

Hawaii Association of the Blind Newsletter

June 1, 2024

Upcoming Events

Hawaii Association of the Blind

Parents and Youth (PAY committee)

Singing into Summer Celebrating is the Key, Laughter is good for Mind, Body, and Soul Karaoke We Go!

Image description: A yellow smiling face singing into a microphone.

Where: Crazy Karaoke 98-199 Kamehameha Hwy Aiea HI 96701 in Pearl Kai Shopping Center

When: June 8th at 12noon till 3:00p.m.

Cost: \$10.00 for non HAB members and/or family/guests.

Free for: HAB members, PAY youth and parents/guardians. PAY participants siblings over 10 years old is \$5.00. Under 10 years old free.

What to Bring: Your singing voice and a potluck dish to share. Some ideas for potluck: finger foods/pupu and desserts. Pizza, chicken and water is already taken.

All are welcome.

What a fun way to celebrate a time of graduating, moving and new transitions but by going to Karaoke with our family and friends. It will be a time of gathering, celebrating, eating and singing. Get to meet new people and hang out with old friends. We will be also learning a bit about the history of Karaoke, how singing and laughter improves our overall well-being.

Don't miss out on this incredibly fun time of gathering. RSVP: habpay808@gmail.com or call Terri-lynn Higashi (808)489-3265 by June 5th 2024.

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Image Description: A picture of a man holding a long spear in one hand and holding out his other hand in front while dressed in cape, wearing a traditional Hawaiian royalty helmet.

What: HoloHolo Shopping at Pearl City Foodland Farms

Where: Pearl City Foodland Farms, 1150 Kuala St. Pearl City, Hawaii

Handivan Dropoff will be in front of Foodland Farms

When: Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Time: 2 PM to 5 PM

Join HAB for another exciting shopping adventure on King Kamehameha Day at Pearl City Foodland Farms. COMS Troy Kato, Sherri Martinez, Nancy Parker and O&M Specialist Hazelle Magaoay-Baniaga will be there to assist and guide you as you shop. Social interaction and opportunities to practice your O&M skills will be available. Foodland Farms gift cards are available to use during the supported event. Please RSVP to reserve your spot today!

RSVP: Nancy Parker (808) 291-5390, Troy Kato (310) 612-3163, Hazelle Magaoay-Baniaga (808) 258-5081

Liability Disclaimer: All participants are responsible for their own safety throughout the event. Hawaii Association of the Blind shall not assume any liability resulting in injury or death.

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Senior Fair

Hawaii Convention Center

Friday, June 21st

8:30AM – 4:00PM

Saturday, June 22nd

8:30AM – 4:00PM

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Image description: Fresh pineapple and watermelon are on display in a shopping setting.

What: HoloHolo Shopping at Manoa Marketplace

Where: 2752 Woodlawn Drive, Honolulu, Hawaii, 96822

Handivan Dropoff: At the picnic tables in front of the post office, which is behind Safeway

When: Sunday, June 23, 2024

Time: 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Get rid of your summertime blues and join HAB for a sizzling shopping event. COMS Troy Kato, Nancy Parker and O&M Specialist Hazelle Magaoay-Baniaga will be there to assist and guide you as you shop. Manoa Marketplace offers a Farmer's Market, Safeway, Longs, and various eateries within the shopping center. Social interaction and opportunities to practice your O&M skills will be available. Safeway gift cards are available to use during the supported event. Please RSVP to reserve your spot today!

RSVP: Nancy Parker (808) 291-5390, Troy Kato (310) 612-3163, Hazelle Magaoay-Baniaga (808) 258-5081

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Illuminating Pathways to Success: The Bright Side of Effective Leadership.

In the vibrant tapestry of modern workplaces/organizations, the influence of a skilled team leader shines as a beacon of positivity and opportunity. Far more than just a manager, a good leader illuminates the path to success, infusing the team with optimism, collaboration, and boundless potential.

Let's explore the sunlit landscape of how effective leadership fosters an environment of growth, innovation, and collective triumph.

1. Cultivating Trust and Collaboration: Picture a garden where trust blooms and collaboration thrives. A proficient team leader tends to this garden, nurturing an atmosphere where every team member feels empowered to voice their ideas and concerns. By fostering trust and openness, they cultivate a fertile ground for collaboration, where diverse perspectives intertwine to produce remarkable results.

