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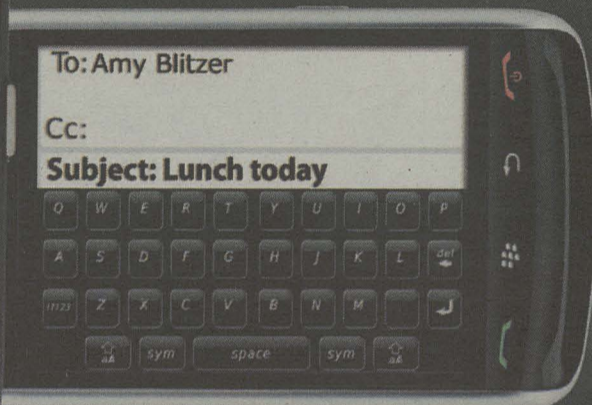
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Weekly

STATE OF THE ARTS



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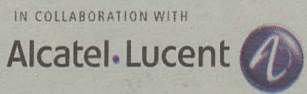
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Woe-HA

"The kanaka protocols" article (11/26) brought attention to an important dialogue that is in progress between the Department of Defense and the Native Hawaiian community.

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs wants to make sure the Hawaiian community is aware there is still time to comment on the draft protocol, and this information was not found in the article. We continue to encourage all Hawaiians to participate in this process.

The current DoD Senior Tribal Liaison, David Sanborn, continues to seek written comment on the draft DoD Native Hawaiian Consultation Protocol from the Hawaiian community and Hawai'i military installations, and has extended

the comment deadline from Dec. 8, 2008 to Feb. 1, 2009.

On another note, the role of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs has been mischaracterized in this DoD effort. We respect the work of the American Friends Service Committee and its Hawai'i program director, Kyle Kajihiro. But we take issue with his conclusion that OHA's participation leads to a "crisis of legitimacy" with the process.

OHA is not speaking for, but urging comment from native Hawaiians, and is assisting DoD to reach out to the Hawaiian community for comment. OHA is advocating for betterment of conditions of all Hawaiians by protecting and perpetuating Hawaiian culture and empowering Hawaiians through information, programs, funds and services; and as such, has a role in educating DoD and assisting DoD in reaching out for comment on the Consultation Protocol from the Hawaiian community.

We understand Hawaiian voices reflected in the development of a DoD Native Hawaiian Consultation Protocol do not solve all problems. OHA will continue to advocate when addressing DoD matters, including through litigation. However, as intended under federal law that requires consultation with Hawaiians, the protocol moves DoD and Hawaiians to better communication and cultural understanding, and assures Hawaiian culture and expertise for the well-being of Hawai'i is prominently and consistently reflected in early DoD planning and decision-making about Hawaiian lands under the stewardship and control of DoD. It is essential to preserve and protect and perpetuate culture, as we work together for just reconciliation.

OHA agrees with Mr. Kajihiro's comments about the illegal overthrow and the surrounding devastation experienced by past, present and future generations of Hawaiians as a matter of social justice. But unlike the American Friends Service Committee, OHA's beneficiaries include Hawaiians who want to remain U.S. citizens and a minority who don't, as well as Hawaiians who support DoD presence in Hawai'i as well as those who seek a DoD exit plan ASAP, and all those in between. OHA advocates and sets policies to achieve its overall mission, betterment of conditions of Hawaiians as a whole people, not group by group.

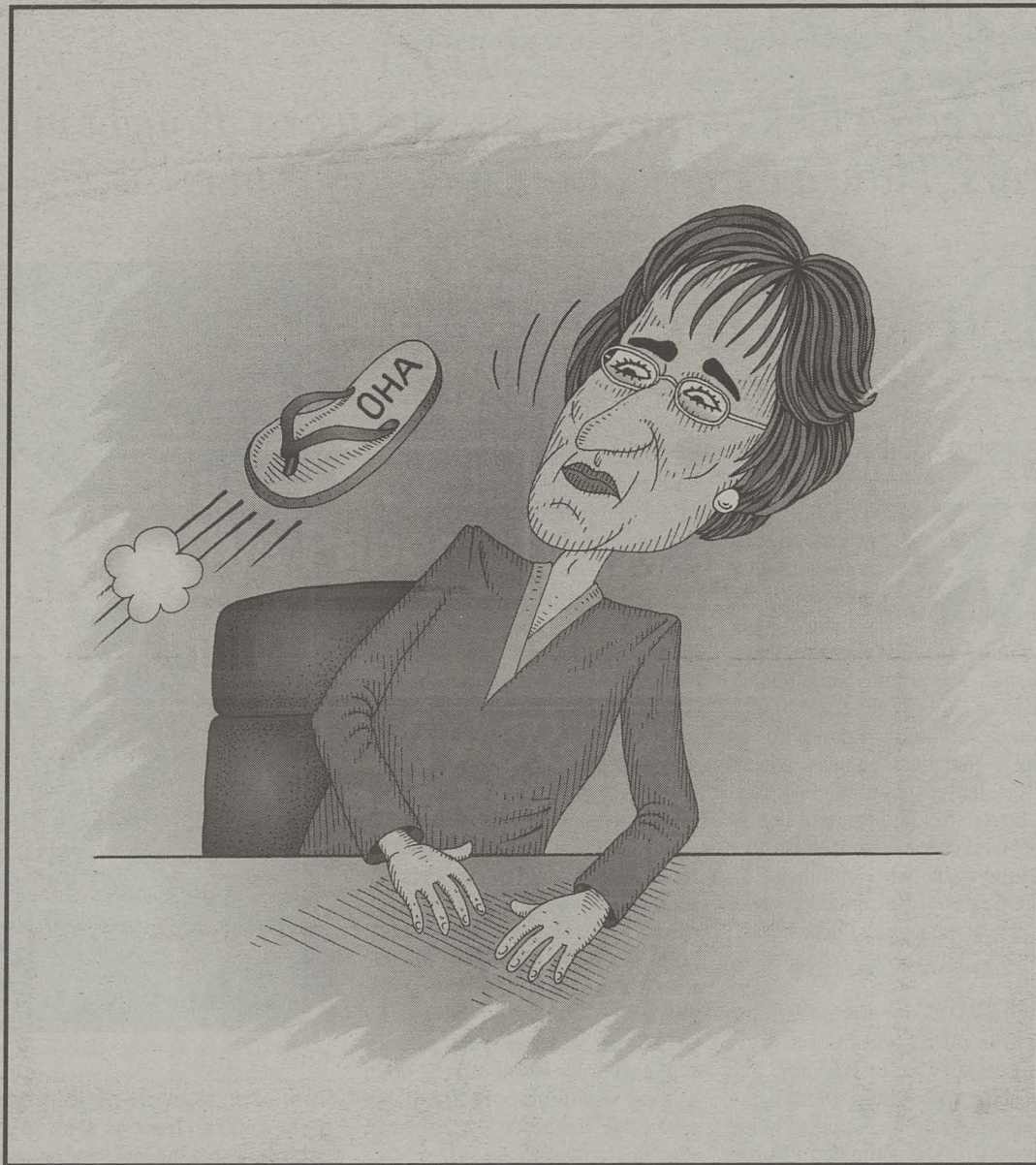
*Martha Ross
Office of Hawaiian Affairs*

Right said Fred

The rhetorical question posed on your recent cover, "Can Bush (help) save the Pacific?," (12/10) can easily be answered.

I had the distinct pleasure of working with Gov. Linda Lingle, Council on Environmental Quality chairman Jim Connaughton and President Bush on the designation of the Northwest Hawaiian Islands as Papahānaumokuākea as the world's largest marine sanctuary. The answer is: President Bush has done more than any president in the history of the country to save and protect the Pacific Ocean.

*Fred Hemmings
Minority Leader
Hawai'i State Senate*



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My kind of town

I am a Hawaiian prisoner incarcerated in a private prison in Arizona, due to overcrowding conditions in Hālawā Correctional Facility. I am writing to commend you on the articles relating to our Chinatown (10/15). The "back in the day" article particularly moved me to write this letter. As a local boy, I grew up in Kalihi but I got my first taste of Honolulu in Chinatown when my mom brought me and my baby sister there. We stayed at the old Aloha Hotel on Maunakea Street. There used to be a tiny hole-in-the-wall place there, and the proprietors used to babysit me and my sister when my mom went to work.

My mom is 100 percent Hawaiian and Chinatown was her stomping ground and it soon became mine as a juvenile delinquent. While I am not proud of my years as a trouble-making youth—picking fights with military soldiers, etc.—I am proud of our Chinese 'ohana who have preserved and remained committed to preserving our Chinatown. When I was paroled from prison in 2004, I went back to Chinatown and was impressed with the many changes, while the area still maintained its unique flavor.

I believe Chinatown must stay Chinatown, and any attempt by outsiders—moneyed or otherwise—to change the vibe of Chinatown must be stopped. Hawai'i is Hawai'i because of the strength of our diverse cultures.

I do miss the little boat ride from Mokuea Island. We'd come through Honolulu Harbor and park along the River Street wall and go to various markets. You could always get fresh island produce and I miss the fish-

markets whose aroma would call to you from blocks away. I'd love to see and experience that "back in the day" feel of Chinatown again.

I'll be released soon and I'd love to help out in preserving our Chinatown. Thank you for sharing the stories of our Chinatown. I hope people will come to respect and appreciate the area and keep their destructive agendas for their own communities.

*DeMont Conner
Eloy, Ariz.*

Titanic recession

Much is being made of the fact that the government's own National Bureau of Economic Research announced last week that the country is in recession and has been in one since 2007. Even the Bush administration, after a year's steady denial, has admitted it.

Criticism of that stand is misplaced, however, since the job of the country's leader is to reassure citizens, and that's what President Bush and his advisors have been doing all these months.

Think of the panic aboard the Titanic if the captain had announced that the ship was sinking when it started to do so. Far, far better it is to always set everyone's mind at rest when disaster looms. When the tip of the smoke stack is about to disappear under the waves, no harm can then be done by announcing that the ship is going down.

*John A. Broussard
Kamuela*

Heavier meddle?

Three and half years after depleted uranium was found in Hawai'i, who knows if we're breathing it?

Not the Army: they haven't started the air testing set for last summer. Not our health department: in nine months they haven't replaced broken air testing devices. And both Army and DOH devices may be the wrong type to detect airborne depleted uranium compounds. The Army said DU can't migrate far because it's in "large fragments," but now they admit the spotting rounds exploded on impact and the DU is "fine particulate matter." The Army reported only about 700 spotting rounds in all of Hawai'i. But Sierra Club said there might be 2,000 at Pōhakuloa alone. Now the Army admits more research is warranted.

Army officials told Hawai'i Island citizens to work through politicians if they're unhappy about Army policies.

The original DU find was announced by citizen groups, a few hours before the Army announcement, and four months after the find.

It's hard to breathe easy.
*Cory Harden
Hilo*

We love to get letters and print as many as space allows. Letters often are edited for length and clarity. Letters should be signed with the writer's full name and their town or city and state, as well as phone number for confirmation only.

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INDEPENDENT, LOCALLY OWNED

Between a lack of funding and the worst drought in 80 years, Hawai'i's agriculture industry is in crisis.

Dried up

ADRIENNE LAFRANCE

When Kylie Matsuda announced to her parents that she wanted to enter the family business, their reaction, she said, was somewhat subdued. Matsuda, a fourth-generation farmer on the 300-acre Kahuku Farms property that yields papayas, bananas, luau leaves and more, had studied hospitality and tourism in college—and didn't seriously consider working on the farm until then.

"My parents were not happy with the idea of me joining the business," she said. "I really had to beg for my job."

Matsuda, 29, is entering farming at a time when agriculture is struggling to survive in Hawai'i. She said she realizes she is somewhat of an anomaly and had to prove to her parents that she could add value to the business.

"There is no incentive for our generation to stay in the family business," she said. "There are much better opportunities outside of farming, but I want to see my family's farm stay viable."

Leaders from throughout the industry gathered earlier this month at the state capitol in an information session arranged by the Committee on Agriculture and the Committee on Water, Land and Ocean Resources. The goal: to discuss the problems faced by farmers like Matsuda and explore remedies that might be addressed in the upcoming legislative session, which opens Jan. 21.

"We've invested so much in infrastructure and food safety but the business just isn't there," said Dean Okimoto, president of the Hawai'i Farm Bureau Federation. "It's scary. We're not doing well. Once we lose a farm, it never comes back and that farmland just goes to development.

The fact is, we are at great risk right now and no one really knows the extent of this because a lot of farmers are quiet. They just quietly close their doors."

Between rising costs and historic drought, more and more Hawai'i farmers are being forced to call it quits. 2008 has been the driest year in more than 80 years—30 percent drier than the last record-setting year in 1926. Okimoto said that agricultural strife extends well outside of the farming industry.

"If there's no greenery, there's no food, there are no great chefs, no food retail, no tourism," Okimoto said. "We start the chain in economic viability in the state and we need help to be able to work as one economic engine."

Farming leaders say that agriculture remains a major talking point among stumping politicians, but that once the elections are over, they fail to take action.

"Agriculture has been forgotten," said Buddy Nobriga, who runs Nobriga Ranch in Hilo. He said that local interests are increasingly ignored in favor of imports from the mainland that drive up costs for Hawai'i farmers and deliver lower-quality product to residents.

"Who allowed milk from the mainland to come in and be called fresh? And why?" he asked. "It's not true."

Nobriga said operating costs are also higher than ever, as much of the livestock raised here is shipped to the mainland to be slaughtered, then shipped back to Hawai'i. Even though oil prices are down for now, many farmers say the elevated cost of gasoline over the summer showed them that they won't be able to remain in business if and when prices spike again. On top of that, fertilizer is more expensive than ever, and there are few people speaking out on the farmers' behalf.

"We have the smallest Depart-



ment of Agriculture of any state in the nation," Nobriga said. "Agriculture is big business in Hawai'i but we've let those things fall to the wayside."

He said he wants to see a greater push for consumers to buy local, a state agency to monitor the quality of imported milk, ramped up communications between state officials and leaders at the U.S. Department of Agriculture and other federal agencies, and a slew of other measures that would result in better oversight of and protection for the farming industry. He also said he believes a focus on alternative energy sources will keep costs down and entice a younger generation to return to farming, developing innovative energy solutions.

But the economic constraints that farmers face are part of the larger scale economic downturn, as legislators work with dwindling funds and try to stretch the dollar more than ever during a recession.

"One of the top issues we're facing is the budget deficit," said Rep. Kyle Yamashita (D-Upcoun-

try Maui), who was on the Committee on Agriculture for four years and is now a member of the Committee on Water, Land and Ocean Resources. "We're going to be looking at the core services of agriculture and that's usually health and safety and those kinds of things, but agriculture does have an economic impact and the economy is going to be one of the top issues we're facing besides the budget. We have to look at everything from a defensive point of view. We start to look at things as far as bang for the buck, try to find out where the fat is and where the money is being wasted."

Farmers repeatedly express the need for fiscal aid from the government, but Yamashita said he wants to work with farmers to explore ways the government can help without spending money—whether through procedural changes or reallocation of resources.

Matsuda said that what her family's North Shore farm needs most has more to do with time than money. She said that while

people can buy Kahuku Farms products—jams, dried fruits and so forth—online, allowing tours of the farm would represent a huge boon to business.

"We need to be able to evolve into agrotourism to remain viable," she said. "We've been stuck in the permitting process for three years and we still can't allow in the public despite numerous requests from around the world. We need strong debate to hash out guidelines and to streamline the approval process."

Matsuda said that protecting Hawai'i's farms isn't just about protecting business interests but is also a matter of enriching the community and preserving a thing of beauty across the Islands.

"We're at a point where there are so many children who think a banana comes from Costco," she said. "With the proper permits, we can educate them. And something happens to a person when they're at a farm. They're out in the fresh air, walking on the dirt and really seeing things grow. There is nothing like it."

Holiday Greetings

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Education

Despite a sagging state economy, the University of Hawai'i-West O'ahu still plans to build a new campus.

'Ewa onward

ALBERT LANIER

With the state officially in a recession and the nation economically malnourished, it might seem like an inopportune time to embark on a massive construction and development project.

Don't tell that to Gene Awakuni, the chancellor of the University of Hawai'i-West O'ahu. Awakuni and the UH system are moving ahead with plans for a ground breaking ceremony on Jan. 14 to signal the commencement of construction of the long-awaited permanent campus.

And the phrase "long-awaited" is not hyperbole. The college—which currently has an enrollment of 800 students—has been in need of a full-scale college campus since it was founded in 1976.

Since 1976, the school's students, faculty and staff have had to settle for classrooms and offices located in portable buildings on the grounds of Leeward Community College. Initially, the school was housed on one end of the LCC parking lot for a number of years until the buildings were relocated to its current site: a plot of land in front of the Leeward Community College Theatre.

While numerous plans have been floated by the UH Board of Regents over the years, the plan currently consists of a campus built in Kapolei as part of a "University Village" development. The project is essentially a public-private partnership, with businesses and commercial properties nearby in addition to residential housing units going up in the area.

If the UH system's plan to move forward with building a new West O'ahu campus during fiscally tough times was the only obstacle to progress, then it might still be money well spent.

Unfortunately, finding the money to spend on the implementation of the larger University Village project will be an even bigger hurdle to overcome.

As part of this public-private partnership, El Paso, Tex.-based developer The Hunt Companies had been initially chosen in February 2006 to build the new UH-West O'ahu Campus and develop the nearby University Village through its subsidiary, Hawai'i Renaissance Builders (HRB), but was forced to

back out of the project last July.

Plans currently call for the campus to be built on 202 acres of lands that are part of 500 acres owned by the University of Hawai'i (according to Awakuni, the university owns 1,491 acres in Kapolei in total) and set aside for the overall project. Fifty-three acres are slated for the University Village development, 105 acres for commercial and retail space and 193 acres for housing that includes 24 acres for an elementary school and park and 11 acres of infrastructure including a storm drain.

"There were significant and alarming changes in the state of the financial markets and of the general economy...certain assumptions that were made at the time [UH-West O'ahu's developer] was selected became no longer applicable."

According to Hunt Companies spokeswoman Stephanie Sierra, HRB pieced together a "comprehensive development team," which included design consultants, engineers, architects and planners to work on the project and put together a master plan. The planning and design costs for the over a year and half spent on the project totaled more than \$2 million.

In an e-mailed response, Sierra told *Honolulu Weekly* that the HRB and Hunt Companies officially pulled out of the project after the formal purchase agreement executed between the two parties—initially put into effect in

August 2007—expired on June 30 of this year after three extensions were given.

"There were significant and alarming changes in the state of the financial markets and of the general economy in the first half of 2008," Sierra said. "Certain fundamental assumptions that were made at the time Hunt was selected as developer became no longer applicable."

Sierra noted that "large land development financing" which was financially feasible in 2007 has "all but disappeared in 2008 due mostly to the credit crunch."

Sierra also said that the purchase agreement contained "a multitude of significant issues unresolved as the project progressed through the zoning process" and that these unresolved issues married to the ongoing erosion of the market forced the company to "proceed toward closing the transaction."

The departure of the Hunt Company is a major blow in that it took a potential \$100 million dollars away from the project—money that would have provided the core funding for the UH-West O'ahu campus.

However, Awakuni is undeterred by the pull-out of the project's developer. An academic who served in teaching and academic posts at University of California-Irvine, Columbia University and Stanford University before coming back home to Hawai'i in 2005 to take the chancellor's post, Awakuni has experience with college campus development; he served on site-selection committees for the University of California's then-planned Merced and Channel Islands campuses.

Awakuni pointed to the Honolulu City Council's vote last month to finally re-zone the acreage slated for the project in Kapolei from agricultural to mixed-use commercial and residential. "It automatically made our project viable," stated Awakuni.

Awakuni said that the decision has dramatically improved the value of the land. He notes that land formerly worth \$1-2 per square foot is now worth \$30 a square foot. "I get calls from prospective buyers every day" said Awakuni.

In fact, the college has offered 55 acres of land near North-South Road to buyers interested in retail or commercial space. Sales are slated to bring in anywhere from \$40-50 million, according to Awakuni. ■

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STATE OF THE ARTS

Honolulu's art community, dragged down by recession, fights for every dollar.

ADRIENNE LAFRANCE

Art, in many ways, is vanishing from our daily lives. Our bed sheets are mostly mass-produced in faraway factories, our fishing nets and hammocks are stitched by machines and our lives are filled with that things that are inorganic, synthetic, industrial and utterly replaceable.

Of course it's not that we prefer that stuff. It's about what's convenient, cheap, ubiquitous and utilitarian. It's also inherited as part of social progress—in the same way that the Enlightenment gave way to the Industrial Revolution, kapa gave way to cotton and vinyl records were replaced with CDs—with all the scratchy, imperfect beauty that is lost along the way.

Still, we remain surrounded by art and its beauty. It's in the splashes of color that brighten the walls of Chinatown's little galleries, the bold, clean strings of the Honolulu Symphony, the curvature of a handmade surfboard and the sway in a kumu hula's hips.

But at a time when the pace of progress is burdened by the weight of recession, the very nature of the arts—along with the kind of funding that makes art available to the masses—hangs in the balance. And while the language used to describe a recession is about dropping, diminishing, falling and slowing, economic strife is in many ways about simply standing still, unable to move forward as deterioration sets in.

The Honolulu arts community, like many of those desperate to stabilize and survive through an economically devastating period, finds itself marked by anxiety in the week before the Gov. Linda Lingle plans to unveil details of her proposed budget. Even in economic prosperity, arts organizations scramble to secure adequate funding and the dire financial climate has many worried that Lingle will approve recommendations to drastically slash appropriations for the arts. It comes at a time when already cash-strapped institutions are running out of ways to generate enough funds to stave off layoffs and substantial reductions to programs and other services. Several arts organizations have made staff cuts already this year, with no guarantee that more aren't coming. The Bishop Museum eliminated more than a dozen positions in June, the Contemporary Museum laid off 25 employees—which represents more than half of its staff—in September and the Honolulu Academy of Arts cut jobs in October.

"It's very serious."

We had to downsize," said Honolulu Academy of Arts Director Stephen Little. "Probably since June, through downsizing and attrition, we've gone down by 18 in staff. It is painful. No one knows where the economy is going right now and the best we can do is to plan a number of different options and just play it by ear. We're lucky that we have an endowment."

Little said he can't speak to the amount that the endowment—which was at \$59

million in January 2008—has diminished, but said it has suffered significant enough losses to necessitate October's lay offs and the hiring of a new investment manager to oversee the endowment. Even so, Little said the Academy is aiming to double its endowment and until it has what it considers to be adequate funds, more cuts could take place.

"The situation is sufficiently unpredictable that anything is possible and that's true for all museums," he said. "Survival in these times is going to hinge on the degree to which people can think carefully about their programs and their mission and that's what we're doing right now."

It's a common experience across the arts community as financial boards working with institution directors are forced to find out just how far their dollars can be stretched and, in turn, which expenses are too costly to maintain. Many groups are awaiting word on whether Lingle will move forward with proposed cuts to the State Foundation of Culture and the Arts Biennium Grants program. The grants, many of which go toward art education programs, are dependent on the fiscal appropriations from the Legislature. Lingle has until Monday, the deadline for submitting the executive budget, to disclose specifics. But the arts community has already rallied together to speak out about how much of a blow to the arts eliminating state funding for the grants program would be.

"It's very serious," said David de la Torre, executive director of the Mission Houses Museum. "The governor is talking about zeroing out the grants program. I mean

zero. And on top of the state funds, the federal grants have a matching requirement, so if we are losing the state funding, we're losing the federal funding, too. At one point, we were number one per capita in the nation for arts funding but the governor really has a philosophy which I think is in conflict with the arts community."

Hawai'i Arts Alliance Executive Director Marilyn Cristofori said eliminating the funds would also remove the possibility of an additional \$28.2 million in federal funding eligibility.

"The money from those grants is matched 12 to one," she said. "We also know there are private agencies that are saying, 'when you get the state funding, we are ready to match.' So we're not just talking about losing state and federal funds—it's private money, too."

Lingle's staff insists any talk about allocation of funds—for the grant program or otherwise—is purely speculative at this point.

"No final decisions have been made," said Lingle spokesman Russell Pang. "A lot of rumors are going around but it's really premature to talk about this."

Pang later acknowledged that balancing the budget during a time when so many organizations and individuals need financial aid makes for a series of difficult decisions.

"It's important that the public and the non-governmental organizations that traditionally relied on state funds in the past understand that nothing is off the table when it comes to reducing government spending," he wrote in an e-mail. "The significantly



lower revenues projected by the Council on Revenues and the current national and global economic conditions means we are not operating in a 'business as usual' model."

The art of survival

But local arts leaders aren't backing down. On Dec. 4, the Contemporary Museum's education curator, Quala-Lynn Young, sent a letter appealing to Lingle for the preservation of the grant program, which the museum uses to fund educational initiatives like the Art of the Wall project, which attracted more than 500 students last year and is free to public and charter schools.

"Of the projected 600 children and youth taking part in this year's program," Young wrote, "we estimate that at least 50 percent will be at-risk youth and/or economically disadvantaged."

Meantime, many museums are struggling to secure funding for maintenance and other renovations that extend beyond standard operations, let alone special education programs. The Bishop Museum is two years into a major renovation to Hawaiian Hall—which will house the world's largest collection of Hawaiian artifacts and is set to reopen in August 2009—but hasn't even secured enough money to pay for the completion of the project.

"With the Hawaiian Hall restoration, that in itself is \$21 million," said museum spokeswoman Dona-

"Driven by financial need, we may discover some of the things we've given up for the sake of convenience during economic boom times."

lyn Dela Cruz. "We're still \$6 million short. We are a popular visitor attraction and we haven't seen in a big decline in those numbers, but what people don't realize is that we're non-profit, so we're always looking for grants to continue."

It's a concern that reverberates across the arts community: the visitors are still there but funding that comes from revenue other than ticket sales is waning, which represents a loss of money that, in many cases, makes up hefty portions of operational budgets.

Diamond Head Theatre Executive Director Deena Dray said that, in terms of ticket sales, the fall season has actually been an immense success.

"We had a very strong run with *Les Misérables* and we are having very good success with *Peter Pan*," she said. "Shows that people really care about and are appropriate for these times in a lot of ways. *Les Misérables* is about hope and redemption, *Peter Pan* has that childhood magic and Never Neverland and it makes people feel good. People

want to get away from the recessions, bailouts and all the rest of it. The arts make people connect and make people feel good. We need to feed people's souls in addition to taking care of their other needs. But when the needs of everyone else are clamoring to be met, it's hard to make the case that the arts are important after all."

Even the revenue from a successful season of ticket sales covers less than half of the cost for Diamond Head Theatre to operate.

"Fundraising is where we're really going to feel it," said Dray. "People are going to make some tough choices and even big companies have only so much money to be philanthropic."

Scaling back

As corporate sponsors and private donors tighten their belts, non-profits continue to feel the pinch. Despite winning one of five \$5,000 arts grant from the Mayor's Office of Culture and the Arts over the summer, IONA Contemporary Dance Theater is

still vastly underfunded. It missed its October fundraising goal by \$25,000. For smaller operations like IONA, that amount can make or break a season.

"We're trying to recoup that loss and it's really challenging," said IONA founder and director Cheryl Flaharty. "We've lost a second grant from the state so that, coupled with the economy, it means we can only do one show."

On top of scaling back the scope of its season, financial constraints mean IONA has to simplify the performances themselves. They can't afford venues like the Hawaii Theatre.

"This could be the end of proscenium shows for us," Flaharty said. "It's just too expensive—a lighting board, a sound board, rigging, all of the things that require a crew—basically we've moved to shows where you just have to turn the lights on and turn the lights off and that person can probably operate the sound system at the same time. These venues aren't as highly theatrical or as polished but I think it's the direction a lot of the performing arts are going to have to go."

Despite difficulties, downsizing beats the alternative, which is still not out of the question.

"I have been struggling for 18 years and it's always been hard but now it's crossing my mind, that I hope I don't lose the company," Flaharty said. "It's a legacy of work here in Hawai'i and it's always been a struggle, but this is particularly bad."

From blank canvases

Of any group, professional artists are perhaps best seasoned in the unpredictability of what can be a brutal way to scrape together a living. They have starved, suffered and in many cases accomplished what others swore would be impossible. As a result, plenty of local artists see dismal conditions not only as something that can be coped with but as something that can be turned into a thing of beauty. Indeed, the very nature of art involves making something from nothing, or find-

ing value or connectivity in otherwise unimportant or unrelated materials. Artists turn blank canvases into vivid masterpieces, musical notes into symphonies, lumps of clay into sculpture, urinals into social critique and even excrement into something that people pay to see. Perhaps it is that quality that allows so many members of the artistic community to embrace this moment as an opportunity to carve out a new direction for Honolulu's social and artistic identity.

