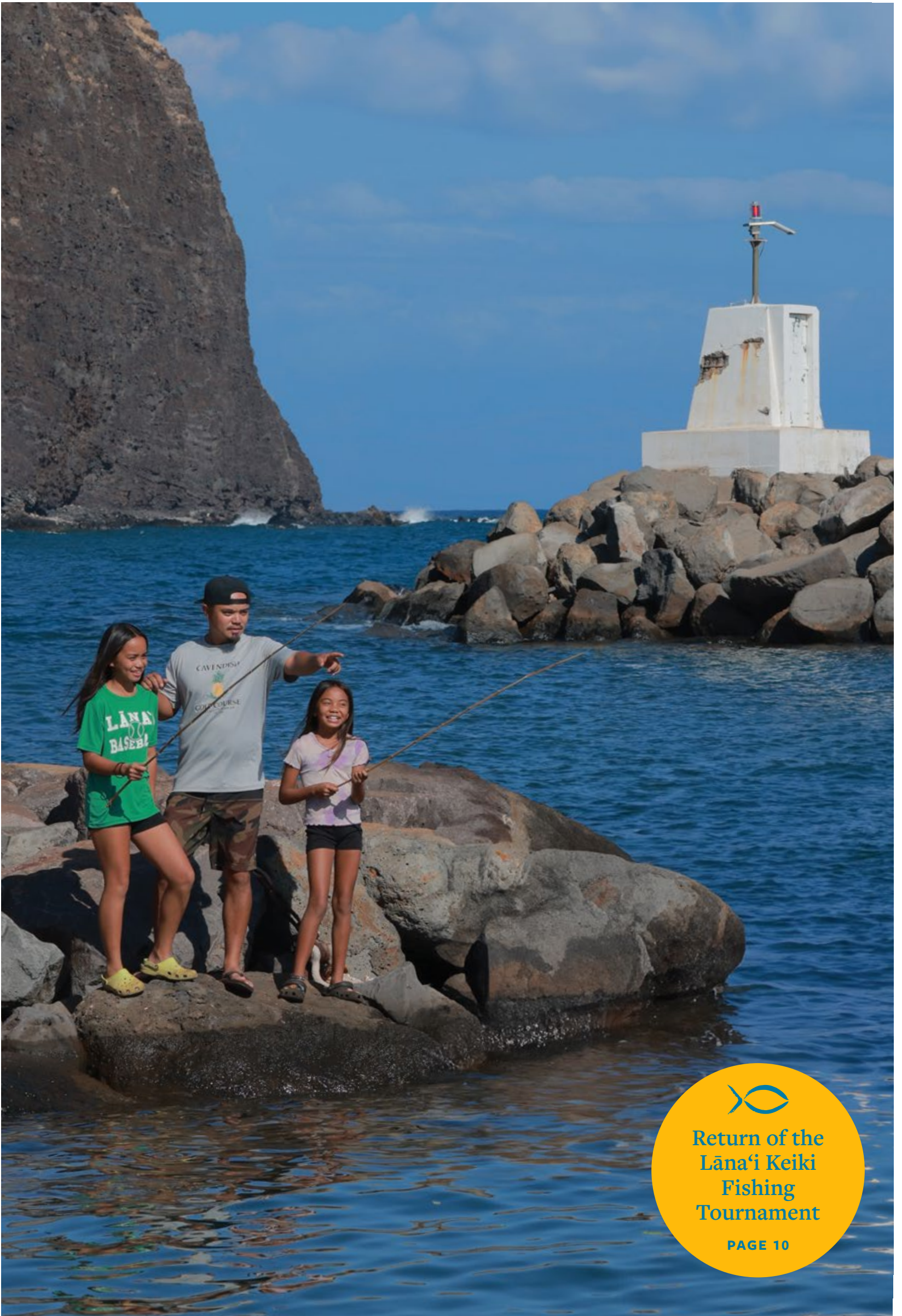


# LĀNA‘I TODAY

OCTOBER 2023



Return of the  
Lāna‘i Keiki  
Fishing  
Tournament

PAGE 10

**A look at the Lāna‘i Keiki Fishing Tournament’s comeback, families spending quality time and reviving traditions as they embrace their role in ocean preservation.**

*Marcom Pascua, lead coordinator for the tournament, with daughters Kailee and Emmy. Photo by Anthony Kaauamo*

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MANAGING EDITOR: ANTHONY KAAUAMO

## Cut to the Chase

The **Salvation Army – Lāhainā** has supported Lānaʻi for the past 18 years with the Kahiau Project. If you'd like to participate in the toy drive for Lāhainā children, please drop off your new unwrapped toys, household goods or gift cards to Bank of Hawaiʻi, Lānaʻi branch, starting on Friday, November 3.

The holiday season is approaching, and the **Kahiau Project** is seeking donations to make this year's holidays merry and bright for all families on Lānaʻi. If you'd like to make a monetary donation, please make checks payable to "LCA" or "Lanai Community Association" and note Kahiau Project in the memo section of your check. Checks can be dropped off or mailed to the police station by November 15, 2023. Donations for angel tree ornaments will be accepted through December 15 at Lānaʻi Police Station.

Conde Nast Traveler recently announced the results of its annual Readers' Choice Awards, ranking **Sensei Lānaʻi, A Four Seasons Resort** as the #1 Top Resort in Hawaiʻi and #5 Best Resort in the World. **Four Seasons Resort Lānaʻi** was ranked the #2 Top Resort in Hawaiʻi and #26 Best Resort in the World.

## IT'S THE LAW

### Did You Know it is Illegal to Smoke in Your Vehicle With Passengers Who Are Under 18 Years Old?

Contributed by the Maui Police Department – Lānaʻi District

#### According to Maui County Municipal Code 8.20.030(R) Smoking Prohibitions in Certain Places:

No person shall smoke in any motor vehicle operated on a public roadway, or a private roadway open to the public, whenever occupied by a person under eighteen years of age.

What is the penalty for this violation? The penalty is \$237.

For example: If you are driving on Fraser Avenue and a Police Officer sees you smoking a cigarette, pipe, or vape, and you have a child under the age of 18 in your vehicle, you can be stopped and cited under this law.

# Newfound Home

Contributed by Jerico V. Jaramillo, PhD.

“I have never been to that place; it is just a small island.”  
“Oh, why did you choose that place? You know you will get bored there.”

These are just some of the common answers I get from people I know who live, lived, and have been to Hawai‘i, every time I ask them about Lāna‘i.



I tried to search Google and have read some fascinating stories and history of the island, but I could not find any recent videos from Facebook reels, TikTok, or even from YouTube vloggers. I really wanted to know more about the island before I set foot there. But with the little information I gathered from everyone and from online, I sketched a mental image of Lāna‘i in my mind and formed the realization that the place is really secluded. This somehow made me think, again, “Did I make the right choice? Is it too late already to repeal my decision of leaving my nice job and my entire life in the Philippines?” But at the back of mind there was a voice that said, “Though it is small, it is reverberating with the idea of having a better opportunity. After all, Lāna‘i is still Hawai‘i, and is America, therefore it echoes to me my American Dream of having a better life.”

It is very common for every Filipino to have the perception that moving out of the Philippines for America is an absolute chance for a better life. America, being the land of the free and opportunity, will provide financial stability to whoever dares to leave their country for a job. Thus, making life more stable in many aspects.

But the American Dream does not come easy, rather it is expensive and difficult. Expensive because one has to pay everything to process your papers and visa. Difficult because one has to sacrifice to leave their family, friends, and their life in general. It is difficult in the sense that one needs to move out of their comfort zone and start anew. In my case, I have to leave my career as one of the youngest master teachers and with a promising career in the field of education back in Ilocos Norte, Philippines.

But nevertheless, I stood firmly to my decision and strong faith in that American Dream of having the opportunity to grow more personally and professionally in this place.

With strong conviction, I left my family, job, and my country, carrying only little knowledge about Lāna‘i. It was a jittery moment for me, but I am fully aware of my goal despite coming to a totally strange place for me.

Flying above the clouds, I finally had a first-hand view of the island. They were right, it is small, but undoubtedly beautiful. Reality hit me even more when I first set my foot down and felt the cold yet comforting air. A parade of Pine Trees greeted me and my friends, as if they were marching on both sides of the road going from the heart of the island. Finally, when we reached the heart of the city, the pines stood tall and gathered in the town’s park, clothed with fog and dazzled as the dew dripped down from their twigs. A scene that is so familiar, like Baguio City or Tagaytay City, in the Philippines. This scene made me and my friends realize that it wasn’t far away from what it looked like back home. This gave us a feeling of home.

