For many students, financial aid and a little encouragement can mean the difference between surviving and thriving in college.

Now, with a generous gift of $40,000 from UH Regent Kitty Lagareta and $10,000 from the Harold K.L. Castle Foundation, a scholarship endowment will help WCC students thrive—well into the future.

At the endowment signing on Feb. 25, Lagareta reminisced—not about her numerous awards or professional success—but about the birth of her son on that day 34 years ago, when she was 19. She spoke of the challenges she overcame during the years of trying to finish her degree at UH-Mānoa as a single mom.

“I’m extremely proud of that achievement,” she said. “It wasn’t easy.”

Lagareta said she was inspired to pursue her educational goals while attending a community college in California. “My experience with community colleges and what they can do, in terms of support and encouragement, was very personal.

“I have had so much support along the way,” she said. “I did make it through, and I have been lucky enough to not only finish college but to have a professional life that I truly enjoy.”

Lagareta was one of the founding members of the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Hawai‘i. Her friends, Mitch D’Olier and Terry George of the Harold K.L. Castle Foundation, decided to honor her achievements by letting her choose a beneficiary for a $10,000 grant.

She said, “I was blown away by their generosity. It truly was a catalyst for me deciding to make this gift to Windward.”

Lagareta decided she wanted to start a fund at WCC to help students with challenges and responsibilities attain their educational goals.

“I’ve been there, and I hope this fund will provide some extra assistance and encouragement for those students,” she said.

Lagareta is well-known as a business leader in Hawai‘i’s public relations industry and for her generous commitment to the community. She has received many awards, including Pacific Business News’ first “Businesswoman of the Year” award in 1999 and the March of Dimes Franklin Delano Roosevelt National Award for Distinguished Community Service in 2003.

Along with her endowment, it’s Lagareta’s story of achievement and passion for success that will continue to inspire students.

“I consider [Lagareta] a transformational leader,” said UH President David McClain. “She is one of my heroes and a great friend of Hawai‘i, the University system and Windward Community College.”

Artist Peggy Chun perseveres with heart

Imagine not being able to move any part of your body except for your eyes. You breathe with the help of a ventilator and are confined to a hospital bed with around-the-clock care. You can see and hear, but you cannot speak.

All you know is the incurable disease you have that took the lives of your grandfather, mother and twin sister is a constant battle that will never be won.

For some people, this condition might bring despair, but not for Honolulu artist Peggy Chun. Diagnosed in March 2002 with ALS, also known as Lou Gehrig’s disease, Chun has persevered despite the loss of nearly all her motor neuron functions.

As part of Women’s History Month, keynote speaker Chun will be at WCC with the film “To Peggy With Love” Wednesday, March 19 in Akoakoa 105 at 12:40 p.m.

Students are urged to come and listen as Chun shares her remarkable story.

A visit to Chun’s home in Nu‘uanu, where she has lived for the past 26 years, seems like a never-ending celebration. The continuous flow of people, conversation and laughter provides a feeling of warmth and kindness.

“It’s hard to distinguish between hired help, friends and volunteers because to Chun everyone is family.”

“Peggy has always been an open person,” said daughter-in-law Kimi Chun.

To sit by her bedside, or on her bed as her 18-month-old grandson Sawyer does, one may think Chun’s only communication is through a spreadsheet. But her paintings also have a voice.

“The ideas for my paintings come from my sense of humor, reverence for and appreciation of the beauty of this world,” said Chun.

Known in Hawai‘i for her whimsical watercolor paintings, Chun has been forced by the slow progression of her disease to make adjustments, but has it yet to slow down her creativity.

“After all,” Chun says, “you don’t paint with your hands, you paint with your heart.”

In 2003 the disease stole the use of her right hand, so she switched to her left hand. A year later, with a weak left hand, she simply began painting with her teeth.

After becoming fully paralyzed, except for eye movement, Chun began to paint digitally with her eyes using a computer system called ERICA.

Now completely paralyzed, Chun no longer physically paints, but her creativity and love for life continues to spread throughout Hawai‘i.

“She is working with a painting assistant to create art work, directing art projects, teaching and always creating in some way,” said Kimi.

“She is, after all, the unstoppable Peggy Chun!”

SEE PEGGY CHUN PAGE 12
Kenya violence ends in shaky peace deal and many dead

by Tosie Tangino
Ka ‘Ohana Staff Reporter

While the presidential race is heating up in the U.S., Kenya, widely known for being one of the most peaceful and democratic African nations, has been in political turmoil since the announcement of its election results in December 2007. The violence that followed left more than 1,000 people dead and 300,000 displaced — and counting.

