Scrappahz Union’s Journey Unites Rivals and Transformed Communities on an Eco-Friendly Mission of Recycling

Submitted by Kumu Michelle Pieper

Nānākuli and Wai‘anae High Schools, former rivals, have come together thanks to the passionate students of the Scrappahz Union 96792 which was awarded a $25,000 prize from American Savings Bank. These young minds from Nānākuli High set out to bridge the gap along their coast, transforming competition into collaboration through ‘aina aloha initiatives that create sustainable solutions.

The Scrappahz Union, born out of climate change concern, focuses on sustainability and community service. With their funds, they’re purchasing cardboard shredders for all Westside schools, reducing greenhouse gases and diverting cardboard from landfills. Shredded cardboard becomes a powerful tool: it suppresses weeds, retains water, nursery soil, and protects fallen fruit. Their mission extends beyond schools, inspiring community change that campaigns against single-use plastics.

The students’ efforts prove that unity conquers adversity, highlighting the strength of friendship, sustainability and the Westside spirit. Additionally, their work has far-reaching impacts as shredded cardboard offers a lifeline to farmers who have faced the challenge of contaminated mulch due to the CRB (Coconut Rhino Beetle). By providing clean and safe mulch alternatives, they’re helping these farmers to regain their agricultural footing.

Wai‘anae High alumni and Nānākuli High teacher, Kumu Pieper notes the remarkable change. Formerly, rival schools seldom collaborated; now, they’re working together to promote sustainability, recognizing and engaging in kuleana (responsibility). In addition, they have inspired residents of Nānākuli and Wai‘anae to take pride in their community and make positive changes.

Join the movement for a greener future - embrace the eco-friendly magic of shredded cardboard. Connect with the Scrappahz Union for a shredder for your school or engage in their “Sustainable Saturday” project which is held the first Saturday of each month at Nānākuli High from 8:30 to 11 am and contribute to a sustainable and united west side.
As the Thanksgiving and holiday season approaches, it becomes even more important to come together as a community to support those in need. This can be seen in various ways, such as the Wai'anae Coast Community Christmas parade scheduled for December 9 starting at 10 pm from Wai'anae Boat Harbor to the Wai'anae Mall. Get your application and payment in quickly as the deadline is right around the corner. (See entry form on page 11) Also, the 2nd Annual Kali-kimakai Me Ka Alanui (Christmas on the Avenue) is also happening on December 9 from 4 to 10 pm, so mark your calendars for these great events. Please note that traffic will be affected by both of these events.

Last month’s question was, “It’s so great to see the new restroom updated and painted at Pōka‘i Bay Beach Park. Kudos to all who help with the cleaning and painting of murals on the inside. Are there plans to have it monitored after hours to maintain them?”

We reached out to the City & County Parks Department and haven’t heard back from them as of our press date. We’ll keep you posted!

Now for this month’s question, “I was wondering if there is any location or business group who has a “swap meet” type activity for selling your household goods and other “gently used” items? I know lots of folks are using social media to sell their items but I would like to see something in-person. Any ideas?”

The gold ring that was found outside the Wai'anae Post Office that we featured last month has still not been claimed. It has a very detailed specific inside engraving in the ring and also two very distinct characteristics. You must have the specific inside engraving as it must be sure it is very sentimental for someone. Call 808.722.7670 if this is yours!

If you want to ask a new nii’s question, e-mail us your question and/or a photo to wss@hawaiicircle.com or drop us a line at the address below. We will report back next month!
**WEDC’s Business of the Month:**

**Confections by Pakalana**

Baking has always been her passion and her earliest memories take her back to her childhood when she would eagerly join her aunt in the kitchen after school. It was a clever way for her aunt to keep her occupied, but for her, it quickly became a cherished daily ritual. As she grew older, she realized that baking had a unique power to bring people together and when she became a mother, she made it a point to have freshly baked goods ready for her daughter’s return from school, creating heartwarming moments of shared sweetness.

