

Westside Stories

"The Pride of the Westside"

A community newspaper by and for residents of the Leeward Coast of O'ahu, Hawai'i
Direct mailed to over 15,400 residences in the areas of Nānākuli, Mā'ili, Wai'anae, Mākaha and Mākua

SEPTEMBER 2026
Volume 29, Number 9

Ka'ala Farm Celebrates 50 Years of Growing 'Āina, Culture, and Community

Submitted by Lei'a Haff

For 50 years, Ka'ala Farm has been growing something greater than the plants rooted in its soil.

It has grown the confidence of young

people discovering who they are. It has grown the connection between families and the 'āina that sustains them. It has grown the understanding that the knowledge of our kūpuna is not something to leave in the past, but something to carry forward with intention, care, and aloha.

At its 50th anniversary pā'ina held at Lanikūhonua, that legacy came to life through an evening that honored the people, practices and relationships that have made Ka'ala Farm a cherished part of the Wai'anae community for half a century.

Founded in 1976 during the Second Hawaiian Renaissance, Ka'ala Farm emerged at a time when Native Hawaiian communities were reclaiming connections to culture, language, identity and 'āina. Across Hawai'i, movements surrounding Hōkūle'a and the protection of Kaho'olawe reflected a growing commitment to 'ike kūpuna and cultural stewardship.

In Wai'anae, Ka'ala Farm became
Continued on page 6



Kamehameha Schools shares a beautifully woven ti leaf lei in the opening ceremony.

Left: Georgette Nohea Stevens and Eric Enos



Guests enjoy an evening of various activities at Lanikūhonua.

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LABOR DAY - MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7th, 2026

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Kahu Hailama Farden to Retire

Submitted by Dd Chang

In 1985, as a teenager, Hailama Farden became a member of Wai'anae Protestant Church. He has served on the church Board of Trustees, as an assistant deacon, part-time preacher and a Sunday school teacher. In 2005, he began shepherding as the longest serving minister in the church's history and is retiring from the position of Kahu after 21 years.

The church was established in 1841 under the hao tree on Mill Street with services conducted in 'Ōlelo Hawai'i and English as Kahu Hailama has continued to do on Sundays. Duties requested involve performing baptisms, weddings, blessings, dedications, and funeral services.

Hailama is a Wai'anae boy growing up less than a block away from the church and attended schools in Wai'anae before graduating from Kamehameha Schools in 1989. His childhood years involved

trips to Lahaina, Maui, to visit his musically talented 'ohana connecting him to his Hawaiian heritage. He graduated from the University of Hawai'i at Hilo with focus on Hawaiian Studies, language, and performing arts leading to employment at the Kamehameha Schools Kap'lama campus to teach 'Ōlelo Hawai'i and in administrative positions. At the University of Phoenix, he received his teaching certification and license. Hailama is currently employed by the Office of Hawaiian Affairs as the Senior Director of Hawaiian Cultural Affairs and a member of the Executive Leadership team and continues to work with Tihati Productions as an emcee in Waikīkī.

Civic engagement includes membership and service to numerous civic clubs including lifetime memberships with the Wai'anae Hawaiian Civic Club,

Continued on page 12



Kumu Hailama Farden



From the Publisher

By Steve Olbrich

The outer bands of Hurricane Lala slammed into our Westside and reminded us all how vulnerable we were and not truly prepared. Unlike the residents of Hawai'i Island and Maui, the damage to many of our homes and businesses was fairly minor. Still, many residents lost their roofs, fences and trees. Once again, our Westside folks jumped in to help the minute the storm had somewhat passed, and the sound of chain saws could be heard throughout the various communities. Social service agencies, churches, community groups and elected officials scrambled to get food, hot meals and necessary supplies out to shelters and staged hubs for those who needed meals, food/water and ice supplies and more. The biggest concern for most was the lack of power and communications as cell phone service was spotty in many areas and most of us were without power for several days.

As we were going to press, TS Moke is moving toward our islands with another yet unnamed storm close behind

it. It's a reminder that we are in the middle of hurricane season which runs through November 30, and we always need to be prepared at all times. Please restock your emergency kits and for those of you who weren't prepared — get ready for the next potential storm or weather system. Please remember to check on kūpuna to make sure they are safe and secure and help out if they need to go to the store.

Congratulations to those who were successful in the recent primary election. For those of you who think your vote doesn't count, look at what happened in the house race in Kapolei and senate race in Ewa. Your vote does matter to make sure you are registered to vote! You can register by visiting <https://olvr.hawaii.gov/register.aspx> Registered voters should receive their General Election mail ballot packet in mid-October.

School is back in session and many of our schools have limited or no school bus service, which has increased traf-

THE WESTSIDE WHEN



Once again, we are "returning to the thrilling days of yesteryear" in featuring this photo of the old train and the stop in Nānākuli. This was in the glory days of the train when you could spend the day and ride around the island. Many of you may have heard stories shared by your kūpuna about those days. Enjoy the memories!

fic around the various schools each day. Please be careful and allow lots of time when dropping off or picking up your students and make sure you follow the

school's traffic safety patterns. Also remind your keiki who walk to school to pay attention and be extra careful at crosswalks!

Nīele

In our last issue, the question was asked, "What ever happened to the Nānākuli Museum that used to be at the back building of the old Nanaikapono Elementary School (now Ka Waiho-na)? It was beautifully maintained and run by Mrs. Kapaku and was supposed to transition to the new location of Nanaikapono. Is it still there and is it open to the public?"

Many of you called and shared your memories of the museum when it was still at the old Nānāikapono Elementary with both Mrs. Nahulu and Mrs. Kapaku. It was moved to the "new" Nānāikapono campus but due to Department of Education budget cuts in 2002, funding

was lost and museum was closed. It is hoped to reopen it soon with upgrades and new technology for students. We'll keep you posted if and when it will be available to all.