During our first days on the island, people greeted us with smiles and shakas, a hand sign which meant we were welcomed and to take things easy — no worries, just be happy. Because of this, somehow my homesickness and worry turned into the realization that this is it already, and this is now the reality.

It is true what everyone says on this island to newcomers, “Today, you are a stranger (tourist), but tomorrow you will be part of the community.” Because of the aloha (love and appreciation) of the people of Lāna‘i and the island itself, I feel that this is my home, my new home, my ‘āina.

Mahalo me ke aloha.  
Jerico

IN FIRST PERSON

# Rookie in the Rows: My Summer With the Tūtū Gang

Contributed by Robin Kaye

**M**y gang’s kau-kau tins held the most amazing food. Mine? Not so much, unless you consider tuna fish or turkey sandwiches amazing. But what else could this haole luna bring to his job? And so, when we sat in the fields to eat our lunch, the sharing was always in my favor, since no one wanted a plain old sandwich, but I got to taste some incredible grindz.



“Last day of the harvest: Note the lovely aloha shirt my gang gave me; still have it!!”

Nothing in my Brooklyn or Long Island childhood prepared me for the culinary delights my gang members brought every day. Going from having Uncle Ben’s Converted Rice maybe once every few months to a daily dose of fresh steamed rice was in itself a major improvement. But the Japanese dishes, the Filipino food, the Korean flavors were the highlights of my every day. And everyone shared their meals.

I was a luna (boss) of the tūtū (grandma) gang my first summer in the fields. The big plantation bosses assigned me to them because they recognized that: a) I knew nothing about picking pineapple, yet alone what it meant to be a luna, and b) they knew I would work hard.

My 15 tūtūs were of course all way older than me (some easily over 60!), easily way more local than me, and far better lunch providers than me. They taught me a lot, in many ways and over many topics. They were hard workers, always meeting their quota. We had some (very few) rough days, caused almost always by some of the aggressive drivers (who were more interested in collecting Dole’s incentive pay than accommodating the senior gang’s slower pace). The drivers were usually related to someone in the gang, or at the very least related to someone who knew them. There was a time when one of the drivers got too greedy and drove the truck faster than our gang could keep up. So, I gave the gang the signal to just sit down. And the driver didn’t realize they had stopped picking until he was way down the line.

When we finally did catch up to him, he was very, very unhappy (even going so far as to point to the machete below his seat) but luckily for me, the driver behind him (waiting for his turn with our gang) talked him down.

The tūtū gang worked me hard. I learned that grandmas need to pee often, and someone had to pick up the slack in their row of pineapples. So, I would jump in the line and help pick. I loved it. It was hard work; dirty and hot, but the camaraderie, the helping each other, the almost constant gossiping and laughing were infectious and made the days pass quickly.

And of course, the lunches were out of this world ono grindz.

**A parade of  
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Ketrina Jayleen awaits customers to Blue Ginger Café.

## Day Guests' Absence Casts Shadow Over Lānaʻi Small Businesses

By Anthony Kauamo

A small group of tourists stepped out of a parked white shuttle van. They were dressed in clean, muted pastel colors, sockless loafers and sun hats. After a brief exchange with the shuttle driver, they set off on foot, wandering the perimeter of Dole Park. “That was the first van I’ve seen pull up here since the fire,” said Phoenix Dupree, co-owner and manager of the Blue Ginger Café.

After the devastating August 8th wildfire swept through Lāhainā, Maui has experienced substantial economic repercussions, which have also had a ripple effect across the channel to Lānaʻi. Day guests, visitors typically from Maui who come to Lānaʻi via the Expeditions Ferry, have been a crucial source of revenue for Lānaʻi’s eateries, shops, and attractions. These visitors usually arrive in the morning and depart in the late afternoon or evening. Since the fire, the number of day guests visiting Lānaʻi has noticeably decreased.

### Economic Toll on Local Businesses

“We’re struggling,” said Vince Cabanilla, board member for the Lānaʻi Art Center, “I actually did a deposit this morning, and it was just depressing because normally our deposits are about 75% more than what I deposited this morning.”

“Day trippers’ impact is responsible for between maybe 30% to 50% of our business. That much has been cut — it’s a big drop,” said Phoenix.

Mike and Kathy Carroll, of the Mike Carroll Gallery, track their visitors categorizing them by source, be it Four Seasons guests, day trippers, Hotel Lānaʻi patrons, short-term renters, Lānaʻi residents, or friends of residents. Kathy Carroll, co-owner of the gallery, explains, “After the fire, the drop in day guests was immediate.”

Keoni Vaughn, the Executive Director of Lānaʻi Cat Sanctuary, spoke about the sanctuary’s pre-pandemic success, welcoming approximately 16,000 visitors annually from around the world, with about 95% of them arriving on the ferry from Maui. They temporarily closed their doors during the pandemic for the safety of the community.

After gradually reopening, they saw a resurgence in visitors, with a peak of over 2,000 monthly visitors in June and July of this year. “In the beginning [of August], just before the fire, we were swamped,” Keoni said. However, the wildfire halted everything abruptly. “We went from 100 visitors a day to about ten or less a day. It’s had a huge financial impact on us.”

**“We went from 100 visitors a day to about ten or less a day. It’s had a huge financial impact on us.”**

“As for my numbers, for my inventory purposes, I’ve noticed a decrease. And that’s overall, it’s not just one particular dish,” said Rowel Ganotisi, head chef of Ganotisi’s Pacific Rim Cuisine.

Neil Rabaca, owner of Rabaca’s Limousine Service, which operates transportation shuttles around the island, shared his perspective on the situation. “Basically, I’m probably down, like, 75% business right now, but I’m surviving,” he stated. He had to make adjustments by reducing the number of his drivers temporarily. However, he acknowledged that local stores were hit harder. “We brought in a lot of the day guests for the stores.”

The Mike Carroll Gallery tracks visits based upon guests’ origins. The number of day guest visits dropped notably after the Lāhainā wildfire. Photo courtesy of the Mike Carroll Gallery.

### Adjusting to Stay Afloat

For businesses like the Mike Carroll Gallery, long-term planning has become a way to weather immediate crises. “I’m going to keep painting no matter what for when things do turn around. It’s like having a backstock, and that’s a good thing to have going into the festive season. Although, I don’t know if it’s going to be super busy during that time,” said Mike. During the pandemic, the gallery also bolstered its digital footprint, enhancing its website as a way to offset the loss of day guests.

Ganotisi’s Pacific Rim Cuisine and Blue Ginger Café are finding relief through the island’s current construction projects. Rowel noted, “Labor is usually number one that gets cut back. But right now, thank God, we have construction. So, we’re kind of piggybacking off of that.” Phoenix added, “We’re trying to pick up more construction business, more of the construction lunches. That’s the one thing that’s saving me from not letting go of staff right now.”

Businesses have also expressed a hope that the Four Seasons resorts on the island might begin to encourage or actively bring their guests to visit the city to help spur economic activity — something that has not been promoted in the past.

As businesses look for local partnerships to improve their situation, they’re also cautiously considering federal assistance. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) visited Lānaʻi offering loans to affected businesses. However, many are wary of taking on more debt, especially in the aftermath of the economic challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Kathy said, “If you already have a loan from COVID, you don’t want to get into more debt.” Phoenix added, “If your business is struggling, then taking out a loan just means you’re going to owe more down the road.”

Seeking alternative sources of support, including grants tailored to arts organizations, Vince expressed concerns that grant evaluators do not understand the unique connection between Lānaʻi and Lāhainā. “Those who are selecting grant awards, they might just say, ‘Oh, well, you’re not connected to Lāhainā,’” said Vince. “They don’t understand how close, how much of a lifeline [Lāhainā] is to us.”

*Continued on page 5.*

Continued from page 4.

### Complications in Travel

The question of when tourism will bounce back for West Maui and Lānaʻi looms large, particularly in light of recent governmental actions. Governor Josh Green announced the lifting of travel restrictions to West Maui starting October 8, citing the necessity to support the local economy and employment. Mayor Richard Bissen has also advocated for a phased reopening of the area, focusing on the well-being of residents and the need for a manageable return to normalcy. These moves aim to revitalize the West Maui tourism industry, but uncertainties persist, especially for inter-island connections.

