

Questions & Answers Prepared for The Garden Island, August 2008

1) Define what future development on Kauai means to you. Please use specifics.

Development on Kauai should be paced and consistent with the vision outlined in our 2000 General Plan. Specifically our vision is to keep Kauai's rural character by supporting incremental smart growth adjacent to our unique towns and communities and keeping communities separated by open space and view planes. To accomplish this goal requires 1. Preserving agricultural land for true agriculture, not urbanization and sprawl. 2. Pacing growth consistent with general plan goals. Kauai can appropriately pace growth by conducting assessments of infrastructure needs and fairly requiring impact fees on new development to ensure adequate infrastructure to accommodate the paced growth. People on Kauai know that our current infrastructure is not adequate to deal with the rapid pace of growth we have experienced in the last 10 years. As the economic cycle cools we need to do the appropriate planning and put the mechanisms and ordinances in place to make certain we do not make the same mistakes again, and ensure we are ready for the next economic upturn. Pacing growth helps create steady employment for our local workforce and avoids the need to import new workers from elsewhere which strains our available workforce housing driving up housing costs for working people.

2) What is your vision of the island in 10 years?

In ten years Kauai remains the best island in the world to live on and visit. Residents enjoy adequate affordable housing and economic opportunities to stay on Kauai and prosper. We have a diverse, sustainable economy with a strong, unique visitor industry complimented by growing high tech business and entrepreneurial sectors. Many people on Kauai are involved in sustainable endeavors ensuring that the food residents eat and served to visitors is primarily grown and raised on Kauai. Agriculture systems have been preserved and enhanced. Soils are being enriched organically. Greenwaste, food waste and even sludge are being composted and recycled for that purpose. Energy needs are met primarily by a diverse mix of renewable wind, wave, sun, hydro and biomass sources. Increasingly people reside near their workplace in livable, walkable communities in which their daily needs are close at hand. Some County workers and others telecommute and work from home. Increasingly visitors use shared-use paths, convenient public transportation along with tour, resort and North Shore shuttles instead of car rentals on their vacations. Kauai remains well established as the unique and desirable of the Hawaiian Islands with a destiny very different than that of Maui or Oahu.

3) What specific credentials do you have for being a county council member? Why are you the best for our county? Again, let's get specific. What positions of power have you held in the past? What connections do you have that will benefit the county?

On Kauai I have been involved in the community for years. As a marriage and family therapist I coordinated child abuse treatment

programs which involved working with families all over the island and collaborating with Child Protective Services and the criminal justice system. As a community volunteer I was the coordinator of the Kamalani Playground and Kamalani Kai Bridge Projects. I am the founder of the Friends of Kamalani and Lydgate Park and was the coordinator for ten years during which we completed a community master plan expanding the park and creating the family campground (overdue to be opened), the first phase of the shared-use path, and the sports fields (soon to open). I am also a small business owner and a former director of the Kapaa Business Association. In government I worked with Mayor Bryan Baptiste's office in the Ka Leo O Kauai community outreach program. I am currently a first term member of the County Council. With my varied background on Kauai I have numerous good relationships with virtually all sectors of the community and these individuals know I call on them regularly to listen carefully to their input on the critical decisions facing our county.

4) How will you work with the other six members of the County Council if elected? Would like some specific tactics and strategies you would use to act on the county's behalf within the larger group.

I will continue to work collaboratively with fellow council members, the administration, community members and groups. I have strived to treat everyone with equal respect and dignity, to listen carefully, to be calm, balanced, and to seek common ground whenever possible. I welcome having my views challenged because I do not believe mine is necessarily the best position. I believe that when we arrive at a consensus through mutual understanding and compromise that we often achieve the best outcome for our community. When we do disagree we can do so without being disagreeable. Specifically I believe the County needs to share and disseminate as much information to the public as easily as possible so we are all working with the same knowledge base. I would like to see the council do more meetings on specific topics in a workshop format. I am looking forward to implementing our plan to broadcast meetings live on the internet and make them available in easily accessible archives by topic. Working with the administration, regardless of who our next Mayor is, means working together to make the County successful in achieving our goals and offering some level of deference in how those goals are realized.

5) What is your history? Born and raised here? Mainlander? Family? Residence? Career? Education?

Gini and I chose Kauai as our home in 1990, we have been married for 33 years. Our children David and Kelly were babies when we arrived. We came seeking a special community to make our life and raise our children in. Kauai has been everything we dreamed of and more. Living for years on the same block in Wailua Houselots we were blessed with a safe and loving neighborhood in a community full of aloha. We currently reside in the Wailua Homesteads. David works for Holo-Holo charters and is the father of our grandson Kawika. Kelly just started UH Manoa after graduating from Kapaa High. Gini is a Medical Assistant and has worked as a kindergarten and pre-school teacher. I have a BA in

Psychology from the University of California, Riverside and a MS in Psychology from California State University, Los Angeles. I have been a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist since 1985. On Kauai I worked for Child and Family Service, the YWCA, The Children's Justice Center (Formally the Children's Advocacy Center) and was the Executive Director of Leadership Kauai. I have worked for the County of Kauai in Mayor Batiste's office and currently am a Councilmember.

6) What does open government mean to you?

Open government means ensuring that government operates in the public eye to the greatest extent possible. Council does, in my opinion, follow the requirements of the Charter and the State Sunshine Law regarding open government. I also know we can do a better job. The County can further the cause of a more open government by making information readily available to the public. We can do a much better job at making public documents available on the internet. I have advocated and worked successfully with the administration to put agendas and minutes for Boards and Commissions on the County's web site. I have pushed for the same access for County Council minutes which are, unfortunately, still unavailable to the public on the internet and are only available in hard copy. Obtaining minutes requires going to Council Services and paying a copying fee. I have stated my belief that most written County Attorney opinions regarding the law should be made available to the public as they are in other Hawaii governmental jurisdictions. I have proposed a County ordinance that would mirror the state law governing the release of State Attorney General Opinions that has been in place for over forty years.

7) What is the single, most important issue to you?

Good planning for the future and implementation of those plans! Traffic, inadequate infrastructure, lack of housing, loss of rural character & open space are the results of poor planning, no planning or plans not implemented. I first ran for Council because of frustration regarding the slow implementation of the 2000 General Plan update. The GP has a vision to preserve the uniqueness of our island that I feel most residents agree with. Yet as we approach 2009 only a few of the specific actions required to realize our vision have happened. For example the GP calls for specific measures to regulate agricultural subdivisions to control proliferation of "Gentlemen Estates" on ag land, yet the bills to accomplish this-- finally circulated by Mayor Baptiste-- are stalled. The GP envisions pacing growth at sustainable levels, yet the studies to establish the reasonable nexus required for growth limits to be implemented have not been completed. New development, particularly in highly desirable areas like Kauai, typically requires developers to pay impact fees to mitigate the impacts to police, fire, transportation, workforce housing, solid waste, water, wastewater and parks. The impact fee studies required to fairly assess these fees have yet to be completed.