Now for this month's nīele question, "What happened to Yuens Store and Maile Deli? I've tried to stop by there several times, but doors are locked and everything seems to be boarded up. I so miss stopping in there and picking up a few of the items that were unique. Are they permanently closed?"

If you know the answer to this month's or want to ask a nīele question, e-mail us at wss@hawaii.rr.com and we'll try to feature it in an upcoming issue.

Observing Labor Day - Sept 7th!



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F.O.W.L.

Friends Of Wai'anae Library

Celebrate Aloha Week with features in our Hawaiiana Section, Remarkable Places Section and the Kids Book Bonanza - - - all in our "Book Nook" located in the lobby. See you there!



SEE PAGE 16 FOR BOTH PUBLIC LIBRARY PROGRAMS AND SCHEDULES

Contributors to this Month's Issue:

Dd Chang, Kelsey Domingo, Kirra Downing, Sally Ford, Elsie Foster, Lei'a Haff, Saydee Pojas, Kelly Stinefelt

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those who contributed to their community newspaper and we invite everyone to do the same.

Next issue: October 2026 • Story & Advertising Deadline: September 10, 2026



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By Sylvia "Elsie" Foster R, CRB, CRS, GRI, SFR / License No. RB-15721

Know Your Insurance Coverage Before the Next Storm

With the crazy weather we have been experiencing, dealing with storm damage is stressful enough. Having to figure out insurance at the same time can make matters even worse, especially if you discover the damage isn't covered.

Whether you own your home, own a rental property, or rent, now is a good time to review your insurance and understand your coverage before you need it.

Many homeowners are surprised to learn that a typical policy may not include flood or hurricane coverage. Your deductible can also come as a surprise.

It may have sounded reasonable when you purchased the policy, but suddenly becomes very important when facing thousands of dollars in repairs. Ask your agent how much you would actually pay out of pocket.

Rental property owners have additional considerations. If your property is a condominium, understand the difference between the association's master policy and your individual policy. Also ask about loss-of-rental-income

coverage, which may help replace rental income if a covered loss makes the property uninhabitable.

If you rent your home, remember that your landlord's insurance generally does not cover your furniture, electronics, clothing, and other personal belongings. Review your renter's insurance and make sure you have adequate coverage to replace your possessions if they are damaged or destroyed.

When damage occurs,

document everything. Take photographs and videos before cleaning or making repairs, take reasonable steps to pre-

vent further damage, and report the claim promptly.

Finally, insurance is not a substitute for property maintenance. When the weather is good, check your roof, gutters, windows, drains, and overgrown trees.

Most importantly, consult with your insurance professional about your specific property and situation. The best time to understand your insurance is before you need it.



ANNOUNCING THE WINNER OF THIS YEAR'S "MY DREAM HOME" KEIKI COLORING CONTEST!

Congratulations to this year's Contest Winner, 6 year old Harley Kane Jr. He submitted this creative "Spiderman Design" House Drawing which earned him A BRAND NEW BIKE!



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Legislatively Speaking



**Representative
Darius
Kila**

House District 44
Mā'ili, Nānākuli,
Honokai Hale

Over the last month, our communities faced another reminder of just how quickly things can change.

Hurricane Lala brought significant impacts across our state, especially to Hawai'i Island, and we continue to keep everyone directly impacted in our thoughts as families and communities recover and rebuild.

Here on the Westside, we were facing challenges of our own. Many families went without power for extended periods, and for some, that meant losing food, struggling to prepare meals, or simply trying to figure out what came next.

But once again, I saw the resiliency of our community firsthand.

In the days following the storm, we worked alongside community organizations, businesses, volunteers, and neighbors to mobilize pop-up distribu-

tions and get food, ready-to-eat meals, supplies, and other resources directly into our communities. That included making sure we were reaching both our housed and unhoused neighbors who were impacted.

I cannot thank everyone enough who continues to step forward whenever our community needs help. Every time we face a challenge, there are people asking not just what needs to be done, but how they can help. That is what makes the Westside special.

As we move forward, our work continues.

Depending on when this reaches you, I hope you can join Councilmember Andria Tupola and me for our Transportation Town Hall on September 2 at 6 p.m. at the Nānākuli Public Library. We'll talk about what has been completed, what is currently in the pipeline, and what more we can do to improve

Continued on page 12



**Representative
CHRISTOPHER
Muraoka**

House District 45
Wai'anae, Mākaha
Mākua

Aloha District 45!

We want to begin with a sincere mahalo to our State and City agencies, Hawaiian Electric, first responders and the many community organizations who worked tirelessly to get our community back up and running following Hurricane Lala. Many families were without electricity for days, and we appreciate everyone who stepped up during this challenging time.

A special mahalo to 'Elepaio Social Services for answering the call and quickly stepping up to support families in need, providing vital assistance to those who lost food due to extended power outages, and to all the partners, volunteers, and participants who came together on short notice to make it possible.

Community Updates

• Our office continues working with the State Department of Transportation on the left-turn signal at Farrington Highway and Leihoku Street. According to DOT, installation is expected to be completed by the end of this month.

• The Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) is also working on the Pōka'i Bay Jetty Wall Project. We will continue sharing information as the project progresses. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram @rep_muraoka for updates.

• Mark your calendars for Saturday, September 26, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for "Imagine A Day Without Water" at the Ark of Safety Community Center at Wai'anae Mall. In collaboration with the Honolulu Board of Water Supply, this free family event will include interactive activities, workshops, games, prizes, and community partners.