The wildfire's destruction of the Lāhainā Small Boat Harbor necessitated Expeditions' move to Maʻālaea Harbor. While the new location is closer to South Maui resort towns like Kihei and Wailea, Maʻālaea lacks the tourist allure that made Lāhainā a convenient gateway for visitors staying in West Maui areas such as Kaʻanapali and Kapalua. This shift creates new challenges in drawing day guests to Lānaʻi.

Expeditions itself suffered extensive losses due to the flames, including the loss of their offices, warehouse, and critical equipment. Several staff members also lost their homes. These devastations necessitated Expeditions to adjust their operating schedule until they are able to fully recover. The altered schedule poses additional challenges for potential day guests from South Maui, complicating reliable planning for visits to Lānaʻi.

### Mixed Outlooks on the Future

"I'm not seeing a light at the end of the tunnel," Vince said, emphasizing the immediate challenges that lie ahead for local establishments.

Keoni offered a guarded yet hopeful view. While the cat sanctuary is preparing for what could be two to three years to return to normal visitor numbers, he emphasized that this is a conservative projection, not a definitive timeline.

Offering a more optimistic perspective, Kathy expressed hope despite current hardships. "There'll be a silver lining," she said. She also pointed out that they had successfully weathered the pandemic and other economic downturns in the past.

### Gratitude Amidst Struggle

While the future remains uncertain, there's a consistent note of gratitude from Lānaʻi's businesses. "I really want to express my thanks to all our local patrons. Without their support, we'd be in a worse situation," said Phoenix.

Kathy underscored this sentiment, emphasizing that while challenges exist on Lānaʻi, they are acutely aware that the situation could be worse. "We have a lot to be thankful for. Our troubles are minor compared to those in Lāhainā."

While Lānaʻi's businesses express appreciation, they also find it challenging to discuss their own difficulties when mindful of the greater hardships faced by Lāhainā. This delicate balance is widely felt, yet it doesn't lessen the genuine challenges they encounter as they look toward an uncertain future.

## Lānaʻi Culture & Heritage Center Publishes a 12-Book Series for Children

Lānaʻi Culture & Heritage Center press release

Lānaʻi Culture & Heritage Center (Lānaʻi CHC) has published a 12-book series that showcases significant coastal areas on Lānaʻi. Published by Lānaʻi Culture & Heritage Center, this book series was written by Diane and Shelly Preza. These 'āina-based readers provide an early reader's introduction to wahi pana, storied places, on the island's coastal landscape. These places include Kaiolohia, Kaumālapaʻu, Kaunolū, Keōmoku and Mānele. Books are available in both English and 'Ōlelo Hawaiʻi and are valuable resources for children learning to read.



Diane and Shelly Preza

"We are always in search of opportunities for keiki to explore their roots," said co-author and Lānaʻi Culture & Heritage Center board member Diane Preza. "Connecting personal experiences to books is powerful. The more students learn about and love their home, the more they will care for Lānaʻi. That is our hope."

The 'āina-based readers are the second set of books developed by Lānaʻi CHC in an effort to create relevant educational resources for the island's youth. The first set of books debuted in 2021 and other communities throughout Hawaii expressed interest in developing similar resources for their own places. The second set was supported partially by Pūlama Lānaʻi and the Lānaʻi Community Benefit Fund.

This set of readers will be available for sale on October 20 at the Lānaʻi Culture & Heritage Center's museum and at [www.lanaichc.org](http://www.lanaichc.org). Lānaʻi CHC will donate sets of the books to Lānaʻi High & Elementary School and to select Hawaiian immersion schools in Maui County. For more information about these Lānaʻi 'āina-based readers, visit [www.lanaichc.org](http://www.lanaichc.org).

"We developed this series so that the island's keiki grow up with a sense of place and knowledge about these areas and why we should care for them," said co-author Shelly Preza, who is also the Lānaʻi Culture & Heritage Center's Executive Director. "We are proud that these books were developed by the community, for the community and hope that these readers help our youth form a deep bond with our 'āina from an early age."

The Lānaʻi 'āina-based readers take readers on a remarkable voyage through the beautiful and storied landscapes of Lānaʻi. Each book in the series explores a different place and shares aspects of Lānaʻi's rich heritage and natural beauty. This will inspire curiosity in young readers as they will be learning more about the island and the world around them.

## ALOHA `ŌE

### Retired MSG Anthony Sanchez Sr. US Army Soldier

Sunrise December 10, 1942-Sunset August 31, 2023

With heavy hearts, Anthony Jr, Reachelle (Haywood), Alan & Rena Sanchez are announcing the passing of our beloved father.

#### Born in Lānaʻi City, HI

Immediately after graduating from high school, he left Lānaʻi to join the United States Army where he served for 26 years. It was his life, career and devotion. He is a Vietnam Veteran in which he did two Vietnam tours and became a Wounded Warrior while serving his country. As his "Army brats," we were able to live in Germany with him on his overseas tour. He married the love of his life, our mother, Fe (Maria) Sanchez. They were married for 53 years and had a POWER COUPLE relationship until her battle with cancer came to an end. They were amazing, and both so fun to be around. They were the best parents and they taught us the meaning of Aloha. They were the most loving Mama and



Papa to all their grandchildren and great grandchildren. Our parents provided all of us a good life with so many memories: camping, family road trips, vacations, family events and so much more. The most important aspect to our quality of life was 'Ohana.

There are no words to describe how much our Dad, aka Papa, will be missed. He has impacted so many lives with his huge helping and loving heart.

Any of our 'Ohana and his friends are welcome to reach out to any of his four children.

Mahalo Nui Loa,  
Sanchez 'Ohana

**Our father lived a life of aloha even though he was on the mainland, he lived 'Hawaiian Style.'**



Sadie Schilling speaks with Kamoku Ulu student leaders.

## Growing Bonds Between the Lānaʻi Community and Lānaʻi High & Elementary School With Kamoku Ulu

By Anthony Kaaumo

“Aunty Sadie.”

It’s an honorific title that makes Sadie Schilling pause. Has that much time really passed since she was a student at Lānaʻi High & Elementary School (LHES)? “I already had a couple of the high schoolers call me aunty, and I’m like, whoa! Wait, I’m not Aunty status yet... but I’m fine with the little ones, like elementary, calling me aunty,” she said with a smile.

After graduating six years ago in 2017, Sadie is a regular presence on campus again, but this time not as a student. She has returned as the program manager for Kamoku Ulu, a program introduced this school year and run by the LHES Foundation.

Backed by a one-year \$120,000 grant from the Hawaiʻi State Department of Education’s Community Schools program, Kamoku Ulu addresses the challenge of connecting LHES with the wealth of resources within the broader Lānaʻi community. These challenges, stemming from academic responsibilities, staff turnover and the absence of a centralized information hub, impact faculty, staff and students alike.

“There are times when teachers and staff are overwhelmed, and the community might not even be aware of what’s going on in the school. They just needed a bridge to connect them with those resources because our community wants to support our kids and teachers,” said Natalie Ropa, president of the LHES Foundation and administrator for Kamoku Ulu.

The name “Kamoku Ulu,” gifted by Pamela Alconcel, carries deep significance. “Kamoku” references the ahupuaʻa where Lānaʻi City and the school are located, while “Ulu” embodies the program’s mission to nurture the growth and development of Lānaʻi.

When the LHES Foundation was awarded the grant, Natalie had one goal: find someone who fit the program’s spirit. She picked Sadie, whose family is tight-knit and community-involved across generations. After college in South Dakota, Sadie returned to Hawaiʻi to work in Honolulu. “Aunty Nat asked me while I was in Oʻahu,” Sadie said, “and I was already planning to move back home. It felt like a sign to work with kids and the community. I’ve always wanted that. This is my calling.”

An advisory committee consisting of local community members is in the works with the aim of fostering collaborative partnerships.

“It’s like a tree branch — you have one committee, and they can connect us to all the other resources we might not be personally connected to,” said Sadie. The committee will meet monthly with the hope that the collaborative network will make it possible to organize impactful events and initiatives for the benefit of the school community.

Sadie’s role in Kamoku Ulu isn’t just about resource coordination; it’s also about nurturing leadership among high school students. The program has four ambassadors known as alakaʻi, and eight representatives referred to as lunas. Her goal is to mold them into the leaders they have the potential to become. She shares her personal journey with these students, emphasizing her own path of leaving the island, gaining experiences, and ultimately returning to give back to the community. She hopes to instill in them the belief that they can follow a similar path and make a positive impact.