After more than two months of riots and stalled negotiations, former U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan has helped President Mwai Kibaki and political rival Raila Odinga sign a peace agreement.

The Feb. 28 agreement set up a power-sharing government between the former rivals, enlisting Odinga as the country’s new prime minister. Whether or not peace is imminent for this beleaguered nation remains to be seen.

The election between sitting President Kibaki and his main rival, Orange Democratic Movement (ODM) leader Odinga, was to be the first real election since Kenya received its independence in 1963.

Odinga lost the election and claimed the votes that re-elected Kibaki had been “doctored.”

Minutes after the results were announced, witnesses said they saw men waving machetes and burning nearby shops yelling, “Kibaki must go!” soon the situation escalated into ethnic strife between the tribes of the party leaders.

Balloting not only fell short of democratic standards, but witnesses said that people were turned away from polling places.

Government authorities have tried to keep the situation from getting out of hand. However, reports of violence, including some 50 adults and children being burned alive while attempting to seek refuge in a church, have fueled more violent rallies and protests.

The protests have escalated to the point where police authorities have been quoted as saying, “If the tear gas doesn’t work, then, unfortunately, we have to use live bullets.”

Rallies and protests have been restricted since late December.

One of the main problems Kenya faces is that tribal bonds remain stronger than the national identity it hoped to achieve since its independence.

The country claims 40 different tribes among its population of more than 35 million.

Not by chance, Odinga and President Kibaki themselves are members of opposing tribes. Kibaki’s Kikuyu tribe comprises approximately 22 percent of the population, while Odinga’s Luo tribe comprises 13 percent.

Former U.N. Secretary-General Annan as well as U.S. Secretary of State Condoleeza Rice, had urged Kenya to come to a peace agreement. Odinga had urged the United States, a strong ally of Kenya, to convince Kibaki to allow the protests to go on without police intervention.

Since the outcome of the elections, Kenya’s former lucrative agriculture industry that exported such things as tea, flowers, vegetables and coffee has been paralyzed.

Violent memories, such as neighbors being hacked to pieces with machetes or houses being burned to the ground, will linger in the minds of Kenyans for a very long time — even after the political stalemate reorganizes.

Ka ‘Ohana (The Family)
Representatives from various businesses, organizations and universities recruit students for future employment and schooling at WCC's annual Career and College Fair.

From Ka ‘Ohana to the Advertiser

by Ka ‘Ohana Staff

Look closely at the names on the Honolulu Advertiser stories this summer, and you might catch the byline of Kristen Payton.

The former Ka ‘Ohana staff member and Windward Community College student has been chosen as one of four summer interns to work at the paper, covering everything from breaking news to local features.

According to Advertiser program coordinator Shauna Goya, Payton was chosen from a field of more than 60 applicants and will be one of two reporter interns. The others will work in photography and page design.

The 10-week paid internship, which starts June 1, draws applicants from Hawaii and the mainland, including juniors, seniors and graduate students.

“We thought Kristen had a good variety of stories (from Ka’Ohana) and her letter of recommendation was strong,” said Goya. “We also like to choose students from different campuses around the state.”

Payton, whose only journalism training has been at WCC, said she’s looking forward to working for a major daily.

“I’m very excited to start the internship,” she said. “Writing for the Ka ‘Ohana was a great experience that opened doors for me.

“I enrolled in WCC’s journalism courses, not knowing that it would turn into a new passion. Now I’ll be able to learn new reporting techniques to advance my career.”

Payton covered a wide range of stories while on Ka ‘Ohana’s staff, including an interview with WCC graduate and Kahuku football coach Reggie Torres.

She also learned page design for desktop publishing, how to prepare photos in Photoshop and take her own pictures to accompany her stories.

“Kristen was an amazingly versatile writer,” said Ka ‘Ohana advisor Libby Young. “She was also someone who always met her deadlines.”

Payton just transferred to UH-Hilo this semester and is working toward a degree in communications. “What we want students to understand is these businesses are here looking for students to come work for them,” said Hodell. A lot of the organizations and businesses are looking for students who want part-time jobs to explore a career field.

For example, if a student is interested in a career in geology, the U.S. Geological Survey’s hydrology department is looking for students to train and work hands-on with their professionals.

If you’re interested in teaching, the DOE will be looking for students to be educational assistants before they get their bachelor’s degree.

Whatever your dream for the future, there will be more than likely be highly qualified professionals at the fair to provide guidance, or possibly give you a job.

Hodell said it’s important for students to find jobs related to their prospective major while they’re still in school so they can find out if they really want to end up doing it for the rest of their lives.