The year 2020 brought unforeseen challenges as the world grappled with the COVID-19 pandemic. She, like many others, lost her job and was searching for a way to keep herself busy and contribute to her family’s income and initially dipped her toes into the business world with Li Hing Mui lollipops, but fate had bigger plans for her. It all began when a co-worker approached her with a special request: a custom birthday cake and she seized the opportunity, and this single request marked the genesis of Confections by Pakalana. Three years later, her business is thriving, serving the community with mouthwatering baked goods.

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**Submitted by Lei’ya Haff**

In an exclusive interview, Harmony Chung, who prefers to be addressed as Pakalana, shares the inspiring story behind her business, Confections by Pakalana. She was born and raised in Kalihi and currently resides in Nānākuli and as the proud owner of Confections by Pakalana, she crafts a delectable array of homemade baked goods, confections, pastries, candies and more. Her journey into the world of baking began at an early age and has evolved into a thriving business that delights taste buds across her community.

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**Sweet treats made by the proud owner of Confections by Pakalana**

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**Continued on page 14**
The youth crisis mobile outreach team pilot program shall provide, to the extent practicable, the following services: (1) Crisis prevention with community collaboration and community program development; (2) Face-to-face intervention within one hour of a request for intervention; (3) Crisis de-escalation and assessment and (4) Stabilization for not more than eight weeks, including (A) Connecting youth to community supports and services; (B) In-home clinical support for youth and families; (C) Connection with higher level support if needed.

Note: This information is continued on page 12.
Ezekiel K Barnes was born on Kaua‘i and raised on the Wai‘anae Coast, where he has a large extended family. After graduating from Wai‘anae High School, he joined the trades and as a Carpenters Apprentice for two and a half years.

He is a coach for Na Holokai Canoe Club and a coach for the first OIA team in canoe paddling at Kamaile Academy PCS. He is also a co-author for an up and coming science fiction novel produced in collaboration with six other co-authors from around the country.

Ezekiel has experience in the performing arts and in video production. He is a Native Hawaiian and a resident of Wai‘anae Valley Hawaiian Homestead.

From first-hand experience, finding a contractor means putting in hours and hours of work to compare system pricing, what kind of panel and tech is best for your house (especially if you're getting salty ocean air) and getting your paperwork and forms in order just to start applying. We want to be a one-stop source where you can avoid getting ripped off or buying a 25-year lemon.

That's why our members are hard at work to tackle the problem of finding a contractor who is willing and able to meet our community members' needs. On September 16, Solarize808 met with Don Moreland from Solar Crowdsource, who visited all the way from Georgia to strategize. As we continue to tackle the problem of finding the right contractor, we are exploring a cohort model: starting with a set number of people, determining their needs, and finding a contractor who can meet those needs. We are currently surveying contractors to learn about how Solarize808 can build value for them. Specifically, what kind of information they would need from participants to estimate the feasibility, along with the price and timeline, of rooftop solar for their house.

Input from both contractors and community members will be pivotal in making sure our program serves our communities best. We’re looking for households in Wai‘anae who have recently gotten solar—we would like to talk (talk) about your experience, including how much money you saved, how smooth the process was, and how your contractor was.

Hawaii Energy’s Energy Smart 4 Homes program offers free energy assessments and energy efficiency upgrades, such as new showerheads, lighting, power strips, and more, so that you can start reducing your electric costs.

Continued on page 11.
**Cancer Support Group**

6 PM AT WCCHC KAʻAHAʻAINA CAFÉ
86-260 Farrington Hwy., Waiʻanae

NOVEMBER 16, DECEMBER 21
Guest Speakers | Refreshments | Information
- - - Open to the Public - - -
All Survivors, Patients with Cancer, Caregivers and anyone interested in the Cancer Disease

Time for Everybody to Share their Journey
RSVP by call or text to Eva Galariada-Rosa 808-220-2842 Walk-ins are welcome!

