# LANA'I TODAY

JUNE 2022



This past Memorial Day, scores of volunteers from the community helped clean the grounds of the Lāna'i cemetery, a nearly decade-old tradition of caretaking. They raked fallen pine needles and dead branches into mounds. Some washed headstones and lit incense. This year, as part of a new project put together by the Lāna'i Culture & Heritage Center, Pūlama Lāna'i employees and other community members made more than twelve hundred posies to lay at every grave in the Lāna'i cemetery and at the Lāna'i Veterans Cemetery. Left to right: Mistine Cornelius, Jullerina Pablo, and Kristina Olter. *Photography by Ron Gingerich* 

## Weaver of fishing nets

alking along the bay's fringe of black lava rock where waves wash over it and empty into tidal pools, then churn into eddies before sweeping back to the sea, is a fisherman. A fishing net the color of seawater and weighted with lead sinkers covers his left shoulder, like a half-drawn cape. It is this seawater cape that his fingers glide across and gather into a loose fold as he scans the water, looking for the flash-and-turn of silver holehole, of kala, of uhu, and other reef fish that flit through the hollows and warrens of their home.

He is focused on the sea life that ripple the water in the momentary flattening of a wave. But he keeps also a peripheral gaze on the ocean, keeping time to its rhythm, and on the oncoming waves that could, as anyone who lives in Hawai'i or near the ocean knows, knock him off the lava rock and carry him away.

I can see the concentration on the fisherman's face, as he lowers into a crouch. He could wait in this state of heightened watchfulness for a long time, for however long it takes on any given day, if the conditions are right, to catch a fish. Patience is the fisherman's work, how he comports himself against boredom and drudgery and anticipation, against the tyranny of time.

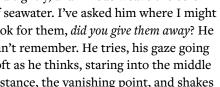
The fisherman catches a glimmer in the water, and knows he must act now. He has no time to lose, fish being fish. He takes a step closer to the edge. He clutches a drape of net in his right hand and moves it across his body, then rises from his crouch and flings the net high in the air. It spins, then bursts wide open, an open-weave sail against a brilliant sky, then sinks into the water.

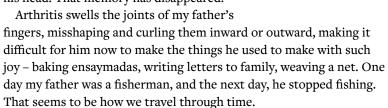
The fisherman jumps in after it, to retrieve it, and with it, a haul of whatever did not escape the thrown net. This, too, retrieving the net, is not without its dangers, for there are the rolling waves to consider, and timing, and the rising tide, and the weight of a net tangled with fish.

I did not know it at the time, but that day at Kaunolū decades ago, was the last time I would see my father throw his net. The image of that net flung into space was so rich with meaning that it found its way into the opening paragraphs of my first published short story.

The throw nets my father used to weave, those whose holes he would mend with a bamboo shuttle and the patience of a saint, the nets that hung in the corner of a tool shed that he built with his

hands, are gone. My father did such fine work. The nets were knotted precisely and tightly, a luminous weave the color of seawater. I've asked him where I might look for them, did you give them away? He can't remember. He tries, his gaze going soft as he thinks, staring into the middle distance, the vanishing point, and shakes his head. That memory has disappeared.





Poet David Whyte writes that "half of all human experience is mediated through loss and disappearance," that no one gets through life without having one's heart broken. It is a truth inscribed on the skin of anyone who has ever deeply loved—and lost—someone. What is harder to accept is the blunting of the senses, the loss of hearing or sight, the slow dissolve of language, of memory.

I think of this as Father's Day draws near, and as my siblings and I care for our father, who is entering his late eighties, and possibly, dementia. Every day is an adjustment to loss, a constant letting go of what was and cannot be again. There are many in our community also caring for their parents and making these same adjustments. Knowing we are in the same boat helps me immeasurably. What I am learning as I care for my father is that love means accepting the realities of growing old, that my father will never again throw a net, or dive in the sea to retrieve it. Love means helping him feel and know, a sense deeper than memory can go, that we are with him on this time-travel journey, his final work of patience, in the rising tide, and that he is deeply loved and not alone.



**Nelinia Cabiles** 

#### **EDUCATION MKCF 2022** Scholarship awards



NATALIE ROPA

LHS senior receives Takitani

scholarship

**OUT** and **ABOUT** on LĀNA'I

Tidying up the bandbox



NELINIA CABILES



**ELDERLY CARE** 

The need for a long-term elderly care facility



ROBIN KAYE



**PLANTATION LIFE** 

The way it was



**BOB HIRAYAMA** 

## 10 & 11

THE LAST WORD PHOTOGRAPHY ESSAY

A community remembers and honors its departed



NELINIA CABILES

### Lāna`i Today

#### Cut to the chase

#### Business

Hale Keaka is now open. Lowest movie ticket prices in Hawai'i. Adults: \$10; students (age 12-18), military, and seniors (age 65+): \$9; children (age 3-11): \$7. No charge for children under three years when sitting on the lap of an accompanying adult. Five-dollar charge for 3D movies, if 3D glasses are requested. For more information on what's screening and hours, visit Lanai96763.com/movies, or call (808) 565-7511.

#### Community

- Hawai'i KIDS COUNT released June 7, its data dashboard, an interactive website that publishes high quality statewide and county-level data to give a clear picture on the well-being of Hawai'i's children. Each indicator includes a chart showing how it has changed over time. The website is a collaboration between Hawai'i Children's Action Network and the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Center on the Family. Visit <u>hawaii-can.org/</u> <u>kids-count-dashboard</u> to see how our Maui County kids are doing. HCAN and the UH Center on the Family plan to provide updates to reflect the latest information, and invite suggestions from the public for additional data to track.
- Hawai'i Women in Filmmaking's 2022 Summer Social Justice Reel Camps for girls, age 12-19; 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m., Waiwai Collective, 1110 University Avenue, Honolulu. This program is for all cis, trans girls, gender-expansive, and non-binary people who are comfortable in a space that centers the experiences of girls/women. Ages 12-19. Racial Justice: June 6-11; LGBTQIA+ Justice: June 27-July 2; Youth Mental Wellness: July 18-23; Reproductive Justice: July 25-30. For more information on HWIF programs, visit <a href="https://www.hawaiiwome-">https://www.hawaiiwome-</a> ninfilmmaking.org/reel-camps-for-girls
- Tables are still available for food vendors for the 2022 Lāna i Pineapple Festival, 12 p.m.-9 p.m., July 2, in Dole Park. For more information, and to print out a food vendor application, please visit the Lāna'i Community Association web site: www.lanaicommunityassociation.com
- The Lāna'i Pineapple Festival is a big part of summer with many looking forward to the fireworks show. As the cost of fireworks grows each year, the Lāna'i Community Association needs support from the community. Donations can be made through Venmo or Go Fund Me.

Maui Economic Opportunity (MEO) will host Teen Financial Literacy Workshop,

- 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m., June 20, 22, 27 and 29. FREE. For teens in intermediate through high school. Four in-person sessions at MEO, 99 Mahalani Street, Kahului, cover budgeting and savings, basic banking, applying for jobs, credit and its importance, and more. The meetings could move online, depending on pandemic conditions. To register, call (808) 243-4347, or go to <a href="https://form.">https://form.</a> jotform.com/211266480815152 or email lianne.perosbusch@meoinc.org
- Maui Police Department-Lāna'i district's "Let's Talk" session: 9 a.m.-10 a.m., July 5, 2022; Lāna'i Senior Center, 309 Seventh Street, Lāna'i.

