

QUARTERLY ISSUES – OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2018

KAPA Hawaiian FM (KAPA-FM / KAGB-FM)

- One-minute newscasts, featuring local, statewide, and/or national stories, air at the following times every weekday: 6:20 a.m., 6:50 a.m., 7:20 a.m., 7:50 a.m., 8:20 a.m., 11:20 a.m., 11:50 a.m., 3:50 p.m., and 4:50 p.m.
- Additionally, a surf report is aired within one of the morning local newscasts everyday
- Kokua Calendar: A :60 second station spot which rotates with different Public Service Announcements. Two PSA's air in each spot, with 25 seconds given to each announcement. The segment runs multiple times from Midnight-Midnight, seven days a week.
- Run informational messages from the Hawaii County Civil Defense agency covering local hazards when applicable, such as High Wind Warnings, Flash Flood Watches and Warnings, Road Closures, and High Surf.
- Aired a Civil Defense message on October 18th announcing the closure of Waiakeawaena Elementary School because of a nearby water outage.
- Aired a Civil Defense message on October 19th to inform the public of a High Surf Advisory and a Flash Flood Watch
- Aired a Civil Defense message on October 30th to inform the public of a Flash Flood Watch
- Aired a Civil Defense message on November 5th to update residents on a traffic accident and closure along Highway 11
- Aired a Civil Defense message on November 6th to update residents on a road closure and Flash Flood Warning in Kona
- November 6th – Aired updates on the 2018 General Election throughout the evening as results were released by the Office of Elections.
- Aired a Civil Defense message on November 13th to update residents on a Water Main Break in Papaikou, which prompted the closure of Kalaniana'ole Elementary and Middle Schools
- Aired a Civil Defense message on November 21st to update motorists of a major traffic accident on the Daniel K. Inouye Highway.
- Aired a Civil Defense message on November 30th, notifying residents that there was no Tsunami threat to Hawaii following a large earthquake in Alaska.
- On December 8th, KAPA organized an islandwide Keiki Food Drive. Live call-ins were aired on the radio station to encourage people to help.
- Aired a Civil Defense message on December 9th to inform the public of a High Surf Advisory for North and East facing shores.
- Aired a Civil Defense message on December 18th to inform the public of a High Surf Advisory for North, West, and East facing shores.
- Aired a Civil Defense message on December 28th to inform the public of a brush fire on Hinalani Street in Kailua-Kona.

The Beat (KPV5-FM / KLUA-FM)

- A one-minute newscast, featuring local, statewide, and/or national stories, airs weekdays at 8:40 a.m.
- A one-minute surf report airs every weekday morning at 6:45 a.m.

- Athlete of the Week, highlighting a local athlete in the community, airs weekday mornings at 6:50 a.m. and 7:50 a.m.
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- Aired a Civil Defense message on November 30th, notifying residents that there was no Tsunami threat to Hawaii following a large earthquake in Alaska.
- Holiday Home Sweet Home Promotion with Hope Services – During the month of December, The Beat listeners were asked to donate day-to-day items, mainly necessities, and drop them off in our studios. The items would be delivered to a private Polar Express Hope Services Party on December 20th
- December 11th – Aired an interview with Kristen Alice of Hope Services Hawaii to talk about The Beat's Holiday Family Care Packages
- Aired a Civil Defense message on December 18th to inform the public of a High Surf Advisory for North, West, and East facing shores.
- Aired a Civil Defense message on December 28th to inform the public of a brush fire on Hinalani Street in Kailua-Kona.

KBIG FM (KKBG-FM / KLEO-FM)

- One-minute newscasts, featuring local, statewide, and/or national stories, air at the following times every weekday: 5:50 a.m., 6:50 a.m., 7:50 a.m., 8:50 a.m., 4:50 p.m., and 5:50 p.m.
- One-minute newscasts also air on Saturdays at 6:50 a.m., 7:50 a.m., and 8:50 a.m.
- Kokua Calendar: A :60 second station spot which rotates with different Public Service Announcements. Two PSA's air in each spot, with 25 seconds given to each announcement. The segment runs multiple times from Midnight-Midnight, seven days a week.