One of the ways Kamoku Ulu tries to promote a thriving school community is through events like Lōkahi Day, which took place on September 4th, and was organized by the LHES Foundation and as its inaugural annual event to commemorate the start of the new school year. During this event, high school students took on the role of mentors for elementary students, guiding them through the various booths, games and activities. “Our younger kids naturally look up to the older ones because they represent everything they want to be,” Natalie said, “and these shared experiences can have a real impact on our kids’ lives. It can then be passed down, generation after generation, to the next younger kids.”

Looking ahead, Kamoku Ulu envisions LHES as a dynamic place where students not only gain knowledge but also create lasting memories. There are plans in motion to reintroduce school dances, offering students opportunities for both education and fun.

As for Sadie’s role, while high schoolers might not be able to call her “Aunty” anytime soon, her work is to build an ʻohana connection within the school community — a bond rooted in care and a commitment to achieving success through collaboration. “I really want our school to function like an ʻohana. That is the number one thing. If we could do that, it would make everything happen more naturally.”

## A Hope and a Promise

Contributed by Marlou Laciste Lamblack

August 8, 2023, was a dreadful and heartbreaking day. It’s so hard to put it in words of what I’ve seen in the news that night. With a blink of an eye, homes, businesses, Lāhainā harbor, and several residents — gone. Several days after the fire, I spoke to two of my Lānaʻi childhood friends who lived in Lāhainā and hearing their stories brought tears to my eyes.

A scripture below would appear in my thoughts, Revelations 21:1-4, as my heart aches for the people including my two Lānaʻi friends.

As weeks go by, and every night, I watch the news and see the live footage of Lāhainā town, the heaviness in my heart remains. Memories flood my brain of the wonderful times I’ve spent in Lāhainā. Lāhainā was a special place that provided joy to friends and family everywhere. Personally, I have visited Lāhainā my whole

childhood, and going there for the day, weekend, or the summer was a blessing. The Lāhainā-Lānaʻi ferry was an easy and inexpensive way for people to travel to and from both islands. From there, we could eat and talk while enjoying the rich history in the local shops and restaurants. The charming town of Lāhainā made me relate to my home in Lānaʻi in many ways. Many social gatherings and events have been hosted by my family back home, and sometimes we could not get things we needed at Lānaʻi. Occasionally, quick stops would be made to Lāhainā or vendors and friends would drop off items we needed.

As I reflect on the fond memories, another scripture would appear in my thoughts. Ecclesiastes 3:1-4.

Lānaʻi community is a “solid” community who will be there for one another through good and bad. The good news is that despite loss, calamities and hardships, there is Hope and a Promise from God that we can look forward to.

Mahalos for reading,  
Marlou Laciste Lamblack

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# Smoke-Veiled Dreams

Lānaʻi teens enrolled at Lāhaināluna High School recall wildfire evacuation

By Anthony Kaauamo based on witness accounts

The pre-dawn hours of Tuesday, August 8th, opened with a loud thrashing. Eunica Espiritu and Carla Ramos, two high school juniors who recently transferred from Lānaʻi to Lāhaināluna High School, woke to the sound of their dorm windows' curtains beating wildly against the walls, "like a trapped bird." Though Hurricane Dora was hundreds of miles to the south, the low-pressure system it brought, along with a high-pressure system from the north, converged to create these strong winds.

The girls exited their rooms to get a clearer view outside from the glass doors downstairs. The lights wouldn't turn on and the hall remained dim with the pale morning light. Outside, the trees swayed rapidly and bent unnaturally like soft rubber tubes. Swirls of leaves and large broken branches cluttered the campus.

Returning to their rooms but unable to sleep, they gazed out their windows fixedly. A sudden flash was seen amongst the whipping yellow grass in the distance. "We guessed it was from an electric wire or something," Eunica said. Their dormmates emerged from their rooms, making their way down the hall to gather in the common area. "We went back downstairs around 6:40 a.m., and that's when we could see the smoke."

They were just three days into their new life at Lāhaināluna High School.

Situated directly above Lāhainā and at the base of Puʻu Paʻupaʻu hill (home to the "L" on its summit), the school was established in 1836 and is one of the few public boarding schools in the nation. Designed for highly independent and motivated students, the boarding program replaces dormitory tuition with a work-study commitment. Boarders undertake various responsibilities on campus, ranging from yard work and custodial tasks to tending the school's farm animals and preparing meals in the cafeteria. Open to students from across the state, nation and internationally, the boarding program offers a unique blend of academics and real-world skills.

August 8 had been scheduled as a "practice day," reserved for new boarding students and incoming freshmen to familiarize themselves with the campus layout, with August 9 being scheduled as the official first day of school for the entire student body.

As plumes of smoke billowed upward, Eunica and Carla stood side by side in a wordless understanding. Their friendship began years ago when Carla, a newly arrived 7th grader from Manila, moved to Lānaʻi. In place of bustling streets and faceless crowds, Lānaʻi offered quiet expanses and scarce anonymity. "We came from different places, but Lānaʻi brought us together," Eunica shared.

Carla stood in the corner of the class, her gaze lowered, and arms wrapped protectively around herself. Eunica recognized in Carla the same look of anxiety she had worn herself, when she first arrived on Lānaʻi in the 3rd grade. "Kumusta ka? Ako si Eunica," she had said in Tagalog, their mother tongue. "How are you? I'm Eunica."

It was more than the words, it was the empathy in Eunica's voice that eased Carla's growing discomfort. "Mabuti, salamat. Ako si Carla," she responded, her smile was faint but warming. "I'm fine, thank you. I'm Carla."

In the classrooms and outdoor pathways of Lānaʻi High & Elementary School, their friendship bloomed. Their circle grew as they welcomed more friends, they joined the school's paddling team, gave musical performances at family events, and shared quiet moments over smuggled snacks in the classroom. With the presence of off-island boys, visiting Lānaʻi for sports, came gentle stirrings of young romance, fleeting glances, nervous giggles, and hours-long conversations.

But they also aspired for more — more than what Lānaʻi seemed able to offer. Semi-charmed days ensued, marred by the routine of school, visits to Gano's, idle chatter and more hangouts... only to start over again the next day. For teens like them, the quaintness of Lānaʻi's small-town life — with its predictable rhythms and well-trodden paths — eventually feels confining. Lāhaināluna's boarding program offered them a chance to craft their own narrative, a way to soar beyond Lānaʻi's gilded cage. They dreamed of joining the cheerleading squad, making new friends, taking a variety of classes not offered at home, and having the chance to prove their independence.

The initial morning fire was less than a mile from Lāhaināluna High School. Firefighter crews worked diligently to manage the blaze with Maui County officials declaring it contained a few hours later.

Makayla Du Bose, a fellow junior and recent transfer from Lānaʻi to Lāhaināluna, stood in the doorway of the girls' dormitory restroom, broom in hand. She sighed. It was the fourth time that morning she had been tasked with cleaning the area. Leaves, dirt, and blown-out window screens brought in by the gusts of wind, were once again littered across the tiled floor.

Just the day before, on Monday, August 7, their second day at Lāhaināluna, the boarders had been trained to operate maintenance and cleaning equipment such as leaf blowers, and lawn mowers, and weed whackers, and carpet cleaners, and vacuums, and steam

*Continued on page 8.*



Carla Ramos and Eunica Espiritu

*Continued from page 7.*

mops. The boarding staff pressed upon them the necessity of contributing to the campus' upkeep, and thanks to the wind's continued assistance, Makayla was having plenty of opportunities to do so.

Attending Lāhainālunā had been a dream for Makayla even before her freshman year. Like Eunica and Carla, she too held aspirations of broadening her horizons and seizing the opportunity to demonstrate her self-reliance.

Her attempts at applying to the boarding program were first thwarted by the COVID-19 pandemic, then by complications due to the application timeline. Still determined to get in, she submitted her third application over the summer. Hearing about Eunica and Carla's acceptance phone calls but not her own, Makayla was worried. "I was at my grandma's house, still not getting that call when my mom came over," Makayla said. "She was carrying flowers, then she was like, 'You got in!'"

Makayla laughed, thinking about her initial excitement, "The thing I was looking forward to most was decorating my room."

The hanging shelf above Makayla's dorm room bed was lined with a colorful horde of squishmallows. Their plush doll eyes watched as she gathered electronics and toiletries from various drawers. Moments earlier, a staff member had instructed the students to collect a backpack's worth of essential items. It was after 3:00 p.m. and the morning's fire had rekindled.