#### Lānaʻi residents

- **Peggy Fink** retired June 1, 2022, after thirty years as manager of the Lāna'i Public & School Library.
- Cindy Sagawa was recognized as one of nine Maui County finalists for the 2022 Outstanding Older American award at an awards ceremony, hosted by the Maui County Department of Aging, May 20, 2022, at the J. Cameron Walter Center in Kahului. Sagawa was cited for her work at the Lāna'i Baptist Church, her outreach with elderly kama'aina, and as coordinator of the children's program at the Lāna'i Art Center. Sergeant Kim Masse, MPD-Lāna'i, nominated Sagawa.
- Brad Shin retired March 31, 2022, after thirteen years as an animal control officer for the MPD-Lāna'i. He is looking forward to attending to his bucket list, which includes spending more time with his family, renovating the family home, and keeping up with his energetic two-year-old granddaughter, Honesty Grace.

#### Corrections

From the editor of Lāna'i Today: I aim to write stories that are accurate, objective and truthful. I acknowledge that unintended errors might occasionally slip past me. When I discover an error has been published, I will correct it as quickly as possible. Please note the following

One of the young cyclists in the BikeEd program (May 2022) was incorrectly identified as **Anuhea Tabucbuc**. Her name is Anuhea Barfield.

'Olelo No'eau - He huluhulu kau i ka puka ihu. Hair growing inside a nostril. Said in envy of a person who is regarded as a favorite by a superior—he is so closely allied to the person that he is likened to a hair in the other's nostril. Also said in criticism of one who is made too much of (Pukui 69).

## Kukui Mālamalama Scholarship

#### awardees

he Kukui
Mālamalama
Scholarship,
created
from Pūlama Lānaʻi
donations to the Lānaʻi
High & Elementary School
Foundation, is awarded
every year to one male
and one female graduating
high school student, who
face financial difficulty
in attending college. The
intention of the Kukui



J.R. Sarmiento will be attending Menlo College, in Atherton, California, in Fall 2022.



Princess Padron will be attending the University of Hawai'i-Mānoa in Fall 2022.

Mālamalama Scholarship is to enable such students to actualize their academic dreams. Each awardee receives a \$2,000 scholarship, a laptop computer, and a backpack.

The recipients of the 2022 Kukui Mālamalama Scholarship are: Princess Padron and J.R. Sarmiento. Padron will be attending the University of Hawai'i-Mānoa, and plans to major in Marketing; Sarmiento is headed to Menlo College, in Atherton, California, and will major in Business Administration, in Fall 2022.

## MKCF 2022 scholarship awards

Contributed by Natalie Ropa

he Manele Koele Charitable Fund, better known as MKCF, has been supporting projects in our Lāna'i community by funding programs in education, health and wellness, senior care and art.

Established in 2016, MKCF has since bestowed over \$700,000 to Lāna'i community members. This year, the MKCF added a scholarship program to its growing list of charitable giving. The scholarship includes a \$2,500 award to individuals who are from or live on Lāna'i, are or will be attending an accredited college program in the coming Fall 2022 semester, and intend to pursue a degree in health care or education.

The MKCF scholarship application, released in April 2022, indicated there would be two scholarship award recipients. However, because there were many strong applicants, the MKCF selection committee chose these six individuals for the scholarship award:

Class of 2022 graduates: Criseanne Baltero, attending Menlo College in Atherton, California, and 'Ānela Kahihikolo, attending University of Hawai'i-Mānoa

College undergrad students: Amaya Hoʻopiʻi-Baptista, attending Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Washington; Maile Laporga, attending the University of Las Vegas, Nevada, and Ryllah Rodrigues, attending UH-Mānoa Graduate student: Olivia Pascual, attending University of San Francisco,

Special thank-yous go to Sally Clemens and Teddy McDermott for facilitating the scholarship program, and to all MKCF donors for their continued generosity to empower our Lāna'i community.



From left to right: Ryllah Rodrigues; Maile Laporga; Sally Clemens, MKCF scholarship facilitator; Criseanne Baltero; Olivia Pascual; 'Ānela Kahihikolo Not pictured: Amaya Ho'opi'i-Baptista *Photograph courtesy of Natalie Ropa* 

# LHES advances to phase two in ARISS program

Contributed by Danyel Erickson

mateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) announced May 12, 2022, that Lāna'i High and Elementary School is among nine schools in the United States whose education proposal was chosen to advance to phase two of a scheduled contact with the International Space Station during the January to June 2023 window.

ARISS's goal is to engage students in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM), while also raising their awareness of space and radio communication, space exploration, and potential career opportunities.

LHES will be working with, and learning from, HAM radio professionals how to install at the school, an amateur radio station or telebridge, designed to contact astronauts in the International Space Station during flight. We will also be collaborating with local astronomers and non-profit organizations to integrate stargazing, ancient Hawaiian navigating traditions, constellation mapping, and many more disciplines that align with place-based learning, in order to host a school-wide Space Week, celebrating our contact with the astronauts.

Our current goal, and next milestone in this process, is to create an equipment plan and budget for the amateur radio station. Once we pass this hurdle, we will work with National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) to schedule a date within the January-June window for said ISS contact. A webinar to learn more about the process and requirements of this endeavor is scheduled for June 1, 2022.

We are looking for partners from Lāna'i and all school departments to help us with fundraising/grant writing, technical support, audio visual. If you are interested, please contact Danyel Erickson by email: <a href="mailto:danyel.erickson@k12.hi.us">danyel.erickson@k12.hi.us</a>, to be included in our committee, which may also offer opportunities to learn about HAM radios, the International Space Station, and NASA.

## LHS senior receives Takitani scholarship

Mamoru and Aiko Takitani Foundation press release

Mamoru and Aiko Takitani
Foundation, Inc.
awarded nine high school graduating seniors from Maui,
Moloka'i and Lāna'i
May 26, 2022, a
Takitani Foundation scholarship, including
Mark Ruaburo, Lāna'i
High & Elementary,



Mark Ruaburo

class of 2022, who received a \$3,000 award.

The nine students were among fifty-nine recipients, one from each qualifying public and independent school in Hawai'i, who received scholarships based on academic achievement, community service and financial need. In total in 2022, the Foundation awarded \$217,000 to students throughout the state in its Legacy Scholarship Program.

LHS' Mark Ruaburo is the son of Flormalyn and Jerry Ruaburo. He served in student government as class vice president and treasurer; he ran in cross-country and played volleyball. He will attend Hesston College, in Hesston, Kansas, in the coming Fall 2022 semester.

He i'a laka no la ho'i ka 'ina. The 'ina is easily gathered. A retort to a person who frequently says, "If I had this" or "If I had that" (Pukui 69).