For questions call Gail Gomes 808-696-7978 or Flo Pell 808-696-2776

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86-260 Farrington Hwy., Waiʻanae

NOVEMBER 16, DECEMBER 21
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For questions call Gail Gomes 808-696-7978 or Flo Pell 808-696-2776

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**SURECAN LLC**

**PROFESSIONAL GRADE SERVICES**

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**2ND ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT**

**PRESENTED BY SURECAN OHANA**

Friday, December 1st | 11:00 AM Shotgun Ewa Beach Golf Club

**10% OFF EARLY BIRD PROMO REGISTER BY 10/30**

**3-MAN TEAM:**

$700 3-Man Team (Golf, Lunch, Banquet Dinner)
$240 Individual Play (Golf, Lunch, Banquet Dinner)

**SPONSORSHIPS**

- Platinum: $3000
- Gold: $1500
- Diamond: $2500
- Bronze: $1000
- Hole: $500

See Tournament Website for Details

**CONTESTS**

- Closest to the Pin $20
- Longest Drive $20
- String to the Hole $10 per ft
- Wackiest Dress
- Best Dress Team

REGISTER ONLINE (SCAN QR CODE) OR CONTACT
EVENT PLANNER LUVONNE SHARR 808-675-6693

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**Legislatively Speaking**

**Rep. Gates**
Continued from page 4
always contact our office directly as well.

As Chair of the House Committee on Agriculture and Food Systems, I have been meeting with stakeholders to hear the needs of local farmers and food security advocates. Some legislative ideas include more resources and programs to address the coconut rhinoceros beetle problems that have been hindering not only our own coast but all over the state. In addition, we are working to identify staging locations for goods and services for our community during times of crisis or disasters.

Since the Lahaina fire, our district has been concerned with our own potential wildfire and evacuation needs. We are also working on legislation and funding for fire mitigation measures which has always been a priority for our community. I am currently serving on the Wildfire Preparedness Official Working Group on behalf of the State House to come up with recommendations for the Waiʻanae Coast and State of Hawaiʻi. Preparation is just as important as response; we need to be forward thinking in how we implement these solutions to our challenges.

Again, if there are any community concerns or questions you would like to have addressed, please contact my office at 808-586-8400 or email me at Rep-Gates@capitol.hawaii.gov.

Mahalo,
Rep. Gates

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**Legislatively Speaking**

**Representative Kila**
Continued from page 4

Your responses are valuable and contribute to understanding the wide array of opinions within our community. Thank you for participating and sharing your viewpoints. Your input helps me better represent the rich diversity of perspectives in our community. At this time, this survey is reserved and intended for residents and members of Māʻili, Nānākuli, Honokai Hale and Koʻolina.

Use the QR code below or visit the website: https://tinyurl.com/KilaSurvey

Please feel free to contact or connect with me at repkila@capitol.hawaii.gov or 808-586-9480 should you have any questions or ever need any assistance.

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**The Handi-Van**

City and County of Honolulu

For more information about The Handi-Van eligibility process, call 808-538-0033.
WCCCHC NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2023  RICHARD BETTIN, PRESIDENT & CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  DR. STEPHEN BRADLEY, CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER  KEOLA LLOYD, BOARD CHAIR

NATIONAL DIABETES AWARENESS MONTH

November marks National Diabetes Awareness Month. In Hawaii about 1 in 3 (37.1%) of adult have pre-diabetes. Around 128,453 adults (11.2%) in Hawaii are diagnosed with diabetes, with potentially 39,000 unaware. These aren’t just numbers; they represent our close-knit community grappling with this health challenge.

Diabetes is a chronic medical condition where the body either doesn’t produce enough insulin or cannot effectively use the insulin it produces.

Insulin is a hormone that regulates blood sugar.

NIMAA PROGRAM TRAINS THE NEXT GENERATION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANTS

In Waianae, there’s a significant need for accessible, quality healthcare that is culturally competent. Medical Assistants (MAs) are crucial in meeting this need, often being the welcoming face for patients at WCCCHC.

The National Institute for Medical Assistant Advancement (NIMAA) rises to this call by offering an innovative training program that perfectly blends in-depth knowledge with hands-on experiences right where it matters. Within the NIMAA program, students embark on an educational 18-month journey that combines classroom knowledge with hands-on experience at WCCCHC. The program officially became a site at WCCCHC in 2019.