Eunica, Carla, Makayla and the other students had spent the entire day cycling between monotonous cleaning duties, restless naps and loitering the dorm halls listlessly. The power had been out since the night before and many of their phones were either completely dead or on the verge of death. Even for those with remaining battery life, phone service was erratic, with messages being sent or received only sporadically.

By 4:00 p.m., after debating next steps privately and away from the boarders' earshot, the dorm staff decided to evacuate. As the dormitory boys and girls exited their buildings, they were met with the wind's terrible strength. Students gripped onto one another for stability or clutched their backpacks tightly, as if they were lifelines. They crouched low trying to shield their eyes from the airborne debris. "Don't run! Keep moving, but don't run!" the adults warned, emphasizing the danger of losing one's footing. The groups made their way to the parking lot near the gymnasium and upon arrival, were met with a new challenge: only a handful of vehicles were available to transport the 42 boarding students.

The Lāna'i girls, along with four of their peers, were assigned to a pickup truck. With space already tight, Carla found herself having to sit on Makayla's lap in the backseat. Carrying with it the acrid smell of burning wood and vegetation, the wind screamed around the small convoy of vehicles as they left campus.

Approaching a bend in the road, they could see ahead that a snapped monkey pod lay across their path. The driver slowed to a stop, and alongside other adults, began the laborious task of dragging the tree out of the way.

Flames from nearby homes lit the horizon, producing a ghostly static electric-like hum. As they entered the Lāhainā Bypass Road, they witnessed deserted vehicles and saw people, both on foot and on bicycles, fleeing the inferno that was once Lāhainā.

Behind them, they watched as the monstrous plume of smoke gorged itself on the remaining blue skies like a ravenous beast; its dark velvet hide sparkled with crimson embers. Lāna'i, a once constant sight on the horizon, was no longer visible.

The evacuation site was at Maui High School and the progress to Kahului was slow and tedious. The Honoapi'ilani Highway leading out of West Maui was congested with vehicles forming a nearly unbroken line of traffic. Motorcycles and mopeds occasionally zipped past them on the road's shoulder.

Four hours later, upon reaching the school, the environment was unexpectedly calm. Contrary to expectations, the parking lot was largely empty and the expected throngs of evacuees were noticeably thin. With stable phone service back, those with working phones were finally reconnected with families.

Vehicles began pulling up to where the Lāhaināluna staff and students were waiting. One by one, Maui-based boarders recognized their rides and departed. As the number of boarders dwindled, a Toyota Corolla pulled up. The driver, upon speaking with the staff, identified herself as the older sister of one of the waiting girls. After reuniting with her sister, who informed her of the Lāna'i girls' predicament, the driver offered them a place to stay at her home in Wailuku until they could safely return to Lāna'i. The girls agreed and Lāhaināluna staff promptly communicated with the girls' parents to confirm this arrangement.

"I felt better when Eunica messaged me at the Wailuku house. They were okay," said Irene Espiritu, Eunica's mother. Yet, overshadowing her relief was the question of how to get Eunica and the girls back to Lāna'i. "I wasn't sure about the things they went through in the fire. The only thing in my mind during that time was that I wanted them to come home here, to make sure they're safe."

Unable to sleep, the girls sought comfort through a night drive, much like their peers' "cruise missions" on Lāna'i's closed-loop streets. As they cruised through Maui's vast landscape, Eunica reflected on the harrowing day and thought about her boyfriend's early morning text. Living below the school in Lāhainā, he had told her to "leave now." How right he had been. Her phone, now finally charged, buzzed with messages from friends and family, yet there was still no word from him.

**"The only thing in my mind during that time was that I wanted them to come home here, to make sure they're safe."**

*Continued on page 9.*



*Makayla Du Bose*





Continued from page 8.

Driving further away from Wailuku, they came upon areas that offered distant, but haunting views of the fires raging in Upcountry and Kihei. Igniting after midnight that very same day, the Upcountry fires would consume 1,000 acres and hundreds of homes while a separate fire, started at 6:00 p.m. near Pūlehu Road in Kihei, was forcing nearby community evacuations.

As they sat in the thick, palpable darkness, the glow of the fires danced eerily on the Corolla’s windshield. Beyond the car, a swath of parched grass led ominously toward them, like a trail for the encroaching flames. “At that time, I was kind of getting worried. I was thinking, like, some bad thoughts. For some reason, actually, it felt like the fire was following us,” Carla said. And indeed, those flames seemed to mirror their own burning aspirations — enticing but perilous, always at their heels, much like the inevitability of adulthood.

The morning of Wednesday, August 9, started serenely in the verdant man-made oasis of the Four Seasons Resort Lāna‘i. The property’s botanical gardens were a jewel of green amongst the coastal grasses of pallid-yellow. Amidst the luscious cycads and palms, Irene, who works ground maintenance for the landscaping department, was bent over an anthurium, misting its leaves with neem oil, her eyes distant. Under the calm facade of it all, she was still grappling with the question of how to get her daughter, Eunica, and the girls back to Lāna‘i.

Aware of Eunica’s predicament, her colleagues had begun to pool their contacts to explore options. Lāna‘i Air, the luxury air service for guests, was floated as a possibility, but it presented logistical challenges: it couldn’t offer a direct flight from Maui. Instead, the girls would need to travel with them through O‘ahu, but given the chaos at Kahului Airport, with tourists scrambling to leave, this seemed an impractical solution.

Meanwhile, another colleague had a lead with Kamaka Air, an inter-island cargo transport provider. Unfortunately, while they were willing to volunteer their services, they too faced challenges, being short-staffed and in search of available pilots.

“Eunica is my only child, and as a single mom, I feel it is up to me to keep her safe.” Sorting through her feelings, Irene spoke in the same manner she approaches her work, delicate yet deliberate, “At first, I hesitated about her going to Lāhaināluna. It has just been Eunica and me. I always wanted her close. But I know she is growing and needs to fly on her own. So, I decided to let her and support her dreams.”

Before the end of the day, Kamaka Air found pilots ready to make the flight. Eunica, Carla, and Makayla would be coming home that evening. They would just be three of the estimated 11,000 people who flew out of Maui that day.

High above the Kealaikahiki Channel, the girls sat together in the cramped hold of Kamaka Air. Its loose cargo nets flapped against the scuff-marked floor and narrow windows like the faint beats of a tired bird’s wings. The girls’ gaze were pulled toward the setting sun, casting its light on Lāna‘i as it emerged from a smoke-hazed abyss.

“That evening when I saw Eunica, that’s the only time that everything went right,” said Irene. “That she’s fine, she’s all right.”

As the deadliest fire in the United States since 1918, the Lāhainā wildfire took the lives of 98 people with dozens still missing. Over 2,200 structures were damaged or destroyed, leaving thousands displaced and seeking temporary shelter in hotels and short-term rentals, including Eunica’s boyfriend and his family, who had lost their home. While years of concerted rebuilding efforts lie ahead for Lāhainā, the profound tragedy of lost lives and destroyed historical landmarks will forever mar its landscape.

A week after returning to Lāna‘i, Eunica, Carla, and Makayla re-enrolled at Lāna‘i High & Elementary School. They were welcomed back to the familiar

campus, its walls yellow like Lāhainā’s caustic fields, concrete paths lined by deer-eaten Ti leaf, and days that blurred together like smeared ink on dry erase boards. Their early hopes for new friendships, opportunities, and a sense of autonomy had faded, a retreat from a dream once vibrant.

“It feels like I’m going to wake up and still be in the dorm room,” Carla said, her voice tinged with a melancholy beyond her years.

Makayla, having waited three years for three days at Lāhaināluna, reflected on the life lessons the tragedy had imparted: “I think the whole thing is just a reminder not to feel too comfortable anywhere and to value the things you do have. I’ve learned to kind of not think about the future too much anymore. Of course, it’s in my mind, but every time I’ve had a goal, it’s never worked out.”

The girls may not realize it themselves, but in the crucible of disaster, they have proven their resilience and independence. Yet, an uncomfortable truth about adulthood emerges — dreams and aspirations are fragile constructs, vulnerable to the indiscriminate wrath of uncontrollable events.

In the end, the smoke may have cleared, but the haze over their future lingers. Dreams, although obscured, still linger in the haze, awaiting their turn to illuminate anew.

