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Cover & Feature Story Photography by Brian Suda

nometimes we have to work hard and long to change our lives, and then sometimes it just happens — for better or for worse. When 9/11 happened, many lives were changed forever in an incendiary flash ... and in unthinkable ways.

In the days following 9/11, most of us struggled to process the turn of events. For comedian and media personality Frank B. Shaner it meant picking up a paint brush and embarking on a journey he could never have imagined.

In this issue's cover story, we catch up with this self-taught painter and learn how art has brought Shaner solace in his sixties.



Editor's Choice: Interplanetary Travel, by Frank B. Shaner

Turn to page 14 to read Off Air: Who is Frank B. Shaner? and to view some of his most recent pieces.

In this issue we launched a new section called Seniors of Service, with two stories of people who are making a difference in their communities. The first recognizes Dr. Anthony Lenzer who is a volunteer board member for five organizations that advocate for aging, caregiving and disability policies at the Legislature, page 23. The second shines a light on a husband and wife team—Richard and Pat Endsley — who have run a volunteer-based tutoring program in West Maui for 13 years. Turn to page 22 to meet the Endsleys—perhaps the busiest "retired" couple on Maui.

If you know a senior who deserves recognition for his/her volunteerism or contributions to the community, please feel free to contact me at *aimee@generations808.com*.

I'd like to thank our readers for the positive feedback we received on our previous issue (Dec./Jan.), which included a report on Maui—Maui Mindset: Why the Valley Isle has some of the happiest seniors. It was the magazine's first off-island venture. Since it was so well received, we've decided to visit a Neighbor Island at least once a year to hear more about programs and services that work in their communities.

Also, to help you stay connected to healthy aging issues, we are supplementing the magazine with two, back-to-back radio talk shows every Saturday on AM 690. For details, see page 12.

And, don't forget to attend the 20th Annual PrimeTime Wellness Fair. With nearly 100 vendors, the fair offers cooking demos, craft workshops, travel gift prizes, free health screenings and more.

Enjoy the read, aloha!



Aimee Harris Associate Editor

🦰 First Hawaiian Bank. 20th Annual PrimeTime Wellness Fair

Tuesday, March 4, 2014 Neal S. Blaisdell Exhibition Hall

8:15 a.m. Opening Ceremonies to 12:30 p.m.

Correction (Dec./Jan issue, Maui Mindset): Kaunoa Senior Center is in partnership with Loiloa (org.) rather than the Hawai'i Nature Center (HNC). Loiloa (org) operates in Lo'iloa (place) by permission of HNC and Wailuku Water Co. Kawewehi Pundyke is the project director of Loiloa (org.).

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Love's Bakery Thrift Stores

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Olaloa Retirement Community

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Pali Momi Medical Center

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**KAUAI:** Love's Thrift Store (Lihue)

**MAUI:** Maui County Executive Office on Aging, Kaunoa Senior Center, Kalama Heights Senior Community, Hale Makua (Kahului), Hale Mahaolu, Roselani Place, Love's Thrift Store (Kahului)

MOLOKAI & LANAI: Na Puuwai

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Links to not just

enerations Magazine calls upon Hawai'i's experts—from financial advisors to professional chefs—to produce an informative and meaningful publication for our local seniors and their families. Mahalo for their contributions.



TAYLOR HAMAI is a senior at 'Iolani School. She has a passion for serving others, dancing, traveling, video-making and art. She is a member of 'Iolani's Team Service group, and she is also co-president of the Storytellers Club and is an adviser to the 'Iolani Writes Competition. She serves as a volunteer tutor and volunteers in 'Iolani's Big Brother/Sister program. She hopes to major in business as she heads off to college in the fall.



VIOLET E. HORVATH, PH.D., MSW, MFA has served as interim director of the Pacific Basin Rehabilitation Research and Training Center since the end of September 2013. She is a social work researcher, educator, consultant, and project and program coordinator and has worked on numerous grants and contracts covering a variety of topics. For information on the Neurotrauma Registry, call 808-692-1375/1372, 1-866-447-9023 or visit HawaiiNT@hawaii.edu.



SCOTT MAKUAKANE is a lawyer whose practice has emphasized estate planning and trust law since 1983. He hosts Est8Planning Essentials, a weekly TV talk show which airs on KWHE (Oceanic channel 11) at 8:30 p.m. on Sunday evenings. For more information about Scott and his law firm, Est8Planning Counsel LLLC, visit www.est8planning.com.





CO-WRITERS WAYNE SHIBATA and MELVIN AOKI. Both grew up in Honolulu (St. Louis Heights and McCully respectively) playing baseball for their high school. They are active community members through the enjoyment of softball, promoting goodwill and fellowship.



MICHAEL W. YEE has a financial advisory practice of Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc. As a financial advisor, Yee's customized advice is anchored in a solid understanding of client needs and expectations. For more information, please contact Michael W. Yee at 808-952-1240.

Also, a continuing mahalo to our everpresent contributing partners (in alphabetical order):

AARP | JANE YAMAMOTO-BURGISAY | TERI BRUESEHOF | DIANE CADINHA DR. RITABELLE FERNANDEZ | SHERRY GOYA | KIRK MATTHEWS | CHEF MICHI | JULIE MOON | SAGE PLUS | JANE SAKURADA | JEFFREY SISEMOORE | SCOTT SPALLINA | STEPHEN YIM





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*Main navigation menu:* Use these topics to navigate to the various pages in our site. As you run the cursor over the word, it'll become bold. These topics will always exist on every page. Throughout the homepage, there are also various other buttons that'll take you to any one of these topics.

*Home* is the main page.

**This Issue** will take you to the current issue's table of contents with live links to individual articles.

**Resources** will take you to resource guide archives.

**AIP Videos** show a list of the Aging In Place Workshop speakers.

**Advertising** contains all of our advertising and marketing information.

**About Us** is just a little background.

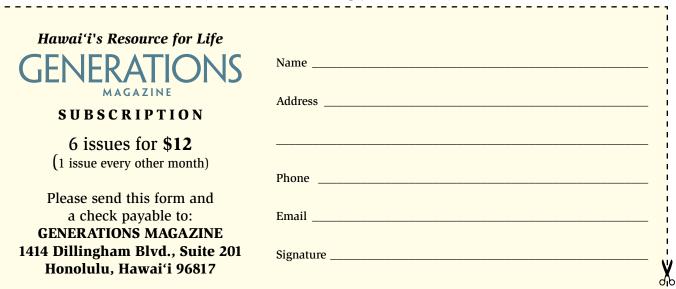
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### Don't Be Limited By Your Fitness

by Kirk Matthews of KHON's The Elderhood Project

n the KHON2 Elderhood Project, we meet many seniors and the ones who impress me most are those who stay active. Recently, our cameras went to a softball tournament where we watched seniors as they laughed and joked with each other. But when the gloves were put on and the ball was pitched, they were no longer seniors. Rather, they became competitive, energetic athletes having fun on the field. They were turned young again...a feeling that they take with themselves off the field and into their everyday lives.

If you go to the Ala Wai Clubhouse and watch the seniors ballroom dancing, you can see that gleam in the eye, the high heel lifting delicately, the smile on the face. Although dancing is great exercise, you can just tell that there's more to it.

Experts will tell you that exercise is important as we age. I agree. But to me, it's about more than just the exercise. It's that chemical reaction in the

brain that surges and tells you, "I can do this!"

The publisher of this magazine Percy Ihara and I play golf from time to time. We walk, we talk, we swing the club—not wisely, but with spirit. When we're through, we laugh and talk about the round. That may be the most important part of our game. If you have the chance to join others in your activities—than do it. It is an important part in keeping us young.

Why is it important to stay active? To explain why, here's a funny for you...

A woman comes home from shopping and says to her husband who's watching television, "Let's run upstairs and make love!"

He replies, "You have to choose."

Stay active, and you won't have to pick between activities.

The Elderhood Project airs on KHON2 Friday morning news at 5:45 a.m. and Thursday news at 5 p.m.

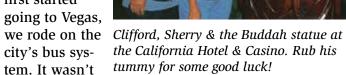


### Vegas Celebrations

any milestones are celebrated in Las Vegas. At least that was the reason my husband and I started going to Vegas from celebrating our 40th birthdays to this past October when we celebrated our 60th. When we started going to Vegas, we went with another couple, Sharon and Steven Wong of Mililani (a little later, we convinced Nelson Lara, the best man at our wedding 37 years ago, to join us). We've celebrated birthdays, anniversaries and even took our children for their 21st birthdays. And every time we go to Vegas, we travel with Vacations Hawaii.

The Vacations Hawaii packages are great because we don't have to worry about transportation to and from the Vegas airport; and we can eat breakfast, lunch and dinner with our free coupons (including swapping our lunch coupons for midnight steak and eggs at the California Hotel & Casino).

When we first started going to Vegas, we rode on the city's bus sys-



bad, but we didn't go too far from downtown Vegas. Now, Nelson drives us around like a "local," taking us to shopping centers, casinos and shows on the Strip, plus to Trader Joe's.

The weather seems to be the best for our trips in October because Vegas is still a little warm (in the 80s during the third week of this past October) and the nights are in the 50s. We usually wear shorts and T-shirts during the days and jeans or slacks at night. Since Vegas is the 9th Hawaiian Island, we always see people from "home" walking around downtown or at The Cal. The hotel is a home away from home for us, and holds so many good memories.

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spect and dignity mixed with a lot of laughter and coupled with the greatest music of our generation. And if you know anything about me, you'll know that the music will move your soul. Tune in, or I'll come to your house and rearrange your furniture ...