"I hate to be optimistic, but recession could be a blessing," said Rich Richardson, creative director of the ARTS at Marks Garage. "You know I'm kind of hoping people rely upon their own creative impulses to keep them entertained as opposed to consumer impulses, learning a new instrument instead of going to the mall to buy the latest gadget. Maybe it will force us to be more self-reliant. Instead of going to the latest restaurant, I've been spending more time learning how to make a soup. Driven by financial need, we may discover some of the things we've given up for the sake of convenience during economic boom times. And some of this may not be art per se but it's a more creative time and that may lead to a happier existence. I hope that's the spirit we can lean on instead of doom and gloom."

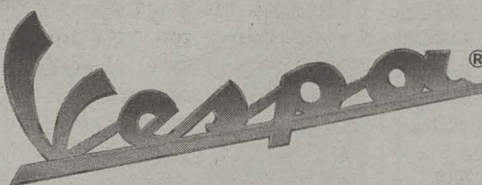
As people across the world simplify their lives to cope with economic hardship, Richardson said he and his friends in the Honolulu arts community keep returning to the sense that art and artistic expression, as components of the human experience, are as essential as food and water.

"Art is the next step beyond mere subsistence," he said. "Let's say you have food, clothing and shelter. After you get your fire warmed up at night, what do you do? You tell a story, or you draw a diagram of the hunt. I'm using kind of a caveman analogy because that's how intrinsically human it is, how integral the way we feel about art is to the human experience. Once you take away what isn't essential, art is one of the few things that remains." ■

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hot picks

DECEMBER 17-23 Gigs 10 Concerts & Clubs/On Sale/Theater & Dance/Museums 12 Galleries 20 Words/Learning/Keiki & 'Ohana 16 Botanical/Hikes & Excursions/Food & Drink/Whatever/Volunteer/Sports/Neighbors/Gay/Mixed Media 21 Films 22

Dance



Goin' nuts with *Nutcracker*.

Which nut to crack

As you read this, somewhere someone is trying to make fruitcake palatable. Someone is buying a totally inappropriate gift for his wife. And we'd bet our mistletoe that somebody is trying to figure out the difference between the various versions of the other holiday staple, *Nutcracker*. We'll try to help you out here. Hawai'i State Ballet showcases their talented young students at Mamiya Theatre. Hawai'i Ballet Theatre casts more than one hundred dancers at Leeward Community College.

Ballet Hawai'i features live music from the Honolulu Symphony, performs at the Blaisdell and flies in major stars from companies across the country. Yes, there's a reason the ticket prices are a little higher. This year they nabbed island favorites Joan Boada from the San Francisco Ballet as the cavalier and Megan Fairchild as the Sugar Plum Fairy, plus dancers from the Carolina Ballet, American Ballet Theatre and Diablo Ballet. Local performers include theater vet Ben Moffat as Mother Ginger and University of Hawai'i Dance Department Chair Gregg Lizenbery debuts as Drosselmeyer. The Hawai'i Youth Opera Chorus also takes part, both in the production and as pre-show entertainment.

Order tickets online and check out the auction for front-row seats. If you win, you also get a pair of signed pointe shoes and a chance to meet the stars. Good luck!

—B.M.

Blaisdell Concert Hall, 777 Ward Ave., Fri. 12/19, 8PM, Sat. 12/20, 7:30PM & Sun. 12/21, 2PM, \$35-\$75, opening night gala with post-show reception \$150, ticketmaster.com, 521-8600

Theater

Bad santa

Sorry to break it to you, but something is rotten at the North Pole. Dasher, the boss buck, is the leader of the pack but he still resents Rudolph's intrusion that one foggy Christmas eve. Ego-centric Prañcer now goes by the moniker "Hollywood" after that whole movie was made about him and he's bitter about racism in L.A. Cupid is flamboyantly gay, Blitzen's an outspoken feminist, Dancer hates her job, Comet's an ex-junkie and Donner is a pitiful, guilt-ridden father.

In Jeff Goode's 1994 play *The Eight: Reindeer Monologues* you can find out more than you probably ever wanted to know about the most beloved sleigh movers on earth as well as exactly what they think of Saint Nick who's been accused by Vixen, the slut, of sexual harassment (never mind bestiality). This isn't your typical Will Ferrell, Tim Allen happy-elf fare; nothing is sacred. If you like your Christmas dark, dry and scandalously funny then jingle your unmerry bells to the Hawai'i Repertory Theatre in Nu'uano for an evening of tell-all monologues that might make you think twice about leaving out cookies this year. The show—recommended for mature audiences of course—is directed by Hannah Schauer Galli.

—Becky Maltby

Kawananakoa Backstage Theatre, 49 Funchal St., Fri 12/19 through Sun 1/4, Fri & Sat 7:30PM, Sun 3:30PM, \$15-\$25, hawaiiireptheatre.org, 545-7170

Keiki & 'Ohana

Water world

Take a ride. Sorry, not on a mustache (Movember was last month, remember? And you missed the '70s by about 20 years), but on a boat. Holiday-themed and all. As a community service of the U.S. Navy, National Park Service and Arizona Memorial Museum Association, the **Free Holiday Festival of Lights Pearl Harbor Boat Tours** will be offered the weekend before Christmas. You'll be treated to a soundtrack of Christmas music to enhance the cozy holiday family activity. Imagine the scenario: the boat lights, the sounds of Christmas, the company of your loved ones. And don your Christmas sweaters—preferably over turtle-necks (the family photos will look better that way). It may be Hawai'i, but being near the water at night can get a bit nippy.

While capturing the memories of family togetherness, bear in mind

that no camera bags, purses or "other items that offer concealment" are allowed aboard the boats or in the visitor center. Photographing security personnel and patrol boats is also prohibited, but you can take photos on your tour boat and of the decorated ships. So, have free family fun at orange alert levels!

Boat ride tickets will be distributed starting at 6PM on each boat tour day. Remember the holiday spirit and try not to elbow your way to the front, even if it is for the sake of the children.

—Margot Seeto

USS Arizona Memorial Visitors Center, Fri 12/19–Sun 12/21, 6:30PM, 6:45PM, 7:15PM, 7:30PM, 8PM, additional ride at 8:15PM on Sat & Sun, free, all ages, 422-2771, ext. 110

Concerts

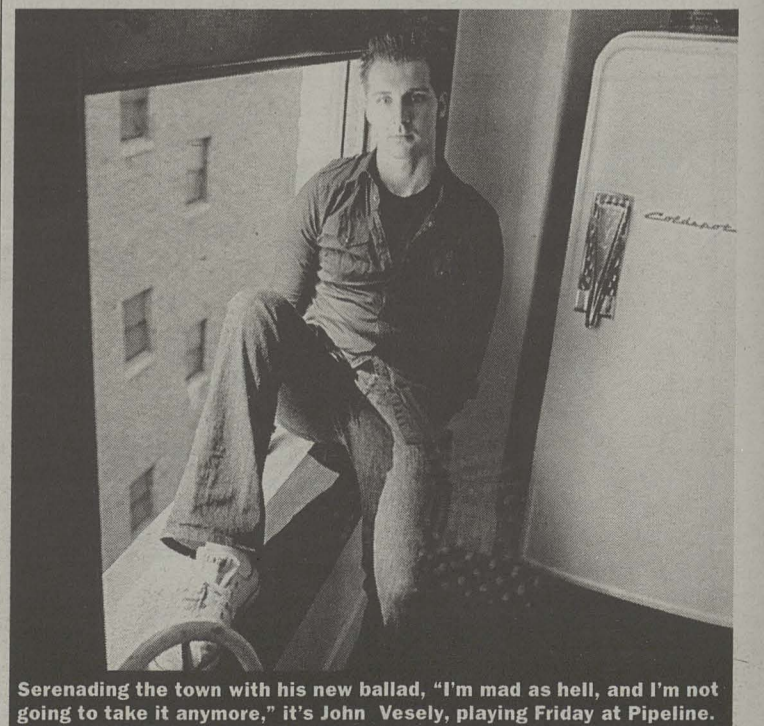
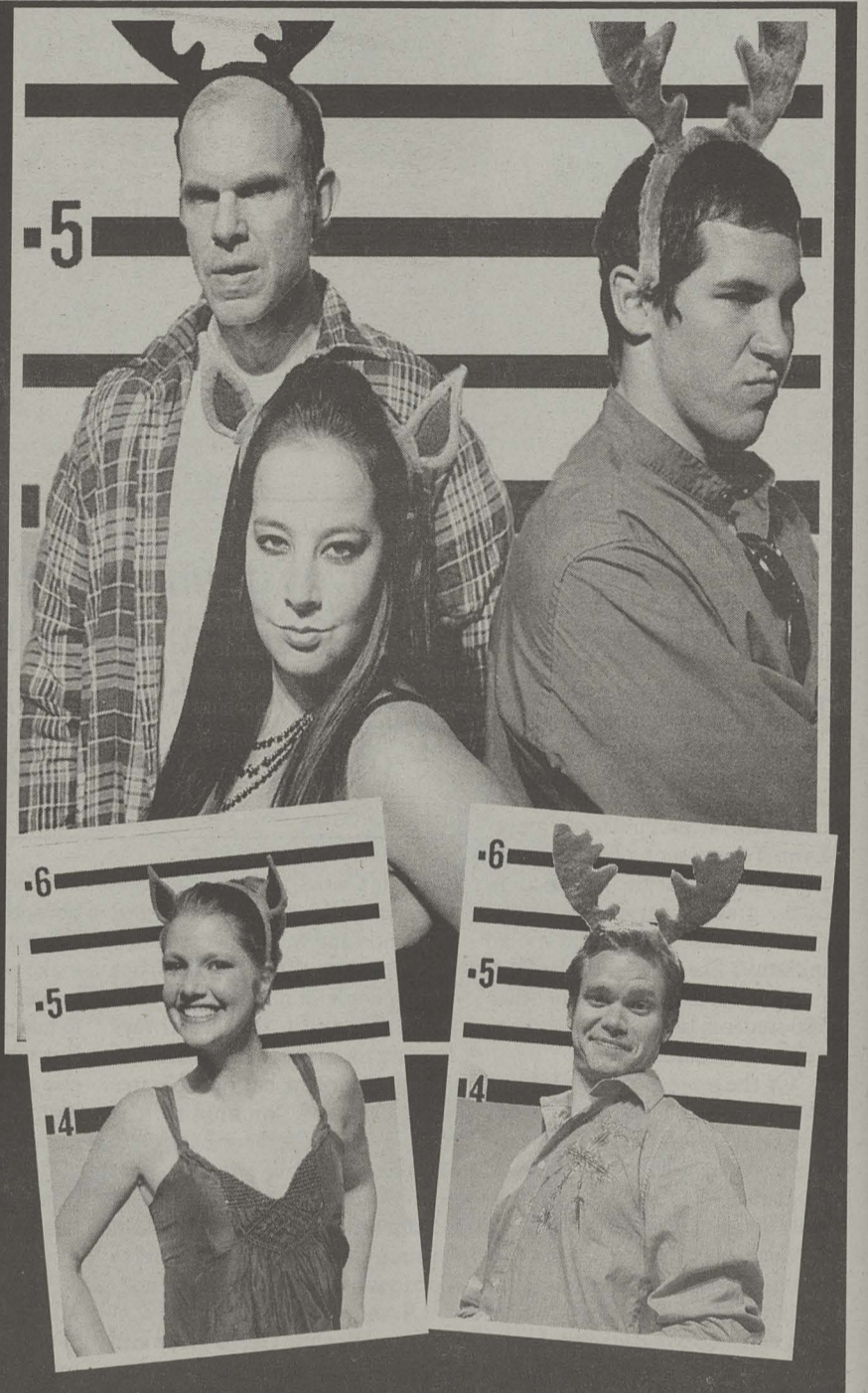
An earful of serenades

Ahh, love, sweet love. It makes us do crazy things. Some of us display irrational behavior,

some run and hide, others...well, they write songs about it. Then they get record deals and give themselves names that confuse us into thinking they are a band.

Such is the case with **Secondhand Serenade**. Otherwise known as John Vesely, this one-man cooing machine is going around the country wooing

women, young and old. And picking up some male fans along the way. His sophomore effort, *A Twist In My Story*, is still acoustically driven, but Vesely takes it to the next level with vocal layering and the tinkling of a piano, plus a "bunch of different styles of songs." With producers Danny Lohner (Nine Inch Nails)



Serenading the town with his new ballad, "I'm mad as hell, and I'm not going to take it anymore," it's John Vesely, playing Friday at Pipeline.

and Butch Walker (Fall Out Boy) on his creative team, his sound is ready to melt your steely heart.

According to his MySpace page, Vesely attributes his success to none other than his fans. "Nothing in my career would be possible without my fans backing me. They are the most important people in terms of any success I have or will ever have."

Opening for Secondhand Serenade is Joshua Radin, a self-declared independent acoustic artist. Reminiscent of earlier works by Damien Rice and John Mayer, he's paving the way on his own by landing sweet gigs (he played at the Ellen DeGeneres/Portia de Rossi wedding...awesome!), having a popular web presence and making regular touring rounds.

If you can handle swooning young girls and cuddling lovers, you may just enjoy yourself. Maybe falling in love with music doesn't hurt so much after all.

—Darby Murphy

Pipeline Cafe, 805 Pōhukaina Street, Fri, 12/19, 8PM, \$25-\$50, ticketmaster.com, pipelinecafehawaii.com, 589-1999

Wrap music

So, work and weather and whatever else kept you away from the North Shore's annual freakout this year? No worries—there's still a chance to get out to the country and soak up the spirit of surfing's season at Sunday's **Steinlager Surfest 2008**. Billed as the "official wrap concert of the Vans Triple Crown," the afternoon show features some familiar names from the local and international reggae scene, plus the opportunity to check out babes and drink beer.

Headlining the show at Kualoa Ranch is longtime dancehall king pin Barrington Levy, whose long struggle to gain U.S. commercial success still hasn't quite panned out, though he did get some attention here when he recorded and toured with the remaining members of Sublime after Bradley Nowell's death. After more than two decades of success in Jamaica and the U.K., Levy's still waiting for a breakthrough in this country.

Sharing the stage is Eek-A-Mouse. If you don't know who Eek-A-Mouse is, you probably don't care.

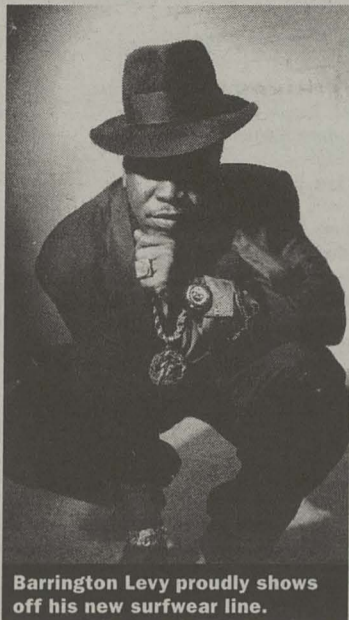
And Ooklah the Moc. Same thing with them, at least if you've been living here any amount of time. Although does anyone know whether this band's name, which is taken from the name of a cartoon character, is derived from pronouncing the initials of the University of California, Los Angeles out loud as though it was a word? We've always thought so.

—Ragnar Carlson

Kualoa Ranch, Sun 12/21, 1PM, \$20, presaleticketsonline.com.

A man for new seasons

The winter solstice occurs early Sunday morning this year. At 2:05AM, in fact, making Saturday night the best time to celebrate the beginning of winter.



Barrington Levy proudly shows off his new surfwear line.

Which is weird, right? Why do we mark the beginning of winter at the moment that the days actually start getting longer? The seasons aren't scientific, you know: they're cultural. Only the solstices and equinoxes are based on astronomical measurements. So given that, shouldn't winter be drawn so that it's mostly the part of the year where the days get shorter and darker and colder?

Maybe it should start six weeks earlier, in November, and then run through early February. Spring could last until the beginning of May, which would mean that the summer solstice would fall in the middle of summer, not on the very first day of it. That way, summer would be a process of days getting longer at first, then peaking, then receding a little bit. As it is, the days start getting shorter on the first day of summer and longer on the first day of winter. Ridiculous.

Fortunately for humankind, *Honolulu Weekly* has now sorted all of this out and reorganized the seasons in a much more sensible way. So let's all meet at the **Celtic Waves** show on Saturday night. We'll listen to some awesome traditional Celtic music, celebrate the solstice and discuss my idea.

—R.C.

Atherton Performing Arts Studio, 738 Kaheka St, Sat 12/20, 7:30PM, \$10-\$20, hawaiipublicradio.org



When Irish eyes are... squinting? Celtic Waves play the Atherton.

Comedy

Show me the hypno

Hypnosis is a trance-like state brought on by a series of suggestions to help focus attention and achieve a heightened suggestibility, most often induced by a hypnotist. The American Medical Association recognizes hypnotherapy as having legitimate medical benefits. People do this to lose weight, quit smoking and even to become successful. Others do it to make themselves look like fools in front of a bunch of strangers. If that sounds enticing, or just being a voyeur to the hilarity is enough, **Ken Whitener's Show Me the Funny Tour**, presented by Sharkey's Comedy Club, will satiate either need.

Whitener's show is an avant-garde blend of the human psyche and eye-popping theater. After touring nationally and internationally with appearances on Fox, CBS and ABC, among others, Whitener brings his award-winning comedy show to O'ahu and will use the audience as his stars.

Skeptics of the world don't really have a lot of fun. They didn't believe man walked on the moon and they certainly didn't believe your story of meeting Bob Saget at a strip club. More importantly, they think hypnosis is a sham. Well, the jokes on them. Whether you believe in the power of hypnosis or not, watching people made to think they are Mickey Mouse in the name of mind-controlling comedy is possibly the funniest thing you could do short of getting drunk and pretending to be him yourself.

—Daniel Lee Floren

Sharkey's Comedy Club, Sheraton Princess Kai'ulani Hotel, 120 Kai'ulani Ave., 12/18-12/19, 8PM, \$25, HawaiiComedyTheater.com, 531-4242

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nightshift



Expanding horizons

IT'S OFTEN TRUE that the best places are found off the beaten path. Sure, you can find hot spots that are filled to capacity, but it's often more because of location than atmosphere. What sets a great place apart from the others is recognizing the delicate balance of the two. **J Bistro & Wine** understands both, and they're ready to cater to others who understand as well.

Located in the blink-and-you'll-miss-it location of the Doubletree Alana Hotel, it has two rooms and two floors to work with. Though primarily a restaurant, GM Jamie Robinson has a vision to make J one of the required stops on the edge of Waikiki.

Robinson has some experience at making that happen, working some of the premiere spots in Honolulu, and even helping mold them into the legends they are today. Getting his start from opening Brew Moon, Robinson's moved onto hot spots like the Mai Tai Bar, Sam Choy's and Sansei, starting beloved promotions such as the Mai Tai Rumble, Bitchin' Kitchen and All Funked Up.

"I like the challenge of starting something new," said Robinson. "I want to create the newest vibe and make it a different experience than you've ever had before. I know I can throw a damn good party, and if I don't have action, I get bored. Once I start doing the same thing as everybody else, I should quit. What I want is to make a place where you can come three nights a week, and it will be a different experience each time."

Robinson's newest idea? A service industry night, but with a twist. Instead of offering the staples, he's

trying to expand your horizons, offering 50 percent off a bottle of wine, provided said bottle's original price is more than \$50.

"When I started drinking beer," Robinson explains, "I liked things like Coors Light and Bud Light. Eventually, I learned to appreciate beer and how it should taste and look like. I still like an occasional Coors Light, but I like to try beers that I haven't had before. It's the same thing with wine, because when you start sampling, you grow a much bigger appreciation, and that helps you reach a new level. What I'm doing is giving them the opportunity to try something new without hurting them financially."

Already offering a wine tasting on Sunday evenings from 5-8pm, Robinson hopes to expand that crowd by offering specials that appeal to people more interested in a good time and social environment instead of the place with the cheapest Jägermeister shots—although Jäger, along with any other liquor that has the letter J in it, is also 50 percent off. Mint juleps, anyone? Need another reason to go out? Free valet parking makes it that much easier.

"I'm trying to bring in different concepts," Robinson said. "We're not known, which I love. It means I get to try something new. This being Hawai'i, people love new things, and I think I can give them that."

—Dean Carrico

J BISTRO & WINE

1956 Ala Moana Blvd., Doubletree Alana Hotel

Getting in: Mon-Thu 5PM-closing; Fri-Sun 5PM-4AM

Dress code: None, but you might want to class it up a bit

Soundtrack: Varies, live music on Wednesday nights

Signature drink: Mango Dream Martinis, scotch

Sightings: Daniel Dae Kim

Gigs

17/Wednesday

COMEDY

Bo Irvine, Chief Sielu, Kento-san, Michael Staats, Comedy Polynesia at the Sheraton Princess Ka'iulani (8pm) 531-HAHA
Kenny Johnson, Shawn Felipe, Arthur Wayne, Sharkey's Comedy Club at the Sheraton Princess Ka'iulani (9:30pm) 531-HAHA

COUNTRY/FOLK

The Geezers, Arnold's Beach Bar (7pm) 924-6887

HAWAIIAN

Little Albert, Hyatt Regency (6:30pm) 923-1234

Cory Oliveros, Sarah Noyle, Breakfast on the Beach, Waikiki Beach Hotel (7:15am) 922-2511

Typical Hawaiians, Ryan's Grill (9pm) 591-9132

Guy Imoto, Indigo (8pm) 521-2900

Kahalepuna Trio, Sheraton Waikiki (6pm) 922-4422

Sam Kapu Trio, Banyan Court, Moana Surf-riders (6pm) 922-3111

Lawrence Kidder, Beach Bar, Moana Surf-riders (8pm) 921-4600

Mallani Makainai, Hula Grill (7pm) 923-HULA

Kawika Ortiz, Amuse Wine Bar (7pm) 237-5429

Tahiti Rey Trio, RumFire (5pm)

Royal Hawaiian Band, Kapolei Hale (12pm) 922-5331

Ellsworth Simeona, Duke's Waikiki (4pm) 922-2268

Ray Sowders, Chili's Kapolei (7pm) 693-8722

Haumea Warrington, Duke's Waikiki (10pm) 922-2268

JAZZ/BLUES

Abe Lagrimas, Noel Okimoto, Honolulu Club (6:30pm) 543-3916

Shoji Ledward, Brasserie Du Vin (7pm) 545-1115

David Yamasaki Quartet, Diamond Head Grill (8pm) 922-1700

ROCK/POP

2 Point 5, Chart House (7pm) 941-6660

Mark Caldeira, Pearl Ultra Lounge, Ala Moana Center (6pm) 944-8000

Guy Cruz and Friends, OnStage Drinks & Grinds (9pm) 306-7799

Unscene Foundation, Indigo (7pm) 521-2900

Gabe "Aku" Compehos, Doubletree Alana Waikiki Hotel (7pm) 941-7275

Kimo Opiana, Mai Tai Bar, Ala Moana (4pm) 947-2900

Tom Patrick, Muddy Waters Espresso (7pm) 254-2004

Piranha Brothers, Irish Rose Saloon (9pm) 947-3414

Doolin Rakes, Kelley O'Neil's (9pm) 926-1777

Roland & Co., Chart House (7pm) 941-6660

Rock Steady, Mai Tai Bar, Ala Moana (9:30pm) 947-2900

Tavana & Friends, O'Toole's Pub (9pm) 536-4138

Bongo Tribe, Snappers (9pm) 947-8057

WORLD/REGGAE

All Garcia, Mexico Lindo (6pm) 263-0055

18/Thursday

COMEDY

Shawn Felipe, Brew Moon (8pm) 593-0088

HAWAIIAN

3 Scoops of Aloha, Sheraton Waikiki (6pm) 922-4422

THE SCENE

"Auntie Pudge" Young, Kūbiō Beach Hula Stage

(6:30pm) 843-8002

Cory Oliveros, Shauna Sanborn, Breakfast on the Beach, Waikiki Beach Hotel (7:15am) 922-2511

Lawrence Kidder, Duke's Waikiki (10pm) 922-2268

Eric Lee, Beach Bar, Moana Surf-riders (8pm) 921-4600

Makana, RumFire (5pm)

Pa'ahana Trio, Banyan Court, Moana Surf-riders (6pm) 922-3111

Tahiti Rey Trio, Hyatt Regency (6:30pm) 923-1234

Ray Sowders, Chili's Kapolei (7pm) 693-8722

Sheila Waiwaiole & Mara Sagpolu, Hula Grill (7pm) 923-HULA

Dayton Watanabe, Mai Tai Bar, Ala Moana (6pm) 947-2900

JAZZ/BLUES

Amber Ricci, Dragonfly, The Wonder Lounge, W Hotel (8pm) 922-3734

Stewart Cunningham, Hank's Cafe (8:30pm) 526-1410

David Yamasaki, Cheryl Bartlett, Honolulu Club (5pm) 543-3916

Windward Jazz Trio, Cisco's Cantina (8pm) 262-7337

Miki's Mayhem, Jazz Minds Arts & Cafe (9pm) 945-0800

Newjazz Quartet, Sansei Seafood Restaurant & Sushi Bar (10pm) 536-6286

Chris Yeh Quartet w/ Satomi, The Dragon Upstairs (8pm) 526-1411

Starr Kalakahi, Adj Lagossa, Ben Taaca, Uncle's Fish Market & Grill (6pm) 275-0063

Steve Lucas, Nando Suan & Friends, Higher Ground (7pm)

Bop Tribal, Gordon Biersch (7pm) 599-4877

Russell Yuen, Pearl Ultra Lounge, Ala Moana Center (6pm) 944-8000

ROCK/POP

2 Point 5, Chart House (7:30pm) 941-6660

Barefoot Bob, Arnold's Beach Bar (6:30pm) 924-6887

Booze Bros, Kelley O'Neil's (9pm) 926-1777

Rocky Brown & Friends, Don Ho's Island Grill (5:30pm) 528-0807

"Chicago Bob" Morgonweck, Hank's Cafe (8pm) 526-1410

Johnny Helm, Hard Rock Cafe (4pm) 955-7383

Mango Jam, Chuck's Cellar (6pm) 923-4488

Piranha Brothers, Irish Rose Saloon (9pm) 947-3414

Roland & Co., Chart House (7pm) 941-6660

Soulution, O'Toole's Pub (9pm) 536-4138

Swampa ZZ, Bar 35 (10pm) 537-3837

ROCK/POP

2 Point 5, Chart House (7:30pm) 941-6660

Barefoot Bob, Arnold's Beach Bar (6:30pm) 924-6887

Booze Bros, Kelley O'Neil's (9pm) 926-1777

Rocky Brown & Friends, Don Ho's Island Grill (5:30pm) 528-0807

"Chicago Bob" Morgonweck, Hank's Cafe (8pm) 526-1410

Johnny Helm, Hard Rock Cafe (4pm) 955-7383

Mango Jam, Chuck's Cellar (6pm) 923-4488

Piranha Brothers, Irish Rose Saloon (9pm) 947-3414

Roland & Co., Chart House (7pm) 941-6660

Soulution, O'Toole's Pub (9pm) 536-4138

Swampa ZZ, Bar 35 (10pm) 537-3837

WORLD/REGGAE

Jahmaka, Mai Tai Bar, Ala Moana (9:30pm) 947-2900

19/Friday

COMEDY

Improv, Laughtrack Theater Company (8pm & 10pm) 384-3362

COUNTRY/FOLK

Saloon Pilots, Big City Diner, Kailua (8pm) 263-8880

HAWAIIAN

David Ah Sing, Kamuela Kahoano, Hula Grill (7pm) 923-HULA

Baron Bento Trio, Banyan Court, Moana Surf-riders (6pm) 922-3111

Cory Oliveros, Sarah Noyle, Breakfast on the Beach, Waikiki Beach Hotel (7:15am) 922-2511

Tiamume Duo, Hyatt Regency (8:30pm) 923-1234

Ernie Cruz Jr., Higher Ground (7pm)

