



# PACT's Kane`ohe Community Family Center (KCFC) Family Center News

A partnership of Parents And Children Together and the Castle Complex Department of Education, partially funded by Aloha United Way, the State of Hawaii Health and Human Services Departments, the U.S. Department of Education Office of Innovation and Improvement, HPHA and Hawaii Community Foundation.

E-mail us at:  
kcfc@pacthawaii.org  
Website:  
http://kcfc.pacthawaii.org



Vol. 14. No. 2

February 2008

The Kane`ohe Community Family Center will facilitate the strengthening of families and communities from Kane`ohe to Kualoa by enabling them to identify and use their own and other resources to improve their quality of life and sense of community.



- Respect
- Responsibility
- Resourcefulness
- Relationships
- Resiliency

## Real people, Real stories, Real examples...

Most of us are familiar with challenging situations in our lives. What is important, however, is making choices that allow us to move forward through tough times. The Stoebners are such a family that live the 5Rs. Here is their story.

Michael Stoebner and his three daughters, Charné, Marina and Alexis endured many difficulties as he and his ex-wife were going through a divorce. During their separation, the girls spiraled downward into unhealthy habits and were in and out of foster care. In addition, Michael was not being a responsible parent and employee. His lifestyle affected his children. "I was not happy and I knew I was adding to their hardship," he stated.

As problems began to build up, Michael started to reflect on his life, and decided to make a change. He started to take **responsibility** and aspired to become a better parent and employee. As a result, he started seeing significant positive changes in his family. "Change had to occur with me before I could see change in my family," he shared.

Through their hardships, Charné, Marina and Alexis remained close and found refuge in each other's company. High school senior Charné, shared the importance of being **resilient** or able to "bounce back" from hard situations. "It is important to have a support group with the same positive values. Although I will continue to make mistakes, knowing that there are people who care for me is reassuring," she explained.

According to Marina, going through the divorce strengthened her **relationships** with her sisters. "I feel like I can always trust my sisters," she stated. Although they bicker from time to time, things always go back to normal. "I have a special bond with Charné and I love cuddling with Alexis," she added.

Alexis' character resembles her older siblings. She believes people should **respect** one another. "When you borrow an item, treat it like it's yours and when sharing ideas, allow others to share as well," she explains.

Life for the Stoebners improved. Michael met his true love Jennifer, who he eventually married. Jennifer's compassionate heart enhanced the family's bond. Although Jennifer experienced some challenges adjusting in her new found family, she created **resourceful** ways to show her love and support to Michael and the girls. "I just wanted to be their friend. I earned their trust by listening," Jennifer shared.

According to Charné, Marina and Alexis, Jennifer's love and support helped get them through some dreadful times. Charné explained, "My mom, Jen, has been instrumental in helping me to get on the right track and keeping me there. She saved us."

The Stoebners extraordinary story encourages us to know, live, and teach the 5Rs. We congratulate their dedication to perseverance.

## For more information about the 5Rs contact:

Jadine Yonemitsu, 5Rs Program Coordinator  
PACT Kaneohe Community Family Center at 235-7747.



## February 7th Year of the Rat

On the Western calendar, the start of the New Year falls on **February 7, 2008 — The Year of the Rat**. If you were born in 1912, 1924, 1936, 1948, 1960, 1972, 1984 or 1996 - you were born under the sign of the rat.

## 2008 Chinese New Year Schedule of Events

Go to <http://www.chinatownhi.com/> for this year's event schedule in Chinatown. The weeks preceding the Chinese New Year, Feb. 7, will be filled with food and cultural activities, colorful parades, lion dances and all the festivities we associate with this time.

**Night in Chinatown Festival and Parade**  
in Chinatown, downtown Honolulu  
Saturday, February 2nd: 9:00am - 10:30 pm



## Family Center

### Community Resource and Referral

- Phone 235-7747
- Website <http://kcfc.pacthawaii.org>

### Hawaii Parental Information and Resource Center (HPIRC)

- <http://www.pacthawaii.org>

### Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPI)

- <http://www.hippyusa.org>
- <http://www.pacthawaii.org>

### Family Center Services

- Family Support

### Volunteer & Community Service Learning Opportunities

- Clerical and Program Support
- Special Event Child Care

## Black History Month

A remembrance to the important people and events in African-American history.

- ◆ Watch videos of memorable events
- ◆ Read the biographies of great African-American icons!
- ◆ Read great speeches
- ◆ Read about the history of civil rights

<http://www.history.com/minisites/blackhistory/>

The *Family Center News* is printed monthly by the Kaneohe Community Family Center (KCFC), a program of Parents And Children Together (PACT).