2. **Painting Clear Visions of Success:** In the realm of effective leadership, clarity acts as the paintbrush, delineating vibrant visions of success. A visionary leader paints these pictures with precision, outlining clear goals and pathways to achievement. With each stroke, they imbue the team with a sense of purpose and direction, igniting the flames of passion and determination.

3. **Empowering Growth and Flourishing Potential:** Like a nurturing gardener, a good leader tends to the growth and flourishing of their team members. They recognize the unique blossoms of talent within each individual, providing nourishment and guidance to help them bloom. Through mentorship, encouragement, and opportunities for development, they empower each member to reach new heights of skill and capability.

4. **Inspiring Radiance and Enthusiasm:** Leadership, at its core, is an art of inspiration. A charismatic leader radiates positivity and enthusiasm, infusing the team with energy and drive. With their infectious passion and unwavering optimism, they ignite the spark of motivation within each member, propelling them towards greatness with a skip in their step and a smile on their face.

5. **Navigating Challenges with Resilient Grace:** In the garden of progress, challenges often bloom like weeds among the flowers. Yet, a resilient leader approaches these challenges with grace and fortitude. They stand tall amidst the storm, guiding the team with steady hands and unwavering resolve. Through their resilience and adaptability, they transform obstacles into opportunities, fostering growth and learning in the face of adversity.

6. **Cultivating a Garden of Innovation and Creativity:** Imagine a garden where creativity blooms like wildflowers, unrestrained by convention or limitation. A visionary leader nurtures such a garden, cultivating a culture of innovation and experimentation. By encouraging risk-taking, embracing failure as a stepping stone to success, and championing out-of-the-box thinking, they inspire the team to push boundaries and explore new horizons.

In conclusion, the impact of effective leadership is akin to a sunbeam breaking through the clouds, casting a warm glow upon the entire team. It fosters an environment where trust flourishes, visions soar, and individuals thrive. With optimism as their guiding light, a good leader transforms challenges into triumphs, obstacles into opportunities, and dreams into reality. In this radiant landscape of leadership, every team member is empowered to shine brightly, illuminating the path to collective success with their unique brilliance.

Executive-Client Servicing & Content Writer at Quantafi Digital
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Writer at Quantafi Digital.

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Reflections about a Modest Woman that touched the Heart of many.

By Terri Lynn Higashi Akamine

On May 17th there was a celebration of life for Mrs. Helga Cabanilla. As a small token of appreciation for all she had done through the years I bought a lei. I asked her daughter where should I put this lei for aunty Helga? She said how about here right around her urn. As we put the lei around her urn, I had to brush back a few tears because I realized in that moment it was a perfect place for that lei because aunty Helga was always in the midst of doing something such as decorating, serving, supporting not only her family, but also the organization.

I remember we had Thanksmas events, and I was just amazed at her wonderful decorating. For several years she had a sled, and 3 huge polar bears in the sled with a backdrop of full-size differently decorated Christmas trees. Another year she brought 4 decorated full-size Christmas trees among them one that rotated around in an array of lights. In addition, she brought several enormous life size nutcrackers. She was like a music conductor behind the scenes working out each musical section to perfection with love. It took many hands, trips, and cars to bring everything. It was quite lovely to watch because she seemed happy to do it, not a hint of tiredness in her. She also did it with such humility and grace.

Another time I remember we were at Zippy's having dinner. I noticed that she had split her meal into two. As I sat next to her, she said here Terri eat this? I politely declined, but she insisted and put the other half in my plate. I was just so touched by her generosity and kindness as though what she had was meant to be shared. She was always thinking of how she could give to someone else.

While listening to her service, I felt very blessed to know such a lady. It was apparent that aunty Helga had such a huge heart to, love, encourage, and give to others. It was amazing to hear people share stories especially about her signature Octoberfest productions. It just shows even more of how much her life impacted people. Her essence really was that she was modest, humble, and cared for those around her. With everything she did, you can always feel her kindness, compassion, and heart.

We will miss you aunty Helga.