Typical Hawaiians, Mai Tai Bar, Ala Moana (9:30pm) 947-2900

Kelly DeLima 'Ohana, Sheraton Waikiki (6pm) 922-4422

Mallani Makainai, Kona Brewing Co. (7pm) 394-5662

Maunaula, Duke's Waikiki (4pm) 922-2268

Naluhoe, Eastside Grill (6:30pm) 952-6555

Pa'ahana Trio, House Without a Key (5:30pm) 923-2311

Peter Milo Duo, Sam Choy's Breakfast, Lunch and Crab (6pm) 545-7979

Pilikia, Chart House (6pm) 941-6660

Royal Hawaiian Band, 'Iolani Palace (12pm) 523-4674

#2 Special, Cha Cha Cha Salsaria (7pm) 395-7797

Kelly Villaverde, Beach Bar, Moana Surf-riders (8pm) 921-4600

Haumea Warrington, Duke's Waikiki (10pm) 922-2268

JAZZ/BLUES

Stewart Cunningham, Plaza Club (5:30pm) 521-8905

Josh Dugger, The Dragon Upstairs (6:30pm) 526-1411

Pierre Grill & Ginal, The Dragon Upstairs (10pm) 526-1411

Joshua Kaye Trio, The Dragon Upstairs (9pm) 526-1411

Molokai Jazz West, Don Ho's Island Grill

(5:30pm) 528-0807

Ginny Tiu, Hanohano Room (6pm) 922-4422

Russell Yuen, Hyatt Regency (6:30pm) 923-1234

Zach, Honolulu Club (5pm) 543-3916

ROCK/POP

4D, Bob's Sports Bar (9:30pm) 263-7669

Bedroq, Da Smokehouse (7:30pm) 946-0233

Stratus Blue, OnStage Drinks & Grinds (9pm) 306-7799

Brendan, Kelley O'Neil's (1:30am) 926-1777

Dean & Dean, Chart House (9:30pm) 941-6660

Eight-O-Eight, Gordon Biersch (9pm) 599-4877

Go Jimmy Go, Anna Bannana's (9pm) 946-5190

The Mixers, O'Toole's Pub (9pm) 536-4138

Piranha Brothers, Irish Rose Saloon (9pm) 947-3414

Secondhand Sorenade, Joshua Radin, Pipeline Cafe (8pm) 589-1999

Sunway and Friends, RumFire (5pm)

Natural T, Arnold's Beach Bar (9pm) 924-6887

Bongo Tribe, Snappers Bar & Grill (9pm) 947-8057

Allon Ubaido, Amuse Wine Bar (7pm) 237-5429

WORLD/REGGAE

Eli from One Drop, Mai Tai Bar, Ala Moana (4pm) 947-2900

Hot Club of Hulaville, Cafe Che Pasta (5:30pm) 524-0004

Lion Fiyah, King Fiyah, Tropics Cafe Bar & Lounge (9pm) 927-1797

Pohaku, Kemo'o Farms, Pub (10pm) 621-1835

Rolando Sanchez & The Brown Sound Orchestra, Jazz Minds Arts & Cafe (9pm) 945-0800

Simple Souls, Pearl Ultra Lounge, Ala Moana Center (6pm) 944-8000

Natural Vibrations, Boardriders (10pm) 261-4600

20/Saturday

COMEDY

Bo Irvine, Chief Sielu, Kento-san, Michael Staats, Comedy Polynesia at the Sheraton Princess Ka'iulani (8pm) 531-HAHA

Improv, Laughtrack Theater Company (8pm & 10pm) 384-3362

Kenny Johnson, Shawn Felipe, Arthur Wayne, Sharkey's Comedy Club at the Sheraton Princess Ka'iulani (9:30pm) 531-HAHA

COUNTRY/FOLK

Chase Walker, Kemo'o Farms, Pub (9pm) 621-1835

HAWAIIAN

Nohelani Cypriano Trio, Banyan Court, Moana Surf-riders (6pm) 922-3111

Ells & Lawrence, RumFire (5pm)

Eric Lee, Shauna Sanborn, Breakfast on the Beach, Waikiki Beach Hotel (8:45am) 922-2511

Kapena, Duke's Waikiki (4pm) 922-2268

Karia Aklona Duo, Sheraton Waikiki (6pm) 922-4422

Aina Koa, Hula Grill (7pm) 923-HULA

Kumuhau, Sam Choy's Breakfast, Lunch and Crab (6pm) 545-7979

Pilikia, Chart House (7:30pm) 941-6660

Sounds of Hawai'i, Don Ho's Island Grill (5:30pm) 528-0807

Ray Sowders, Uncle's Fish Market & Grill (11:30am) 275-0063

Haumea Warrington, Duke's Waikiki (10pm) 922-2268

JAZZ/BLUES

Peter Apo & The Rainbow Nation Band, Ige's Restaurant (8pm) 486-3500

Boogie, Kona Brewing Co. (7pm) 394-5662

</

THE SCENE

Rubber Soul, Hyatt Regency (7pm) 923-1234
Natural T, Arnold's Beach Bar (9pm) 924-6887
Valient Thorr, Snappers Bar & Grill (8pm) 947-8057
Paradise XS, Kelley O'Neil's (9pm) 926-1777

WORLD/REGGAE

Guidance, Jazz Minds Arts & Cafe (9pm) 945-0800
Gwanjah, 808 SoundSystems, OnStage Drinks & Grinds (9pm) 306-7799
Kaimi, Amuse Wine Bar (7pm) 237-5429
Kawao, Mai Tai Bar, Ala Moana (9:30pm) 947-2900

21/Sunday

COUNTRY/FOLK

The Geezers, Hank's Cafe (6pm) 526-1410

HAWAIIAN

Eric Lee, Shauna Sanborn, Breakfast on the Beach, Waikiki Beach Hotel (8:45am) 922-2511
Lawrence Kidder, Duke's Waikiki (10pm) 922-2268

Aina Koa, Hula Grill (7pm) 923-HULA
Ledward Ka'apana, Kona Brewing Co. (6pm) 394-5662
Pa'ahana Trio, House Without a Key (5:30pm) 923-2311

George Kuo, Martin Pahinui & Aaron Mahi, Moana Terrace (6:30pm) 922-6611
Pu'uhonua Trio, Banyan Court, Moana Surf-riders (6pm) 922-3111
Royal Hawaiian Band, Kapi'olani Park Bandstand (2pm) 523-4674
Ray Sowers, Chili's Kapolei (7pm) 693-8722

JAZZ/BLUES

Falling Down Romance, RumFire (5pm)
Sea-Ray Jazz Quartet, Breakers, Hale'iwa (4pm) 637-9898
Rico, Arnold's Beach Bar (8pm) 924-6887

ROCK/POP

Analog, Irish Rose Saloon (9pm) 947-3414
Don Baduria, Mai Tai Bar, Ala Moana (5pm) 947-2900
Kaimana Ceili Band, Kelley O'Neil's (5pm) 926-1777

James, Jamie & Jader, O'Toole's Pub (9pm) 536-4138
Juke Joint, Hyatt Regency (6:30pm) 923-1234
Henry Kapono, Duke's Waikiki (4pm) 922-2268
Soulution, Kelley O'Neil's (9pm) 926-1777
John Valentine, Beach Bar, Moana Surf-riders (8pm) 921-4600

WORLD/REGGAE

All Garcia, Mexico Lindo (6pm) 263-0055
Conscious Roots, Chart House (8pm) 941-6660
Irie Souls, Tropics Cafe Bar & Lounge (9pm) 927-1797

22/Monday

COUNTRY/FOLK

The Geezers, Arnold's Beach Bar (7pm) 924-6887

HAWAIIAN

Beach 5 Unplugged, Hyatt Regency (6:30pm) 923-1234
Eric Lee, Shauna Sanborn, Breakfast on the Beach, Waikiki Beach Hotel (8:45am) 922-2511

Art Kalahiki, Banyan Court, Moana Surf-riders (6pm) 922-3111
Nā Kama, Hula Grill (7pm) 923-HULA
Sam Kapu Trio, Sheraton Waikiki (6pm) 922-4422

Albert Maglimat, Beach Bar, Moana Surf-riders (8pm) 921-4600
Marlena & Co., RumFire (5pm)
Pa'ahana Trio, House Without a Key (5:30pm) 923-2311
Ellsworth Simeona, Duke's Waikiki (4pm) 922-2268
Haumea Warrington, Duke's Waikiki (10pm) 922-2268

JAZZ/BLUES

Coleman Conlan Blues Band, OnStage Drinks & Grinds (6pm) 306-7799
Jazzy Jay, Honolulu Club (5pm) 543-3916
High Mercury, Jazz Minds Arts & Cafe (9pm) 945-0800

ROCK/POP

Soul Bucket, Mai Tai Bar, Ala Moana (5:30pm) 947-2900
Mike Love, O'Toole's Pub (9pm) 536-4138

Nexmovement, Mai Tai Bar, Ala Moana (9:30pm) 947-2900
Andy Sexton, Chart House (7pm) 941-6660
Tavana & Friends, Kelley O'Neil's (9pm) 926-1777
Bongo Tribe, Irish Rose Saloon (9pm) 947-3414

23/Tuesday

HAWAIIAN

"Auntie Pudge" Young, Kāhīō Beach Hula Stage (6:30pm) 843-8002
Cory Oliveros, Sarah Noyle, Breakfast on the Beach, Waikiki Beach Hotel (7:15am) 922-2511
Tava'esina, Sheraton Waikiki (6pm) 922-4422
Stephen Inglis, Cha Cha Cha Salsaria (6:30pm) 395-7797
Shawn Ishimoto, Beach Bar, Moana Surf-riders (8pm) 921-4600
Christopher Lau & Walt Keale, Hula Grill (7pm) 923-HULA
Ellen Martinez Trio, Banyan Court, Moana Surf-riders (6pm) 922-3111
Be-on Paradise, Mai Tai Bar, Ala Moana (9:30pm) 947-2900

Spin Zone

A SELECTIVE GUIDE TO DJ NIGHTS

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17

BIG WEDNESDAYS @ The O Lounge
TOTALLY '80s @ Loft
COUNTRY NIGHT @ Kahuna's KMCB
ENJOY (house) @ Zanzabar
HIP HOP HUMP! (hip-hop) (top 40) @ Hula's Bar and Lei Stand
MAJESTIC @ Cirque Hawai'i
MIC:CTRL (house) (techno) (hip-hop) @ Lotus w/ DJs Willis Haltom, Zane, Zama, SubZero, Ernie K
OVER THE HUMP WEDNEZDAYS (mix tape night) @ Just One
MIXTAPE @ thirtyninehotel
DJ RASTA VIBES @ Boardriders
SALSA @ 4 Play
UNSEEN FOUNDATION @ Indigo
WAKU WEDNESDAYS @ Lotus Soundbar
WET 'N' WILD WEDNESDAYS @ Venus w/ DJs K-Smooth and Mixmaster B
WICKED WEDNESDAYS (top 40) (mashups) @ Fashion 45

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18

BOOTY LAULEA @ The O Lounge
BUDDHA KAHN @ Doraku Sushi
'80s NIGHT @ Cirque Hawai'i
CASUAL THURSDAYS @ Fashion 45
COSMO (electro) (house) (mash-up) @ Hula's w/ DJs KSM, Honu, rebel neB
FIRE UP THURSDAY @ Play Bar (Scruples) 18+
HOUSE @ thirtyninehotel w/ DJs Haboh, Grady Gillan
I DELIVER ENT (reggae) (dancehall) @ The Living Room at Fisherman's Wharf
JET BOY, JET GIRL (indie) (goth) @ Mercury Bar w/ Mr. Goodvibe & Kutmaster Spaz
MIXTAP MAYHEM FROM THE PURPLE PLANET @ Jazz Minds Arts & Cafe w/ DJ Miki Mayhem
ROW BAR @ Doraku Sushi

THIRSTY THURSDAYS (hip-hop) (house) (trance) @ Zanzabar
THREE DOLLAR THURSDAY @ 4 Play
THROWBACK THIRST DAZE @ Lotus Soundbar w/ DJs Revise, Disobayish, Swerve

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19

'80s, '90s, NOW @ Hula's Bar & Lei Stand
THE CANDY BAR @ Pearl Ultralounge
CARNAVAL FRIDAYS (latin) (reggaeton) (hip-hop) @ Pipeline w/ DJs Don Armando, Caju, Mano Lopez
CHEMISSTRY @ Cafe Sistina
CUBAN SALSA DANCE JAM @ Dream to Dance
FIRE! FRIDAYS @ Cirque Hawai'i
FRIDAYS @ Lulu's w/ DJs Gary O, Sub o
THE GENDER BENDERS @ Fusion Waikiki
THE GOOD LIFE @ Fashion 45 w/ DJ Kenbo (Tokyo), Jami
HEAT (hip-hop) (reggae) (island jams) @ Don Ho's w/ DJ Hong
LAVISH CLUB (hip-hop) @ E&O Trading Company
LIMELIGHT (hip-hop) (r&b) ('80s) @ The Living Room at Fisherman's Wharf
MODULAR (techno) @ Lotus Soundbar
PARADISE @ Venus w/ DJs Technique, Crazy K
THE PEACH PIT @ Level 4 w/ DJs Lostboy, Delveider/ Technique
DJ RUDE DOGG, DJ MASTER MIND (hip-hop) (reggae) (R&B) (Top 40) @ Da Big Kahuna
SALSA @ Boardriders
SHANGRI LA @ the W Hotel w/ DJs Mixmaster B, Betty, Ryan Sean
SINSUAL FRIDAY @ Zanzabar
SKYE SUSHI LOUNGE @ Aaron's atop the Ala Moana Hotel
SONNY SILVA'S HULAVILLE (gypsy jazz) @ Cafe Che Pasta
SOUL HEAVEN @ Lotus Soundbar
STYLUS FRIDAY NIGHTS @ Lotus Soundbar
THRASH @ Loft w/ DJs Eskae, Jami, Durtie Rice
VESSEL @ Next Door w/ DJ Mr. Nick
WONDERFUL (downtempo) (mash-up) ('80s) @ Zanzabar w/ DJs Ryan-Sean, Mike D

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20
BROKEN LIQUID @ Bar 35 w/ DJs Saya, Toki, Monkey, Victor J
THE DISCO @ The Waterfront
DJ Memoirs (hip-hop) @ Mercury Bar
DJ RACER-X @ Hula's Bar and Lei Stand
DJ ROD el MORENO (Salsa) @ Dream to Dance
DRAGONFLY @ the W Honolulu
EMPIRE SATURDAYS (hip-hop) @ Lotus Soundbar
FLASHBACK SATURDAYS ('70s-now) @ Rumours Nightclub, Ala Moana Hotel w/ DJ Sho
GRAVY @ Chai's Island Bistro



Is his D also for Diamond?

Just ask the thousands who frequent Level 4 and Zanzabar. Your party is in good hands when DJ Mike D. is in

control.

His eight years at Zanzabar makes his the longest tenure of any DJ at one nightclub in town. Add to that his professional resume, which includes remix work on tracks by Justin Timberlake, Ciara, Chris Brown and Mariah Carey.

While he's accustomed to playing for some of the largest, most diverse crowds in Honolulu, the key to his success has been catering to the masses and an important thing called confidence.

"If I don't believe in myself, why should anyone else? The first step to success is confidence. Just make sure it's confidence, not arrogance," said the 104.3 mix man. "Yes as a DJ, we want to hear what we want, hate the same songs over and over and all that, but it's the dance floor that matters."

—Kalani Wilhelm

Level 4, 2233 Kalākau Ave., 4th floor Royal Hawaiian Center, Wed & Sat, 21+; Zanzabar Nightclub, 2254 Kūhiō Ave., Waikiki Trade Center, Sun, 21+.

HOUSE OF RA @ Zanzabar
I-DELIVER ENT @ Just One w/ DJ Phil
MAD HATTER & STYLISH T @ Aaron's
MONKEY BAR @ Ciao Mein
MUSTACHE PARTY @ E&O Trading Company
MY EVOLUTION SATURDAYS @ Cirque Hawai'i
NIGHT FEVER (disco) (house) (eclectic) @ thirtyninehotel
PAPERDOLL REVUE @ Fusion Waikiki
PURE @ Aaron's, atop the Ala Moana Hotel
RE:VIBE @ The Living Room at Fisherman's Wharf w/ DJs Wyatt Earp (Denver), Willis Haltom, Zane
REFRESH (hip-hop) @ Café Che Pasta w/ DJ Lava
RICE CRACKER @ Chai's Island Bistro
DJ RUDE DOGG, DJ MASTER MIND (hip-hop) (reggae) (R&B) (Top 40) @ Da Big Kahuna
SALSA @ Hard Rock Café

SALSA SAVADO POR LA NOCHE @ Cafe Che Pasta w/ DJ Jonathan
SATURDAY NIGHTS (hip-hop) (mashup) (house) @ Play Bar Waikiki
THE SAUCE SATURDAYS @ Brew Moon
SKYLINE @ The Hanohanoroom w/ DJs KSM, Jedi, ShawnG, Ksmooth, SubZero, Byron the Fur, mrbrown
SPEAKEASY (house) (downtempo) (progressive) @ The Living Room at Fisherman's Wharf
STUNNA SATURDAYS @ The O Lounge (18+)
SURF SHACK SATURDAYS (rock) (reggae) (rap) The Shack Waikiki
SWAGGER SATURDAYS @ The Living Room w/ Zack Morse, Compose, Jattee
TASTE @ Aaron's Atop the Ala Moana Hotel w/ DJ Ryan Sean

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21
BEACH PARTY BLAST @ Hula's Bar and Lei Stand (5pm) w/ DJ KSM

THE BLOCK @ Brew Moon & The Living Room w/ DJs Delve, XL, Sub-Zero, Jrama, SovemT, Durtie Rice, Jimmy Taco

CARIBBEAN NITES @ Loft w/ Terra Nova, DJs Jonathan, 45 Revolver
DOUBLE DOUBLE SUNDAYS @ Hula's Bar and Lei Stand (9pm) w/ DJ Racer-X
HOT ISLAND DJ SPIN-OFF @ Mai Tai Bar
MOTION @ Lotus Soundbar
MY EVOLUTION SUNDAYS @ Cirque Hawai'i
PALLADIUM NITES (latin) @ O Lounge w/ DJs Don Armando & Cube
DJ SHO @ Red Lion
SIZZLING SUNDAYS (dance contest) @ Zanzabar w/ DJ Mike D
SOUL FOOD SUNDAY @ Just One
SUNDAY NIGHT SOCIAL (acid jazz) (deep house) (progressive house) @ Da Big Kahuna w/ DJ Miki Mixtup
SUNDAY SALSA @ 4 Play
A TOUCH OF RED @ The W Hotel

MONDAY, DECEMBER 22

BEACH PARTY MONDAYS @ Zanzabar
BLUE MONDAYS @ Cirque Hawai'i
FLASHBAXXX (retro) @ Hula's Bar and Lei Stand
FLIRT MONDAYS INDUSTRY NIGHT @ Lotus Soundbar w/ DJ Disobayish
LATIN CARRIBEAN HOTSPOT @ Play Bar
LOLLIPOP @ The O Lounge
MASHED UP MONDAYS @ Lava Rock Lounge
MELLOW MONDAZE @ Pipeline
PHAT TUESDAYS @ Lotus Soundbar
SHOCK MONDAYS @ Venus

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23

\$2 TUESDAYS @ O Lounge w/ DJs Betty, Mike D
AFTER "THE POINT" AFTER ('70s) ('80s) @ Pipeline w/ DJ Mikie D
EYE CANDY @ Hula's Bar and Lei Stand w/ VJ Racer-X
FALLING DOWN ROMANCE (jazz) @ Indigo
DJ FREQ @ Anna Bannana's
HOT LATIN TUESDAYS @ Zanzabar w/ DJs Ray Cruz, Rod Moreno, Mano Lopez
KALEIDOSCOPE (indie) @ thirtyninehotel
MIDNIGHT JUNKIES @ Just One / DJ G
RENDEZVOUS @ Bar 35
SALSA TUESDAYS @ Cirque Hawai'i
WINTER BOOTY BASH @ The O Lounge

Promoters, get your event listed in SpinZone! E-mail details two weeks in advance to SpinZone@honoluluweekly.com

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Weekly

TROUBLETOWN

BY LLOYD DANGLE

TOUGH TIMES LIKE THESE BRING PAIN, DESPAIR AND ECONOMIC HARDSHIP, BUT THEY ALSO BRING OPPORTUNITY!

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JUST AS 9-11 MADE THE CASUS BELLI FOR TAKING OUT SADDAM — THE MOTOWN MELTDOWN PAVES THE WAY FOR CRUSHING THE U.A.W!



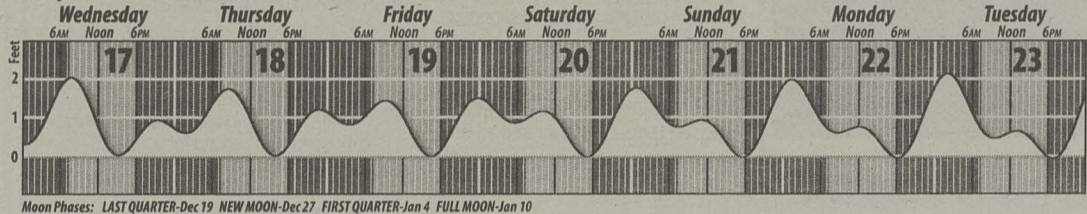
THAT'S WHY DETROIT HAS BEEN TREATED EXACTLY LIKE CUBA FOR 40 YEARS. THE ECONOMIC ISOLATION HAS HURT THE UNION ISLAND BUT HAS FAILED TO SNUFF IT OUT ENTIRELY...



IT'S BEEN MY LIFELONG DREAM TO MAKE THE WHOLE COUNTRY INTO A RIGHT-TO-WORK STATE. IT'S A MISSISSIPPI MIRACLE!



Sun, Moon & Tides — Honolulu Harbor



Peter Milo Duo, RumFire (5pm)
Sean Na'auao Duo, Hyatt Regency (6:30pm)
 923-1234
Ellsworth Simeona, Duke's Waikiki (10pm)
 922-2268

JAZZ/BLUES

Dan Freedman, The Wonder Lounge, W Hotel (8pm) 922-3734
Amber Ricci Quartet, Jazz Minds Arts & Cafe (9pm) 945-0800
Rico, Arnold's Beach Bar (6pm) 924-6887

ROCK/POP

Darrell Aquino, Mai Tai Bar, Ala Moana (4pm) 947-2900
BBC, Hank's Cafe (8:30pm) 526-1410
Brendan & Dowling Time, Kelley O'Neil's (9pm) 926-1777
Guy Cruz and Friends, Indigo (8pm) 521-2900
Dayton & Starla Marie, Pearl Ultra Lounge, Ala Moana Center (6pm) 944-8000
DNA, Chart House (7pm) 941-6660
The Rising Melody, Eastside Grill (9pm) 952-6555
The Strangers, OnStage Drinks & Grinds (6pm) 306-7799
Amity Street, thirtyninehotel (9pm) 599-2552
Tavana, O'Toole's Pub (9pm) 536-4138
Bongo Tribe, Irish Rose Saloon (9pm) 947-3414

Concerts & Clubs

A Hula Christmas Na Leo Pillimehana, Keali'i Reichel, Kaukahi, Hoku Zuttermeister, Kaimakiahi Kanaka'ole and more than 100 hula dancers. worldsound.com, 262-6300. **Waikiki Nei**, Royal Hawaiian Center, 2201 Kalakaua Ave.: Sun 12/21, (7PM.) \$49-\$99. 922-2299
Abenmusiken Concert II Teen harp phenomenon, Melody Rose Lindsay, and the Trebles of Lutheran Church of Honolulu Choir present a concert of holiday works. **Lutheran Church of Honolulu**, 1730 Punahou St.: Sun 12/21, (4PM.) \$12-\$20. 941-2566
Bop Tribal CD Release Party This jazz collective features top local musicians in modal jazz, bebop, post-bop and hip-hop. This is the band's first CD launch party! Visit boptribal.com. **Gordon Biersch**, Aloha Tower Marketplace: Thu 12/18, (6:30PM.) 599-4877

Candlelit Christmas Concerts The Hawai'i Vocal Arts Ensemble presents its traditional concert in a warm and fuzzy oratory. Visit honoluluboxoffice.com or call 550-8457. **Mystical Rose Oratory**, Chaminade University: Sat 12/20, 7:30PM; Sun 12/21, 4PM. \$5-\$35.
Celtic Waves (See Hot Picks, page 9.) **Atherton Performing Arts Studio**, Hawai'i Public Radio, 738 Kāheka St.: Sat 12/20, (7:30PM.) \$10-\$20. 955-8821
Comedic Hypnotist Ken Whitener (See Hot Picks, page 9.) Visit hawaiiicomedysite.com or call 531-4242. **Sharkey's Comedy Club**, Sheraton Princess Kaiulani Hotel, 2344 Kalākaua Ave.: Thu 12/18 & Fri 12/19, (8PM.) \$25. 922-5811
Contra Dance Whiskey Starship plays swing-your-partner Irish jigs and reels. All dances are taught. **Kapi'olani Community College Chapel**, 4303 Diamond Head Rd.: Sat 12/20, (7:30PM.) \$7 donation. Students free. 392-8774
The Disco Live entertainment, a fashion show and giveaways. A fundraiser for the Surfrider Foundation. Visit hnlnow.com/disco. **The Waterfront**, Aloha Tower Marketplace: Sat 12/20, (8:30PM-2AM.) \$10 pre-sale; \$15 door. waterfrontaloha.com, 545-5900
Honolulu City Lights Concert Series Nightly festive entertainment for the holiday season. Through Tue 12/23. Call 768-6622 for info. **Honolulu Hale**, 530 S. King St.: Wed 12/17, 6PM, Toys for Tots Drive; Thu 12/18, 6:30PM, YWCA Halau Hula & St. Anthony School Halau Hula; Fri 12/19, 5:45PM, Ragazzi; Sat 12/20, 5PM, Gioventu Musicale; Sat 12/20, 6PM, Kraft Fun Night; Sun 12/21, 5PM, Angeli; Mon 12/22, 7PM, The Performing Artist Academy; Tue 12/23, 7PM, Cadoy Sisters. Free.
Mr. Crowley Tribute to Rock Legends Concert Don't be mean to the emo kids on their way out from the Secondhand Serenade concert preceding this show named for an Ozzy Osbourne song. Visit ticketmaster.com. **Pipeline Cafe**, 805 Pohukaina St.: Fri 12/19, (10PM.) \$20 general; \$40 VIP. 589-1999
Na Mele No Na Pua Kama'aina Sunday Showcase This week's concert features the Honolulu Boy Choir. **Waikiki Beach Walk**. Sun 12/21, (4-5:30PM.) Free.

