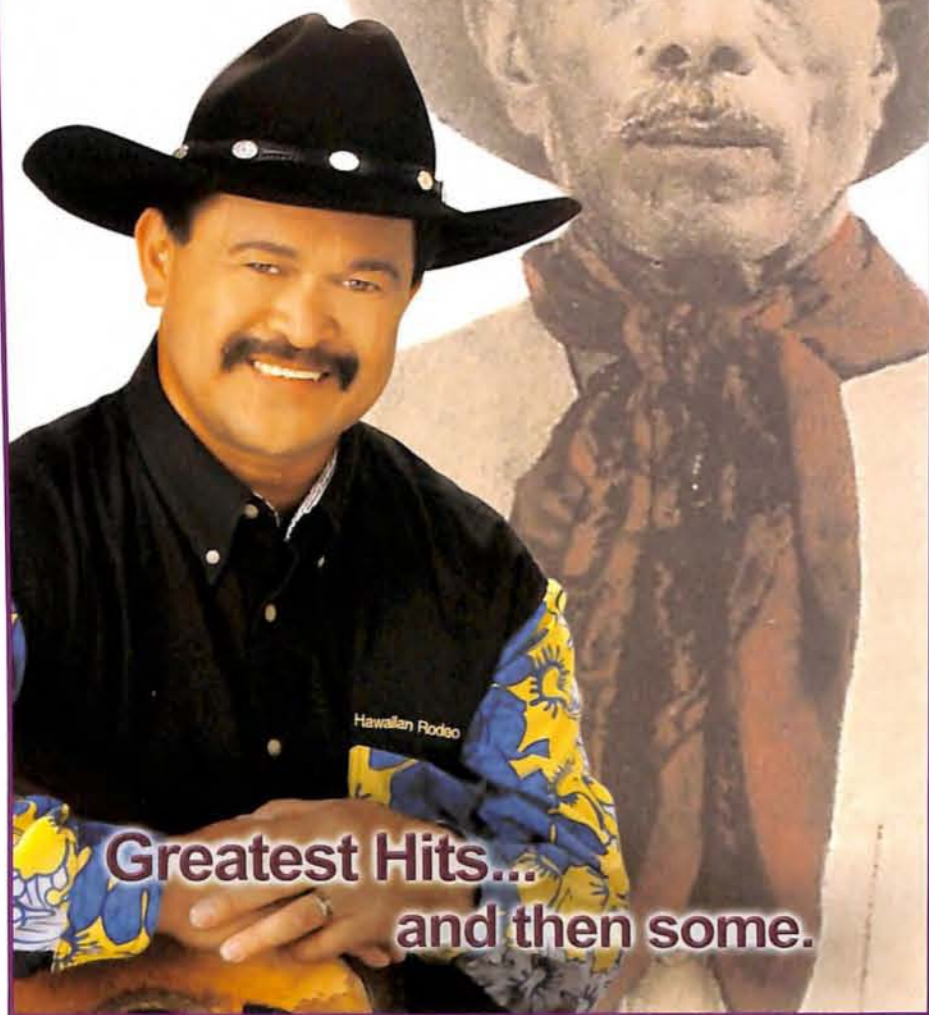


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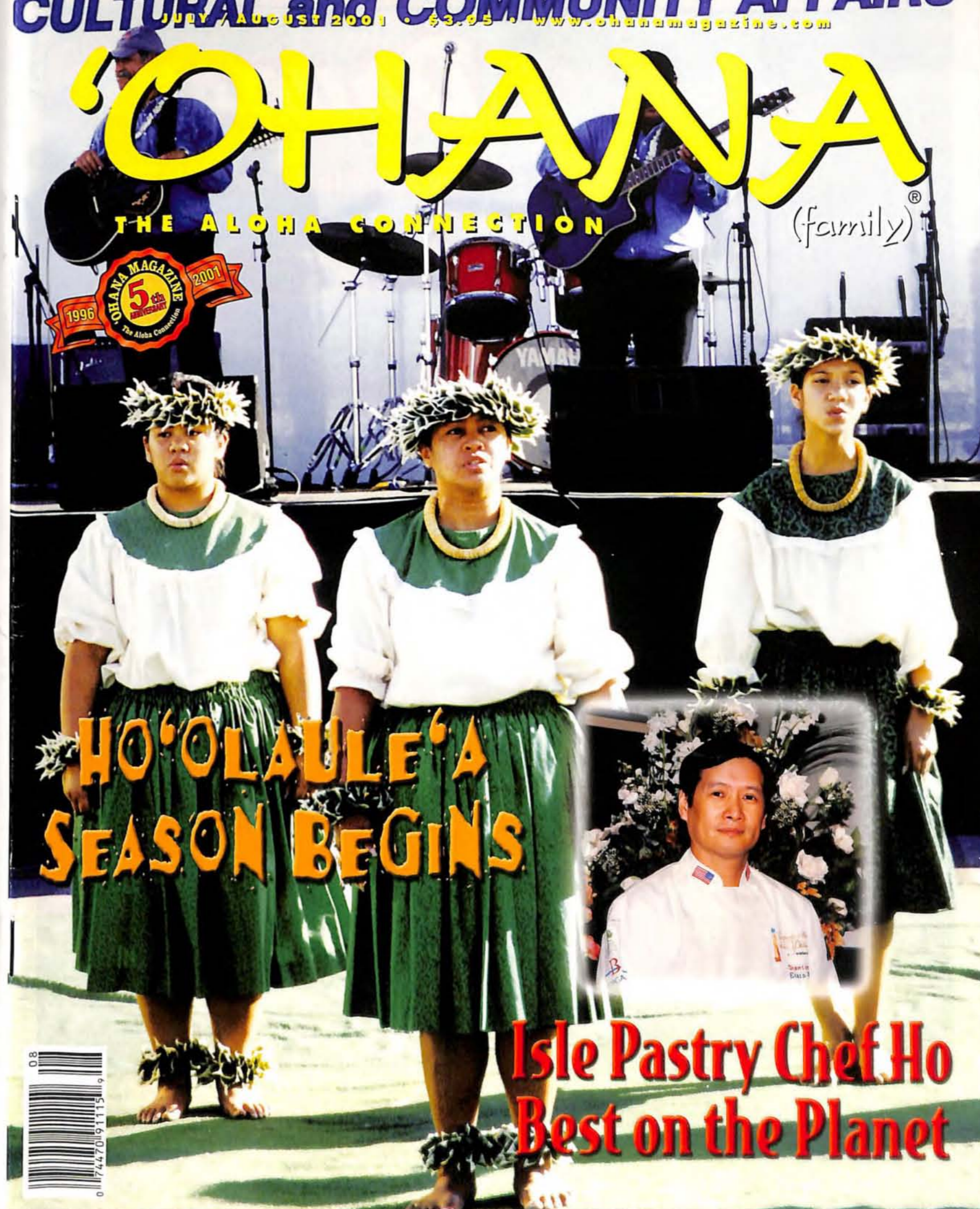
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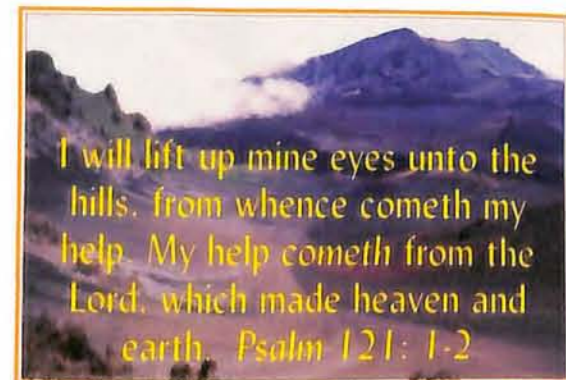
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A Note from the Editor

MEL OZEKI, PH.D.



I'm happy to announce that Vance "Pukuniahia" Cannon, a kama'aina with an impressive background in business in Hawai'i, has joined 'OHANA Magazine as a staff writer and ad sales representative. He'll also pen Kanaka 'O Niele, a column about expatriates from Hawai'i who have taken roots in Las Vegas. Some 250,000-islander trips are generated annually. Thus, Hawaii's TV8 recently did footage about them.