## Tidying up the bandbox

Text by Nelinia Cabiles Photography by MaryLou Kaukeano

hese Lāna'i Little League players may be known for their plays on the field – base hits, pop flies, grounders – but on Thursday, May 26, 2022, they made a different kind of play, one that left Dole Park refreshed and spotless. Trading catcher's mitts for plastic gloves, wood bats for trash bags, the Bad News and the Hammerheads stormed the four-block shady green space that is Dole Park and picked up the candy wrappers, plastic bottles, and other 'opala that somehow, every day, whether willfully or mindlessly, are tossed on the ground, never making it into the many trash bins in Dole Park. Working for an hour, these little leaguers ran around the park and managed to haul away a fifty-five gallon bag of garbage.

"I think they had more fun picking up trash than they do playing baseball. They were moving fast," jokes MaryLou Kaukeano, manager, Recreation Center, Pūlama Lāna'i, who coordinates little league ball on the island and would love for these clean-up events to be part of a mindset that begins to take root in little league: take pride in your community and find ways to give back to it any way you can.





Getting ready to start

Little league girls



Clean-up camaraderie



The Bad News and Hammerheads

## Swinging for the fences

Text by Nelinia Cabiles Photography by MaryLou Kaukeano

n June 4, 2022, some twenty-four Bad News and Hammerhead little league baseball players, age nine to twelve, stepped into the batter's box at the little league field on Lāna'i and swung for the fences in T-Mobile's 2022 Little League Homerun Derby, belting out as many big flies as they could (see photo). Lāna'i little league registered to host the home run slugfest.

The fence distance for a home run was marked off at 170 feet. There were three rounds, with each player given a minute and thirty seconds per round to hit as many home runs as possible. The top ten sluggers in the first round advanced to the second, and the top five batters of that tier shot to the third.

August Pavsek won the 2022 home run derby, blasting out five home runs over three rounds. He will move on to the Region 9 competition (with California and Arizona) sometime this summer.



Lāna'i's little league sluggers at T-Mobile's 2022 Little League Homerun Derby, June 4. Lāna'i was a registered host for the event. *Photograph courtesy of MaryLou Kaukeano* 

## Lāna'i Today announces Best of Lāna'i

et us start with a leading question: what do you love best about life on Lāna'i? Is it the open field across from the Lāna'i Stables where you can catch an amazing sunset? Or maybe it's Blue Ginger's bowl of saimin? Or Mrs. Eharis's potato chip cookie? Or your neighbor's smoked venison jerky?

You are invited to submit your entries in the first-ever Best of Lāna'i awards. You choose the category. No category is too obscure. Best place to watch a sunset. Best spot for watching the world go by. Best tree for climbing. Best calamansi tree. You get the drift. It's an exercise in finding what is most delightful, remarkable, incomparable, about Lāna'i and this community. We'll sort through the categories and tally up the votes. The categories that get the most nods will be published in a new feature called the 2022 Best of Lāna'i Awards. Exciting, right? We hope you get fired up about it. We hope this becomes an annual thing. Submissions welcome from current and former Lāna'i residents. Please email ncabiles@lanaitoday.com

## $\overline{SLICE}$ $\overline{of}$ $\overline{LIFE}$ $\overline{The}$ $\overline{summers aulter}$ - Text and photography by Nelinia Cabiles

Preston Kuali'i Vila only looks a fourth grader. He is actually a daredevil – one who breaks the law of gravity at a moment's notice: popping wheelies on his bike, somersaulting on his trampoline, catching air on his scooter. His mid-air flights are legendary among his friends and neighbors.

Preston's bike was broken at the time of this photo shoot – about two weeks into his summer break—so I asked him (with his dad's permission), if I could snap photos of him doing roundabout flips. Without bothering to take off his crocs, Preston jogged back behind the fence, a makeshift runway, to get a good running start, and peeled off three consecutive somersaults, high in the air, crocs intact. "That's nothing," one of his friends said. "He can do flips on the trampoline forever."



Ian Tabuga. In the air: Preston Kuali'i Vila

He hō'ike na ka pō. A revelation of the night. A revelation from the gods in dreams, visions, and omens (Pukui 68).

ELDERLY CARE COMMUNITY GARDEN

# The need for a long-term elderly care facility

Contributed by Robin Kaye

an you guess how many Lāna'i residents are over 60 years old? Would you be surprised to learn it's the highest percentage in the nation?

Fully 31 percent (more than 900 residents) of Lāna'i's population is over 60 years of age — a higher proportion than that of Maui County (24 percent), the entire state of Hawai'i (24 percent) and the national population (21.8 percent). And 27 percent (more than 800 residents) are over 75 years of age — again, a higher number than Maui County, the state of Hawai'i, or the entire United States.

Yet despite those staggering numbers, there is no long-term elderly care facility on the island, lending support to those who often say that it's very challenging to die on Lāna'i.

Several years ago, Lāna'i Changes, Lāna'i's community development corporation (CDC), led an effort to determine missing capacities in the island's senior care resources. A long-term care facility was quickly identified as one of the most obvious deficiencies. So, Lāna'i Changes talked with the nonprofit that operates the island's only senior housing facilities (Hale Kupuna/Mahaolu offers



University of Hawai'i faculty from the School of Architecture's Community Design Center, working with Lāna'i healthcare providers on community needs.



Participants in a workshop to design a longterm elderly care facility on Lāna'i, May 28, 2022, at the Union Church's Community Meeting Room, Lāna'i

almost 40 apartments for low-income seniors, but has no health care services). They acknowledged this community shortfall, but challenged us to "show the numbers" before committing to assist us in finding a remedy.

So, Lānaʻi Changes asked key community leaders, such as Lānaʻi Kīnāʻole (provider of in-home elderly care) and the Lānaʻi Community Health Center (Lānaʻi's federally-qualified healthcare provider), to begin planning for an on-island long-term care facility. Our goal: No more having to go to nursing homes on Oʻahu or Maui – or even the mainland – for long-term, residential elderly care services. Our elderly would be able to live out their days on Lānaʻi.

We realized that professional assistance—and the funding to support that—was required, so we contacted the University of Hawai'i-Mānoa's Social Service Research Institute (SSRI), which welcomed the opportunity to assist. SSRI formed a team consisting of the UH Department of Regional and Urban Planning and the UH School of Architecture. Funds were raised both from the Lāna'i Community Benefit Fund and the County of Maui/Hale Makua.

The funds paid for two projects: A community needs assessment, and a design workshop. The needs assessment was designed to gather and analyze data through three approaches: 1) in-depth interviews and a focus group, 2) an inventory of existing facilities, and 3) a review of other models for a long-term elderly care facility on Lāna'i.

The UH team interviewed almost 50 Lāna'i residents — seniors, caregivers, service providers and a focus group of kupuna. We and our UH partners conducted site visits and undertook a thorough study of relevant-to-Lāna'i senior care facilities in Hawai'i, on the mainland, and even, internationally. This report is available for free for anyone who wants to read it (contact me at <a href="rkayelny@gmail.com">rkayelny@gmail.com</a>) and <a href="clearly documents">clearly documents</a> the need for such a facility to be built on Lāna'i.

The second component was just recently undertaken. A design workshop was held in the Community Meeting Room of the Union Church, where our community's residents, health care providers and others, reviewed and debated a variety of possible facility designs, including those with six beds, as well as some with 20. It was a lively discussion, and will be followed by further community conversations.