Peace on Earth Concert Christmas concert featuring The Thursday Night Band, Tradewinds, Noelani Kanoho Mahoe and more. E-mail hakumele@aol.com. **Kapi'olani Park Bandstand**. Wed 12/17, (6PM.) Free.
Sacred Hearts Academy Band with Society of Seven Las Vegas Hear a selection of holiday numbers from the veteran performing group and high school marching band. A portion of the proceeds will go to uniforms for the Sacred Hearts band for the London New Year's Day Parade. Call 923-7469 or 922-6408. **Outrigger Waikiki on the Beach**, 2335 Kalākaua Ave.: Wed 12/17 & Thu 12/18, (8:30PM.) \$35.
Secondhand Serenade (See Hot Picks, page 8.) Visit ticketmaster.com. **Pipeline Cafe**, 805 Pohukaina St.: Fri 12/19, (8PM.) \$25 general; \$50 VIP. 589-1999
Special Latin Night in Kailua Enjoy a dinner buffet and a salsa dance lesson with Da Lion of Judah and Sunshine. Then an open dance floor. **Mid-Pacific Country Club**, 266 Ka'elepulu Dr.: Wed 12/17, (6PM.) \$20. All ages.
Strange Fruit A bi-monthly event featuring live jazz/hip-hop/funk/soul/blues. This month, enjoy the return of Rocket Powered Cadillac, with guest Rhyme the Old Man. DJ Memoirs fills in the rest with some old boom-bap style of mixing drumming and turntablism in tag-team fashion with RPC's drummer. Visit myspace.com/strangefruit808. **Mercury Bar**, 1154 Fort Street Mall (entrance on Chaplain Lane): Sat 12/20, (9PM-2AM.) \$5. 537-3080
Surfest (See Hot Picks, page 9.) **Kualoa Ranch**, Ka'a'awa: Sat 12/21, (12PM.) \$25 door. hicsurfshop.com, 266-6730
Wednesdays at Saint Andrew's Free lunchtime concerts in this beautiful building. This week features music for Advent. **St. Andrew's Cathedral**, Queen Emma Square: Wednesdays, (12:15PM.) Free. 524-2822, ext. 217

Star of Honolulu New Year's Eve Cruise Enjoy great views and a fireworks show, a champagne toast, party favors, dinner, live entertainment and dancing. Visit starofhonolulu.com or call 983-7827. **Pier 8, Aloha Tower**. Wed 12/31, (10:45PM-12:45AM.) \$150 and up; \$113.76 and up for kama'aina/military. 922-1886
The Toadies The Texas raw rock band may be getting older and fatter, but not less intense. Visit ticketmaster.com. **Pipeline Cafe**, 805 Pohukaina St.: Fri 1/9, (7PM.) \$25 general; \$50 VIP. All ages. 589-1999
Waitiki This modern exotica ensemble, dedicated to the preservation and resurgence of exotica music and the related tiki culture, makes its Atherton debut. **Atherton Performing Arts Studio**, Hawai'i Public Radio, 738 Kāheka St.: Sat 12/27, (7:30PM.) \$10-\$20. 955-8821
Wig Out! A New Year's Eve champagne wigout, featuring Honolulu's first champagne and absinthe bar. And nothing else rings in the new year like a wig contest does. Visit thirtyninehotel.com. **thirtyninehotel**, 39 N. Hotel St.: Wed 12/31, (8PM-2AM.) \$12 pre-sale. 599-2552

Augie Rey's New Year's Eve Show Feast on the last meal of 2008, then enjoy the musical stylings of Augie Rey with The Little Big Band, Bobby King, Carlos Barboza and featured guest, Tahiti Rey. Call 955-0555, ext. 2 and make reservations under "Friends of Augie Rey." **Hale Koa Hotel**, 2055 Kalia Rd., Fort DeRussy, Waikiki: Wed 12/31, (7PM.) \$89 (all-inclusive).
The Bangles It will be a night of greatest hits from three hot MILFs (nee chicks). Visit hawaiiipacificentertainment.com or call 237-3675. **Coral Ballroom**, Hilton Hawaiian Village, 2005 Kalia Rd.: Wed 12/31, (9PM.) \$90, \$130, \$200. 946-6306
Cheryl Bartlett The singer, songwriter, actress, dancer and former Miss Hawai'i presents a concert she'd like to call, "Like Ocean, Like Lace," which echoes the title of her new CD. **Atherton Performing Arts Studio**, Hawai'i Public Radio, 738 Kāheka St.: Sat 1/3, (7:30PM.) \$10-\$20. 955-8821
Don Ho's New Year's Eve Party A New Year's Eve buffet awaits you, and the party include favors, a champagne toast, entrance to the night club and reserve seating for the fireworks show. **Don Ho's Island Grill**, Aloha Tower Marketplace: Wed 12/31 \$70. 528-0807
Ed Rush & Optical, Creed Chameleon, Ramy+++Plus Hawai'i's Best in Edm A local hip-hop extravaganza. Visit ticketmaster.com. **Pipeline Cafe**, 805 Pohukaina St.: Sat 1/9, (10PM.) \$15-\$20. 589-1999
Fanny Pak and So Real Cru Two of America's Best Dance Crews trotsie roll (or maybe not) on the Islands. Visit ticketmaster.com. **Blaisdell Concert Hall**, 777 Ward Ave.: Sat 1/3, (7PM.) \$30-\$60. 591-2211
Foreigner Urgent! The Juke Box Heroes are waiting for a girl like you who might possibly be either Cold As Ice or Hot Blooded for Dirty White Boys so that they might give you Double Vision. Visit ticketmaster.com. **Sheraton Waikiki Hotel**, 2255 Kalākaua Ave.: Wed 12/31, (7PM.) \$125-\$175 general; \$250 VIP seating. 922-4422
Gloria Estefan With all of her '80s and '90s hits, plus an Olympic theme song under her belt, this Miami sound machine has only been getting stronger as time moves on. Ticketmaster.com. **Blaisdell Arena**, 777 Ward Ave.: Sat 1/17, (8PM.) \$65-\$100 general; \$125 VIP. 591-2211
Honolulu Symphony and Symphony Chorus Holiday Concert The concert spotlights operatic sensations Lea Woods Friedman and Quinn Kelsey. Visit ticketmaster.com or call 792-2000. **Blaisdell Concert Hall**, 777 Ward Ave.: Sat 12/27, (8PM.) \$20-\$82. 591-2211
Howie Mandel He started his comedy career on a dare during a business trip and hasn't been off stage since. Visit ticketmaster.com. **Blaisdell Concert Hall**, 777 Ward Ave.: Fri 12/26, (7:30PM.) \$30-\$55. 591-2211
Mainland Education Scot Izuka's romantic comedy set in the University of Kansas in the early 1980s. You bet racial hijinks ensue! **Kumu Kahua Theatre**, 46 Merchant St.: Runs 1/8-2/8. Thu-Sat, 8PM; Sun, 2PM. \$5-\$16. kumukahua.org, 536-4441
Mstrkrft The mustachioed Canadian electronic music group makes Honolulu a little hairier. Visit bampproject.com. **Nextdoor**, 43 N. Hotel St.: Sat 1/3, (9PM.) \$25. 589-1999
Ne-Yo If Ne-Yo has become your addiction, be the first in line to get tickets to this R&B crooner's first Hawai'i appearance. He might even kick off his shoes and dance in his socks. Visit ticketmaster.com. **Blaisdell Arena**, 777 Ward Ave.: Mon 1/5, (7:30PM.) \$35-\$55. 591-2211
New Year's Eve at Señor Frog's Before you party 'til 4AM, fuel up with a buffet menu, which includes a mix of Mexican, American and Italian food. Also expect party favors, contests, live music and DJs. **Señor Frog's**, Royal Hawaiian Shopping Center, 3rd level: Wed 12/31, (8PM-4AM.) \$75 (all-inclusive). 440-0150
Nick Swardson This *Grandma's Boy*'s shit is definitely not weak. Just don't ask him what smells like the Great Depression. Visit ticketmaster.com. **Pipeline Cafe**, 805 Pohukaina St.: Sat 1/17 & Sun 1/18, (7PM.) \$35 general; \$50 VIP. All ages. 589-1999
NOFX The band that "rocked against Bush" shakes up Honolulu for one show only, along with The Expendables. See the exclusive *Weekly* interview with Fat Mike in the Nov. 19 issue. Tickets available at hnlnow.com and at all Hawai'i Island Creations locations. **Pipeline Cafe**, 805 Pohukaina St.: Sat 1/17, (9PM.) \$25 general. All ages. 589-1999
Shwayze with Cisco Spend New Year's Eve with this hip-hop duo. If just because their names are Shwayze and Cisco. Visit ticketmaster.com. **Pipeline Cafe**, 805 Pohukaina St.: Wed 12/31, (9PM.) \$45-\$50 general; \$90-\$100 VIP. 589-1999

On Sale

Aesop Rock None Shall Pass through the concert without getting an earful of politically charged underground (sort of) hip-hop. With Cage and El-P. Visit ticketmaster.com. **Pipeline Cafe**, 805 Pohukaina St.: Fri 1/16, (9:30PM.) \$28-\$35 general; \$55-\$66 VIP. 589-1999

THE SCENE

Theater & Dance

A Christmas Carol, HTY Style A shortened one-hour version with little kids playing little kids. Visit htyweb.org. **Tenney Theatre**, St. Andrew's Cathedral, Queen Emma Sq.: Sat 12/20 & Sun 12/21, 4:30PM. \$8-\$16; opening night tickets \$10-\$20.
The Eight: Reindeer Monologues (See Hot Picks, page 8.) **Kawanamakoa Backstage Theatre**, Near the corner of Pauoa Rd. and Funchal St.: Runs 12/19-1/4. Fri & Sat, 7:30PM; Sun, 3:30PM. \$15-\$25. hawaiiirep-theatre.org, 545-7170
Hawai'i State Ballet's The Nutcracker The Junior Company of the State Ballet cracks some nuts. Visit honoluluboxoffice.com or call 550-8457. **Mamiya Theatre**, St. Louis High School, 3142 Wai'ālae Ave.: Fri 12/12, 7PM; Sat 12/13, 2:30PM & 7PM; Sun 12/14 2:30PM & 6PM. Through 12/21. \$16-\$25.
Nutcracker (See Hot Picks, page 8.) Visit ticketmaster.com. **Blaisdell Concert Hall**, 777 Ward Ave.: Fri 12/19, 8PM; Sat 12/20, 7:30PM; Sun 12/21, 2PM. \$35-\$75. 591-2211
Peter Pan Young boys in tights run away from older men. Sans pedophilia (we hope). **Diamond Head Theatre**, 520 Makapu'u Dr.: Thu & Fri, 8PM; Sat 4 & 8PM; Sun, 4PM. Extension performances Mon 12/22 & Tue 12/23, 7:30PM. \$12-\$42. diamondheadtheatre.com, 733-0274
Ring of Fire A thoughtful play about the consequences of combat trauma on military wives. **The Actors' Group**, Jos. P. Mendoca Bldg., 1116 Smith St., 2nd Fl.: Thu-Sat, 7:30PM; Sun 2 & 5PM. No performances on 12/25 & 12/26. Through 12/28. \$12-\$16. taghawaii.net, 722-6941

Theater & Dance

Auditions

A Lesson Before Dying A 7-person cast is needed for the play based on Ernest J. Gaines' tear-jerker of a novel. As the character Grant says, "...show them the difference between what they think you are and what you can be." **The Actors' Group**, Jos. P. Mendoca Bldg., 1116 Smith St., 2nd Fl.: Sat 1/17 & Sun 1/18, (12-2PM.) taghawaii.net, 722-6941

Museums

Bishop Museum 1525 Bernice St. Open daily 9AM-5PM. \$15.95 adults; \$12.95 ages 4-12; under 4 free. bishopmuseum.org, 847-3511
Free Admission Day In honor of the 177th birthday celebration of Princess Bernice Pauahi Bishop. Fri 12/19, 9AM-5PM.
Ili Iho: The Surface Within A rare kapa cloth, a famous makaloa mat and a feathered cloak are among the museum's treasures shown in conjunction with the Textile Society of America's symposium. Through 4/5.
Megalodon: Largest Shark That Ever Lived Pre-historic style. Through 1/11.
Pauahi: A Legacy for Hawai'i Without Princess Bernice Pauahi Pāki Bishop, the museum may have never been. This exhibition of objects will undergo several rotations until the completion of the Hawaiian Hall Complex renovation finishes in 2009. Letters, clothing, jewelry and weapons are just some of the history to find. Through 12/31.

Continued on Page 15

Author Carlos Andrade takes a look at Kaua'i history, and it's not about Taylor Camp

Last of the lost

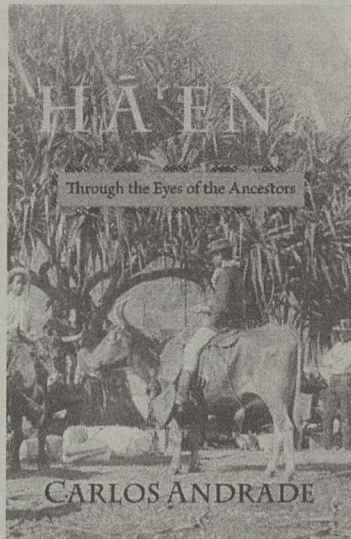
MATTHEW MARTIN

The history of Hawaiian land and Hawaiian people is inextricably linked. The story of one cannot be separated from the other. Recent history, however, has tinged that story with tragedy. The Kuleana Act and the Mahele of the 19th century imposed Western notions of land ownership on Hawaiian lands and set the stage for land grabs by American business interests in the Islands as well as the steady disenfranchisement of native Hawaiians. Jon Van Dyke's worthy book, *Who Owns the Crown Lands of Hawai'i?*, published earlier this year, gives readers a concise and valuable account of that time, but sifting through that book's pages with its catalogue of greed and corruption is at moments a sad and exhausting experience. It is a great relief, then, that Carlos Andrade's new book, *Hā'ena: Through the Eyes of An-*

cestors, provides something of an antidote to that previous book's litany of misfortune.

Andrade's subject is the titular Hā'ena, an ahupua'a on the island of Kaua'i purchased by a group of native Hawaiians in the 19th century and held as cooperative until the late 1950s. In his preface, Andrade does himself a disservice by writing rather stiffly that he wrote his book "to preserve for the youth of the Native Hawaiian community a record of the legacy inscribed upon the land left by the ancestors." A worthy goal no doubt, but that humdrum sentence, filled as it is with earnest civic duty and pride, does not begin to tip readers to the elegantly simple writing and pleasant eccentricities of this slender volume.

Andrade has not written a traditional history, but has assembled a collection of impressions, touching upon mythology, history, oral storytelling and, in the book's unfortunately weakest section, a brief account of the political maneuver-



HĀ'ENA: THROUGH THE EYES OF ANCESTORS

Carlos Andrade
University of Hawai'i Press, 158 pp, \$30.00

ings and machinations behind the land divisions of the 19th century and the wrangling needed to ensure that Hā'ena remained in Hawaiian hands.

The opening chapters are the most satisfying, with Andrade recounting legends and deeply-held beliefs tied to his subject. Andrade writes briskly with a clean style that enables him to render complex topics into clear prose. A typically neat passage: "Leaving the shoreline and following the stream inland that in dry seasons loses itself in the sand of the beach Maninoholo, the valley of Mānoa slopes upward... Past a spidery waterfall, the stream hides itself away in a

hanging valley."

Even better are the bits of oral history collected from Hā'ena residents interspersed throughout the narrative. These recollections of kupuna possess the easy grace and lyricism of oft-and-well told stories. But they cannot help but also be touched with sadness, because so many of these tales delineate a time and place that has steadily slipped away into the distant past. Especially affecting is the recollection by a group of elders of hunting for octopus.

It is in these passages that Andrade gives the reader the greatest sense of what makes Hā'ena such a remarkable place. It becomes, in this telling, a repository for so much history, myth and pride. And had this book narrowed its focus and only told these stories it would be more than worthy of its subject. But the motivations and movements of recent history inevitably penetrate the narrative, and Andrade must necessarily deal with the aforementioned Mahele and Kuleana Act in

order to complete his portrait. As a result the narrative loses a bit of its former drive and the book becomes bogged down in opaque academic language.

Andrade ably tries to apply his keen style to the internecine legalities and dealings surrounding land ownership in the state, but his ability falters somewhat in the face of the weighty material. The result is that the back half of the book, while historically and thematically interesting, is not nearly as much fun. (Andrade does redeem his book with the final chapter, "Kupuna," which features a series of profiles of Hā'ena residents and reasserts Andrade's terrific knack for simple, solid sentences.)

Still, one should not overlook this volume. It is small, but never slight; well-written and possessed of many pleasures, not the least of which is the surprise that comes from reading previously untold piece of local history about a remarkable place and those who made it home.

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45 MINUTES

Go to a birthday party. Princess Bernice Pauahi Bishop's 177th birthday celebration is on Friday with a ho'omana'o ali'i in Waikiki. The ceremony begins with a pule, followed by a performance by the Kamehameha Alumni Glee Club, Moea DeFries and a hula kahiko tribute by Halau Mohala Ilima. Members of the Hawaiian Royal Societies will also be present in full regalia. Party on.

Royal Hawaiian Center Royal Grove, Fri 12/19, 4PM, free, royalhawaiiancenter.com, 922-2299

TWO HOURS

Watch *Tropic Thunder* on DVD. More specifically, watch the film with the cast commentary option. Hear Ben Stiller describe exactly what's happening on-screen, and then apologize for being one of "those guys." Listen as Jack Black apologizes for being late and eats a 4X4 from In-N-Out burger. Most important, find out whether Kirk Lazarus (Robert Downey Jr.) truly does stay in character until the DVD commentary is finished (spoiler alert: he does).



Tropic Thunder

FOUR HOURS

Volunteer for the Na Pohaku O Hauwahine service project. Help plant 12 acres of the newly designed state park to recreate a dryland forest ecosystem or work in the marsh to form a wetland bird habitat. Wear long pants, covered shoes and bring a digging tool, water and a snack.

Kapa'a Quarry Rd., Sat 12/20, 8:30AM-12:30PM, ahahui.wordpress.com

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WHAT WE'RE INTO

Brutaler

METALCALYPSE: SEASON II

[Adult Swim], \$29.98

Anyone who watched the short-lived animated program *Home Movies* knew that the musical bits were pure comedy gold (and really, how can you miss with a rock opera version of Franz Kafka's *The Metamorphosis*?). The songs—written, arranged and performed by *Home Movies* co-creator Brendon Small—were so appreciated that Shout! Factory records released a CD to accompany the Season 4 DVD box set. So it's no surprise that Small's next project would focus solely on musicians.

Not just any musicians, however, Small's newest project *Metocalypse*, which debuted on [Adult Swim] (Cartoon Network's nighttime block of considerably more violent and curse-filled programming) features the continuing adventures of the fictional Norwegian death metal band Dethklok, the 7th largest economy in the world. Dethklok's popularity continues to rise, despite that large portions of their audience are inadvertently killed every time they make an appearance. Meanwhile, the members of Dethklok (William Murderface, Toki Wartooth, Skwisgaar Skwigelf, Pickles the Drummer and Nathan Explosion—the latter three all voiced by Small) are still oblivious to their impact on the real world, living in their fortified compound and



bickering about pancakes, fans, cylindrical shaped food, diets and whether their newest endorsements are truly metal, or "brutal" enough to be approved. At the same time, an international secret tribunal watches and frets over their every mood, worried they will upset the natural and social order more than they already have.

But that makes it sound like the episodes, which average 11 minutes in length, are heavy with plot. In reality, the hook for the series comes from the improvisational voice work, which is even more impressive given that just two people provide the majority of the voices. From the debate on how to approach cutting carbs for their self-imposed diets ("OK, let me get this straight," says Nathan Explosion in the supermarket. "One really big meal a day then we go to sleep, no paper towels but a little bit of bread because we're not Nazis and as many popsicles as we want?"), to the somehow endear-

ing—even to an editor!—mangling of the English language from Toki and Skwisgaar pluralizing most words except those that end in an S ("Whats abouts ours feeling?" whines Toki), it's a show that demands subtitles, just so as not to miss any of the rapid-fire jokes.

Which brings the one complaint from this newest box set. Each episode contains at least a portion of one song, with titles such as "Thunderhorse" (featured on the *Guitar Hero II* video game), "Murmaider" and "Birthday Dethday" and if you haven't guessed, death metal can be a little hard to decipher. Not wanting to sound like our parents and complaining how we can't understand the words, we thought the DVD would shed light on Dethklok's songwriting process. But even the subtitles give up at times, reading simply "singing indistinctly."

The music itself, however? Totally brutal.

—Dean Carrico

OFF THE STEM

Lei jardin

"Hawaiian sewn, Hawaiian grown." It sounds like something the Hawai'i Visitors and Convention Bureau could have dreamed up to describe the lei and flower industry generally, but it turns out that in this era of imported flowers, there's just one business on this island that can make the claim—and only since last month.

Po'ohala Lei & Flowers has been operating out of its Beretania St. storefront since 1991, and been in the same extended 'ohana for decades longer than that. Owner Holly Reiplinger says her family has long focused on buying from local growers, but only recently dropped its use of imported (and cheaper) Thai orchids in order to claim a 100 percent local operation.

"We felt, culturally, that it was important for us to do it, to support our local growers. They're having a hard time [competing with importers] as it is," says Reiplinger, who has owned the shop for three years since taking over for her former mother-in-law. She says she buys from growers across the state. "We get our orchids from the Big Island, of course our maile comes from



RAGNAR CARLSON

Hilo, we buy from O'ahu growers from Wai'anae to Waimānalo."

In addition to word-of-mouth and walk-in customers from the downtown area, Reiplinger says a good chunk of her business comes from the mainland, and surprisingly, not primarily from transplanted local people. "Most of it is people having Hawaiian-themed parties, lū'au and tiki parties and things like that."

The flower business, at least in the Islands, is one of the few retail categories for which this is not the most important time of year, but Reiplinger says the holiday season still generates its share of revenue. She says the he'e lei, made of sea

grape, rubber tree and mock orange and named for the octopus it resembles, is popular this time of year for its red and green coloring.

The economic climate makes this an even tougher time to make a switch to all-local growers. Reiplinger says business is "OK," but adds, "it's tough right now for everybody, and we need to help each other out. We figured maybe if we start this, somebody else will follow."

—Ragnar Carlson

Po'ohala Lei & Flowers, 69 N. Beretania St., Mon-Sat 6AM-6PM, Sun 7AM-5PM, poohalalei.com, 537-5858

THE SCENE

From Page 12

The Contemporary Museum 2411 Makiki Heights Dr. Open Tue-Sat, 10AM-4PM; Sun, noon-4PM. \$5 adults; \$3 students/seniors (free on third Thursdays). tcmhi.org, 526-1322

Free Admission Twenty-somethings get in for free from through September of 2009 in celebration of the museum's 20th anniversary.

At 20: The Sharon and Thurston Twigg-Smith Collection of H.C. Westermann—A Gift/Promised Gift in Honor of The Contemporary Museum's 20th Anniversary 34 prints, 17 sculptures, 12 drawings and watercolors from as early at 1949. Through 3/15.

The Contemporary Cafe 2411 Makiki Heights Dr. Tue-Sat, 11:30AM-2:30PM; Sun, noon-2:30PM. 526-1322

Heavenly Garden Mural on the cafe lanai by renowned local tattoo artist Mike Ledger.

The Contemporary Museum at First Hawaiian Center 999 Bishop St. Open Mon-Thu, 8:30AM-4PM; Fri, 8:30AM-6PM. Validated parking available; enter on Merchant St. 526-1322

Contemporary Fiber Artists of Hawai'i Through 1/13.

Hawai'i State Art Museum No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 S. Hotel St., 2nd Fl. Open Tue-Sat, 10AM-4PM. Free. 586-0900

Accession: Recent Acquisitions from the Art in Public Places Collection Highlights work collected by the Hawai'i State Foundation on Culture and the Arts. Through 7/18.

Intertwine: A Selection of Hawai'i Fiber Art A sampling of art from the Art in Public Places collection, in conjunction with the 11th Biennial Symposium of the Textile Society of America. Through 1/17.

Honolulu Academy of Arts 900 S. Beretania St. Open Tue-Sat, 10AM-4:30PM; Sun, 1-5PM. \$10 general, \$5 seniors/military/students; free for kids 12 & under and museum members. honoluluacademy.org, 532-8700

Bang! Zoom! See the diversity of manga and anime in this exhibition presented by the local group Manga Bento. Runs 12/20-12/30.

Good News from Hiroshige: A New Interpretation of the Series "One Hundred Famous Views of Edo" A new look at the celebrated ukiyo-e artist's last great series. Through 1/11.

Graphic Cabinet #3: Face to Face Portraits from the Academy's photography collection by a who's who of photographers such as Robert Frank, Yousuf Karsh, Robert Mapplethorpe and Garry Winogrand. Through 2/22.

He Ho'ala Ana: An Awakening Kapa by Marie Donald. Through 1/18.

Muraqqa: Imperial Mughal Albums from the Chester Beatty Library, Dublin Exquisite Indian miniature paintings, created for the emperors Jahangir and Shah Jahan in the 17th century, from one of the world's finest collections. This is the first time these works are being shown outside of Ireland. Runs 12/18-3/1.

Richard Lane and the Floating World The first exhibition of works from the Richard Lane Collection, which the museum acquired in 2003. Through 2/1.

Continued on Page 20

Green Page



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EARTH TALK

Questions & Answers About Our Environment

Dear EarthTalk: I've noticed a lot of beach erosion along the eastern U.S. coast. Beaches are virtually non-existent in places. Is this a usual cycle that will self-correct, or are these beaches permanently gone from sea level rise or other environmental causes? —Jan Jesse, Morristown, TN

Unfortunately for beach lovers and owners of high-priced beach-front homes, coastal erosion in any form is usually a one-way trip. Man-made techniques such as beach nourishment—whereby sand is dredged from offshore sources and deposited along otherwise vanishing beaches—may slow the process,

but nothing short of global cooling or some other major geomorphic change will stop it altogether.

According to Stephen Leatherman ("Dr. Beach") of the National Healthy Beaches Campaign, beach erosion is defined by the actual removal of sand from a beach to deeper water offshore or alongshore into inlets, tidal shoals and bays. Such erosion can result from any number of factors, including the simple inundation of the land by rising sea levels resulting from the melting of the polar ice caps.

Leatherman cites U.S. Environmental Protection Agency estimates that between 80 and 90 percent of the sandy beaches along America's coastlines have been eroding for decades. In many of these cases, individual beaches may be losing only a few inches per year, but in some cases the problem is much worse. The outer coast of Louisiana, which Leatherman refers to as "the erosion 'hot spot' of the U.S.," is losing some 50 feet of beach every year.

Of particular concern is the effect climate change, which not only causes sea levels to rise but also increases the severity and possibly the frequency of harsh storms, has on beach erosion. "While sea level rise sets the conditions for landward displacement of the shore, coastal storms supply the energy to do the 'geologic work' by moving the sand off and along the beach," writes Leatherman on his DrBeach.org website. "Therefore, beaches are greatly influenced by the frequency and magnitude of storms along a particular shoreline."

Besides collectively lowering our greenhouse gas emissions substantially, there is little that individuals—let alone coastal landowners—can do to stop beach erosion. Building a bulkhead or seawall along one or a few coastal properties may protect homes from damaging storm waves for a few years, but could end up doing more harm than good. "Bulkheads and seawalls may accelerate beach erosion by reflecting wave energy off the fac-

ing wall, impacting adjacent property owners as well," writes Leatherman, adding that such structures along retreating shorelines eventually cause diminished beach width and even loss.

Other larger scale techniques like beach nourishment may have better track records, at least in terms of slowing or delaying beach erosion, but are expensive enough as to warrant massive taxpayer expenditures. In the early 1980s, the city of Miami spent some \$65 million adding sand to a 10-mile stretch of fast-eroding shoreline. Not only did the effort stave off erosion, it helped revitalize the tony South Beach neighborhood and rescue hotels, restaurants and shops there that cater to the rich and famous.

CONTACTS:

Stephen Leatherman, drbeach.org;

National Healthy Beaches Campaign, ihrc.fiu.edu/nhbc.

GOT AN ENVIRONMENTAL QUESTION?

Send it to: EarthTalk, c/o E/The Environmental Magazine, P.O. Box 5098, Westport, CT 06881; submit it at: www.emagazine.com/earthtalk/thisweek/, or e-mail: earthtalk@emagazine.com.

Read past columns at: www.emagazine.com/earthtalk/archives.php.



Last minute & low



Humbug!

Everybody has at least one of those friends—the kind who stays indoors as much as possible when Halloween ends and refuses to venture into a store or restaurant so as not to have to be subjected to Christmas music which they loathe in all forms, with three notable exceptions: The Kinks’ “Father Christmas,” “Mr. Heat Miser,” and, of course, “You’re a Mean One, Mr. Grinch.” We can relate, perhaps more than you know. But even people who go so far as to break up with their significant others just to avoid Christmas shopping feel pangs of guilt when the cards and presents start flooding in, even if they’ve never understood why they’re supposed to buy gifts for everybody when the guy whose birthday it actually is died more than 2,000 years ago.

So. Maybe your boss still seems petulant that you ignored both his birthday and Boss Day, even after the numerous times he brought it up in casual conversation. Perhaps you realized that if your sister’s kids are old enough to remember your name, they’ll also remember you showed up empty-handed at Christmas for five years running. Or now that you’re single again, you may have noticed somebody to whom you’d like to give a gift (of sorts). Regardless of the reasons, we here at *Honolulu Weekly* are here to help, with some last-minute suggestions that won’t sink you into insurmountable debt, and will get you out of the store without having to hear too many of those syrupy carols.