*UPDATE: As of the writing of this article on October 20, 2023, Lāhaināluna High School has re-admitted Eunica, Carla, and Makayla as boarders. They are slated to return in November. The reality they will return to has been fundamentally changed by the wildfire that deeply scarred both the school and the community it overlooks. But the ongoing rebuilding efforts stand as a poignant reminder that dreams, although broken, can be pieced back together again.*

**The girls may not realize it themselves, but in the crucible of disaster, they have proven their resilience and independence.**



## RETURN OF THE

# Lāna‘i Keiki Fishing Tournament

By Anthony Kaaumo



**1**1-year-old Jurian Costales stood proudly by the rock “bridge” in the tidepools near Shark Bay, a wide grin stretching across his face. His small hands held a short fishing pole with a wriggling catch at the end of the line. He pulled up the catch; it was a roi, an invasive species notorious for wreaking havoc on Hawai‘i’s marine ecosystem. As Hansel, his dad, assisted in removing the hook from the roi’s mouth, a circle of curious kids gathered around, marveling at Jurian’s catch.

Reviving after a seven-year hiatus, the Lāna‘i Keiki Fishing Tournament witnessed overwhelming enthusiasm this year. To cater to different age groups, organizers structured the event into three categories: 5-8 year olds, 9-12 year olds, and 13-17 year olds. The action kicked off at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, October 6 and wrapped up by 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, October 8. Set between the scenic stretches of Hulopo‘e Beach and the Mānele Small Boat Harbor, the event maintained age-specific safety guidelines, ensuring a secure and immersive experience for all involved.

As Friday afternoon progressed, the beachfront came alive. By 4:00 p.m., families had started pouring in. The numbers were impressive, with over 160 participants checking in and with around 100 of them opting to camp out over the weekend.

Fishing was, of course, the heart of the event. The emphasis was on catching invasive species, such as the to‘au, incentivized with bonus points. Young Jurian’s roi wasn’t the only standout; Gabe Sanches brought in a whopping five-pound mū, drawing considerable attention. To fuel the competitive spirit and add a touch of excitement, a tally board was on display, letting participants keep an eye on their standings.



Lāna‘i Fishing Tournament volunteer crew with Jake Ballesteros’ 116 lbs. ‘ulua catch

However, it wasn’t all just about fishing. An eagerly awaited part of the event were the door prize donations, packed with attractive prizes. From Yeti coolers to brand new ulua poles, the list was exhaustive, and every single item up for grabs was a testament to the community’s interconnectedness, having been donated primarily through word-of-mouth publicity that Lāna‘i so effectively employs.

The essence of the community was further highlighted in the decision to direct the door prize donation proceeds to two poignant causes. The first was a tribute to the memory of Genalyn Schaefer, a beloved figure in the community who left too soon.

Photos by Thessalonica Sandi and Giyana Agliam

The second avenue for the proceeds was to fund the next year’s tournament, symbolizing the island’s desire to keep this tradition alive and thriving.

Marcom Pascua, the lead coordinator, spoke of the importance of imparting knowledge, saying, “All we can really do is teach the kids the importance of our traditions. If we do it right, they’ll remember and feel a deep connection as they grow up. The real achievement is watching them share these lessons with their own children. It proves the lasting impact of our efforts.”

While the tournament celebrates individual achievements, its broader vision stretches beyond the accolades. The driving force behind the Fishing Tournament is the Lāna‘i Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area (CBSFA). They envisage a future where the island’s youth embrace both the joys of fishing and the profound responsibilities that come with it.

For the youngsters participating, the Lāna‘i Keiki Fishing Tournament wasn’t just an event — it was an experience, a lesson, and a legacy. A chance to understand the delicate balance of marine life and the essential role they play in preserving it. Through initiatives like these, Lāna‘i not only celebrates its rich fishing culture but also instills in its next generation a sense of duty and pride in safeguarding its marine treasures.

Fishing on the breakwater in Mānele near the lighthouse, young Gabe Sanches was growing restless. Even though it had only been minutes, his line, baited with shrimp, hadn’t stirred in what felt like hours. “Dad, no more fish, I like go already,” he complained. Keo, his father, looked at him and counseled, “You know what the best trait of a fisherman? Patience.”

True to those words, shortly after, Gabe’s patience bore fruit. His line came alive with the pull of a significant catch. With his father’s guidance, Gabe reeled in a striking 5-pound mū. This remarkable catch didn’t just grant Gabe the prestigious First Place by Weight award for the 5-8 years age group but also crowned him as the Biggest Fish Overall at the Lāna‘i Keiki Fishing Tournament. This achievement was celebrated with a unique gyotaku print crafted by artist Kristin Belew.

Gabe’s experience on that day underscored the timeless value of patience, not just in fishing but in all aspects of life.

While the journey to establish a CBSFA on Lāna‘i continues, the Lāna‘i Keiki Fishing Tournament serves as a crucial step in nurturing a new generation of ocean stewards who understand the importance of responsible fishing and conservation.

“All we can really do is teach the kids the importance of our traditions. If we do it right, they’ll remember and feel a deep connection as they grow up.”

# Lāna‘i Fishing Tournament Winners



**Gabriel Sanches**  
First Place by Weight for 5-8 yrs  
Biggest Fish Overall

*Gabriel Sanches with his 5 lbs. mū*



**Tahlyn Bolo**  
First Place for 5-8 yrs

*Tahlyn Bolo with parents, Iolani and Fred*



**Kaiea Morita**  
Second Place for 5-8 yrs

*Kaiea Morita with parents, Kai and Sandi*



**Zyren Divina**  
Third Place for 5-8 yrs

*Zyren Divina with sister, Zayda, and parents, VJ and Kiana*



**Kaiani Catiel**  
First Place by Weight for 9-12 yrs

*Kaiani Catiel with dad, Kimo, and Jerilyn*



**Brennon Dejos-Cabico**  
First Place for 9-12 yrs  
Most Invasive Species Overall

*Brennon Dejos-Cabico with brother, Max, and parents, Marlon and Shannon*



**Uriah Fauatea**  
Second Place for 9-12 yrs

*Uriah Fauatea with mom, Jerilyn, and Kimo*



**Rylan Alboro-Menze**  
Third Place for 9-12 yrs

*Rylan Alboro-Menze with brother, Gage, and grandma, Lynette Higaki*



**Mahealani Esteban**  
First Place for 13-17 yrs

*Mahealani Esteban collecting her winnings with Stan Ruidas*



**Izabella Bolo**  
Second Place for 13-17 yrs

*Izabella Bolo and mom, Morgan*



**Braden Ostrander**  
Third Place for 13-17 yrs

*Braden Ostrander with mom, Hazel*



**Congratulations  
to all of  
this year's  
participants  
and winners!**



## Expeditions' Dedication to Service Amidst Adversity

By Anthony Kaauamo

In the face of profound loss, Expeditions, known for its three-decade-long service as the only ferry connection between Maui and Lānaʻi, faced a devastating setback. The August 8th wildfire that ravaged Lāhainā left them reeling, as they lost everything — their offices, warehouse, computers, servers, and critical records. To compound the tragedy, Expeditions II, one of their vessels, succumbed to the harbor fire. Their inventory of spare parts for boat repairs was reduced to ashes, leaving them in an unprecedented situation.

Adding to the tragedy, many staff members also lost their homes in the fire, further deepening the challenges faced by the entire Expeditions family. But it was precisely because of everything they had lost that Expeditions took swift action. They shifted their operations from Lāhainā Small Boat Harbor to Maʻalaea Harbor and were back in service just four days after the wildfire. In the midst of destruction, they resolved to continue serving the community, despite overwhelming challenges — with the company effectively rebooting from scratch.

In the pre-dawn hours of August 8, Captain Robert called Bill Caldwell, president of Expeditions, to inform him of the strong winds. Bill informed Captain Robert that they should keep the ferry anchored that day. “I couldn’t imagine the crew going to Lānaʻi and bringing people back into an inferno. There would be no way they could have landed. Zero. That’s how bad it was and how fast it accelerated,” Bill said.

Expeditions plays a critical role in connecting the Lānaʻi community with essential healthcare services beyond the island, including medical examinations, dentists, and mental health professionals. For Lānaʻi residents, access to these healthcare providers often requires traveling off the island. Expeditions

serves as a lifeline for those in need of these crucial services, ensuring that they can access the care and support they require. Additionally, firefighters and construction crews from Maui rely on the ferry to provide their services to Lānaʻi.