There was much talk not only of what should be inside the facility, but, perhaps, as equally important (given landownership challenges on Lānaʻi), where on the island to build this space. First priority is an adult day or adult day health care facility, potentially close or attached to the existing Lānaʻi Kīnāʻole site. And then, perhaps adding this long-term care facility, which would essentially create a "Kupuna Campus" — nestled between Hospice, Venture Physical Therapy, Lānaʻi Community Health Center, and Lānaʻi Kīnāʻole.

Lāna'i is often overlooked, forgotten, and/or ignored. That is especially unfair to our elders. We need a path to support them staying in their homes or in an on-island facility. Please let us know if you have any questions and/or suggestions.

#### The salad season

Text by Nelinia Cabiles *Photography by Alberto Gonzalez* 

he month of June has opened, and with it comes thoughts of summer salads – of fat, juicy tomatoes, sweet carrots, the heady scent of basil and cilantro, the snap and crunch of a cucumber and radish. Salad bliss. The only thing better than digging into a fresh salad is the happiness of having grown your own vegetables for that salad bowl.

But if you thought you were too late to get in on the summer growing season, go ahead and grab your trowel and your spade, because garden plots are now available at the Lāna'i Community Garden. For \$50 a month, you get a 20 feet x 50 feet plot, with water and trash service included. Tools available to gardeners include tillers, shovels, and wheelbarrows. Please note that plots for agricultural use, and for raising hens or other egg layers, are for personal consumption only. For more information, please contact Rose Baptista, (808) 565-3974, or email, housing@pulamalanai.com.







Flowering Thai basil

Pūhi nio wakawaka. An eel with pointed teeth. A fierce and fearless warrior (Pukui 298).

## Hulopo'e Beach Park Council public hearing

he Hulopoʻe Beach Park Council will host a public hearing 5 p.m., June 16, in-person at Dole Park and via Zoom (Meeting ID: 885 0657 7756 Passcode: 871974) to hear public testimony on a proposal to limit non-resident access to Hulopoʻe Beach Park, which include:

1. Weekday limit: 150 persons daily total (excluding guests from Trilogy and Four Seasons), based on beach park and beach use data.

- 2. Weekend and holiday limit: 200 persons daily total (excluding Four Seasons), based on beach park and beach use data.
- 3. \$25 fee per person (age limit on fee is still being considered). Fee is designed to offset beach park expenses (personnel, upkeep, etc.)
- 4. Online reservation required, no walk-ins. Drive-ins do NOT require reservations.
- 5. Waterproof wristbands for those with paid reservations.
- 6. No refund on reservations unless cancellation is related to an "act of God" or made five business days in advance, a model similar to Pūlama Lāna'i's private hunt reservation system.
- 7. Reservations:
- No group reservations. Group reservations are allowed only for family/household, up to 10 members.
- No third-party reservations.
- Allowed: organized groups (e.g., Boy Scouts, Alcoholic Anonymous) via the current permit process.
- Non-transferable, to prevent re-selling and/or marking up (scalping).

8. 6-12 month trial period, after which HBPC will assess the need for any changes. Testimony can be provided in person or via Zoom, or by writing hulopoebpc@gmail.com

#### How to be a ham

Contributed by by Tess Morimoto

anaians who can recall the electrical outage of 2018 won't find it hard to picture a worst-case scenario in which communication with the outside world is cut off because the Internet, cell phone towers, and landlines are down. But imagine if we had a backup so that we could still talk or exchange written messages with others, even during the grimmest of times? Amateur Radio (also known as ham radio) is that backup plan – a worldwide hobby used for personal communication, public service, and technical or scientific experiments.

The amateur radio community has a long history of volunteerism, of individuals who provide emergency communications, including communications following the September 11attacks in the U.S and in 2017, when Hurricane Maria made landfall in Puerto Rico.

I'm a licensed amateur radio operator (also known as a "ham" or "amateur") to help ensure our island stays connected with emergency

agencies and others outside our community if a disaster should knock out other communication methods. Ham radio is often the most resilient and reliable lifeline when cell phones, landlines, and the Internet aren't working.

Some hams love to experiment with equipment and contribute to the science of radio. For example, amateurs who enjoy a challenge can use the northern lights, meteor trails, or the moon to reflect radio waves to make long-distance contacts. With the right equipment, permissions, and circumstances, hams have the capability of talking with the International Space Station (many astronauts are also ham radio operators)! It's also possible to use ham radio technology to transmit images or emails—including forms—without using the Internet.

Other amateurs have more personal reasons for becoming licensed. Some enjoy "talking-story" with people around the world or participating in contests to demonstrate their skills in making multiple contacts. Many hams use amateur radio in their family emergency preparedness plan so they can stay connected to people that matter to them.

There are very few barriers to becoming licensed by the FCC as an amateur radio operator. As long as you pass an exam, which ensures you know the rules and how to responsibly use your radio equipment, you can obtain your license and the privilege to transmit on certain radio frequencies. For the "beginner" level, answering 26 of 35 questions correctly is a passing score. Costs are \$15 for the exam and \$35 for the license.

I'm still very new to radio communications and have a lot to learn. But hams have an unspoken code of warm cooperation and my encounters with experienced amateurs have shown me they are always willing to help newcomers learn.

Whether you're a radio whiz or can't tell a dipole from a Yagi (antenna) or an Ohm from a PEP, as long as you're interested, the amateur radio community will welcome you with open AMs.

For more information, see <a href="https://www.arrl.org">https://www.arrl.org</a> or contact Tess Morimoto at hams4lanai@gmail.com.



With a purchase of a small hand-held ham radio attached to an upgraded antenna (less than \$80), one can get started as a licensed ham radio operator. Photography by Tess Morimoto

#### **Band of brothers**

Text by Nelinia Cabiles

awaiian Time, a band comprised of the Romero brothers from Lāna'i, has received a 2022 Nā Hōkū Hanohano Award nomination for Extended Play of the Year (EP) for "E 'Olu'olu 'Oe". It is Hawaiian Time's second Nā Hōku Hanohano nomination—the first came in 2020 for "Lāna'i on My Mind" in the same EP category.

In the postscript of Hawaiian Time's lyric video version of the song on youtube, e 'olu'olu 'oe has been described as translating to mean, "please, in Hawaiian. A song of young love, heart break and loss."

Louis Pin'e Romero, who provides the lead vocals on the youtube video of "E 'Olu'olu 'Oe", girds the lyrics with a light vibrato and a haunting effect, as he, utterly alone on a beach, and with dusk coming on, his back to the ocean as waves roll unceasingly behind him, sings in a voice that is strong, but this close to breaking: "I miss you so. Why did you have to go? E 'olu'olu 'oe. Come back to me." It is the anguish of anyone who has ever been left behind, a plea to understand why he or she is alone now. It's the most bittersweet of breakup songs, when the heartbroken, not having moved on, still feels a tenderness, holding on to the hope that his beloved might yet return to him.