The fair is a tool that students can use to explore the options regarding a specific major and get a head start in their search for that dream career.

“We want students to understand how important it is to have a career you love,” said Hodell, “because if you don’t love what you do, it’s just going to be another job.”

Study abroad opportunities

The Honda International Center has announced the following opportunities for students to study abroad—all with March 21 application deadlines:

• Honda Scholarships for International Study - $3,000 to $5,000 available

• Freeman Foundation Scholarships for Korea

• Study abroad in Japan (exchange program with universities in Japan)

• Study abroad in Korea (Scoonchunhyang University)

The Monbukagakusho Scholarship is another study abroad opportunity. It’s a 3-year scholarship for undergraduates who wish to study at a Japanese professional training school. The application deadline is June 27. For details, go to www.kcc.hawaii.edu/object/study-abroad or call 734-9824.

Students can also take advantage of special opportunities such as the JET program (Japan Exchange and Teaching Program).
Access to a private computer lab, free printing, tutoring, and a friendly study environment are just some of the benefits of being part of WCC’s TRiO program. The program, also known as Student Support Services, is a free program for first-generation or low-income students or for those who have disabilities.

TRiO is designed to promote academic success through a support system of services and caring professionals. They are all about students developing the skills and attributes needed to succeed in college.

TRiO offers individual and group tutoring. You are able to have two tutors for every semester. These tutors are approved by your teacher, so they are highly qualified to teach in the subject. Even if you do not understand something in class or have a challenging math problem, there is always a counselor or someone to assist you.

Many students have a difficult time filling out the FAFSA and other financial aid documents. TRiO will provide the help to complete these forms as well as scholarship and job applications.

TRiO also offers information about transferring to a university or career opportunities.

“Everyone has the potential to be educated, but not everyone has the means or the support,” said TRiO counselor Kanani Baker.

“TRiO provides the means for an individual to achieve a higher education.” Baker is a WCC graduate and said he is honored to be back helping students fulfill their educational goals.

TRiO’s main purpose is helping students to succeed in college. The counselors and administrators are willing to go the extra mile to give the TRiO students the tools necessary to get the best education possible.

“TRiO has helped me through my education at Windward, and I recommend it to everyone who is eligible,” said TRiO student Ashley Holck. Holck has found the program to be a major reason for her success at WCC and she is transferring to the University of Hawai’i next semester.

TRiO student Mona Sanae’ Ka’ahu also acknowledges the program to be an important factor in her academic achievement. “When I first started school I needed help and tutoring,” she said. “Without TRiO I wouldn’t have been able to survive.”

For anyone interested in being part of TRiO, you can visit Manaleo 107 for an application or just call 235-7467 for an appointment with a counselor.
Judd chosen for global leadership program

by Theresa Wordon
Ka ‘Ohana Editor in Chief

WCC student Casey-Blu Judd is proof that from here you really can go anywhere. Judd was selected from a pool of national applicants to take part in a three-week leadership training and study abroad program, which will take her to Liverpool, London and Amsterdam.

The three-credit course in World Citizenship will be taught at the University of Liverpool and will focus on developing leadership skills in a multicultural society. “It’s not even about the credits,” Judd said. “The experience in itself is the benefit.”

The program is available only for TRiO SSS students, and applications are due in mid-January. In addition to being chosen for one of only 20 spots, Judd was also awarded a scholarship of $2,400 to assist with travel costs.

Casey-Blu Judd will travel to Liverpool, London and Amsterdam this summer as part of a national study abroad experience sponsored by TRIO Student Support Services.

“I am so excited!” he said smiling. “But it won’t be just a vacation. The course schedule looks really challenging.”

Judd will attend lectures on social and ethical issues, conflict resolution, seminars on educational leadership and do project work with the local communities.

While in Europe, Judd hopes to gain a different perspective on how other cultures view diversity and an understanding of how other countries are dealing with issues like racism and sexism. “I want to learn what views on life they have that make their society better,” Judd said.

“This just goes to show that students at Windward can do anything,” said Roy Inouye, director of Student Support Services. “[Judd] was competing not just with community colleges but with four-year schools across the nation.”

Judd has a wealth of advice for anyone who wants to apply for scholarships. The trick is making a personal connection with the people who are offering it. “Write an essay that expresses your personality and promotes the qualities and talents that you will contribute if you are selected,” he said.

“I know they are about to embark on a life-changing journey,” said their TRiO SSS counselor, Shelby Carlos. “And if they ask for only two letters of recommendation, send four.”

TRIO Student Support Services’ WCC office is in Manaleo 107. For more details, call 235-7487 or visit windward.hawaii.edu/TRIO/Student_Support_Services.html.

