

Kaleidoscope *The possibilities are endless.*

HAWAII CHILDREN'S CANCER FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2009

Family Spotlight: The Winchester Family

“Paliku was acting like a normal five year old. He didn’t seem sick at all,” recalls his mom, Rena Winchester. “I had noticed a lump behind his ear but it didn’t hurt him when I touched it.” A few months later, in February 2008, when they went for Paliku's fifth-year physical, the pediatrician recommended the lump be removed. “The next morning we got the call telling us Paliku had pre-B-cell lymphoma. I asked what that was, and when the doctor explained it was a type of cancer, I dropped the phone and started crying. My husband, Kanoe, had to talk to the doctor and make all the arrangements,” says Rena. The cancer was already stage two, having spread from the lymph nodes on Paliku’s left side to his ear, neck, and armpit. Chemotherapy treatment started immediately and will continue for two-and-a-half years. “You never think something like this could happen to your child,” Rena notes. She explains that the first part of the chemotherapy treatment was intense (“we were practically living at the hospital”) but now Paliku is in the maintenance phase. He goes for treatment once a week and is doing really well.

Rena emphasizes how grateful the family is for the financial assistance from HCCF. “As parents, you’re in a state of shock. We couldn’t return to work and receiving financial help from HCCF made a big difference,” she notes.

The Winchesters have two other sons, two-year-old Waipehe (“the light of our life”) and twelve-year-old Pikai (“quiet, shy, sensitive”). Pikai was eleven when Paliku was diagnosed, so at first he didn’t understand how serious this was. “Pikai has been



Paliku Winchester

the best big brother Paliku could ever have,” says Rena. Pikai plays little league baseball and is on the Waipahu team that claimed the United States championship in August 2008. He has taken it upon himself to dedicate everything to Paliku. “I don’t know if Paliku will ever be able to play baseball, so I dedicate my games to him,” Pikai says in his quiet way.

Paliku was in preschool for the first part of 2008 but could not return to school after the diagnosis. Now he is back in school, in kindergarten, and loves it. “It’s his ‘out’,” says Rena.

Although Paliku has weathered the effects of chemotherapy pretty well, Rena recounts a scare

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From the Internet and friends come exciting new connections

Yes, Hawaii Children's Cancer Foundation is no different than many other charities; we are feeling the effects of the economic downturn. Donations are down from the record level set just a year ago. Meanwhile, requests for family financial assistance are up this year over last - which, by the way, was also a record year. We granted almost \$250,000 in assistance to families last year. We expect to grant over \$320,000 this year. But despite the times, don't worry - our financial condition remains strong and we remain committed to helping children with cancer and their families.

Credit for our financial stability goes to many people and companies. At HCCF we have a staff of one. Many of our board members tirelessly volunteer their time and financial support. They truly represent the heart of our organization. We have also been blessed with years of support from companies and organizations such as Murphy's Bar & Grill, Ace Auto Glass Hawaii, CRB Hawaii, Daniel Perreira Memorial Spearfishing Tournament sponsored by Maui Sporting Goods, and Graham Builders, just to name a few.

But this year, as we sought new sources of donations to fill the economic gap, people unknown to us started calling and offering their support. Where did they come from? Well, several came from the Internet. In this newsletter you'll read about our new friends like the Punahou Key Club, which dedicated the entrance fees from a mega dance to HCCF. Representatives from Punahou told us they learned of HCCF by searching the Internet - thank you Punahou Key Club and Google!

And then, typical of our special island community, there are the connections made through a friend of a friend- FOAF for you texters. TeamPraxis CEO Creighton Arita remembered hearing of us as he was searching for ways to give back to the community. TeamPraxis chose HCCF and now they sponsor our Jungle Adventure event. K2TENS President Kyle Kaneshiro also heard of us through mutual friends and graciously hosted the first and very successful Hawaii Children's Cancer Tennis Tournament. The Honolulu office of Smith Barney also learned about HCCF this year, again through a friend. Despite tough times for their industry Smith Barney Honolulu is following through on their philanthropic goals. They hosted a wine tasting event for their friends and clients and dedicated the proceeds to HCCF. And then there are our newfound friends at First Hawaiian Bank. The employees of the bank gave generously as we were selected a recipient of their Kokua Mai Employee Giving Campaign. Thank you TeamPraxis, K2TENS, Smith Barney, and First Hawaiian Bank and our mutual friends who made this possible!

The stories are endless but my editor has me on a short leash... so please visit our website at www.HCCF.org for a complete listing of those special companies



Mahalo for your support.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dale F. Saito".

