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A Publication of the AOAO of Hawaiki Tower, Inc..

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Vacation Rentals (cont'd)

このニュースレターには、お住まいに関する大切な情報が記載されています。 必要な場合、訳してもらってお読みください。

# **HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS**

June 1 signals the start of the Central Pacific hurricane season. To help you prepare, the Hawaii State Civil Defense provides a template for creating a family emergency plan. One of the first steps you can take toward preparedness is the creation of a family disaster supply kit. This will help families get through the first few days after a disaster. Public shelters after a disaster may not offer some of the basic necessities. The development of a kit will make a stay in a public shelter more comfortable, should it be necessary. Store the kit in a convenient place known to all family members. Store items in airtight bags or containers. Replenish the kit twice a year. Include six basic items; food, water, first aid kit, tools and supplies, clothing and bedding and special items. Please refer to <a href="http://dod.hawaii.gov/hiema/get-ready/">http://dod.hawaii.gov/hiema/get-ready/</a> prepare-your-family/ for more information on the preparedness kit and a host of other topics.

A very comprehensive handbook for emergency preparedness and a detailed list of components of a family disaster supply kit can be found at the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency's website - <a href="http://dod.hawaii.gov/hiema/">http://dod.hawaii.gov/hiema/</a> files/2016/03/GoBagFlyer.pdf.

According to Dr. Scott Norville, P.E., PHD, Chair and Professor of the civil engineering department of Texas Tech University, it is important that all windows of the building be CLOSED in the event of a hurricane. Insurance losses can go up by 40% - 60% when windows are broken or left open and there is no other structural damage.

Please include in your hurricane preparedness checklist a note to CLOSE AND SECURE ALL WINDOWS IN YOUR APARTMENT BEFORE YOU LEAVE.

## RECREATION DECK ISSUES

During the summer months of July and August our second homeowner and visitor arrivals increase significantly. This increased use of the recreation areas by these owners and guests negatively impacts the occupants and neighbors living near and above the recreation area.

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## **FARMER'S MARKETS**

Did you know that there are two farmers' markets each week in our neighborhood? Both are located at 1050 Ala Moana Blvd., which is just on the Diamond Head side of Ward Avenue.



Wednesdays are the Ward Sunset Farmer's Market from 4-8pm.

The weekend Kaka'ako Farmer's market is on Saturday mornings from 8am-12pm. Free parking is available, for those who prefer not to walk.

Kaka'ako Farmers Market is located in Honolulu's hippest neighborhood (ours) and brings the abundance of the country into the heart of the city. Plenty of fresh, locally-grown fruits and vegetables, sourced from Hawaii-only farms, and delicious treats and eats line the market aisle.



# NEIGHBORHOOD CONSTRUCTION

I think this summer will be the first time in 15 years that there isn't a construction project going on within two blocks of Hawaiki.

The closest construction is the staging yard Nan Inc. has set up for the preliminary site work in preparation for the rail project.

Ala Moana Blvd. will be repaved soon. This will be night work and depending upon the exact location of the work may affect owners on the makai side of Hawaiki.

I'm not aware of any other construction projects within earshot of Hawaiki planned for the foreseeable future. Yay!

HOWEVER, The Kaka'ako neighbor continues to transition from a light industrial area to a mixed use predominantly residential neighborhood.

In addition to 6 projects under construction or nearly completed, three more are permitted. It is likely the developers of these future projects will wait to proceed until the real estate market absorbs the current inventory and conditions favor additional building.

Fortunately for us, these projects are far enough away not to bother us. We will need to be mindful when driving in the neighborhood once these projects are under construction as it is inevitable that road construction will occur and result in an increase in traffic congestion.

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# VACATION RENTALS ARE VIRTU-ALLY IMPOSSIBLE NOW

A few years ago we learned that because our building resides in the Kaka'ako neighborhood and is under the jurisdiction of the Hawaii Community Development Corporation (HCDA), vacation/"transient" rentals for less than a 180 day rental period are prohibited.