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Zumba Day and Zoom Away

By Crata Mizutani and Terri Higashi

It was a great day to zoom away... I mean Zumba away at Kakaako Park on May 26th, 2024. The Pay committee had a Zumba event with good music, good food and good friends. The event started off learning about proprioception which means your bodies ability to sense movement, action, and location. Ms. Chloe gave us a little bag of sensory items to show as examples of how things move, pull, and stretch. We took out the items to see how much we could stretch, pull, or squeeze them through our fingers. We got to learn a bit more about our five senses: hearing, touch, sight, smell, and taste.

Next, we had the Zumba instructor teach us all some great Zumba moves that we were able to practice to awesome music. The instructor asked us what songs we would like to hear and added some Zumba moves to it. It was an exciting time of cardio. Ms. Chloe even gave us some cards that had exercise moves on them in braille.

After Zumba, we had some lunch and musical entertainment by our very own Lance Kamaka. It was a good time talking story, eating, and having fun. We also had an inflatable seat that we could sit or lie in to relax. Thank you to all those who showed up and thank you to HAB for making this possible.

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Appreciation Poem

Author Unknown

A: Among all the things you do, know that it was seen.

P: People may forget what you did or appear to not notice by their silence.

P: plans you put together with your whole heart may seem like small tasks to some but know that it was seen.

R: Recall those moments you did a good deed often as you will feel glimmers of sunshine in your heart with each moment reflected.

E: Encouragement is needed, but it may come in different forms or by different people

C: Continue to give, serve, and do for it is the essence of you.

I: Inspire to be the person you would want people to be to you.

A: Attention and verbalization goes a long way in showing you care, but sometimes it is not always there. You are still seen.

T: Time flies by but live in the moment a little longer seeing all the goodness around you.

I: Instead of focusing on all that went wrong notice all that went right.

O: Only you know what you need when you need it, so be kind to yourself and others.

N: notice that good things are around even among the trials that may be around you and know that you are still seen.

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CNET - Thursday, May 2, 2024 at 8:00 AM

Rabbit R1 Explained: What This Tiny AI Gadget Actually Does - CNET

As I've been using the Rabbit R1 over the past week, I've gotten the same questions multiple times: What is that thing, and what does it do? And each time, I struggled to find a concise answer.

That's because the Rabbit R1 isn't your typical tech product. It's not a phone, but it's meant to accomplish some of the same things as your phone -- only faster and more naturally. It's still far from living up to that promise, which you can read more about in my review. The device is expected to evolve and improve over time, but I don't recommend buying one right now.

The Rabbit R1 doesn't run on a conventional operating system with apps. Instead, the software is powered by AI that's been trained to use apps and services on your behalf. Rabbit founder and CEO Jesse Lyu likens it to handing your phone to a friend to order takeout for you.

Here's a breakdown of what to know about the Rabbit R1.

How much does the Rabbit R1 cost?

The Rabbit R1 costs \$199 and doesn't require a subscription. But you'll also need a data plan for the Rabbit R1 if you want to use it on the go, unless you tether it to your phone's mobile hotspot. Some of the services you'll likely want to connect to the R1, like Spotify and Midjourney, require a subscription.

What comes in the box?

Other than the device itself, you'll get a clear protective travel case that can double as a kickstand for the Rabbit R1. It kind of resembles a cassette tape case, which is fitting given the Rabbit R1's retro design. The device doesn't come with a charging cable, but you can use any USB-C cable to power it up.

The back of the Rabbit R1

Lisa Eadicicco/CNET

What can the Rabbit R1 do?

Right now, the Rabbit R1 can answer questions, call an Uber, order DoorDash, play music on Spotify, translate speech, generate images on Midjourney, identify nearby objects with its camera and record voice memos. Your phone can already do these things, but Rabbit is positioning the R1 as a way to accomplish these tasks faster and more efficiently. (Although again, I haven't found that to be true in my experience so far).

Instead of opening an app and swiping to make your selections, you primarily interact with the Rabbit R1 by holding down the side button and speaking into it like a walkie-talkie. But there's also a scroll wheel for those few instances in which you may need to navigate a menu on screen, such as your Spotify queue, settings options or making food selections on DoorDash. You access the settings menu by shaking the R1 twice.

The Rabbit R1 can answer questions about objects it sees in the real world.