Dale F. Saito

Murphy's Merchant Street Lobster & Linguini Fundraiser was *splendido!*

One block of Merchant Street was transformed into a little bit of Italy for HCCF's signature fundraiser, Murphy's Merchant Street Lobster & Linguini.



The food was *delizioso* And the some 200 guests who attended this May 17, 2008 event were *molto generoso*, donating \$109,000 for Hawaii's keiki battling cancer.

This was the third year that Marion and Don Murphy and Patty and Jim Salter were the sponsors for the event and once again, they outdid themselves. Coach Greg McMackin was Honorary Chairman, and Monica and Deane Salter were the emcees.

DJ Bobby Crighton set just the right Italian mood with his pre-dinner music selections and Lisa Gomes serenaded guests during dinner. The HCCF Kaleidoscope Boutique gave guests the opportunity to purchase some wonderful bargains. There were also drawings for an original handmade quilt by Marion Murphy, and for a trip for two to Rome donated by Diane and Gary Galihier.

HCCF President Dr. John Lederer noted that the organization budgeted \$240,000 for families to help pay for basics like rent and gas, and "we are always hoping to do more."



Everyone could identify with him when he said, "I am always brought to tears by the evening's speaker who addresses the family perspective of a child with cancer, so I'm grateful this evening to speak before they do so I don't have to talk while I'm crying."

Rose and Alan Takahata were this year's family perspective speakers. Alan spoke eloquently and emotionally about his ten-year-old daughter, Marissa, who was diagnosed with leukemia in December 2007. "Leukemia?! What?! Can't be! Oh my God!" was their reaction when the diagnosis was made. Marissa is facing two to two-and-a-half years of treatment. "We will make it. We have to," Alan emphasized. He thanked the many donors and HCCF. "Without you we would be standing alone," he said. This year's event will be held on May 16. For details and reservations please go to www.hccf.org.

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they had while they were in California where Pikai's team was playing baseball. The family was enjoying a get-together at someone's home when Paliku jumped into the swimming pool and suddenly went stiff and began to sink to the bottom. His dad grabbed him and they took him to a doctor right away. Paliku was hospitalized overnight and treated for severe dehydration and low potassium. This was during the intense phase of his treat-

ment, so while he was in California he lost his hair and had painful mouth sores and couldn't eat - something that was hard for his mom to see.

Paliku was very happy to return home, but there was one unexpected side effect of this experience. "Mom, I don't want to go to California anymore. It made me lose my hair and I was really sick there," Paliku told Rena. "To this day, he thinks California is a terrible place," she says.

Hawaii CRB Chapter and Ace Auto Glass keep golfers swinging away for HCCF



Cancer survivors TJ Colby and Mari Galiher

Hawaii CRB Chapter's 12th Annual Benefit Golf Tournament changed venues and returned to Honolulu Country Club last July 21, 2008. Each hole brought a new surprise as the different sponsors offered games to play, provided give-aways or treats. Mina Humphreys, HCCF Fundraising Chair, was on hand to thank Crystal Lancaster and her committee, the Hawaii CRB Chapter, sponsors and players for their commitment to HCCF and the families we serve. The tournament raised nearly \$16,000.

The 9th Annual Ace Auto Glass Charity Golf Tournament was held at Kapolei Golf Club on July 30, 2008. Cancer survivors Mari Galiher and TJ Colby were among the participants. Mari and TJ later spoke at the banquet, relating their cancer experience and thanking the Ace Auto Glass ohana, the sponsors, donors, and players for participating in the tournament and for continuing to support HCCF families. The tournament raised \$13,000.

Please see Calendar of Events for information about this year's tournaments.



Left to right: Mina Humphreys and Dale Saito receive the CRB Golf Tournament check from Crystal Lancaster, Lynn Spotkaeff, and Dale Border.



Lions, Tigers and Bears ... Oh My?

It was a fun-filled day of shave ice, bouncers, games, face painting, and much, much more. Even the monkeys were enjoying the great sounds of music that filled the air while entertainers danced and sang! Bright eyes and smiles of joy were everywhere as families enjoyed another Jungle Adventure at the Honolulu Zoo. This year we were fortunate to have Team Praxis as our event sponsor. We are also grateful to the many other sponsors, donors, and volunteers that came together to make this event possible. With over 2,000 people in attendance, we attained our goal of bringing a greater awareness of childhood cancer and Hawaii Children's Cancer Foundation (HCCF). Honorary chair of the event, Mayor Mufi Hannemann, proclaimed September 9th as Hawaii Children's Cancer Foundation Day. This year the event made over \$10,000 that will go towards HCCF's mission to help families with a child that has been diagnosed with cancer.