For those looking for a rewarding career path and a chance to make a real difference in their community, NIMAA opened its doors for the 2024 Spring Cohort on September 27th. The application deadline is fast approaching on November 29, 2023, with a free information day on Thursday, November 16th where all fees are waived. If you or someone you know is looking for their next step in their career, NIMAA offers a great pathway towards becoming a Medical Assistant.

The program, which runs from February to October and again from August to April, requires at least 420 clinic hours from its learners. NIMAA is accepting student applications for the 2024 Spring Cohort via their website www.nimaa.org. Any questions can be directed to Anna Padeken, NIMAA Program Coordinator and Site Facilitator at APadeken@wccchc.com.

WCCCHC PARTICIPATES IN HONOLULU PRIDE: CELEBRATING PRIDE, PROMOTING HEALTHCARE FOR ALL

This year’s parade was both a celebration and a nod to tradition and roots, marked notably by events like the Kapaemahu Ceremony at Niihau Ola in Waikiki. At WCCCHC, we’re committed to offering compassionate, inclusive care to all cultures and orientations, ’shares Shalena Lewis, APRN working at West Oahu Community Health in Kapolei. “Our approach includes offering specialized support for those seeking gender-affirming services, including hormones, surgery referrals, and racial health support.”

WCCCHC provides specific expertise for trans* or gender expansive individuals, assisting with everything from medical needs to updating legal documents.

Furthermore, several providers are equipped to prescribe Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) for HIV prevention. This dedication to our LGBTQ+ community includes embracing a holistic vision of health.

WCCCHC message this year, Celebrating Pride - Promoting Healthcare for All, is an actionable promise to the community, highlighting the significance of health, respect, and aloha for all. This commitment isn’t just about supporting the LGBTQ+ community; it’s broader, rooted in a vision for holistic health and recognizing our community’s diverse richness.
COMMUNITY FOOD SYSTEMS
Makeke@wcchc.com or (808) 697-3709

WEEKLY EVENTS

KEIKI PANTRY
Located in all Waianae Coast Schools. Contact your school for more information.

KUPUNA PANTRY
9:45 - 11:00am
Monday
Community Learning Center at Mall
Wednesday
Waianae Elementary School across Piliaau Park
Thursday
Ho`o Aina O Makaha
Friday
Lilouetat Trust In Nuanakuli

FARMERS MARKET

Tuesday | 9AM - 12PM
WCCHC Main Campus
Saturday | 8AM - 12PM
Waianae Mall

*EBT / Double Bucks Program
Unlimited doubling for EBT/SNAP benefits toward the purchase of fresh local produce, pol, honey and proteins.

COMMUNITY WELLNESS
JOIN OUR MONTHLY COMMUNITY WELLNESS WORKSHOPS

NEXT WORKSHOP
TUESDAY, NOV. 21
Follow us at wcchc.com and our social media platforms for more details & ways to sign up!

COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES
PATIENT ASSISTANCE SERVICES IS HERE TO HELP!

COMMUNITY WELLNESS CONT.

Your household* might qualify for a $250 FOOD CARD
topurchase fresh fruits, vegetables, protein, pol and honey at Waianae Waiakea farmers & green market.

MUST MEET ALL 3 CRITERIA
to be eligible to participate:

- ACTIVE PATIENT AT WAIANAE COAST
  COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH CENTER
  Must have been an eligible WCCHC provider within the past 12 months.

- LIVES ALONG THE LEeward COAST (OAHU)
  Zip codes 96792, 96797, 96717, 96718

- NEEDS HELP ACCESSING FOOD
  Previously unassisted OKAH/EBT

CALL TODAY! (808) 697-3326
foodsmedication@wcchc.com
Limited spots available. Program will close once full.