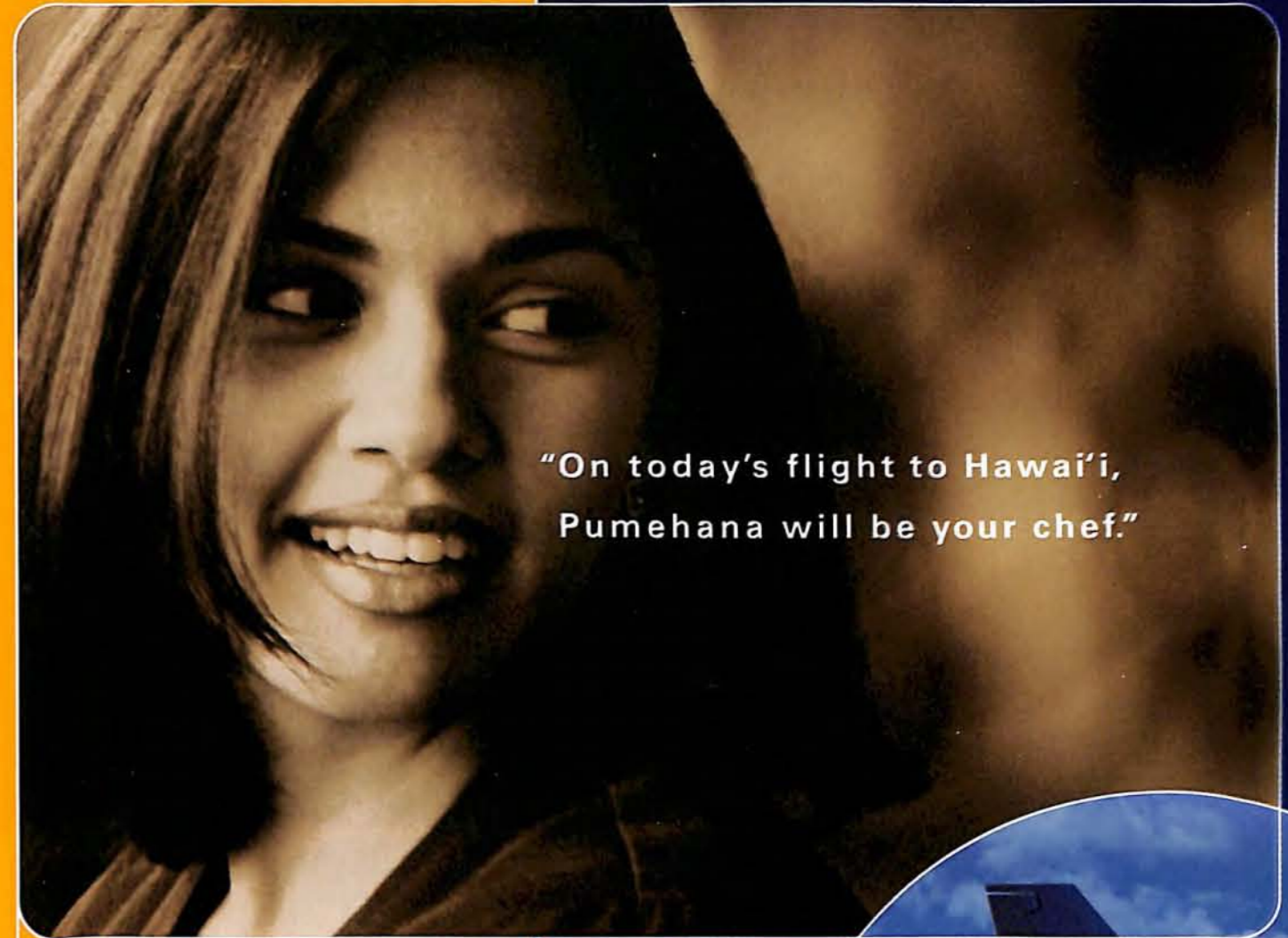
- There's three casinos that are trying to also woo the Islanders living in LV by offering special nights with Hawaiian or Polynesian foods. The Castaways does it on Sunday, the Regent Las Vegas Monday, and Sunset Station on Thursday. Even though The California doesn't have a Hawaiian buffet *per se*, like the other three, when combined with the other entrees, for the price you pay, they're still all bargains!

- 'OHANA attended the 3rd Bill Endow Foundation Scholarship Dinner, which was sponsored by the Asian Chamber of Commerce and Boyd Gaming Corp. Sixteen high school seniors of Asian American descent were honored for academic achievement, service, character, athletics and/or activities. Among the "Super 16", their collective achievements include eight valedictorians, three were student body prez, nine were Key Club or Senior Class Prez, four were varsity sport team captains, three were immigrants from India, Laos and China, who spoke nary a word of English before coming to America.

- Saddened to learn that the Japanese American Citizen League and other well-respected AJA organizations fear a severe backlash from the movie, "Pearl Harbor". I view their voicing negative concerns in media irresponsible. That's why 'OHANA Magazine has so deliberately printed stories about the heroism of AJA in World War II - to educate, to dispel stereotype-thinking! Michael O'Callaghan (p. 20) is a timely, great example! But make no misunderstanding that I'm NOT being a Monday-morning quarterback. I take this position even before "Pearl Harbor" was released in May!

- The "Kama'aina Come Home" (p. 9) is vigorously being pursued by the four counties. We, indeed, applaud them because it helps to curb the "brain drain".

Me Kealoha Pumehana *Mel Ozeki*



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Isle Mayors Share Their "Visions"

Eight islands in the Hawaiian archipelago form the State of Hawai'i. Each of the four county mayors is elected by the residents of that county.

Two mayors (Kim and Kusaka) were born on the Big Island. Mayor Apana was born in Maui. Mayor Harris was born on the Mainland. Mayor Kusaka was born on the the Big Island, raised on Maui but leads Kaua'i.

'OHANA Magazine asked each mayor to send a statement about themselves, their county's attributes and his/her vision. Their responses:



**MAYOR KIMO APANA
Maui**

Mayor James "Kimo" Apana, Jr. was born in Wailuku, Maui. He graduated from Kamehameha School and earned a BA degree in speech from the University of Hawai'i.

Apana served as a budget analyst at the State legislature and managed a family business. He embarked on a political career in 1993 when he won the first of three terms to the Wailuku seat on the Maui County Council. Apana was elected mayor in 1998.

The County of Maui is comprised of four islands: Maui, Moloka'i, Lana'i and Kaho'olawe. The primary industries that support the county are tourism and agriculture. His vision for the county's future is to diversify the economy and provide better opportunities for its youth, which includes more affordable housing and better employment options. Since it is already home to one of the world's fastest computers, Maui is also aggressively pursuing high technology.

Maui hosts national sporting events, boasts several world-renowned luxury resort properties and has numerous public beaches and parks. Maui is also a seven-time consecutive winner of *Conde Nast Traveler Magazine's* "Best Island in the World" award.



**MAYOR JEREMY HARRIS
O'AHU**

Jeremy Harris has been Mayor of Honolulu since July, 1994. He won a special election that September, and was re-elected in November, 1996 and September, 2000.

As mayor of "America's Greatest City," Honolulu has been honored as having the finest transit system in North America and won many other awards ranging from Tree City USA to named among the Top 10 best-managed cities in *Governing Magazine*.

His goals include focusing future growth on Kapolei and in urban Honolulu, thus 'keeping the country, country', and empowering Oahu's communities to establish local priorities for county-sponsored improvements. He's known for his hands-on, on-the-spot management style and for his comprehensive grasp of the facts and figures for each City project and program.

A marine biologist with BA and BS degrees from the Univ. of Hawai'i and a Master's from Univ. of California - Irvine, Harris became involved in government as a scientist concerned with ecological impacts of the proposed Nukoli'i development on Kauai's east coast. His first public office came at age 27 when he was elected delegate to Hawaii's 1978 Constitutional Convention.

> Continued on page 33

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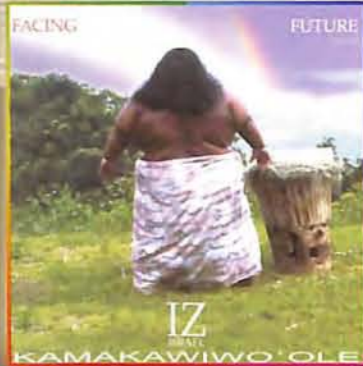
Six years ago, when Steve and Judy Nitura arrived in Las Vegas, they had no idea that they would be running a mom and pop store with its main clientele, Hawaiians from Hawai'i. Today, Hawaiians from all over the country come to The Beef Jerky Store.

Located in the heart of Downtown Las Vegas, they accommodate the deep-rooted tradition of taking "o-miyage" (gifts) home to friends and relatives.

Owner Cathy Nitura Lee is always in search of new items to please her devoted customers. Favorite items are still the beef, pork, clam and salmon jerkies, along with their very own potato chip oatmeal cookies.

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Letters

MEL:

Aloha and warm regards to you and Emily. Just a short note to let you know that I enjoyed the current issue of OHANA Magazine. I especially enjoyed the articles about former Hawai'i residents who moved to Las Vegas. It's very interesting to learn how people from Hawai'i are doing over there. Emily's article about Wayne Tanaka was especially interesting because I knew him while growing up in Lahaina. I remember attending his father's Japanese language school as an elementary school student at Kamehameha III School in Lahaina. Wayne's father, who was known as Tanaka-sensei (teacher), was a disciplinarian and a good teacher who focused on character and attitude. Reading about Wayne and his accomplishments made me proud to have known him and his family in Lahaina.

Also very interesting was the column "Kanaka Niele 'O Las Vegas" by Vance Cannon "Pukuniahii". Interesting in this column was to read about Herbert Watson. Although two years older than me, I remember Herbert Watson as a boarder at Lahainaluna High School. Again, I enjoyed reading about people that I could relate to. Being able to read and learn about other Hawaiians who have moved to Las Vegas make your magazine more interesting for me (and maybe others from Hawai'i). Hope you continue to provide us with this kind of articles.

Keep up the good work. Take care and best wishes to you and Emily.

Aloha, Mert

(EDITOR'S PANÉ: MERT AGENA, A '62 GRAD FROM LAHAINALUNA, AND I HAVE BEEN GOOD FRIENDS SINCE THE 1960S WHEN WE SERVED IN THE 487TH FIELD ARTILLERY. MERT IS A BRIGADIER GENERAL AND IS THE DEPUTY ADJUTANT GEN. OF THE HAWAII NATIONAL GUARD.)

TO EDITOR

Thank you for the last two issues of 'Ohana Magazine. Your prompt and courteous response to my phone call is greatly appreciated. We enjoy reading your magazine and are looking forward to the next issue.

Alice Sekiguchi, Lake Elsinore, CA.

MEL & EMILY

I hope we can get together again when we come to Las Vegas in October. I'm so happy for both of you and all your hard work that you're putting in to make it a success.

I usually put my issue in my waiting room at work for all the patients that go to Vegas and share this great magazine them.

Love, Aloha, and A Hui Hou, Charlotte and Terry Kumaewa, Honolulu, HI.

MAHALO OHANA MAGAZINE

Being a recipient of a subscription gift, I would like to use this mode to say, "Thank You".

Please help unwrap a smile.

On my many visits to Las Vegas, I have acquired and shared your magazine with others.

A former vice-president and still a member of an organization, Lokahi 'Ohana O Hawai'i, I have received appreciative acknowledgement about your magazine.

Information received in your magazine has regenerated the Aloha Spirit. Mahalo.

Horace Kanno, Tacoma, WA.

