parts of the state.

8-22-22—Chaminade University receives \$10 million grant for new STEM program---Zoe Dym. Chaminade University of Honolulu has received a \$10M grant from the U.S. National Science Foundation to implement a new data science program. The first session begins next month.

HEALTHCARE

7-7-22—Grove Farm sues County of Kauaïi over gifted land deeded for treatment facility—Sabrina Bodon. With land gifted by Grove Farm Co., Kauaïi celebrated when the Adolescent Treatment and Healing Center hosted a blessing at the end of 2019. Almost three years have passed and the center has never served its intended purpose. Now, Grove Farm has filed suit to get the land back.

7-11-22—Here’s what affects vaccine hesitancy among Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders—Kuūwehi Hiraishi. Vaccine hesitancy among Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders depends on the levels of trust these communities have in the sources of COVID-19 information, according to a new study by a team of researchers at the University of Hawaiï at Mānoa.

8-23-22—Not getting an adequate amount of sleep? It could affect your immune system—Savannah Harriman-Pote. If the pandemic taught us anything, it's the importance of a good night's sleep. A Hawai'i integrative sleep specialist lays out sleep's role in supporting the immune system.

8-24-22—For shift workers like HPR's Derrick Malama there's no getting used to insufficient sleep—Savannah Harriman-Pote. For most people, late nights are reserved for sleep. But the folks who bring us our 24-hour services work late into the night and into the early morning. For The Conversation's Sleep Week, we turn our attention to folks who work the graveyard shift. What protections are in place to ensure they get the rest they need?

COMMUNITY PLANNING

7-11-22—HART CEO Kahikina warns rail construction phase through Honolulu will be disruptive—Catherine Cruz. There is no way to sugarcoat the next phase of construction on the Honolulu rail. It's going to be miserable. It involves moving power, sewer, water and gas lines. The Conversation met with Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation CEO Lori Kahikina at the Middle Street transit center to talk about what's to come.

ENVIRONMENT

7-25-22—Local researchers are planning for rising sea levels, coastal erosion in Waikīkī—Catherine Cruz. It's been a week since a massive wave event sent surf hurling onto O'ahu's south shores. The Conversation surveyed the Waikīkī shoreline with University of Hawai'i researchers Shellie Habel and Dolan Eversole.

8-2-22—Here's how a new federal climate package could impact Hawai'i—Savannah Harriman-Pote. Melissa Miyashiro, the executive director for the Blue Planet Foundation, says the package's incentives for electric vehicles will make a big difference in Hawai'i.

8-22-22—Utility-scale solar hits supply chain snags, but Inflation Reduction Act offers hope—Savannah Harriman-Pote. Of the nine utility-scale solar and storage projects on O'ahu that have power purchase agreements with Hawaiian Electric, two are on track with their timelines. Supply chain delays have plagued the majority of these projects in Hawai'i. Does domestic manufacturing of solar hardware offer the answer?