OUR TEAM CAN ASSIST YOU WITH APPLYING FOR:

- **Health Insurance:**
  Medicaid (Med QUEST) & Federal Health Insurance Marketplace Sign-up
  Medicaid (Med QUEST) Redetermination

- **Food/Financial Assistance:**
  Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

- **Housing Assistance:**
  Section 8 Applications & More

- **Mortgage/Rent/Utility Assistance:**
  Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP)

- **Advanced Care Directives**

- **WCCHC Sliding Fee Scale**

HOURS OF OPERATION:
Monday - Friday | 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM & Saturday | 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

CALL (808) 697-3465
Lualualei Hawaiian Civic Club

Contact Ka’imi Dung at (808) 696-7998 or by e-mail at kaimi206@gmail.com

FLU SEASON IS HERE...
GET YOUR FLU SHOT & COVID BOOSTER!

PROTECT YOU & YOUR ‘OHANA!

CALL (808) 427-3659

Get your UPDATED COVID-19 VACCINE

Free COVID SELF-TEST KITS

CALL 697-3170 FOR MORE INFO

LOCATIONS & HOURS

Train to be a Medical Assistant with nimaa today!

APPLICATION OPENS: Sept. 27
REGULAR APPLICATION DEADLINE: Nov. 29
FREE APPLICATION DAY: Nov. 16

Aply for the 2024 Spring Cohort!

The Cone at Tanimura Super Market
Monday & Saturday: 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Thursday & Friday: 8:30 AM - 6:00 PM

Fridays: 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

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Mālama Mākaha Scrappahz

Submitted by Melissa Forrest

On October 17, The Scrappahz Union 96792 delivered a fourth shredder to the Mālama Mākaha after-school group of fourth, fifth, and sixth grade students. The after-school group is funded through PALS (Place-based After School Literacy Support) and is facilitated by Azure Ching, Kelly Ogden and Melissa Forrest.

The Mālama Mākaha group is using the Hawaiian values Pono (righteousness), AʻO (teaching), Laualima (cooperation), Lokomaikaʻi (goodwill) and Mālama (save) to improve the community of Mākaha. The group of students ages 9 to 11 conduct community and beach clean-ups, grow vegetables at the Hoa ʻĀina, cook the vegetables using Hawaiian recipes and create murals to beautify the campus of Mākaha Elementary School. The Mālama Mākaha students will use the shredder to shred corrugated cardboard that accumulates at the school from deliveries. The shredded cardboard will then be used to make pots, mats, mulch, animal bedding and so much more!

Slowly feeding in cardboard

We did it! Students proudly showing some of the various forms of their recycled shredded cardboard.

MAKE HEALTHY LIVING EASIER WITH ALOHACARE’S MEDICARE ADVANTAGE PLUS PLAN

Kupuna may have unique health needs. AlohaCare’s local staff works with you and your ʻohana to get the free medical care and extra support you may need.

QUEST Integration & Medicare members, visit Discover.AlohaCare.org or call 808-973-6395; TTY/TDD 1-877-447-5990

AlohaCare Advantage Plus (HMO, D-SNP)/AlohaCare Advantage (HMO, D-SNP) are HMO D-SNPs with a Medicare contract and contract with the Hawaii Medicaid program. Enrollment in AlohaCare Advantage Plus/AlohaCare Advantage depends on contract renewal.

NSWLM_221019_05101901_C
Jaylie Kaanapu Crowned Miss Hawaii Senior Elementary America 2024

Jaylie Kaanapu's own Jaylie Kaanapu won the state title and was recently crowned as Miss Hawaii Senior Elementary America 2024 on August 20 at the Paliku Theatre. She will be competing in Little Rock, Arkansas in June 2024 for the Nationals — Miss Elementary America pageant to represent the state of Hawaii.

SOLARIZE 808
Continued from page 5

even before going solar. You can also start exploring different financing options available. Many banks offer green energy financing programs with varying terms and rates.

Last month, Solarize808 was graciously invited to a community meeting in Hauula to provide updates to the community. Both local residents and interested parties from as far away as Ewa Beach attended! With Thanksgiving approaching, we won't be resting too long after dinner, be walking off our turkey dinners at the Christmas on the Avenue event.

As we continue our dialogues with contractors, it’s the perfect time to register for our campaign. Please visit www.solarize808.com or contact us via e-mail at solarize808@gmail.com. We look forward to meeting you at our upcoming events!