Freeman Scholar off to China

by Ka ‘Ohana Staff

This May, Windward Community College student Jessie Brockl will be wangling her way to Beijing, China as one of nine Freeman Foundation scholarship winners.

She will spend three months at Beijing Foreign Studies University taking courses, traveling and absorbing some of the excitement of the 2008 Olympic Games. “This scholarship is such a good opportunity,” she said. “I saw the posters at Windward last fall. Then a speaker came to talk about the Freeman program and it sparked my interest.”

Jessie Brockl will be in Beijing, China this summer studying Chinese.

Brockl, who is Indonesian, said she’s always wanted to learn Mandarin since she grew up in a part of Los Angeles where nearly everyone spoke Chinese.

Besides the chance to learn the language, Brockl said the program will help her pursue a career in international relations with an emphasis on environmental sciences. “China is facing a lot of issues related to their industrial growth,” she said. “I’m glad I’ll be able to see what is happening.”

The Freeman program covers the airfare, tuition and some of the living expenses for the three summer months the students are in another country. Programs are available in Korea and Japan; however, this is the last year of the China portion.

Any full- or part-time University of Hawaii’s community college student with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 is eligible to apply. No prior language training is required; however, students should have no more than one year of college-level training in the targeted language.

Applications are being accepted now for the 2009 Freeman-Korea program with a deadline of March 21. Visit http://www.kcc.hawaii.edu/object/freeman.html.

Windward students head for India to study Jainism

by Patrick Hascal
Ka ‘Ohana Staff Reporter

Four WCC students are among a select group chosen worldwide for a month-long, expenses-paid study tour in India.

Jonna Manatad and Jennifer Pedrosa Lett have been accepted to participate in the 2008 International Summer School for Jain Studies from May 31 through June 30. Amber Long and Shelby Carlos are preparing for the 2009 program.

“I am so excited for them because I know they are about to embark on a life-changing journey,” said their teacher, WCC religion instructor Sarah Hadmack.

Jainism is one of the oldest of the three major religions that have developed in the underdeveloped area of research, and the ISSJS is working to rectify this by fostering an interest in universities around the world.

For the month they are there, the students will take classes from Indian scholars, monks and nuns. They will visit places of historical and religious interest, including temples, forts and the Taj Mahal.

Students will experience Indian culture, visit with indigenous families, study Indian languages and observe or participate in rituals—the list goes on and on.

“I’m really looking forward to the cultural experience,” says Manatad. “I’m working toward a bachelor’s in religious studies, and I thought this would be a great addition to my resume.”

The ISSJS provides a link between the Jain community and the academic world. The study of Jainism is an unexplored area of research, and the ISSJS is working to rectify this by fostering an interest in universities around the world.

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The ISSJS provides a link between the Jain community and the academic world. The study of Jainism is an un-
This is why WCC’s motto is... from here, you can go ANYWHERE.
Atelier offers students classical training

by Theresa Warden
Ka 'Ohana Editor in Chief

This summer, 24 students will have the opportunity to share in the same kind of classical training that gave birth to some of the world’s greatest artists.

Atelier Hawai‘i offers six weeks of intensive training in the classical techniques of drawing and painting, under the expert direction of WCC instructors Snowden Hodges and Norman Graffam. WCC’s program is one of the few atelier workshops offered in the United States and will run from May 27 through July 3.

The atelier (ah-tell-yay) experience connects students to the tradition and knowledge that links today’s artists to European masters like Michelangelo, Peter Paul Rubens, Rembrandt and Vermeer. "The training is intense and challenging," she said. "But after learning those skills I see better, which helps in all my compositions."

Working from classical sculpture and live models, students practice “sight-size” drawing—a method of drawing an object exactly as it appears on a one-to-one scale. Students are taught to prepare their own canvases for painting and make Maroger’s medium.

"It’s a specific formula for oil painting," said Brubaker, "and the closest form to what was used by the old masters. You can’t help but learn history."

In addition to Hodges and Graffam, students can expect lectures from artist Jonathan Busse and archival instruction from an art conservator.

"Atelier students receive personal attention from the three instructors," said Hodges. "The emphasis is on developing technical skills and nurturing the student to his or her potential, and these skills are in demand."

"The tradition goes way back, the whole art of drawing. There have been diversions into experimental art over the past 50 years, but today many students want to learn how to draw and paint accurately and correctly, to paint what they see."

The credit option costs $1,050 and earns the student six credits. Call Student Services at 235-7413 to apply. Non-credit students can apply through the Office of Continuing Education at 235-7422. Non-credit tuition is $742.22.

