EAGLE PROJECT AT PU'U MAHOE COMPLETED

ULUPALAKUA– Aolama Chow of Boy Scout Troop 100 of Kula completed his Eagle Project at the D.T. Fleming Arboretum at Pu'u Mahoe to earn the Boy Scouts of America's highest honor – the Eagle Scout Award. An Eagle Scout Award requires Scouts to organize, coordinate, and direct a community service project, demonstrating commitment, skill, and leadership. Aolama coordinated a 3 day campout in the Pu'u Mahoe cinder cone April 7th-9th with Scouts from Troop 100 to accomplish his Eagle project. Aolama, son of Clifford and Nora Chow of Kula, planned, organized, and directed the construction of 20 steps ascending 10 feet in the Fleming Arboretum connecting 2 trails. With extra volunteers, 30 feet of Polynesian T Leaf along the trail and grass seed were planted to control erosion.

The DT Fleming Arboretum at Puu Mahoe is Hawaii's oldest and largest native plant Arboretum – a seed resource for native forest restoration. The Arboretum is an education and conservation resource promoting youth and community group involvement in preservation of native plants and wildlife.

"I chose to do my eagle project at the arboretum because I can think of no cause more worthy than to support the preservation and restoration of Hawaii's forests; and I can think of no place that aids that effort more than the D.T Fleming Arboretum. The arboretum is truly one of the most beautiful places I've ever had the pleasure of visiting and both the arboretums mission and those who work there embody the true spirit of aloha. "Aolama Chow—Senior of Kihei Chartrer School, Eagle Scout of Boy Scout Troop100.





David Moran, Project Mentor, teaches Aolama Chow details of building steps, preparing him to be the instructor and leader of his Eagle Project.



Herman Calasa of Calasa Trucking delivers 4 wheel drive loader donated by Pacific Equipment to haul posts and supplies to top of Pu'u Mahoe's south hill.



42 inch steps cut from 7 foot 4X4 Eucalyptus posts, supplied by South Pacific Lumber, are ready for project weekend. Each post weighs approximately 40- 45 pounds.





Aolama Chow teaches his crew of 35 volunteers, Scouts of Troop 100, to build steps with proper rise, depth and width.

Built into the ground, soil compaction is also important.





Working as a team, Troop 100 volunteers excavate soil, while widening the trail at base of new steps and haul buckets of soil to use as fill.





Extra volunteers plant 30 feet of Ti leaves along trail at base of new steps and broadcast grass seed to control erosion.



While enjoying the Fleming traditional desert "Purple Cows", Aolama thanks volunteers from Boy Scout Troop 100 for their help completing his Eagle Project.



Pictured: Logo on Aolama's T-shirt.

To become an Eagle Scout is a commitment for life to be a mentor and leader for the community.





No more slipping up/ sliding down hill accessing trail #4 and #5. A job well done!