- Run informational messages from the Hawaii County Civil Defense agency covering local hazards when applicable, such as High Wind Warnings, Flash Flood Watches and Warnings, Road Closures, and High Surf.
- October 5th – Aired an interview with Sarah Luchebill of the American Cancer Society regarding the KBIG Pink Out Color Run event
- Aired a Civil Defense message on October 18th announcing the closure of Waiakeawaena Elementary School because of a nearby water outage.
- Aired a Civil Defense message on October 19th to inform the public of a High Surf Advisory and a Flash Flood Watch
- Aired a Civil Defense message on October 30th to inform the public of a Flash Flood Watch
- Aired a Civil Defense message on November 5th to update residents on a traffic accident and closure along Highway 11
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- Aired a Civil Defense message on November 21st to update motorists of a major traffic accident on the Daniel K. Inouye Highway.
- Aired a Civil Defense message on November 30th, notifying residents that there was no Tsunami threat to Hawaii following a large earthquake in Alaska.
- December 11th – Aired an interview with Kristen Alice of Hope Services Hawaii to talk about KBIG's Toy Drive
- Aired a Civil Defense message on December 18th to inform the public of a High Surf Advisory for North, West, and East facing shores.
- Aired a Civil Defense message on December 28th to inform the public of a brush fire on Hinalani Street in Kailua-Kona.

Scheduled Public Service Announcements:

The following public service announcements were scheduled to run in commercial inventory:

- Hi-Plan – Ran from October 1st-5th and again from October 16th-26th
 - o 10 30-second commercials ran on each station from Oct 1-5
 - o 38 30-second commercials ran on each station from Oct. 16-26
- Toys for Tots Run – Ran from November 1st-14th
 - o 56 30-second commercials ran on each station
- Christmas at the Zoo – Ran from November 27th – December 1st
 - o 24 30-second commercials ran on each station
- Rainbow Friends – Ran from December 1st – December 8th
 - o 40 30-second commercials aired on each station

Kokua Calendar – Public Service Announcements:

The following submitted public service announcements were used in our Kokua Calendar segments:

October

- The Hilo Medical Center Foundation's Wine, Cheese, Chocolate, and More! Event, celebrating two dedicated physicians
- Thelma Parker Library's 40th Anniversary Celebration
- The Kona Coffee Cultural Festival call out for entries for its various events
- Kealahou Public Library's After School Story Time
- The Blood Bank of Hawaii's final blood drives for 2018.
- Hawaii Island Veterans Day Parade in Hilo
- Ninth Annual Aina Fest at the Kohala Village Hub
- Kawaihae Canoe Club luau
- Mauna Kea Beach Resort benefit barbecue to support the Myotonic Dystrophy Foundation

November

- NOAA Office of Law Enforcement, NOAA Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, and NOAA Fisheries ocean users workshop in West Hawaii
- University of Hawaii at Hilo's Japanese Student Association and Japanese Studies Department presented "Sound of Peace" at the UHH Campus Center.
- Angels of Love's Annual Christmas Craft Fair at the AJA Veterans Hall
- Hawaii Community College's ASN 198: Turkish Culture and Language I class, taught by a scholar visiting from Istanbul Bilgi University.
- Fashion for the Fight at Kings Shops', a benefit for the North Hawaii Community Hospital's Cancer Center
- 'Imi Na'auao Scholarship program for Kamehameha Schools students
- Anchialine Pools presentation at Hawaii Volcanoes National Park.
- Hilo Business Action Center Days at the County Building
- Kona Choral Society's Joy to the World Community Concert
- Kona Business Action Center Day at the West Hawaii Civic Center