"It's a song I wrote in 1995 or 1996 after a separation in a relationship," says Julian Kamaunu Romero, the group's songwriter, who also wrote the lyrics of "Lāna'i on My Mind". "E 'Olu'olu 'Oe", an original composition, is a sequel to Hawaiian Time's 1994 ballad and radio hit, " 'O 'Oe Ho'okahi", which means, only you, says John Mahina Romero, who, along with his brothers, Kamaunu and Isidoro Kekai, deliver the back-up vocals on "E 'Olu'olu 'Oe".

Both Kamaunu and Mahina, in separate interviews, deeply appreciate being recognized by the Hawai'i Academy of Recording Artists, a nonprofit group of about five hundred members that nominates and, ultimately selects, the artists for the Nā Hōkū Hanohano Award.

"We've been [making music] for thirty years. It's great to be recognized for our efforts and to be able to represent Lāna'i," says Mahina.

For Kamaunu, the Nā Hōkū Hanohano nomination is an endorsement of the Hawaiian Time's sound, which Mahina says is its own genre, "a blend of contemporary, Hawaiian and mainstream island reggae with a touch of solid gold oldies."

"We self-produce our music, which helps us control the sound," says Kamaunu. "There's a versatility there. It sounds very organic," he says, "It's not commercial. Our sound is original."

The Nā Hōkū Hanohano Awards ceremony is scheduled for July 20, 2022. Visit <a href="https://harahawaii.com/nahoku22/">https://harahawaii.com/nahoku22/</a> for more information.

'U'uku no ka 'uwiki, pipī no ka 'ā ana. When the wick is small it gives a tiny light. When one does little work, he should expect little gain (Pukui 315).

## Artist's project will honor WW II soldiers

By Nelinia Cabiles

endell Kahoʻohalahala, a Lānaʻi artist, is embarking on a new art project, one that will pay tribute to the Japanese American combat units in World War II: the 100th Infantry Battalion and the 442nd Infantry Regiment. Although Japanese Americans faced discrimination in the United States, following the Japanese military's attack on Pearl Harbor December 7, 1941, Japanese American men were given the opportunity to enlist in the military, according to nationalww2museum.org

The 100th Infantry Battalion, a racially segregated unit made up of 1,400 second generation (Nisei) Japanese American men, many of whom served in the 298th and 299th Infantry Regiments of the Hawai'i National Guard, was activated June 12, 1942; the combat unit deployed across the Atlantic to the Mediterranean on August 1943 to take part in the Italian campaign. The soldiers in the 100th Infantry Battalion regarded their combat team as One Puka Puka (puka is Hawaiian for hole, in reference to the two zeros in the number 100).



#### Wendell Kahoʻohalahala on his bronze sculpture:

A few years ago, I read the stories of bravery and struggle of a generation of Nisei Japanese Americans, who proved their loyalty and independence after the bombing of Pearl Harbor. The 100th Infantry Battalion and the 442nd Infantry Regiment were the most battle-hardened and most decorated divisions of the war. The 100th came to be known as the Purple Heart Battalion.

The sculptural design is simple and direct, representing not just one particular incident, but rather the multiple battles that the 100th Battalion and the 442<sup>nd</sup> Regiment combat teams fought in World War II. This design will hopefully one day become a sculpture in bronze to be displayed for the public and the Lāna'i community. The life-sized and three-dimensional sculpture will be of three men in the 100th Battalion or "One Puka Puka" of WW II; two are Nisei soldiers from Hawai'i, rescuing their haole lieutenant from the bullet-ridden battlefield. They are dressed in hardware and equipped for the field at that time and place. They carry rifles and pistols.

My aim with the sculpture is not to open up old wounds, but for the people of Hawai'i to reflect and for future generations to never forget our fallen soldiers of all battles, from World War I and II to the Korean War, Vietnam War, etc. I hope to have community support to help move this project forward.

## Portrait of a community

Text by Nelinia Cabiles Portraits by Mike Carroll

ortraiture, the art of creating portraits, is an old art form that can be traced back at least to ancient Egypt, where it flourished from about five thousand years ago, according to Tate Modern museum. Until photography was invented (sometime in the 1800s), a painted, sculpted, or drawn portrait was the only way to record someone's appearance, but more than a record, a portrait was used to "show the power, importance, virtue, beauty, wealth...of the sitter" (tate.org.uk). During the 1500s, only the wealthy or powerful could afford to have their portraits painted. It wasn't until the mid- to late-1800s when art supplies could be mass produced "that the middle class could afford supplies and learn to paint" (artistchristinacarmel.com).

Perhaps no longer exclusively a symbol of wealth and status, portraiture has moved into other means of expression—the selfie comes to mind—and remains a vital art form that continues to inspire artists, including Mike Carroll, who owns the eponymously-named Mike Carroll Gallery at 443 Seventh Street, Lāna'i. Since 2003, Carroll's portrait paintings have been selected to appear in the Schaefer Portrait Challenge, a statewide juried exhibition held every three years on Maui; the 2021 show was moved to this year because of COVID. Hundreds of artists in Hawai'i enter the Schaefer Portrait Challenge, but only the work of forty-some artists are chosen. Only Carroll and fellow artist, Kirk Kurokawa, have made the cut for every competition.

The Schaefer show is based on the Archibald Prize, an art competition in Australia, which carries a \$150,000 purse. Carroll says George Allan, a painter on Maui got the [Schaefer Portrait Challenge] going. "He's an Australian, has lived on Maui for over forty years, and he brought the idea to the Maui Art and Cultural Center (MACC), that something like that could be done in Hawai'i." The Schaefer Art Challenge is now the MACC's signature show. Entrant artists must work or live in Hawai'i, and the sitter (subject) must live in Hawai'i, as well.

When considering whom he will consider as a subject for the Schaefer show, Carroll is Lāna'i-centric. "I want to keep it local, keep it Lāna'i," he says, selecting those who also give back to the community in some way. "I want other islands to know we have people who do good things here," he says, a reference to both the island's art scene and the leitmotif of his portrait art for the Schaefer show.

A good portrait goes beyond the artist's ability to capture the likeness of a subject's face. To feel moved by a portrait, something more than technical proficiency has to be at work, some animating force in the subject's expression, the light in his or her eyes, in the set of the mouth, that draws in the viewer and elicits the question, what is this person's story?

"When you look at a portrait, you get the feel for what the person is about," Carroll says. "I've learned





Irene Perry



that that was something I could do." Carroll chose

Matt Glickstein for the 2021 Schaefer show because of Glickstein's work with the kids' afterschool program." Carroll had been painting the portrait in blacks and whites and grays. Matt brought in a teaching keyboard, and when he pressed the keys, the keyboard lit up. "When I saw that, the keyboard on fire," Carroll says, "I thought, that's the whole painting right there."



Artist's Statement: The small island of Lāna'i, while perfect in countless ways, lacked a comprehensive program in music and performing arts for children. In 2012, musician and songwriter Matt Glickstein set about changing that. He began working with the Lāna'i High and Elementary School's 4th grade class for his "Songs for a Better World" CD. That led to "Island Below the Star", an original musical production, and the creation of the Lāna'i Academy of Performing Arts (LAPA). As I watched Matt playing his teaching keyboard, the keys glowed under his fingertips. This, I thought was a perfect metaphor for a person who has sparked the creative endeavors of hundreds of Lāna'i's children.