End of year events bring good tidings to the HCCF Family Financial Assistance Program



Punahou Key Club members and dance chairs Ciarra, Elyssa, Stephanie and Kelsea.

On October 12, 2008, nearly 700 teens came together at the O Lounge to dance and mingle and have a great time. The dance was sponsored by the **Punahou Key Club** and chaired by Stephanie Yasunaga, Elyssa Grief, Cianna Sapigao, and Kelsea Mizusawa. The event also featured a silent auction. All told the event raised \$10,000.

Smith Barney's Honolulu office selected HCCF to be its sponsored charity at a special wine tasting party held in November at Vino's at Restaurant Row. Master sommelier Greg Furuya was on hand to describe the variety of wines that were being offered. A lively silent auction was part of the evening's entertainment. Cancer survivor Mari Galiher and mom Diane were on hand to say a few words of thanks on behalf of HCCF and the families we serve. The event raised \$8,000.

Karene Kunimura, owner of **My Little Secret** at Ward Warehouse, held a special sale at her warehouse location offering hundreds of pieces of sample merchandise at reduced prices. There were bargains galore and many happy shoppers. A total of \$5,024.50 was raised from this event.

Heide & Cooke is another local business that combines Christmas fun and philanthropy. Their annual Christmas party includes entertainment and a silent auction with all proceeds donated to local charities. HCCF was a beneficiary this year and received \$5,000.

Held each year in conjunction with Murphy's annual toy drive and Christmas party for families staying at Hawaii's Ronald McDonald House,

Marion Murphy's Christmas Boutique is a sight to behold. A new collection of Christmas Santas, angels, and elves - just to name a few - is presented each year. Each piece is lovingly crafted by Marion. They make wonderful gifts for family, friends, or yourself. Marion donates all proceeds to HCCF. This year's total was \$3,435.

Malia Silva, an employee of **The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation**, selected HCCF as her recipient of a \$10,000 grant from the Foundation's employee designation program. Many thanks to Malia for selecting HCCF.

The **NFL Pro Bowl** continued their support of our efforts to educate childhood cancer survivors and their families about the long-term health, educational, and social issues facing them. HCCF was awarded a \$7,000 grant from the 2009 Pro Bowl. The money will be used to host our fall workshop.



HCCF fundraising chair Mina Humphreys and grandson TJ Colby, far right, join Yule Store coordinators for the check presentation

Anthology Marketing Group's employee driven holiday silent auction raised \$7,325 for HCCF, this year's designated beneficiary. For more than thirty years the company's Yule Store has raised money for local charitable organizations through a silent auction held in concert with its Christmas party. This year, with more than 400 items donated by staff, clients, vendors and media partners, Anthology had a record year of giving.

Halloween Fundraiser Continues to Grow



The HCCF trick-or-treaters were out in force again this year, almost doubling in number from an estimated 55 in 2007 to about 100 in 2008 - and once again exceeding all expectations.

This fundraiser began in 2006 with leukemia survivor Kaela Teho, who was 7 years old at the time, trick-or-treating for donations for HCCF instead of for candy. Thanks to a warm response from so many people in the community, the Halloween effort has shown incredible growth - from Kaela's \$470 in 2006, to almost \$10,000 in 2007, to over \$12,900 in 2008 - exceeding the 2008 goal of \$10,000!

Just as important as the donations received were the new friendships gained, as well as the strengthening of ties made the previous year. Moanalua High School's LEO Club, National Honor Society, and Japanese Club members all joined in on the fun for the first time, as did leukemia survivor Maddie Komatsu and her Brownie Troop, and medulloblastoma survivor Ryder Lum and his 4th grade Noelani Elementary classmates, among many others. As in 2007, Kaela's friends in the Iolani School community were very supportive indeed, holding bake sales and other creative efforts to collect a very generous amount for HCCF. Other groups and schools may not have been able to participate during the fall, but have been touched by HCCF's mission, and are new supporters who have plans to contribute in other ways in the coming year.

All of the students, from elementary school to high school, seemed to enjoy the creative process, brainstorming how they would contribute to the fundraiser. Some of them were able to meet each other at the party held the weekend following Halloween hosted by HCCF board members. (Mahalo to Meadow Gold Dairies for their generous donation of ice cream for dessert!) It was a festive atmosphere, complete with dancing to Halloween

music and picture taking, as the students waited to hear the results of their hard work.