For more information on application and enrollment, visit www.wcc.hawaii.edu/atelierhawaii or call Hodges at 236-9148.

Windward receives hand-carved drum

by Ka ‘Ohana
New Staff

A coconut tree can be born as a drum, then living proof is embodied in a work of art recently received by WCC.

The woodcarving group that used to hold classes in Tolani building recently gave WCC a four-foot high pahu (drum) they carved over a three-month period.

The stately piece has a band of Hawaiian men riding dolphins circling its base. "It’s possible that the coconut tree used was one that came out of the circle in front of our administration building," said Meixell.

"This is a wonderful gift to Windward. Like the new scholarships, it will be at the college long after we are gone.”
Edgy’s message: preserve aloha

**by Sam Bui**

*Ka ‘Ohana Staff Reporter*

Like thousands of students, award-winning filmmaker Edgy Lee left for the mainland to attend college. What brought her back was a spirit unique only to home – a diversity of cultures that creates the spirit of Hawai’i.

It is that spirit that drives Lee to create her ambitious films. Her passions today are to share the distinct culture of Hawai’i and to preserve it in the process. As a filmmaker she said her motivation wasn’t the money that would come from her films about home, but home itself.

She simply stated, “I’m going to make films about [island culture]. ‘Cause if I don’t, who’s going to do it?” She figured that coming from Hawai’i, it was her duty to preserve its culture by sharing its story with the world.

During her visit and presentation at WCC last month, she expressed her desire for an innovative way of getting Hawai’i out to the world. This medium would be “Pacific Network,” a television site.

During her visit and presentation at WCC last month, she expressed her desire for an innovative way of getting Hawai’i out to the world. This medium would be “Pacific Network,” an Internet-based television site.

It is a project turned passion that will take the essence of Hawai’i, particularly Native Hawaiian culture, global.

The site, which features nine different channels, is geared towards global. Its goal is to broaden understanding of Native Hawaiian and Hawai’i culture through channels devoted to news, health, travel, sports, the arts, science and the environment.

When asked why she chose this medium and its format, Lee explained, “[Young people] would rather get a film and view it when they want to view it.

“Television is changing as well. People have shorter attention spans and so one-minute shows are popular – just enough to watch an episode on an elevator ride.”

Lee said the plan is to launch the Web site soon, but in the meantime she’s encouraging people to go to www.pacificnetwork.tv and register for updates.

This new way of sharing Hawai’i benefits the preservation of local culture and helps inform those around the world who want to find out what’s happening on these eight little islands in the Pacific.

Remembering Aunty Genoa

March has been written about Aunty Genoa Keawe, an icon of Hawaiian music who passed away Feb. 25 at age 89. She inspired generations of entertainers and will be remembered at Windward for the honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters she received at WCC’s commencement in 2005.

But to WCC professor and slack key master Ron Loo, she was always “Aunty”—someone who epitomized the best of Hawaiian culture.

“She was a wonderful human being and a gifted performer whose unique voice, people skills and mana were without compare,” he said. “We will miss her greatly.”

Loo remembers when Aunty Genoa performed with Raiatea Helm at the 2006 Windward Ho’olaule’a on campus. The two sang a duet of “Alika,” Keawe’s signature piece on the outdoor stage, playfully trying to see who could hold the high note longer.

Loo said although she became part of an elite group of local artists who achieved worldwide recognition, Aunty Genoa remained humble. “She led by example,” he marveled. “She showed us how to live life, typifying all that is important about Hawaiian values.”

‘Vantage Point’: freakin’ action-packed

**by Sam Bui**

*Ka ‘Ohana Staff Reporter*

In one hour the eyes can process up to 36,000 pieces of information. The movie “Vantage Point” is told from five perspectives; that’s 180,000 pieces of information for the audience to process.

But as archaeologist Sir John Lubbock says, “What we see depends on what we look for.” That is the premise of this film.

In it, we see U.S. President Ashton (William Hurt) arriving in Spain for a historic summit on anti-terrorism. Among the world leaders, supporters and protestors is a handful of terrorists who try to foil the event.

After an attempt on the president’s life, Secret Service agent Thomas Barnes (Dennis Quaid) hunts for the gunman among the crowd of fleeing Spaniards and tourists.

Amidst the chaos, tourist Howard Lewis (Forest Whittaker) captures the madness on his camcorder. With his footage, the news coverage and multiple eyewitness accounts, the audience is provided another “vantage point.” Films showing different points of view, such as “Crash” and “Identity,” have been a bit redundant, making this film seem like more of the same.