### Generations Radio Show 5pm-6pm | AM690



**Generations Radio Show** is a weekly series on senior issues.

The show is airing at a critical time. In less than one decade, one-third of Hawai'i's population will be 65 or better. The state is

urging kūpuna and their families to brace for a shortage of living and caregiving options and to prepare for home and community-based care.

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Frank B. Shaner PUSDING PUDD Edited by Aimee Harris



"Painting is like a portal...a way out of my skin, to get off this planet, get away from humans.

When I paint, I'm free!"

-F.B. Shaner

# With a desire to express himself, comedian and media personality Frank B. Shaner moves from the mic to the paint palette.

radio personality Frank B. Shaner did his last stint as host of the morning show on KUMU radio. After seven years, his contract was not renewed. At the time, Shaner was quoted as saying, "At this particular point in my life, we'll see what happens. There's a whole new realm, a whole new world out there that's starting to open up for me."

#### To be sure—the art world.

As a voice in radio, a mentor to many local musicians, the founder of the Annual Frank B. Shaner Hawaiian Falsetto Contest and the winner of a Nā Hōkū Hanohano Award for a comedy album featuring many of his humorous voices and personas, Shaner is no stranger to art and media... but "pushing paint" was never in the picture. Not until September, 11, 2001 (9/11).

Like most everyone, 9/11 changed the way Shaner viewed the world... taking him down a path he could have never imagined. "I became a different person," Shaner recalls. "For most of my life, I have been in radio but on that day—after working around the clock broadcasting news feeds from New York—I was exhausted. It was extremely painful and numbing to talk about these tragedies for hours and seeing the rubble of broken lives."

Tired and confused, Shaner walked out the door of the studio and into a local art store, where he bought canvases, tubes of oil paint and brushes of all sizes. "I had never painted a stroke in my life. The closest I had ever come to creating any art was my incessant doodling on cocktail napkins and scrap paper," Shaner says. "However, I was so affected by that day and its events, I have since dedicated myself to painting every day."

His first piece was an oil painting that's still in his possession ... a small 5"x 6" painting of a clump of trees. "Then, I painted fish swimming along the coastline ... why? I have no idea," he says.

Shaner says painting is like a portal, "a way out of my skin, to get off this planet, get away from humans. When I paint, I'm free!"

He readily admits that he has no idea what all his art means, as he explains his paintings are like ocean waves — unpredictable. But perhaps it really isn't the artist's job to tell viewers what things mean. It's our job to make meaning out of the virtue of the artist's imagination, talent and skill.

Here, amongst his art, *Generations Magazine* sits down with Shaner for a Q&A session. We could start circa 1950, O'ahu where Shaner of mixed race—Hawaiian, Chinese, Portuguese, German, Irish—grew up... but his mind's eye takes us on another sort of journey...



CHONAN, WILLIAM AH NEE, FRANK B SHANER, JOHN KAUINANG BASS

1963 Kaimuki High School football teammates

#### GM: Where were your hanabata days?

FS: I grew up on planet Earth, but I came here in a most unusual way, I must say. You see, my family would stop on Earth on our way to Jupiter for our annual vacation. Stopping on Earth is like pulling into 7-Eleven. I got out that day just to pee and my family left me stranded. They took off! I ended growing up in 'The Great State of Kapahulu,' where I had the pleasure of eating manapua from the Chinese man who walked down Makini St., right across from the rose garden. He had two barrels dangling from the ends a bowed bamboo draped across his shoulders. And, man... the manapua were fat and heavy. Sure, flies would fly out of the can and they were fat as well, but we survived and the memories — from playing street football to eating mangos dangling just out of reach—are cherished. I love this planet Earth... I think I'll stay.

### GM: Any childhood experiences that are still on your mind?

FS: As long as I can remember I never understood school. I just didn't get it. Back in the day when I was attending Waikiki Elementary students had to hand carry their report cards home to their parents. My father, who was a cop back then, was usually the one who read mine. I remember this one school year that was particularly bad for me. He read the report in front of me, looked over the top of the card and then looked down at me and said, "Son, I know one thing for sure, you're not cheating!" He was a good man.

### GM: Even though you didn't care for school, didn't you receive a college football scholarship?

FS: Yes, I had a full-ride scholarship to play football at the University of Idaho and played defensive tackle. They must have thought I was pretty good to award me full tuition for four years, but I was restless with the whole thing. I had just

spent three years in the Army and coming back to school was quite an adjustment back in 1969. When I became a junior I gave it all up, got on a plane and flew home to start my life and never looked back.

#### GM: What/How did you get into broadcasting?

FS: From 1970, I worked as a tour escort for Tradewind Tours for nearly 10 years. I picked up groups up at the airport, briefed them in the mornings, prepared them for the island tours of which I made all of the accommodations and travel plans. I got to meet and greet people from all over the world and show them my state. It was a great learning time for me. From that experi-

ence I knew that my life would be centered around people in some way. It got me ready for what was to come.

In 1978, I heard Kamasami Kong on the radio and he was having so much fun. I decided I wanted to do that. You see, in college I studied broadcasting, hoping to be a play-by-play

sports announcer. I had a college radio show as well and played contemporary Hawaiian music for one hour. The signal only reached about one mile off campus, but the experience was an introduction to being 'on the air.'

One day I answered an ad to be a radio jock at a local radio station, AM KIKI. They asked me if I had any experience, and I explained that I did a college radio show and for the last 10 years I talked to thousands of people in the tour business. The radio station said I needed more experience, and I asked how was I to get experience if they wouldn't hire me? Then I said, I'll work for free! And right then and there the general manager said I was 'hired.' I ended up being everyone's gopher, did odd jobs, learned production, watched jocks do their shows and learned from them. Within a matter of six months I was working my own show once a week from midnight to 6 a.m. every Sunday. I was off and running ...

#### GM: Did you have a mentor?

FS: J. Akuhead Pupule wasn't a mentor of mine but while riding in the back of my dad's '59 Chevy Impala on the way to school every day,



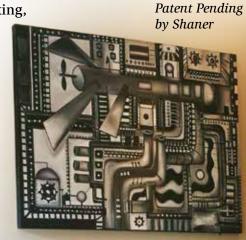
Left: Ham and cheese— Kamasami Kong and Shaner. Above: Shaner in the studio on the Baby Boomer Radio show. Aku's show caught my attention. What I remember the most was how I could hear the newspaper he was reading rustle pass his mic as he turned the pages. It was magic to me.

Later I came to know Bob Zix (Kamasami Kong). He was a huge star in Hawai'i and his antics on the radio captured my imagination. Later, as a mentor, Bob started me on the journey of a lifetime in radio goofiness. We are

friends still... some 35 years now. He's a big media star in Tokyo, Japan these days.

### GM: If you weren't in broadcasting, what would you have done?

FS: I have no idea. Like painting, I threw everything into the 'art of broadcasting' and talking to people without seeing them for years. I was passionate about what I was doing, relating to people every morning, having fun and acting goofy and getting paid for it. I never thought of doing anything else. It paid the bills and more.



"Painting lets me scream at the top of my lungs on canvas." - F.B. Shaner

### GM: How does art offer you a new/different "voice"... a voice beyond comedy and radio?

**FS:** Art is a very subjective form of communication. It's like stand up comedy, what I believe to be funny some might think is not that funny at all. As in art, what I believe is interesting others might not think so.

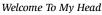
I believe art should move the viewer emotionally. For example, my art is displayed at Assaggio (Ala Moana and Kahala), and one evening a waiter at the Ala Moana location told me that there had been a complaint about one of my paintings. He explained that a lady wouldn't sit under this particular painting (a large 36"x48" black and white oil on canvas called *Patent Pending*) because it upset her and she couldn't eat. So she asked to be moved to another table. I laughed for a moment and said, 'That's the best compliment I've had on my work so far!'

The painting was doing its job. Moving people and creating a kind of energy force. I guess to answer your question, painting lets me scream at the top of my lungs on canvas. It's a person-

nal expression for myself, and if people find it interesting or amusing... or even disturbing... well, there you have it.

Siri, manager/owner, and Frank at Assaggio Ristorante Italiano, Ala Moana.







Fifth Star From The Middle



High Octane Ride



The Queen Is Dead



Memory



Petri Dish

### GM: Without any formal art training, what is your process for learning?

FS: As soon as I paint a line or splash color onto a canvas, the learning starts. Each painting has a different form of life to it. The painting will tell you what steps to take, what kind of line or stroke of the brush to use. Then you make the next move. You follow that path and continue on. It's very important to sit back and look at your work in progress. Stare at it for awhile, listen and observe. Sometimes the next day brings a whole new look to your work from the night before. Every painting is a new learning experience.



#### GM: I know it's difficult to describe, but can try to explain the connection between the disaster of 9/11 and your self expression with art?

FS: I'm not sure if 9/11 has had any impact on my painting, all I know is that it was on that day I started to push paint around. I'm not sure if the event of the day was the impetus that started me painting but that day was the day I picked up a paint brush and started this venture that has changed my life.

### GM: What do you hope to share/express with your art?

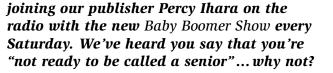
FS: Not sure what the meaning is, all I know is that I paint every day and it goes deep into my na'au (gut). I look at my paintings like how some people like to scrapbook... each painting has a personal meaning to me. All my paintings are like my own children. When someone purchases a painting I demand that they send me a photo of it hanging on their wall... and that I can call them at least once a year.