Our Wai'anae District Office is open daily and here to serve you. To make an appointment or request assistance, call 808-586-8460 or 808.762.7876 email

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Rep. Kila with Bonnie from Goodfellows, Alicia Higa and Stacey Lynn Eli from 'Elepaio Social Services and Sean from Lowe's at the Nānākuli Hurricane Lala food distribution



Attending the "Lualualei Beach Park Bathroom Reopening Blessing" are: Rep. Chris Muraoka, Apostle Jay Amina, Pastor Geri Amina and Councilmember Andria Tupola

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Weaving a Legacy for Our Keiki



Submitted by Kirra Downing & Jaydee Pojas

Every lei tells a story. Woven together, each flower represents the people, memories, and relationships that shape our communities. This October, the Institute for Native Pacific Education and Culture (INPEACE) invites the community to help weave a lei of opportunity for future generations at its 6th Annual Jubilee fundraiser presented by 'Ohana Kūpono Consulting Inc. which will be held on October 3, at Hale Nānāikeola in Nānākuli.

This year's theme, "He lei pōina 'ole ke keiki" ("A lei never forgotten is the beloved child"), celebrates the lasting impact that caring communities have on the lives of our keiki and 'ohana.

For more than three decades, INPEACE has empowered thousands of Native Hawaiian families through education, entrepreneurship, workforce development and culture-based programs.

From supporting parents as their child's first teacher to helping local entrepreneurs grow thriving businesses, INPEACE creates pathways that strengthen our entire community.

Jubilee is more than an evening of exceptional local cuisine, entertainment, a silent auction, and a community lei contest. It is an opportunity for businesses, organizations and community leaders to invest in the future of Hawai'i. Every table purchased and every sponsorship directly supports programs that help keiki succeed in school, families achieve economic stability and communities thrive.

Whether you choose to sponsor the event, host a table for your employees or clients, or simply attend with friends and family, your participation demonstrates a shared commitment to building a stronger future for our keiki.

Together, we can ensure that today's investments become tomorrow's opportunities.

Businesses have a unique opportunity to make a meaningful impact. Your support not only invests in INPEACE's life-changing work, but it also demonstrates a commitment to strengthening the next generation of leaders.

For more information about sponsorship opportunities, or to reserve a table, visit: inpeace.org/event/2026-Jubilee. We hope you'll join us in celebrating the future of our community! (See below)



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PRESENTS



THE 6TH ANNUAL FUNDRAISER FOR THE
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JUBILEE

He lei pōina 'ole ke keiki
A lei never forgotten is the beloved child

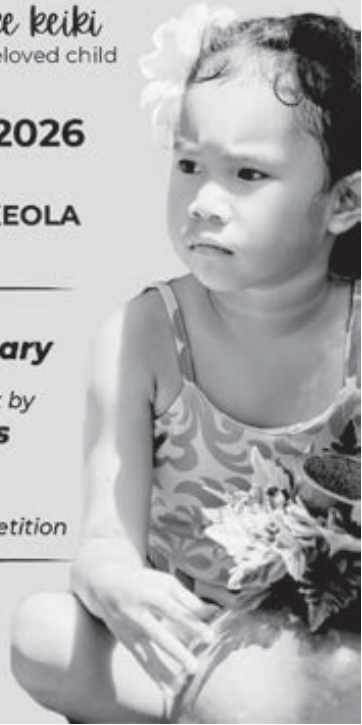
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Ka'ala Farm 50th

Continued from front page

part of that movement by creating a place where community members could return to the land, learn from one another, and reconnect with practices that had sustained generations before them.

Fifty years later, that commitment continues to grow.

Guests arriving at the recent anniversary celebration were welcomed with mele by Kaukaohu Wahilani and James Baker. Throughout the early evening, opportunities to participate in ku'i kalo, ulana lauhala, and kui lei invited community members to experience the

cultural practices at the heart of Ka'ala Farm's mission.

These were more than activities for a celebration. They were living reminders that culture is carried forward each time knowledge is shared, each time hands return to familiar practices, and each time someone discovers that their connection to ā'ina has always been part of who they are.

Protocol was led by Hi'ilani Shibata, a kumu at Ka Wai'hona o Ka Na'auao Public Charter School. Her involvement also highlighted an emerging partnership focused on establishing a māla lei on Ka'ala Farm's ā'ina.

The project will encourage the grow-

ing of lei plants and the making of lei within the community, strengthening relationships with place while creating new opportunities for cultural learning.

Following protocol, guests gathered for pule and dinner, with entertainment from Da Braddahs. The meal itself reflected the collective spirit of Wai'anae, with food prepared by 808 Express of Nānākuli and side dishes and desserts contributed by Wai'anae High School's culinary program.

Every contribution told the same story: Ka'ala Farm's legacy has never belonged to one person or one organization. It belongs to the many hands, families, educators, cultural practitioners, partners, and kākō'o who have helped sustain it across generations.

During the formal program, remarks and video presentations reflected on the farm's history and its work restoring ā'ina, growing food and native plants, and sharing ancestral knowledge with young people and families.

One message captured the meaning of those five decades: *Ka'ala Farm does not only grow plants. It grows people.*

It grows people who understand that caring for the land is also a way of caring for one another. It grows people who carry pride in where they come from. It grows people who recognize that their kuleana extends beyond themselves and into the future of their community.

The celebration also recognized Executive Director Eric Enos, whose connection to Ka'ala Farm reaches back to its earliest days. His leadership

represents one thread in a much larger story woven together by the community members who believed in the farm's purpose and continued showing up to protect it.

As the evening continued, performances by Sistah Robi Kahakalau, Jeff Rasmussen, and Richie Gideon added to the celebration. A silent auction offered guests another opportunity to support the organization and invest in the work still ahead.

But the true significance of the anniversary could not be measured only in years, performances, or the evening's program.

It could be found in the relationships that have endured the test of time. In the cultural knowledge that continues to be shared. In the young people who may one day return to Ka'ala Farm with children of their own, ready to pass forward the lessons they once received.

For Wai'anae, Ka'ala Farm stands as a reminder that when a community cares for its ā'ina, it is also caring for its identity, its history, and its future.