However, the difference here is the writers’ creativity and the performances of its lead actors. The story’s unique twists and turns give the audience more information to process.

By the climax, there is enough detail to keep viewers interested, but not so much that it gives away the ending, although the rewind sequences get a little tedious.

The actors do their part to keep the action moving. Dennis Quaid’s character is a model of tenacity and resilience. Forest Whitaker as a selfless model citizen brings a sense of comfort in a film rife with anxiety and fear.

“Vantage Point” is one movie among many that makes us glad the Writers Guild strike is over. Now, we can look forward to a new generation of films like this one – films that are simply “freakin’ awesome.”
Break-ins plague Kailua area

by Patrik Hascall
Ko ‘Ohana Staff Reporter

Recent break-ins in the Coconut Grove area of Kailua have residents worried about their safety and security. In the past few months, several homes in the area have been burglarized on a weekly basis. Residents are returning home to find their privacy has been violated and their belongings missing. Coming home has become a nightmare.

"It's really frustrating," said resident Sally Summerfield. "I feel so violated and afraid that I might walk in on someone in the act."

A resident of Kailua for two years, she returned home one evening after work and had a feeling something wasn't right.

"The first thing I noticed was my computer was missing," said Summerfield.

"At first I shrugged it off, thinking one of my kids probably had it, but then I noticed other things were missing such as our Xbox and my jewelry."

Summerfield’s experience has become common with other residents reporting stolen computers, jewelry, and other big-ticket items that are easy to carry off.

"We lost two laptops," said a victim who didn't wish to be identified. "Other things that were stolen were air rifles, irreplaceable family jewelry—the list keeps growing as we go through the house."

Most of the intrusions are taking place during daylight hours while residents are away, but there have been instances when the perpetrators have entered while someone is home.

One household, with a family member confined to a wheelchair, had their computer stolen while he was in another room.

Area residents are concerned for their family’s safety and angry about being unaware of the problem.

"The people across the street were robbed the day before me, and the neighbors on either side the following days," says Summerfield.

"My kids are home alone after school, and now I am hearing that they are breaking in while people are home. It scares me!"

Other residents are wondering why the burglaries are not going public.

"Up until my house was robbed, I had no idea that so many robberies were going on in Kailua," says one Kaimuki Drive resident.

"It's really scary that the public isn't being informed. You have to wonder where the police are—the thieves have a free-for-all."

The police department says they are aware of the problem and are working on apprehending the perpetrators.

"As so not to somehow hamper the investigation I cannot discuss the details," said a windward HPD officer.

"We don't want to scare off the suspects with a lot of publicity; we want to catch them. I can say that we have strong leads and are pursuing them with earnest."

"We believe that the crimes may be drug-related. The pattern fits the profile of someone trying to support their addiction."

Items most commonly stolen are goods that are small and easy to carry off in a bag or under clothing such as laptop computers, jewelry, home entertainment electronics, and portable entertainment equipment.

The officer explained the perpetrators usually gain access through windows left open and by cutting through screens.

Jalousie windows are the most common entry points because of the ease of removing the louvers.

HPD recommends keeping jalousies closed to hamper the removal of the panes and to consider upgrading to a more secure, modern window.

"Home security systems are the best deterrent," he said.

"Placing security system warning decals on windows can also make burglars think twice, but are no substitute for the real thing."

"If you notice any suspicious characters hanging around your neighborhood, please don't hesitate to call us," he added.

HPD also recommends not leaving items such as computers out in clear view and to lock away jewelry and other valuables.

"If they can see it through your windows, the more tempting it is to break in," he said.

So remember to close your windows and lock your doors; there is someone out there who wants your hard-earned belongings.

Open windows and items in clear view are irresistible to burglars.

Witness information not always protected by police

Editor's Note:
WCC student Bryanne Salazar wrote to Ko ‘Ohana’s Web site to describe her recent experience as a witness to a traffic accident. Her letter expresses privacy concerns we felt readers should be aware of.

Dear Ko ‘Ohana Editor,

All drivers are taught the basic principle that when you witness an automobile accident, it is your duty as a good citizen to report what you have seen to the police department. But I learned the hard way that being a “good citizen” can have repercussions.

On February 22, 2008, around 1:30 p.m., I was driving home from school and watched as the small four-door sedan in front of me slammed into the left side of a truck in the lane next to ours.

I slowed down, wondering if I should pull over, but decided not to. I did not want to get involved.

Since the drivers and their occupants were unharmed, I opted to call the police department when I got home.

I phoned the Honolulu Police Department’s number and explained to the dispatcher that I’d seen an accident at the corner of Anoi and Likelike and wanted to make sure the driver of the truck was not blamed.