### GM: You've mentioned a few times that you've painted every day since 9/11. Why is your "daily paint" important to you?

**FS:** There is a lot going on in my head and at this point in time I'm trying to satisfy all aspects of my thinking by painting my thoughts.

GM: Is art a hobby and/or a revenue source?
FS: Neither, it's a burden at times ...

GM: We know that some of your time spent away from your art studio is spent with us... writing your column Frankly, As Always and



FS: 'Cause I'm not ready to submit... to be called kupuna, senior... when you're referred to in these terms people have a tendency to put you in a pigeon hole. I hate pigeons, they smell and are foul and they have become a pain to society and I don't think I'm ready to be called that, so don't ask me that question anymore. Let's move on.

## GM: In reading your past columns in Generations Magazine, you seem to be quite nostalgic. You seem to find value in the past... if so, does this play out in your art or thought process?

FS: No, my art is a spontaneous combustion. When it starts happening, and when the paint starts flowing, step aside because it flows like hot lava rushing, gushing and moving down the side of a steep volcano.

In regards to my column in *Generations Magazine*, I love to write and what better thing to write about than the past? It's clear, it's revealing, it's comforting. Through writing you can find out a lot about society, how we live today and how we prepare for the future.

#### GM: Regarding The Baby Boomer Show, what do you hope to share with listeners by coming back to radio?

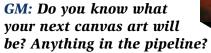
FS: I just love radio... and doing it once a week is fine right now. I'm not trying to make any statement. It's a new canvas, different players now, different circumstances, different sound... and that's a good thing.

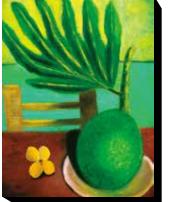
#### GM: I know you love to golf, why?

FS: I love the game of golf. Golf is like life... each hole represents a new day. What ever happened on the last hole—good or bad—we should learn from it. Take the good plays with you, and try to learn from the bad.

#### GM: What is a good day for you?

FS: Listening to the rain outside my screen door as I paint on a large canvas, stopping every once in awhile to listen to the rain pelt the giant leaves of the 'ulu tree that stands just moments from my screen door. And in the background, Oscar Peterson playing jazz.





Samoan Fruit

FS: Well, I'm starting to sense great emotion—pain, suffering, hope—large globs of paint, dark hues, shadows, heavy lines softened as they penetrate the light. I see light bouncing off collar bone. I see a tide rising like a cleansing, like bathing, like entering the ocean just off the Diamond Head side of Waikiki early in the morning... there is nothing like it. Ah, planet Earth—you got to love her! And I do... and so it is.

If you want to hear more from Frank, tune to AM 690 every Saturday at 4 p.m. His artwork is displayed at Assaggio Ristorante Italiano at the Kahala and Ala Moana locations or visit **frankbshaner.com**.

"Each painting has a different form of life to it."

p 20

### One-Mile Project; One Planet Community

by Taylor Hamai, 'Iolani School student

y passion for kūpuna has grown tremendously over the past months since I first enrolled in 'Iolani School's "One Mile Project" class. This semester elective course is a new offering in the state-of-the-art Sullivan Center for Innovation and Leadership. The course was geared toward giving students a greater appreciation for older adults in our community (within a one-mile radius of our Mōili'ili/Kapahulu campus).

Although I would love to say that I have always been this excited to help older adults, my feelings weren't always this strong. During our first One Mile gathering, we were given an exercise to express our thoughts on kūpuna. There were many negative words thrown out such as "old, slow and grumpy." These downbeat impressions, however, slowly changed to thoughtful and respectful ideas as my class worked with nearby organizations, such as the University of Hawai'i Center on Aging, Mōili'ili Community Center, Pālolo Chinese Home, Nu'uanu Hale, AARP and the Project Dana. With these partners, we completed walkability audits, proposed solutions to the problems in our streets, conducted interviews, learned vocabulary terms, took excursions to a Good Life Expo and nursing homes, interviewed a caretaker, conducted an empathy challenge, and reached out to a hospice patient. Thanks to these activities, we gained a better understanding of the elderly and made

connections to our own lives. With a newfound love of older adults, my class has spent the past couple months putting together a project proposal that we recently presented to 60 school and community leaders in a special January 10 event.

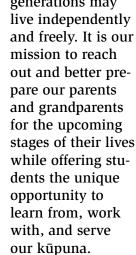
#### Our proposed "One Mile, One Planet Community Center" hopes to:

- provide services to the elderly & our community
- educate for the future
- provide a new experience for all generations

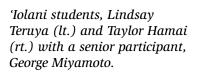
As our vision statement reads, "This Center will bring independent older adults and 'Iolani students together through intergenerational programs that promote active aging, sharing of knowledge and service to the community."

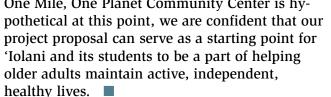
We hope to improve the daily life and satisfaction of the elderly in our community. We want to work together as a school to create a thriving, age-friendly city. As thousands of Baby Boomers approach retirement each day, we hope to instill the importance of caring for our kūpuna. We want to stress healthy living, so that future elderly

generations may live independently mission to reach out and better prepare our parents and grandparents for the upcoming while offering students the unique opportunity to learn from, work with, and serve



Although the One Mile, One Planet Community Center is hypothetical at this point, we are confident that our project proposal can serve as a starting point for 'Iolani and its students to be a part of helping older adults maintain active, independent,





The Sullivan Center for Innovation and Leadership at 'Iolani School.

First Hawaiian Bank. March 4 • Blaisdell Exhibition Hall • 8:15 am – 12:30 pm

### PRIMETIME WELLNESS FAIR • FREE Admission

### Back To School: Learning How To Age

by Aimee Harris





Virginia Hinshaw of JABSOM speaks to a Geriatric Medicine group, which is one of the school's highly accomplished programs and has helped develop the idea of the mini-medical school.

The John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM) is partnering with the University of Hawai'i Foundation in sponsoring the new Mini-Medical School on Healthy Aging.

The Mini-Medical School is designed to prepare participants for the second half of their lives. The school will deliver relevant scientific information on aging, similar to what JABSOM medical students learn, but the curriculum will be tailored for a lay audience so that participants can become "mini-medical students."

The inaugural course is being piloted this spring with a class of UH donors and partners. They will have a chance to learn about healthy aging, evaluate the course's content and offer input in the development of this new program. Their evaluation will be used to extend the program more broadly to the public.

Virginia S. Hinshaw, Chancellor Emeritus/ Professor at JABSOM, says she wanted to create a program that would have a positive impact on the community, particularly our kūpuna. She notes that the geriatrics program is a strength of the John A. Burns School of Medicine and the Mini-Medical School embraces the respect for kūpuna that is so central to Hawaiian culture.

"Our state is in a unique position in that over the next 10 years it will have the highest number

of senior citizens as a percentage of its overall population. One-third of us will be 65 years or older," Hinshaw says. "Since healthy aging is a goal most of us share, we want to provide Hawai'i's seniors with information on the best way to maintain their health and well-being."

The Mini-Medical School is a six-week course on Saturday mornings for two hours. The content includes lectures, panels, Q&A periods, interactive exercises and, yes, even homework.

The speakers are aging experts from across UH Mānoa and will present on a range of topics from Healthy at 100: Genetic vs Lifestyle Factors to Caregiving and Palliative Care in our Health System — focusing on the keys to healthy aging, which are staying:

- physically active
  - mentally engaged
    - socially connected

The hope is that the education about healthy living will enable Hawai'i's seniors to stay healthy, maintain their independence and potentially reduce their health care costs.

"We want to prepare seniors for the realities of aging—the pros and the cons," Hinshaw says. "And, we want to provide resources to help along the way."

To learn more about the Mini-Medical School, visit www.jabsom.hawaii.edu/minimedschool.

## Top Tutors A Valley Isle couple commits to academics & nurtures Maui schoolchildren & families.

by Aimee Harris

he Lahaina Complex After School Enrichment Tutoring Project, founded by Richard and Pat Endsley of Lahaina over 13 years ago, helps students in the four public schools of West Maui. The project offers 3rd through 8th graders free after school tutoring in reading, writing, math and drama.

As former educational administrators in Berkeley, CA, the Endsleys moved to the Islands in 1992. Pat, 75, says, "Although we moved to Maui to retire, we purposely didn't move into a retirement area. As educators, we wanted to be connected to our new community where students lived and we wanted to contribute in some way."



A group of tutors and students, with Richard Endsley (far lt.) who at 85 continues to tutor three days a week.

In 2000, the couple started the tutoring project to increase literacy of schoolchildren in various subjects. They started with 50 middle school students and a handful of tutors — most of them retirees from the community. Today, the project has grown to include 300 students and 150 tutors of all ages. The tutors are comprised of 90 adults (about 65 percent which are 55 or better) and 60 high school student tutors. Many of the student tutors are in the honor society and use the volunteer experience to help them fulfill requirements for college and scholarship applications.

All tutors are trained to be curriculum specialists to ensure that the program meets the latest core standards in language arts/reading and math. *Program*. ■





Left: Pat and Richard Endsley at Leilani's On The Beach where the manager treats tutors to an honors luncheon. Right: Richard in action, as he tutors math, reading/ writing and ELL.

"By comparing standardized test scores, we know that the program is a success," Pat says. "But for me, I know it's working when I observe our tutors in action. We provide active learning and the kids look forward to it. This year, for the 6th graders alone, we have 16 students on the mathematics waiting list."