Helen Fujie

Marco Eskaran with portrait

Ku a mālo'elo'e, lālau na lima i ka hoe nui me ka hoe iki. Stand up straight; reach for the big and little paddle. Said to young people—be prepared to weather whatever comes your way (Pukui 201).

## The way it was

Contributed by Bob Hirayama

Editor's note: As a way to honor Lāna'i's past, and those who shaped and helped make this place what it is, I asked Lāna'i Today readers in the September 2021 edition to submit stories of the pineapple plantation era. It is the hope that these stories might provide context for a way of life that is gone, and illuminate the values and traditions that helped form our island's culture. A reader (and former Lāna'i resident) responded to the call for submissions with his written recollections of that time. Part three of a five-part series

ur class was like a big 'ohana and when we were young during elementary, we had a group of classmates: Shirley S., Carol M., Violet Y., Rosaline N., Ethel S., Herbert Y., myself, and a few more. We were a tight group that went hiking, cycling, and playing at the gym., etc. I don't know what happened [to them] during high school? Maybe boygirlfriend or new cliques.

The gym was alongside Fraser Avenue and that is where we had our proms and I always had the prettiest girl for a date. As elementary students, after the last day of school before going on Christmas break, we had a Christmas program, and at the end, we all marched out to the front where we each had a package of goodies, consisting of apple, orange, nuts, and Christmas candies.

Across the gym was the tennis court and during summer months, Lāna'i Community Welfare Association (LWCA) would put out a really large rubber raft, and fill it with water so the kids could jump in and cool off. LCWA did many things for Lāna'i residents. Following Fraser Avenue, we have the Union Church, which used to be the Buddhist Church. I have a photo of my mom carrying me on the high stairs. The Catholic Church was always there and I enjoyed going to their carnivals.

Going on Ninth Street, on the corner of Gay, was the police station. If I'm not mistaken, we only had two police officers. The jail house was built by my dad and I asked him how the residents took a bath. He said they were sent home for their bath and dinner. Honor system! They would return [to the jail house].

Coming up Eighth Street, passing Gay Street, was Dalde Barber Shop. I was told that it was a small hotel in the early days. On the left corner, facing Houston Street, was Sarah Pastries shop, where my mom worked. Richard's Shopping Center occupied the store on Eighth and Houston. Before that was Lāna'i Bakery and the baker was Herbert's dad. They made delicious bread. During the years RSC ran the store, TV came to Lāna'i, and RSC was the first to have a TV. On the front of the store was a window and a TV was placed there and benches outside for people to sit and watch. After RSC moved further up the street, Pine Isle Market took over, and my mom worked in the butcher section with Mr. Matsuura (Matsu) after the pastry shop closed. PIM had just about everything, from nails, clothing, dry goods, meat/pork, and fresh fish.

Across Eighth Street was Dole Park. Part of it was a playground. The Buddhists used to have Obon dance in the park and it was huge.

#### They had several rings around the tower (yagura) and everybody danced – not only the Buddhists, but every ethnic group.

The other half was the bowling alley and pool hall. Herbert's family



Present day Hotel Lāna'i, formerly the Club House, according to Hirayama's Plantation Life, part three, account Photography by Nelinia Cabiles

used to run the concession booth.

Moving up on Eighth and Houston was Liu Restaurant, and Wong Shop, where I used to buy my hunting license. Liu Restaurant was like a home-cooked meal. Next to Wong's was Kay Beauty Shop, and in the back was the Tofuya. The man making the tofu was a big man and when his tofu was ready, he would load his cart and [he] went around the camp, ringing

his bell, as he pushed his cart. Can't go wrong for ten cents.

Richard Shopping Center occupied the last store coming up on Eighth Street. Before RSC, there was Mer-mart store and Okamoto store. RSC sold almost everything you can think of and I had the pleasure of working with the Tamashiro



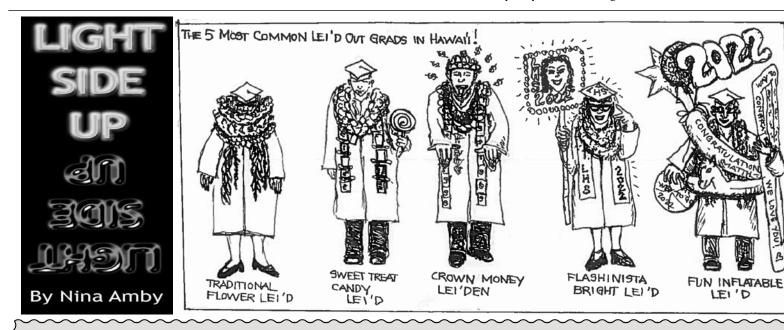
The steep hill on Ninth Street that tested young drivers' mastery of the clutch and gas pedal, according to Bob Hirayama in his *Plantation Life*, part three installment. *Photography by Nelinia Cabiles* 

family, as a package and delivery boy. Some of my classmates working there were Ted N., the late Richard "Sushi" S., and Jean H.

Going up Eighth Street, passing Lāna'i Avenue, was the Club House, a small hotel. The left side was the hospital, [which has stayed] at the same place. Coming down Lāna'i Avenue,

#### we come to Ninth Street, and the steep hill where the police took new drivers [on] the driving test. If you passed the hill test, you got it made.

Driving license was in the bag. But to get it, you will have to drive halfway up the hill and stop, pull your hand brake, and kill your engine. The officer will tell you to start your engine and continue driving. Most people had either a jeep or a standard vehicle. If you rolled too far back, you didn't pass. So, you had to play with the clutch and gas [to stop] from rolling back after you released your hand brake. Very easy to kill the engine, too!



Ku'ia ka hele a ka na'au ha'aha'a. Hesitant walks the humble-hearted. A humble person walks carefully so he will not hurt those about him (Pukui 201).

## A community honors its departed

about a mile from town, and set on a rise of bare earth amidst old Cook pine trees, is the Lāna'i cemetery. Even with the wind stirring the leaves of the pine trees, the quiet is deep there. It is as tranquil and reflective and sobering a place as one might want of a cemetery, especially if what one feels called to do is reflect and remember those who are gone.

This past Memorial Day, scores of volunteers from the community came to clean the grounds of the Lāna'i cemetery, raking fallen pine needles and dead branches into mounds. Kerri Glickstein, LHS band teacher played "Taps" among members of the Lāna'i Leos, a group that has provided this community service at the cemetary since 2008, according to Pat Niibu, Lāna'i Lions Club member.

The cemetery clean-up is nearly a decade-old Memorial Day tradition in the Lāna'i community, but this year a new collaboration between the Lāna'i Culture & Heritage Center (Lāna'i CHC) and Pūlama Lāna'i created new opportunities for the community to honor those who have passed.

With help from the community, Lāna'i CHC put together over 1200 mini bouquets for each and every grave at the Lāna'i cemetery and Lāna'i Veteran's cemetery.

"The mission of the Lāna'i CHC is to honor the past. Memorial Day naturally evokes that kind of inward reflection," says Shelly Preza, Lāna'i CHC. "We thought that inviting the community to make mini bouquets for everyone at our cemeteries would be a good way to remember and honor those who have come before us.