EDITOR

You're doing just great! Have been a subscriber since your inception and always look forward to each issue. Thank you.

Domy Romero, Las Vegas, NV.

'OHANA MAGAZINE

Thank you for a wonderful magazine! It keeps me in touch with news from Hawai'i and others living away from home!

Mary Ann Nelson, N. Las Vegas, NV.

TO EDITOR

We enjoy reading 'Ohana, but we need more "local" color, upbeat stories of all our island families. Thank you.

Mel Rivas, Thousand Palms, CA.

(EDITOR'S PANÉ: WE REALIZED THAT AND HOPE THAT KANAKA NIELE O LAS VEGAS BY VANCE "PUKINIAHI" CANNON IS IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.)

TO EDITOR

Enjoy reading articles about Hawai'i and Las Vegas - our two favorite places.

Edwin Goto, Mililani, HI.

'OHANA MAGAZINE

I have enjoyed reading your magazine. My husband and I frequent Las Vegas so we get our up to date scoop from your magazine.

Lei Hough, Lahaina, HI.

Editor's Note: Our heartfelt thanks to everyone; your kind words and thoughts are very appreciated.



Isle Program Aims to Attract Folks "home"

by Paula Helfrich, Director, Hawai'i Economic Development Board

The "Kama'aina Come Home" program was established to encourage Hawaii's expatriated professionals, retirees and recent graduates to return home for employment opportunities.

Coordinators announced plans for a topnotch schedule of events and activities in cooperation with several mainland Hawaiian civic organizations, alumni associations and sponsors. Tentative plans are for a

concert and presentation featuring the Kamehameha Schools Alumni Assn. Chorus of Hilo at the Sammy Davis Jr. Festival Plaza in Las Vegas on Sep. 21, and then in San Jose at Evergreen Valley College on Sep. 23. More information in the next issue of 'OHANA Magazine, which will serve as a primary sponsor of the event for the second year. For information contact Terry Plunkett, KSAA Chorus at 808-989-9988.

WORLD'S BEST PASTRY CHEF - DOESN'T GET ANY BETTER!

by Mel Ozeki, Editor

It doesn't (and can't) get any better when you're crowned the best in the world in pastry-making. That's what expatriate Stanton Ho, a product of Kapiolani CC, accomplished earlier this year in head-to-head international competition in Europe.

Ho won top recognition as the USA Team president in winning the *Coupe Du Monde de la Patisserie* in Lyon, France. It was his crowning achievement after 10 years of competing in the prestigious world championships in the art of culinary pastry-making. The event is held only on "odd" years.

His enthusiasm to compete at the world-class level was whetted after his first try in 1989. He enjoyed the intensity of creating masterpieces under pressure.

Accordingly, Ho dedicated himself to carefully studying to the finest detail the work of every winning team. Before striking gold, he had served as Team USA captain, with his team winning the silver and bronze medals, but never gold, until now.

Ho said, "This year I knew that we were ready. I strongly felt that we would win. He spent six months preparing to compete and create the designs at Notter's confectionary school in Maryland. The school helped Ho and the team to perfect techniques and plan the team's strategy, especially the time element so each step was executed and completed on a calculated time-schedule.

"It was imperative that we capitalize on the individual strengths of the team," Ho said. Among his observations, he knew that earlier winners included cutting-edge elements that no one yet had presented.

The three-man team had nine hours, done all in the presence of 15 international judges, to create pastries that were judged in eight categories. Ho said it was grueling

because there was no time to eat or to take rest breaks. Each team made three centerpieces using all edible materials - cakes, ice sculptures, ice creams and candies. Valrhona chocolate, a founding sponsor of the event and perhaps the world's top chocolate, was used.

Other members of the team were En Ming Hsu (Ritz Carlton, Chicago), Ewald Notter (Intl. School of Confectionary Arts), and Michel Willaume (Ritz Carlton, San Francisco). Executive chefs from the Four Season Hotel and the White House also supported the team.

Ho, along with his wife, Joanne, were featured in *'OHANA Magazine* in 1996. Besides Stanton's accomplishments, Joanne, had been named Teacher of the Year in Las Vegas.

Other praiseworthy kudos for the '70 Roosevelt alumni in past years include Distinguished Grad of the UH system, dubbed by the *Las Vegas Sun* columnist Muriel Stevens as the town's "Michelangelo of Spun Sugar" and a Top 10 pastry chef in America in '94 and '95. For years, Ho has been called upon to do desserts for state and international dignitaries visiting Las Vegas, including the President, even when he did not stay at the Las Vegas Hilton, where Ho has been since 1979.

Donald Russell from the Four Seasons in Beverly Hills will lead the USA Team in 2003. Ho, as the polished and reserved man that he is, instituted a policy while serving as president

that the baton be passed to a successor after winning the championship. "There's a lot of great talent and ideas that should be tapped - we can't grow and improve unless we give everyone a chance," he said with his warm smile. Nonetheless, a great way to leave a program after five tries - at the Top!



Executive Chef Stanton Ho



Jackpot! Stanton Ho and Team USA members jump for joy when the official announcement is made. Gold!!!

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"AA Plus" offers discount plan for Rx Drugs



When Tamee Fuller landed her first large government contract to provide health insurance benefits to employees, she realized that the price of prescription drugs was increasing at an alarming rate of 25 percent a year! The increases were being passed on to the employees' and or retirees' in the form of larger co-payments. In some cases the employees could not pay the increased premiums to cover their family. To keep the insurance premiums down, some employers had to discontinue offering a prescription drug plan with their basic health insurance coverage.

In June, 1996, Fuller founded a company that would offer employees as well as individuals the opportunity to become a "member" in an affordable cash discount prescription drug plan that would substantially reduce the retail price of prescription drugs. Once the word got out about this "membership" plan, people started calling from all over the country.

Now, when a single parent, retired person or a self-employed person is faced with the rising out-of-pocket expense associated with a trip to the pharmacy, they are pleasantly surprised with the

amount saved by using the Access Advantage Plus card. When asked if a "membership" plan really works?, Fuller's response is "Costco and Sam's Club have proven that "membership" nationwide guarantees substantial discounts". By contracting to reduce wholesale prices, Access Advantage Plus members can save more than 50 percent off retail prices for all "name brand" and generic drugs, except for specialty drugs pertaining to organ transplants.

The Access Advantage Plus card gives substantial discounts on every thing from birth control pills to cancer maintenance drugs in over 30,000 pharmacies in the U.S, including Alaska and Hawai'i. The best part of this plan is that everyone qualifies, regardless of age, or pre-existing health conditions, and the cost of the membership is only \$4.00/month. It is a nationwide company head quartered in Las Vegas. For more information about this discount prescription drug plan, 888-454-7945 Monday through Friday, 9am to 5pm Pacific Time or visit them at 8170 S. Eastern Ave., Suite 4444, Las Vegas, NV 89123. Email: aaplus@mindspring.com.

ALOHA GATHERING 2001

Kick-off the Las Vegas Ho'olaule'a weekend by joining Aloha Gathering '01 on Sept. 21 (Friday) in Las Vegas. It's a special opportunity to share aloha, network with other locals on the mainland, and *grind*.

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LAS VEGAS POTPOURRI

COURTESY OF ANTHONY CURTIS, LAS VEGAS ADVISOR ♠ ♦ ♣ COMPILLED BY EMILY OZEKI, MANAGING EDITOR

CASINO NEWS

CAESARS PALACE has announced plans to add a fifth hotel tower to the 35-year-old casino-hotel. The project will include a 320,000 square foot venue for shopping, dining, and meeting, plus a new showroom and parking garage. The new tower would give Caesars 3,318 rooms, making it in the top 10 largest hotels in the world.

PALMS, the next big casino rises to meet a scheduled December debut. The Palms will feature a 95,000 square foot casino, three multi-purpose entertainment venues (including a bar at the top of the 42-story tower), seven restaurants, a 14-screen movie theater, a 75,000 square foot central pool area (the pool will have a lavender bottom), two five-level 1,000 space parking garages, and 9.5 acres of asphalt parking on a total of 22.5 acres. The casino will target the young hip crowd currently courted by **Hard Rock, Mandalay Bay, and the Rio**.

FASHION SHOW MALL is on track for the opening of a million-square foot expansion by fall 2002. It will become one of three malls nationwide with as many as eight anchor stores. The expansion will include a 600-foot long "cloudlike" canopy over the new east entrance, with 400-foot video screens on each side.

DINING

FIRESIDE BUFFET at Sam's Town is now the best superbuffet in town in its price range. The room is beautiful, lit by the adjacent atrium. Everything in the extensive selection is properly labeled.

LADY LUCK coffee shop is still one of the best places in town for low-cost prime rib. There are two cuts: a 10-ounce for \$7.25 and the "king cut" for \$13.50. Each comes with soup or salad, big baked potato, steamed vegetables, and a roll. Prime rib is served from 4 to 11 pm only.

TERRIBLE'S 24-hour specials include a 16-ounce T-bone and a 10-ounce

prime rib. Both cost \$7.99 and come with a draft beer.

GOLD COAST coffee shop serves T-bone, big salad, beans, potatoes, onion rings, garlic bread and a beer for \$7.95.

GAMBLING

The fortunes of Las Vegas poker rooms continue to swing in different directions. Just as the **Stratosphere** closed its small room, the **Regent Las Vegas** opened a low-stakes room in the area that used to house its high-roller slots. The action is fairly robust, with as many as six tables spreading predominantly \$2-\$4 and \$4-\$8 hold 'em and \$1-\$5 7-stud. Five dollar meal comps are easily obtained.

The Megabucks jackpot was hit for \$7,986,898.98 by a New Hampshire man at the **Orleans**.

UPDATES

The Phillips collection of art has concluded its run at **Bellagio**. Actor Steve Martin's private collection will be displayed through September 3. The selection of 28 paintings includes works by Seurat, Lichtenstein, Bacon, and Picasso. Admission is \$12, \$6 for Nevada residents.