The program receives no state or federal funds. It is run by all volunteer tutors and support staff and provides bus service and snacks, annual curriculum and incentives for students. "The project has been maintained completely by the county and two Lahaina non-profit foundations, along with donations from two Lahaina Rotary Clubs." Pat says. "It is successful thanks to our dedicated and caring volunteers and donations from local citizens and businesses — restaurants, stores and hotels."

As part of the unique after school program, theatre lessons were recently added to the curriculum. Theatre Maui presents drama lessons on Mondays at Lahaina Intermediate School. "We aim to build students' self-confidence, self-esteem and leadership qualities," Pat says. "Creativity is important in their school studies and in their everyday lives."

In addition, last year a new program for English Language Learners (ELL) was initiated after the Endsleys learned that this group was identified as the most needy in the middle school. The pilot program for 20 students was so successful that this school year 42 ELL students will receive mostly one-to-one tutoring services.

"We always intended to be of service ... Richard and I initially just set out to help the neighborhood kids. We never expected that the entire community would get involved. West Maui is quite unique in that way," Pat smiles. We've had a very busy retirement..."

For information, please visit www.pfee.org or www.razoo.com/story/Lahaina-Tutoring-

## Tony Lenzer Recognized With 2013 Andrus Award for Community Service

r. Anthony (Tony) Lenzer was recently selected as the Hawai'i recipient of the 2013 Andrus Award for Community Service—AARP's most prestigious volunteer recognition. He accepted the award from AARP national president Rob Romasco at a volunteer recognition luncheon in November. The Andrus Award is an annual award for exemplary volunteer leadership named after AARP's founder Ethel Percy Andrus (1884-1967) who exemplified AARP's motto: "To serve, not to be served."

Lenzer's distinguished career in gerontology began in Ann Arbor, Michigan, as executive secretary of a legislative council on aging. He held that job for four years, while doing doctoral work, then taught seven years at the University of Michigan's School of Public Health where he helped set up a Chronic Disease and Aging Program.

He came to Hawai'i in 1969 with his wife and five children to help the University of Hawai'i develop its gerontology program, teaching the first course on aging in 1970.

In ensuing years he helped to establish key aging-related organizations. Among them: Hospice Hawai'i, the Hawai'i Pacific Gerontological Society and the Hawai'i Family Caregiver Coalition, of which he is president. He also chairs the legislative committee for the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs in the Executive Office on Aging.

Lenzer has been volunteering with AARP and other organizations since retiring from the UH Center in 1994. He's a volunteer board member for five organizations that advocate for aging. caregiving and disability policies at the Legislature. He helped create the annual "Aging and Disability Issues" report and is working with AARP now to help people understand the complex Affordable Care Act.

In the words of AARP Hawai'i state director Barbara Kim Stanton: "No one has done more to advance our understanding of what it means to grow older in Hawai'i and prepare a generation of state policymakers to begin addressing the challenges and opportunities of our aging population."



Left to right: AARP state director Barbara Kim Stanton, AARP volunteer national president Rob Romasco, 2013 Andrus Volunteer Award Winner Tony Lenzer and volunteer Hawai'i state president Gerry Silva.

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Help ensure our kūpuna receive nutritious meals and companionship. Do good. Feel good. Become a part of the Lanakila Meals on Wheels 'ohana!

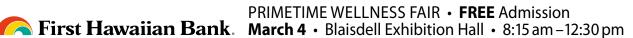
For information contact Lokata: 808-356-8532 | llittleelk@lanakilapacific.org www.LanakilaMealsonWheels.org













## Braised Chicken Thighs With Tomatoes & Olives

by Chef Michi

Teaturing olive oil and herbs, this one-dish dinner cooks for less than a half an hour, yet has the satisfying, melded flavor of a long-simmered stew.

#### **Ingredients:**

1 Tbsp. olive oil

8 chicken thighs (about 3 lbs.), with skin on

Salt and fresh ground pepper

1 medium onion, chopped

4-5 garlic cloves, sliced paper thin

2 tsp. fresh rosemary, chopped (or 1 tsp. dry)

1 14-oz. can of diced tomatoes

3/4 cup black olives, sliced in half

3/4 cup low-sodium chicken stock

2 Tbsp. tomato paste

Fresh basil or green onion, thinly sliced

#### **Directions:**

In a large pan with a lid, heat the olive oil on medium heat. Season both sides of the chicken with salt and pepper, and brown well on both sides. Remove chicken from the pan. Drain off some of the oil, leaving about 1 tablespoon.

Add the onion, garlic and rosemary and stir for about 3 minutes,



then add the chicken stock. Bring to a boil and scrap off any brown bits from the bottom of the pan. Let the liquid reduce by half. Add the tomatoes, olives and tomato paste and stir to blend. Add the chicken, skin side up, cover and simmer gently for 25 minutes.

Before serving, top with fresh basil or green onion.

*Serves:* 4 | *Time:* About 35 minutes ■

For more of Chef Michi's fresh recipes, visit www.cookingfreshforyou.com 808-286-6484 | cookingfreshforyou@gmail.com

Also, visit her Cooking FRESH locations: 909 Kapahulu Ave. Oueens POB I – 1329 Lusitana St., Oueens POB II – 550 S. Beretania St. Lunch Truck – UH Manoa on East West Road by Kennedy Theatre.

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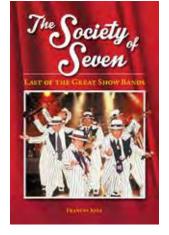




### New Memoir: The Society of Seven

or five decades—from their early years in → Hong Kong as the Fabulous Echoes to standing-room-only performances in clubs and concert halls around the world—the saga of the Society of Seven has been one of the most enduring success stories in show business. Now the band's colorful history has been captured with the release of **The Society of Seven: Last of the** Great Show Bands, authored by the group's longtime manager, Frances Kirk. In her lively 362-page memoir, Kirk recounts the wild ride of a revolving cast of world-class entertainers, who overcame personal tragedy to build a legacy in the roughand-tumble world of showbiz.

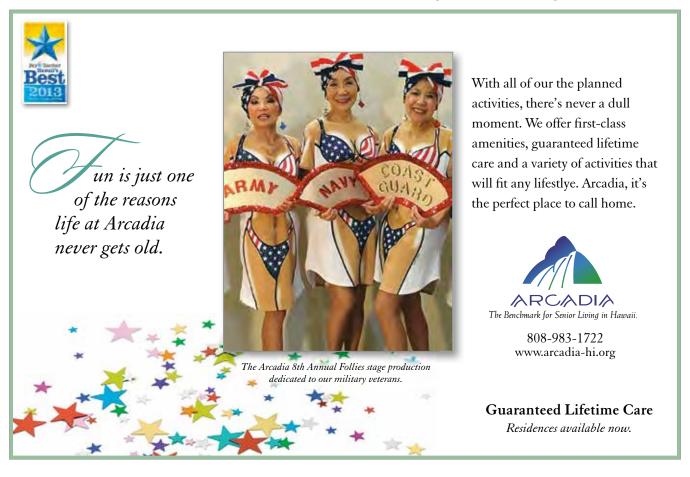
"Simply put," entertainment writer Wayne Harada notes in the book's foreword, "the SOS wouldn't have been able to succeed without Frances, and vice versa." In the book, Kirk recounts their journey through many shining moments, including performances on



The Ed Sullivan Show. headlining for more than 40 years at the Outrigger Waikiki hotel and a series of regional hit records. It is a legacy that lives on, as the Society of Seven continues to perform today.

Intertwined with the band's history is Kirk's own life story. A savvy businesswoman born and raised in Hong Kong, she joined the family business, Diamond Music Company, in 1960 when her father fell gravely ill. She established the company's recording department and concert promotion arm, building the company into a major player in the Asian entertainment industry.

Legacy Isle Publishing. Softcover, \$19.95, available at bookstores. Call **866-900-BOOK** or visit www.legacyislepublishing.net.



### Playing Hard

by Coach Wayne Shibata and Melvin Aoki, of the Hawaii Dream Team

**¬** ach year, more than a dozen teams play in the softball Hinohara Cup Tournament in Japan. The tournament is named after Dr. Hinohara who is 102 years old and still goes to work every day. He believes in an active lifestyle, as well as working in an occupation for which you are passionate. With that passion, work becomes play.

In 2010, Hawai'i was invited to participate in the tournament for the first time. Thirteen of Hawai'i's top senior softball players swept the competition, winning the Tokyo All Japan Cup, the Hinohara Cup, the Meya Makule Cup and the Grand Trophy. Although the team was invited back to play in 2011 and 2012, the Tohoku earthquake and tsunami made it unfavorable to accept the invitation.

In 2013, 22 teams from Japan, Taiwan and Hawai'i participated in the Hinohara Cup Tournament. Taiwan and Hawai'i are the only outside



2013 Hawaii Dream Team (top row, lt.-rt.): Robert Oshiro, Gary Yamaguchi, Robert Kunimitsu, Gordon Okuhara, James Koishigawa, Gerard Takiguchi, and Bobby Chinen. Kneeling (lt.-rt.): Coach Wayne Shibata, Clinton Tanimoto, Jeffery Kamiya and Melvin Aoki.

teams that are invited to play annually. The first day of the tournament was rained out. On the second day, the Dream Team won its first game but lost the second and was thereby eliminated. However, the nine-day whirlwind trip through Japan was an experience of a lifetime, and the team thanks Bobby Chinen Tours for the excellent escort services.

