



HAWAII VETERAN

STATE OF HAWAII OFFICE OF VETERANS' SERVICES

Veterans Day Concert at the Kapi'olani Park Bandstand



The Hawai'i Office of Veterans' Services celebrated Veterans Day with a concert at Kapi'olani Park Bandstand on Nov. 10. The Hawai'i Army National Guard's 111th Army Band performed musical selections to honor each of the uniformed services. Current and retired band members played together in this ensemble.



*We would like to send out a big Mahalo to Teddy's Bigger Burgers and Tex808 BBQ & Brews for donating 30 meals to our Veterans in the 111th Army Band, Hawai'i Army National Guard.
(Photos by Jayme Nagamine)*



Kaua'i Veterans Museum



Director John Alamodin visited the Kaua'i Veterans Museum located in the Kaua'i Veterans Rec Center. They have a museum that is open to the public from Monday through Friday from 10 am to 2 pm. It is closed on weekends and all state and federal holidays. While admission is free, donations are always appreciated. The museum focuses on Kaua'i citizens' contributions to wars and conflicts with a lot of personal artifacts, historical photos, models and several captured war pieces. (Photos by John Alamodin)



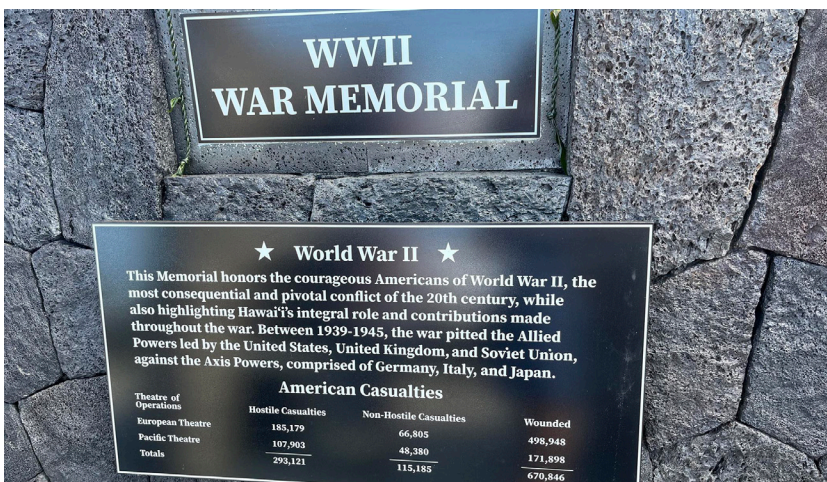
Kailua-Kona Counselor Outreach & Events



Veteran Services Counselor Diane Ramsay, left, and Director Maria Cicio from the Kailua-Kona Veterans Center attended the Kona Care Givers Breakfast on Thursday Nov. 14. They provided veteran benefit information for veterans.



Diane Ramsay, left, helped place wreaths for Wreaths Across America on Saturday Dec. 14 at the West Hawai'i Veterans Cemetery. She also attended the Kona Veterans Day Ceremony, right, held at the cemetery on Monday, Nov. 11.



*A new monument was installed at the West Hawai'i Veterans Cemetery for the Americans of World War II.
(Photos provided by Diane Ramsay)*

HAWAI'I VETERAN NEWSLETTER

If you would like to receive an emailed copy of the Hawai'i Veteran Newsletter, please contact us at ovs@hawaii.gov.

Please feel free to pass along this newsletter to your friends and family. Mahalo for your continued participation.

2025 DOD Legislative Proposal for OVS

The Office of Veterans' Services (OVS) is trying to establish a Veterans Cemeteries Board, composed of representatives from the state and county departments and agencies. The board will provide veterans cemeteries in the State with guidance, education, technical assistance and other support to ensure compliance with standards set by the National Cemetery Administration of the United States Dept. of Veterans Affairs.

OVS is responsible for all state veteran cemeteries; however, the OVS Director does not have authority for the establishment and maintenance of those cemeteries. Per §363-5, County Councils are responsible

for the burial of service members, veterans and their dependents. The councils of the counties of Hawai'i, Kaua'i and Maui shall each provide for the establishment of the veterans cemetery or cemeteries to be located within their respective counties, which includes grading, filling, leveling, platting, paving of roadways and walks, installation of curbs, building of fences, planting of grass, trees and shrubs, erection of memorial buildings and monuments, and building of other necessary or convenient structures, and shall make provisions for the maintenance and upkeep of the cemetery or cemeteries.

OVS Women's Committee Announcement

The rejuvenation of the Women Veterans Subcommittee is underway, and we are looking for interested individuals to assist in our efforts to bring awareness and assistance to our community. If you would like to be a part of the growth and change that we are working for then please fill out the application at <https://dod.hawaii.gov/ovs/files/2024/10/WVS-Application-10.21.24.pdf>

You can email the finished application to ovs@hawaii.gov or drop it off in person to our Office of Veterans' Services office in the E-Wing of Tripler Hospital Room 1-A103.



Update on the Maui State Veterans Home

Tommy Driskoll, VA Home RFP and Certification Specialist, gave a statement on the Maui State Veterans Home.

"The Adjutant General (TAG), Department of Defense, State of Hawai'i, submitted a budget request for a \$35M State Veterans Home (SVH) Maui State Match to the Governor for inclusion in his budget submission to the 2025 Hawai'i Legislative Session. It's my pleasure to report that the Governor has approved our request and is including our \$35M State Match in his new proposed budget.