Parents of the students invariably shared that they felt that their children found the experience rewarding, and that helping others and meeting pediatric cancer survivors broadened their children's perspectives.

New support this year also came from local businesses Poke Stop, Big City Diner, and Price Busters, who all kept change jars in their places



of business for the month of October and beyond, raising over \$3,000 toward the total. Many heartfelt thanks to Poke Stop owner Elmer Guzman, Big City Diner owner Lane Muraoka, and Beth Tom and Beth Munson of Price Busters for their help and generosity! Other loyal and generous support came again from Aloha Bottling Company, who donated all of the change bottles for businesses and trick-or-treaters, and Dr. Cass Nakasone.

Anyone who has been involved with "Halloween for HCCF" knows that this is truly a grassroots effort - and it doesn't happen without help from family and friends! Many thanks to Kaela's grandparents Richard and Nancy Kado and Fortunato and Norma Teho, who helped by doing everything from making proper holes in the change jar lids to manning the reception table at the "after party." Want to join in the fun in 2009? Consider signing your family or group up for this year's trick-or-treat and help make this amazing growth continue.

Maui No Ka Oi - Happy Father's Day, Maui Style



Did you know that Father's Day 2008 marked the 100th year since the first Father's Day was celebrated in America? It was an extra special Father's Day on the island of Maui. For the sixth year, Brian and Janice Yoshikawa, Wanda Yonamine and their entire 'ohana organized and sponsored the Daniel Perreira Spearfishing Tournament at Baldwin Beach Park. Little Daniel passed away in 2002 from a childhood cancer called neuroblastoma, and he will never be forgotten. The tournament has many special purposes: it celebrates Daniel's life; it honors all of the fathers who come out to spend the day with their families; it teaches the children respect for the ocean and its many resources; and it raises awareness and funds for children who are battling cancer, especially those who live on Maui.

The two Maui children who were the honorees for 2008 were Nainoa Pagaduan, a four-year-old who was diagnosed with leukemia, and sixteen-year-old Jarren Patao, who flies back and forth to Oahu for his treatment for Ewing's sarcoma. Both families took the stage during the program to thank everyone for coming out for the tournament and for the overwhelming support they've received from their very own Maui community.

Ninety divers hit the water in the beautiful summer weather. The winners in some of the more creative categories included the fastest diver - who returned in nine minutes; and one lucky diver who caught the Lucky Fish, a specially marked artificial fish or squid, in an ocean Easter egg hunt!

Then there were the usual: the biggest manini and biggest tako winners, as well as the most opala, yes, trash, picked up. The prizes donated by the Maui business community seemed endless and were very much appreciated.

Brian and Janice Yoshikawa spend months ahead of the tournament planning, organizing and soliciting donors and sponsorships for the event. This year they raised and donated to Hawaii Children's Cancer Foundation \$11,257.50 to fund financial assistance to help Maui families who have a child diagnosed with cancer. Wanda Yonamine, Daniel's mother, knows better than anyone what a Maui family goes through when a child is in treatment. There are many trips back and forth to Oahu with stays, long and short, in Honolulu depending on the treatment and how the child is doing. The financial burden on any neighbor island family is multiplied because of the travel, ground transportation, and lodging expenses while still maintaining a household.

While the tournament is a day of fun, food, and great local talent playing music, Brian Yoshikawa makes a special point of telling all 200 people present that childhood cancer is not about someone else way over there. This disease affects Maui's own - "it's our own children or your neighbor's, your co-worker's or your child's classmate or teammate" - and he asks for everyone's help and support. With a message like that, everyone goes home a true supporter.

Photos by Nina Lee Photography

Dr. Danny Armstrong gives talks and workshops in Hawaii



Thanks to a generous grant from NFL Charities, HCCF was able to bring nationally renowned child psychologist Dr. Danny Armstrong to Hawaii from October 13 to 17. Dr. Armstrong is a Professor of Pediatrics and Psychology at the University of Miami Miller

School Of Medicine, Director of the Mailman Center for Child Development, and served for many years as Chair of the Psychology Committee of Children's Oncology Group (COG). He is regarded as an expert on the cognitive effects of chemotherapy and other cancer treatments. During his week here Dr. Armstrong met with the medical directors at HMSA, presented to families at

Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women and Children, and spoke individually with the Pediatric Hem-Onc medical and nursing team. His talk on "Neurocognitive Late Effects in Children Treated for Cancer" provided parents and medical staff with detailed information on how cancer and cancer treatment can affect the brain, the potential academic and social difficulties, and specific strategies and school recommendations to help.