December

- Science-at-Sea art exhibit at Mokupāpapa Discovery Center
- 21st Annual Traditional Mochi Pounding at Wailea Village
- Call out for beneficiaries for the Big Island Chocolate Festival
- Hamakua Baptist Church's 12-step recovery program
- Kona-Kohala Chamber of Commerce's Legislative 101 Class at the West Hawaii Civic Center

Sampling of news stories aired of local interest:

The following stories of local interest were used during newscasts:

October

- Teachers across the state held protests and walkouts on October 2nd, calling attention to the need to support public schools as a constitutional amendment was placed on the November ballot to fund schools through investment properties. Hilo High School was one of the sign-waving locations.
- Senator Mazie Hirono announced on October 1st that \$483,000 in federal funding had been allocated by the Minority Business Development Agency to assist farmers affected by the Kilauea Volcano eruption
- On October 3rd, Governor David Ige signed a fourth emergency proclamation, extending the emergency relief period from the Kilauea eruption through December 1st.
- The Navy's Office of Consumer Outreach highlighted Kamehameha-Hawaii graduate Isaac DeRego, who is serving as a quality assurance officer on the USS Indiana. A brief profile of DeRego was featured on an October 4th newscast.
- Councilmember Eileen O'Hara's office held placards for residents and authorized personnel gaining access to Leilani Estates, the community hit the hardest by the Kilauea volcano eruption
- County Councilmember Jennifer Ruggles scheduled a community meeting for October 15th at the Keaau Community Center. The meeting followed her decision to refrain from voting on county matters until a County attorney could assure her that she was not committing war crimes.
- 25 motorists were arrested between October 1-7 for driving under the influence on Big Island roads, according to the latest DUI statistics. At that point year-to-date, DUI arrests were down 1.7 percent.
- Hawaii Electric Companies selected two solar-plus-power projects on the Big Island in an effort to create a record increase in renewable energy. The projects would total about 60 megawatts and 240 megawatt-hours of storage, if approved by the Public Utilities Commission
- The ACLU of Hawaii filed a complaint letter with the Hilo Department of Motor Vehicles over what it called an "unconstitutional ordeal" over a local small business owner who it felt was discrimination in a county license renewal because she is a practicing Muslim. The County responded by saying it issued the resident a RealID and followed the Department of Homeland Security's guidelines in issuing the Real ID.
- In a letter released by Councilwoman Jennifer Ruggles, she puts the state's judges on notice for "appearing to commit war crimes," referencing Article 46 of the Hague Convention IV, which says that "Private Property Cannot Be Confiscated."
- The Disney Conservation Fund gave a \$50,000 award to the Biology Department at the University of Hawaii at Hilo and its Tropical Conservation Biology and Environment Sciences Program, which promoted the successful conservation of the Hawaiian Crow, known as the Alala.
- County Housing Administrator Neil Gyotoku turned in a letter of resignation to Mayor Harry Kim, citing health issues.
- Uber announced on October 12th that it was launching its UberXL service on the Big Island, as well as on Maui and Kauai.
- The Hawaii Police Department opened an Attempted Murder investigation after a 26-year-old female fugitive allegedly used a stolen vehicle to ram a police SUV. The woman was shot and killed by officers who were endangered by the incident.