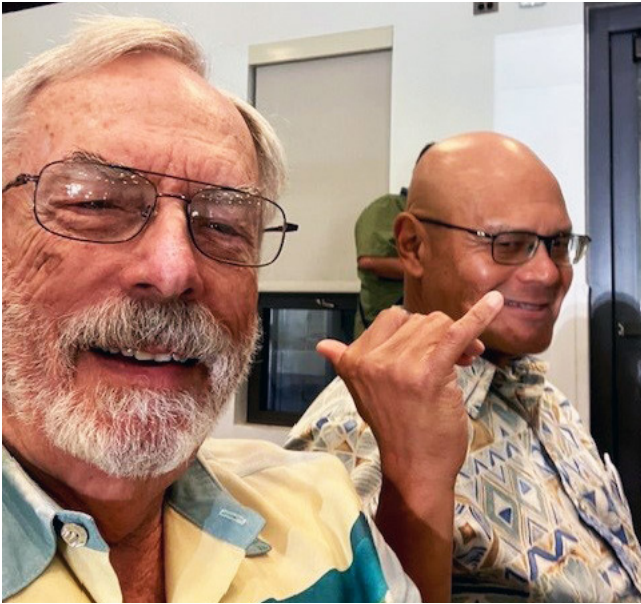
This is extremely important because a "certified" \$35M State Match is the key to unlocking a Federal \$58M

Match for construction of this new facility on Maui.

Once our \$35M State Match is approved, we will then follow up with completion of other key components of the SVH Construction Grant Application process including 100% facility design, land environmental assessment Phase 1 and a land historic preservation assessment. Our goal is to have these remaining application elements finished and submitted by Aug. 1, 2026 with full funding approval eligibility anticipated by Oct/Nov 2026 thus moving our new Maui project up the SVH Construction Grant funding queue ready to accept the Federal \$58M Match as soon as the funds are appropriated."



U.S. Rep. Ed Case's Veterans Talk Story Session



Director John Alamodin flashed the shaka while he and Tommy Driskill, VA Home RFP and Certification Specialist, attended the Veterans Talk Story Session.



Cheree Wee, Administrator, Ohana Pacific, Daniel K. Akaka State Veterans Home and Tommy Driskill at the talk story session.



*U.S. Rep. Ed Case spoke with attendees at his Veterans Talk Story Session on Saturday, Nov. 23.
(Photos by John Alamodin)*

Lanakila Multi-Purpose Sr. Center Veterans Day Celebration



*Director John Alamodin was a guest speaker at the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center (LMPSC) Veterans Day Celebration on Nov. 13. He was presented with a gift and lei by LMPSC Membership Specialist Iris Hiramoto.
(Photo by Yolanda Ehere)*



STATE OF HAWAII OFFICE OF VETERANS' SERVICES

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PASHA HAWAII RENEWS SPONSORSHIP OF HOSPITALITY TENT FOR HAWAII'S ACTIVE AND RETIRED MILITARY AT 2025 SONY OPEN

*Pasha Hawaii Marks Its Sixteenth Year Sponsoring the Birdies for the Brave Patriots' Outpost;
Active and Retired Military Receive Free Admission, Food and Beverage
at Pasha Hawaii-Sponsored Appreciation Tent, January 9-12, 2025.*

Photos of 2024 Sony Open Military Tent: <https://bit.ly/3Otoz79>

Photo credit: Pasha Hawaii

[Honolulu –December 2, 2024] Pasha Hawaii, the official ocean transport company for the Sony Open, has renewed its sponsorship of the 2025 Sony Open in support of Friends of Hawaii Charities. In honor of Hawaii's active and retired military personnel, Pasha Hawaii will also sponsor the Birdies for the Brave Patriots' Outpost, marking sixteen years of providing complimentary admission, and food and beverage at this military hospitality tent.

"Celebrating our military and their families at the Sony Open is an event we look forward to every year," said George Pasha, IV, President and CEO, Pasha Hawaii. "Hosting the Birdies for the Brave is an honor for our Pasha Hawaii team members since it provides us with the opportunity to show our appreciation for these extraordinary men, women and their families for the many sacrifices they make on behalf of our country."

Each year, Pasha Hawaii welcomes more than 2,500 guests to its Birdies for the Brave Patriots' Outpost. Located on the 18th fairway, the military hospitality tent will be open to active duty and retired military service members, National Guard and Reserve members, veterans, and their families, from Thursday, January 9 through Sunday, January 12, 2025.

In addition to complimentary food and beverage at the Brave Patriots' Outpost, free admission to the Sony Open will be extended to active duty and retired military service members, National Guard and Reserve members, and family members who present a valid military ID. Free admission is also extended to veterans with tickets issued through www.vettix.org

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About Pasha Hawaii

Pasha Hawaii, an independent operating subsidiary of The Pasha Group, is a leading domestic ocean shipping company operating a fleet of fully Jones Act-qualified vessels on routes between the continental U.S. and Hawaii. The company is a trusted partner for many of the nation's leading retailers, manufacturers and U.S. government agencies, providing reliable containerized and roll-on/roll-off cargo services with LNG-fueled container ships specifically designed for Hawaii's sustainable future. Pasha Hawaii also manages and crews U.S. government vessels for the U.S. Maritime Administration.