FREE WILDFIRE HOME ASSESSMENT

A wildfire home assessment is a review of the vulnerability of your house & landscape to wildfire & ember-ignition. They are done by trained community members and will take 30 to 60 minutes to complete. A summary of recommendations along with additional resources and materials will be provided to the homeowner. Sign up for you free assessment while space is still available.

For more information:
Scan the QR Code or go to this link to request your appointment: hawaiiwildfire.org/home-assessments

Wai'anae Strong
Continued from front page

ness and bringing awareness that our school should be united.

Many carried signs promoting messages such as “Choose Aloha,” “United We Stand Against Violence,” “One act of kindness can change the world,” and “We determine our narrative” to share a few.

WHS Student Activities Coordinator Linda Jury believes that First Friday is a great way for students and staff to come out and spread a positive message to their peers as well as community members on the first Friday of each month. “It was beautiful to see so many students, teachers and even community members come out. It tells us that our community is eager to be a part of the change and we hope to create more opportunities for our school to showcase that, despite what the media may cover, there is plenty of aloha in Wai'anae.”

The positive energy continued into the afternoon when sign-waving campaigns promoting positivity and kindness appeared along Farrington Highway. Many sports teams from the community and other groups came together to spread positive messages of hope.

Through life’s challenges, it isn’t always easy or possible to escape the results of negative actions and thoughts. But as many of the school and community members demonstrated on October 6, spending time together to promote messages of pride, goodwill and positivity truly symbolizes the strength of “Wai'anae Strong” that is represented in the place we all call “home.”

The Waianae Coast Rotary Club Presents the 27th Annual Community Christmas Parade

Saturday, Dec. 9, 2023

This Year’s Theme:
“Creating Hope on the Wai'anae Coast!”

The parade will start at 10:00 a.m. at the Wai'anae Boat Harbor and travel east on Farrington Highway through Wai'anae Town and turn left into the Wai'anae Mall.

2023 Christmas Parade Entry Form

Name of Organization

Number of Participants in group ____________________________

Person(s) in Charge ____________________________

Address ____________________________________________

Telephone Number(s) ____________________________

E-mail Address ____________________________________________

[X] YES! Please tag me on social media.
Social media handle @ ____________________________

☐ Float  ☐ Marching Unit  ☐ Van/Car  ☐ Truck

☐ Marching Band  ☐ Horse Group/Pepster Scooper

☐ Entry will have Music or Singing  ☐ Boat & Trailer

☐ Other ____________________________________________

(Please note: No more than 200 participants per entry)

Entry Fee $30.00 received by Saturday, Nov 11th - NO late entries permitted

Total amount enclosed $ ____________________________

Make check payable to: Waianae Coast Rotary Club Foundation

Mail Entry Form and Entry Fee to:

2023 Christmas Parade

Wai'anae Coast Rotary Club

P.O. Box 651

Wai'anae, HI 96792

WAIVER AND RELEASE

I, ____________________________, as representative/chair of said organization listed below, I/We agree to the Waiver and Release, and hold harmless the Waianae Coast Rotary Club, a Domestic Nonprofit Corporation and Event Coordinator from all liability for injuries and/or illness that may directly or indirectly result from our conduct, or from the negligence of other participants in this event. I/We also acknowledge and assume full responsibility for any risk of bodily injury, death or property damage arising out of this or related to the event(s) whether caused by the negligence of parade sponsors or otherwise.

By my signature below, I/We consent and agree to the terms of this Waiver and Release, and understand that it is binding.