Lānaʻi small businesses also rely heavily on Expeditions for day guests who patronize establishments like Blue Ginger Café and the Mike Carroll Gallery. Phoenix Dupree, co-owner of the café, expressed his gratitude, saying, “I can’t imagine if I lost every business record, how would I operate? What would I do? Where would I be in order to recover things? Yet, they’re operating, which we’re grateful for.” Mike Carroll also highlighted the significance of Expeditions’ swift resumption of service, stating, “Expeditions going again so quickly after the fire was such a big benefit for our island. I was really shocked. I thought it would take weeks or a month before we even saw the first boat over here.”

“We want to rebuild,” said Bill, “That’s how dedicated we are.” While challenges remain, including adjustments to ferry operations as their recovery progresses, their commitment to serving the community remains unwavering. They continue to strive to restore services to their pre-crisis levels, understanding the importance of connecting the communities of Lānaʻi and Maui. “We’re not just here for profit; we’re here to care for people and provide transportation.”

**“We’re not just here for profit; we’re here to care for people and provide transportation.”**

## Slang for Non-Slangular People: “Comp”

Contributed by Silveress

Hello, I’m Silveress, and I am a junior at Lānaʻi High & Elementary School. I am a person of many hobbies and talents (not really), but I enjoy forms of creative writing such as poetry, journaling, letters, etc. I am working alongside the Lānaʻi Today paper to create a new column that discusses and describes the slang used by Generation Z (Gen-Z), people born between 1997 and 2012. Each publication will feature a new Gen-Z slang, so that you can go ahead and flaunt your wide range of Gen-Z lingo to your friends and family. Isn’t that comp, chat?

**comp /kämp/ adj.**

In basic terms, the word “comp” is an expression used in a variety of ways to describe a person or object. The term comes from Spenser “Æ” Elan, (who I asked about regarding the term “comp”) and his friends. In different contexts, “comp” can mean cool, weird, funny, or something to a similar extent. The word can also be used to describe something that’s low key (kind of, for you non-slangular people) dumb. The use of calling a person or object “comp” is subjective, as what one person may consider “comp” another may not.



Silveress (aka “Sharmaine Elan”)

**Example:**

Person 1: “Yo! Did you see that guy’s fit (outfit)!?”

Person 2: “Yeah! Das comp, bro!”

The origins of the slang come straight from the hit basketball video game, NBA2K, where “comp” is used to describe an opponent who is quite good at the game — and not just good — but an absolute beast.



LĀNA'I WATER COMPANY, INC

# We've Moved to Monthly Billing!

In October 2023, the Lāna'i Water Company introduced a change that will simplify your payment process – we've shifted from bi-monthly to monthly billing. We understand that the change can be challenging, but rest assured, this transition is designed with your convenience in mind.

## Why Monthly Billing?

We recognize that many of you are used to our previous bi-monthly billing system. Our move to monthly billing is aimed at providing you with more regular and predictable billing, which will help ensure you won't fall behind or miss payments by mistake.

## Seamless Payment Processing

To make your life even easier, we encourage you to pay your bill online or sign up for Automatic Clearing House (ACH) payments.

### Pay Online

Don't worry about having to write and mail a check, instead make a one-time payment by logging into the Lāna'i Water Company Payment Portal. Online payments do not incur transaction fees.

Visit [lanaiwatercompany.com/pay-bill](http://lanaiwatercompany.com/pay-bill) to get started.

### Pay Automatically by ACH

ACH payments offer numerous benefits, including time and postage savings, guaranteed on-time payments, enhanced security, and, best of all, it's completely free for all Lāna'i Water Company accounts.

Simply scan the QR code to complete the sign-up form or visit [lanaiwatercompany.com/pay-bill](http://lanaiwatercompany.com/pay-bill) for more information.



## Enrollment Benefits



Saves time and postage



Never miss a payment with AutoPay



No lost checks & eliminates handling of checks



Free to all Lāna'i Water Company accounts



Bills will still be mailed to you stating "Auto-Payment Do Not Pay"

**Questions or concerns about the transition?  
Reach out to us at 808-565-3664. We're here to help!**

**WE'RE HIRING!**

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🏠 [mauihealth.org/careers](http://mauihealth.org/careers)



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Do you have a passion for community and caring for others? Join our team and help create a healthier future for the people of Maui and Lanai! We are proud to offer competitive compensation and benefits designed to help our team and their families stay healthy and grow both personally and professionally.

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Maui Memorial Medical Center  
Maui Memorial Outpatient Clinic  
Maui Wound Care and Hyperbaric Therapy  
Kula Hospital and Clinic  
Lāna'ī Community Hospital





# Lāna'i Community Health Center



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## LĀNA'I FITNESS CHALLENGE 2023

This year's challenge honors all the victims of the Maui Wildfires. This will be the first year we will not be giving out prizes. Instead, we are collecting monetary donations and matching up to \$ 3,000 toward Hawaii Community Foundations' "Maui Strong Fund" to help Maui victims in the short-term and long-term assistance phases toward recovery.

Please join our 5K walk for Lahaina held on **October 28th, 2023**, in Dole Park at 9 am. We will also honor our Lāna'i First Responders for **National First Responders Day**. LCHC is grateful for a network of first responders who passionately serve our Community. Lāna'i is safer because of the hard work and dedication of our Lāna'i Police Dept, our Lāna'i Fire Dept, and our Lāna'i Paramedics/EMTs. *Mahalo! The Lāna'i Kinā'ole Health Fair will follow at 10 am.*

## OFFICE HOURS

Monday- Thursday  
8:00 AM-7:00 PM

Friday  
8:00 AM-5:00 PM

Saturday  
8:00 AM-3:00PM

Open during lunch  
12:00 PM-1:00 PM

Sunday & Holidays  
CLOSED

## MEET OUR NEW LCHC TEAM MEMBERS!



photo of R. Alex Blake and Hannah Hussey

Please welcome our newest additions to the LCHC's Behavioral Health team, R. Alex Blake and Hannah Hussey. Both are practicum trainee students and doctoral candidates with Hawaii Pacific University's Clinical Psychology program. We are so excited to have them on board and providing services to our Lanai community.

R. Alex Blake received his Master's Degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling. Alex's interests include research on evidence-based practice policies and cultural considerations on the perception of emotions in Native Hawaiian populations. He was born in New Orleans, LA, but has lived on O'ahu for the past 17 years. In his free time, Alex enjoys spending time with his wife and dog, coaching gymnastics, and scuba diving.

Hannah Hussey earned a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from Florida State University. Hannah's interests include geriatric psychology and aging, trauma psychology, and nutritional, physiological and health issues. In her leisure time, she enjoys beekeeping, hiking, reading, and relaxing at the beach with friends.

Please welcome our new LCHC dentist, Dr. Andrew Yoon.

Dr. Yoon graduated from Loma Linda University School of Dentistry, where he graduated Magna Cum Laude and was awarded the Center of Research Basic Sciences Award Scholarship and inducted into the Omicron Kappa Upsilon Dental Society. He has also been awarded the American Association of Endodontists Award.

*"One of the biggest draws to Lanai Community Health Center was that it seemed so dedicated to helping and serving the community, which is what I wanted my career to center on. I love that the health center is so ingrained in the community and people are getting help from their fellow community members."*

- Dr. Yoon



### WOMEN, INFANT, AND CHILDREN PROGRAM

WIC is a program that provides supplemental nutrition to pregnant and breastfeeding women, infants, and children under five who meet income requirements and have a nutritional risk that could be improved with proper nutrition. Apply now!

### FAMILY PLANNING PROGRAM

Birth control is not one size fits all. Let us help you find a method that works for you. We also offer pregnancy testing, STI testing, and treatment. Schedule your next appointment with us, either in person or through telehealth.

### TOBACCO CESSATION PROGRAM

At LCHC, we are committed to empowering individuals in our community to enhance their well-being by quitting all forms of tobacco. Don't hesitate to contact us today to schedule an appointment with one of our tobacco treatment specialists or learn more about our Tobacco Cessation Program. #EHanuLāna'i (Breathe Lāna'i)

### HEALOW PATIENT PORTAL

Make payments, request medication refills, message your care team, and view medical & lab records. Download the Healow App today and enter practice code GEBABA.

### TELEHEALTH SERVICES

Talk to your medical provider from home via private and secure video or phone using Zoom, which is HIPAA-compliant. Call to schedule a Telehealth appointment.

### TELEPHARMACY PROGRAM

LCHC provides convenient pharmacy access, accepts major health plans, offers discounts for underinsured and uninsured, and delivers medications. Call us for more information.