According to the Chicago Visitors Bureau, **Las Vegas is the nation's number-one tourism city, with 125,000 hotel rooms**. Orlando, FL, is number-two with 100,000 rooms. Chicago number-three with 79,000, Los Angeles number-four with 94,000, and Atlanta number-five with 83,000.

**Middle age is when actions
creak louder than words.
Dana Robbins**

Top Ten Las Vegas Values

COURTESY OF ANTHONY CURTIS, EDITOR, LAS VEGAS ADVISOR
COMPILED BY EMILY OZEKI, MANAGING EDITOR, 'OHANA MAGAZINE

1. COFFEE & DONUT25 CENTS
WESTWARD HO8 AM - 10 PM
2. STEAK & EGGS \$2.49
ARIZONA CHARLIE'S (EAST & WEST)24 HOURS
3. STEAK & SHRIMP \$5.95
HARD ROCK24 HOURS
4. COMPLETE STEAK DINNER \$4.95
ELLIS ISLAND24 HOURS
5. HOT DOG75 CENTS
GOLD COAST10 AM - 6:45 PM
6. BUFFET \$6.99 - \$10.99
SAM'S TOWN DAILY
7. SHRIMP COCKTAIL99 CENTS
GOLDEN GATE24 HOURS
8. SLOT REBATE UP TO \$125
STRATOSPHERE DAILY
9. BUFFET \$10.99 - \$18.99
ALADDIN DAILY
10. AFTERNOON SHOWS \$5.95 - \$31.65
HARRAH'S ET AL. DAILY

Slot Tips: Lose less, Enjoy playing More

by Bill Konrad

Slot tips are just that - slot *tips*. They make no claim and give no guarantee, but they do have a certain amount of credibility; they have been tested over time and found to be practical.

Tip #1

Choose your favorite machine.

Make sure that you understand the machine you play. Learn how a certain group of machines work, and develop your favorites. If your expectations aren't met within a predetermined number of spins, move on. Even favorite machines doesn't mean that you'll win each time.

Tip #2

Know when you must play maximum coins.

This is particularly important when playing a progressive or buy-a-play machine. It's okay to play one, two, or three coins when the pay ratio is the same for each coin played, but when the top prize is only paid for playing the max, play the max.

Tip #3

Play slower, last longer.

For single playline games, nickel machines generally have the lowest percentage payout per coin played, although the high end of a nickel payout can sometimes be as high as the low end of quarters. On multiline video, the payback percentage for nickels is about the same as that on single-line quarters.

Tip #4

Manage your money.

You determine your gambling allotment, but you should have some kind of planned approach to playing the slots. Know exactly the amount you set aside for each session.

Tip #5

Play where percentage returns are displayed.

Even though you may not get the machine that has those higher percentages, you have a chance when you play in these areas. If you can

find machines that are advertised as having a certain percentage payout, then play at that machine.

Tip #6

Always join the slot clubs.

This is how the casino keeps track of your play. Credits are determined by the amount you play; wins are not deducted.

Tip #7

What every player should know.

When you leave a machine get in the habit of pressing the "cash out" button so you won't leave any credits on the machine accidentally. Slot machines will on occasion malfunction, particularly when paying out a large number of coins. They can either jam or run out of coins. Stay with your machine until the attendant corrects any malfunction and you have received all of the coins you have won.

Tip #8

Ask for freebies.

There are various freebies offered by many casinos, and if you are discriminating, you can get some good ones.

Tip #9

Play in tournaments.

Some casinos have ongoing slot tournaments with entry fees from \$10. They can be quite exciting and a good deal for the money.

Tip #10

Use common sense and discipline.

It's sometimes hard to be disciplined in the casino environment, and I'm not suggesting that you let discipline get in the way of having a good time. Enjoy the excitement of a casino as a separate experience when you're not gambling, but when you play the slots, stay focused.

If you incorporate these tips and use



your good common sense, you can enjoy the casino slots and not get hurt too much. Remember, slots are for having fun. If you win, it's a bonus.

For a free copy of Bill Konrad's "slots only" newsletter, e-mail billk@netcore.ca or visit his website at www.interexna.com/gamblersresource.html. His column appeared in *Casino Player*; reprinted with permission.



**Da Flying
Hawaiian and
Da Mongoose**
By Wehilani Koki

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We are awaiting the announcement of the new season @ Whittier College. Whittier's Shannon Center for the performing

arts is among the premier locations for Hawaiian concerts in S. California. If this season is anything like past years, we're all going to be smiling. Dave Palmer, the theatre manager, has presented The Brothers Cazimero, HAPA, The Pandanus Club, The Don Ho Show, Keola Beamer, Ledward Ka'apana & Ikona, Duke Ching, Herb Ohta Jr. & Keoki Kahumoku, The Ka'au Crater Boys, Moe Keale, Daniel Ho, The Makaha Sons, Amy Gilliom & Willie K, among many other artists.

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CONTESTS!

We've been conducting monthly contests for years and have run into folks at different functions both on the Mainland and in Hawai'i. Right now we've got an Aloha Shirt from Hilo Hattie and two tickets per month to see "Creations - A Polynesian Odyssey" at the Sheraton Princess Kaiulani Hotel in Waikiki - just for entering they send you a 2-for-1 discount ticket, so everybody wins. We also have CDs from Cord International/Hana Ola Records, Kona Coffee from the Roasting Man on the Big Island, and beautiful Hawaiian heirloom jewelry. If you have a computer, enter every month!

(Website contest - www.alohajoe.com/contest.htm)

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Checking out Casinos

by Emily Ozeki
Managing Editor

Riverside Resort



Don Laughlin

The gaming town of Laughlin, about an hour's drive from Las Vegas, is named after philanthropist Don Laughlin. His vision made Laughlin what it is today - thriving with tens of thousands of daily visitors and gamblers.

Laughlin shaped the town with his namesake shortly after he opened an eight-room motel with all-you-can-eat chicken for 98-cents, 12 slots, two gaming tables, and four rooms to rent. His family used the other four as living quarters.

Since those austere days, Laughlin has made numerous incremental additions on the Riverside Resort. Today, it has 1,400 rooms, an RV Park with 740 full hook-ups, six cinema theaters, 34-lane bowling center, a U.S. Post office, Don's personal classic car collection of 80 vehicles with free admission (awesome!) and the usual bevy of restaurants from snack bars to gourmet, a show room for top name entertainers, specialty shops and cocktail lounges, including one that is non-smoking! Most of the eateries have huge picture windows and front the river, which adds to the dining ambience.

The Riverside is centrally-situated to other amenities such as four golf courses, a factory outlet mall only 15 minutes by foot. A gold mine tour and the Colorado Museum are just over the Laughlin Bridge, which he built. About 50,000 commuters cross it daily. He also donated money for flood control and planning the Laughlin/Bullhead City International Airport, which has

enough runway for Boeing 737s.

We trekked the concrete walkway that links several hotel properties along the Colorado River. Jet skiers and boat cruises are constantly running. The daytime temperature in Laughlin is intensified by the reflection off the water, which sometimes makes Laughlin's daily high to be slightly higher than in LV.

Don, 70, is a professed workaholic. He begins at 10 a.m. and works into the next morning. He arranges his own daily schedule and meetings, and mingles with hotel guests a good deal of the time. Like the Boyd Gaming Corporation in Las Vegas, Don Laughlin also woos the Hawaiian clientele. The City of Honolulu in 1995 adopted Laughlin as its sister cultural city.

"The Riverside is a friendly, family operation. Low rollers, retirees, and families built our foundation. The customer, regardless of their pocketbook, is king here," he proudly, but humbly, says. There's a big sign that says so when checking in. 800-227-3849.

Even though the main road along its "strip" can get crowded, Laughlin is indeed a respite from Las Vegas. Sightseeing Tours Unlimited in LV offers a \$2 roundtrip, pickup at 8:30 a.m., return 7:30 - 702-471-7155.



Riverside Resort's cruise with casino in back.

Golden Nugget

The Golden Nugget is the upscale casino in downtown Las Vegas. It is operated by MGM Grand, which also owns Bellagio, MGM Grand, The Mirage, New York New York, Treasure Island and Primm Valley Resort.

The Golden Nugget exudes the word "excellence". It should because it has won the prestigious AAA Four Diamond Award for more than 20 years.

You'll notice opulence as soon as you enter the lobby -

> Continued on page 22

Calendar

JUNE 15-16

Hilo High '57-'59, Fremont Hotel, Jean Maeda, 808-533-3272.

JUNE 28 - JULY 2

Big Island - Las Vegas Bonanza, California Hotel, Lionel/Naomi Onomura, 310-323-9588.

JUNE 29 - 31

'Ainahau O Kaleponi Annual 'Ohana Retreat University of California at Irvine, 714-968-1785.

JULY 4

Independence Day

JULY 9, 10, 11, 12, OR 13

UHAA-LV/SNC Fishing trip, Rustic Lodge, Panguitch, Utah, 800-427-8345, Al or Pat, mention UHAA.

JULY 11

5th UH Regents/UH President/UH Foundation/UH Alumni Assoc. Scholarship Golf Tournament, Waialeale, 808-956-6023.

JULY 13

Ke Kani O Ke Kai, Makaha Sons, Honolulu, HI. 808-923-941.

JULY 13

Live broadcast from Stratosphere Hotel from KQMQ Radio in Hawai'i. Jeff Kino & Lois Miyashiro. Qmorningzoo@aol.com.

JULY 14

Kilauea Cultural Festival, Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park, 808-961-5711.

JULY 14

International Barefoot Hula, Hilo, HI. 808-961-8706.

JULY 14-15

Pacific Island Festival Assoc., San Diego, CA. John Keoni, 562-926-2286.

JULY 15

12th Annual slack Key Festival, Hilo, HI. 808-961-5711.