—Dean Carrico

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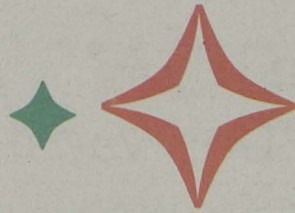
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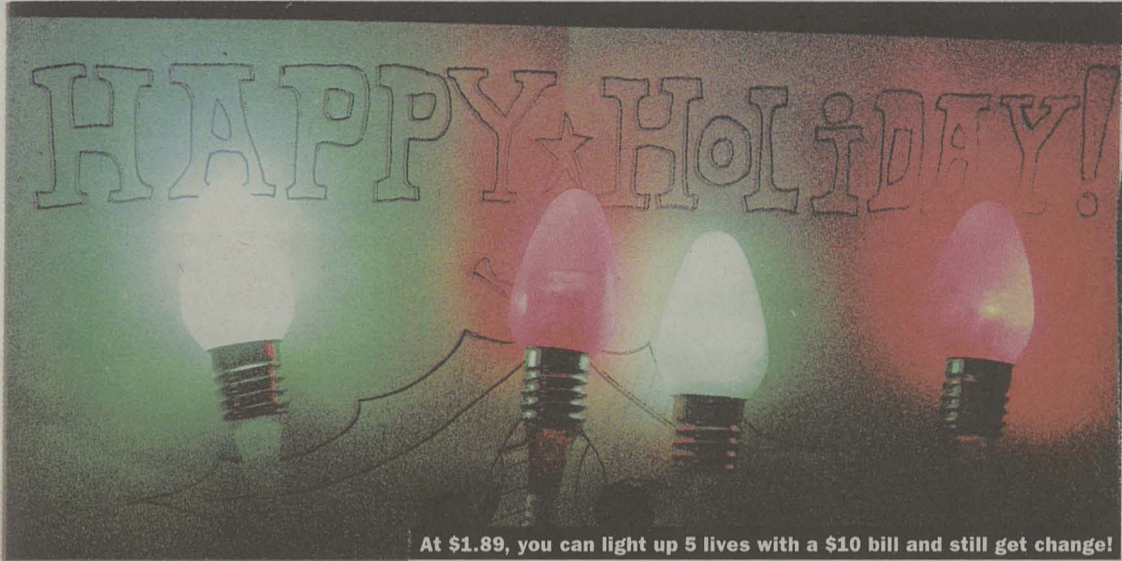
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You light up my desk

We first discovered these pens during the Halloween season, when the tips were donned with rubber skulls and pumpkins. Skinny and unwieldy, we were unimpressed—until our pen benefactor slammed the tip on a flat surface (bringing new meaning to the term Smashing Pumpkins), causing them to blink in an array of flashing lights. The Weekly staff is hardly immune to shiny objects, and the pens were an instant hit, punctuated with the sound of rubber smacking flat surfaces throughout the day. For the holiday season, the pens have made another appearance, though this time in the shape of red and green Christmas lights (who, after all, is such a grinch that skulls aren't proper for Christmas?). They're a hit with adults and kids alike, but keep them in mind for the bartender in your life, because people don't seem to mind signing a \$200 tab when they have this novelty item flashing in their face.

Price Busters, various locations, \$1.89, pricebustershawaii.com.

Liquor in the front

Many of us have fallen into the habit of heading straight to Costco, The Liquor Collection or Tamura's, mostly out of convenience—you might not know astrology signs, musical tastes or even last names, but you know what your friends like to drink, and a trip to one of those stores comes with the bonus of being able to get something for yourself. Then again, perhaps your friend is the type that you shouldn't be enabling with quantities. That's where liquor lei come in handy. Sure flower lei are pretty (See City-wise, page 14), but they die quickly, are fairly uncomfortable and make you stick out as a tourist. These little beauties, however, let the crowd know that the party is just beginning, and they can be a life-saver when you have a last-minute gift guide to write, the stores have closed and you've misjudged your booze reserves at home. They're not for the experienced drinker, however, as they follow the *Thelma & Louise* rule of economics, with five two-ounce bottles costing close

to the same price as an enormous bottle from the big box stores. Of course, if your friend is mindful of the price difference and you think you're crafty enough, you could fashion your own homemade lei with one of the 1.75 liter bottles, a la Flavor Flav, as a gift—which you can then pair with a nice top-shelf intervention.

ABC stores, various locations, \$12.99–\$26.99, abcstores.com.

Because everyone has one of those friends

While Hot Topic is supposed to be the one-stop shop for angst-filled, rebellious and depressed youth, there's a little-known corporate-mandated store-wide rule that sullies its reputation: The chain will sell no merchandise promoting alcohol, drugs, profanity or Satan-

ism (They're apparently willfully oblivious to the inspiration behind Green Day's name or the philosophy of Slayer). But really, how happy of a Christmas can you have when you remove those factors?

With Hawai'i's high (joke) level of tolerance (again, joke), why not let your pot-smoking, cursing, goat-horn-wearing friends revel in their vices? Purchase them a waterpipe, which is clearly stated for tobacco use. What they decide to do with it is out of your hands, and none of your business, right? And like the commercials say, there's a lot more things that Hawai'i's Natural High offers, with everything from rock 'n' roll T-shirts and posters and reggae wear. One thing's for certain, and that's that Tommy Chong seems excited to be there, and it's probably not because of the "Pray for Surf" sticker.

339 Saratoga Rd., hawaii.naturalhigh.biz, 926-3000

Continued on page 19

DEAN CARRICO



A lei? Liquor? Tough call.

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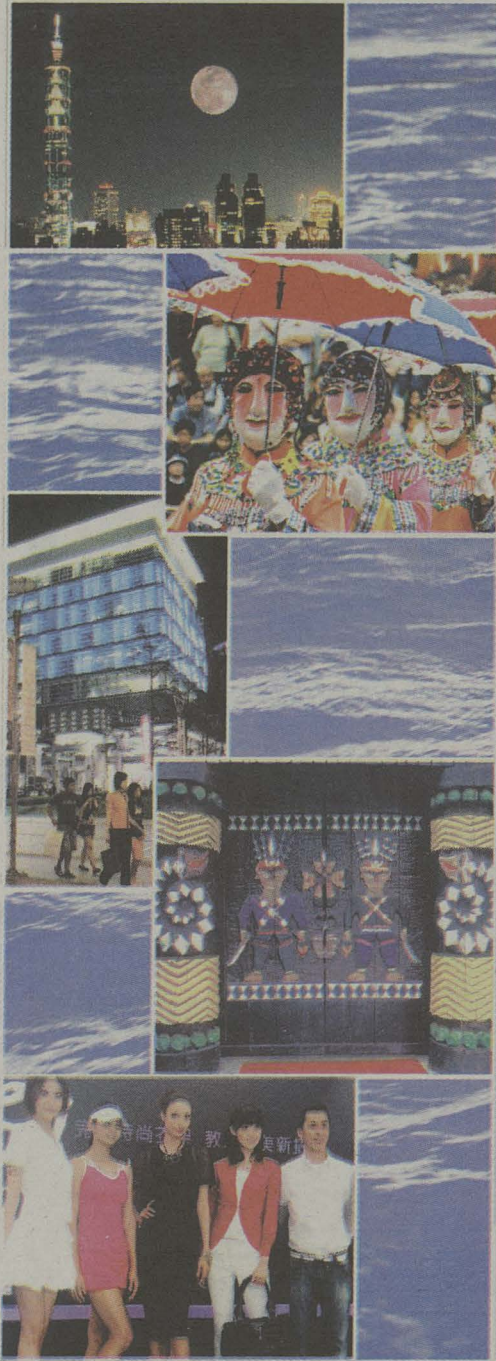
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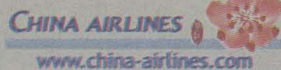
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Cracked out

The ubiquitousness of Hawai'i's favorite snack food means it often slips our mind—until you can't get it any longer (those who have received a blank stare from a cashier at the concession stand at the mainland movie house when they ask for mochi crunch with their popcorn know what we're talking about). Those shipped away, whether for school, business or military will certainly have memories of freezing to the point of teeth chattering at Kaha-la, enjoying the day at Bellows or splurging after going to one of the last remaining dollar theaters in the country when they open a care package from **Crack Seed Center**. Featuring a myriad of choices from li hing mui to cuttlefish, gummy coke bottles to dried mango, nothing says Hawai'i like a pound of goodies from the longtime Ala Moana staple. As a bonus, each order can be sealed in an airtight bag, ready for shipping.



Care package nirvana.

Crack Seed Center, 1450 Ala Moana Blvd., Ala Moana Center, crackseedcenter.com, 949-7200

Gauging their politics

Back in August, when gas prices were reaching their highest, now-president-elect Barack Obama suggested that if Americans kept their tires inflated properly and went in for regularly scheduled tune-ups, they would

save as much oil as what would be produced by offshore drilling. Critics quickly ridiculed the idea, handing out **tire gauges** at rallies, calling them "Obama's Energy Plan."

But the riffing backfired, partly because voters realized there was substance to the statement—more to the point, he was right. According to an article published shortly after the controversy in *Time*, the numbers actually add up, and if every car-driving American followed those two suggestions, we would improve our gas mileage by approximately 7

percent. Recent weeks have finally offered some relief from soaring gas prices, but that's no reason to fire up the SUV just yet. Best of all, you can easily find a gauge without the cheap jab and both sides should catch the reference. It's a truly bipartisan gift, for those on the right can still argue the simplistic short-sightedness of Obama's statement, while lefties can feel they're in on the joke.

Want a little cheese with that wine?

The easiest way to do one-stop shopping would probably be to hold a party for all those who probably have their own copies of *The Dark Knight* and *Wall•E*—hit up Best Buy and grab DVDs for everybody, then invite them over for a grab-bag. But therein lies a problem—most of these people are probably the kind whom you don't really want them to know where you live. That's where **Wine The Experience** comes in handy. Come in, try some samples from over 50 specialty flavors and pick one to your liking. In about two months, your wine will be ready, and you'll have about 30 bottles ready to go—sort of. In actuality, you'll have a big vat of wine, and about 30 empty bottles, at which point you can put your friends to work filling, corking, sealing and adding your own personalized label. Voila!

Owner Shannon Ball has guided people through the process since first opening his doors in Kapahulu in 2004, hosting birthdays, weddings, anniversaries and people who like the ambience combined with what could possibly be called the ultimate in takeout. Best of all, there's no need for wrapping gifts, sending them through the mail or making the rounds to drop off the items. And they still won't know where you live.

Wine The Experience, 1016 Kapahulu Ave, Ste. 1, \$330-\$480 per

barrel (28-30 bottles), winetheexperience.com, 738-0738

Jelly's last jam

With some people, you know exactly what to get them and why. Then there are the rest of those involved in your day-to-day existence that you don't know a lot about. Maybe you don't care to know. This is where Jelly's can help. A gift doesn't need to be expensive, or even new, especially when it's for the guy you work with but don't really know, and you just want to expand his musical tastes so the first thing you hear in the morning is something other than those insipid pop divas. For that purpose, Jelly's is the perfect stop. Rummage through their music selection to find some Tom Waits or Dead Kennedys to help out the musically retarded, pick up a copy of Tom Robbins or Henry Rollins for the semi-literate, or choose from a wide selection of comic-based statues and dioramas for the socially awkward. While you're at it, pick up something for yourself, as the used DVDs are usually priced so low (many of which, we found, are out of print. Thanks, Jelly's!), that you can't help yourself. As a bonus, you can return all those crappy books and CDs you received last year to help offset the cost.

Jelly's, Harbor Center Shopping Plaza, 98-023 Hekaha St. Ste. B1-9, 484-4413 & 670 Auahi St., jellyshawaii.com, 587-7001

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THE SCENE

From Page 15

Academy Art Center at Iolani Palace 1111 Victoria St. Open Tue-Sat, 10AM-4:30PM; Sun, 1-5PM. Free. honoluluacademy.org, 532-8741
Iolani Palace The palace is the only official residence of royalty in the United States. King Kalākaua built the palace in 1882 to enhance the prestige of Hawai'i overseas and to mark Hawai'i's status as a modern nation. Corner of King & Richards Sts.: Guided tours: Tue-Sat, 9-11:15AM, \$20 adults, \$15 kama'āina, \$5 children (under 5 years not admitted). Audio tours available 11:45AM-3PM, \$13 adults; \$6 children. Galleries open: Tue-Sat, 9AM-4:30PM. \$6 adults; \$3 kids. Free admission to island residents with ID on Kama'āina Sundays (the first Sunday of each month). iolanipalace.org, 522-0832
Mission Houses Museum Step into 19th century Hawai'i when you visit the original homes of the first missionaries to the Islands. Learn about the challenges they faced, the struggles they endured and the legacies they left behind, such as the development of a written language. 533 S. King St. Open Tue-Sat, 10AM-4PM; closed Sun. Tours available at 11AM & 2:45PM. \$6-\$10; 50% kama'āina discount on last Saturdays. missionhouses.org, 531-0481

Fundamental Fibers: Lauhala, Tapa & Quilts In conjunction with the Textile Society of America's 11th Biennial Symposium. Through 1/3.

Pacific Aviation Museum Historical artifacts and aircrafts—including a Japanese Zero fighter and Navy Wildcat—tell heroic stories of military aviation during WWII. Pearl Harbor, Hanger 37, Ford Island, 319 Lexington Blvd.: \$14 general (\$10 kama'āina); \$7 children (\$5 kama'āina). pacificaviationmuseum.org, 441-1000

Free Combat Simulator Flight Download the coupon at PacificAviationMuseum.org. Good through June.

Hangar Talks The third Sunday of each month features aviation authors, pilots and WWII veterans guest lecturing.

Queen Emma Summer Palace Revel in Hawaiian history and American architecture from the Victorian period at the summer retreat. 2913 Pali Hwy.: Daily, 9AM-4PM. \$1-\$6. daughtersofhawaii.org, 595-6291

Prince Albert Kauikeaoli Leiopapa Exhibit A display of the prince's belongings celebrates his 150th birthday.

Galleries

Opening

Little & Takashima: The Two Clarks Fine surf art and photography show. Wed 12/17, 6-10PM. Wyland Galleries Hale'iwa, North Shore Marketplace, 66-250 Kamehameha Hwy.: 637-8729

Viva La Velvet An unveiling of velvet paintings and a rare appearance by Thor. Fri 12/19 & Sat 12/20, 7-10PM. Thor Store, Waikiki Beach Walk, 226 Lewers St., Ste. 139: 971-4866

Continuing

Backbone of the King and Other Marcia Brown Stories Through 12/31. Bridge Gallery, Hamilton Library, UH-Mānoa, 2550 McCarthy Mall: 956-7214

3 for 3 Show Through 3/20. The Association of Hawai'i Artists Gallery, Honolulu Country Club, 1690 Ala Puumalu St.: 395-3238

11th Annual Mixed Media Miniature Show Through 12/20. Koa Art Gallery, Kapi'olani Community College, 4303 Diamond Head Rd.: 734-9374

23rd Annual Holiday Wreath Exhibit Through 1/4. Lane Gallery, Honolulu Hale, 530 South King St.: 768-6622

Archipelago and Remains of the Rainbow Through 1/31. The ARTS at Marks Garage, 1159 Nu'uauu Ave.: 521-2903

Ballout Through 12/18. Closeout party Thu 12/18, 5:30-7:30PM. Nu'uauu Gallery at Marks Garage, 1161 Nu'uauu Ave.: 536-9828

Bethel Street Gallery Ongoing. Bethel Street Gallery, 1140 Bethel St.: 524-3552

Cade Roster Puts the "F" in Fine Art Through 12/27. Chinatown Boardroom, 1160 Nu'uauu Ave.: 585-7200

California Hotel and Casino: Hawai'i's Home Away from Home Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai'i, 2454 S. Beretania St.: 945-7633

Choice Art Through 1/3. Pegge Hopper Gallery, 1164 Nu'uauu Ave.: 524-1160

Chris Campbell & Diane KW Through 1/11. Second Floor @ Cedar Street Galleries, 817 Cedar St.: 589-1580

Convergence: Three Friends, Three Artists, Three Dreams Through 12/20. Pauahi Tower Gallery, 1003 Bishop St.: 342-0109

Creative Hands Hawai'i Through 1/16. The Exhibit Space at 1132 Bishop Street.: 559-5009

Endless Portraits Mercury Bar, 1154 Fort Street Mall: 537-3080

Field of Flowers: Mughal Carpets and Treasures Through 12/31. East-West Center Gallery, 1601 East-West Rd.: 944-7177

Francis Haar's Hawai'i Years, 1960-1997 Through 12/31. Bridge Gallery, Hamilton Library, UH-Mānoa, 2550 McCarthy Mall: 956-7214

Having Fun with My Friends and Family Through 4/30. Hawai'i Convention Center, 1801 Kalākaua Ave.: 943-3500

Hawai'i in the News...International Coverage of Events in the Islands Through 12/30. Canon Photo Gallery, Ward Plaza, 210 Ward Ave., Ste. 200: 522-5930

Joshua W. Miles Han's Gallery, Koko Marina Center, Ste. E205.: 396-9775

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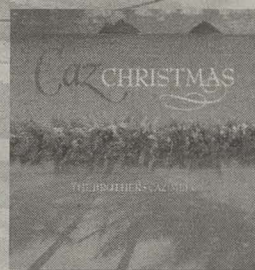
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THE SCENE

Kahi 101: An Introduction to Kahi Ching—An Art Show Featuring an Awareness of Dyslexia Through 1/31. *Kahi Gallery*, 460 'Ena Rd.: 941-0524

Kane'oh'e Head Start Through 1/2. *Gallery on the Pali*, First Unitarian Church of Honolulu, 2500 Pali Hwy.: 595-4047

Kim Taylor Reece Ongoing. *Kim Taylor Reece Gallery*, 1142 Bethel St.: 546-1144

Korea to Honolulu Through 1/19. *Sub-Zero/Wolf Showroom*, 938 Pi'iki St.: 597-1647

M. Good and Juicy Art Through 12/26. *Louis Pohl Gallery*, 1111 Nu'uauu Ave.: 521-1812

Mauka Makai Through 12/20. *Robyn Buntin of Honolulu*, 848 S. Beretania St.: 523-5913

One Breath Photography *Outrigger Reef Hotel*, #C106, 2169 Kalia Rd.: 922-5110

The Pacific Gallery and Frames Collection Through 1/31. *Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific*, 531-3511

Palolo Kids and Friends *Downtown*, Hawaii State Art Museum, No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 S. Hotel St., 2nd Fl.: 586-0900

Pastels of the Windward Side Through 12/31. *Bogart's Cafe*, 3045 Monsarrat Ave.: 739-0999

Patrick Ching Gallery Showing Through 12/31. *Naturally Hawaiian*, 41-1025 Kalaniana'ole Hwy.: 259-5354

PeekaBooMonster! Hawaii-only limited prints, T-shirts and original art work on display and for sale from this friend of the Pocket Full of Monsters crew. Through 12/30. *The Lightsleepers Pop Up Store*, 1311 Kapi'olani Blvd.: 222-9284

Rainbow's End, Mānoa Through 12/24. *Ko'olau Gallery*, Mānoa Marketplace: 988-4147

Re-Visioning Family: A Photovoice Project with Transgenders and their Families in Hawai'i *Gallery 721*, Saunders Hall, 7th Fl., University of Hawai'i-Mānoa, 2424 Maile Way: 956-7464

Sandblasted and Painted Recycled Glass Through 1/31. *town*, 3435 Wai'alae Ave.: 735-5900

Sea Life Fantasy Through 12/24. *Ko'olau Gallery*, Mānoa Marketplace: 988-4147

Small Doses Daily Through 1/16. *Hawai'i Pacific University Art Gallery*, 45-045 Kamehameha Hwy.: 544-0287

Water Series Through 1/31. *town*, 3435 Wai'alae Ave.: 735-5900

Call To Artists

Abraham Lincoln: A Man of His Time, A Man for All Times Students grades K-12 are invited to design posters that illustrate their thoughts on the given topic. Visit librarieshawaii.org. Deadline is 1/24.

Artists of Hawai'i 2009 Visit honoluluacademy.org for details. *Honolulu Academy of Arts*, 900 S. Beretania St.: 1/2 deadline. 532-8700

Call for Compositions Composers with ties to Hawai'i are invited to submit three contrasting works, including at least one choral work, to the O'ahu Choral Society. The Society is commissioning a choral work (10-15 minutes) on an aspect of the life of Father Damien. Visit oahuchoral.com. Winner announced on 1/31.

Words

Wild Mind Free Writers Group For new and experienced writers wanting to improve their writing muscle. For further information, contact facilitator Madison at 255-9890. Every other Tuesday; 12/23, (6:30PM.) Free.

Call to Authors

Kumu Kahua/UHM Theatre Dept. Playwriting Contest Plays for the Hawai'i Prize (\$600) must be set in Hawai'i or deal with the Hawai'i experience; for the Pacific Rim Prize (\$450), plays must be set in or deal with the Pacific Islands, Pacific Rim or Pacific/Asian-American experience; for the Resident Prize (\$250) plays on any topic must be written by a Hawai'i resident. 536-4222, kumukahua.org. Postmark by 1/2.

Learning

Drawing and Oil Painting Basics and Secrets Open to everyone, from beginners to professionals. Proceeds go toward efforts for preserving the Hawaiian Monk Seal. Visit patrickchingart.com. *Naturally Hawaiian Art School*, 41-1025 Kalaniana'ole Hwy.: Thu 12/18, Sat 12/20, Sat 12/27, (10AM.) \$50 per class or \$270 for six classes. 259-7851

Hawaiian Quilting Workshops Beginner and experienced quilters are invited to attend these informal workshops. Registration deadline is the Thursday before each workshop. *Mission Houses Museum*, 553 S. King St.: Every first and third Saturday, (10AM-2PM.) \$35 initial fee; \$6 thereafter. 531-0481

Nominations for Papahānaumokuākea Workshop on Midway Atoll The program is Papahānaumokuākea 'Ahau'i Alaka'i (PAA). It runs from 6/13/09-6/23/09. The purpose is to create a greater understanding of the Monument and to inspire community environmental stewardship at a local grassroots level. Visit papahanaumokuakea.gov or call 933-8181. Nominations accepted through 1/2.

Keiki & 'Ohana

Aquarium After Dark Where do fish sleep? (Do fish sleep?) Go on a flashlight tour of the Aquarium galleries and learn about the reef's ecology at night. Ages 5 & up. Pre-registration required. *Waikiki Aquarium*, 2777 Kalākaua Ave.: Tue 12/23, (7PM.) \$10 adults; \$7 children (\$8/\$6 for members). 923-9741

Bank of Hawai'i Sunday This month, celebrate the color red with the Red Alert. *Honolulu Academy of Arts*, 900 S. Beretania St.: Third Sundays; 12/21, (11AM-5PM.) Free. 532-8700

Christmas in Polynesia Enjoy a Christmas Canoe Ride (new this year), yule tide activities and live performances. *Polynesian Cultural Center*, 55-370 Kamehameha Hwy, Lā'ie: Through 12/22, (6:30PM.) \$5-\$8; free for Kama'āina Annual Pass holders. 239-2911

Creatively Christmas: A Holiday Program Mix holiday fun with art for the keiki. Visit honoluluacademy.org. *Honolulu Academy of Arts*, 900 S. Beretania St.: Sat 12/20, 10AM, 10:45AM, 11:30AM, 12PM; Sun 12/21, 11AM, 11:45AM, 12:30PM, 1PM, 1:45PM; Tue 12/23, 10AM, 10:45AM, 11:30AM, 12PM, 12:45PM. 532-8700

Honolulu City Lights Fire Truck Rides Here's a chance to celebrate the holidays and the Honolulu City Lights on a 1936 fire truck. Reservations suggested at 590-2100. No tours on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. *Mission Houses Museum & Kawaiha'o Plaza*, 553 S. King St.: Every evening through 12/28, (6-9PM.) \$7; \$3 for keiki ages 2 and younger.

Imperial Storm Troopers for Toys for Tots The Storm Troopers will be collecting toys for the keiki. Photo opportunities available! The 501st Legion is a world-wide *Star Wars* costume organization and Lucas Films' preferred Imperial costume group. Call 768-6622. *Honolulu Hale*, 530 S. King St.: Wed 12/17, (6-9PM.)

Mermaids Hawai'i It's the 37th go-around for the annual Christmas water shows, with synchronized swimming set to music. *Sheraton Princess Ka'iulani*, 120 Ka'iulani Ave.: Fri 12/19, (5:30PM.) Free.

'Ohana Night Sponsored by the Hawai'i Ballroom Dance Association. *Ala Wai Golf Course Palladium*, 404 Kapahulu: Third Fri of every month, (6:30-9:45PM.) \$3. 838-0900

The Songs of Christmas with the Traveling Storytellers Learn who wrote them and why. For ages 3 and up. *Hawai'i State Public Library*, 478 S. King St.: Sat 12/20, (10:30AM.) Free. 586-3500

Star of Bethlehem: The Magi's Story Explore the astronomical possibilities for the Star that guided the Wise Men to Bethlehem in this high tech light show. Call 235-7433. *Imaginarium*, Windward Community College: Fri 12/19, 7PM; Sat 12/20, 11AM & 7PM; Fri 1/2, 7PM. \$3-\$5. 236-9169

Botanical

Garden Tours View rare and beautiful plants from tropical regions of the world. Reservations recommended. Guided tours available Mon-Sat, 1PM. *Foster Botanical Garden*, 180 N. Vineyard Blvd.: (9AM-4PM.) \$5; \$3 kama'āina; \$1 kids. 522-7064

Hālawā Xeriscape Garden This three-acre botanical garden showcases more than 300 varieties of plants that promote water conservation. *Hālawā Xeriscape Garden*, 99-1268 Iwaena St., Hālawā Industrial Park: Every Sat, (9AM-3PM.) Free. boardofwatersupply.com, 748-5041

Help Restore Places on O'ahu with Ka'ala Farm Ka'ala Farm Seeks Groups to assist in the floral restoration of five sites in West O'ahu. 696-4954, kaalafarm@gmail.com. Ongoing.

Koko Crater Botanical Garden Take a 2-mile loop trail through the basin with dryland plant collections. *Kealahou St.*, near Sandy Beach: Daily, (9AM-4PM.) Free. 522-7060

Mānoa Cliff Restoration Meet at the trailhead on Round Top Drive to help nurture native plants and remove invasives on around the popular trail site. E-mail manoacliffnatives@gmail.com for details. Every first and third Sun, (9AM.)

Medicinal Plants Tour Learn about the healing properties that some plants have. Call 522-7066 for reservations. *Foster Botanical Garden*, 180 N. Vineyard Blvd.: Sat 12/20, (1PM.) Garden admission. 522-7064

Tropical Plant Nature Walk Enjoy a guided nature hike with tropical plants and majestic views of the Ko'olau range. Reservations required. *Ho'omaluhia Botanical Garden*, 45-680 Lulukū Rd., Kāne'ohe: Every Sat, 10AM & Sun, 1PM. Free. 233-7323

Hikes & Excursions

Chinatown Museum's Chinatown Discovery Lecture Tour Explore Honolulu's ever evolving yet historical Chinatown. Call 595-3358 to reserve a spot. Mon-Sat, (10:30AM-12PM.) \$10 includes history book.

Festival of Lights Pearl Harbor Boat Tours (See Hot Picks, page 8.) *USS Arizona Memorial*, 1 Arizona Memorial Place: Fri 12/19-Sun 12/21, 6:30PM, 6:45PM, 7:15PM, 7:30PM, 8PM; additional boat ride at 8:15 on Sat & Sun. Free.

Honolulu Ghost Tours Do you live in a monster house? Is your street haunted? Find out with one of six themed walks. Various tours available. Check website for details. \$65. honolulughosttours.com, 699-4940

Pauoa Woods Hike through the woods with the Hawaiian Trail & Mountain Club on this 6-mile, intermediate-level trail. E-mail steve_davis@ymail.com or call 371-1492.

Iolani Palace Grounds Sun 12/21, (8AM.) \$2 nonmembers. 263-8330

Star of Honolulu Premier Whale Watch Cruise If you don't see one you get a free ticket to come back until you do. Join the crew in whale and cultural activities. Visit starof-honolulu.com or call 983-7827. *Pier 8, Aloha Tower*. Daily through 4/30, (12-2:30PM.) \$39 general (\$29.29 kama'āina/military); \$23.50 kids (\$17.65 w/Hawai'i I.D.). 922-1886

Uncle Steve's Honolulu Ghost Tour Take a one-and-a-half-hour walk to haunted sites and mystical places in downtown Honolulu and Chinatown. stevestoursandfilms.vpweb.com, call 395-0674. Tuesdays, Thursdays & Saturdays, 7:30PM. Meet in the Capitol District.

Food & Drink

Cook's Tour of Chinatown Get an insider's guide in Asian cooking on a morning tour (\$20; 8:30-10:30AM) or dine out with "Taste of Chinatown Eateries" in the afternoon (\$69; 11:30AM-2:30PM). Learn about what to get and where to go. Comfortable shoes and elastic waistband recommended. Reservations required. *Corner of King and Smith streets*. Saturdays. eat_hawaii@yahoo.com, 391-1550

Country Market & Crafts Fair The weekly fair offers fresh produce, arts and crafts, jewelry, refreshments and clothing. *Waimānalo Hawaiian Homestead Association Community Center*. Every Sun, (9AM-4PM.) 259-5349.