The team looks forward to the 2015 tournament. It will visit Hokkaido and travel to Akita to play the local team, then travel to Tokyo to play in the Hinohara Cup again.





#### **SENIOR SUPPORT & CAREGIVING SERVICES**

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STATEWIDE	<b>W.4.W.</b> 5005	a :
AARP Hawai'i	545-6006	www.aarp.org/hi
Alzheimer's Association	981-2111	www.alz.org/hawaii
Alzheimer's Association Help Line	1-800-272-3900	www.alz.org/hawaii
Executive Office on Aging	586-0100	www.health.hawaii.gov/eoa/
Sage PLUS	586-7299	www.health.hawaii.gov/eoa/home/sage-plus/
Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP)	586-7281 1-800-296-9422	www.tinyurl.com/seniormedicarepatrol
Social Security Administration	1-800-772-1213	www.ssa.gov
Social Security Office Locations		www.socialsecurityofficelocation.net
State Long-Term Care Ombudsman	586-7268	www.tinyurl.com/hawaiiombudsmanLTC
OʻAHU		
Adult Protective Services (Abuse)	832-5115 832-5673	www.tinyurl.com/HIgovadultprotectiveservice
Aging & Disability Resource Ctr. (ADRC)	768-7705 768-7700	www.elderlyaffairs.com
Castle Home Care	247-2828	www.castlemed.org/home-care.htm
Catholic Charities Hawai'i (Sr. Services Div.)	524-4673	www.catholiccharitieshawaii.org
Central O'ahu Caregivers' Support Group	625-0420	www.tinyurl.com/eldercarehawaii
Child & Family Services Gerontology Prgm.	543-8468	www.tinyurl.com/cfsgerontology
Eldercare Support Group	395-9082	www.tinyurl.com/eldercaresupport
Project Dana	945-3736	www.projectdana.org
Respite Companion Services	586-5192	
Senior Helpline (Elderly Affairs Division)	768-7700	www.elderlyaffairs.com
Univ. of Hawai'i Elder Law Program	956-6544	www.hawaii.edu/uhelp
VA Caregivers Support Group	433-7646	www.tinyurl.com/vacaregiverssupport
HAWAI'I		
Hawai'i Co. Area Office on Aging - Hilo	961-8600	www.hawaiicounty.gov/aging/
Hawai'i Co. Area Office on Aging - Kona	327-3597	www.hawaiicounty.gov/aging/
KAUA'I		
Kaua'i Agency on Elderly Affairs	241-4470	www.kauai.gov/elderly
MAUI / MOLOKAʻI / LANA'I		
Hana Office on Aging Senior Center	248-8833	
Lana'i Senior Citizens Center	565-6282	
Maui County Office on Aging	270-7774	www.co.maui.hi.us/index.aspx?nid = 255
Maui County Office on Aging -Lana'i	565-7114	www.co.maui.hi.us/index.aspx?nid = 255
Maui County Office on Aging- Moloka'i	553-5241	www.co.maui.hi.us/index.aspx?nid = 255

### PRIMETIME WELLNESS FAIR • FREE Admission First Hawaiian Bank. March 4 • Blaisdell Exhibition Hall • 8:15 am –12:30 pm

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Affordable Housing and Homeless Alliance	845-4565	www.hawaiihomeless.org
Aloha Independent Living Hawai'i	1-800-385-2454	www.AlohaILHawaii.org
Better Business Bureau	808-536-6956 1-877-222-6551	www.hawaii.bbb.org
Community Assistance Center	537-2917	www.cachawaii.org
Consumer Affairs Office-Adult Mental Health	586-4688	www.health.hawaii.gov/amhd/
Disability & Comm. Access Board	586-8121	www.hawaii.gov/health/dcab/
Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs	587-3222	www.cca.hawaii.gov
Hawai'i Centers for Independent Living	522-5400 1-800-645-4651	www.cil-hawaii.org
Hawai'i Civil Rights Commission	586-8636	www.labor.hawaii.gov
Hawai'i Disability Rights Center	949-2922 1-800-882-1057	www.hawaiidisabilityrights.org
Hawai'i State Hospital (psychiatric hospital)	236-8244	
Legal Aid Society	536-4302	www.legalaidhawaii.org
Legal Aid Society of Hawai'i	536-4302 1-800-499-4302	www.legalaidhawaii.org
Maximum Legal Services Corp.	585-0920	www.maxcorp-hi.org
NAMI-National Alliance on Mental Illness	591-1297	www.namihawaii.org
Self-Advocacy Advisory Council	586-8100	www.hiddc.org/about.htm

947-5558

528-7046

www.unitedselfhelp.org

www.vlsh.org

RESOURCE GUIDE

#### MENTAL HEALTH CONNECTIONS

Volunteer Legal Services of Hawai'i

STATEWID
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United Self-Help

Mental Health America of Hawaiʻi Help Line	521-1846	www.mentalhealth-hi.org
National Suicide Prevention Lifeline	1-800-273-8255	www.suicide prevention life line.org
Hawai'i ACCESS line	832-3100 1-800-753-6879	

This Programs & Services Resource Guide was derived from the Mental Health America of Hawai'i "Finding Help Phone List."



CAREGIVING

### Caregiver Legislation On The Table

amily members, partners and close friends **→** are an important source of support for ■ older people who need help taking care of themselves at home. In Hawai'i, these caregivers provide most of the care for loved ones who need help with activities such as bathing, dressing and transportation. Many caregivers also perform complex tasks such as providing wound care, managing medications and operating medical equipment.

But despite the importance of caregivers in the day-to-day care of our kūpuna, they are often left out of discussions involving a patient's care while in the hospital. And when loved ones are discharged from the hospital, caregivers often receive little or no instruction on how to help prevent readmission.

To address this issue, AARP Hawaii is urging passage of a bill in the 2014 state Legislature that would allow patients to designate a caregiver as part of their medical record—or that hospitals voluntarily adopt this practice. The bill requires hospitals to notify and meet with the designated caregiver to discuss the patient's plan of care prior to discharge or transfer to another facility. It also requires hospitals to instruct caregivers in how to care for loved ones after they are discharged.

"This bill will have the two-pronged effect of supporting family caregivers and keeping health care costs in check," says Steve Tam, AARP Hawaii director of advocacy. "It enables caregivers to support their loved ones at home and in the community, and discourages costly and unnecessary hospital readmissions."

The federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) estimates that \$17 billion in Medicare funding is spent each year on unnecessary hospital readmissions. The bill is intended to reduce readmissions by engaging caregivers more intentionally in the care of their loved ones. It also comes as hospitals across the country are seeking to avoid admission penalties under the federal Affordable Care Act.

In Hawai'i, family caregivers already play a critical role in the care of our elderly and disabled populations. On any given day an estimated 247,000 residents provide unpaid care valued at a staggering \$1.9 billion annually, according to 2009 data. Caregivers are often members of the individual's immediate family, but friends and other community members also serve as caregivers.

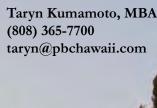
AARP is dedicated to helping Hawai'i's caregivers by providing the tools, information and support they need to care for their loved ones and themselves. For information on the status of this legislation, or to get involved as an advocacy volunteer, contact Steve Tam at 808-545-6005.

For information on resources for caregivers available online, visit the AARP Caregiving Resource Center at www.aarp.org/caregiving.

AARP Hawai'i state office:

808-545-6024 | Toll-Free: 866-295-7282 aarp.org/hi | facebook.com/AARPHawaii twitter.com/AARPHawaii

- Are you turning age 65 or new to Medicare?
- Ready to retire, and will lose your employer group coverage?
- Confused about Medicare Advantage, Supplement, and Drug Plans?
  - Call me for a personal consultation. Specializing in senior health insurance.









### Tips for Senior Skin Care

by Teri Bruesehoff, Chief Operating Officer HiHomeCare (The Hawaii Group subsidiary)

kin is our body's largest organ, and it's exposed to all the elements of our environment **J** and lifestyles. As we age, our skin becomes dryer and thinner, which can lead to skin breakdown, especially with an immobilized person.

Skin breakdown occurs when there is unrelieved pressure to an area on the body. This pressure impedes the circulation to the skin and causes an ulcer to form. Other factors that can contribute to skin breakdown are poor hydration, poor nutrition and maceration caused by prolonged exposure to wetness.

Many families with an elderly person at home may rely on a home care agency to provide appropriate care. But here are 5 tips to keep seniors as comfortable as possible throughout the day, whether or not you have a caregiver's helping hand:

• Turn and reposition the person at least every 2 hours. Massage pressure points with each turn. hihealthcarehawaii.com

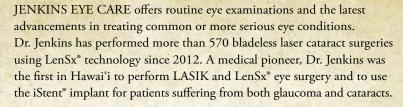
- If they are incontinent, change the diaper when soiled to prevent maceration of the skin.
- Clean skin well and use barrier creams with each diaper change.
- Check all areas of the body daily for early signs of skin breakdown. Early signs include discoloration and redness that doesn't go away with massage or pressure relief.
- Offer plenty of fluids and meals with protein.

Caregivers are trained to observe their clients for skin issues and to report changes to the family and to their agency's nursing supervisor. The supervisor should assist the family in determining the best plan of action for future care.

