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# Newtown Quarterly

June - August 2014, Summer

## Candidates Sought for the 2014-2015 NECA Board of Directors

The Board of Directors announces the Newtown Estates Community Association (NECA) Annual Meeting to be held at the Newtown Recreation Center on Wednesday, August 6, 2014 at 7 p.m., with registration beginning at 6:30 p.m.

In preparation for this important meeting, NECA is now accepting nomination papers for seats on the 2014-2015 NECA Board of Directors. Bona fide Newtown Estates homeowners wishing to volunteer their time, energy, and expertise in managing the Association should pick up a nomination application form from the Newtown Recreation Center front office.

The Board of Directors is looking for qualified NECA homeowners in good standing with the Association who want to help plan, conduct, and evaluate the affairs of the Association by serving on its Board of Directors. Board members are required to attend monthly board meetings and also serve as chairperson for one of the many NECA committees that meet monthly. This year, there are three (3) positions open for three-year terms, which will be filled during the annual meeting.

The annual meeting material will be sent to NECA homeowners on or near June 23, 2014. If you would like your candidacy information included in the mailing, please submit your nomination application form, along with a photo, to the Newtown Recreation Center front office by 4:30 p.m. on Monday, June 9, 2014.

Included in your annual meeting packet is a proxy. If you do not plan to attend the annual meeting, please be sure to complete and mail your proxy to Associa Hawaii – 737 Bishop Street, Suite 3100, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813. Proxies must be signed by one homeowner and returned to Associa Hawaii by 4:30 p.m. on Friday, August 1, 2014.

### **Annual Meeting**

Wednesday, August 6, 2014  
7 p.m.

Newtown Rec Center

Registration begins at 6:30 p.m.

## **A Message from the General Manager Let's Restore the Pride of Newtown**

Aloha! It is hard to believe the Newtown Community is 42-years-old. The Association was formed in 1972. Over the next 15 years of operations, developer Herbert Horita won many Parade of Home awards for the excellent homes that were built in both the Newtown Estates and Royal Summit areas. All of the new homeowners were so proud of their new homes and recreation center.

Our neighborhood still remains one of Oahu's premier residential areas in the state. However, as many of our homeowners have since retired and are getting older, so are the homes and recreation center. Homes, walls, and fences are in need of repair and repainting, and many of the yards and sidewalk strips are being neglected and infested with weeds.

The NECA staff has the task of conducting routine inspections and issuing citations. However, it would be good if all of the homeowners did their part in maintaining a good appearance of their home and landscaping. Let's all try to do our part to restore the pride to our Newtown Estates Association.

Mahalo,  
Richard Yamasaki

## Newtown News

### Quarterly Billing Statements (Reminder)

NECA's Board of Directors reminds all homeowners that the quarterly assessments are due on the following schedule:

- September 1<sup>st</sup>: 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Billing
- December 1<sup>st</sup>: 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Billing
- March 1<sup>st</sup>: 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Billing
- June 1<sup>st</sup>: 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Billing

NECA has placed the billing and collection process in the hands of Associa Hawaii. If you do not receive your quarterly billing statement, contact **Associa Hawaii at (808) 836-0911**. Associa Hawaii offers three options in paying your quarterly assessments:

**Option #1 - Direct Debit (Surepay)**

Automatically deducts funds from your bank account.

**Option #2 - Online Payment**

A secure and convenient online payment system through Associa Hawaii. Fees apply.

**Option #3 – Pay by Mail**

Mail payment directly to Associa Hawaii, P.O. Box 60578, Phoenix, AZ 85082-0578.

**If payment is not received by the last day of the month, (September 30, December 31, March 31, June 30), it is deemed late and a \$25 late fee plus any additional fees will be assessed.** There are no exceptions for holidays or late post office deliveries. Payments are not accepted at the rec center. NECA recommends early payment to avoid any late fees.

### Update on the Zip Line Issue

Developer Towne Development, Inc. submitted a proposal to the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) on January 9, 2014 and applied to obtain a Conservation District Use Application (CDUA) permit to construct a nature center and zip line canopy tour adjacent to the Newtown Estates and Royal Summit community. Towne Development, Inc. must also submit a management plan, which is required by the DLNR.

On Monday, February 10, 2014, the Aiea Neighborhood Board voted 14-0-0 on a motion that "The Aiea Neighborhood Board supports the residents of Newtown Estates in their position that the Zip Line project would be detrimental and not beneficial to the community." Jerry Matsuda, a representative of the group opposing the zip line, presented a copy of a letter written to William Aila along with 1,488 signatures in a petition to stop Towne Development's construction of the nature center and zip line project. Mr. Aila is the chairperson for DLNR.

On Wednesday, February 19, 2014, Office of Conservation and Coastal Land (OCCL) hearing officer, Samuel Lemmo, conducted a public hearing at Waimalu Elementary School. About 150 residents attended this public hearing. The majority objected the project, including Senator David Ige, Representative Mark Takai, and Councilman Breene Harimoto.