JULY 20-28

Koloa Plantation Days, Koloa and Poipu, Kaua'i, Donna Stewart, 808-822-1152.

JULY 21-22

Hawaiian Inter-Club Council of Southern California Ho'olaule'a, Alondra Park, CA. Kaiwi Pang, 714-968-1785.

JULY 27

Ke Kani O Ke Kai, Brian Eselu and aunty Genoa Keawe, Honolulu, HI. 808-923-9741.

JULY 28

Boston Hawaiian Club Lu'au, Nichols College, Dudley, MA. 617-367-3554.

JULY 29

31st Ukulele Festival, Kapiolani Park Bandstand, 11 am - 1:30 pm, Roy Sakuma, 808-732-3739.

JULY 29

Okinawan Dance: The Beauty of Tradition, Honolulu, HI. 808-956-5666.

JULY 31

Hawaiian Flag Day

AUGUST 1

Las Vegas Hawaiian Civic Club cruise to Alaska, 702-812-5252.

AUGUST 4-5

7th Aloha Festival, San Francisco, CA, Shirley Avilla, 415-281-0221 or 831-758-0033.

AUGUST 5

Greater Las Vegas Orchid Society, Nevada Garden Club House, Lorenzi Park, Las Vegas, NV. Carol, 702-254-4168.

AUGUST 10

Ke Kani O Ke Kai, Daniel Ho and Kilauea, Honolulu, HI. 808-923-97341.

AUGUST 11-18

42nd Hawaiian International Billfish Tournament, Kailua-Kona, 808-329-6155.

AUGUST 12

UHAA-San Francisco Bay Area Scholarship Lu'au, 408-739-5579.

AUGUST 17-19

Made in Hawai'i Festival, Neal Blaisdell Center, Honolulu, HI. 808-325-7155.

AUGUST 31-SEPTEMBER 2

7th E Hula Mau, Terrace Theater, Long Beach, CA. 714-505-4666.

AUGUST 31-SEPTEMBER 1-2

9th Biennial National JAACL Singles convention, Torrance Marriott Hotel, CA. 310-559-4024.

SEPTEMBER 1-2

Parker Ranch Round-Up Rodeo, Waimea, 808-885-7311.

SEPTEMBER 8-16

9th Hawai'i Forest Industry Assoc., 9th Statewide Furniture and Woodworking Show, Aloha Tower Pier 10, 808-591-6599.

SEPTEMBER 9

Greater Las Vegas Orchid Society, Nevada Garden Club House, Lorenzi Park, Las Vegas, NV, Carol, 702-254-4168.

SEPTEMBER 12-13

19th Kupuna Hula Festival, Kailua-Kona, 808-322-1812.

SEPTEMBER 14

Year 2001 Aloha Festivals on O'ahu. Festivities will follow on the Big Island, Moloka'i, Lana'i and Kaua'i before concluding on Maui October 21.

SEPTEMBER 15

McKinley High Alumni Kick-off, Chinatown, Los Angeles, 310-821-7871, or 310-326-3730.

SEPTEMBER 21

Aloha Gathering 2001 at Tropics Bar & Grill in Las Vegas, alohaworld.com/gatherings/ or gathering@alohaworld.com. or 877-215-9640.

SEPTEMBER 22 & 23

Ho'olaule'a Las Vegas Hawaiian Civic Club, Lorenzi Park, Bessie Mann, 702-464-2344.

SEPTEMBER 29 - 30

Aloha Jam Concert, Long Beach, CA. Malosi Toleife, 909-628-9797.

Isle High School Reunions at California Hotel

July 15: Pahoa, Irene Kaichi, 808-988-3388.

July 18: Lahainaluna '59, Ronald, 808-339-5539.

July 28: Roosevelt '76, Jennifer Lau, 808-526-0096.

August 18: Kapa'a '61, Tentative, Richard Ponce, 510-471-4737.

September 7: Kaua'i '56, Naomi Inouye, 808-487-2388.

September 18: Leilehua '40, Jo Honda, 808-622-1944.

September 22: St. Louis '41, Louis Lopez, 808-836-6084.

September 28,29: Kapa'a '59, Gary Motayama, 310-516-8860.

September 29: Roosevelt '56, Gerald Kwock, 808-732-7584.

October 5: Kapa'a '55, Ellen Hanaoka, 310-539-9010.

October 7: Moloka'i '57, Grace, 808-553-5493.

October 12: Lana'i '61 & '59, Nancy Sakamura, 808-488-9569.

October 15: Leilehua '64, Annette, 702-256-8702.

October 16: Maui HS Class, Al Morita, 310-837-1707.

October 16: Hilo '54, Willy, 562-864-1673.

October 17: Leilehua '64, Annette, 702-256-8702.

October 23-25: Kaimuki '51, Richard, 702-458-8569.

October 27: Kaua'i '54, Andy Pedroza, 909-796-8586.

The most irritating person at a class reunion is the guy who has both hair and money.

Kanaka Niele 'O Las Vegas

(Interviewing the People of Las Vegas)

by Vance Cannon "Pukuniahii"



Las Vegas' population has exploded by growing an incredible 65 percent the past 10 years. Among some 1.4 million residents are perhaps 30,000 transplants from Hawai'i. They are easily identified by their mannerisms, dress, and speech. Their cars have Ikaikas (mini gourd warrior helmets with feathers) or kukui nut leis hanging from their rear view mirrors. And the decals on their windows say "Hawaiian Style" or "Hawaiian Pride".

Name: Kaipō Dye

Occupation: South Pacific Events, President

Education: Campbell '80, Leeward Comm. College

Hobbies: Water & snow skiing, fishing, hiking

Moved to LV in: 1992

"Real estate and educational opportunities for my three children wooed us to Las Vegas. I started my catering business in 1993 part-time business and went fulltime in 1998. We specialize in South Pacific Rim and Hawaiian cuisine for the Island community and also corporate and private functions, such as team building, fundraisers, roasts, weddings, etc. We also work in California and other places as well. I plan to also open on the Big Island soon."

Name: Keola Kahuanui De Sa

Education: Honoka'a '81, BYU - Hawai'i

Occupation: Caesars Palace, Emperors Club, supervisor

Hobbies: Live music, people

Moved to LV in: 1994

"I wanted to do something and the job opportunities here were much greater than at home. My first job was in the Caesars World Gift Shop but after a year, I transferred to the Emperors Club and have been there since. My

husband has been with the Bellagio Hotel/Casino as a security guard since it opened. We are comfortable in our home and enjoy the action of Las Vegas. For now, we don't foresee any possibility of moving back."

Name: Carolyn (Cayabyab) Ishibashi

Occupation: Admin. Asst. HR, Lab. Med. Consultants

Education: Waipahu '64, LA City College, Solano JC

Hobbies: Family, classic car shows, crafts

Moved to LV in: 1981

"We moved to Las Vegas because of a job transfer and it took us about two years to adjust to the lifestyle. We moved to LV raise our children and that was the best thing we ever did. The children go back to the islands often to visit their grandparents and cousins and there will always be an island connection for them. My older son even married a girl he met here whose roots go back to the Okahara family in Hilo. Our Hawai'i family frequently visits us here, as they enjoy coming to Vegas. My husband is with Xerox. I will soon retire and we will happily continue to make our home here."

Name: Gary Haleamau

Occupation: Musician

Education: Konawaena '83, UH- Hilo

Hobbies: Music, hunting, fishing

Moved to LV in: 1999

"My wife and family moved to Las Vegas to help our minister, who came from Kona, to begin Southland Christian Church here. I work during the day at Liberace Museum as a facilities manager, but consider myself a musician. I grew up on Huehue Ranch on the Big Island and began entertaining at age 6. I did my first recording at age 10 and have been entertaining since. Las Vegas has allowed me to grow to a new dimension as an entertainer and I have been all over the country and even to Japan. In fact, my last recording "Hawai'i", which was my ninth, was done in Japan and is attached to a video of the Big Island and will be released soon. Some songs on that recording are Hiilawe, Poliahu, Konakaiopua, Pohakuloa and Hilo Kanakahi."

LV City Tour for Islanders



Vance Cannon goes over his City Lights Tour with Don Matsuura, chairman of the McKinley High School Class of '49 reunion.

Las Vegas hotels and casinos spend millions of dollars creating excitement that draw people to their properties. They produce spectacular shows, offer scrumptious buffets, have special attractions and many other varied services. However, it is the artistic, animated lights both on the inside and outside of the casino that create the excitement that beckons every visitor.

Entrepreneur Vance Cannon, another Island transplant, has created a three-hour tour, for groups with a Hawai'i connection to see and appreciate the lights of Las Vegas from a different point of view.

Hawai'i-grown Cannon has been in Las Vegas for five years. Upon his arrival he began selling neon signs and was with the company who built the first neon sign in Las Vegas. The company, Young Electric Sign Company, also designed and built the two million light bulb show, Fremont Street Experience. "Understanding what goes into building illuminated signs and electronic light displays has given me an appreciation for the glitz of Las Vegas and I now have an opportunity to share that. I also have come to know the history and facts of some of these projects, as well as of this city".

Vance began doing his tours as a hobby for Hawai'i friends and their high school class reunions two years ago. In late November, The Honolulu Advertiser did a feature on his tour and today he is in the tour business. Advertiser writer Chris Oliver, said in her story that it is the "...excellent commentary and inside information on what makes Las Vegas the biggest light show in the world are what makes Cannon's Las Vegas City Lights Tour a favorite attraction for Hawai'i visitors."

Since beginning his City Lights Tour, Cannon has either taken or booked over 50 group tours. Cannon said, "Most of them are Hawai'i high school reunions but I am also getting more family and other groups wanting to take the tour". The minimum for a group tour is 20, the maximum is 121. For those traveling to Las Vegas alone or in smaller numbers, Cannon does a tour every Monday from the California Hotel at 7:30 pm.