HiHealthCare, 745 Fort Street, Honolulu, HI 96813 808-534-7815 | info@hihealthcarehawaii.com

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### Hearing Loss Types & Tips

by Dr. Ritabelle Fernandes, MD

earing loss is one of the most common conditions **▲** affecting older adults. Approximately 47 percent of adults 75 years of age or older have a hearing impairment. Men are more likely to experience hearing loss than women. It may be embarrassing and often leads to social isolation or depression, as many find it hard to have a conversation with friends and family. There are other unintended consequences to a person's quality of life such as trouble

Hearing loss is a common problem caused by noise, aging, disease and heredity. Hearing is a complex sense involving both the ear's ability to detect sounds and the brain's ability to interpret those sounds.

understanding a doctor's advice, responding to

warnings and hearing phone calls or alarms.

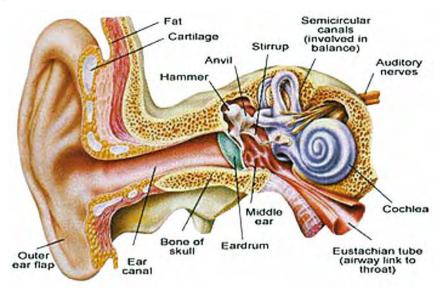
#### What are the different types of hearing loss?

There are two general categories of hearing loss.

- **→ Sensorineural hearing loss** occurs when there is damage to the inner ear or the auditory nerve. This type of hearing loss is usually permanent.
- **Conductive hearing loss** occurs when sound waves cannot reach the inner ear. The cause may be earwax build up, fluid or a punctured eardrum.

#### What is Presbycusis?

A type of sensorineural hearing loss is called Presbycusis and comes on gradually as a person ages. Presbycusis can occur because of changes in the inner ear, auditory nerve or hearing pathways in the brain. Some of its causes are aging, loud noise, heredity, head injury, infection, illness, certain prescription drugs and circulation problems such as high blood pressure. Presbycusis may make it hard for a person to tolerate loud sounds or to hear what others are saying.



#### How is hearing loss treated?

Seek help right away, hearing problems that are ignored or untreated can get worse. The physician will refer to an audiologist, otolaryngologist or ear, nose and throat specialist. The audiologist uses an audiometer to test the ability to hear sounds of different pitch and loudness. These tests are painless. Audiologists will select a hearing aid best suited to the senior. Assistive and adaptive devices such as telephone amplifying devices, TV and radio listening systems can help seniors to live well with less than perfect hearing. Hearing aids, special training, certain medicines and cochlear implants are some of the choices for people with hearing problems.

#### Tips to use when talking with someone who has a hearing problem:

- Face the person and talk slowly and clearly.
- Stand in good lighting and reduce background noises to a minimum.
- Use facial expressions or gestures to give useful clues.
- Repeat if necessary, using different words.
- Include the hearing-impaired person when talking, this helps keep the senior from feeling alone and excluded.
- Be patient and stay positive.



### Benefits of Cardiac Rehab

by Julie Moon, Physical Therapist

ardiac rehabilitation, as defined by the American Heart Association, is a medically ✓ supervised program to help patients who have sustained a heart attack, undergone heart surgery (bypass) or those with identified risk factors (coronary artery disease or angina). Cardiac rehab is used to stabilize, slow or even reverse the progression of cardiovascular disease, ultimately reducing the risk of heart disease, another heart attack or even death.

A physical therapist specializing in cardiac rehab will perform an evaluation and develop a plan consisting of patient education on diet, relaxation techniques, aerobic training and strengthening exercises. The therapist will closely monitor vital signs, such as blood pressure, heart rhythm and rate, and oxygen saturation levels. The therapist should also prescribe a safe exercise program, with appropriate duration, frequency and intensity. While everyone can exercise at a

gym or at their home after a cardiac event, a rehab program offers a safe and effective environment to improve your heart health with

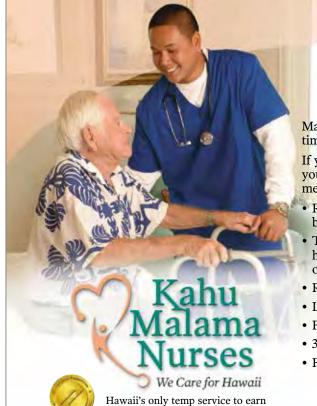
the supervision of a medical professional.

The benefits of cardiac rehab are well documented. Studies show that there is a 95 percent three-year survival rate for those who attend rehab, versus a 64 percent survival rate for those who do not.

A great rehab program can help people make life changes and achieve a level of health that may even be better than it was before the cardiac event.

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### Healthy New Year's Resolutions

by Diane Cadinha, Certified Personal Trainer

very one of us, regardless of our age, can **◄** make plans and set goals. Each new year is a new beginning... a time to start fresh and hopefully get it right.

Write down what you would like to see happen in the year ahead. It's a way to solidify your dreams and desires, and move into the new year with an upbeat, positive attitude.

The top New Year's resolution is to lose weight and live a healthier lifestyle. We all start with good intentions and then seem to fall back into bad habits. Experts say it takes 21 days for a new activity to become a habit and six months for it to become part of our personality. It doesn't happen over night, so be persistent and patient. Obsessing over the occasional slip won't help you achieve your goal. Do the best you can each day and take one day at a time. The key is to start small and set realistic goals for yourself.

Here is a list of things you can start doing today to feel better and move toward a healthier lifestyle in 2014.

- Start each day with a 8 oz. glass of water. Water has many benefits. It carries nutrients to our cells, flushes the kidneys, lubricates joints and prevents constipation. The goal is to work up to 1 to 2 liters a day.
- Eat more fruits and vegetables. Start by adding a salad to your daily diet or making yourself a green smoothie. Fruits and vegetables protect your body from disease and help fight cancer cells. The goal is 3 to 5 servings a day.
- Eat a handful (1 oz.) of raw nuts every day. Walnuts, macadamia nuts, almonds. Healthy proteins and fats are important for preserving muscle and brain function.
- Move your joints every day. Moving helps keep and improve function. Start at your neck, look left to right and then up and down. Go to the shoulders, arms out to the side, palms up and make small to large circles from the shoulder joint. Go both directions. Same with the wrist. Work your way down the body.

- Try not to sit for longer than 15 minutes. Sitting for long periods slows the metabolism and
- can raise insulin and cholesterol levels. Taking a 10-minute walk every 2 hours can improve your health dramatically.
- **Practice taking deep breaths**. Breathe in through the nose and out the mouth. This clears the lungs of toxins, increases energy, calms the mind and allows you to think more clearly.
- Educate yourself on staying healthy. For example, Dr Oz came out with an updated version of YOU: The Owners Manual. It contains a lot of great info on health and longevity.

Remember empowerment comes from doing!

Join Diane online at www.shapingup808.com, or call 808-221-3905; email shapingup@hawaii.rr.com.



## Introducing the Hawai'i Neurotrauma Registry



Nearly 800,000 Americans have a stroke each year, according to the CDC.

re probably all know someone who has experienced a stroke, spinal cord injury, concussion or traumatic brain injury. You may be the one this has happened to. These are called *neurotraumatic* injuries. Whatever the cause—a fall, burst blood vessel, car accident, sports injury, being hit by an object—the results can be devastating. They may be life-changing for the survivor and those around her or him.

What happens to people who have had one of these neurotraumatic injuries once they leave the hospital or rehabilitation clinic? Do they return home to live? Are they able to keep a job? Can they drive anymore? Will they have to take medication for the rest of their lives? Do they need help to go to the grocery store or clean the house? Will they need assistance later down the line? Might they need a cane, walker or a wheelchair? What happens to their appetite and sleep? Why do they seem to get upset more often?

Medical professionals know about their patients' needs while they're still in the hospital, clinic or other facility. However, we don't know much about what happens to people once they leave a medical center. The Hawai'i Neurotrauma Registry (NT Registry) wants to find out. The NT Registry is administered by the Hawai'i Department of Health, Developmental DisabiliResearch and Training Center

by Violet E. Horvath, Ph.D., interim director, Pacific Basin Rehabilitation

ties Division. It is managed by project staff at the Pacific Basin Rehabilitation Research and Training Center (PBRRTC).

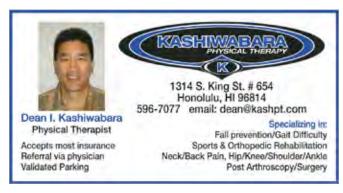
#### Help Others & Join The Registry

The NT Registry is a voluntary, statewide effort to gather information about people of all ages who have experienced one or more neurotraumatic injury. This information helps us better understand the needs of survivors and their families. The knowledge may help develop a system of support, educate service providers and justify the need to fund services.

The NT Registry looks to you, our kūpuna, and your families and friends for assistance. If you have experienced a neurotraumatic injury, please consider becoming a part of the NT Registry. If you know of others who have had injuries, let them know about us. Every individual who becomes a part of the NT Registry has the power to help shape the future of care for people with neurotraumatic injuries.

You may fill out the confidential survey online at *http://svy.mk//1a5Ya5m*. We can schedule an appointment with you in person or over the phone to help you fill out the survey if you do not have Internet access, have difficulty seeing, etc. Only with your help can the NT Registry be a success.

University of Hawaii at Manoa John A. Burns School of Medicine, Pacific Basin RRTC 677 Ala Moana, Suite 202, Honolulu, HI 96813-5417 808-692-1375/1372 | 1-866-447-9023 HawaiiNT@hawaii.edu









### The First Thing

by Jeffrey Sisemoore, Director of Planned Giving for the National Kidney Foundation of Hawai'i

t the National Kidney Foundation of Hawaii we are often asked about Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) and what a person should do to find out how if he or she has the disease.