- Officer Brian Ellis was named “Officer of the Month” for July by the Kona Crime Prevention Committee, which was announced in Mid-October.
- Kamehameha Schools announced that it was seeking a request for proposals for those interested in operating 10,000 acres of forest land along the Hamakua Coast.
- Three Hilo residents, according to the Hawaii Police Department, faced 59 different criminal counts relating to drugs and fraudulent credit cards. Local bank officials first reported suspected fraudulent activity in September. Drugs were later found during the investigation.
- 21 year old Cohlby Espaniola was arrested on October 14th following an alleged stabbing at a home in Hilo. The Hawaii Police Department classified the incident as an attempted second degree murder.
- Mayor Harry Kim appointed Brenda Carreira to head the County’s Mass Transit Agency, effective November 1st.
- Between October 8-14, seven motorists were arrested for driving under the influence on the island’s roads. That statistic came from the Hawaii Police Department’s weekly DUI update.
- A study done by the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy showed that the lowest income state residents pay 68 percent more in taxes as a portion of their income, in comparison to the wealthier residents in the state.
- A study released by Personal Finance Website Wallethub said that Hawaii was the second least politically engaged state in the country. It was the worst state in percentage of registered voters in the 2016 presidential election the percentage of the electorate who voted in 2016 as compared to in 2012.
- Waiakeawaena Elementary School shut down on October 18th because of a water outage, which was located between Kawaiilani and Haihai Streets.
- The state’s Unemployment Rate reached 2.2% in September, as compared to 2.1 percent in September.
- US News and World Report recognized the Big Island as the top destination in the world for “Best Winter Vacations.” It was also recognized in the publication’s “Best Vacations” lists for Golf, Beach Honeymoon Destination, and Adventure Vacation.
- The County sought input on a revamped website from the public. A survey asked residents to tell the County what it liked about the current website, what it didn’t like, and the image that the website should convey.
- Hilo’s Walmart store was in the Top 10 in the nation in raising money to support Children’s Miracle Network hospitals across the country. Hilo’s location led all stores across the state in raising \$45,000, which went to the Kapiolani Medical Center for Women and Children
- The Hawaii County Fire Department warned the public of a telephone scam sweeping the islands. The scam solicited donations for HFD.
- Governor David Ige issued a response to the State Supreme Court’s ruling that struck down a ballot question that would’ve asked voters if they wanted to use funds from investment properties to support public schools. Ige said that “we must keep searching for a way to support the dedicated teachers and staff who make a difference every day in classrooms around the state.”
- Personal Finance Website WalletHub listed the University of Hawaii at Hilo as the state’s second best college/university.

- The Hawaii Police Department announced its dates for its 2018 Drug Take Back Initiative, part of a nationwide effort where residents can turn in unused, unneeded, or expired medications.
- Between October 15-21, the Hawaii Police Department says that 13 people were arrested for driving under the influence on Big Island roads. At that point year-to-date, DUI arrests were down 4.1 percent, and major traffic accidents had fallen 13.4 percent.
- Councilwoman Jennifer Ruggles announced in a statement that she was reporting state judges and Queen's Hospital to the FBI for "alleged war crimes."
- The University of Hawaii at Hilo announced its finalists for the vacant Chancellor's position. The finalists were Kristin L. Croyle, Bonnie D. Irwin, Ming-Tung "Mike" Lee and Terisa C. Riley
- Hawaii's Congressional Delegation urged President Donald Trump on October 25th to approve individual assistance for those affected by Hurricane Lane
- The Department of Justice announced that 80-year-old Dr. Ernest Bade was arrested and charged on 40 counts of distribution of a controlled substance outside the normal scope of professional practice and without a legitimate medical purpose. Four others who were employees faced related charges and were also arrested
- On October 25th, more areas of Hawaii Volcanoes National Park opened up following the eruption of Kilauea back in May. Those areas included dinner service at the Volcano House and backcountry campgrounds and trails.
- 46 year old Michael Phillip Patrakis of Kailua-Kona was sentenced by a federal court to over 24 years in prison for producing child pornography. The incidents in question started back in 2015.
- The Hawaii Police Department announced that Officer Melvin Vargas and Officer Wyatt Kalili-Leong were recognized by the Aloha Exchange Club of East Hawaii as "Officer of the Month" award winners for July and September, respectively.
- The County announced that the public comment period for input on the Pahala Large Capacity Cesspool Replacement Project Draft Environmental Assessment was extended to December 10th.
- The County announced that it was accepting bids by companies to do restoration work at the Pahoa Community Aquatic Center. Work was needed after damage done by the Kilauea eruption, including the removal of "Pele's Hair."
- The Law Enforcement and Security Commission of Hawaii announced that HPD Officer Joseph Passmore was named the Top Cop for 2018. County Prosecuting Attorney Mitch Roth was also recognized at the banquet on Oahu.
- The Hawaii Police Department issued a reminder to motorists to drive safely on Saddle Road, after a number of people complained about "unsafe overtaking" on the road.
- The Waimea Community Association announced that its next monthly meeting, set for November 1st, would highlight the area's first responders in a banquet supplied by community members.
- The Department of Water Supply announced that Kailua-Kona residents along Keanalehu Drive may experience water interruptions as the agency conducts a fire hydrant flow test, scheduled for November 7th
- A report released by MedicareHealthPlans.com says that Hawaii has the lowest number of Emergency Room visits per capita in the nation. The numbers highlighted range between 2012 and 2016.
- Mayor Harry Kim signed his fifth emergency proclamation on October 30th in the response to the Kilauea eruption