The dispatcher took my name and number and told me that it would be given to the officer responding to the scene. I was also told if the officer needed additional information, I would be contacted.

Not ten minutes later, I received a phone call from a number I didn’t recognize. I figured it was the officer responding to the scene and quickly answered.

"It wasn’t policy for officers to give out witness information," the officer explained. "I feel so violated and afraid that I might walk in on someone in the act."

I explained to her that my private information had been given to the officer.

"I was angry that my private information had been given to the officer in the accident without my permission," she said.

I called the HPD back and was told to contact the Kaneohe Police Department since they had responded to the call.

I did just that, first speaking to a sergeant who said that it wasn’t policy for officers to give out witness information and then I spoke directly with the officer who responded to the scene.

The officer became quite defensive when I asked him why he gave out my information. Rudely, he told me that as a witness to a non-criminal case, my information was available to the public.

I ended our conversation by hanging up on me. I then decided to call the captain, who told me I would need to call Internal Affairs to file a complaint against the officer.

Before hanging up, I asked what the policy was on providing witness information without consent, and he said he didn't know.

He did say it didn’t seem right that the mother called me and that the officer should have called if he needed more information.

I told the captain that I would never offer my help as a witness to the police department again.
Whom do you favor as a presidential candidate?

Right now, I am favoring Obama. I honestly think that if he gets elected, he will try to make the U.S. a better place.

He did say that he wanted to start bringing the troops back, and that is why I feel so strongly for him to win. We have been fighting this war for so long, and I think it’s time for our friends and family to come home.

– Jessica Ramie

I am having a real hard time deciding between Clinton and Obama. The idea of having a woman run the country sounds real good to me, but I have noticed that Hillary has been saying things and making promises that I don’t think she can keep.

I am leaning more towards Obama because his goals are practical and I read a biography on him so I know his background and his ideas. I like the idea that if either Clinton or Obama won as president, then the other would be vice president.

– Darriel Miller

I am favoring Obama as my presidential candidate. I’m doing so because not only is he somewhat of the underdog compared to Clinton but because he has very interesting thoughts and ideas that make sense in the long run. Not only that, but being a Hawaii-born person gives him preference in my book.

– Ethan Rista

I don’t quite know who I am favoring this presidential election. I still need to do more research before I decide. I know I am not favoring the Democratic Party because I think if a Democrat is elected president, then we’ll pull out of Iraq faster than a jackrabbit and we’ll like look cowards.

I have a strong feeling that our military will grow weak if Obama is president. I think I’ll research the Green Party and Republican Party more.

– Tianni Hikida

The two Democratic candidates could find a supporter in me. I do not want our country going down the path of the socialists in Europe.

Always, when a country goes down that path, there is a loss of the individual citizen’s freedom. I would support McCain only because he is the lesser of the three evils.

– Karl Doehm

I was a Mitt Romney supporter. I supported him because of his faith in the economy and his stance on terrorism.

He has been called the greatest businessman in the West by major economists. If any candidate can turn our economy around it would have been Mitt Romney. Not just that, but his core values are strong and based in faith.

I like that he was not based in D.C. and is not a senator. I felt he (was) very strong on the border issues. I believe he can fix the nation’s debt or at least set a plan for it. I think he sets a good example for America.

– Jesse Chun

I am favoring Hillary Clinton as a presidential candidate because I like her policies, including her plan to make health care universal, which I believe is very important today when a large percentage of people in our country don’t even have health insurance.

I also favor her because I think she can win. She is also an extremely smart woman, the Republicans fear her, and I would like to put fear into the Republicans that have ruined the mean, run this country. I believe she can get us out of this hole we’re in.

– Paul Brittain

Personally I am favoring Obama. Why? Because Obama told me to. Just kidding. I simply have a generational bias. I would like to see the country walk away “old” politicians. I really would like to see a president who isn’t a baby boomer.

– Joseph Zdyrski

I think the younger generation has much more potential.

– Joseph Zdyrski

Obama, because when he talks he is straight up. You actually believe what he is saying.

With most other politicians you hear a lot of blar, but when you think about what was said, it doesn’t make sense or it’s just some politically correct hot air.

When I listen to Obama answer questions, he really explains what he is gonna do and why. I like his position on many situations, and he has moderate judgment, not too left or right wing. It’s probably because he’s from Hawai’i and has some aloha spirit in him.

– Jordan A-F

I have been favoring Hillary Clinton since she got into the presidential race. The main reason is because I want someone in the White House whose learning curve would be the shortest.

The next president needs to get out of the war, get our economy back on track and deal with health care in our country.