Ecolounge This is what you get when you put action sports and sustainability together: a networking opportunity (x-treme!) with drinks, pūpū, action sport video premeirs, eco fashion shows and more. Check out honuguide.com or nellamedia.com. *Indigo*, 1121 Nu'uauu Ave.: Third Thursdays; 12/18, (6PM.) 521-2900

Hale'iwa Green Drinks Meet upon the North Shore to imbibe and let the brainstorm flow on how to better the environment. Visit greendrinks.org. *Breakers Restaurant*, Hale'iwa: Third Thursdays; 12/18, (5PM.)

Raisin d'Etre Multi-course wine pairing dinner with Chef Scott Nelson. Seating limited, reservations required. *Brasserie Du Vin*, 1115 Bethel St.: Every Mon, (6:15PM.) \$60-\$70. 545-1115

Wine By Numbers This new wine shop offers different themed tastings each week. *Wine By Numbers*, 94-1235 Ka Uka Blvd., Unit B: Fridays 6-8PM; Saturdays 3-6PM. winebynumbers.com, 671-1120

Wrath of Grapes Taste killer wines from a different presenter each week. Reservations required. *Du Vin*, 1115 Bethel St.: Every Tue, (6PM.) \$20 plus tax and gratuity. 521-2900

Whatever's

Audubon Christmas Bird Count Watch the birdy, count the birdy in the Audubon Society's annual event. Visit hawaii.audubon.com or call 528-1432 for times, locations and group leaders. Runs 12/14-1/15.

Festival of Lights Boat Parade View beautiful boats and celebrate the season with music and dance at this holiday party, featuring Ka Hale I o Kahala Halau Hula and Amy Hanaiali'i. *Hawai'i Kai Towne Center*, 6700 Kalaniana'ole Hwy.: Sat 12/20, (4:30PM.) Free. 941-0440

Holiday Treasures Boutique The workshop opens itself up for a storewide sale with goods at 25 percent-off. Also enjoy guest artists, Pampered Chef demonstration, temporary tattoos, door prizes and pūpū. *Rubber Stamp Plantation*, 746 Ilanuiwai St.: Thu 12/18, (5-8PM.) rubberstampplantation.com, 591-2122

Honolulu Gift & Craft Fair More than 200 vendors showcasing the handmade, unique and specially crafted. And bring canned food for the Hawai'i Food Bank. Visit honolulugiftfair.com or call 942-3110. *Blaisdell Exhibition Hall*, 777 Ward Ave.: Fri 12/19, 5-9PM; Sat 12/20, 10AM-9PM; Sun 12/21, 10AM-5PM.

John Kelly Environmental Awards Dinner & VIP Charter The Surfrider Foundation O'ahu Chapter presents its sixth annual awards ceremony honoring those dedicated to protecting or enhancing our coastal community and environment. Dinner provided by town restaurant. E-mail clearwater@hawaii.rr.com, mhesketts@mac.com or scolemans4@aol.com. *The Waterfront*, Aloha Tower Marketplace: Sat 12/20, (6:30PM.) \$30 advance; \$40 door. waterfrontaloha.com, 545-5900

Last Chance Christmas Craft Fair For all the artsy fartsy lovers, get to this established art gallery for your last minutes holiday gifts. *Louis Pohl Gallery*, 1111 Nu'uauu Ave.: Sat 12/20, 10AM-5PM; Sun, 12/21, 11AM-4PM. 521-1812

NightMarket A new monthly event featuring made/grown-in-Hawai'i produce and products, live jazz, wine tasting, art, fashion and technology. E-mail info@hawaiiiredmagazine.com. *Aloha Tower*. Third Wednesdays; 12/17, (5-10PM.) 21+

Princess Bernice Pauahi Bishop 177th Birthday Celebration (See City Wise, page 14.) *Royal Hawaiian Shopping Center*, 2201 Kalākaua Ave.: Fri 12/19, (4PM.) Free.

Third Thursdays Busy on First Friday? Downtown venues are spreading the aloha and staying up late on Third Thursday. Participating galleries include the Pegge Hopper Gallery, Ong King and Bethel Street Gallery. Visit artsatmarks.com. (6-7PM.) Free.

Washington Place Christmas Open House Take a guided tour through the 161-year-old house with Lt. Governor James R. "Duke" Aiona and Mrs. Vivian Aiona. Help decorate Mary Dominis's tree and enjoy harp music. Call 586-0249. *Washington Place*, 320 Beretania St.: Fri 12/19, (5:30-8PM.) Free. 586-0248

Volunteer **Bike Path Clean-Up** Island Triathlon & Bike is picking up trash, sweeping and removing weeds on the path by the Ala Wai Golf Course. Free shirt for helpers while supplies last! Third Saturday of every month, (3PM.) ITBHawaii.com, 732-7227

Homeless Memorial Day Toys, rainwear, blankets, hygiene kits, shoes and useful items needed for the memorial, paying respect for those who passed away while being homeless. Call 946-9324 or 351-7759. *Kaunakapili Church*, 766 N. King St.: Fri 12/19, (3-6:30PM.)

Nā Pōhaku 'O Hauwahine Help restore the ethno-botanical and cultural features of this historical state park. Second Saturdays. ahahui.wordpress.com. Meet at *Kapa'a Quarry Road*. Sat 12/20, (8:30AM-12:30PM.) 593-0112

Pouhala Marsh Clean-Up and Restoration Remove pickleweed and other alien flora. Gloves, water, hat, sunscreen, change of clothes and towel are recommended. Closed footwear and long pants are required. *Hawai'i Nature Center*. Sat 12/20, (8:30-11:30AM.) 955-0100, ext. 18, volunteer@hawaiinaturecenter.com

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Sports

Battlefield Kali Learn stick and knife techniques based on Filipino Martial Arts. 4224 Wai'alae Ave. Call 864-1620 for free class. Tuesdays and Thursdays, (6-9PM.)

Beer Run Great opportunity to meet other Leeward runners and hang out afterwards. All ages welcome, though probably not for the beer. *Runner's Hi*, 98-390 Kamehameha Hwy.: Every Tue, (5:30PM.) Free. runnershi.net, 488-6588

Billabong Pipeline Masters The longest-running and most prestigious competition of the Vans Triple Crown. See who will be the next men's and women's world champions. Visit triplecrownofsurfing.com. *Banzai Pipeline*, North Shore: Holding period through 12/20.

Heavy Breather Rides Aren't they all? Ride with a group on a moderate-paced excursion; eat well afterward! Call to confirm. *Pāki Park*, 3503 Lē'ahi Ave.: Every Sat, (9AM.) 479-8142

Honolulu Lawn Bowls Club The Green is open for those who wish to try their hand at lawn bowling. *Honolulu Lawn Bowls Club*, Ala Moana Park, 'Ewa from McCoy Pavillion: Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat, 9:30AM. 593-1108

Recreational Ultimate Frisbee Learn basic disc skills for throwing and catching. Designed for beginners and experienced players alike. Bring a light and dark shirt and cleats if you have them. 391-7134 *Kanewai Community Park*, 2695 Dole St.: Thursdays, (6PM.) Free.

Gay

The Aloha Pride Band Rehearsals open to all instrumentalists. New members needed. Call 554-7124 for info. Wednesdays, (7PM.)

Fruit Fly The monthly party for "guys and their flies" presents the holiday party called XOXO XXX-Mas. With DJs KSM and Skeeter. *thirtyninehotel*, 39 N. Hotel St.: Fri, (9PM.) 7. 599-2552

Gay Discussion Group For the GLBT community and supportive people. Call 955-3488. *Waikiki Community Center*, 310 Paoakalani Ave.: Tuesdays, (7:30PM.) 923-1802

Holiday Party What better way to celebrate the many holidays this season than with free pūpū and drinks? *In Between*, 2155 Lauula St., Waikiki: Mon 12/22, (8PM-12AM.)

My Hawaiian Christmas See Christmas interpreted in the style of hula to some of your favorite songs, featuring singer Anita Hall. *Hula's Bar and Lei Stand*, Waikiki Grand Hotel, 2nd floor, 134 Kapahulu Ave.: Sat 12/20, (10PM.) hulas.com, 923-0669

Mixed Media

Metropolitan Opera Broadcasts Miss the Met? Hear the live broadcasts. This Saturday features *Thais*, the opera to a French libretto based on a novel set in Roman Egypt. *KHPR* 88.1 FM. Sat 12/20, (1PM.) 955-8821

Monday Night Live Hear the bands that don't get the airplay they deserve. This week's show features Buckz Boyz (reggae, ska, rock). *KTUH*, 90.3 FM Honolulu, 91.3 FM North Shore, 89.9 Windward: Mon 12/22, (10PM.) 956-5288

On Politics A call-in discussion program with HPR Talk Show Executive Producer Beth Ann Kozlovich and Political Reporter Wayne Yoshioaka. *KIPO* 89.3. Tuesdays, (5PM.) 955-8821

Sunset on the Beach See *We Are Marshall* (Sat) or *Kung Fu Panda* (Sun) in a romantic sunset-filled atmosphere. *Queen's Surf Beach*, Waikiki: Sat 12/20 & Sun 12/21, (6PM.) Free. sunsetonthebeach.net

Submissions

"The Scene" provides groups and individuals with free listings of community events, activities and entertainment. Submissions must include the following:

- Date and time;
- Location (include a street address);
- Cost or admission price (please note if event is free);
- Contact phone number;
- Description of the event. If submitting an entry to the music section, include the general type of music (jazz, rock, hip-hop, Hawaiian, etc.).

Deadline for submissions is two weeks before the listing should appear. Listings appear the Wednesday before the event. "The Scene" is also posted each week on our Web site, at honoluluweekly.com.

Send all submissions c/o Honolulu Weekly Calendar Editor, 1111 Fort Street Mall, Honolulu, HI 96813, fax to 528-3144 or e-mail calendar@honoluluweekly.com. Submissions are not accepted over the phone. Please note: We welcome photographs with submissions, but cannot guarantee returns — please do not send original art. ■



From left: WALL•E, *The Visitor*, *The Fall*, *Happy-Go-Lucky*

Best of 2008 (thus far)

BOB GREEN

What a year, yeah? *Batman* rebooted and went *Dark*; Meryl Streep (at 59) became box-office gold, war movies bombed, idiot comedies reigned, superheroes got smart, animation soared, big stars went kablooey, indies tottered and movie theaters raised prices, piled on the commercials and added pricey foodstuffs including almonds, melons and chocolate bananas. And *Honolulu Weekly* chose a Best Movie of the Year for the first time—and a list of others as per usual. Best Movie: *WALL•E*. No movie soared higher than this Pixar instant-classic: every aspect of the robot/scanbot love story was ter-

Our critic rants, raves and laments about '08 flicks

rific. The (dialogueless) story was relevant, the CGI the best ever, the 38 songs (some new) beautifully chosen. And, in alphabetical order: *Changeling*: Clint Eastwood directs a superb Angelina Jolie in a '20s period-piece about a disappearing child, police cover-ups and a serial killer—in classical film structure. Drama has not quite disappeared. *The Dark Knight*: Chicago plays Gotham City in the Nolan Broth-

ers' overlong ersatz-drama—with opulent visuals, great spf/x, Heath Ledger's penultimate performance, Aaron Eckhart's two-faced scene-stealing and to-die-for IMAX action-inserts. *The Fall*: Tarsem Singh's phantasmagoria, shot over several years, about an injured 1920s Hollywood stunt man who, while hospitalized, meets and trades fantasy stories with a precocious child (Catinca Untaru, wonderful), in a Jungian display of the healing power of fables and mythologies. Amazing. *Happy-Go-Lucky*: Brit genius writer/director Mike Leigh (*Secrets and Lies*), who works with his actors for six months before the shoot, reverses his usual stock-in-trade and makes a near-miraculous movie about a genuinely happy human being. Wonderfully convincing. *Iron Man*: Robert Downey Jr. is

marvelous in director Jon Favreau's intelligent, sneaky superhero flick, heavy on the laughs, and satirical in the visuals. *In Bruges*: A classic pitch-black hitman comedy-drama with a pitch-perfect cast: Colin Farrell (welcome back!), Brendan Gleeson, and Ralph Fiennes. Hilarious and very politically incorrect. *Man On Wire*: Best documentary of the year, about wire-walker Philippe Petit's 1974 walk between the twin towers of the World Trade Center. James Marsh directed. *Milk*: Sean Penn transforms Gus Van Sant's film bio of gay activist Harvey Milk into a funny, sad work of art. *The Visitor*: Character actor Richard Jenkins (*Six Feet Under*) has the role of a lifetime as he essays the character of a prof who finds that his New York apartment

hideaway is being inhabited by illegals who change his life (for the better). Written/directed by Thomas McCarthy (*The Station Agent*). **The WORST films of the year:** *Blindness*, *Fly Me to the Moon*, *Sex and the City*, *The Happening*. **Underappreciated:** *Australia*; *Hellboy II: The Golden Army*, *Nick and Norah's Infinite Playlist*, *Redbelt*; *War/Dance* (doc), *The Band's Visit* (*Bikur Ha-Tizmoret*), *Vicky Cristina Barcelona*. (They wuz robbed.) Most of these are available on DVD/Blu-Ray; others will be soon. **Notable upcoming films:** *Doubt*, *Revolutionary Road*, *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button*.

Movieticket

Film locations and times are subject to change. Please call venues for latest information

Legend:
Showing ♦
Closing ●
Opening ●

Regal Cinemas no longer releases its movie listings in time for Honolulu Weekly to publish them.

Town

RESTAURANT ROW 500 Ala Moana Blvd. 526-4171

♦ *The Dark Knight* (Wed & Thu 11, 3:20, 6:45, 10); *Eagle Eye* (Wed & Thu 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 9:50); *Igor* (Wed & Thu 12:45, 4:05, 7:05, 9:40); *Lakeview Terrace* (Wed & Thu 1:05, 4:30, 7:30, 10:05); *Max Payne* (Wed & Thu 1, 4:20, 7:20, 9:55); *Nick and Norah's Infinite Playlist* (Wed & Thu 1:25, 4:40, 7:40, 10:10); *Pride and Glory* (Wed & Thu 12:40, 4, 6:55, 10); *Quarantine* (12:30, 3:45, 7, 10:15); *RocknRolla* (Wed & Thu 12:55, 4:10, 7:10, 9:45)

WARD STADIUM 1044 Auahi St. 593-3000

♦ *Australia* (Wed & Thu 1:30, 5:15, 9:15, Fri-Tue 11, 2:45, 6:30, 10:15); *Bolt* (Wed & Thu 1:30, 4:20, Fri-Tue 11); *Bolt in Disney Digital* (Wed & Thu 12:30, 3, 5:30, 8, 10:30, Fri-Tue 12, 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:55); *The Day the Earth Stood Still* (Wed 12:30, 1, 1:35, 2:15, 2:55, 3:35, 4:10, 4:50, 5:30, 6:10, 6:45, 7:25, 8:05, 8:45, 9:20, 10, 10:30, Thu 12:30, 1, 1:35, 2:15, 2:55, 3:35, 4:10, 4:50, 5:30, 6:10, 7:25, 8:05, 8:45, 10, 10:30, Fri-Sat 11:40, 12:20, 1, 2:15, 2:55, 3:35, 4:50, 5:30, 6:10, 7:25, 8:05, 8:45, 9:20, 10, 10:40, 11:20, Sun-Tue 11:40, 12:20, 1, 2:15, 2:55, 3:35, 4:50, 5:30, 6:10, 7:25, 8, 8:45, 9:20, 10, 10:30); *Four Christmases* (Wed & Thu 12:30, 1:20, 2:50, 3:40, 5:10, 6, 7:30, 8:15, 9:50, 10:30, Fri-Sat 11, 1:20, 6, 8:20, 10:40, Sun-Tue 11, 1:20, 3:40, 6, 8:15, 10:30); *Nothing Like the Holidays* (Wed 1:20, 3:40, 6, 8:15, 10:30, Thu 1:30, 3:40, 6, 8:15, 10:30, Fri-Sat 1:10, 3:40, 6, 8:20, 10:40, Sun-Tue 1:10, 3:40, 6, 8:15, 10:30); *Quantum of Solace* (Wed & Thu 12:30, 3:05, 5:40, 8:05, 10:30, Fri-Sat 12:30, 3:05, 5:40, 8:15, 10:50, Sun-Tue 12:30, 3:05, 5:40, 8:05, 10:30); *Twilight* (Wed & Thu 12:40, 3:20, 7, 7:50, 9:40, 10:30, Fri-Tue 11:20, 2, 4:40, 7:20, 10)

● Thu 12/18: *Cadillac Records* (Wed &

Thu 12:55, 3:35, 7:15, 10); *Delgo* (Wed & Thu 1:15, 3:30, 5:45, 8, 10:15); *Punisher: War Zone* (Wed & Thu 1:35, 2:30, 4:10, 7, 9:30, 10:30); *Transporter 3* (Wed & Thu 1:15, 3:30, 5:50, 8:10, 10:30)

● Fri 12/19: *Doubt* (Fri-Sat 12:15, 2:50, 5:25, 8, 10:35, Sun-Tue 12:15, 2:50, 5:25, 8, 10:30); *Seven Pounds* (Fri-Sat 11, 12, 1:55, 2:55, 4:50, 5:45, 7:45, 8:35, 10:40, 11:30, Sun-Tue 11, 12, 1:55, 2:55, 4:50, 5:45, 7:40, 8:35, 10:30); *The Tale of Despereaux* (Fri-Sat 11, 12, 1:20, 2:20, 3:40, 4:40, 6, 7, 8:20, 10:40, Sun-Tue 11, 12, 1:20, 2:20, 3:40, 4:40, 6, 7, 8:20, 10:30); *Yes Man* (Fri-Sat 11:30, 12:30, 2:05, 3:05, 4:40, 5:40, 7:15, 8:15, 9:50, 10:50, Sun-Tue 11:30, 12:30, 2:05, 3:05, 4:40, 5:40, 7:15, 8:05, 9:50, 10:30)

Windward

KO'OLAUI STADIUM Temple Valley Shopping Center (808) 593-3000

♦ *Ashes of Time Redux* (Wed & Thu 4:45, 7:10); *Australia* (Wed & Thu 11:15, 3, 7, 10:15, Fri-Tue 11:15, 3, 7, 10:15); *Bolt* (Wed & Thu 11, 12, 1:15, 2:20, 3:30, 5:45, 8, 10:15, Fri-Tue 11:05, 1:15, 3:30, 5:45, 8, 10:15); *The Day the Earth Stood Still* (Wed 10:30, 11:30, 12:45, 1:45, 3:10, 4:10, 5:25, 7, 7, 9:15, 10:15, Thu 10:30, 11:30, 12:45, 1:45, 3:10, 4:10, 5:25, 7, 8, 9:15, 10:15, Fri 10:30, 11:30, 12:30, 1:45, 3:10, 4:10, 5:25, 7, 8, 9:15, 10:15, Sat-Tue 10:30, 11:30, 12:45, 1:45, 3:10, 4:10, 5:25, 7, 8, 9:15, 10:15); *Four Christmases* (Wed & Thu 11:20, 1:25, 3:40, 5:50, 7:50, 9:50, Fri-Tue 11:20, 1:25, 3:40, 5:50, 7:50, 9:50); *Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa* (Wed & Thu 11:05, 1:25, 3:35, Fri-Sat, Mon-Tue 11:05, 1:05, Sun 11:05); *Twilight* (Wed & Thu 11:10, 1:40, 4:15, 7:10, 9:40, Fri-Tue 11:15, 1:45, 4:15, 7:10, 9:40)

● Thu 12/18: *The Boy in Striped Pajamas* (Wed & Thu 10:50, 12:55, 3, 5:05, 7:15, 9:20); *Delgo* (Wed & Thu 11, 1, 3, 5, 7:05, 9:10); *Punisher: War Zone* (Wed & Thu 5:45, 7:55, 10:05); *Transporter 3* (Wed & Thu 9:30)

East

KAHALA 8-PLEX Kahala Mall, 4211 Wai'aleae Ave. (808) 593-3000

♦ *Australia* (Wed & Thu 11:45, 3:20, 7, Fri-Tue 11:40, 3, 6:30, 9:50); *Four Christmases* (Wed & Thu 11:30, 1:35, 3:40, 5:45, 7:55, Fri-Sat, Mon-Tue 10:55, 1, 3:05, 5:10, 7:20, 9:30, Sun 1, 3:05, 5:10, 7:20, 9:30); *Milk* (Wed & Thu 11:40, 2:20, 5, 7:50, Fri-Tue 11:15, 1:55, 4:35, 7:15, 10); *Twilight* (Wed & Thu 11:50, 2:25, 5, 7:40, Fri-Sat, Mon-Tue 11:20, 1:55, 4:30, 7:10, 9:45, Sun 1:55, 4:30, 7:10, 9:45)

● Thu 12/18: *Bolt* (Wed & Thu 12:10, 2:30, 5:10, 7:30); *JCVD* (Wed & Thu 11:35, 1:45, 3:55, 6:05, 8:15); *Slumdog Millionaire* (Wed & Thu 12, 1:40, 2:40, 4:20, 5:20, 7, 8)

KOKO MARINA STADIUM 8 593-3000

♦ *Bolt* (Wed & Thu 1:30, 3:45, 6, 8:15, Fri-Mon 10:50, 1, 3:20, 5:30, 7:40, 9:50, Tue 10:50, 1, 3:20, 5:30, 7:40); *The Day the Earth Stood Still* (Wed & Thu 1:10, 2:30, 3:30, 4:50, 5:50, 7:10, 8:10, Fri-Mon 10:50, 12:10, 1:10, 2:30, 3:30, 4:50, 5:50, 7:10, 8:10, 9:30, 10:30, Tue 10:50, 11:30, 1:10, 2:30, 3:30, 4:50, 5:50, 7:10, 8:10); *Four Christmases* (Wed & Thu 1:40, 3:50, 5:55, 8, Fri-Mon 11:20, 1:30, 3:40, 5:45, 8, 10:10, Tue 1:20, 1:30, 3:40, 5:45, 8); *Twilight* (Wed & Thu 2:20, 5, 7:40, Fri-Mon 11:30, 2:20, 5, 7:45, 10:20, Tue 11:30, 2:20, 5, 7:45)

● Thu 12/18: *Delgo* (Wed & Thu 3:25, 5:30, 7:35); *Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa* (Wed & Thu 1:20); *Punisher: War Zone* (Wed & Thu 1, 7:50); *Quantum of Solace* (Wed & Thu 2, 4:40, 7:20); *Transporter 3* (Wed & Thu 3:20, 5:35)

Central

MILILANI TOWN CENTER STADIUM 14 95-1249 Meheulia Parkway (808) 593-3000

♦ *Australia* (Wed & Thu 3:55, 8, Fri-Tue 7); *Bolt* (Wed & Thu 12:05, 1:05, 2:25, 4:45, 7:10, 9:30, Fri-Tue 11:45, 2:20, 4:45, 7:30, 9:40); *The Day the Earth Stood Still* (Wed &

Thu 12, 12:40, 1:25, 2:20, 3, 3:50, 4:40, 5:20, 6:10, 7, 7:45, 8:35, 9:20, 10:05, Fri-Tue 11, 11:40, 12:20, 1:20, 2, 3:20, 4:40, 4:20, 5, 6, 7:25, 8:25, 9:45, 10:20, 10:55); *Four Christmases* (Wed & Thu 12:10, 12:55, 2:20, 3:05, 4:40, 5:25, 7, 7:40, 9:15, 9:55, Fri-Tue 11:20, 1:25, 3:35, 5:05, 5:50, 7:20, 8, 10:15); *Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa* (Fri-Tue 11, 1, 3); *Nothing Like the Holidays* (Wed & Thu 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50, Fri-Tue 11:10, 1:30, 3:45, 6:05, 8:20, 10:40); *Transporter 3* (Wed & Thu 12:50, 3:10, 5:30, 7:50, 10:05, Fri-Tue 9:50); *Twilight* (Fri-Tue 11:15, 1:50, 4:25, 7:10, 9:25, 10:05)

● Thu 12/18: *Delgo* (Wed & Thu 12:45, 2:55, 5, 7:20, 9:25); *Punisher: War Zone* (Wed & Thu 12:15, 2:40, 5:05, 7:35, 10); *Quantum of Solace* (Wed & Thu 12, 2:30, 4:55, 7:25, 9:55)

● Fri 12/19: *Seven Pounds* (Fri-Tue 11:05, 11:50, 1:45, 2:30, 4:30, 5:15, 7:15, 8:05, 9:55, 10:45); *The Tale of Despereaux* (Fri-Tue 11:05, 12, 1:20, 2:15, 3:30, 4:40, 5:40, 7:05, 7:55, 10:10); *Yes Man* (Fri-Tue 11:30, 12:15, 1:55, 2:40, 4:20, 5:20, 6:45, 7:45, 9:30, 10:30)

PEARLRIDGE WEST (808) 593-3000

♦ *Bolt* (Wed & Thu 11:45, 12:45, 2:15, 3, 4:45, 7:15, 9:35, Fri-Tue 11:15, 1:30, 3:45, 6, 8:20, 10:35); *The Day the Earth Stood Still* (Wed & Thu 11:45, 12:30, 1:15, 2:15, 3, 3:45, 4:45, 5:30, 6:15, 7:15, 8, 8:45, 9:45, Fri-Tue 10:30, 11:15, 12, 1, 1:45, 2:30, 3:30, 4:15, 5, 6, 7, 7:45, 8:25, 9:20, 10:05, 10:50); *Four Christmases* (Wed & Thu 12, 2:30, 2:10, 3:05, 4:20, 5:15, 6:30, 7:20, 8:40, 9:30, Fri-Tue 10:45, 11:45, 12:55, 1:55, 3:05, 3:55, 5:15, 6:15, 7:20, 8:20, 9:30, 10:30); *Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa* (Wed & Thu 12, 2, 4:05, 6:10, 8:20, Fri-Tue 11, 1, 3, 5); *Nothing Like the Holidays* (Wed & Thu 11:30, 1:50, 4:10, 7:05, 9:20, Fri-Tue 11:10, 1:25, 3:40, 6, 8:15, 10:30); *Punisher: War Zone* (Wed & Thu 11:30, 1:45, 3:55, 5:15, 6:15, 7:30, 8:45, 9:45, Fri-Tue 7, 9:45); *Quantum of Solace* (Wed & Thu 12:30, 3:15, 6:10, 8:30, Fri-Tue 9:15); *Twilight* (Wed & Thu 12, 1, 3:15, 4:15, 6, 7, 8:45, 9:45, Fri-Tue 10:30, 11:30, 1:15, 2:15, 3:55, 4:55, 7, 8, 9:45, 10:45)

● Thu 12/18: *Cadillac Records* (Wed & Thu 11:40, 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40); *Delgo*

Film

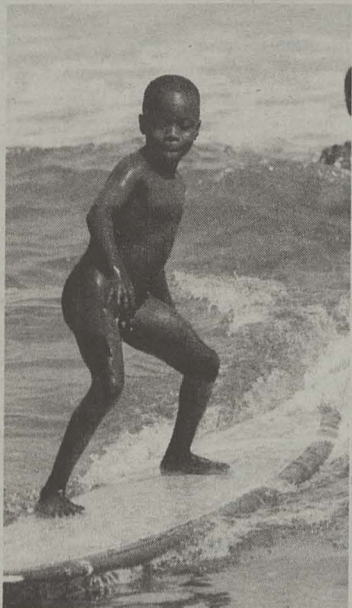
Surfing for peace

RYAN SENAGA

Sliding Liberia (with the subtitle "A Story of War, Peace, and Surfing") is the docu-tale of four young surfers who travel to Liberia, Africa to surf. This 49-minute film isn't necessarily a documentary, even though it's set in a political powder keg and the community is made up of war-torn shells of buildings and dilapidated shanty huts. At its most basic level, Sliding is a pure-blooded surfing film that happens to take place in a nation trying to recover from a devastating civil war.

Nicolai Lidow is a political science student with a deep attachment to Liberia, as well an avid surfer. Since the waves are so good, he convinces three other friends to join him. The four make their way down and proceed to surf.

Interspersed throughout the surfing footage by Stanford student and first-time filmmaker Britton Cailouette (one of the four surfers) are scenes that establish the personality and flavor of Liberia. In addition to the skeletons of buildings are long dirt roads winding through endless lands of grass, roadside stores and dirty homes. With the tropical setting, it looks a little like the North Shore. The main difference is the



drastically different culture: one sign high above the town proclaims, "A woman is your friend. Do not beat on her."

There are also interviews with citizens of the nation, telling their stories of survival and strife. While everyone else's tales are compelling, only Alfred's has any sort of tie to the theme of surfing. The young man somehow finds a body board in the rubble and proceeds to "slide" on the waves. Only later, when he meets the Americans, does he learn the term "surfing." It is he who gives the documentary its uni-

fying theme; sliding on the waves is a sign of hope and the surfing industry is helping to show that Liberia is now a better place. And the people of Liberia are also making it a better place.

