


<http://www.hawaiinewsnow.com/Global/story.asp?S=13800778>

Big Island woman prompts investigation into possible contest fraud

Posted: Jan 07, 2011 1:54 AM Updated: Jan 07, 2011 2:13 AM

 Click image to enlarge

KAILUA-KONA (HawaiiNewsNow) - A Big Island woman is making National headlines for uncovering an alleged cheating scam in a nationwide charity contest.

Ann Goody with the Three Ring Ranch exotic animal sanctuary in Kailua-Kona is in a New York Times article about fraud in the Pepsi Refresh Contest.

Pepsi gives out \$1.3 million every month to non-profit groups. It's based on internet voting.

Goody says she was in line for 50 thousand dollars but was beaten at the last minute by other groups that hired a company to rig the votes.

"This man from India and his online service where he could rig - either with an IP changer, or with a bot or with sweat shops of people in India who were sitting and pressing the buttons. And he had an IP changer to make it look like it was a U.S. address. And it's a great social, charitable event. It's just been hijacked by the cheaters", Goody said via phone.

According to ms. Goody the FBI & IRS are investigating. She's hoping Pepsi will award her sanctuary the \$50,000 grant.

Copyright 2011 Hawaii News Now. All rights reserved.

