

A look at future choices

CAREER DAY ROLLS INTO HUALALAI ACADEMY

SPECIAL TO WEST HAWAII TODAY

It seemed like a scene straight out of TV, armored police cars, Special Response Team police officers and even K-9 dogs chasing drug dealers. In reality, it was career day at Hualalai Academy.

"We were so honored to host a Special Response Team demonstration here at our campus," said Head of School Kate Mulligan, "The children really loved seeing the police in action and their drug-free message was appreciated."

Career day has been a long-standing tradition at Hualalai Academy, and it is a time

honored tradition in many elementary schools across the nation. It is an opportunity for the community to come together and stress the importance and benefits of a great education and good decision making.

In addition to having the Special Response Team with Lt. Sam Kawamoto, the school also hosted many other career day guests.

Guests included Vet-tech Karen DeSilva, from Alii Vet Hospital; Officers Crusat, Morris and Hirai; Chef Patrick Heymann; firefighters Salis and Tamaribuchi; Ironman triathletes Toby Olney and Ridhelm Ahler;



tennis professional Lisa Naumu; "Careers with Animals" by Ginger Towle; and submarine pilot Danielle Bunnell.

The students were

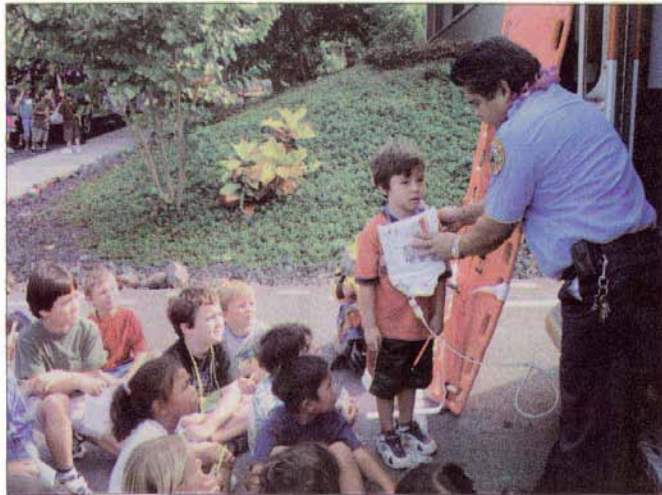
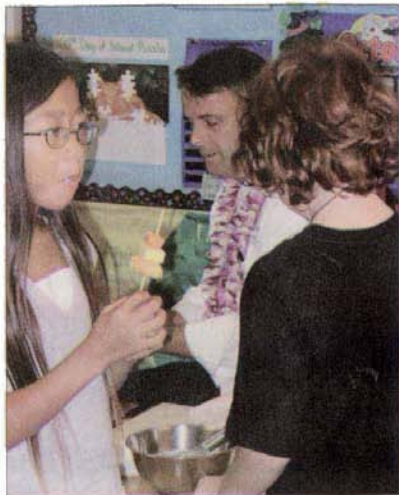
enthralled by the presentations and many included hands-on demonstrations and real life scenarios. They were especially excited to see into

the armored cars, police cars and ambulance.

"The students were actually able to see and touch the Special Response Team team uses and that was a special treat, for them, and for me," Nicole Wondries said with a smile.

The vet-tech was able to bring an informative bulletin and even a pet cat named Kitty Boy. "I loved it when Kitty Boy wound around my ankles and made a knot," said Grant Simms, a fourth-grader.

Sally Englund, career day coordinator, said, "We were so pleased by the tremendous support from our community members. We are thankful that so many came out to our school to support our students. I want to give a special mahalo to Sgt. Nancy Haitsuka for helping to organize our police officers."



Above: Vet-tech Karen DeSilva, from Alii Vet Hospital, shows Hualalai Academy students a stethoscope she uses when diagnosing a pet's health problems.

Left: An ambulance crew member shows Hualalai Academy students some of the equipment used when responding to an accident or health emergency.

Far left: Fifth-graders sample fruit prepared by Chef Patrick Heymann.