Dr. Armstrong's talks on "Advocating for Your Child's Learning Needs: Through Treatment and Beyond" and "Returning to School: Effective Transitions After Cancer Treatment: The Challenges of Survivorship" can be viewed through the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society website at <http://www.leukemia-lymphoma.org> <<http://www.leukemia-lymphoma.org/>>



Employees of First Hawaiian Bank showed their overwhelming support for HCCF families by donating \$27,275 through the bank's Kokua Mai Employee Giving Campaign. Joining in the check presentation at Kapiolani Medical Center were HCCF president Dale Saito and board members Laura Bonilla of KMC and Mitch Kaaialii of FHB. Representing HCCF families are Donna and Wesley Park and their sons Hunter and Tanner. Hunter is one of 200 pediatric cancer patients treated at Kapiolani Medical Center each year.



K2TENS Tennis Club President Kyle Kaneshiro, who learned of HCCF through mutual friends, graciously hosted the first and very successful Hawaii Children's Cancer Tennis Tournament on August 23. The event was held at Moanalua High School's tennis courts and raised \$2,200 for HCCF.

SHANE VICTORINO

2009 CELEBRITY GOLF CLASSIC

Maui's own Shane Victorino hosts celebrity golf tournament for HCCF

Maui's own major league baseball 2008 World Series champ and Gold Glove, Shane Victorino of the Philadelphia Phillies, will host a celebrity golf tournament for HCCF on November 21, 2009 at Makena Golf Course (North Course) at the Maui Prince Makena Resort. The Shane Victorino Celebrity Golf Classic will feature athletes, sports personalities and entertainers, teamed with foursomes made up of corporate executives and

community leaders. The event includes the golf competition, awards ceremony and auction. Proceeds will fund HCCF's Family Financial Assistance Program to help families pay expenses while their child is being treated for cancer. For information, please contact Kimberly Crossett at kimberlyw@bhscouncil.com or by calling 1-800-800-1872. Or visit our website at www.hccf.org.



“Portraits with a Purpose” to benefit HCCF

Perfectly timed for Mother's Day! On April 25 and 26, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Gary Galilier Law Office Building, you can have a professional portrait taken of you and your family by nationally published local photographer David Murphey. For a \$30 sitting fee - 100% of which goes directly to HCCF – participants will receive a 5 x 7 professional portrait print. Additional photos may also be purchased. You can make your appointment online at hawaiiportraitfundraiser.com. If you have any questions call the HCCF office at 528-5161.

“Thanks, Dad.”

Ryder Lum and some of his 4th grade classmates at Noelani Elementary School celebrated Ryder's selection as the winner of Lex Brodie's “Thank you...very much” essay contest in January. Ryder wrote a thank you letter to his father for, among other things, diagnosing his cancer by doing his own research. As part of the Lex Brodie program, the child chooses a favorite community organization to share in the prize winnings, and Ryder chose HCCF.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- April 25 & 26 **Portraits with a Purpose David Murphey Photo Shoot:** Visit hawaiiportraitfundraiser.com for all the details, or call the HCCF office at 528-5161.
- May 16 **Moon Over Merchant Street:** Murphy's Bar & Grill - a dinner and auction to benefit HCCF. Visit our website at www.hccf.org
- June 21 **Daniel Perreira Memorial Spearfishing Tournament:** Family fun on Father's Day at Baldwin Beach Park, Maui. Call Brian Yoshikawa at 808-244-0011 for details.
- July 20 **Hawaii CRB Chapter's 13th Annual Benefit Golf Tournament for HCCF:** Honolulu Country Club. Contact Crystal at CLancaster@hawaiiirealtors.com for details.
- July 29 **Ace Auto Glass 10th Annual Charity Golf Tournament to benefit HCCF:** Kapolei Golf Club. Contact Jennifer at 808-847-3217 for details.
- September **Jungle Adventure and Fall Workshop** - dates to be announced
- November 21 **Shane Victorino Celebrity Golf Classic:** Makena Golf Course (North Course) at the Maui Prince Makena Resort. Golf competition, awards ceremony, and auction. For more information, please contact Kimberly Crossett at kimberlyw@bhscouncil.com or by calling 1-800-800-1872. You may also visit our website at www.hccf.org
- December 11 **Family Christmas Party:** Food and fun for everyone! Kapiolani Medical Center. Invitation to be mailed at a later date.

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