There is good reason for concern. According to recent research, the lifetime risk of having moderate kidney

disease for Americans is nearly 60 percent. Moreover, CKD is often called a "silent killer" because people can have the disease without exhibiting any apparent symptoms until the disease is in late stages.

CKD is a disease in which the kidneys are unable to filter blood as well as they should. The effect is to have waste products build up in the body and lead to further health problems, including cardiovascular disease, among other things. The disease is usually irreversible and can lead to kidney failure over time if it is not treated. However, if CKD is detected early, treatment with medication and lifestyle changes may slow down the progress of the disease or even prevent kidney failure altogether. There is no cure for CKD, and the only treatment options for kidney failure are dialysis or a kidney transplant.

So what's the first thing someone should do if they want to know whether they might have Chronic Kidney Disease? Since early stages of the disease do not typically involve symptoms that a person can "feel" perhaps the first thing to do is have yourself screened for CKD. Your personal physician can order a simple blood test and/or urinalysis that will provide good indications of your kidney health. You might also attend a free screening offered by the National Kidney Foundation of Hawaii, which is designed to provide basic information that might warrant a visit with your



doctor. Also, you may want to visit www. **kidneyhi.org** about an upcoming screening currently scheduled for March 14 at the Ala Moana Hotel as part of World Kidney Week.

Screening is particularly important for people who have high blood pressure or diabetes, as these two conditions are the leading cause of

CKD. Additionally, you may be at greater risk if members of your family have a history of kidney failure or if you are over the age of 60 (although CKD can strike people at any age). Certain ethnic groups have a higher incidence of CKD, including Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders, Asians, African Americans and Hispanics, although no ethnic group is immune.

First Thing: Learning the truth by getting a simple screening will enable you to make changes that just may save your life.



### Free Screening!

**MARCH 14, 2014 ALA MOANA HOTEL** 

Offered by the National Kidney Foundation of Hawaii as part of World Kidney Week



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- 1 Epidemiology. 2007 July; 18(4): 501-506. doi: 10.1097/EDE.0b013e3180646338
- 2 AKA Framingham Offspring Study
- 3 http://www.kidney.org/news/monthly/phosphorus.cfm?homestatic = PhosphorusInfographic?homeslider = Phosphoru.

Are Your Medications Working?

by Jane Sakurada

**T**t is sometimes difficult to be sure whether we, as seniors, are taking our multiple medica-Lions correctly. Help has arrived. If you have a Medicare drug plan and take medications for more than one chronic health condition—such as hypertension, diabetes or cardiac disease you may be eligible for Medication Therapy Management (MTM) at no cost to you. Local pharmacists can review your medications and discuss any concerns. Contact your drug plan to see if your plan will cover MTM.

- Get more benefit from the drugs you're taking.
- Know how to best take your medications.
- Clear up any concerns about reactions, side effects, costs and insurance.

Whether you qualify for MTM or not, remember that each medication prescribed by your doctor is meant to serve a particular purpose, but when taken incorrectly, a drug can become inef-

fective or even dangerous. Problems often arise when no one has a clear record or understanding of all the medications you have been prescribed.

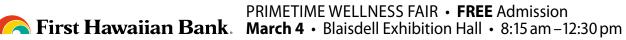
If you are prescribed drugs by more than one doctor, or visit more than one pharmacy, you will want to be sure that all of your doctors and pharmacists are aware of all your prescriptions. Be sure to include all herbal and nonprescription agents as well.

For more information, call Pharmacare Hawaii at **808-840-4123**.











SERVICES

### Mirror, Mirror On The Wall: A Tale About Medicare Eligibility

*Information provided* by the Hawaii SHIP (State Health Insurance Assistance Program)

he Hawaii SHIP office recently received a call from a woman who left the message, "I looked in the mirror this morning and this young 50 year old was looking back at me. Then my high school classmate called and asked if I had enrolled in Medicare yet? I realized I will be 65 this year, how the time has flown by."

Our caller wasn't sure where to start and these were some of her questions, along with our answers that you may find helpful.

#### How do I sign up for Medicare?

If you are currently receiving a benefit (check) from the Social Security Administration then you will be automatically enrolled in Medicare Part A & Part B. Otherwise, you will need to enroll at www.socialsecurity.gov/medicareonly.

#### Can I sign up at anytime?

Medicare has several enrollment periods. But be aware. If you miss enrolling when you are first eligible, you may not be able to enroll when you need the coverage and you could face a penalty.

- **Initial Enrollment Period (IEP).** This is the first enrollment period and it has a seven-month window around the month of eligibility (which for most is when they turn 65 years old).
- **General Enrollment Period (GEP).** This is for those who did not sign up for Part B (or Part A if it includes a premium). The GEP annually is from Jan. 1 – Mar. 31. Coverage begins July 1.
- Annual Enrollment Period (AEP). This is the next regular enrollment period which is also called *Open Enrollment*. This is each year from October 15 — December 7 with the change in coverage taking affect January 1.

There are also Special Enrollment Periods (SEPs), which are due to special circumstances and the enrollment period will depend on what the special circumstance is.

#### What does Medicare cover?

Part A covers inpatient hospital care, skilled nursing care, home health services (on a medically necessary basis), hospice care and blood.

**Part B** covers physician services, labs and x-rays, durable medical equipment and preventive services.

**Part C** plans are also called Medicare Advantage Plans (managed care). These plans contract with Medicare to provide all your Part A & Part B services and can include additional benefits.

**Part D** is prescription drug coverage and is sold by private companies that contract with Medicare or by the Medicare Part C companies. Medicare Part B and Part D have different special enrollment periods so make sure you ask about both.

Enrolling in Medicare is a very timely issue. The state-certified Hawaii SHIP volunteers can assist you in navigating the Medicare maze.

Hawaii SHIP (State Health Insurance Assistance Program): 1-888-875-9229 | help@hawaiiship.org www.hawaiiship.org

For 2014 Medicare updates: www.medicare.gov



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### Ring In The New Year With A Cola

by Jane Yamamoto-Burgisay, Social Security Public Affairs Specialist in Hawai'i

any people ring in the new year with champagne. People who receive Social ▲ Security or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) got to ring it in with a COLA. This year, more than 60 million Americans are receiving a 1.5 percent cost of living adjustment (COLA) in their monthly benefit payment.

The 1.5 percent COLA began with increased benefits for Social Security beneficiaries in January 2014, and payments to SSI recipients started in late December 2013.

The estimated average monthly Social Security payment to a retired worker is \$1,294 (in 2014), up from \$1,275 (in 2013). The average monthly SSI payment is \$1,148 (in 2014), up from \$1,131 (in 2013).

The basic monthly federal payment for SSI is \$721 (in 2014), up from \$710 (in 2013).

Some other changes that take effect in January

of each year are based on the increase in average wages. For example, the maximum amount of earnings subject to the Social Security payroll tax (taxable maximum) will increase to \$117,000, up from \$113,700. Of the estimated 165 million workers who will pay Social Security taxes in 2014, about 10 million will pay higher taxes as a result of the increase in the taxable maximum.

The amount of earnings needed for one credit of Social Security coverage has gone up as well, but all workers can still earn up to four credits in a year. In 2014, a worker earns a credit after earning \$1,200 (\$1,160 in 2013). It takes 40 credits to be fully insured for retirement benefits.

For 2014 updates, other information and locations: 1-800-772-1213 (toll free) | 1-800-325-0778 (TTY) www.socialsecurity.gov

For more on COLA: www.socialsecurity.gov/pressoffice



## Boo! Now Give Me Your Money

by Scott Spallina, Senior Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

ear has always been **→** a tool criminals use **▲** to get money from others. Whether it is created by holding a weapon to a cashier to get their compliance, or simply using a verbal threat against someone on the street to make him/her surrender their wealth, a robber wants his victim to believe they have to act quickly to avoid being harmed.

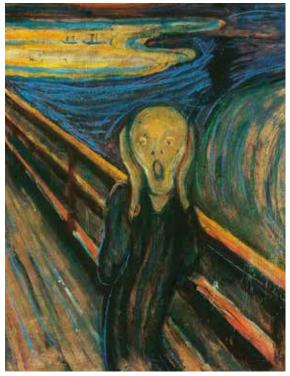
The Office of the Prosecuting Attorney's Elder Abuse Unit has seen fear also being used to scam seniors out of their money and assets. Unlike direct threats to their safety, however, many fear-based

scams involve the illusion that the victim will lose their wealth, their security, or someone close to them if they don't act quickly.

One such scam that is occurring in Hawai'i is the Distressed Relative Scam. This scam relies on the victim making a quick emotional decision, before they have time to verify the facts or to ask for advice from others. The victim will get a message, either a telephone call or an email, relating to them that a family member is in dire straights and money will solve the problem.

An example of the charade can include a "doctor" calling the victim to inform them that their family member was injured while traveling and money needs to be sent immediately so that the loved one can be saved. Another has involved the con-man (or woman) claiming to be their grandchild or some other relation to the victim and informing them they were unlawfully arrested and need bail money to escape the mistreatment they are receiving in jail.

The perpetrator of this scam goes on to instruct the victim how they can either wire the money to



The Scream by Edvard Munch (1893)

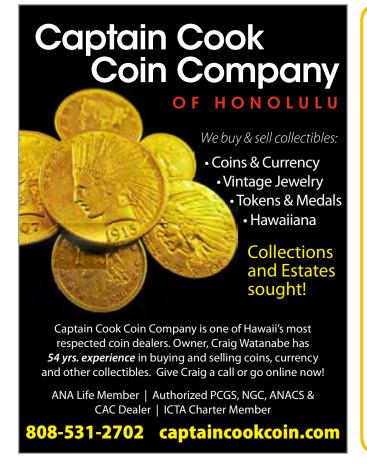
them or tells them to get a Green Dot loadable charge card from Walgreens or Wal-Mart and put money into the card's account and relay the account number on the back of the card to them.