"In past years, Pūlama Lāna'i has purchased orchid lei for each grave at the cemetery, but this year, a lei shortage curtailed these plans. Instead, Pūlama Lāna'i supported this new Lāna'i CHC initiative and got many of its employees involved in gathering foliage from its nursery, prepping the foliage to be added to bouquets, and making over 600 bouquets in just a few hours. Lāna'i CHC is extremely grateful to the community for coming together to put together bouquets and spend Memorial Day placing flowers and cleaning the cemetery. 'A'ohe hana nui ke alu 'ia. No task is too big when done together by all. Mahalo nui!"



A long-standing Memorial Day tradition: Community volunteers show up to clean the grounds of the Lāna'i cemetery.



**Curtis Onuma** 



**Haley Ostrander** 



A gravesite visit



Pat Niibu



Ben Ka'aikala, MaryLou Kaukeano, and Jennifer Ka'aikala carrying boxes of posies



Paulino Jeck



Nainoa Ozoa, Braden Ostrander, Archer Ozoa



**Mistine Cornelius** 

Text by Nelinia Cabiles Photography by Ron Gingerich



Raking up and bagging pine needles



**Haruo Kawamura** 





Veniza Jackson



Flags and posies at the Lāna'i Veteran's Cemetery







Remima Lipan





Lāna'i Leos (part of the Lāna'i Lions Club) volunteer their time every Memorial Day. Inset: Kerri Glickstein plays "Taps".

E Ola Nō

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## Lāna'i Community Health Center

## Congratulations to the graduating class of 2022! LCHC wishes you all the best in your future endeavors.

Special congrats to Stephanie Badillo and Faith Arruiza, LCHC's student interns.



Stephanie Badillo

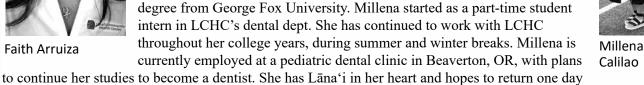
Stephanie Badillo joined LCHC as a student STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) intern in 2019 sharing her skills and work effort in our Wellness Dept. She has grown tremendously in her work knowledge of community outreach participating in many community events, such as the Lana'i Fitness Challenge 2020 and 2021, and the community COVID-19 vaccination efforts in 2021. Stephanie has also worked as a medical assistant and helps in our social media team. She was awarded the "Most Outstanding Student" for the class of 2022. Her future plan is to continue her education and major in computer technology while staying on Lanai and continuing to work for LCHC.



Faith Arruiza

Faith Arruiza started as a student intern with LCHC through the MEDB STEM summer program in 2021. She then was hired as a student intern working in our Admin and Finance departments. She has worked closely with billing, accounting, and most recently front desk. Her future plan is to continue her education online pursuing a career in the medical field while staying on Lana'i and continuing to work for LCHC as a Front Desk Rep.

Congratulations to Millena Calilao on achieving her Bachelor of Science degree from George Fox University. Millena started as a part-time student intern in LCHC's dental dept. She has continued to work with LCHC throughout her college years, during summer and winter breaks. Millena is currently employed at a pediatric dental clinic in Beaverton, OR, with plans





Calilao



to give back to her hometown community.

LCHC Scholarship winner Olivia Pascual with staff



L to R: Cori Takesue, LCHC Scholarship winner Allyna Teppang, and Nina Medeiros

#### LCHC is excited to announce the expansion and addition of two medical exam rooms!



This expansion provides our patients with a total of 6 medical exam rooms. A special mahalo to Ross Morita and his team for all their hard work in assembling and installing all the equipment. Also, a special mahalo to Ricky's Plumbing for installing our sinks, and Kevin McNamara and Valley Isle Electric for all the electrical work. Lastly, a HUGE Mahalo to Chelsea Tadena, Medical Manager, our Facilities Team, Medical Assistants, and



Associate Medical Director Jared Medeiros for their patience, support, and manpower to complete this huge project. These additional exam rooms will go a long way towards helping LCHC meet our patient and community needs.

#### **Optometry News!**

- Appointment hours are Monday through Friday 8:30 A.M. to 2:00 P.M., and every other week Thursday and Friday 8:30 A.M. to 3:30 P.M. We are working to clear our patient waitlist first, but same day urgent appointments may be available.
- The Optometry Dept. is available for adjustments and repairs Monday through Friday 8:00 A.M. to 5:00. P.M.; we recommend making an appointment, but walk-ins/drop-offs are welcome.
- Maui Optix will be visiting once a month to take optical orders days to be determined by month.

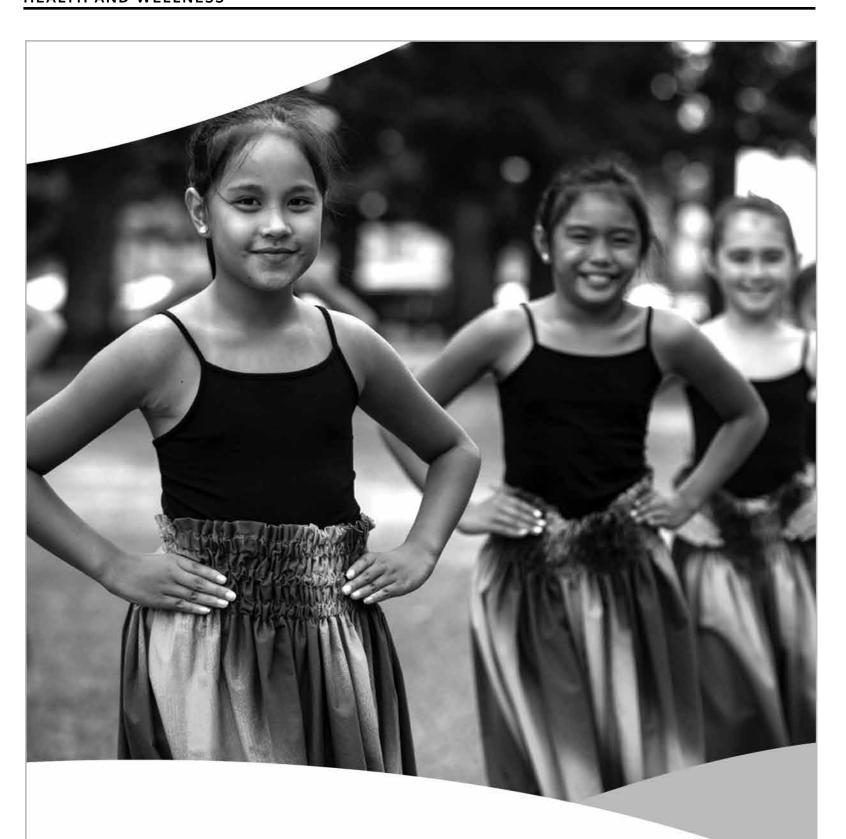
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Making a difference to Lana'i community organizations

## MKCF ANNOUNCES UPCOMING FUNDING CYCLES

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Deadlines for requests are as follows:

July 29, 2022, funding available August 17, 2022

February 10, 2023, funding available March 1, 2023

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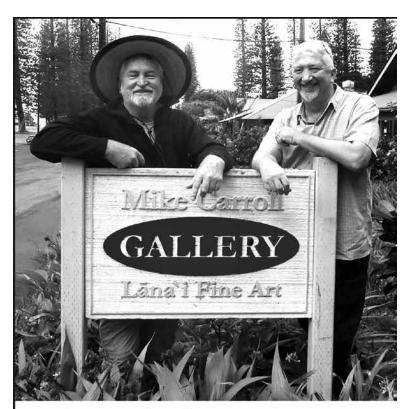
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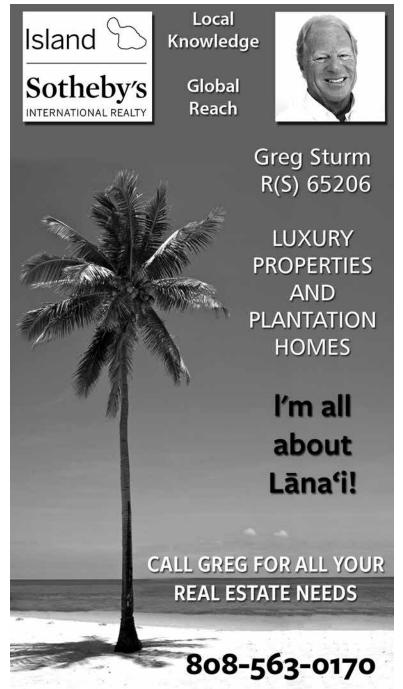
# Welcome back award-winning artist Billyo O'Donnell!

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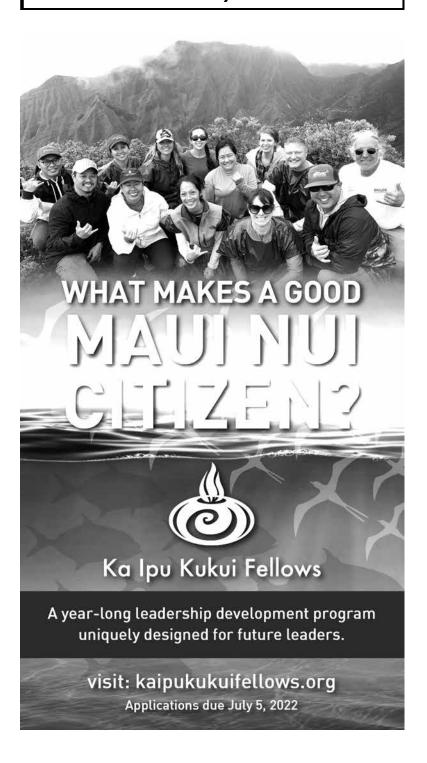


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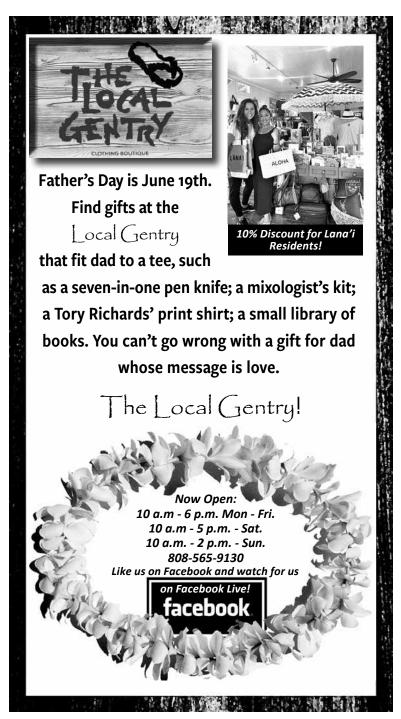
For more information, go to hawaiianelectric.com/fruitpicking













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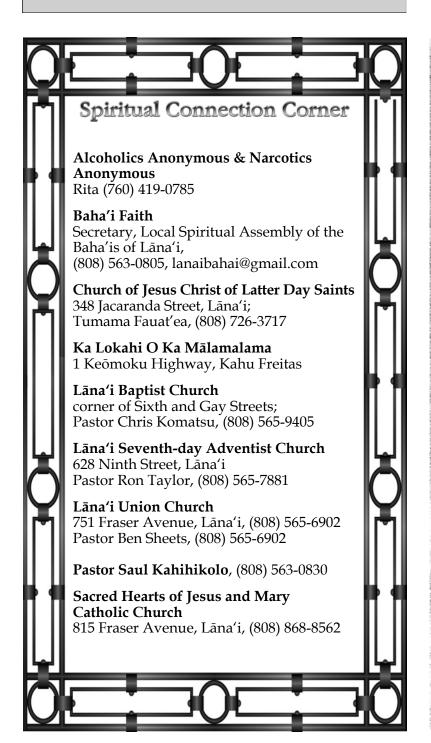


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## Call for submissions



Photo courtesy of Lāna'i Culture and Heritage Center We are our island's memory keepers.

Pineapple used to grow here. Our parents and grandparents worked in the fields, bending and stooping in search of fruit, and in the summer, we learned to do the same. Day after day, in sun and rain, we came to the fields, to back-breaking work from which our plantation community was built. It was our way of life. Until it wasn't. Except for the scraps of black mulch paper that litter the roads, there is little evidence that pineapple used to grow here.

To honor our island's past and those who shaped this island and made it what it is, Lāna'i Today is looking for stories of the pineapple era for its series, Plantation Life. The stories can be brief reminiscences, a moment in a life, a glimpse back into a certain way of doing things. I want to shore up these stories before the memory keepers are gone.

To submit your stories, email me: ncabiles@lanaitoday.com Or if you would like to tell me a story of the plantation life, please call (808) 563-3127. *Mahalo nui loa*.



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LANAI CITY, HI 96763 PERMIT NO. 4

By Nelinia Cabiles Photography by Philo Sowers

#### THE LAST WORD

## Class of 2022 graduation





Jubilation

o describe happiness is to diminish it, Marie-Henri Beyle (better known as Stendhal) once wrote.

Excellent advice to writers at any time, but is especially so at a milestone as joyful and unifying, as loud and momentous as a high school graduation ceremony. One must be content to listing observations and drawing on the well of one's experience, and hope they will be enough to express what any one member of Lāna'i High School's Class of 2022 felt on May 28, 2022, their graduation day: a simultaneous end and beginning of a chapter of their young lives. The march to the outdoor stage. The anticipation. The music. The congratulatory speeches. The nervousness. The school song. The sound of their name. The rousing cheers of their family and friends. The plaque. The hand off. The collective sigh of relief and elation. The draped lei stacked high to their forehead. The pride and hope and dreams of a community and family and friends writ large on this day, conveyed in these photos.

Congratulations, graduates of the class of 2022. Be kind, be resilient and patient and strong. Never stop dreaming.



Boat Day for senior class portraits



Newly-minted graduates



Souina Seiuli and Eliasha Romero



Soon-to-be graduates



Matteo DuBose and family



The march



Daetyn Tangjian-Kobuke and family



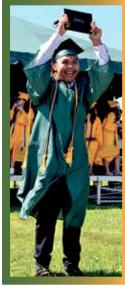
Allan Adams and father, LeShawn Adams and Saul Kahihikolo



LHS' parents of the year, Kris and Saul Kahihikolo



'Ānela Kahihikolo



Renzy Manuel