Another public hearing is scheduled to be held in July or sooner. At this hearing, the OCCL will make recommendations to the DLNR based on public testimonies. DLNR has the final authority to grant, modify or deny any permit request.

## Committee Corner

### Greenbelt

The Greenbelt Committee has completed another major Greenbelt maintenance project. A total of 21 trees within the areas of Kipikua Street, Ipuala Loop, and Lanikuakaa Street were cut for a total cost of \$12,670.29.

The Greenbelt Committee is continuously working on trees that pose a threat to homes bordering the Greenbelt area. If you have concerns regarding trees growing behind or near your home in the Greenbelt area, please forward a written letter of concern to the Greenbelt Committee.

### Signs, Signs, Signs

Election time is approaching and NECA would like to remind our residents that political signs are not permitted to be displayed on your property. NECA MDCCR section 3.02 (g) states, "No signs whatsoever, including without limitation, commercial, political or similar signs, visible from neighboring property shall be erected or maintained upon any lot..."

### Architectural Reminder:

- All architectural applications to be reviewed by the Architectural Design Committee must be submitted by 6 p.m. on the first Saturday of each new month.
- All architectural applications received at the Newtown Estates Community Recreation Center have 30 days to be reviewed.
- NECA permits approved by the Architectural Design Committee must be picked up at the Newtown Estates Community Recreation Center and displayed and posted in plain view on the said property before starting any architectural modification or improvements.
- All approved architectural applications with regard to any sub-association property are forwarded by NECA to their respective property management for final approval.

### Friendly Reminders

- Do not block the sidewalk in front of your driveway. It becomes dangerous for pedestrians to walk out, around and into the street, sometimes where there are moving vehicles. The violation of blocking the sidewalk will be enforced by NECA as well as the Honolulu Police Department.
- Homeowners, if you plan to paint your house, change your garage door, repair a fence, or alter the exterior appearance of your house in any way, you first need to submit an architectural application and obtain a building permit from NECA. A violation fine of \$100 will be imposed if you do not obtain a building permit.

### Covenant Enforcement

The Newtown Estates Community Association Covenant Enforcement A.1 Policy was implemented as a procedure to help resolve violations in accordance to the Master Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions (MDCCR) and the Architectural Committee Rules and Guidelines (ARG). All homeowners in NECA are subject to this policy and failure to up keep your property in accordance to NECA rules and restrictions will result in a covenant violation. Should homeowners not comply, a violation notice will be issued and a penalty fine assessed until such violation is resolved.

**NOTE:** If you receive a covenant violation notice and would like to make an appeal, a written correspondence noting the covenant violation number must be submitted no later than 15 days from the date of the notice. NECA will not accept phone calls to appeal any violation and NECA will not accept any written correspondence to appeal any violation if received after the 15 days.

## At the Center

### Easter Egg-citement

Amid the excitement, smiles, laughter, and cameras capturing special moments, approximately 70 children up to the age of 11 years old together with their parents, grandparents, and other family members, enjoyed the 2014 NECA Easter Fun event on Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup>.

Separated into three age groups; the yellow chicks, the pink bunnies, and the blue bunnies, the children colored eggs, played a variety of fun-filled games, received tattoos, and participated in an egg hunt where each child received a goodie bag. As an added surprise, the children and family members took photos with Miss Easter Bunny!

During this event, participants and guests happily munched on refreshments such as hot dogs, chips, veggies, and donuts. They were also treated to a delicious array of cupcakes, cookies, and coconut pudding generously donated by several residents.

NECA would like thank the Boy Scouts Troop 488 and their families, the Program Committees, staff, and other volunteers who made the event a success.



*Miss Easter Bunny anxiously awaits the arrival of the children and their families.*

### Residents Enjoy Rhythmic Bon Dances

Recently, the residents of Newtown were given an opportunity to enjoy and learn rhythmic bon dances. The first session, the Japanese bon dance, was held from February 4 to March 25. It was taught by bon dance instructor, Derrick Iwata, vice president of the Hawaii Japanese Dance Association and an educational specialist at the Japanese Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii. Along with his six energetic assistants, Mr. Iwata was able to teach many dances to 64 residents and was very pleased that the participants attained graceful movements in such a short period of time.

The second session, the Okinawan bon dance, was held from April 8 to May 27 under the direction of Linda Asato. Ms. Asato learned the culture at a very young age and has been dancing for more than 20 years. With the help of the same six bon dance assistants, 59 residents danced to lively music, at times using red and white flags.

Participants from the Japanese and Okinawan bon dance classes agreed that following and learning these dance movements provided an enjoyable exercise for the mind and body. They strongly expressed their interest and hope for the return of both classes next year.

### Rental of the Recreation Hall

Residents can now reserve and rent the Rec Hall on Saturday mornings. Reservations for the Rec Hall can be made up to a year in advance. Book your event now!

## At the Center

### The Language Proficiency of the Military Intelligence Service (MIS)

On Wednesday, February 19, 2014, Dr. Yoshinobu Oshiro, a Military Intelligence Service (MIS) veteran and former Department of Education administrator, presented a wealth of knowledge to Newtown residents regarding the valuable role and contributions of the MIS. Dr. Oshiro helped author the book, *"Reflections of Honor"* (The Untold Story of a Nisei Spy), a biography about Arthur Komori, a war hero, whose military experiences were kept confidential until restrictions were lifted.