When hearing about this scam in the light of day, one can easily realize that there is something suspicious about the above scenarios. But as any parent or grandparent will tell you, the call they dread the most is one informing them that someone precious to them needs help. It is a message like this that will force them to panic and act before they think clearly about what is being said.

Fear is also incorporated into other types of scams seniors encounter — such as when seniors receive a call from "the bank" saying that suspicious activity is occurring on their account, and then they are asked to give the caller their personal account information so that "the bank" can secure the account's money. Additional scams include the lottery and sweepstakes scams featured in the December/January issue of Generations, and Sweetheart Swindles featured in the August/ September issue.

If you are ever contacted by someone and feel pressured to make a decision out of fear, then it is time to stop and verify the facts. This can be as easy as calling a relative to compare notes or calling *Crime Stoppers at 808-955-8300*. ■

To Report Suspected Elder Abuse, call: **Elder Abuse Unit** 808-768-7536 ElderAbuse@honolulu.gov or visit www.ElderJusticeHonolulu.com. All reports are confidential.





"John was able to show me policies from various companies and compare them side by side all at once. This helped tremendously, as having to compare companies and plans by myself would have been time consuming & confusing. John helped me get the best policy for my budget." Denise A.



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**WISDOMS** 

## What Does Gender Have To Do With Retirement?

by Michael W. K. Yee, CFP

women feel less prepared than men. That's according to the New Retirement Mindscape® 2013 City Pulse index survey, commissioned by Ameriprise Financial. Only 38 percent of women surveyed say that they feel on track for retirement (or the remainder of retirement) compared to 46 percent of men.

Women's lack of confidence in the realm of retirement readiness may be tied in part to planning. Seventy-five percent of men surveyed report ed that they've done at least some preparation for retirement, compared to 70 percent of women. And over half of men (55 percent) say they've contributed to a 401(k) plan, while only 47 percent of women claim they've done the same.

What accounts for the gender divide? It may have to with the fact that women often face three unique financial hurdles on the road to retirement, including:

1] Women often take time away from work to **be caregivers.** While caregiving is often the best option for a family's situation, the reality is that spending time out of the workforce—whether to raise children or to provide care for a family member—can have a negative impact on one's earning potential. Women (and men) who anticipate pausing their careers at some point in time to focus on other priorities should consider setting aside extra money at other times when they're able to do so, in order to offset the loss of income.

#### This results in the need for additional retirement funds and increased health and long-term care costs. Yet, only 15 percent of women surveyed in the New Retirement Mindscape survey say that they've estimated the amount of money they'll need to pay for healthcare during retirement,

2] On average women live longer than men.

compared to 21 percent of men. It's critical to create a plan for how you're going to handle healthcare expenses.

3] Women tend to be more conservative with investments. This may not be all bad, but defining and taking the appropriate amount of risk with your investment portfolio may be beneficial.

Then it comes to planning for retirement, Although, it's important to have a balanced approach in your investments.

> Gender aside, baby boomers are feeling unprepared for retirement. With fewer years left to build up a nest egg, it's important to focus on what you can control. Here are five steps you can take to feel more prepared for retirement:

- 1] Think about what you want retirement to look like. Do you want to travel? Relocate? Spend more time with your grandkids? When you have a clear vision of retirement, it's easier to determine what it will take to get there.
- 2] Take advantage of employer-sponsored retirement plans. Make sure you're maxing out your 401(k) contributions if you're able. If you're selfemployed, take the time to establish your own retirement plan.
- **3**] Consider purchasing long-term care insurance.
- 4] Break down your expenses into two categories —essential and lifestyle. Determine if there's anything you could forego on the lifestyle side.
- 5] Focus on saving more, especially while you're still working.

Planning for retirement is complex and it's not the same for everyone. Each person's situation is unique. The key is to outline your goals for retirement, and then determining a path to get there. Consider meeting with a financial advisor who can help you with this.

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\*Ameriprise Financial created the New Retirement Mindscape 2013 City Pulse index utilizing survey responses from 10,045 U.S. adults ages 40-75. The survey was commissioned by Ameriprise Financial, Inc. and conducted online by Harris Interactive from June 6-June 26, 2013. The national average sample and the 30 U.S. metropolitan areas were each weighted independently to best represent each area. Propensity score weighting was also used to adjust for respondents'

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### Do You Have Four-Legged Children?

by Scott A. Makuakane, Counselor at Law

Thile I was growing up, we almost always had a dog (or two) in the house, and they always became treasured family members. You may have had the same experience, and you would not be alone if you have pets today that you consider to be your "children." I know people who claim to prefer their kitties over their kiddies.

So what happens to your four-legged family members if you become incapacitated, or if you die? Are you comfortable leaving their fate to chance, or do you want to take steps to provide for their wellbeing for the rest of their natural lives? Believe it or not, Hawai'i law allows you to create trusts for your hairy household members.

Section 560:7-501 of the Hawai'i Revised Statutes specifically allows you to create trusts "for the care of one or more domestic or pet animals." You can

even designate a human watchdog who will make sure that your intentions are carried out. In theory, there would be nothing to prevent your terrier's trustee from making a quick stop at the local dog pound and then pocketing the trust assets that you had intended to be used for your poor pet. However, your watchdog could whisk the trustee in front of a judge and make sure the trustee is held accountable for failing to honor your wishes. Of course, if you choose the right caretaker in the first place, none of this will be an issue.

But what if your two-legged children get jealous of your basset hound's bequest? Is there a way for them to attack your trust? The short answer is "yes," and if they can convince a

judge that you have left "too much" for your toucan, the judge can reduce the amount in the trust to whatever amount is "enough" to provide adequately for the care, maintenance, health and appearance of the designated critter. In any event, if there is



anything left when your pooch passes the pearly gates, you get to say where it goes.

Some pets have very long lifespans, such as certain birds, reptiles and



fish. Your pet trust will not be subject to the rules that limit the lifespans of conventional trusts, so you can be sure that, as long as the trust assets hold out, there will be provisions for your pet.

Another consideration that should go into your zoological estate plan is choosing who will provide the day-to-day care for your pets. Some animals bond closely with one human and are extremely persnickety about whose company they keep. When you are gone, someone could end up with a very irritable

iguana. Hopefully, you have someone waiting in the wings to become the manager of your menagerie. Your passing is not a matter of "if" but "when," and you should be brutally honest with yourself when choosing to bring a pet into your home and evaluating the future implications of that choice.

Scott Makuakane, Counselor at Law Focusing exclusively on estate planning and trust law.

Watch Scott's TV show, Malama Kupuna Sundays at 8:30 p.m. on KWHE, Oceanic channel 11

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### The Family Meeting

by Stephen B. Yim, Attorney at Law

lients often ask me, "Do you do like they do in the movies, where the attorney sits with the family and reads the will after someone dies?" I tell them that I never do that after someone dies. Most clients then respond, looking puzzled, "You don't?" I then explain that while I never do the "reading of the will," I do suggest to every client that they consider, when appropriate, to engage in a meaningful discussion about the estate plan while everyone is alive and well.

I feel that clients are not only asking me to help them to prepare a Will or Trust and leave a legacy, they are asking me to help speak for them when they no longer can. I hold this as a serious responsibility, as conversations can be difficult enough when everyone is here.

Who should attend an estate planning meeting? You; the people you appointed to carry out your

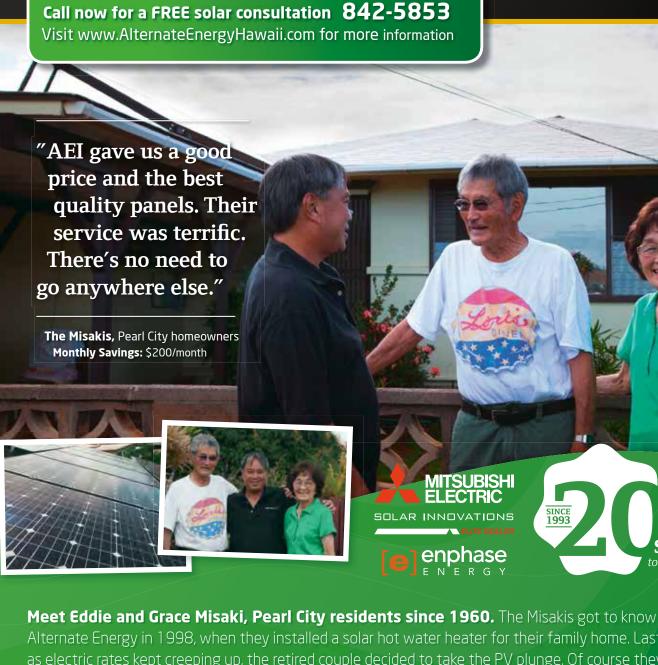
wishes; when appropriate, the beneficiaries; and your professional advisors, such as the financial advisor, estate planning attorney and accountant.

What should be talked about during this meeting? First, you will want to explain your intent and meaning in establishing this plan. In other words, the "why" of the plan. Second, you should talk about how you would like to be cared for during periods of incapacity. And third, you will want to express your wishes for care should you find yourself in an end of life situation.

Don't believe everything you see in the movies. Even death takes planning. ■

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