

# DISTRICT 44

## APRIL 2024 NEWSLETTER

### GREETINGS AND ALOHA DISTRICT 44!

As April comes to a close and the session wraps up on May 3rd, I'm diligently overseeing the legislation introduced by both myself and my colleagues. On April 4th, HR96 HD1, a resolution I sponsored, was adopted, urging the Department of Health to assess the registration and monitoring of clean and sober homes. Crafted with input from community members, it addresses concerns about unregistered operators managing these homes. While recognizing their importance in rehabilitation, it emphasizes the need to register and regulate all facilities to safeguard law-abiding ones from being tainted by bad actors.

Every Friday, I share updates on upcoming road and lane closures across various platforms like Instagram, NextDoor, Facebook, and local community groups. I encourage everyone to follow these posts to stay informed and engaged. Additionally, feel free to reach out to my office for further information or to share your concerns via email at [repkila@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:repkila@capitol.hawaii.gov) or by phone at 808-586-9480, we're here to help!

Your ongoing support means a lot to me. It's a privilege to serve and represent you.

With gratitude,  
Darius K. Kila



State Representative  
**Darius K. Kila**  
**House District 44**  
Mā'ili, Nānākuli, Ko'Olina,  
and Honokai Hale

**Committee Member**  
Transportation (Vice Chair)

Wildfire Prevention Working  
Group Co-Chair  
Finance  
Housing

O'ahu Metropolitan Planning  
Organization (Chair)

Hawai'i Interagency Council on  
Homelessness, Member



Connect With Us!  
@darius.kila

**SCAN TO VISIT  
US ONLINE!**



### NEW UPDATES FOR OUR SCHOOLS!

Exciting updates for Nānākuli schools! \$1,000,000 released for significant repairs at Nānākuli Elementary, including playground renovations, exterior painting, and field resurfacing. Additionally, \$85,000 released for a new sprinkler system and landscaping at Nānāikapono Elementary. These projects, identified as priorities last year, were funded to enhance the lives of our keiki and community. Thank you, Governor Green, for your commitment to our Westside schools by promptly releasing these funds!



### LET'S WELCOME DR. CHRISTINE UDARBE-VALDEZ

Hawks 'Ohana, join us in welcoming Dr. Christine Udarbe-Valdez as the new principal of Nānākuli High and Intermediate School, approved by Superintendent Keith Hayashi on April 12, 2024.

**DCCA HAWAII**

**Consumers are urged to seek refunds for unused Outback gift cards**

All Hawai'i locations of Outback Steakhouse restaurants have discontinued operations, making the gift cards unusable, locally.

Consumers are urged to contact Bloomin' Brands via email at [GiftCardTeam@BloominBrands.com](mailto:GiftCardTeam@BloominBrands.com) to initiate the refund process.

# IN THE COMMUNITY WHAT'S UP DISTRICT 44!



## HAU'OLI LĀ HĀNAU AUNTY DORENE!

Happy Birthday, Aunty Dorene! We celebrated the birthday of my beloved office manager, Dorene!

Dorene is the first to answer phone calls and the last to make sure everything is ok, actively serving our community's daily needs in House District 44. Aunty Dorene has made our district a better place, and she is deeply loved by both my colleagues and our community. I will always be grateful for her decision to work in our office. 365 days of service and love to our community, please join me in wishing her the happiest of birthdays!



## KŪHIŌ DAY PARADE 2024!

On March 16th, we honored Prince Jonah Kūhiō Kalaniana'ole for his sacrifice for our Hawaiian community. Thanks to the Hawaiian Civic Clubs for bringing the parade to Kapolei. Pleasure seeing Chair Kali Watson and Commissioners Sanoe Marfil and Walt Kaneakua from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.



## CONGRATULATIONS TO MS. DONNA SORIANO!

Congratulations to Ms. Donna Soriano, honored as the Nānākuli-Mā'ili Complex Teacher of the Year! She's a nationally board-certified teacher who has received prestigious awards, including the AFCEA Hawai'i STEM Grant Award and the National Science Foundation Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. Ms. Soriano also mentors' new teachers and pre-service teachers at the University of Hawai'i.



## CONGRATULATIONS TO PASTOR KAIMANA OLAYAN!

Congratulations to Pastor Kaimana Olayan on his ordination as a minister and pastor, transitioning from a convict to convicted, from a felon to fellowship, from an offender to a defender, and from a lawbreaker to a change-maker. Mana, your journey of personal growth and healing is inspiring. Your dedication to serving others is admirable, and I am proud to support you and your endeavors. Nānākuli is behind you 100 percent!



## SANOE MARFIL, CONFIRMED AS NĀNĀKULI DHHL COMMISSIONER!

Congratulations to Nānākuli's own Sanoe Marfil on her confirmation by the Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs to the Department of Hawaii's Homelands (DHHL), Hawaiian Homes Commission.