Richard Peterson/CNET

So far, I've found the R1 to be most useful for scanning objects and points of interest in my environment and asking questions. However, it sometimes had trouble recognizing certain landmarks, like the New York Stock Exchange. I also couldn't get Uber to work properly, but the company just issued an update that may help with this.

Rabbit is also planning to update the R1 with more features over time. During the company's launch keynote on April 23, founder and CEO Jesse Lyu said features like travel planning, reminders, calendar and contact support and more are planned for summer 2024. Smart home functionality, shopping features and teach mode, which lets you teach the R1 how to accomplish a specific task within an app or service, are also in development. The company also plans to add video messaging, third-party payments and navigation to the Rabbit R1.

Which third-party services does the Rabbit R1 support?

According to Rabbit's online portal, known as the Rabbithole, the R1 currently supports Uber, Spotify, Midjourney and DoorDash. When setting up your R1, you can connect your accounts for these services to the device.

Support for Amazon Music and Apple Music is in development, and Yelp functionality should be coming in summer 2024, according to the company's keynote. The company also plans to add support for Airbnb, Lyft, 1Password, OpenTable, Ticketmaster and Uber Eats.

The Rabbit R1 can use DoorDash on your behalf.

Lisa Eadicco/CNET

Does that mean Rabbit knows my logins and passwords?

The company says it doesn't store login credentials for connected apps and services, and instead uses the service's own authentication systems for linking your accounts. So if you connect your Uber account to the Rabbithole, for example, it'll use Uber's authentication system, Rabbit says. When I went through

the setup process, linking my accounts to the Rabbithole sort of felt like logging into Uber or Doordash through a web browser.

Can you use the Rabbit R1 as a phone?

The Rabbit R1 technically isn't a phone, but you can put a SIM card in it. However, there isn't any support for calling or texting at this time.

The Rabbit R1 can answer questions, play music on Spotify, use its camera to answer questions about what it sees and more.

How can I see the questions I've asked Rabbit?

The journal section of the Rabbithole web portal shows any visual searches you've conducted using the R1's camera and voice memos you've recorded. You can delete these from the website at any time.

But the Rabbithole doesn't currently store voice queries, and there isn't a way to save answers for later reference. A Rabbit spokesperson said the company plans to add this functionality through an update in the near future.

What's the Rabbit R1's battery life like?

The Rabbit R1 initially had very poor battery life that barely made it through half the day. It would even drain passively when not in use. But the company issued an update on April 30 to address this. Battery life seems to have significantly improved, with the R1's battery remaining at 83% by 5:34 p.m. on a very light day of use.

Wait, I thought I saw something about the Rabbit R1 just being an Android app?

You can press and hold the Rabbit R1's side button and speak into it like a walkie-talkie.

The answer is a little complicated. Android Authority says it installed the Rabbit R1's launcher Android Package (APK) file, which is the file that includes all the resources and elements an Android app needs in order to be properly installed on a device, on a Google Pixel 6A. The outlet posted a video of what appears to be the Rabbit OS operating system running on a phone and answering a question, with the volume up key serving as the push-to-talk button on the R1.

But the report also mentioned that other functionality, such as Spotify integration, likely wouldn't work since it requires specific system-level permissions that weren't able to be granted on a phone.

In response, Rabbit Inc. said on X that it's "aware that there are some unofficial Rabbit OS app/website emulators out there." It also said the service wouldn't work properly using a "local bootleg APK" since it wouldn't be able to access the "proper OS and cloud endpoints," adding that "Rabbit OS is customized for R1 and we do not support third-party clients."

You can read Rabbit's full response below:

we are aware there are some unofficial rabbit OS app/website emulators out there. we understand the passion that people have to get a taste of our AI and LAM instead of waiting for their r1 to arrive. that being said, to clear any misunderstanding and set the record straight,...

— rabbit inc. (@rabbit_hmi) May 1, 2024

We'll update this story with more information about the R1 as the device receives more updates in the future.

The Rabbit R1 AI Assistant Looks Downright Retro in Orange

Editors' note: CNET used an AI engine to help create several dozen stories, which are labeled accordingly. The note you're reading is attached to articles that deal substantively with the topic of AI but are created entirely by our expert editors and writers. For more, see our AI policy.

<https://www.cnet.com/tech/mobile/rabbit-r1-explained-what-this-tiny-ai-gadget-actually-does/#ftag=CAD590a51e>