And as the farm begins its next 50 years, its greatest harvest will continue to be the generations of people who leave, knowing where they come from, who they belong to, and what they have the power to grow.



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HAWAII.ELECTIONS.GOV OR 808-453-VOTE

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NEWSLETTER

RICHARD BETTINI, PRESIDENT & CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER | DR. DONALD SIMPSON, CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER | GINGER FUATA, CHAIRPERSON

WCCHC HONORS THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF *Kamaki Kanahale*



WCCHC honors the life and legacy of Kamaki A. Kanahale, a longtime leader whose more than 30 years of service, cultural knowledge, and dedication to traditional Native Hawaiian healing left a lasting impact on our Health Center and the Wai'anae Coast community.

Kamaki A. Kanahale dedicated more than three decades of service to Wai'anae Coast Comprehensive Health Center and to strengthening traditional Native Hawaiian healing in our community. Raised during his early childhood on Ni'ihau by his paternal grandparents, who spoke Hawaiian and were respected traditional Native Hawaiian healers, Kamaki learned traditional healing as part of daily life. He later attended Nānāikapono Elementary School and graduated from Wai'anae High School before continuing his education at Church College of Hawai'i in Lā'ie.

In the 1990s, Kamaki's mother, Dr. Agnes Kalanihookaha Cope, one of the founders of the Health Center, asked him to join her work at WCCHC to support the cultural, social, and health needs of the Wai'anae community. At a time when traditional Native Hawaiian healing could not be practiced openly, Kamaki, Auntie Aggie, Kalani Shintani, and others helped advance the work that led to the Healer's Law, allowing traditional Native Hawaiian healing practices to be recognized and practiced. That work also helped support the creation of the Kūpuna Council, the oldest in the State of Hawai'i, whose kahu provide healing services including lomilomi, ho'oponopono, lā'au lapa'au, and pule.

As Po'o of the Kūpuna Council and Director of the Dr. Agnes Kalanihookaha Cope Center for Traditional Native Hawaiian Healing, Kamaki helped ensure that culture, compassion, and Native Hawaiian values remained central to WCCHC's work. His guidance lives on in the names of our buildings, programs, and projects.

WCCHC extends our aloha and condolences to Kamaki's 'ohana, friends, colleagues, students, and all who were touched by his life and service. Mahalo, Kamaki, for your wisdom, service, and lasting impact on WCCHC and the Wai'anae Coast community.



WCCHC CELEBRATES THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF *Billie Hauge*



WCCHC celebrates the life and service of Billie Jean Hauge, a longtime Board Member whose leadership, advocacy, and deep commitment to the Wai'anae Coast helped shape our Health Center and strengthen our community.

A resident of the Wai'anae Coast for more than 50 years, Billie dedicated much of her life to strengthening health, social services, education, and community support for local families. She

was born and raised on a Nebraska corn farm during the Great Depression. In 1956, she and her husband, Harold Richard Hauge, moved to Mākaha and made the Wai'anae Coast their home.

Billie gave decades of volunteer leadership to the community. She served 18 years on the Wai'anae Coast Comprehensive Health Center Board of Directors, including serving on the Executive Committee as Secretary. Billie brought integrity, compassion, and a deep sense of kuleana to the Health Center, serving as a steadfast advocate for patients and ensuring that community voices remained at the heart of our work. Her strong connections with the community and numerous organizations made her an invaluable member of the Board.

Her steady presence, deep community knowledge, and lifelong dedication helped strengthen the Wai'anae Coast and the organizations that serve its

people. Her contributions are an important part of WCCHC's history and legacy.

WCCHC extends our heartfelt aloha and condolences to Billie's 'ohana, friends, colleagues, and all who were touched by her life and service.

Mahalo, Billie, for your enduring contributions to our Health Center and the Wai'anae Coast community.



QUEST HAWAII

CHANGES ARE COMING
TO MED-QUEST



KEEP YOUR MED-QUEST INFORMATION
UP TO DATE

WAYS YOU CAN GET YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION UPDATED:

- 1 Call WCCHC Patient Assistance Services:
(808) 697-3405 | medquest.pas@wcchc.com
Monday-Friday, 8 AM - 5 PM | Saturday, 8 AM - 12 PM
- 2 Call the number on the back of your health insurance card
- 3 Update Online: medical.mybenefits.hawaii.gov
- 4 Call Med-QUEST directly: 1-800-316-8005

Learn more at: wcchc.com/medquest



SEPTEMBER 2026 | RICHARD BETTINI, PRESIDENT & CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER | DR. DONALD SIMPSON, CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER | GINGER FUATA, CHAIRPERSON

MAHALO FOR CELEBRATING NATIONAL HealthCenter Week WITH US!



Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center (WCCHC) extends a heartfelt mahalo to our patients, staff, community partners, and 'ohana who joined us in celebrating National Health Center Week, August 2-8, 2026.

Together, we celebrated community, culture, health, and the important role community health centers play in caring for the people we serve.

Mahalo for being part of our WCCHC 'ohana!



WAIANAE COAST
COMPREHENSIVE
HEALTH CENTER

Congratulations

2026 Psychology Internship Graduates



Emily Cohen

Alanna L. Barnes

Joyce Ann Sacalamitao

Nicole Burgess

Katherine-Anne M. Kimura



WAIANAE COAST
COMPREHENSIVE
HEALTH CENTER

Congratulations

2026 Nurse Practitioner Residency Graduates



(L-R): Jaymie Barnes, Razel Alibin, MarkJason Cabudol, Christina Walker



WAIANAE COAST
COMPREHENSIVE
HEALTH CENTER

Congratulations

2026 Postdoctoral Fellowship Graduates



Cory Ann Duffield

Kendyl Y. Oshiro



GUEST SPEAKERS:

GLENN ARAKAWA, SHAWNA KOAHOU
& TUSI TAUMUA

Talk Story

Tuesdays

FEATURED TOPIC:

Food as Medicine & Diabetes Education

Join our health education team to learn strategies on how to self-manage your diabetes through the different Food As Medicine Programs available.