Sanoe's confirmation was supported by numerous individuals, organizations, and our community homesteads. She was unanimously confirmed by all Senate Committee members.

Sanoe is the final commissioner to be confirmed during Senator Shimabukoro's remaining time in office, and we couldn't think of a more deserving individual for this momentous occasion.

Sanoe, make us proud! We stand with you, your community stands with you, and your ancestors stand with you! HAWKS BEBBEH!

# COMMUNITY UPDATES **WHAT'S GOING ON!**

## **MĀ'ILI IMPROVEMENTS**

Exciting news, Mā'ili residents! The intersection of Kaukamana St. and Farrington Hwy. will soon have a new left turn signal light, improving safety for residents and Mā'ili Elementary families. Approved in November 2023, the project faced delays but will commence roadwork on April 17th from 8PM-4:30AM. Night work was prioritized in response to feedback. Thanks to collaboration with the State DOT, Director Sniffen, and Highways Deputy Director Robin Shishido for their commitment to the community!

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## **ULEHAWA TO DEPOTS, PARK CLOSURES FROM APRIL 24-MAY 1!**

Honolulu DPR and Councilmember Andria Tupola will close Ulehawa Beach Park from April 24 at 10 p.m. to May 1 at 5 a.m. for a week-long clean-up, impacting the Leeward coastline. City and volunteer efforts will enforce the Stored Property Ordinance. Community volunteers, including Councilmember Tupola's office, will assist in debris removal, with a cleanup event on April 27.

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## **FAFSA 2024 ASSISTANCE!**

Do you know a high school senior who needs help with FAFSA? Hawai'i P-20 and GEAR UP Hawai'i have set up the FAFSA Hawai'i Hotline, operating Monday to Friday from 10 am to 6 pm until May 31. Students can get assistance by calling (808) 842-2540 or visiting <https://www.hawaii.edu/news/2024/03/06/fafsa-assistance-hotline-more/>.

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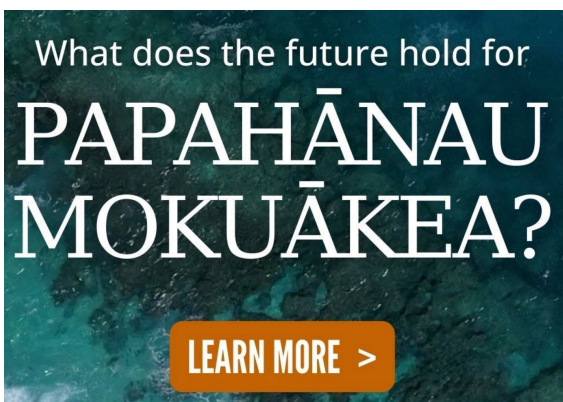
## **HAWAIIAN TELCOM GRANTS! \*NONPROFITS\***

Spread the word: Hawaiian Telcom, through the Bell Charitable Foundation, offers grants biannually to nonprofits in Hawai'i. The upcoming application period for technology, health, and wellbeing grants is from April 1 to 30, 2024. For details, visit [bellfdn.org/](http://bellfdn.org/).

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## **PROVIDE INPUT ON THE FUTURE OF PAPAĀNAUMOKUĀKEA!**

Will you provide input on the future of Papahānaumokuākea? NOAA and the state of Hawai'i are hosting in-person meetings to collect public feedback on the draft proposal to designate marine areas of Papahānaumokuākea as a national marine sanctuary. Written comments are welcome until May 7, 2024. Visit [sanctuaries.noaa.gov/papahanaumokuakea](https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/papahanaumokuakea) for more information.



## **Mayor Blangiardi Townhall**

Thursday, May 2, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

Nānāikapono Elementary Nanakuli, Wai'anae, Makaha



Representative Darius Kila  
 Hawaii State Capitol  
 415 S. Beretania St., Room 322  
 Honolulu, HI 96813  
 House District 44  
 Parts of Ko'Olina, Honokai Hale,  
 Nānākuli, Mā'ili

# NIGHT MARKET

 NĀNĀKULI VILLAGE CENTER

 4:00PM TO 9:00PM

 3RD SATURDAYS

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Local*

[WWW.NANAKULINIGHTS.COM](http://WWW.NANAKULINIGHTS.COM) | 808-594-7946

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## DIRECTORY

Adult Abuse:  
808-832-5115

Child Abuse:  
808-832-5300

Dead Animals:  
808-768-9766

Potholes:  
808-768-7777

Abandoned Vehicles:  
808-768-2530

Sidewalk Concerns:  
808-768-8118

Park Maintenance:  
808-768-3003

Public Assistance Line  
808-643-1643

Landlord-Tenant Hotline  
808-564-2634