### PATIENT SURVEYS

We value your opinion and aim to provide top-notch services that meet your needs. Please complete our surveys using the QR code provided to share your feedback!



Patient Satisfaction Survey



Family Planning Survey



Needs Assessment Survey

### AFTER HOURS PROVIDER LINE

In case of non-emergency medical needs after clinic hours, call our after-hours provider line at 808-563-9630.

**HALE KŪPUNA O LĀNAʻI**  
**HALE MAHAOLU**  
 1144 ʻIlima Avenue

**Minimum Requirements at time of application:**

1. Must be at least 62 years old.
2. RD Income Limits:  
 One person - \$35,900  
 Maximum Two persons - \$45,650  
 Must be capable of achieving an independent living status.

Call office for more information  
**565-6615**

**LĀNAʻI CITY**  
 BAR & GRILL

**2023 Festive Schedule**  
 In addition to our regular hours we will be open:

**Sunday Special Dinner, Dec 17th / 4pm-10pm**  
**Christmas Eve Dinner, Dec 24th / 4pm-10pm**  
**Christmas Day Brunch, Dec 25th / 11am-2pm**  
**NYE Dinner Party, Dec 31st / 4pm-10pm**  
**New Year's Day Brunch, Jan 1st / 11am-2pm**  
**Sunday Special Dinner, Jan 7th / 4pm-10pm**  
**Sunday Special Dinner, Jan 14th / 4pm-10pm**

Happy holiday's from all of us at LCBG!

Get your holiday gift cards!  
 Online Ordering Now Available at:  
 @lanaicitybarandgrill  
 www.lanaicitybarandgrill.com

Join our  
**'OHANA!**

**Pūlama Lānaʻi**  
 Preservation, Progress, Sustainability.

**OPEN POSITIONS**

---

Conservation Field Technician	Ground Service Attendants
Deli Assistant (Service Station)	Housekeeper
Distribution System Operator Apprentices	Landscape Workers
Equipment Operators	Project Manager
General Maintenance Specialist	Senior Project Manager

APPLY ONLINE  
[pulamalanai.com/#careers](http://pulamalanai.com/#careers)

DIRECT INQUIRIES  
[hr@pulamalanai.com](mailto:hr@pulamalanai.com) | 808.565.3000

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[jay.margulies@sothebysrealty.com](mailto:jay.margulies@sothebysrealty.com)  
[marguliesandassociates.com](http://marguliesandassociates.com)

**808 280 1080**

Island Sotheby's  
 INTERNATIONAL REALTY

Island Sotheby's International Realty - 5095 Napilihaui St., Suite 113a, Lahaina HI 96793  
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Lic RB 17080



**\$675,000 FS**  
**Price Reduced**

**Bedrooms: 3**  
**Bath: 1**  
**Home: 960 sq. ft.**

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for more information  
**WWW.HOMESONLANAI.COM**

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Phone: (808) 565-7519  
Fax: (808) 565-6106  
Email: [kay@okamotorealty.com](mailto:kay@okamotorealty.com)



## FOUR SEASONS RESORT LĀNAʻI

# JOIN US FOR COMMUNITY NIGHTS

Come gaze at the stars and  
planets from our Lānaʻi Observatory!

Three 1-hour sessions:  
September 16th  
7:30pm, 8:00pm, 8:30pm

October 13th  
7:30pm, 8:00pm, 8:30pm

November 18th  
7:00pm, 7:30pm, 8:00pm

Reservations are needed  
For information and bookings  
contact Love Lānaʻi at (808)-565-2822  
11:00am - 4:00pm  
Available to Lānaʻi residents and Island Club  
Members. Ages 6+



*Lānaʻi Culture & Heritage Center  
presents*



# Free Resident Hunt!

Lānaʻi Community Stewardship Program  
*Restoring health to our ʻāina*

Visit [lanaichc.org/hunting](http://lanaichc.org/hunting) for  
more information

Ungulate Removal - Aug/Sep 2023

366

Hunts

76

Deer

47

Mouflon



## BUSINESS SERVICES FOR LANAI

ONE-ON-ONE  
TECHNICAL BUSINESS  
ASSISTANCE.  
HELP WITH:

- ▼ Business registration
- ▼ Filing GET tax forms
- ▼ Business Marketing
- ▼ Understanding business financials
- ▼ Small Business Loans for Startup or existing Lānaʻi Businesses

David Daly Director  
808 243-4318  
Email: [david.daly@meoinc.org](mailto:david.daly@meoinc.org)



Follow us on:



*above the counter, in the Isle of Pine  
we Lonely Masks wait, in peculiar design*

*to be paired with a Face  
we dangle with yearning  
a connection so fine –  
a frightful dark turning!*

*Yours might be right,  
for a dreary night's treat*

*cash, credit or check —  
and the deed is complete!*

Hours of operation  
Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-7 p.m.  
Saturday, 8 a.m.-6 p.m.  
Sunday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

## PINE ISLE MARKET

*Your neighborhood grocer since 1949*

*Located on Dole Square  
in the heart of Lānaʻi City* **565-6488**

U.S. Representative  
**JILL TOKUDA**  
— Hawaii's 2<sup>nd</sup> District —

## Satellite Office Hours

My team and I are coming to Lanai to answer your questions and help you deal with any federal issues or concerns.



**Friday, November 3**  
**11:00 am - 1:00 pm**  
**ILWU Union Hall**  
**840 Lima Ave**

### We Can Help With Issues Like:

**Passport Renewal, IRS, Veteran's Benefits,  
Immigration, Postal Service, Social  
Security Benefits, Medicare, & More!**

### Questions?

Contact my office at 808-746-6220 or  
visit: [www.tokuda.house.gov](http://www.tokuda.house.gov)



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Knowledge

Global  
Reach



Greg Sturm  
R(S) 65206

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about  
Lānaʻi!

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REAL ESTATE NEEDS

**808-563-0170**

## Join Our 'Ohana!

HOSPICE MAUI



MAUI, MOLOKAʻI AND LĀNAʻI

## OPEN POSITIONS ON LĀNAʻI

- NURSE- RN & LPN
- NURSE AIDE/CNA

*FULL / PART TIME AND PER DIEM*

APPLY ONLINE :

[hospicemaui.org/careers](http://hospicemaui.org/careers)  
808.244.5555 HOSPICEMAUI.ORG



## ***New Weekly Cabin-class Service for Lānaʻi!***

***Sunday afternoons and Monday mornings to Honolulu***

***Thursday and Friday afternoon returns to Lānaʻi***

***Plus Multiple daily Cessna Grand Caravan flights  
to both Honolulu and Kahului!***



***"Let's get Lit!"***

Lanai Community Association presents:

## ***Lana'i Christmas Tree Lighting Festival***

**December 2, 2023 2:00pm to 7:00pm**

Admin Building on Lanai Avenue

**Food, Crafts & Entertainment**

**Get your photos taken with Santa in the photo booth!**

**Decorate your car and join in the ride around the town square**





# MAUI WILDFIRE RELIEF Archery Tournament

By Anthony Kaaumo

On October 14th, Four Seasons hosted the Maui Wildfire Relief Archery Tournament, coordinated by Jay Ballesteros, Assistant Manager at Lānaʻi Sporting Clays. The event enjoyed enthusiastic participation and favorable weather. “We’re blessed to have this opportunity to support the families affected by the Lāhainā wildfire,” said Jay. 100% of the proceeds will go to families of staff at Trilogy Ocean Sports and Expeditions Ferry, many of whom are Lāhainā residents. “Our volunteers and corporate vendors, who generously donated prizes, made this possible.”

The event also aims to inspire the formation of a local archery club, tapping into the burgeoning interest in the sport amongst youngsters.



Lokelani Esteban - Freestyle First Place in Youth Division



Fred Bolo - Freestyle Third Place Tie in Men’s Adult Division



Nathan Samonte - Freestyle First Place in Men’s Adult Division



Audrey Manuel - Barebow Second Place in Cub Division



Carmichael Kaaumo - Barebow First Place in Cub Division



Brian Kaopuiki - Freestyle Second Place in Men’s Adult Division



Sonny Batoon - Freestyle First Place in Senior Division



Kehaulani Esteban - Freestyle First Place in Women’s Adult Division



Ric-Shane Sabino - Freestyle Third Place Tie in Men’s Adult Division



Mahealani Esteban - Freestyle Second Place in Youth Division



Jo Sims - Barebow First Place in Women’s Adult Division