TOPICS:

- MED-QUEST, SNAP, SLIDING FEE SCALE
- WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT MEDICARE
- MEDICARE ANNUAL WELLNESS VISITS



Plan Benefits
Hawaii



WAIANAE COAST
COMPREHENSIVE
HEALTH CENTER

September 15 | 9 AM - 11 AM
WCCHC DINING PAVILION

September 22 | 9 AM - 11 AM
WAIPAHU FAMILY HEALTH CENTER
FILIPINO COMMUNITY CENTER

Register Today! Call Patient Assistance Services at (808) 697-3405 or email: PAS@WCCHC.COM

FREE TRANSPORTATION AVAILABLE from Makaha to Honokai Hale



WAIANAE COAST
COMPREHENSIVE
HEALTH CENTER

LABOR DAY CLOSURE

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH

ALL CLINICS
AND DEPARTMENTS
WILL BE CLOSED

THE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT
REMAINS OPEN
24 HOURS/365 DAYS A YEAR.

For after hour urgent health care needs that cannot wait for the next business day, reach your provider through PHYSICIANS EXCHANGE (808) 524-2575



WAIANAE COAST
COMPREHENSIVE
HEALTH CENTER



Support Your Local Community Health Center
Shop at any Foodland, Foodland Farms or Sack N Save store and make a donation. Foodland will match a portion of your gift.

ORGANIZATION CODE:
77399

CHARLA WEAVER

FOR HAWAII STATE REPRESENTATIVE

WWW.CHARLAWEAVER.COM

“

The values of faith, family, and caring for one another are not just beliefs—they are the foundation of how I live my life every day. My journey has shaped my purpose - to stand for families, to protect our keiki, and to fight for a better future for our community.

”

-Charla Weaver

A proud lifelong resident of the Wai'anae Coast, a graduate of Wai'anae High School, a Native Hawaiian, a wife, a mother, a grandmother.

Guided by Faith, Family, and Service

Protecting Our Keiki and Strengthening Families

I advocate for stronger prevention and better access to resources so families can stay together, heal, and thrive.

Focus Areas:

- Family support & prevention
- Mental health & addiction recovery access
- Early intervention for at-risk families
- Systems that keep families safely together

Keeping Local Families in Hawai'i

I am committed to helping families stay connected to their land, culture, and community.

Focus Areas:

- Affordable & workforce housing
- Economic opportunities for local residents
- Protecting generational ties to land
- Pathways for families to live and thrive in Hawai'i

Strengthening Education

I believe education is a key investment in our community's future.

Focus Areas:

- Support for teachers and staff
- Academic support & student services
- Stronger school-family partnerships
- Opportunities for every child to thrive

Everything I do is grounded in my faith and my commitment to serving others.

My life's work has always been centered on helping others, building connections, and showing up for my community with compassion and purpose.

District 44 - Mā'ili, Lualualei, Nānākuli, Ko Olina, Honokai Hale

Paid for by Friends of Charla Weaver | P.O. Box 161, Waianae, HI 96792



To Learn More or Support Charla
WWW.CHARLAWEAVER.COM

“ I've had the opportunity to see Charla Weaver's heart for our Wai'anae Coast community firsthand. She has worked hard to help families graduating from our discipleship homes reunify with their children and move forward toward a better future. After the recent Kona low flooding, Charla also stepped in to help families who had lost essential household appliances, donating washers and stoves to help them get back on their feet. ”

Charla doesn't just talk about helping our community—she shows up, serves, and cares for our families when they need it most.



— *Pastor James "Kimo" Masumoto*



“ When you've raised keiki on this coast like we have, you learn who actually cares about this place versus who's just passing through. Charla isn't passing through. ”

Charla is cut from the same cloth as us. She's family to us, and families take care of each other — that's all we're asking her to keep doing. ”

— *The Paaluhi Ohana*

“ We should be honored to have Charla, my classmate, long time sister-friend, to represent us. I say that because she's very loyal, family-oriented, very giving and has a huge heart. Awesome athlete, strives to do and be the best in everything she joins. I know cause I'm right there by her side, always. ”

**You want someone that strives...
Charla Weaver is The person for us!
And that's a Promise! ”**



— *The Sanchez Ohana*



“ Charla Weaver has had an incredible impact on my life and community. Through CWS, her guidance and dedication helped me reunite with my children. **She has a heart of gold, going above and beyond for others with true compassion.** I wholeheartedly recognize Charla for her outstanding service and dedication. ”

— *Janaire and William Francisco-Kaleleiki*

**Rooted in Community.
Guided by Faith.**

WWW.CHARLAWEAVER.COM

Paid for by Friends of Charla Weaver | P.O. Box 161, Waianae, HI 96792



VOTE

TO LEARN MORE OR SUPPORT CHARLA

Kahu Hailama

Continued from front page

Civic Club of Honolulu, Lahaina, Kuini Piʻolani, and others. He is also a past president of three years with the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs and a

past president with the Hawaiʻi Academy of Recording Arts with service on the Board of Governors.

Waiʻanae Protestant Church services are at 10 to 11am each Sunday and the communion service on October 4, will be Kahu Hailama's last Sunday and

will be held at 12 noon. The 185th anniversary of Waiʻanae Protestant Church since October 3, 1841, will also be celebrated. Most of all, we will miss you Kahu Hailama.

A hui hou and mahalo nui for all your years of community service!

Rep. Kila

Continued from page 4

transportation and safety for our communities.

As always, my office remains here and ready to assist. Please reach us at (808) 586-9480 or repkila@capitol.hawaii.gov

Mahalo for continuing to look out for one another and for allowing me the privilege of serving our Westside community!