On the tour, Cannon furnishes some interesting facts about Las Vegas, its history, points out exciting light and sign displays, on and off the Strip and entertains his customers at the same time. He uses comfortable, chartered buses with full and overhead visibility and makes three stops along his tour route at some of the newer casinos. The tour takes in two mini-shows complete with the flavor of Vegas lights - showgirls, live music, acrobatics, etc. It even visits the Neon Museum, flower garden and water ballet at the Bellagio and some of the newest developments in Las Vegas. Toni Lee (Kamehameha '59) said, "It would take a week to see what we did in three hours on Vance's tour".

"Many times groups want me to customize their tour by visiting specific properties. I will accommodate those requests, as Las Vegas is changing daily", says Cannon. Vegas Vance Tours is the official name that Cannon operates by.

He says, "Not everybody gambles and many of those that do, like to take a break for a few hours". Helen Yanamura (Farrington '49) commented, "I dreaded going to Las Vegas not knowing how I would spend my time. But, the City Lights Tour was absolutely fabulous. It made me take a completely different view of the place".

Cannon has recently expanded his menu of tours at the request of various groups and now has day tours that include Legends in Music, Pahrump Winery, Death Valley, Ghost Town/Gold Mine, Red Rock Canyon tours. For the adventurous, he offers a 12-mile raft trip on the Colorado River from Hoover Dam.

Many of the tours are designed to end up at Belz Factory Outlet, which has 155 stores, because shopping is a favorite past time for Hawai'i visitors. It's traditional within the islands to always bring back omiyage (a gift). Vance furnishes discount coupons to many of the stores at the Belz Outlet for those on his tour. "Now, I am even getting requests for golf tours and have a few booked. In fact, it is not unreasonable for me to take tours to the National Parks in Utah from here", says Cannon.



Kamehameha Class of 1959 on the City Lights Tour

Vance narrates most of the tours himself but has other Hawai'i expatriates standing by. A Las Vegas Review Journal writer said to Cannon, "I can see that you know your audience and personalize your tour, which make for a fun time for everyone, while seeing the city and its glitter".

Cannon's classmate, Fred Zane (Roosevelt '57) sums up his feeling about the City Lights Tour by saying, "If you haven't seen Las Vegas at night with Vance...you haven't seen Las Vegas!"

Vegas Tours: Email, pukuniahii@aol.com or
702-866-6666.

O'Callaghan Honors Legacy of 100/442 GIs

by Rick Velotta
Las Vegas Sun



Mike O'Callaghan, executive editor & board chairman of Las Vegas Sun, remembers the toughness he saw in 100th/442 soldiers.

What does one of the most respected fighting units of World War II and Nevada high school football have in common?

If you're former Nevada Gov. Mike O'Callaghan, now the executive editor of the Las Vegas Sun and publisher of the Henderson Home News and the Boulder City News, it's a perfect match.

O'Callaghan, one of the state's leading champions of civil rights and a friend of the Asian community, was the founder of the "Go for Broke" trophy, an annual award given to the toughest football players to emerge from five Henderson and Boulder City high schools.

Winners of the "Go for Broke" trophy, selected from nominations from coaches, get an important history lesson in addition to what has become the most coveted post-season high school honor in the state.

"I was impressed with the men in the 100th and 442nd," said O'Callaghan, who lived for a while near Fort McCoy, Wis., where they trained. "They were absolutely the toughest soldiers I had ever seen."

So, to honor the unit and to keep its history alive, the "Go for Broke" trophy



was created, given by the Henderson Home News and the Boulder City News to players at Basic High School and Boulder City High.

As Henderson grew, trophies also were given to players at Green Valley, Silverado and Foothill high schools and next year, the 17th year of the presentation of the awards, a trophy also will be given to a player at Henderson's newest school, Coronado High. While the scope of the award has grown, the ideals remain the same - the trophy goes to players who work hard in practice as well as the games and are simply the toughest.

The "Go for Broke" trophy isn't the only tribute O'Callaghan has given to Nevada's Asian community. Regular readers of the Sun know the two-term

governor has dozens of stories about Asian men and women who have contributed to the nation and Nevada.

One is about Young Oak Kim, a Korean American who now lives in Las Vegas. Kim had to literally fight his way into joining the 100th. He was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross as a platoon leader and even today, is highly revered among the veterans.

He also remembers other Island heroes such Sergeant Tom Funakoshi, who was killed the night before rotating back to the states, and Tetsuo Takahama. Takahama, who had parents incarcerated at Tule Lake relocation camp in World War II, volunteered for military service when the Korean War broke out. Living in Japan at that time, he was rejected at the induction station so returned to the U.S. and enlisted as a volunteer. He lost both legs at Heart Break Ridge. A movie was later made on that battle. "There are many other men from Hawai'i who served with patriotism and honor," O'Callaghan said.

O'Callaghan also championed the unpopular position of advocating reparations to Japanese Americans while he was governor of Nevada. He was also among eight outside observers that oversaw a Pentagon investigation ordered by President Clinton in the 1950 incident at No Gun Ri in Korea. The inquiry spanned two years, and he attended those hearings in Washington, D.C. and Korea.

(Editor's Note: I met Mike O'Callaghan in 2000, and found him extremely fascinating. His advocacy to perpetuate the legacy of Asian Americans is truly admirable. In addition to serving as Governor of Nevada from 1971-78 and his candid column, "Where I Stand", O'Callaghan served as an infantry platoon sergeant in the Korean War. He lost a leg there. His awards include the Silver Star and Bronze Star for gallantry in combat in separate incidents, and the Purple Heart.

Photos by
R. MARSH STARKS
LAS VEGAS SUN.

Another Hectic Year for Morita's

by Pat & Evi Morita



Pat and wife Evi with their 2 babies, Cheech & Chong

Aloha! Wow, it's about time, eh? The past year-plus has swept by us like a tsunami. But, hopefully, we two vagabond gypsies are a bit back on track. People from everywhere all register such surprise when we tell them we've been living in Las Vegas and recently celebrated our seventh anniversary here. With a tinge of alarm in their voices, most folks' first question is "Aren't you afraid of losing your house?," or "How can you live in a place like that?" followed by "What do you do there?" Replying to the last question first: We live very ordinary, quiet lives with our two Tonkinese cats, Cheech and Chong - so named because the two brothers are true comedians. They never cease to amaze us. Our (their) house and home is always punctuated daily with laughter. We think that that pretty much answers the first two questions.

Since making Vegas our permanent place of residency, we've watched McCarran International Airport jump from 28th busiest in the nation to 7th busiest. Our resident population also remains America's fastest growing city, growing from 800,000 plus to more than 1.3 million people. Without a doubt the influx of citizens of Hawai'i has impacted that growth spurt. Also, we notice that there seem to be more and more high school class reunions from Hawai'i making this "City of Lights" their choice to celebrate. On a more personal note, we see mounting numbers of local people in the restaurant, hotel, casino and service industries showing their warm Aloha faces everywhere.

As for us, the past year-plus has been both hectic and extremely rewarding. In a thumbnail sketch, beginning with our past President's last New Year's

eve bash at the White House, we felt very honored to have been included on a very select list of celebrities, including Elizabeth Taylor, Muhammed Ali, Will Smith, Edward James Olmos, Senator John Glenn, ex-Celtic Bill Russell, Senator Daniel Inouye and 400 other of our nation's notables. We attempted to pay a short personal visit to our Honorable Senator Inouye, but unfortunately he was extremely under the weather and therefore was unable to attend the festivities. But we did manage to catch-up with each other later in the year and exchange phone pleasantries under much healthier circumstances.

After receiving an honorary Doctorate Degree (Pat) from the Cleveland Institute of Music, we were truly touched by their explanation that the voice is, after all, a musical instrument and that the body of Pat's work had touched so many people world-wide. Truly an honor. A couple of weeks of one-nighters in the Florida area was followed by "Baywatch Hawai'i" episodes (any reason to get back home), followed by appearances on "The Hughleys". A new show entitled "The Pioneer Living Series" about all the various European immigrants that have contributed to and have become integral members of our American society for PBS, helped to fill out the remainder of our work year, punctuated by more "Baywatch Hawai'i" and "Hughleys" shows.



Mel Ozeki with Pat Morita at the UNLV VINO function.

Amidst all the work as previously written came the opportunities to include one of Pat's long-time hobbies: the singing of the National Anthem before tens of thousands in various sporting events. These include in the past year Jacobs Field (Cleveland), Camden Yards (Baltimore), Pac-Bell Stadium (S.F. Giants), Dodger Stadium (L.A. Dodgers),

> Continued on page 28

"A DAY NO ONE... WANTED TO SEE"

Compiled from *The Honolulu Advertiser* and *Honolulu Star-Bulletin*

Ben Cayetano, Governor

Hawai'i experienced the nation's only statewide public school system strike in April, and it lasted an agonizing 20 days.

The public school teachers got a 16 percent pay raise and a token \$1,100 "retention incentive" instead of two years retroactive pay. The total package cost about \$125 million.

When the strike started on April 5, the Hawai'i State Teachers Association, which has 13,000 members, sought 22 percent while the state offered 14 percent.

An entry-level teacher now earning \$29,000 annually will make about \$34,000 when the contract expires. The top range will increase to \$64,000 from \$58,000.

The previous strike was in April, 1973 for 18 days. Teacher strikes were averted at the 11th hour in '72, '84, and '97.

About 3,300 UH Professional Assembly workers also struck. The faculty union got a \$2,300 raise in the first year, six percent the second, and one percent merit raises for both years. Their last strike was in 1983.

Although relieved when negotiations with the public school teachers ended, Gov. Ben Cayetano had grimly announced after negotiations were first curtailed, "This is a day no one in the state wanted to see, and a day we tried very hard to avoid".

About 185,000 public school children and 45,000 college students, including the community

colleges, were affected.