- Governor David Ige and various other leaders across the state applauded the State Supreme Court's ruling in favor of the Thirty Meter Telescope, allowing it to have its construction permit to build atop Mauna Kea.
- The Hawaii National Guard announced that it would be operating at the Hilo International Airport during the first few days of November. They also held a public viewing for some of their aircraft.
- Hawaii County announced its employees of the year for 2018: Mason Souza, Leanne Kapahu, and Roberto Segobia

November

- The Department of Health mailed out surveys to residents and visitors across the state to learn about their eating habits and to find out if there are any behaviors associated with possible risks for foodborne illnesses
- Seven companies were cited by the Department of Health's Clean Air Branch for air permit violations, including Ludwig Construction in Keaau and Puna Geotherman Venture in Pahoa
- OahuAuction.com facilitated an auction of vehicles, tools, and other items from Jack's Tours, which shuttered operations on the island after the eruption of Kilauea Volcano
- The Hawaii Police Department opened an investigation on November 1st into the suspicious death of a six-year old at an apartment complex in Kailua-Kona
- The Hawaii Police Department announced that between October 29 and November 4, 18 people were arrested for driving under the influence on Big Island Roads. Year-to-date, DUI arrests were down by 4.4 percent and major traffic accidents declined by 14.3 percent.
- About 5,500 electric customers lost power momentarily on November 6th after Hawaii Electric Light's Puna Power Plant tripped offline.
- The Hawaii Police Department announced the autopsy results on a suspicious death of a six-year-old at a Kailua-Kona apartment complex. Results showed that the child died as a result of trauma.
- The state announced on November 8th that it would drop its state flags, along with federal flags, at half staff as a sign of respect for the victims of the mass shooting in Thousand Oaks, California.
- The County's Department of Parks and Recreation closed down the Waimea Bandstand on November 8th until further notice after vandalism in the facility's restrooms.
- On November 9th, the Department of Health confirmed two new cases of Rat Lungworm Disease on the Big Island. The cases involved an East Hawaii toddler and a West Hawaii adult.
- The County announced that starting December 1st, #5 plastics, plastic grocery bags, or shell-type plastic would no longer be allowed in mixed recycle bins islandwide at the County's Recycling and Transfer Stations
- A Big Island nurse was deployed to California to assist with the American Red Cross' response to the deadly California wildfires
- November 13th – Kalanianaʻole Elementary and Intermediate School was closed down because of a Water Main break in Papaikou. The Water Main break occurred near Papaikou Gym.