Rep. Muraoka

Continued from page 4

repmuraoka@capitol.hawaii.gov, visit www.repmuraoka.com, or follow @rep-muraoka on Facebook and Instagram.

Mahalo for allowing me to serve our Waiʻanae and Mākahe communities!



INPEACE
INSTITUTE FOR INCLUSIVE EDUCATION & CULTURE

Ka Lama

Growing Our Own Teachers Since 1995

REGISTRATION REQUIRED:
www.inpeace.org/events

Sep 22	Kumu Pathways Navigating Reclassification
Sep 23	STEM RoundTable Digital Storytelling
Sep 29	College Advising Pathways in ECE
Oct 14	Mini Lesson Planning Philosophy for Children in the Classroom
Oct 20	Kumu Pathways Praxis Support
Oct 21	Mini Lesson Planning Star Compass
Oct 22	STEM RoundTable Probability

Are you a current or aspiring educator on the Waiʻanae Coast?

Ka Lama supports community members in their pursuit to become high-quality educators in their home communities.

- Coaching to navigate Educational Pathway
- Workshops
- Career Coaching to navigate teacher licensure, classification and certificates
- Professional Development Opportunities
- National Board Certification and PRAXIS Support

Contact Us Today!
For more information:
(808) 693-7222
kklea@inpeace.org

INPEACE's Ka Lama Education Academy program is supported by Hearst Foundation and Samuel N. & Mary Castle Foundation

“ I am grateful to Ka Lama Education Academy for nurturing my growth as an educator, supporting my journey as a kumu, and helping me continue to grow so I can give back to my keiki and community. **”**

-Natashya Nhipali
Kamale Academy



TheHandi-Van



City and County of Honolulu

To get more information about TheHandi-Van eligibility process, call 808-538-0033.

Kuleana grows leaders

K-12 APPLICATION WINDOW

August 15 to September 30, 2026

PRESCHOOL APPLICATION WINDOW

August 15 to October 31, 2026



Kamehameha Schools' admissions policy is to give preference to applicants of Hawaiian ancestry to the extent permitted by law.



Ke Kula 'o Kamehameha

Westside Stories

“What's Up” on the Westside

**** Please visit our Facebook page for updated events that are happening throughout the month here on our Westside****

SEPTEMBER 2026 Calendar of Events

September 2

6 to 8 pm — Transportation Town Hall Meeting at Nānākuli Library with Rep Kila and CM Tupola

September 4

5 to 9 pm — Searider Grub & Market at Wai'anae High's front parking lot

September 7

Labor Day Holiday

September 9

3 pm — Carnival of Nearly Extinct Animals performance at Wai'anae Library

September 10

6 to 8 pm — Kū Ola – Kāne Talk Story-Na'au Health at Kamehameha Learning Center Mā'ili

September 12

9 am to 12 noon — Aloha Festivals Celebration at Ko Olina's Ulua Lagoon

September 19

9 to 11 am — Talk Story and Breakfast with Rep Muraoka at Lilikoi Lounge
10 am — Kids Movie Matinee “Hoppers” at Wai'anae Library
5:30 to 7:30 pm — Hot Kūpuna Nights at Kahumana

September 25

11 am to 5 pm — Blood Drive at Waianae Store

CLUBS, COMMUNITY GROUPS AND CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS

AARP Chapter 4936 of Wai'anae

9:30 am on the first Friday of each month at the Wai'anae Community Center (Satellite City Hall). Contact Tim Thornton (404) 272-4225.

Aerobics (Low Impact)

4 to 5 pm on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at Wai'anae District Park. For more information, contact Flo Pell at 808-696-2776.

Aikido

Daily classes, morning, afternoon and evening for children, teens and adults. Call 808.202.6171 or 808.462-1118.

La Kōkua Ka'ala Farm

9 am to 12 noon on the 2nd Saturday of each month to mālama 'āina, lo'i and weeding. All are welcomed! Call 808.696.4954 or check our website www.kaalafarm.org

Lualualei Hawaiian Civic Club

3rd Thursday of every month at 6 pm and held both in-person and virtually via zoom at KS Learning Center in Mā'ili. For more information, Email: lualualeihcc808@gmail.com or visit our Instagram: [@lualualeihcc808](https://www.instagram.com/lualualeihcc808) or Facebook: Lualualei Hawaiian Civic Club.

Mākaha Bridge Club

10 am on Wednesdays and Saturdays at Lilikoi Lounge (Mākaha Valley Country Club). Call Kay Smith at 808-695-7844 for more information.

Mākaha Hatters

2nd Monday of each month at various restaurants along the Westside. If you would like to join this club, call “Queen” Karen Forsythe at 808-761-1955.

Mai Jongg (American style)

Tuesdays at 11 am at various locations. Call Coco at 808-330-4765 for more information. *Beginners welcomed!*

Nānākuli-Mā'ili Neighborhood Board #36

7 pm on the third Tuesday of the month at Nānākuli Public Library's meeting room. Call Neighborhood Commission Office at 808-768-3710 for more information or visit honolulu.gov/nco

St John the Baptist Church Thrift Shop

Wednesdays. from 9am-1pm
Thursdays 1pm-5pm Stop by for great bargains! To volunteer, please email revjazzystock@gmail.com

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 849

6:30 pm on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at Beach House (Piliiaau Army Rec Center). For more information, contact Steve Mayoral at 310.365.7048

Wai'anae Coast Neighborhood Board #24

6:30 pm on the 1st Tuesday of each month at Wai'anae Public Library. For more information, contact Neighborhood Commission Office at 808-768-3710 or visit honolulu.gov/nco

Waianae Coast Rotary Club

12 noon on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the

month at “Beach House by 604” (PARC) Piliiaau Army Rec. Center (Rest Camp). For more information, contact: waianae coastrotary.org or Glenn Arakawa - glenn@planbenefitshawaii.com

Wai'anae Farmer's Market

Mākeke 'Iki 9am to 12 Noon every Tuesday at WCCHC Main Campus.