Please direct questions, comments and suggestions to:

The Kaneohe Community Family Center  
46-028 Kawa St. Suite A10  
Ph. 235-7747 Fax 235-7748  
E-mail: [kcfc@pacthawaii.org](mailto:kcfc@pacthawaii.org)

#### KCFC Staff:

Christina Simmons, *Family Centers Program Director*  
Gordon Miyamoto, *Site Manager*  
Jolene Chang, *Administrative Assistant*  
Jean Fong, *PIRC Program Specialist*  
Jadine Yonemitsu, *Program Coordinator*  
Angela Sanderson, *Project Specialist (Youth)*  
Jennifer Bui, *Program Coordinator*  
Wanda Valencia, *Family Center Services Program Specialist*  
Sunshine Bolen, *HIPPY Home Visitor*  
J. Nalani Malina, *HIPPY Home Visitor*  
Leilani Roth, *PIRC Assistant*  
Kata Lee, *PIRC Assistant/HIPPY Home Visitor, Molokai*

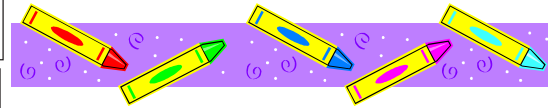


**Go Red For Women** is a national movement founded by the American Heart Association to help you to fight back against the No. 1 killer of American women.

Everyone (men too!) can support the fight against heart disease in women by wearing red. Millions of Americans will be wearing red to show their support for women and the fight against heart disease across America on **National Wear Red Day, Friday, Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>**.

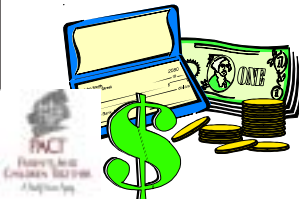
It's a simple, powerful way to raise awareness of heart disease and stroke. Kick off event on 2/1/08, 11 am - 1 pm at Tamarind Park, Bishop Square, downtown Honolulu - contact Coreen at 457-4956.

[www.goredforwomen.org](http://www.goredforwomen.org)



## Register for Kindergarten Now!

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## Financial Freedom

PACT's Kaneohe Community Family Center in partnership with the Consuelo Foundation presents, the first of four free Financial Management

Workshops

**Topic:** "Get a Grip" on Your Finances

**When:** February 13, 2008

**Time:** 9:30 - 11:00 am

**Where:** Queen Liliuokalani Children's Center (QLCC)  
46-316 Haiku Rd., Kaneohe

**Contact:** Wanda Valencia at 235-7747 for registration and information.

\* Space is limited, 11 seats available for parents of children ages 0-18.

\* Limited childcare and snacks provided.

# February



**1st What is Archaeoastronomy?** Dr. Clive Ruggles, 7 - 8:30 pm. FREE. Call 235-7433 to register or for more information.

**6th Community Works in 96744 Mtg.,** 3pm, Kaneohe Community Family Center. Call 235-7747 for more info.

- **Malama 96744 Mtg.,** 4:30pm, Kaneohe Community Family Center. Call 235-7747.

- **Oogles 'n Googles Preschool Family Night,** 6pm, Kaneohe Public Library.

**8th Opihi Pickers Ohana Concert,** 6:30pm - 7:30pm, Center Court Windward Mall

**9th Alzheimer's Support Group** 10 - 11:30 am, Kaneohe Community Family Center. Learn more about Alzheimer's and resources, 239-1552.

**9 - 10 The Wonderful Wizard of Oz,** a children's theatre experience. Paliku Theatre at WCC. Saturday, @ 2pm & 7:30pm & Sunday @ 2pm. Call 235-7310 for tickets.

**11th Ohana Food Distribution,** 3 - 4:30 pm at KEY Project, Kahaluu.

**12th Windward Community Children's Council Monthly Meeting,** 6 - 7:30pm, Windward Dept. of Health Conf. Rm. Open to all parents and guardians of special needs children. 586-5363.

**13th Kahaluu Neighborhood Board Mtg.,** 7pm, KEY Project, 527-5749.

**14th Kids Hurt Too, Healing Young Hearts Support Group,** 6 - 8pm at Queen Liliuokalani Children's Center, 735-2989.

- **Koolauloa Neighborhood Board Mtg.,** 7pm, Hauula Community Center, 527-5749.

**20th Grandparents Raising Grandchildren** 9am, Queen Liliuokalani Children's Center. Call Bernie at 235-7613 for info. about this month's activities!

- **How to Apply for Retirement Online,** 5:30 - 7:30pm FREE. Call 235-7433 to register or for more information.

**21st Windward Families for R.E.A.L.** 10am - 1pm, Center Court, Windward Mall. Engage in activities catered towards the development of your child.

- **Kaneohe Neighborhood Board Mtg.,** 7pm at WCC, Akoakoa, Rm. 103 - 105, call 523-4815.

**22 - 24 Guys & Dolls, Jr.,** directed by Ron Bright, at Castle Performing Arts Center-Ron Bright Theatre. Friday & Saturday @ 7:30pm & Sunday @ 2pm. Call 233-5626 for tickets.

**23rd Internet Safety & Security for Boomers & Seniors,** 9 - 11am FREE. Call 235-7433 to register or for more information.

**28th Kids Hurt Too, Healing Young Hearts Support Group,** 6 - 8pm at Queen Liliuokalani Children's Center, 735-2989.

**Thursdays: Computer Lab,** 5 - 8pm at KEY Project. Free to public 10yrs. and older. Vocational, college, and goal planning. Michelle Heaviside 239-5777.