Of course, there are surfing videos. Those with any interest in the sport will probably be the most captivated. The footage set against a world music/reggae soundtrack isn't particularly astounding, nor is the imagery of the country all that striking. Perhaps we are supposed to be impressed just by the fact that they are surfing in the wartorn Northwest African nation (not that the skill of surfing in itself is a small achievement).

One of the Americans says about Liberia that, "You have to have something pulling you there for some reason," but, it would have been nice to see what the tourists do in that dangerous part of the world besides surf. Since we really don't learn anything about the four Westerners (at least individually), Sliding Liberia's appeal lies exclusively with surfing and the titular nation. Of course, the message of peace versus war and not taking our "civilized" lives for granted is universal, but those with a vested interest in either the sport or the nation will probably be the most enthralled with this short film.

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Transporter 3 (Wed & Thu 12:10, 2:30, 4:50, 7:10, 9:25)

● Fri 12/19: **Seven Pounds** (Fri-Tue 10:45, 11:45, 1:30, 2:30, 4:15, 5:15, 7, 8, 9:45, 10:45); **The Tale of Despereaux** (Fri-Tue 11, 12, 1:15, 2:15, 3:30, 4:30, 5:45, 7, 8, 10:15); **Yes Man** (Fri-Tue 10:40, 11:40, 1:05, 2:05, 3:30, 4:30, 5:55, 7:20, 8:20, 9:45, 10:45)

Leeward

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◆ **Australia** (Wed & Thu 4, 7:15, 10:25, Fri-Tue 7); **Bolt** (Wed & Thu 12, 12:45, 1:20, 2:10, 3, 3:40, 5:15, 7:30, 8:40, 9:45, Fri-Tue 12, 12:45, 2:10, 3, 4:20, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45, 9:45); **The Day the Earth Stood Still** (Wed & Thu 12:30, 1:20, 2:05, 2:50, 3:40, 4:25, 5:10, 6, 6:45, 7:30, 8:20, 9:05, 9:50, 10:40, Fri-Sat 11, 11:45, 12:30, 1:20, 2:10, 2:50, 3:40, 4:35, 5:10, 6, 7:30, 8:20, 9:45, 10:20,

10:55, Sun 12:30, 1:20, 2:10, 2:50, 3:40, 4:35, 5:10, 6, 7:30, 8:20, 9:50, 10:45. Mon-Tue 11, 11:45, 12:30, 1:20, 2:10, 2:50, 3:40, 4:35, 5:10, 6, 7:30, 8:20, 9:50, 10:45); **Four Christmases** (Wed & Thu 12:05, 1:10, 2:10, 3:15, 4:15, 5:25, 6:25, 7:30, 8:30, 9:35, 10:35, Fri-Sat, Mon-Tue 11:15, 1:20, 3:25, 5:30, 6:30, 7:35, 8:30, 9:40, Sun 1:20, 3:25, 5:30, 6:30, 7:35, 8:30, 9:40); **Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa** (Wed & Thu 1:45, 4:20, 6:30, Fri-Sat, Mon-Tue 11:10, 1:15, 3:20, 5:25, 7:30, 9:35, Sun 1:15, 3:20, 5:25, 7:30, 9:35); **Nothing Like the Holidays** (Wed & Thu 1:20, 3:35, 5:50, 8:05, 10:20, Fri-Sat, Mon-Tue 11:05, 1:20, 3:35, 5:50, 8:05, 10:20, Sun 1:20, 3:35, 5:50, 8:05, 10:20); **Quantum of Solace** (Wed & Thu 12, 2:30, 5, 7:30, 10, Fri-Tue 1:15, 3:35, 8:15); **Transporter 3** (Wed & Thu 1:30, 3:45, 6, 8:15, 10:30, Fri-Sat, Mon-Tue 11, 5:55, 10:35, Sun 5:55, 10:35); **Twilight** (Wed & Thu 12, 1:40, 2:40, 4:20, 5:20, 7, 8, 9:40, 10:40, Fri-Sat, Mon-Tue 11, 1:40, 4:20, 7, 9:40, 10:30, Sun 1:40, 4:20, 7, 9:40, 10:30)

● Thu 12/18: **Delgo** (Wed & Thu 1:20, 3:25, 5:30, 7:34, 9:40); **Punisher: War Zone** (Wed & Thu 12, 2:25, 4:50, 6, 7:15, 8:20, 9:40, 10:45)

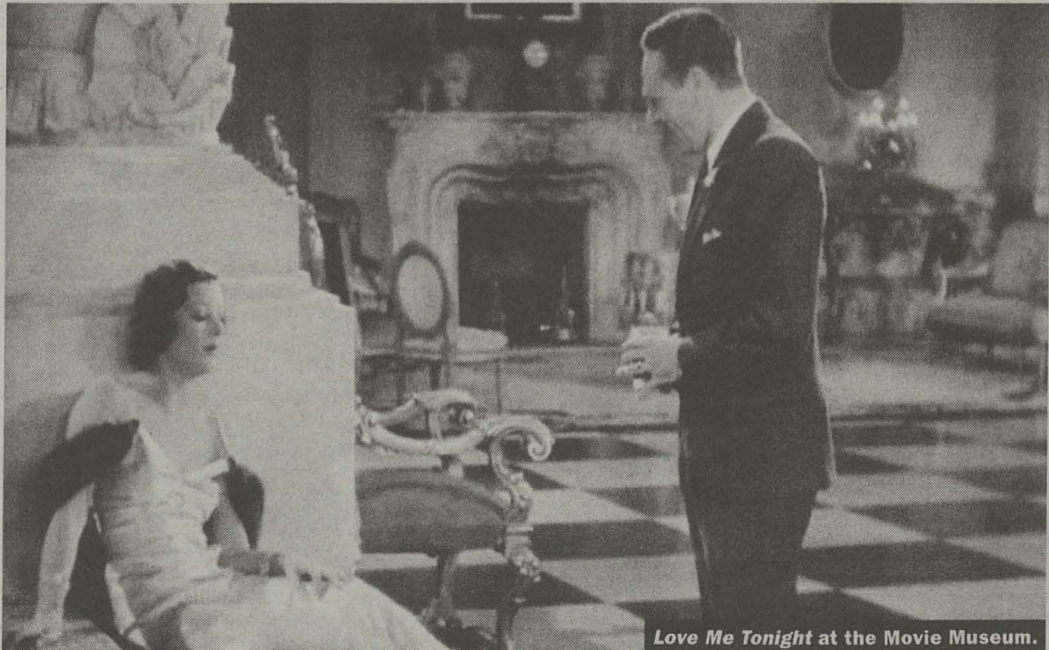
Art House

DORIS DUKE THEATRE Honolulu Academy of Arts, 900 S. Beretania St. \$7 general, \$5 members. 532-8768

◆ **Chris and Don: A Love Story** (Wed-Fri 1, 7:30); **Sliding Liberia** (Sat, Sun & Tue 1, 7:30, Mon 7:30)

MOVIE MUSEUM 3566 Harding Ave. \$5 general, \$4 members. 735-8771

◆ **Don't Look Now—We're Being Shot At (aka La Grande Vadrouille)** (Thu & Sat 12:30, 3, 5:30, 8); **It Happened on 5th Avenue** (Mon 12:30, 3, 5:30, 8); **Love Me Tonight** (Fri 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30, 8:30); **My Mexican Shiva & All Nothing** (Sun 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30, 8:30)



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O'ahu Films

Unattributed film synopses indicate movies not yet reviewed by *HW* staff. **☞** Indicates films of unusual interest

Opening

☞ Doubt Playwright John Patrick Shanley takes his Pulitzer Prize-winning play to the big screen in a story of power dynamics within the Catholic church.

Seven Pounds Will Smith reunites with *The Pursuit of Happiness* director Gabriele Muccino, which means this tale of an IRS man with a choice to make will probably come off as well-intentioned, but a little too syrupy.

The Tale of Despereaux An animated tale about a mouse and his love of good food. Just where do they get their ideas?

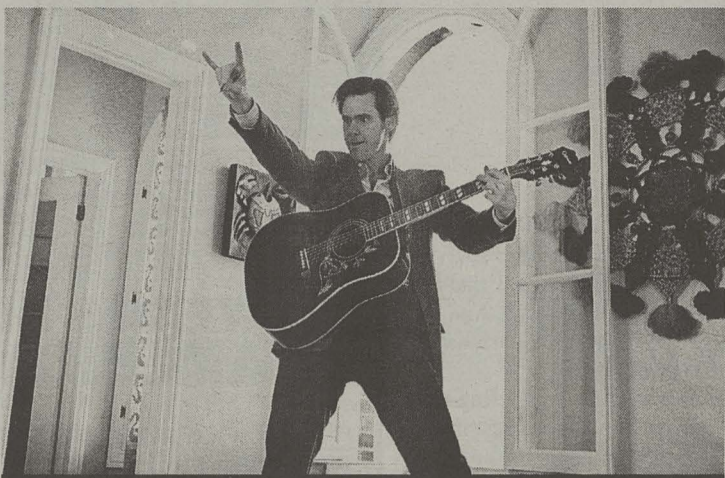
Yes Man Jim Carrey changes his life by saying, "Yes," to every opportunity that comes his way. Like doing what looks like yet another awful Jim Carrey movie.

Continuing

☞ Australia While the movie shallowly uses WWII as a melodramatic plot point worthy of Michael Bay's *Pearl Harbor*, at an unexpectedly fast-paced two hours and 45 minutes, *Australia* is a pleasant enough way to snuggle in a theater and spend a winter date night. —*Ryan Senaga*

☞ The Boy in the Striped Pajamas Two boys, one German, the other Jewish, make friends in Nazi Germany. They meet at camp, so to speak.

☞ Cadillac Records Adrien Brody plays Leonard Chess, the man who discovered some of America's best blues musicians including Muddy Waters, Howlin' Wolf, Chuck Berry and Etta James. If nothing else, the music ought to rock. Brody's usually no slouch either.



Jim Carrey pays tribute to the forces that made him successful in *Yes Man*.

The Day the Earth Stood Still Keanu Reeves comes down to earth to proclaim dire warnings delivered in monotone. Sort of like what happened in *Little Buddha*.

Delgo Another animated film, this time utilizing the voices of Chris Kattan, Freddie Prinze Jr., Jennifer Love Hewitt and curiously, Val Kilmer. It's also the final work by Anne Bancroft.

☞ Four Christmases Vince Vaughn transforms an above average X-mas movie into a comedy tour de force (for himself). Reese Witherspoon is there too, but mostly she just coasts. —*Bob Green*

☞ JCVD Standing for Jean-Claude Van Damme and starring the same, it's a strangely inspired piece of self-reflection and parody, as the former action star finds himself broke, divorced and held hostage in a post office. It's an art house film, yes, but it's an art house film that can kick your ass. —*Dean Carrico*

☞ Milk Sean Penn nails the persona of Harvey Milk, considerable flaws and all, while Josh Brolin, his career on a roll, plays Dan White not as a demon,

but an emotionally complex man. Director Gus Van Sant captures this without didacticism and keeps its good humor almost throughout. —*B. G.*

☞ Nobel Son Alan Rickman wins a Nobel Prize (what? It's not that implausible!) and finds his son kidnapped for the prize money, but Rickman has not-so-noble plans of his own. Think dark comedy—very dark.

Nothing Like the Holidays (Sing in chipmunk voices) "Christmas, Christmas time is here. Holiday movies are time for fear."

Punisher: War Zone Will the third reboot of this Marvel anti-hero be the winner? More to the point, will the violence-glorifying fascist, this time played by Ray Stevenson, undo the goodwill toward comic book films built up by *The Dark Knight* and *Iron Man*?

Quantum of Solace For his second mission, Daniel Craig as Bond does the best he can, though the movie barely slows down to let him act. Most of the time, he rampages like a terminator programmed to imitate Jason Bourne. —*R. S.*

Role Models Another formulaic so-called comedy wrapped inside profanity to come off as cutting edge, complete with all parties learning something about their own character. All we learn is that we should have gone to another movie. —*B. G.*

☞ Slumdog Millionaire Director Danny Boyle (*Trainspotting*, *28 Days Later*) returns with another winner, this time set in India, where an 18-year-old orphan is arrested for suspicion of cheating during his appearance on the India version of *Who Wants to be a Millionaire*? The scrappy, low budget film is being hailed as one of the best of the year, and a near-certain contender for this year's Academy Award race.

Twilight Think of it as *High School Musical* for goths, but that's not necessarily a bad thing. Hot Topic patrons with black lipstick need to chew bubble gum, too. —*R. S.*

Art House & Short Runs

☞ Chris and Don: A Love Story (2007) A comprehensive doc about the 30-year love affair between writer Christopher Isherwood and portraitist Don Bachardy, three decades his junior. Archival footage, home movies, interviews combined inventively and charmingly, we're told. *Doris Duke Theatre*, 900 S. Beretania St., Wed 12/17, Thu 12/18, Fri 12/19, 1 & 7:30PM, \$7 general, \$5 members, 532-8768

☞ Don't Look Now—We're Being Shot At (France/UK, 1966) The highest grossing French film ever, this chase-comedy with an all-star cast delivers a plenitude of laughs detailing how, in 1942, a Royal Air Force plane is downed over Paris, and how the French resistance tries to get the pilots into the Free French Zone. High-budgeted and wide in scope, the comedy stars gap-

toothed Terry-Thomas and French faves de Funès and Bourvil. *Movie Museum* 3566 Harding Ave. #4, Thu 12/18 & Sat 12/20, 12:30, 3, 5:30 & 8PM, \$4 members, \$5 general, 735-8771

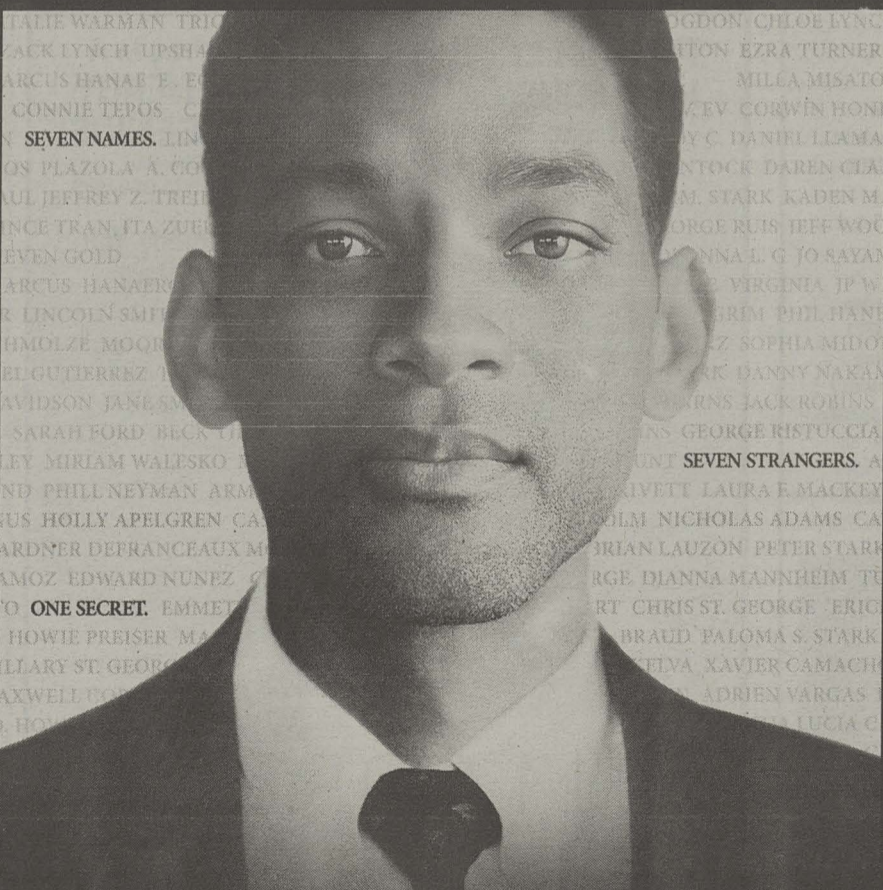
☞ It Happened On 5th Avenue (1947) Don DeFore (*Ozzie and Harriet*) and Ann Harding star (with the great Victor Moore and less-so Charles Ruggles) in a hoaxster story about vagabonds chilling out in a rich man's digs. Christmas sentimentality saved by Moore's patented whimsy. *Movie Museum*, 3566 Harding Ave. #4, Mon 12/29, 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30 & 8:30pm, \$4 members, \$5 general, 735-8771

☞ Love Me Tonight (1932) The great Rouben Mamoulian directed this witty musical comedy starring Maurice Chevalier and Jeanette MacDonald. It's a Ruritania romance filled with phony aristocracy and plenny hoaxsterism, patterned after Ernst Lubitsch's French movies. *Movie Museum*, 3566 Harding Ave. #4, Fri 12/14, 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30 & 8:30PM, \$4 members, \$5 general, 735-8771

☞ My Mexican Shivan (Mexico/US, 2007) Hanukkah is here again, and this Hawai'i premiere tells the story of Moishe's friends and relatives are sitting Shivan—and kvetching and gossiping. Spirit angels are about and keeping a tally. Showing with **All Nothing** (1980), animated short by Frédéric Back. *Movie Museum*, 3566 Harding Ave. #4, Sun 12/21, 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30 & 8:30PM, \$4 members, \$5 general, 735-8771

☞ Sliding Liberia (2007) See review, page 23. *Doris Duke Theatre*, 900 S. Beretania St., Sat 12/20, Sun 12/21 Tue 12/23, 1 & 7:30PM, Mon 12/22, 7:30PM, *Special appearance by Musician Jon Swift, cinematographer Dave Homcy and featured artist Crystal Thornburg* Sat 12/20, 6:30PM. \$7 general, \$5 members, 532-8768

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The Straight Dope

By Cecil Adams

ILLUSTRATION: SLUG SIGNORINO

I came across a piece of information that said that in the first half of the 20th century, pink was a boy's color while blue was a girl's color. But it didn't say why the colors switched. I figured if anyone knew, it would be you, Cecil. Or at least you'd make up a good story and pretend you knew.

—Jay B.

Q uiet, churl. I never pretend. I merely put the truth in a daring new light.

Before we take up your question, we need to address one that the average reader is likely to think is more pertinent: You're telling me that, once upon a time, the color for boys was pink?

Let me put it this way—some people sure thought it was.

In the 1800s most infants were dressed in white, and gender differences weren't highlighted until well after the kids were able to walk. Both boys and girls wore dresses or short skirts until age five or six. Differences in clothing were subtle: boys' dresses buttoned up the front, for example, while girls' buttoned up the back. Why no attempt to

discriminate further? One theory is that distinguishing boys from girls was less important than distinguishing kids from adults. Childhood was a time of innocence, whereas adulthood typically meant grueling physical labor. Perhaps mothers decking out their little boys in dresses thought: They'll get to be manly soon enough.

By midcentury baby clothing in colors other than white had begun to appear, but gender-based distinctions were slow to emerge. In 1855 the *New York Times* reported on a "baby show" put on by P.T. Barnum, exhibiting "one hundred and odd babies" dressed in pinks, blues, and other colors seemingly without regard to gender. In a passage from Louisa May Alcott's 1868-'69 blockbuster *Little Women*, a female twin is distinguished by a pink ribbon and a male twin by a blue one, but this is referred to as "French fashion," suggesting it wasn't the rule over here. A *Times* fashion report from 1880 has boys and girls dressed alike in white, pink, blue, or violet, and another from 1892 says young girls were wearing a variety of colors that spring, including several shades of blue.

But from the 1890s onward, boys'



and girls' clothing styles started to diverge, with boys dressed in trousers or knickers at progressively earlier ages. Jo Paoletti of the University of Maryland, a longtime specialist on the topic, reviewed more than 500 descriptions and images of children's clothing appearing in print between 1890 and 1920 and notes a rapid "masculinization" of boys' wear, for reasons that remain obscure.

As part of this differentiation, there seems to have been an effort to establish characteristic colors for girls and boys. But it took decades to develop a consensus on what those colors were. For years one camp claimed pink was the boys' color and blue the girls'. A 1905 *Times* article said so, and *Parents*

magazine was still saying it as late as 1939. Why pink for boys? Some argued that pink was a close relative of red, which was seen as a fiery, manly color. Others traced the association of blue with girls to the frequent depiction of the Virgin Mary in blue.

I'm not convinced, however, that there was ever a consensus that pink was for boys and blue was for girls. On the contrary, indications are the two colors were used interchangeably until World War II. Examples of pink as a mark of the feminine aren't hard to come by, one of the cruder being the use of a pink triangle to identify homosexuals in Nazi prison camps. After the war the tide shifted permanently in favor of blue as a boy's color. In 1948,

royal-watchers reported Princess Elizabeth was obviously expecting a boy, since a temporary nursery set up in Buckingham Palace was gaily trimmed with blue satin bows. By 1959 the infantwear buyer for one department store was telling the *Times*, "A mother will allow her girl to wear blue, but daddy will never permit his son to wear pink."

How did pink get ghettoized as a girls' color? Nobody really knows. Professor Paoletti thinks the choice was largely arbitrary, but others credit innate biological tendencies. Research on color preference in monkeys has shown females prefer warmer colors like pink and red—supposedly an infant primate's pink face brings out its mother's nurturing instincts. A color preference study of Caucasian and Chinese men and women showed both Caucasian and Chinese women strongly preferred red and pink, while Caucasian men strongly preferred blue and green. However, the Chinese men showed a broader range, with many picking red and pink—possibly because in China red is considered lucky. To me that suggests the biology argument is pretty weak. Sure, my favorite color is blue. But it's entirely possible I say that because I was always told I should. ■

Comments, questions? Take it up with Cecil on the Straight Dope Message Board, straightdope.com, or write him at the Chicago Reader, 11 E. Illinois, Chicago 60611.

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New or Noteworthy

news you can eat

Waikiki Beachwalk is finally complete—it has cheeseburgers now. **Cheeseburger Beachwalk**, which opened late last month on the top floor of the development on the mauka side, is the latest offering from the chain that owns Cheeseburger in Paradise on Kalākaua. The Beachwalk version separates itself from its siblings,

however, with an expanded dinner menu that includes higher-end cuts of beef and fish, as well as a range of pasta offerings. Best of all, it's offering a double happy hour—the first from 3-6PM, and then again from 10 until closing (scheduled for 1AM, but you know how that goes.) Call 924-5034.

Got food news? Send 'em in to foodnews@honoluluweekly.com

Café & Deli

Kalapawai Café & Deli

— *Kawehi Haug (5/30/07)*
Sitting right off of Kailua's main drag, between KFC and Arby's, Kalapawai Café & Deli is a cute, charming and quaint surprise. Part country café, part saloon-style eatery, it's this island's equivalent to Maui's Hali'imaile General Store. The mostly southern European-inspired flavors can be mixed and matched at whim, and always with rewarding results. The portions are kept in check—you won't get mountains of food or family-sized platters. Who says you can't have your steak...and fish and pizza and pasta...and eat it, too? 750 Kailua Rd. (262-DELI) Mon.-Thu. & Sun. 6AM-9PM, Sat. & Sun. 6AM-10PM. Entrees: \$12.95-\$14.95. AmEx, MC, V

Mix Café

— *K.H. (10/17/07)*
The bustle and din at Mix Café belies its smallness. Six tables for two and one table for six turn the long narrow space into a café that seats fewer diners than most people here have family members. The full staff—warm, friendly and charming—is always at your beck and call. Order the sandwiches with a side of country salad, potatoes and roasted veggies tossed with oil, vinegar and salt and pepper and you won't miss the fried starch that we normally pair with our sandwiches. These aren't your typical New York-style sammies. These are simpler and purer. Bread, meat, cheese and maybe a few veggies. Choose from three homemade sauces: spicy crab, creamy Portobello or sausage. Its breakfast menu is also certainly worth waking up for. The amazing waffles are in good company with Bruno's signature omelette, a fritatta-like dish that's chock-full of fresh veggies and the most surprising breakfast sandwiches that threaten to make an addict out of anyone who discovers them. 35 S. Beretania St. (537-1191) Mon.-Fri. 7AM-7PM. Entrees: \$4.75-\$8.90. AmEx, Disc, MC, V.

Chinese

Aloha Bistro

— *Rachel Brown (5/7/08)*
Along with the chopsticks and handle-less tea mugs, the restaurant offers few entrées over \$20 and excellent service. The bus boy will zip over and exchange a half-full teapot for a fresh one, just to ensure piping hot tea throughout your meal. Presentation figures big into the bistro's specialty dishes, the Seafood Taro Bowl: a medley of fish, squid and vegetables which comes in a delicate bowl of violet taro that soaks up the garlic sauce as you eat. Chinese tourists and islanders alike can find something familiar and comforting at Aloha Bistro: Good food, good prices and a staff that shouts in Cantonese. 444 Kānekapōlei St. (926-8288) Mon.-Sun. Lunch: 11AM-2:30PM, Dinner: 5PM-9:30PM, Entrees: \$12.95-\$19.95. Disc, JCB, MC, V.

Filipino

Marilou's Restaurant & Catering

— *Walter Rhee (3/5/08)*
The allure of traditional Filipino cooking lies in the braising of meats slow-cooked for several hours to release the flavors. Each lunch/dinner combo comes with four items of your choice—pinapaitan, pinakbet (a soup with long green beans, few pieces of lechon-crispy fried pork, bitter melon, eggplant and tomatoes), dinguanan, pork

guisantes, pork adobo, mungo beans or pork menudo. All items on the combo plates are savory. Banana lumpia halo halo are great for dessert. Marilou's is the place to go for a real comforting home-cooked Filipino meal. 70 Kukui St. (621-1196) Mon.-Sat. 9AM-9PM, Sun. 9AM-3PM, Entrees: \$7.35-\$9.50.

French

JJ Bistro & French Pastry

— *R.B. (6/18/08)*
The food is so eclectic and the flavors so harmonious, that JJ transcends such labels as "French-Laotian" or "Eurasian." There are two fixed menus offering soup, appetizer, entree and dessert. One such entrée is the Fisherman's Pot Pie with a dense, flaky crust that cradles a rich concoction of shrimp, scallops, salmon, zucchini and bamboo shoots, all drenched in a buttery cream sauce. The pastry display boasts a variety of desserts, including the famous chocolate pyramid, lemon honey cake, plum tarts and frou frou au chocolate. JJ provides world class cuisine in a chic setting at very reasonable prices. 3447 Wai'ālae Ave. (739-0993) Mon.-Sat. 9AM-9PM, Sun. NOON-9PM, Entrees: \$19.95-\$24.95. AmEx, Disc, MC, V.

Italian

Baci Bistro

— *K.H. (5/9/07)*
Don't leave without trying the tiramisu. Where most places take on the traditional dolci as an Italian version of the Midwestern trifle, Baci treats it right: Each layer separate, but all coming together perfectly on the fork. The ladyfingers are moist, not wet; the mascarpone layer is light, not cheesecake-like; the amaretto is complimentary, not overpowering. The answer is simple: When in Kailua, eat at Baci Bistro. 30 Aulike St., Kailua (262-7555) Lunch Mon.-Fri. 11:30AM-2PM, Dinner Nightly 5:30PM-10PM. Entrees: \$13.95-\$26. AmEx, MC, V.

Pasta Basta by Donato's

— *Napua Leong (4/25/07)*
Pasta Basta does brisk business for the lunch crowds that come pouring out of neighboring office towers around noon, and while ordering at the counter may seem unglamorous, it's a smart way for the restaurant to maximize its lunch service. Handmade pizzas come straight from the oven, including spicy shrimp, margherita, napoletana and grilled chicken-portobello versions. If you like fresh pasta but want a simpler dish, there's fresh spinach fettucine with Bolognese sauce, linguine with basil pesto or cappellini with sautéed mushrooms, fresh tomatoes and garlic. Restaurant Row, (523-9999) Lunch Mon.-Fri. 11AM-2:30PM, Dinner Tue.-Sat. 5-9:30PM. Entrees: \$9-\$15. MC, V.