- The state's electric and telecommunications agency's joined together to alert customers about aggressive scammers during Utility Scam Awareness Week.
- Little Fire Ants were detected at Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, as announced by HVNP on November 15th
- The State's unemployment rate rose to 2.3 percent in October. The Big Island's unemployment rate increased to 3.5 percent
- The Department of Health's Office of Health Care Assurance responded to an audit done by the Office of the State Auditor, which identified areas for improvement to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of residents in adult residential care homes.
- Portions of Pahoa Park reopened on November 19th after the impacts from the Kilauea Volcano eruption. Reopening was the covered play courts and upper baseball fields
- The Department of Health extended the Public Comment period on the Hu Honua Bioenergy power plant to November 21st
- Public Utilities Commission chairperson Randall Iwase announced his retirement in a letter to Governor David Ige in early November. The retirement would be effective December 28th.
- A third circuit court judge denied a motion by insurer Lloyd's of London to dismiss a lawsuit filed by a Puna couple who lost their home in the Kilauea eruption. The lawsuit claimed that the insurer did not honor the couple's claim in good faith.
- Between November 12th and 18th – Hawaii Police Department officers arrested 23 people for driving under the influence on Big Island roads. Year-to-date, DUI arrests were down 5.3 percent, while major traffic accidents were down 14.1 percent.
- The Hawaii Firearms Commission announced it was filing an amicus brief opposing a retrial of Young vs. Hawaii. A previous ruling by the Ninth Circuit Court stated that the state's ban on carrying a firearm openly for self-defense is unconstitutional
- County Councilwoman Jennifer Ruggles' offices says that she submitted letters to Governor David Ige and the different mayors, saying that they are "committing war crimes of pillaging."
- The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism released its fourth quarter report, which revised lower the state's economic growth for 2018 from 1.5 percent to 1 percent.
- Central Pacific Bank announced on November 21st that it was increasing its starting pay for employees to \$16 per hour, the company's second pay increase in the year.
- Puna District Officer David Poohina was announced as the Aloha Exchange Club of East Hawaii's Officer of the Month for October.
- On November 23rd – Lloyd's on London changed their stance on claims made by homeowners who were affected by the Kilauea eruption. The insurance company agreed to pay policy limits plus 10% interest to policyholders who were previously denied coverage by Lloyd's, a payout estimated to be in tens of millions, according to a Puna lawyer.
- Mayor Harry Kim underwent surgery on November 23rd to clear a blockage in an artery in his lower extremities, a procedure that was deemed successful.
- The Hawaii Police Department announced the identity of the victim of a murder in Fern Acres on November 24th.
- Returning County Councilman Aaron Chung was named the Chairperson for the 2018-2019 session. Committee assignments were also released for the different members of the County Council

- Between November 19th and 25th, 13 people were arrested for driving under the influence on Big Island roads. Year-to-date, DUI arrests were down 5.8 percent, and major traffic accidents decreased by 14.1 percent.
- A 42-year-old man was killed in an officer-involved shooting on November 27th in Puna. The man allegedly stabbed himself and brandished a rifle before officers opened fire.
- Konawaena Middle School, Waiakea High School, and Honokaa High and Intermediate Schools advanced in the national Samsung STEM Contest
- Mayor Harry Kim received the Hometown Heroes Award from the Government Technology and Services Coalition for his leadership during the Kilauea eruption earlier in the year.
- The Department of Health reported that it had found Hu Honua Bioenergy to have violated State Water Pollution laws when an unauthorized discharge of industrial wastewater from their facility's treatment system happened on November 9th.

December:

- December's Monthly Siren test was suspended for December 3rd because of various inaugural activities taking place around the state
- A second community meeting was announced to discuss the Waimea Regional Safety Study from the Department of Transportation's Highways Division. The meeting was scheduled for December 5th at the Waimea Middle school cafeteria.
- State Senator Kaiuli'I Kahele was named the Class President of the 2018 Western Legislative Academy during its 19th annual event.
- The Hawaii Police Department's DUI statistics showed that 7 people were arrested for driving under the influence on Big Island roads between November 26th and December 2nd. Point-to-date, DUI arrests were down by 6.6 percent and major traffic accidents were down by 15.7 percent.
- Isaac Hale Beach Park was reopened to the public on December 6th. The area had been shuttered following the impact of the Kilauea Volcano eruption in the Puna district.
- Mayor Harry Kim signed a sixth emergency proclamation regarding the Kilauea eruption on December 6th.
- Kona Community Hospital temporarily closed its Patient Units on December 6th after a scabies outbreak was reported at the hospital. On December 7th, the hospital said it was restricting visitors from entering all patient care units until further notice. The scabies outbreak started on November 19th.
- Kamehameha Schools announced that it had selected CN Renewable Resources, LLC to oversee and harvest 3,000 people on forest land along the Hamakua Coast.
- Hawaii Volcanoes National Park announced that it was closing off access to the Pu'u Pua'i Overlook on December 7th in order to protect breeding and nesting nene geese in the area.
- A 15-year old boy was arrested on December 7th at Kealahou High School following a lockdown. HPD says that the boy made comments about bombs during a confrontation with other students
- The Department of Transportation said it was continuing emergency road repairs in Volcano on Mamalahou Highway, months after the damage caused by the eruption of Kilauea volcano.
- The County detailed ways for residents in areas affected by the Kilauea eruption to request temporary emergency access to their properties that were partially covered by lava