Despite this, we still see a few of our owners continuing to rent on a short term basis to "guests" and "friends".

#### Beware owners:

HONOLULU, Hawaii (HawaiiNewsNow) - Mayor Kirk Caldwell signed a bill into law in June that will enact some of the toughest new regulations for Oahu's vacation rental industry in nearly 40 years.

In a press conference, Caldwell announced that he was putting his signature to paper on Bill 89, which allows permits to be issued for up to 1,715 owner-occupied bed-and-breakfast rentals.

The measure was passed unanimously by the Honolulu City Council in June.

Currently, there are 770 legal short-term rentals licensed on Oahu, but estimates put the number of illegal vacation rentals from 8,000 to 20,000.

"It's something we've been dealing with for a very long time," Mayor Caldwell said. "There's no middle ground here. You have one side or the other side."

Infractions often required illegal rental operators to be caught in the act, which required physical site vis-

Rentals in resort areas, including Waikiki, Ko Olina ers. and Turtle Bay, are exempt from the new law.

"Everything else is illegal," Caldwell said.

On August 1, the day the first of the new bill's stipulations go into effect, city officials will start doing 'digital stings' to crack down on thousands of illegal vacation rentals on Oahu.

Caldwell said Tuesday that the new bill gives inspec-



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tors improved enforcement powers because they can simply log onto a computer to see if a vacation rental listing includes a permit number, as it is now required to do.

The old enforcement system — which would "never eliminate" the illegal rentals, Caldwell said — required extensive investigations by investigators who had limited investigative power.

Infractions often required illegal rental operators to be caught in the act, which required physical site visits to sometimes uncooperative rental property owners.

Opponents of the measure continue to believe that the crackdown will necessarily harm local families and Oahu's economy. "The reality is, there was a better way. We worked hard to find a reasonable compromise that would have protected local communities and homeowners while preserving Oahu's tourism economy," the Expedia Group said in a statement.

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# **REC DECK ISSUES (cont'd)**

(Continued from page 1)

The primary cause of the problems is the adults who allow their unsupervised children to engage in boisterous and inappropriate behavior for a residential project.

Allowing children to scream and squeal while running and jumping into the pool and back and forth from the pool and spa pool is a violation of the House Rules and clearly disrespectful to others who may be in the pool or spa pool, on the deck relaxing or in their apartment. Infants and toddlers should not use the spa pool at all. The high temperature has been proven to be unhealthy for these small children as well as pregnant women and persons with a history of high blood pressure or respiratory illness.

Large floating toys or toys being thrown from person to person in the pool are inappropriate for the pool. A flotation device that aids in swimming while exercising is appropriate.

The swimming pool and other recreation facilities are not a place to "run wild" and "let the steam out". Parents whose children need to exhibit that type of behavior should take their children to the park or beach across the street.

The tennis court is for playing tennis and not a general purpose playground for other activities. The Project Documents specifically state the common elements are to be used only for the purpose they were designed for. The tennis court lights are to be turned on only when playing tennis. The lights are not to be used to provide background lighting or so other games can be played on the tennis court surface.

Occupants who disregard the rules or the instruction and requests of staff can expect to receive administrative follow up in an effort to correct the inappropriate behavior. Management certainly hopes this won't be necessary and that all occupants will comply with the spirit and letter of the Rules.



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# **VACATION RENTALS (cont'd)**

(Continued from page 3)

Caldwell also vetoed a second measure related to the vacation rental industry, saying that the bills had conflicting language that would result in 'the City's inability to enforce either bill.'

"I'm a little skeptical that they say they are going to enforce. I'm willing to be proven wrong. I hope that they go in hard on day one and start cracking down", said Tyler Dos Santos-Tam of Hawaii Good Neighbor, a group that has opposed vacation rentals.

If owners at Hawaiki have listings advertising their units for rent for anything less than 180 days and do not have a permit number listed on their advertisement, the fines can be quite steep.