Mākeke Wai'anae 8 am to 12 noon every Saturday at Wai'anae Mall. For more information call 808-697-3709.

Wai'anae Hawaiian Civic Club

5:30 to 7:30 pm on the 2nd Monday of each month at the KS Learning Center in Mā'ili. Contact waianae hawaiiancivicclub.org for more information.

Women of Wai'anae

For more information visit womenofwaianae.org or call Karen Young at 808-388-8828. *Focus is on fundraisers for non-traditional college scholarships.*

WAI'ANAE COAST YMCA Kupuna Classes

MONDAY - WEDNESDAY- FRIDAY

9:30 am Tai Chi for Arthritis and Fall Prevention
10:30 a.m. Cardio and Strength class
12:15-12:45 pm Hula with Kumū Aukai

TUESDAY & THURSDAY

9:00 am - 12:00 pm Pickleball

SATURDAY

8 am - 9 am Yoga Flow
9:15 am - 12 noon Pickleball

Everyone is invited to TRY the "Y" for FREE!

For more information, contact Deborah Thierbach at 808-541-5255 or just stop by the Wai'anae YMCA located at 86-71 Leihoku Street!

WAIANAE STORE
85-863 FARR. HWY.
696-3131
7:00 AM - 9:00 PM
EVERYDAY

THE WAIANAE STORE
NANAKULI SUPER
OKIMOTO CORP.

NANAKULI SUPER
87-2090 FARR. HWY.
668-2055
7:30 AM - 8:00 PM
EVERYDAY

facebook
 Instagram
www.waianae store.com

Be sure to check out our Facebook or Instagram posts for in-store specials and/or special events!

LABOR DAY IS MONDAY SEPTEMBER 7TH
Don't wear out your slippah's
Celebrate Labor Day Savings all month long at both convenient locations!

We will be hosting a
BLOOD DRIVE
Friday, September 25
11am to 5pm

HNL ALERT
OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION SYSTEM OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

GET ALERTS ABOUT:
Severe Weather
Emergency Info
Road Closures
Ocean Conditions
Water Main Breaks
and more!

Sign up for O'ahu's
NEW notification
system at hnlalert.gov
GET ALERTS BY TEXT, EMAIL, OR IN THE APP.

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@oahudem

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Thomas C. Zizzi

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kāpale o kau
kuleana
kānāwai.**
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Waianae Coast Rotary Club Awards Scholarships



Khiara Kaleiwahea (center) was awarded the newly named "Willie Au" scholarship with Willie's son Harold Ahuna (left) and WCRC Scholarship chair Gladys Peraro (right)

Submitted by Gladys Peraro

The Waianae Coast Rotary Club's scholarship awards journey this year has been truly inspiring, thanks to the dedicated club members, led by Craig Alvarado as he completed his fourth and final term as club president. The scholarship committee, local area high school college and career counselors, and the generous community sponsors who stepped up and helped energize the

club's work and strengthened the many partnerships that make the Westside community so unique and special.

On June 24, 2026, Waianae Coast Rotary honored many scholarship awardees at its annual scholarship and board installation banquet. The event marked a banner year of giving for our club, with \$31,000.00 in scholarships awarded to the following recipients:

Waianae Rotary Club-Specific Schol-



WCRC Scholarship chair Gladys Peraro and WCRC past president Craig Alvarado present Kumu Mikela Pieper of Hānai Kaiāulu (center) with the Moku Scholarship.

arships:

- \$5,000.00 - HRYF Awardee, Waianae Coast Rotary Club's Selectee: Haysten Jesus (Nānākuli High School)
- \$3,000.00 – Two-years college tuition under the newly named, "Willie Au" scholarship: Khiara Kaleiwahea (Nānākuli High School; tuition total for two years, \$6,000.00)
- \$2,500.00 – One time tuition at a four-year, in-state college: Shavelle

Lemafa (Nānākuli High School)

- \$2,500.00 – Vocational / Trade School Tuition: Chablis Kumukoa (Nānākuli High School)
- \$1,000.00 each – Books & Supplies Scholarship: Ariah Colt (Wai'anae High School); Isabel C. Galdores (Wai'anae High School) and Kaiah Santos (Lanikila Baptist High School)
- \$2,500 – Sponsorship for ten lo-

Continued on page 16

Kuleana grows leaders

PAUHI FOUNDATION POSTSECONDARY SCHOLARSHIPS

Pauhi Foundation scholarships support haumāna throughout their educational journeys, creating pathways for learners to thrive academically and grow into 'Ōiwi leaders who will strengthen our lāhui.

APPLICATION WINDOW:

OCTOBER 1 TO DECEMBER 1, 2026

LEARN
MORE



Pauhi Foundation's policy is to give preference to applicants of Hawaiian ancestry to the extent permitted by law.



Pauhi Foundation



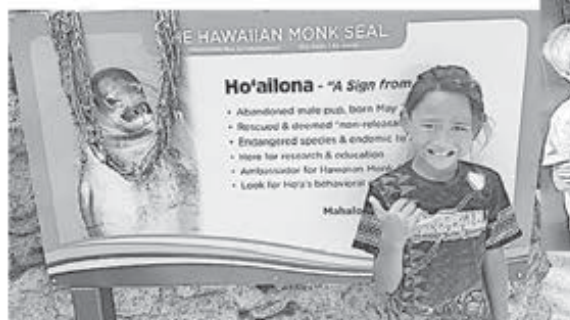
PVT
LAND COMPANY, LTD.

PVT LAND COMPANY

ALOHA E KOMO MAII

NES students explore Hawai'i at sea level

Students from Nānākuli Elementary School enjoyed a field trip to the Waikiki Aquarium with support from PVT. The students learned about the aquarium's mission to promote understanding, appreciation, and conservation of Pacific marine life. They also enjoyed a close-up look at jellyfish, sharks, a Hawaiian Monk seal habitat, and a Hawaiian Day Octopus, which is an expert at using camouflage to conceal itself.