– Anonymous

INDIA from page 5

Sarah Hadmack, WCC religion instructor and UH-Manoa lecturer, is helping students to get the most out of the trip. She offers a three-credit independent study of Jainism, where the students meet once a week.

“The summer program is free for advanced undergraduates and for all accepted graduate students,” says Hadmack. “I participated in as a graduate student in 2005, returned in 2007 as an alumni scholar, and now am a member of the academic council that reviews the applicants and decides who is qualified to participate.”

Hadmack knows the ropes and has many suggestions for students wishing to get involved, such as taking either religion 150 or 202. “I learned about the program from Sarah,” said Manatad. “She is a great teacher and she inspired me to apply for the program.”

Manatad knows being away from home won’t be easy but says her family is there to support her.

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– Jesse Chun

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### March/April Calendar

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<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
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<tr>
<td>Student Tournament</td>
<td>Transfer Workshop</td>
<td>Women's History Month Speaker</td>
<td>Student Success Workshop</td>
<td>Honda Scholarship Deadline</td>
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<td>March 10-14</td>
<td>Hawaiian Studies and Language</td>
<td>Millicent Cummings</td>
<td>Your Permanent Academic Record</td>
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<td>204 a.m. to 6 p.m.</td>
<td>3:20 p.m.</td>
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<td>Hale Akoakoa 212</td>
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<td>2nd Floor Student Lounge</td>
<td>Devil Wears Prada</td>
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<td>TLC Workshop</td>
<td>Women's History Month Speaker</td>
<td>Transfer Advising Session</td>
<td>Freeman Scholarship Deadline</td>
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<td>March 18. WCC's Excellence in Teaching Award Nomination Deadline</td>
<td>Peggy Chun</td>
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<td>For more information email: <a href="mailto:kpopenhawaii@hawaii.edu">kpopenhawaii@hawaii.edu</a></td>
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<td>Forms Available in Ko'olau Cafe</td>
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<td>Good Friday Holiday</td>
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<td>SPRING BREAK - NO SCHOOL</td>
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<td>Library and TLC open Monday through Friday</td>
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<td>Women's History Month and Common Book Speaker Tricia Allen</td>
<td>April Fool's Day</td>
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<td>4:10 p.m. to 5 p.m.</td>
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<td>Transfer Advising Session</td>
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<td>Botany Club meeting</td>
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<td>Hale Tokyo 101</td>
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## Peggy Chun

**Born into a family of eight children in Lawton, Oklahoma, Chun moved to Hawai`i in 1969 to teach high school and got married to a local boy from Kalihī.**

Chun’s inspiration for painting came from her twin sister Bobbie, who passed away from ALS in 1987, and was a well-known artist herself.

“I love all of my paintings,” said Chun, “but ‘Celebration in the Banana Patch’ is one of our all-time most popular.”

This painting, along with over 50 more, are printed in Chun’s book, ‘The Watercolor Cat.’ The book, through the words of her cat Boo, gives us a window into Chun’s life.

“This book never stays on the shelf,” said a Kame`ohe Borders sales associate. “As soon as we order it, it’s gone. It’s a wonderful book.”

Peggy’s struggle with ALS brought together an army of help known as “Peggy’s Legs.”

“Peggy is never left alone,” said Kimi. “There is always somebody by her side.”

With three shifts a day and two people on shift every day, Chun’s team consists of family, friends, professional caregivers and volunteers.

Peggy Chun’s Gallery is located at 3115 Ailaka Avenue in Honolulu. Please call 595-8434 before visiting.

To learn more about Peggy Chun or how to purchase her prints and book or donate to “Peggy’s Legs”, visit her Web site at www.PeggyChun.com.

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## Witness

I called Internal Affairs and spoke with a detective about the situation. He apologized for my frustrating experience and thanked me for being a good citizen.

Then he explained that, indeed, when a non-criminal activity occurs, witness information is put in a police report, which becomes publicly accessible to anyone requesting a copy.

I expressed my concern that the department didn’t notify me of this fact and that if I’d known, I might not have offered my help.

The detective then told me that if I file a proper complaint against an officer in uniform, I would have to go through the Honolulu Police Commission.

In the end, there wasn’t anything I could do. If someone calls as a witness to a criminal event, such as a burglary, rape or even domestic violence, the police department says that your information will be kept confidential.

I personally feel that unless I give my express consent, my information should always be kept confidential.

**EDITOR’S NOTE:**

An officer in the Traffic Division of HPD told Ka ‘Ohana that providing witness contact information directly to parties involved in a traffic accident is not standard procedure.

However, it is true that police reports for non-criminal acts become public information.