Taormina Sicilian Cuisine

— *Ryan Senaga (1/9/08)*
With its reasonable prices, wistful outside environment and distinctive yet hearty food, this Japanese-infused restaurant is worthy of becoming a local date night institution. The

candle-lit, romantic outdoor tables provide the environment for an affordable date in a chic environment. The uni (sea urchin) pasta is the perfect meal for the daring diner—however, it sells out quickly so be sure to request it when making dinner reservations! Although the menu items can be eclectic, Taormina also offers more traditional fare such as the Bucatini "Fresh Sardine", bucatini (thick spaghetti) with fresh Japanese sardine fillets, garlic, saffron, pine nuts, tossed lightly in olive oil. 227 Lewers Street, R100 (926-5050) Sun.-Thurs., 11AM-10PM, Fri.-Sat. 11AM-11PM, Entrees: \$12-\$32.

Japanese & Okinawan

Chiba-ken

— *R.B. (5/21/08)*
Chiba-ken is a quiet garden in Dante's dark wood of outer Waikiki, just over the bridge and the crawling Ala Wai canal. Their outdoor seating even includes a proper lava rock wall to shield you from the sidewalk traffic and really makes you feel like you're in Hawai'i. While they offer Western-style drinks, the true star is the sake. They have over a dozen selections ranging from very sweet to very dry. And the sushi? Chiba-ken makes it as it's supposed to be made: perfectly bite-sized with just a tiny mouthful of rice under a slice of fish you don't have to gnaw in half. Reasonably priced delicious sushi in a great location, Chiba-ken promises a perfect evening before you can say, "Banzai!" 468' Eua Rd., (941-2800) Sun.-Thu. 5:30PM-11:30PM, Fri.-Sat. 5:30PM-1:30AM. Entrees: \$8.50-\$17.50. AmEx, MC, V.

Gaku Sushi Izakaya

— *N. L. (4/4/07)*
The staff is exceptionally knowledgeable about the menu, even though a good portion of it changes daily. Izakaya-style specialties include baked king crab, ribeye steak with garlic or ponzu and asari clams either sautéed in garlic butter or steeped in sake. Among the cooked specials, there was beef tongue wrapped in shiitake mushroom and grilled green muskels. A hand-lettered and photocopied menu insert of the day's specials showcases what Kikuchi picked out that morning at the fish market. 1329 S. King St., (589-1329). Mon.-Sat. 5PM-11PM, Closed Sun. Entrees: \$7.50-\$40. Disc, JCB, MC, V.

Hinone Mizunone

— *Margot Seeto (7/16/08)*
Hinone Mizunone joins the ranks of family-oriented Japanese restaurants that offer a fair amount of food for a fair price in an atmosphere that can accommodate larger parties. The staff is nice, the interior welcoming and the food satisfying, filling and reasonably priced. Teishoku with tonkatsu offers the Hinone original sauce—tart and not as sweet or thick as the typical katsu sauce. If you're hankering for Japanese comfort food in a convenient location, Hinone Mizunone is worth a visit. 1345 S. King St (942-4848). Mon.-Sat. 11AM-9PM. Entrees: \$5.50-\$14.75. AmEx, Disc, JCB, MC, V.

Food

Pho ox!

A Vietnamese classic, straight from the ox's tail.

MARTHA CHENG

When I learn a friend's mom makes Vietnamese food, I ask her to teach me to make pho. It's a dish I know I can get at any of Honolulu's ubiquitous Vietnamese restaurants with "pho" in their names, but like most soup stocks, it seems to me a dish that benefits from the care and attention only a home cook or high-end restaurant could give. I wasn't disappointed in my lesson.

Loan Hoang Le and I start in Chinatown to pick up ingredients. In between picking up the tendon at a butcher in Maunakea Marketplace, bunches of herbs for Vietnamese cooking at a stand on North King Street, and fresh rice noodles at Look Funn Factory a few stores down, Le stops to inquire about jasmine rice at various shops. She's searching for the latest crop of rice, which she says has a texture and aroma superior to older rice. Later, she cooks a pot of the freshly harvested rice (adding a little less water than for older, drier rice), and indeed, the grains are fluffy and so fragrant that I re-

member why it's called jasmine rice.

From Chinatown, we go to Sam's Club for the meats. It's an odd choice, I think, for meat when there are butchers everywhere you turn in Chinatown, but Le says the meat quality is better at Sam's Club. Ten pounds into our meat purchasing, I realize another reason why we go to a supermarket warehouse to buy meat—she buys a lot of it. For the batch of pho we're making, we only need a few pounds of sirloin steak, but three four-pound packages of it quickly end up in our cart as Le's hand pauses longingly over a fourth package. She covets the meat because this particular day it's fresh and a vibrant dark red. She feels the meat through the plastic and exclaims, "So tender!" She's thinking about that fourth package all the way to the checkout counter, despite the accumulation of twenty pounds of meat in the cart (for various projects besides our pho).

Though Le cooks some of the most authentic Vietnamese food I know, her culinary education began here in Hawai'i. Le and her husband fled Vietnam in 1975, during the fall of Saigon. As with almost all stories Le tells, despite the horrors she relates—the bombing of the runway

before they could board the plane, being airlifted out of Vietnam, going into labor while en route to a refugee camp on the mainland—there's a sense of pride that she made it through, that she's come so far since then. The Les never made it to the mainland; instead, Le gave birth to her first son in Hawai'i when the plane stopped to refuel, and they decided to stay.

In Vietnam, she didn't cook. But in Hawai'i, with no one to cook for them and knowing how much her husband loved Vietnamese food, she learned. At first, she relied on recipes her sister had written, calling her sister for clarification and advice. "In the beginning, my family suffered," Le says in regard to her food. Later, she drew on taste memories and experimentation to recreate Vietnamese dishes, and these days, the only suffering at the dinner table is from overindulgence.

Le shops and cooks with more than 30 years of experience, insisting on little things, like sea salt, and seasoning and tying the brisket before placing it in the stockpot. The secret to the broth for pho, according to Le, is toasting the spices and making sure there's not too much of one spice. "The spices have to blend," she says. She doesn't rely on measurements, but taste, adjusting with a little more seasoning, a little more water here and there. What follows is her recipe for oxtail pho, which makes a clear, light, but flavorful soup.

How to make pho

Note on ingredients and sources: don't be intimidated by all the spices in pho. All the ingredients can be found in Chinatown, and once in the pot, the soup can be mostly left alone. Black cardamom is usually labelled as nutmeg in Chinatown stores. It looks like a slightly elongated, shrivelled nutmeg. Vietnamese cinnamon resembles thick pieces of cinnamon bark and is labelled as just cinnamon. Sawtooth coriander is found among other Thai and Vietnamese fresh herbs, with large, oblong leaves with serrated edges.

5-6 servings

For soup base:

2 lbs oxtails
1 1/2 lb brisket
1/2 lb tendon
5 quarts water
1 small onion
1 4-inch piece ginger
1 piece black cardamom
1 2-inch piece Vietnamese cinnamon
1 tsp fennel seeds
1 1/2 tsp whole white peppercorns
5 pieces cloves
2 pieces star anise
1 tsp coriander seeds
1-inch piece rock sugar (or 1 tsp regular sugar)
2 tbsp sea salt
2 tbsp fish sauce

For pho:

1 lb fresh thin rice noodles (or dried, cooked according to directions on package)
1/2 lb raw beef sirloin, thinly sliced across the grain
1 bunch cilantro, chopped
1 bunch green onions, minced
1 white onion, thinly sliced (preferably on a mandoline)
2 limes cut into wedges
2 cups mung bean sprouts
handful thai basil
handful sawtooth coriander
sriracha
hoisin

For the soup stock:

Sprinkle two teaspoons of salt and two teaspoons of pepper on both sides of the brisket. Roll the brisket tightly and tie it securely with kitchen string in two-inch increments all along the rolled brisket. Place in stockpot. Rinse oxtails and tendon and place in stockpot. Pour 5 quarts water into pot and bring water up to a boil over high heat. Once water begins to boil, turn heat down to maintain a simmer. Skim the surface periodically to remove scum that rises to the top of the soup. Meanwhile, char onion and ginger directly over a gas burner, or under a broiler, for 5 minutes. Peel onion and ginger and set aside.

Place black cardamom, cinnamon, fennel seeds, white peppercorns, cloves, star anise, and coriander seeds in a pan over medium heat and toast until fragrant, 5-10 minutes. Tie toasted spices, onion, and ginger in a cheesecloth, and place cheesecloth bag in simmering soup. Add rock sugar, salt, and fish sauce. Leave soup to simmer for at least 3 hours (the longer the better), occasionally skimming the surface to remove any scum.

To assemble pho:

Mix chopped cilantro, green onions, and white onion slices in a bowl. Remove the oxtails from the soup and set aside. Remove tendon and slice thinly. Remove brisket and cut string, but keep brisket in rolled shape and slice thinly.

In a pot of boiling water, drop rice noodles, and remove immediately. Place in a large bowl. Place two slices each of brisket, tendon, and raw beef sirloin in the bowl. Add a handful of the cilantro and onion mixture, and then ladle the boiling broth into the bowl. The broth will cook the raw beef.

Serve limes, beansprouts, basil, sawtooth coriander, sriracha, and hoisin as condiments for the pho.

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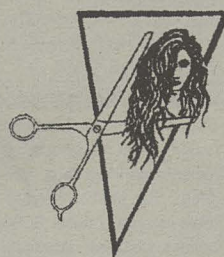
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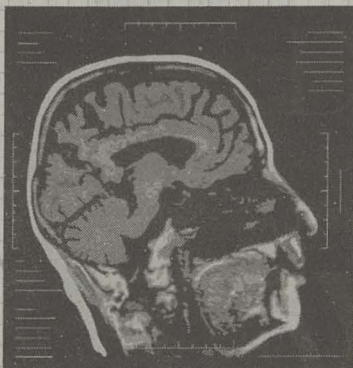
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Thank you, Hana Sun

*VISTA Literacy Coordinator
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Weekly

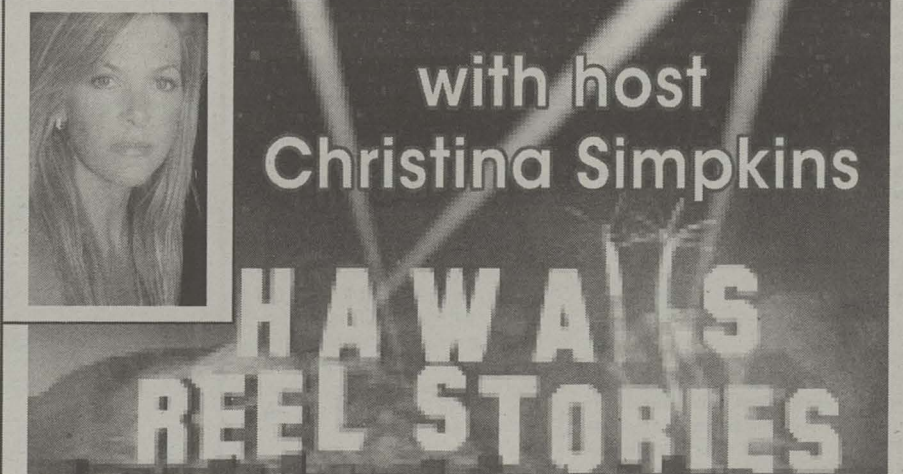
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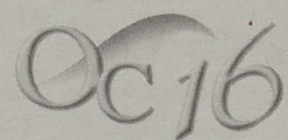
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FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

by Rob Breznsy

ARIES

(March 21-April 19)

What I foresee for you in 2009 is an upgrade in your approach to creating and maintaining your alliances. I envision you having dramatically enhanced intuition about how to connect with people in satisfying and interesting ways. I picture you being able to push beyond your habit-bound ways of conducting your relationships, ensuring that you'll be entertained and moved by them more than ever before. If I could give you a symbolic holiday gift to inspire you in this work, it might be a long, thick golden thread interwoven with a long, thick silver thread. Happy Holy Daze, Aries!

TAURUS

(April 20-May 20)

Happy Holy Daze, Taurus! If I were going to give you a holiday gift, it might be a ticket to go visit your imaginary friend—you know, the invisible ally you've been neglecting...the sweet, fierce companion who lives in the threshold between the light and dark...the "other you" who abides there patiently on the cusp between waking and dreaming, hoping that someday you will fully embrace your relationship. Don't worry, your imaginary friend isn't demanding or possessive in the least, but mostly just wants you to think of your link every now and then so that you might feel less alone.

GEMINI

(May 21-June 20)

One of your most fun assignments in 2009 will be not only to think way outside of the box but also to think way outside of the bigger and more interesting (but nonetheless boxy) boxes that all the outside-the-box thinkers customarily think inside. That's why, if I could give you a Christmas, Hanukkah, Solstice, and Kwanza gift, it would be a nice, clean, square, white box punched full of big holes with ragged edges where the inside has burst into the outside. Happy Holy Daze, Gemini!

CANCER

(June 21-July 22)

In the Broadway play *Passing Strange*, the narrator Stew says, "You know how one morning you wake up as an adult and you realize your entire life is based on a decision you made as a teenager?" If that description applies to you, Cancerian, 2009 will be the best year ever to do something about it. In the coming months, you will have the power to correct errors or misjudgments you made way back when. You'll be able to figure out how to start over in an area of your life that you've always assumed you were doomed to accept just the way it is. You may even find that you can, in a sense, change the past and reconfigure your memories.

LEO

(July 23-Aug. 22)

Happy Holy Daze, Leo! If I could give you one gift for the holidays, it might be a magic object to add to your love altar—something like a pomegranate resting on red velvet, or a golden heart-shaped magnet, or Pablo Neruda's book *100 Love Sonnets*. What? You don't have a love altar? Well then please begin creating one as soon as possible, and continue building it throughout 2009. For the next 12 months, the time will be right to get smarter, wilder and kinder in your approach to creating intimate connection.

VIRGO

(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

"My deepest emotional wound has also been the source of inexhaustible blessings." I'm not going to tell you why that statement is true for me—it's way too personal—but I assure you that it's one of the fundamental facts about my destiny. Could you make a similar assertion, Virgo? Is it possible to interpret your life in such a way that you could see how a painful experience you suffered in the past has also given you tremendous insight, inspiration and vitality? 2009 will be an excellent year to make that leap of understanding. And the time around the solstice—

right now!—is a perfect moment to get started.

LIBRA

(Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

At Salon.com's forum "Table Talk," participants were urged to come up with a six-word sentence that captured the essence of their lives. One person wrote, "Broke. Payday. Broke. Payday. Broke. Payday." Another wrote, "Oh, no, not again. Again. Again." But the testimony I really wanted to call your attention to is this: "I never learned how to swashbuckle." Why is this pertinent for you? Because I believe that if you have a similar regret—that you've never mastered the art of swashbuckling—you will have an excellent chance to fix that problem in the coming months. In fact, I'm tempted to name 2009 as the Year of the Swashbuckle for you Libras. If I could give you a symbolic holiday gift to get you started, it might be a superhero's costume created by a top fashion designer. Happy Holy Daze!

SCORPIO

(Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Happy Holy Daze, Scorpio! If I could give you one symbolic gift to set the right tone for 2009, it might be a clear glass vase with a potato growing partially submerged in water, allowing you to see its gnarly roots. I'd hope that would inspire you to put diligent yet playful effort into getting reacquainted with and exploring your own personal source code—you know, the master plan of your life that you formulated before you were born. The coming months will be an excellent time to cultivate a wise innocence as you get to the bottom of who you really are.

SAGITTARIUS

(Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Let's say that on Christmas Eve, Santa Claus hopes to deliver toys to every child who believes in him. Thanks to the fact that his distribution area stretches over many time zones, he'll have at least 24 hours to accomplish this feat. Still, that means he's got to visit approximately a thousand homes per second. I don't know what astrological sign Santa is, but if he's a Sagittarius he'll have the highest possible chance at success. Beginning any day now, and lasting throughout 2009, your tribe will have the potential to move faster, think quicker, and multi-task better than every other tribe. If I were going to give you a symbolic holiday gift, it would be greased lightning. Happy Holy Daze!

CAPRICORN

(Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Four out of every five people testify that if such a thing were possible, they would buy more time. If you're one of those four, I'm here to tell you that conditions in the coming months will provide some interesting opportunities. While you may not be able to actually purchase more of that precious commodity, it's quite possible that you'll be able to legally steal it, barter for it and even create it from scratch. I've got to be cryptic here, because the promise I'm hinting at is of course not true in a strictly literal sense: You'll have to tweak your imagination and think a bit sideways and upside-down in order to cash in on the temporal expansions that will be available.

AQUARIUS

(Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

When she applied for admission to New York University as an undergraduate, Rehka Malhotra was rejected. Years later, after she'd become a well-known Brooklyn DJ, that same school invited her to teach a class, "Pop Culture: South Asians in the U.S." "It was the sweetest revenge," she told *Good* magazine. I predict a comparable development for you in the coming year, Aquarius. You will find power in a place where you were formerly weak, or you will achieve success in a situation that once shut you out.

PISCES

(Feb. 19-March 20)

Happy Holy Daze, Pisces! My gift to you is advice about the coming year. First, read this quote from W.H. Auden's book *The Dyer's Hand*. "A daydream is a meal at which images are eaten. Some of us are gourmets, some gourmands and a good many take their images precooked out of a can and swallow them down whole, absent-mindedly and with little relish." With this as your touchstone, I urge you to be a gourmet in your approach to daydreaming during 2009. It will be time for you to make your fantasy life into an art form instead of a chaotic, unconscious diversion. If you put more intention into your generation of mental images, you will find yourself better able to create what you really want.

Go to RealAstrology.com to check out Rob Breznsy's EXPANDED WEEKLY AUDIO HOROSCOPES and DAILY TEXT MESSAGE HOROSCOPES.

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Two drunk guys limp a marathon



"These body-nazis have been training all year for the supreme effort in this Super Bowl of marathons...26 miles is a hell of a long way to run, for any reason at all..."

—Hunter S. Thompson
on the Honolulu Marathon
October 25, 1980

KEVIN WHITTON

For the last three years, Keawe Bell has run the Honolulu Marathon, not for athletic accomplishment or competition, but to prove that he can do it and have fun—though Keawe's definition of fun might be slightly different than yours. The tall 39-year-old punched his timecard at work around 11:00PM Saturday and found an empty stool at a bar, where he posted up for beers and shots. At 4:00AM, drunk and without sleep, he stumbled gaily over to the starting line. Other than being an avid, life-long surfer, Keawe has never trained in any fashion for this arduous run.

I meet up with him at the McCully Bridge around 4:30AM on Sunday, to cover the 38th annual Honolulu Marathon in true Gonzo fashion. He hands me my number, an old number from the 2006 Honolulu Marathon, and we make our way to the starting line to poach the race for no other reason than to prove to ourselves that we can finish it while

having fun: meaning having a few drinks along the way. After all, beer is nothing but empty carbohydrates. Right?

5:00AM—The starter's pistol fires, fireworks explode and reflect off of the towers along Ala Moana Boulevard and thousands of people surge forward in the cover of night. Almost immediately it starts pouring rain. Keawe is fired up, sprinting ahead and waiting for me to catch up.

6:20AM—We are at the six-mile mark. It has been raining heavy, nonstop. I'm soaked from head to toe. We stop at an ABC store to get our first beers of the race, Budweiser tallboys. Keawe is already winded. He says he hasn't hurt like this before. My knee is starting to get sore. It's still dark.

7:15AM—10-mile mark. Keawe sings, "Peanut butter jelly time/peanut butter jelly time/where you at/where you at/peanut butter jelly with a baseball bat" the entire way up Diamond Head. He took his shoes off by Fort Ruger Park and now he is putting them back on again, sans socks. My right knee is hurting. I'm starting to feel like this

is a bad idea. It was fun for the first six miles. Not anymore.

7:17AM—Kenyan Patrick Ivuti wins the men's division. Bastard.

7:32AM—Japanese runner Kiyoko Shimahara wins the race for the women's division and is only the second Japanese runner, male or female, to win the Honolulu marathon despite the fact that nearly 60 percent of the runners are Japanese.

7:40AM—Stop at the Aloha gas station for shi-shi and another tallboy. Now comes the shit part: Hawai'i Kai and back.

7:53AM—Runners are coming back the other way now. These are obviously the people who trained. People are eyeing our beers, some giving us props. Keawe is still having shoe problems.

8:11AM—I'm kind of buzzed right now, two tallboys down. Keawe blurts out, "Oh my god, we're so far away." A lot of people running back now. I wish I was with them.

8:23AM—I hate everyone going in the other direction. Both my knees hurt now and my calves hurt and the smell of all the anesthetic crèmes and rubs is burning my nostrils. My head is down and I'm actually enjoying watching the pavement go by.

8:36AM—Mile 14, more than half-way there. From my waist up I feel like I haven't done anything yet this morning other than drink two beers because my head is a little foggy, but from the waist down I'm falling apart at the seams. Constant pain. The only people cheering on the side of the road are Japanese. Why is this?

8:40AM—Keawe says, "I feel like it's five in the afternoon. I need to get a beer."

9:01AM—Going shi-shi under a bridge along the highway in Hawai'i Kai, Keawe says, "Why was I programmed to feel pain?"

9:12AM—There's a fat lady sitting in a chair in front of her Hawai'i Kai house shaking a noise maker, listlessly cheering on the crowd without showing any emotion. In a weird way, this is motivation to keep moving.

9:21AM—We stop at the 7-Eleven on Hawai'i Kai Drive and grab two Vitamin Waters, two Power Bars and two Sapporos. We relax in the shade out front and take in the nutrients. Keawe says, "We're on a snails pace today. We should be in the park by 12:30 or so, but I'm

having a great time. I mean, look at all the people still behind us, it's not like we're in last place."

9:44AM—Keawe stops to do the Electric Slide with a lady who is blasting the song from a stereo on her driveway. The lady ropes him into helping her move the stereo unit out to the sidewalk. He obliges with minimal protest. We are walking now. No more running. It hurts too bad.

10:06AM—We just turned back onto Kalaniana'ole Highway from Keahole Street. We can see Diamond Head and it looks very, very far away. We have to get back there to finish and that sucks. Keawe says, "Even in my car that would not be fun."

10:08AM—Keawe yells, "Sponge fight!" and tosses a sponge at a runner who is not amused. There's a runner sitting on the curb, smoking a cigarette. Hard core.

10:22AM—Mile-marker 18. The sun is out and it's hot. Keawe has shed his shoes and the wraps and is going barefoot again. Keawe says, "I've got a race to walk barefoot." My right knee has ceased to work and I'm dragging my leg along. I do not wish this hell upon anyone, ever. I don't know why Keawe has done this four times now. Keawe says, "This is the worst time actually because we stopped so early in the run that I could not run anymore, so we've walked more than I've ever walked on this run."

10:25AM—A guy passes Keawe and laughs and says, "My mother's a big bitch. You like that?" Keawe pauses a moment and then remembers he has the words "If you're passing me now, your mother kept me up all night" scrawled in black permanent marker across his entire back.

10:37AM—Keawe is walking and talking on the phone. We're in the walk crowd. We've been marathoning for five hours and 37 minutes now. My knee is destroyed. I can't even bend my right knee. I hope I can surf again. We're by Niu Valley Shopping Center. I hate this shit. There's a guy on the side of the road with a sign that says, "Doing great, keep it going." At this point, that doesn't help. The gutters are littered with sponges, spent water bottles and Gatorade cups.

10:54AM—The Japanese people are unrelenting with their support

of the runners, no matter how far back you are in the mix. Keawe says, "I enjoy that actually. They sit here when there's like, nobody left running." We're talking about religion. It's like a second date.

11:07AM—20-mile mark. I remember when we were on our way out toward Hawai'i Kai and they were telling runners in the other direction that they only had six miles left. I can't image walking another six miles right now. Keawe says, "Holy shit bro, that's a 10K race right there. That's another hour, running." A runner who has already finished is walking in the opposite direction past us, shouting, "You can do it. This race has got nothing on you. This is your day." I want to throw a sponge at him.

12:25PM—Stop at The Ginger Bread House for a shot of Skyy Vodka. Keawe took his shot and puked.

12:35PM—A guy with a plastic cast on his right leg, from foot to knee, just jogged by us. We suck.

12:51PM—This is terrible pain, but we will finish. Keawe has been walking barefoot for at least the last eight miles. He's skipping across the pavement like a firewalker over hot coals. Only slower.

1:07PM—40K mark. That's about 24.8 miles. We are completely torn up, just moving forward at this point.

1:13PM—Just over a mile to go. Keawe put his shoes on so we can finish sometime today. The sparse and spread-out groups of walkers and limpers is quiet and focused. Lots of finishers are walking back up the marathon route in the opposite direction, probably looking for friends with injuries.

1:28 PM—First view of the finish line, but just like in *Poltergeist*, it just keeps getting farther and farther away.

About 20 feet from the finish line, Keawe picks up the pace to a hobbling job and crosses with a time of 8:41:29. Unwilling to put myself through the excruciating pain of trying to run, I walked across the finish line with a time of 8:41:40. I am physically and mentally exhausted and probably in a state of shock. "This was horrible," says Keawe. "I'll never do it again hopefully, maybe next year." ■



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THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

2008 YEAR IN REVIEW
A WHOLLY SUBJECTIVE AND THOROUGHLY INCOMPLETE LOOK BACK AT THE YEAR THAT WAS
PART ONE: GOODBYE TO ALL THAT

JAN. 4: JOHN MCCAIN SUGGESTS MASSIVELY UNPOPULAR IRAQ WAR COULD BE PROLONGED BY "100 YEARS."
HEH HEH! DO I KNOW HOW TO WIN AN ELECTION OR WHAT?

JAN. 7: BILL "WRONG ABOUT EVERYTHING" KRISTOL BEGINS NEW COLUMN IN N.Y. TIMES WITH A MISATTRIBUTED QUOTE.
I HOPE THIS DOES NOT IMPACT MY HARD-WON CREDIBILITY!

JAN. 10: BUSH AIDES PREDICT THE PRESIDENT WILL LEAVE OFFICE WITH A 45% APPROVAL RATING.
ALSO THERE WILL BE UNICORNS, AND MAGIC RAINBOWS.

JAN. 11: WASH. POST REPORTS TELECOMS REPEATEDLY CUT OFF WIRETAPS DUE TO FBI'S FAILURE TO PAY BILLS ON TIME.
IGNORE THE CONSTITUTION ALL YOU WANT-- BUT DON'T IGNORE OUR "LATE PAYMENT" NOTICES!

JAN. 18: SEAN HANNITY DECLARES "THE ECONOMY IS PHENOMENAL!"
IF YOU DON'T BELIEVE ME, JUST ASK MY ACCOUNTANT!

FEB. 4: KARL ROVE JOINS FOX NEWS.
SERIOUSLY, WHAT CAN WE ADD TO THAT?

FEB. 28: EASILY-ALARMED FALAFEL ENTHUSIAST BILL O'REILLY WARNS OF--
"--THE SIMILARITIES BETWEEN WHAT HITLER...DID BACK THEN AND THE HATE-FILLED BLOGS, WHAT THEY'RE DOING NOW!"

FEB. 28: GEORGE BUSH IS SURPRISED TO LEARN THAT GAS MAY SOON HIT \$4 A GALLON.
"THAT'S INTERESTIN'! I HADN'T HEARD THAT!"

FEB. 28, SAME PRESS CONFERENCE: BUSH DODGES QUESTION ABOUT DONATIONS TO HIS LIBRARY, STATING--
"I...HAVE BEEN FOCUSED ELSEWHERE--LIKE ON GASOLINE PRICES!"

MARCH 1: BILL "WRONG ABOUT EVERYTHING" KRISTOL PREDICTS--
"IT'S GOING TO BE A NATIONAL SECURITY ELECTION!"

MARCH 18: JOHN MCCAIN-- A MAN RUNNING FOR PRESIDENT--REPEATEDLY CONFUSES SUNNIS AND SHIITES.
ALL I KNOW IS, THEY BOTH BETTER STAY OFF MY LAWN!

APRIL 14: ASKED IF OBAMA IS A MARXIST, JOE LIEBERMAN REPLIES--
"I MUST SAY, THAT'S A GOOD QUESTION!"

APRIL 24: RUSH LIMBAUGH FANTASIZES ABOUT VIOLENCE AT THE D.N.C.
"I AM DREAMING OF RIOTS!"
HIS DREAMS ARE NOT DESTINED TO BE REALIZED.

MAY 8: HILLARY CLINTON EXPLAINS THAT SHE IS MORE POPULAR THAN OBAMA AMONG "WORKING, HARDWORKING AMERICANS, WHITE AMERICANS."
HEH HEH-- DID I SAY THAT OUT LOUD?

JUNE 29: BILL "WRONG ABOUT EVERYTHING" KRISTOL ENTHUSIASTICALLY PROMOTES SARAH PALIN FOR REPUBLICAN V.P.
TRUST ME-- SHE'S THE PERFECT CHOICE!
...TO BE CONTINUED!

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