Finding Nemo — There was plenty to see and do on the NES field trip to the Waikiki Aquarium.



The backpacks are back

It's a new school year on the Wai'anae Coast. As part of our Back(packs) to School program, PVT distributed 2,000 backpacks containing school supplies to students at schools on the Westside, including to students at Nānākuli Elementary School. Backpacks help kids develop a sense of responsibility and contribute to successful learning.



BACK(PACK) TO LEARNING

— Backpacks, including those distributed by PVT in August to pre-school students at Nānākuli Elementary School, foster a sense of responsibility and independence.



Outstanding in their field



The Nānākuli Golden Hawks 2026 OIA football campaign is now under way. The team's August 21 away game against Kealahou High School was canceled due to the hurricane. But there are still plenty of opportunities to see the Hawks in action in September. PVT is proud to support the team.



Go Deep — The Golden Hawks 10-game 2026 schedule includes three home games in September and the homecoming/senior night game against Radford on October 2.

Golden Hawks Football September Schedule

VS GRANITE FALLS (WA)
Fri. Sept. 4

VS WAIPAHU
Fri. Sept. 11

@ ROOSEVELT
Fri. Sept. 18

VS FARRINGTON
Sat. Sept. 26

VS RADFORD
(Homecoming/Senior Night)
Friday, Oct. 2



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Visit: ready.hawaii.gov

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Have Go Bags ready for work, each family member, pets, & a vehicle safety kit too.



BUILD KITS

Water (1 gal. per person/day)
Food (Non-perishable)
First Aid Kit
Medical Equipment
Medications
NOAA Alert Radio
Extra Batteries

Flashlight
Can Opener
Tools
Warm Clothes
Sturdy Shoes
Personal Hygiene Items
Toilet Paper

Pet Supplies
Fire Extinguisher
Glasses/Eye Care
Cash
Identification
Important Documents
Comfort/Entertainment

Rotary Scholarships

Continued from page 14

cal high school students that attended RYLA Leadership Camp January 30 – February 1, 2026.

Waianae Coast Rotary, in partnership with Women of Wai'anae (WOW), scholarships for University of Hawai'i Pacific Master's in Education Program (PACMED) students on the Leeward Coast:

- \$500.00 – Richard Kanakanui Nāho'opi'i; Dariess Ah Sui; Natalia Kalama; N. 'Ilima Puou; Helene Honda and an additional student.

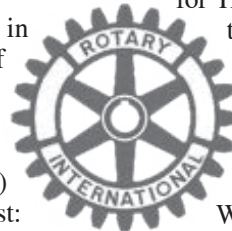
Waianae Coast Rotary Club Inaugu-

ral "Moku" Scholarship:

- \$5,000.00 – Hanai Kaiāulu (Scholarship funds to a community non-profit organization for direct tuition for applicants in the 96792 geographic area for Hawaiian cultural learning activities).

'Mahalo Nui Loa' once again to the individuals and local organizations whose support helped the club exceed its original goals.

Waianae Coast Rotary is deeply grateful to our incredible community for stepping forward in the spirit of Lokahi to sponsor and support our scholarship efforts. For more information, please visit waianae coastrotary.org



Hot Kūpuna Nights

Enjoy mele, mo'olelo, and mea 'ai with Auntie Kuuipo Kumukahi & friends! Good time for the whole 'ohana. Bring your chairs and mats. No outside food, ke 'olu'olu.

Saturday September 19th 5:30pm - 7:30pm

Located at Kahumana in Wai'anae, Hawai'i

86-660 Lualualei Homestead Rd, Wai'anae, HI 96792

E hele mai kākou!



HAWAIIAN MUSIC PERPETUATION SOCIETY

PRESERVE • PROMOTE • PERPETUATE



Kahumana

Nānākuli Public Library

September 2026 Programs



FRI
4, 11,
18, 25

Keiki Storytime:
Every Friday
11:30am

MON
28

Slime Time
5:30pm-6:30pm

MON
7

Library Closed:
Labor Day

TUE
29

Perler Party
2:30pm-3:30pm

SAT
12

Messy Playtime
10:00am-
11:00am

MON
14

Hui Lei
5:30pm-7:00pm

TUE
15

Lego Time
2:30pm-3:30pm

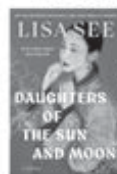


For more info visit librarieshawaii.org/events

Wai'anae Public Library

Hawai'i State Public Library System
September 2026

The library will be closed Sat. Sept. 5– Mon. Sept. 7 for Labor Day.



Book Club

3rd Wednesdays, September 16 @ 6:00

Join us for our in-person book club on the 3rd Wednesday of each month! The book that we will be discussing in this meeting is *Daughters of the Sun and Moon* by Lisa See.

Writing Group

Monday, Sept 14 and 28 @ 1:00

Join us for a self-guided writing circle that is a small safe place to practice your writing skills, learn from others, and share your own work, thoughts, and dreams.



Kid's Movie Matinee

Saturday, September 19 @ 10:00

Join us for our new matinee for kids on the 3rd Saturday of every month! This month, we will be watching *Hoppers*, a movie about a girl who pilots a beaver robot in order to communicate with animals and save their home from a construction project.

Carnival of Nearly Extinct Animals Wednesday, Sept 9 @ 3:00

Everyone is invited to join Ocean Music Action will be putting on a performance where participants will explore ocean conservation through music, art, and educational activities.



Family Storytime
Saturdays @ 10:00
Sept 12 and 26

Toddler Time
Tuesdays @ 9:30
Sept 1, 22, 29

Wai'anae Public Library is located at 85-625 Farrington Hwy. 96792 808-697-7868
Email: owncirc@librarieshawaii.org