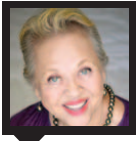


FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 6, 2025

**HOLLYWOOD KINE**

Enjoy an outrageous night of comedy with Amy Hill at Hawaii Theatre.

SEE PAGE 6

VOICE

• HONOLULU COMMUNITY NEWS •

A PUBLICATION OF **MidWeek** AN EDITION OF **Star Advertiser****ALUMNI PĀ'INA**

Stephen Kato was named 2025 Alumnus of the Year at Mid-Pacific Institute's annual alumni event.

SEE PAGE 7

The YMCA of Honolulu receives a transformative \$5 million donation from The Clarence T.C. Ching Foundation, the largest single private contribution in the organization's history that will serve as the cornerstone of the YMCA's vision to reimagine and rebuild the Nu'uano YMCA. PHOTO COURTESY YMCA OF HONOLULU

Nu'uano YMCA Receives \$5M Gift

BY PETER ROSEGG

The YMCA of Honolulu at the corner of Vineyard Boulevard and Nu'uano Avenue has been a landmark since 1963. Now, thanks to a \$5 million donation from The Clarence T.C. Ching Foundation, it is starting a far-reaching transformation to become a modern community hub that will address the community's most pressing needs.

"For years, the YMCA has envisioned a reimagined Nu'uano YMCA as an inclusive, welcoming space where youth, kūpuna, families and individuals can connect, stay active, build resilience and thrive," according to a statement from the YMCA. "It will be a place that not only serves people within its walls but also acts as a central hub, expanding outreach into surrounding neighborhoods and communities."

In 2021 and 2022, the YMCA conducted market- and community-based feasibility studies with input from donors, community leaders and neighbors. The studies confirmed a strong desire for the Nu'uano Y to serve as a central connector to meet the needs for

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Donation Will Fund Multi-story Community Center

FROM PAGE 1

affordable housing, early learning, teen and kūpuna support, physical and mental wellness, and safe spaces for gathering and connecting across generations.

The \$5 million gift from The Clarence T.C. Ching Foundation will begin the planning process for a new multi-story facility on the 2.6-acre site to meet those needs.

"It's an honor to be associated with YMCA. It gives The Clarence T.C. Ching Foundation and all the trustees a great deal of pride to be associated with this national organization, especially the Honolulu flagship YMCA," says the foundation's chair,



The Nu'uaniu YMCA was dedicated on Oct. 27, 1963. The \$1.3 million, three-story building featured 70 single rooms, a gym and a tile swimming pool. PHOTO COURTESY YMCA OF HONOLULU

Jack Tsui. "You have a lot of hard work ahead of you, but we'll be behind you 1,000%. The benefit will accrue to the community, the state, and especially to young people when they come to the YMCA for encouragement,

leadership and all the goodwill that your leaders provide them. On behalf of the Clarence T.C. Ching Foundation, thank you for letting us participate in this great project." The YMCA, one of the most trusted and respected



The Clarence T.C. Ching Foundation was established to continue the legacy of Clarence T.C. Ching, a developer and philanthropist who was committed to helping communities. PHOTO COURTESY THE CLARENCE T.C. CHING FOUNDATION

nonprofits in Hawai'i, was introduced here in 1869, not many years after it was founded in London in 1844. It now operates 10 locations on O'ahu with programs extending to more than 115 community sites across

the islands, including after school programs, substance abuse treatment and prevention resources, teen mental health services and preschools.

The original Nu'uaniu Y was built in 1918 across

the street where Safeway and Longs are today. It was founded by five YMCA leaders who made the historic decision to combine separate Japanese, Chinese, Korean and Filipino YMCA associations into a new single building, making the Nu'uaniu Y one of the most diverse in the world at that time.

"With this transformational gift, we can now begin planning the next chapter of the Nu'uaniu YMCA," says YMCA of Honolulu CEO Greg Waibel. "The Clarence T.C. Ching Foundation's gift opens the door to that future and creates the momentum for other donors and supporters to join us in making it a reality."

Visit ymcahonolulu.org.

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Parks Permit Office Moves To Sheridan

The City and County of Honolulu Department of Parks and Recreation's Permitting Office has moved to the two-story building at Sheridan Community Park (833 Pi'ikoi St.).

"Along with making the Parks Permits Office more accessible to the public, this move will help further activate Sheridan Community Park by bringing more daily activity and foot traffic," states Laura Thielen, director of DPR. "This office worked with our on-site park staff to issue 14,408 park use and 8,603 camping permits last fiscal year (from July 2024 through June 2025). So, giving them a physical location within a park, while also exploring ways to expand and enhance our digital services online, makes sense."

While a park permit is



The city Department of Parks and Recreation permitting office has relocated to Sheridan Community Park. FILE PHOTO

not required to enjoy one of the 308 city parks and garden locations around O'ahu, as they are available on a first-come-first-served basis during regular open hours, a permit is required to:

- Conduct any organized activity, such as sports tournaments, meetings or workshops.
- Reserve the use of recreation facilities, including fields, gyms, rooms and

pools (no private parties allowed).

- Have a group picnic of 50 people or more.
- Utilize/set-up large structures, such as inflatable bounce houses.
- Drive any vehicle on grassy areas.
- Play or amplify loud music or use loudspeakers.

For more information about City park and garden permits, visit bit.ly/OahuPermits.