(Editor's Note: Hawaii's teachers' strike by public schools, including the UH system, had major economic impact to all parties. I apologize for substituting this story in lieu of "Island Hopping", but felt that this takes precedent as compensation for public school teachers is a nationwide concern.

From a subscriber's suggestion, we'll attempt implementing his "Letter to the Editor". In part, it read:

We really enjoy 'Ohana. For folks like us who have lived many years in Hawai'i, but are now residents of the Mainland, it's a breath of fresh air.

We value your "Island Hopping" page and always wished for some way to keep informed about significant happenings in the 50th State - without subscribing to *The Advertiser* or *Star-Bulletin*. It would be great if 'Ohana could provide a page or two in every issue with brief updates such as government, business, sports and entertainment, education, social and human interest, and the environment.

A lot of us on the Mainland and elsewhere would be grateful for this kind of opportunity to keep informed about our favorite place on the planet. I suggested something similar to *Hawai'i Magazine* a while back, but they weren't interested to provide non-tourist folks with local information.

'Ohana is the best thing yet for us folks who know and love Hawai'i.
David Green, Virginia.)

Checking Out Casinos

> Continued from page 16



Lillie Langtry's

the handcrafted glass door, the white and crystal chandeliers - immediately overwhelmed us.

The fine dining restaurants are Stefano's (Italian) and Lillie Langtry's (Cantonese; steak, crab and lobster; French pastries.) We enjoyed the latter. The Nugget also has the Carson Street Cafe (coffee shop) and buffet. The choices at the Cafe are six pages long, which makes choosing a challenge. Their signature bread pudding in the buffet is just that! Overall, the prices are affordable for a classy casino.

Guests can get pampered at The Spa and beauty salon, or workout at the fitness center, complete with Universal and Nautilus equipment.

The Hand of Faith, the world's largest single nugget of gold that weighs 62 pounds, another of 13 pounds and 26 other smaller pieces are at Golden Nugget - a must see!

Each of the 1,900 rooms are well-appointed with imported marble floors and lavish bathrooms.

On your next visit downtown, if you have no inclination to see any of those fabulous hotels on the Strip, the Golden Nugget is a great alternative to still experience elegance. Downtown casino properties are closely situated so it's not more than a 10-minute walk from any casino to another.

800-634-3454. It also has sister hotel Golden Nugget in Laughlin.

(Editor's Note: As time permits, 'OHANA Magazine will make "drop-in" visits to casinos at random, and write short reviews on them.)

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Pearl Harbor Neighbors

Second of a Two-part Series
 Dorinda Nicholson

It would take me almost 60 years to meet Thompson Izawa and the Kobashigawa sisters, Hazel and Tetsu. Even though we all grew up on Pearl City Peninsula a few blocks from each other.



Thompson Izawa

how the Peninsula AJAs were treated. The families needed written verification of the existence of our neighborhood and they found it in my book, Pearl Harbor Child. The book helped their redress, along with the testimony of my brother, Ishmael. Through the book and my brother, I was recently reunited with my neighbors of years ago. They won their case and briefly, here's their story.

Hazel and Tetsu Kobashigawa were the youngest daughters in a family of eight children. Their mother was a widow who had come to Hawai'i as a young picture bride from Okinawa. On the morning of December 7, 1941, Hazel, 15, and Tetsu, 13, ran into the front yard wondering why there were so many planes flying over their house. Tetsu said, "And we laughed to each other about why the American planes had put red dots on the wings. But when they started shooting at us, we took off."

"I don't think we were afraid at the time," says Hazel, "but when the military truck came by and told us, you can't take anything - get in the truck just as you are. That's when we got scared."

"Then the truck went down the street to get other Japanese families from their homes - only Japanese families. They took us to Waimano Home Road to a sugarcane field and told us, to not move about or we



Dee & Thompson with book

could be shot. They took my brother; mom cried for weeks afterwards, not knowing where he was."

Hazel and Tetsu remember military guards being stationed at their evacuation site, and not understanding why Japanese families were under suspicion as possible enemies. Their mother was allowed to go home long enough to get some belongings but a guard was constantly at her side.

"He had his bayonet, you know, at her back, and she couldn't even think of what she wanted to get. He's right there, to make sure you don't get a hand grenade or something." She shakes her head and shudders at the memory.

Tetsu smiles, thinking back. "I took my dog, and my girlfriend took her dog, and nobody objected at first, but when we were evacuated to Waipahu, and had to cook our food, others objected. Some of them complained, saying we should let the dogs go because they were eating the food. But I said, no, the food he is getting is from my share. That's how my friend and I were able to keep our dogs."



Kobashigawa sisters, Hazel and Tetsu

Over the next few days, many of the Peninsula residents were allowed to return to their homes except Japanese families. "We were not allowed to go back because we were Japanese," recalls Tetsu. Hazel continues, "It was a horrendous experience, going through something like that, but life goes on."

Their neighbor Thompson Izawa was fishing with his dad on December 7 when the first planes bombed the

> Continued on page 29

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Ni'ih Island

When 'OHANA (family) published its premier issue in 1996, the tremendous growth in islanders moving to Las Vegas gave us the notion of coining "Ninth Island." Hawai'i which is composed of eight islands, when combined with many expatriated islanders moving to Las Vegas, made it a "natural".

However, the comparatively high outmigration from Paradise because of a prolonged economic slump has caused island residents to begin new lives throughout the continental U.S. Accordingly, the term Ninth Island now refers to the United States.

Arthur H. Suehiro

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outdoor Markets in Las Vegas

1. Henderson Farmers Market, 200 Water St., Thursday 4 to 8 pm.
2. Gilcrease Orchards, 7800 N. Tenya Way, Saturday 7 am to noon.
3. Sahara village Farmers Market, 9150 W. Sahara, Sunday 9 am til sell out.
4. Bruce Trent Park Farmers Market, 1600 N. Rampart Blvd, Wednesday 4 to 8 pm.
5. Colannade Shopping Plaza, 8878 Eastern Ave., Saturday 4 to 8 pm.

Pearl Harbor Neighbors

> Continued from page 27



Thompson gestures

torpedo bombers. But when my dad saw the torpedoes, and the insignia on the wings, he grabbed me by my ear and we took off for home. All the neighbors, the Japanese neighbors, were at our house. It was easy for the military to pick us up because we were all together. They put us in a truck and hauled us up to the mountains and left us under guard. They had fixed bayonets."

"We stayed in the mountains, kept together. It rained overnight, and the following day they transported us to Waipahu, and we stayed there almost three weeks even though non-Japanese were allowed to go home in a few days. While we were still in Waipahu, they searched our house and found the gun my dad used to scare the birds

USS Utah, which was directly in front of them.

"I wish that I had a machine gun. I could have shot some of those planes down, seriously! They were so low, especially the



Shrapnel and recovered bullet

his dad's feelings about Japan or about America. "Never! It was no problem to make that decision, no matter how we were treated on December 7, 1941. We were Americans. We were loyal."

His answer was firm.

Dorinda Makanaonalani Stagner Nicholson lived on the Pearl City Peninsula until the Navy forced all civilians out. She currently lives in Kansas City, Missouri where she is a licensed psychotherapist. She will appear on the Learning Channel in May and be a speaker at the Pearl Harbor Symposium in December. Her website is www.pearlharborchild.com.

Morita

> Continued from page 21

Democratic National Convention, and finally in late January, the Hula Bowl on Maui before 25,000 fans, friends and 'ohana (eat your heart out, Jimmy Borges!). I can say this only because we're life-long friends.

Throw into this mix of activities ordinary things like birthdays, weddings, funerals and fundraisers, we can look back and say, "Yeah, it's been a year pretty normal for us". It's no wonder that in between time we relish our house and home and quality time with friends, visitors and "da boys" (our cats.) In closing, we wish to extend our 5th year anniversary congratulations to Mel and Emily Ozeki, publishers of this great magazine which endeavors to continually bridge the gap between the hearts of Hawai'i and the Mainland. A hui hou!



Pat Morita as emcee for annual UNLV VINO auction.

UNLV VINO Photos by Brian Janis

GREAT RECIPES

CHERRY CHOCOLATE CAKE

- 1 pkg. Devil's Food Cake mix
- 21 oz. can cherry pie filling
- 1 tsp. almond extract
- 2 eggs, beaten

Pre-heat oven to 325 degrees.

Grease and flour a 9 by 13 pan. In large bowl, combine all ingredients and stir by hand til well mixed

Bake 25 to 30 minutes.

This is for a pyrex pan.

If for a metal pan, pre-heat and bake at 350 degrees.

Serve with whip cream

Bonnie Allphin, San Francisco, CA

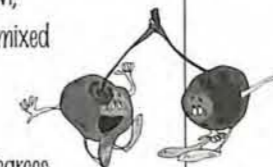


BROCCOLI SALAD

- 1 head broccoli
- 1/2 cup diced red onion
- 1/2 cup raisins
- 1 cup sunflower seeds
- 6 slices cooked bacon, crumbled
- Dressing:
1 cup mayonnaise
3 Tbsp vinegar
1/2 cup sugar

Mix night before and add to salad just before serving.

Sharon Takahashi, Las Vegas, NV



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"FESTIVAL TIME"

by Vance "Pukunahi" Cannon



Expatriates and even vendors who traveled from the Aloha State kicked off the *ho'olaule'a* (festival) season at the annual Lei Day Las Vegas event in May.

Thongs anxiously look forward to these annual Hawaiian festivals because they help displaced Islanders keep in touch with their roots and culture - food, entertainment, island products, and plain fun, including shorts, T-shirts, and rubba slippas.

In Las Vegas, thousands watched nonstop entertainment on a stage that faced a huge tented area with more than ample seating in the middle of the California Hotel parking lot. Attendees lounged with their families, ate Hawaiian plate lunches and "talked story" while taking in the entertainment.