There were 6,000 members of the MIS who served in the Pacific during World War II. After the Allied Occupation of Japan, they became Japanese language interpreters and translators. The MIS language schools in San Francisco and Fort Savage, Minnesota, were established before the war because of the intelligence needed to prepare for war. Some of the men who served in the MIS were raised and educated in Japan, or had parents living in Japan before the war. When the war broke out these men became very valuable to the U.S. Army as translators and interpreters of captured documents from the Japanese army.

An example of MIS intelligence work was intercepting a radio message from Admiral Yamamoto as he was flying to Guada Canal to inspect the Japanese troops and as a result, his plane was shot down. A "Z Plan" was also recovered in another plane crash and translated by the MIS, which was an important document of the tactical operations and strategy of how the Japanese army was going to advance and conquer the small islands in the Pacific and the Philippines. Another MIS group called the "Flying Niseis" intercepted radio messages near the Japanese homeland when the Japanese army was sending messages to their fighter planes. The MIS men also interrogated many Japanese prisoners-of-war who were surprised that the MIS could speak the Japanese language and reportedly treated them well, too.

In closing, Dr. Oshiro shared words to a song that he had composed about the MIS and their accomplishments and asked the audience to join him. Mahalo, Dr. Oshiro, for presenting a vast storehouse of knowledge on the achievements and competence of the MIS whose language proficiency shortened the war by two years.



Author and MIS veteran  
Dr. Yoshinobu Oshiro

### Bare Book Shelves

The Book Swap shelves are looking a little bare! If you've read a good book lately and would like to share it, please drop it off at the Book Swap shelves in the rec center lobby.

Books should be in good condition, with no marks or missing pages. Romance novels, mystery and spy stories, and recent best sellers are popular. Classics are always welcome. Magazines are also very popular, and magazines less than one year old are appreciated. Children's books are very much in demand, so if you have some gathering dust in your house, please bring them down.



Looking to share a book?  
Bring it to the rec center.

## Going Beyond



### Mother's Day Special

On Tuesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, NECA Director Patti Mills demonstrated how to prepare a Thai Chicken Salad with Peanut Dressing. As a special treat, she also made sticky rice for everyone. The 20 residents who attended the demonstration also learned how to make a non-alcoholic strawberry daiquiri from Lena Barker, a professional bartender and manager at the Leilehua Golf Course. The attendees were also fortunate to receive cups and dishes that Ms. Mills made on the potter's wheel. All agreed the delicious salad, rice, and drink were great for Mother's Day. Mahalo to Ms. Mills and Ms. Barker for sharing their recipes.

### Community Service Projects

The Halau Hula 'O Newtown will be performing two community service projects with the Newtown Ukulele Strummers. The first performance will be at the Aged to Perfection on July 18<sup>th</sup>; the second will be at the Waipahu Hongwanji on July 25<sup>th</sup>. The hula group, under the direction of Kumu Claire Manutai, will be performing "Hawaiian Hospitality," "Hukilau," "Pua Hone," and "I Kona," with the Newtown Ukulele Strummers' accompanying them. The ukulele strummers under the direction of Mr. Charles Yang will include other ethnic songs like "Haru Ga Kita," "Yuyake Koyake," "Dahil Sa Iyo," "Arirang," and "Moo Li Fah." NECA is fortunate to have these two groups share their talents with other communities.



*Halau Hula 'O Newtown members (left to right) Jane Arimoto, Diane Kato, Linda Uchima, Helen Izuka, Marilyn Tagawa, Jan Nakashima and Violeta Soriano.*

### A Message from the Newtown Neighborhood Security Watch (NNSW) Neighbors Taking Care of Neighbors

Hello Newtown! The Newtown Neighborhood Security Watch (NNSW) team along, with its coordinator, Kathy Ebey, would like to update the community about recent crimes in the neighborhood. These events took place during the month of April:

- Auto Theft: 4 Kilinoe Street, 1 Ipuala Loop, 1 Hiliu Place
- Auto Break-In: 1 Kilinoe Street, 1 Nahele Street
- Burglary: 3 Piki Street, 2 Kilipohe Street, 1 Ipuala Loop, 1 Hapaki Street

As crime increases in our community, it is important to have "neighbors looking out for neighbors." This requires community effort and the most effective way to do this is to have a neighborhood security watch program with active participants. While some areas have block captains, other areas have none at all.

A round of applause for Newtown Meadows! This sub-association has a block captain for each one of their buildings and is the first sub-association to participate in the program.

If you are interested in becoming part of the NNSW or serve as a block captain, please leave your contact information at the front office of the Newtown Estates Recreation Center and it will be forwarded to the NNSW coordinator. The NNSW requires no citizen patrol. All communication is done by phone or email. Let's band together, take a stand and deter criminals out and away from Newtown!

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