Signature ____________________________

Date ____________________________

Printed Name/Organization ____________________________

For more information visit www.waianaeacrotary.org

To register for the Ho‘olaule‘a, please contact one of the WCRC’s Makeke Wai‘anae staff at 608-697-3709

HAWAI‘I WILDFIRE MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION

Hawaii Wildfire

For more information:
Scan the QR Code or go to this link to request your appointment: hawaiiwildfire.org/home-assessments

WAI‘ANA’E STRONG

Continued from front page

NOVEMBER 2023

Page 11
Legislatively Speaking
Sen. Shimabukuro
Continued from page 4

Opportunity Youth Action Hawaii testified that "...Crisis mobile outreach centers can be a vital resource for adolescents during a period in their lives in which they face many significant challenges. Social and academic pressures, family conflicts, mental health challenges and bullying are all risk factors associated with suicide among adolescents. In 2022, the Hawaii DOH Child and Adolescent Mental Health Division received 659 reports of youth mental health crises - doubling the total reports from just two years prior. According to the Hawaii Medical Association, over 70% of children in Hawaii suffering from major depressive episodes prior to the COVID pandemic did not receive treatment, while calls to the Hawai'i Crisis Text Line increased by 54% in April of 2020. Data from the National Alliance for Mental Illness Hawaii further indicates that Hawaii's lost 176 lives to suicide within a single year. Supporting crisis mobile outreach is essential to support the mental health and well-being of our adolescent population. The funding of this project ensures that our keiki have access to the support and care they need during difficult times..."

Contact me with your questions or concerns at 808-586-7793. Have a Happy Thanksgiving everyone!

In September 2023, the Surfrider Foundation's Water Quality Manager, Mara Dias, traveled from the US east coast to visit Pokai Bay. There she met with community advocates and students focused on improving water quality. Excerpts shared included $5.75M allocated by the 2023 Legislature to redesign the Pokai Bay jetty wall to improve water circulation; a NOAA grant obtained by Surfrider Foundation which will be used, among other things, to establish a water sample testing center at Wai'anae High (WHS); $25,000 award ed to Nānākuli High's (NHIS) "Scrap Pahz Union" by American Savings Bank in 2022 for their outstanding recycling efforts; $855,000 allocated by the 2022 Legislature to establish a fish hatchery at WHS; on-going water testing at Pokai Bay being conducted by volunteers working with the Surfrider Foundation; and more. (See photo on page 4)

Legislatively Speaking
Sen. Shimabukuro
Continued from page 4

determined necessary by the crisis mobile outreach team; and (D) Collaboration with community partners and other state agencies.
November 3 to 5
6:30 am to 3 pm — Women of Wai‘anae Yard Sale at 86-024 Glenmonger St.

November 4
10 am — Mr. Kneel’s “Monster Mash-Up” at Wai‘anae Public Library

November 5
Daylight Savings Time Ends

November 6
5:30 pm — Getting Your GED in Daylight Savings Time Ends

November 9
11 am on Saturdays. Call 808-202-6171 or 808-695-9520.

November 10
Veterans Day Holiday Observed

November 11
Veterans Day
Deadline to Enter the Community Christmas Parade

November 16
6 pm — Cancer Support Group at Ka‘aha‘aina Café

November 18
4 to 9 pm — Best of the Westside Night Market Bash at Nānākuli Village Center. 5 to 8 pm — NHIS Class of 2003 Food Drive at Nānākuli Village Center

November 23
5:30 to 6:30 pm Mondays and Wednesdays at Wai‘anae District Park’s Multi-Purpose Room.

November 24
2nd Monday of each month at various restaurants along the Westside. If you would like to join this club, call “Queen” Gerry Ottinger at 808-399-2594.

November 25
Ma‘i Jongg (American style)
2nd Monday of each month at various restaurants along the Westside. If you would like to join this club, call “Queen” Gerry Ottinger at 808-399-2594.

November 26
Mikaha Bridge Club; 11 am on Wednesdays and 10 am on Saturdays at Beach House by 604 (Pilialoa Army Recreation Center - “Rest Camp”); Call Key Smith at 808-695-7844.

November 28
Lā Kūʻokoʻa Recognition

If you would like to add or re-add your updated listing, contact us at www.westsidestories.com by NOVEMBER 10th to be included in our December, 2023 issue. Mahalo.
The library will be closed for the Veteran’s Day holiday on Fri, Nov. 10 & Sat, Nov. 11. The library will also be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday on Thursday, Nov. 23.