Co-sponsored by Curly Koa Productions and The Cal, the Lei Day gathering is typical of the events throughout the west for the rest of the year. "You bump into friends that you haven't seen in a while and then it's catch-up time, while you chow down on kalua pig and other delicious Hawaiian food", UH Alumni Jeff Whaley (Kaimuki '69) said. Robert



Coburn (Kahuku '94), assistant manager of Treasure Island, his wife and two boys were eating and visiting among the 50 booths.

Some of the other similar events in California are the recently concluded Pacific Islander Festival held in Wilmington, CA where 8,000 people a day attended, according to Chairwoman Kaiwi Pang.

The *ho'olaule'a* in Northridge, CA on June 2-3 attracts

about 30,000. Chairwoman June Starr said, "We have display, crafts, food and other commercial booths, with music going all day long for this family-oriented weekend. There is a petting zoo, games and other activities for the children, too."

The longest-running and largest *ho'olaule'a* is at Alondra Park, CA, on Jul 21-22. Some 30,000 people are expected. Chairman Allan Wakinekona (Iolani '50) said, "This year's theme is *Ho'one'e me na kai o ho'ololi* (Moving with the tide of change). There are about 130 booths and continuous entertainment. We will have a Hawaiian Cultural booth and even a health screening booth among the food, crafts, games, and boutiques".



The 6th Las Vegas *Ho'olaule'a* will be on September 22-23 at Lorenzi Park. Co-sponsored by the City of Las Vegas and Las Vegas Hawaiian Civic Club, over 125 booths are expected. Teri Keli'iheleua-Myers, president, said, "This year will be the biggest and best. We expect over 30,000 people and have more booths than ever before." The festival has exploded since 2,000 fairgoers in 1994.

Other known festivals are:

- San Diego, CA, Jul 14-15.
- Aloha Festival, Presidio, CA, Aug. 4-5.
- E Hula Mau, Long Beach, CA, Aug. 31- Sept. 2.
- Aloha Concert Jam, Long Beach, CA, Sept. 29-30.
- Hawaiian Octoberfest, Long Beach/Signal Hill, CA, October 20-21.



Ex-islanders everywhere will gather to get their annual "Island Booster" of home. They now live on the mainland but for most, you know where their heart is.

ISLE MAYORS SHARE THEIR "VISIONS"

> Continued from page 6



MAYOR HARRY KIM HAWAII'I

Sworn to office in December, Harry Kim is Hawaii's newest mayor. Born in 'Ola'a on the Big Island, Kim was the Director of Hawai'i County Civil Defense from 1976-2000. He did not have a campaign organization to coordinate his bid and accepted donations only up to \$10. Those considerations notwithstanding, he still won more than 50 percent of the votes cast in a three-way race.

Kim's first months in office have been characterized by openness and fairness. He is committed to economic development that is compatible with the community and enhances Hawaii's rural lifestyle. Hiring, promotion, and contracting are based on merit. His instructions to his cabinet are typically simple and straightforward: "Follow the law, and if the law isn't clear, do what's right."

Kim has won high praise for quickly establishing a positive relationship with the county council, attending council meetings and involving council members in appointments to boards and commissions. Particularly sensitive to Hawaiian issues, Kim has emphasized that government is acutely aware of how its conduct, past and present, has and will affect the *kanaka maoli* (local people).



MAYOR MARYANNE KUSAKA KAUAI

My cabinet and I developed this credo, which has guided me and continues to inspire me:

Where the ALOHA SPIRIT - its people.

Our quality of life - the preservation and enhancement of our unique lifestyle is KILOHANA Above the rest (as translated.)

Kusaka was born in Kamuela (on the Big Island) but spent most of her childhood in Hana, Maui. After graduating from Mid Pacific Institute, she earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Northern Colorado and pursued a career in elementary education.

Kusaka says that she has always had a special love for Kauai and spent 33 years teaching *keiki* (children) there until becoming mayor in December 1994.

The children have always been her inspiration. Through programs like *ho'olokahi* (creating unity), we have mobilized volunteerism to an unprecedented level. Thousands of volunteers have completed hundreds of projects that have beautified our parks, our roadsides, our beaches and other public places.

She claims that Kauai sparkles like a precious jewel. "She welcomes you with open arms, embraces and envelopes you with aloha, and remains in your heart always".

Aloha 'oe, a hui hou, malama pono!

(Good bye, until we meet again, take care!)

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can keep you warmer
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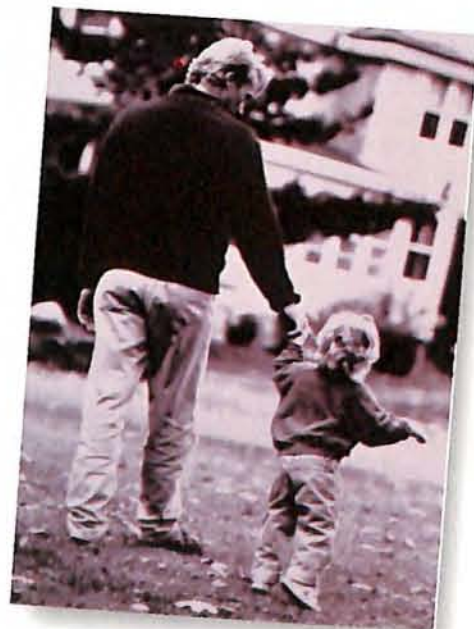
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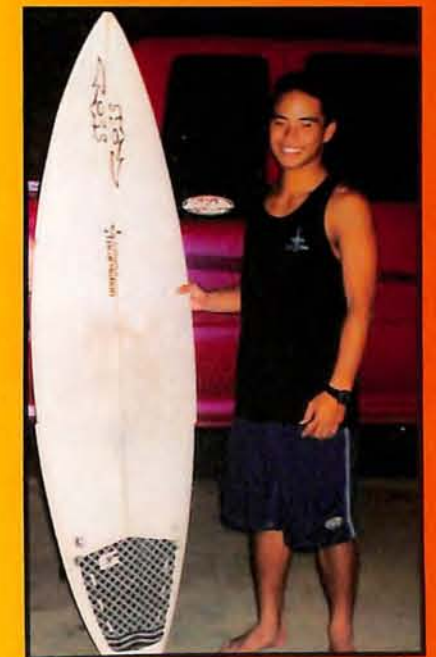
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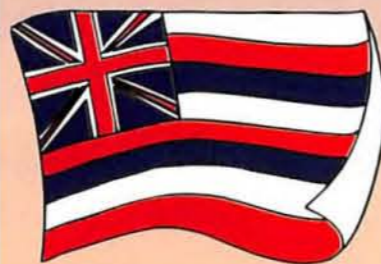


Congress established guidelines on how our flag should be treated. As we celebrate Independence Day on July 4, or anytime it is flown, look if it meets these rules:

1. When the flag is displayed flat against the wall, the stars should be at the top and to the flag's own right.
2. Do not lower the flag to any person or thing.
3. Do not display the flag upside down unless as a signal of distress.
4. Do not place any other flag above our flag, except at the United Nations. There, the U.N. flag flies above all others, and the flags of all the countries are flown in alphabetical order.
5. When a flag is flown outside, it is usually flown during the day and taken down at night, especially at homes. In public places, flags flying at night are often lighted.
6. A flag should be taken down if the weather is so bad it could be badly damaged.
7. A flag flying at half-staff, or halfway up the pole, stands for mourning.

Ka Hae Hawai'i The Hawaiian Flag

by Pat Ka'anoi



The Hawaiian Flag was commissioned by Kamehameha the Great in 1816 during the Hawaiian religious kapu (sacred, forbidden) system. The eight alternating white, red and blue stripes represent the eight major islands of Hawai'i. The British

Union Jack represents Hawaii's historical relationship with Great Britain as its protectorate as well as suggesting a stylized representation of a puela - a triangle standard laying across two crossed spears called an alia - the symbol of Hawaiian chief. The representation is clearly illustrated at the center of the royal Seal of Hawai'i.

On July 26, 1990 then Gov. John Waihe'e of Hawai'i proclaimed July 31 as La Hae Hawai'i - Hawaiian Flag Day.

Guide to LV via "lasvegas.com"

Lasvegas.com, the city's namesake web site, is the leading source for information about Las Vegas. Users have a direct link to the heart and soul of the city of lights and learn about hotels and making hotel reservations, shopping in some of the world's finest stores, dining in gourmet restaurants, and planning a perfect Vegas wedding - these and countless other "LV needs" are all only a mouse click away.

Whether you are looking for luxury or traveling on a family budget, lasvegas.com offers users the ability to book their entire trip online! It's that easy. The Travel Guide lets you book flights and has package deals that can be tailored to meet specific needs, such as traveling with kids or the family dog. Lasvegas.com features nearly all the hotels in Las Vegas.

Dining out in Las Vegas has taken on a completely new meaning! The city of glitz and glamour has turned into the dining Mecca of the world, with master chefs as Wolfgang Puck and Emeril Lagasse bringing culinary delights. The Dining Guide is equipped with many features to make selecting a restaurant easy and informative for everyone. Users can search the site for a quick listing of Las Vegas' restaurants or browse restaurants by food category, metro area hotel or price range.

Of course after dinner, there's always time for a show in Las Vegas! Lasvegas.com's entertainment section has detailed information on what to do and where to go for a fabulous night out on the town. Find out about all of the shows on the Strip, where to go for the best entertainment, and how to get show tickets. And if a day of shopping is on the top of your list, lasvegas.com has a complete list of the hottest shops on the Strip in the Shopping Guide.

To find out more about traveling, dining and entertainment, shopping and everything else in Las Vegas, check out lasvegas.com, where over 15 million annual visitors log on for the best source of information on visiting, moving to or living in Las Vegas.

*It's only when we truly know and understand
that we have a limited time on earth -- and
that we have no way of knowing when our time
is up -- that we will begin to live each day to
the fullest, as if it was the only one we had.
Elisabeth Kubler-Ross*

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