- Governor David Ige signed an emergency proclamation on the state's homelessness crisis on December 14th. As part of the proclamation, the Governor created Ohana Zones. On the Big Island, Ohana Zone funding created housing and shelter space at the Ulu Wini Housing Project in West Hawaii
- Representative Tulsi Gabbard's Macadamia Tree Health Initiative was included in a Farm Bill that was passed by the U.S. House of Representatives. The initiative provided vital research and development to fight the macadamia felted coccid that threatens the local macadamia nut industry.
- Local charities received over \$72,500 in money from the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai golf tournament. Organizations that received money included the Daniel R. Sayre Foundation, Rotary Club of Kona, and the Big Island Junior Golf Association
- Governor David Ige revealed his state budget priorities for the next year on December 17th. His priorities included education, housing, and sustainability.
- Senator Brian Schatz introduced a bill in the US Senate that would take Hawaii's ban on chlorpyrifos nationwide. The ban keeps the pesticide away from schools in 2019 and would ban sales altogether in 2020.
- Mayor Harry Kim announced his appointment of Duane Kanuha to be the County's Deputy Planning Director.
- The County announced on December 18th that Public Works director Allan Simeon had resigned from his position, effective January 2019. He remains in the department after his resignation as an engineer.
- The County's Department of Parks and Recreation closed Spencer Beach Park on December 19th and 20th to take care of emergency water line repairs.
- The Department of Health cited Hu Honua Bioenergy for an illegal wastewater discharge that happened in November. Hu Honua was fined \$20,000
- The Center for Biological Diversity and the State Department of Land and Natural Resources announced a partnership to combat illegal aquarium collections, advising the public to call in any suspicious activity.
- The state's unemployment rate rose slightly again in the month of November, according to the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. The unemployment rate was reported as 2.4 percent.
- Hawaii Electric Light reported that a thief broke into a payment box at its Hilo location, and warned residents who may have dropped off their electric payments to check with Customer Service.
- On December 22nd, Hawaii Volcanoes National Park announced that portions of its location would close because of the potential government shutdown, but the park would not be closed completely.
- Governor David Ige signed revised administrative rules that prohibits the use of dangerous wild animals in circuses and carnivals in the islands.
- The Department of Health advised Ooakala residents of a contaminated water spill in the Kaohaoha Gulch. Storm water mixed with animal waste on Christmas Eve because of a discharge at Big Island Dairy.

- Governor David Ige announced his re-appointments for the Departments of Transportation, Taxation, and Human Resources Development on Dec. 26. The next day, he revealed his appointments for the Departments of Health, Human Services, and Land and Natural Resources.
- Senator Mazie Hirono announced that a portion of her salary taken during the government shutdown would go to the state's various food banks, including The Food Basket, Hawaii Island's Food Bank.
- The non-profit Hawaii Pacific Parks Association announced on December 27th that is pitched in money to keep the Kilauea Visitor Center open during the Government Shutdown.
- On December 28th – Governor David Ige announced re-appointments to Department leaders in Commerce and Consumer Affairs and Public Safety.
- The Waimea Community Association announced that its January meeting at the Waimea Middle School cafeteria would feature various government leaders highlighting the challenges, changes, and opportunities for the area into the new year.