Saturday, November 18 @ 10:00 am
Saturday, November 25 @ 10:00 am
Keiki and their families

Toddler Time
Tuesday, November 7 @ 9:30 am
Tuesday, November 21 @ 9:30 am
Keiki 0-3 with caregivers

Book Club
Violin Conspiracy by B. Slencumb
Wednesday, Nov 15 @ 6:00 pm Online Zoom
Ages 18 +
Contact the library for more information about how to join.

Wai’anae Public Library | 85-625 Farr. Hwy, Wai’anae, HI 96792
808-697-7868 | www.librarieshaswaii.org

Confections by Pakalana
Continued from page 3
Like many entrepreneurs, she faced self-doubt along her journey and confessed to doubting her abilities and questioning the quality of her products at times. However, the unwavering support of her loved ones was a beacon of encouragement that kept her going and over the years, she's successfully catered numerous events at Leeward Community College, featured her products at various pop-up and night markets and catered special occasions such as birthday and graduation parties. One of her standout offerings is the dessert bar at events, where customers can indulge in a variety of mouthwatering treats.

Her business stands out due to her unwavering commitment to thinking “outside the box” as she’s passionate about experimenting with different dessert flavors, often pushing the boundaries of what people expect from baked goods.

As her journey as a small business owner continues, Pakalana has learned much about herself, both as a person and as an entrepreneur and her ultimate goal is to open a late-night bakery cafe that caters to those late-night cravings that everyone gets hit with. She envisions it as a place that not only satisfies taste buds but also provides comfort to all who visit. Baking is her ultimate love language, and she revels in the joy of seeing smiles light up faces as people take that first blissful bite of cake, cookie, pastry, bread, or any of her delectable creations.

See her unique creations at Facebook.com/confectionsbypakalana or by e-mail at pakalanansweettreats1@gmail.com for more information and her menu.

WHS Class of ‘66 Seeking Classmates
The Wai‘anae High School Class of 1966 Reunion Committee is trying to locate classmates we have not heard from recently. If you are one of those classmates or if you can help us contact them, please contact Tony Turbeville (tturbo47@gmail.com) or Marlow (Andrews) DeRego (awapuhi55@hawaii.rr.com)

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NOVEMBER 2023

Paradise Chapel
The event was a success because of all of you!
For information or to apply for SNAP benefits please call our SNAP Outreach at 808-696-4598
PVT hosts Blood Bank of Hawai‘i mobile collection site

Every two seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood. The need for a sustainable blood supply is also essential in Hawai‘i. PVT was happy to do its part to help meet this need by hosting the Blood Bank of Hawai‘i mobile collection site on Saturday, Sept. 30. PVT employees and members of the community—including some staff from Nanakuli Elementary School and the Honolulu Fire Department's Nanakuli Station—turned out over the course of the day to donate blood to help boost Hawai‘i’s blood supply.

Mama Mia! That’s spicy spaghetti

Donors who gave blood at the Blood Bank of Hawai‘i’s mobile collection site at PVT on Saturday, Sept. 30, were treated to lunch—a delicious spaghetti plate created by PVT’s own Rao Plunkett. The spaghetti was so good people walking away afterward were heard to be speaking Italian.

PVT donates toys to the River of Life Christmas Toy Drive

According to Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer, a toy is never truly happy until it is loved by a child. We couldn’t agree more. And every child deserves a toy for Christmas. To help make that happen, PVT donated a wide assortment of toys for every age group to the River of Life Christian Center to be distributed to West Hawai‘i families as part of the Center’s Christmas Toy Drive. The River of Life recently completed refurbishing its new location at 87-726 Farrington Highway, which had previously been the site of a game room.

Wai‘anae Christmas Parade set for Saturday, December 9

Everyone loves a parade—especially a Christmas parade. PVT is happy to report that it will be a Gold Corporate Sponsor of the 2023 version of the Wai‘anae Coast Community Christmas Parade. All proceeds from the parade will be used to support worthwhile service projects and provide scholarships for graduating seniors on the Wai‘anae Coast. Want to participate? Contact Nalani Finni at 808-342-1565.
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