



# Lost Heroes Art Quilt Ceremony

The Lost Heroes Art Quilt was displayed at the Hawaii State Capitol Rotunda on Wed., July 21, 2010 at 2 p.m. It was later transferred to the lobby of the Hale Koa Hotel to be displayed for another 7 days. The quilt is on a nationwide tour of the U.S. The quilt will travel to Lowell, Massachusetts and the New England Quilt Museum after its stop in Hawaii.

The artist of the quilt is Julie Feingold.

She is known for making whimsically brightly colored paintings. Feingold wanted to create a more meaningful piece. She thought about all the soldiers who lost their lives since Sept. 11. However she didn't think she could capture the significance of the soldiers who gave their lives through a painting.

Julie Feingold started looking for other types of media to express herself. In May 2007, she came upon the fabric arts and thought

it would evoke warm feelings of love, family, history and healing. Eventually she put together the idea to create a quilt.

Army Specialist Kyle Kao Fernandez was chosen to represent and honor all of Hawaii's brave men and women who lost their lives in the Iraq and Afghanistan wars since



Kyle Fernandez as a young boy pictured here. Artist Julie Feingold chose Kyle to represent all of Hawaii's soldiers who lost their lives.

Sept. 11, 2001. In the audience were Kyle's father Renald Fernandez who spoke about his son.

Julie chose to show the military men and women as children to give the viewer a greater emotional impact.

The quilt will be auctioned off at the end of the tour and donations will be given to the Wounded Warriors.



Kyle's father Renald Fernandez and Artist Julie Feingold in front of the Lost Heroes Art Quilt.

Photos by Jayme Sato

## Thank you!

We thank the  
**U.S. Coast Guard**  
and

**Young Brothers Ltd.**

for transporting our  
burial vaults from  
Oahu to our neighbor  
island state veteran  
cemeteries.

## Veterans Day around the State of Hawaii

Nov. 11 is a special day for the Big Island community and its veterans - Kohala to Kilauea Military Camp; Kona to Hilo with veteran service organizations hosting many commemorative events. The week long celebration featured island school children decorating over 3,000 graves at Veterans Cemeteries.

Following the events at Veterans Cemetery Mr. George Mukai of the 442 answers question from big island school children recounting events and telling stories from his

WWII military career. His stories brought home both verbally and visually the true meaning of self-sacrifice, duty, honor and country.



In Kauai 2010 Veterans Day Parade. Sisters of two (2) of Kauai's five (5) MIA veterans participated in the Veterans Day Parade. Pictured from (L) to (R), Mrs. Elsie Pahia (sister of SGT Sidney Kauai, US Army declared MIA on Dec 2, 1950), Mrs. Akio Matsuyama (sister of PFC Takeshi Sasaki, US Army declared MIA on Apr 26, 1951) and driver SPC4 Brad Turner US Army veteran.

Photo by Tony Elliott



Mr. George Mukai answering questions from school children.

Photo by Keith Ribbentrop

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# Director's Message

**Mark S. Moses, Maj. U.S. Marine Corps (Ret.)**  
**Director, State Office of Veterans Services**

Aloha Kakou,

I am pleased to report that while our employees are still subject to furlough days; our

doors remain open Mon-Fri to serve you and the other nearly 120,000 veterans in the state of Hawaii. We have seen nearly 13,000 veterans and eligible family members in the 1st quarter of this fiscal year alone, and we expect to assist over 55,000 by year's end. We will continue to assist you in any way we can. We are "proud to serve those who served our country."

The Office of Veterans Services (OVS) continues to offer many other types of aid in addition to advocating for veterans in their VA disability claims filing process. These services include distributing veteran-related information through e-mails, phone calls, and presentations; providing veterans' burial and survivors' benefits briefings and assistance; coordinating burials and arranging Military Funeral Honors for veterans and their eligible dependents; and continuing to assist you. In the past year, we assisted in over 1,000 burials, to include several indigent burials and have successfully assisted nearly seven hundred Filipino veterans in applying for and receiving their \$15,000 payment from the VA's "WWII Filipino Veteran Equity Compensation Fund."

While all our Counselors continue to work diligently on your behalf, I would like to recognize some of our neighbor island members who have made exceptional strides towards aiding our veterans.

On Kauai, Tony Elliott (Sgt. Maj. USMC Ret) has compiled and published the monthly "Veterans Corner" newsletters and written numerous articles recognizing significant veterans-related events in the local Garden Island Newspaper. In addition, he has participated in a number of events recognizing and honoring our veterans and active duty members. He has participated in numerous Yellow Ribbon and Reintegration Events for both Hawaii Air and Army National Guard members, coordinated the "Sew A Lei for Memorial Day" project with local schools and businesses (with a total of 3,775 leis collected), coordinated annual island-wide Armed Forces Day Celebration, coordinated receipt and delivery of 30 casket liners from OVS with the Hawaii Air National Guard, PMRF Barking Sands Flight Ops and County Parks and Recreation Dept, assisted the local VFW with the annual "4th of July Veterans' Roundup," and represented the OVS at the "Eternal Memorial Dedication," "CO's Change of Command," "CO's Reception," and "Command Master Chief's Retirement Ceremony," at PMRF Barking Sands.

On Maui, Tamickco Jackson provides outreach to the Kalama Heights Retirement Home on the first Fri. of the month, attends the monthly Maui Veterans Council Meetings, and interacts with the Maui Community Based Outreach clinic and the Vet Center. She also attends and participates in Memorial Day and Veterans Day activities on behalf of the State.

On the Big Island, Joe Flores spends many hours on the road and provides outreach services to the Kona Vet Center about once a week along with many other areas of the Big Island including Naalehu, Waimea, Pahoa Community Center, and Volcano areas twice a month. He also meets with veterans residing in the Yukio Okutsu State

Veterans Home in Hilo and works in conjunction with the Hilo Vet Center staff. He also participated in Veterans Day and Memorial Day activities gathering flowers for distribution and display at the Veterans cemeteries on Hawaii and the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific.

John Condello travels between Molokai and Lanai and is the unofficial chaplain for the office who renders final services to veterans in need. John and Matthew Harrell assist our Oahu veterans develop their claims for submission to VA for adjudication, and assist clients by attending decision review hearings where information is presented to the hearings officer.

Carswell Ross, our Counselor Coordinator does a superb job in overseeing and providing expertise during the entire claims and appeal process.

On Oahu, the OVS Office was happy to host and assist in a number of ceremonies and functions over the course of this year. One very important ceremony took place just this summer. OVS was honored to host the Lost Heroes Art Quilt in a ceremony with Maj. Gen. Robert G.F. Lee and Lt. Gov. James "Duke" Aiona. On July 21st, over 200 of Hawaii's veterans and their family members attended this gathering to honor not only Hawaii's fallen heroes, but all the brave men and women who were lost in Afghanistan and Iraq since Sept. 11th. Julie Chaleff Feingold created the quilt in May of 2007 and went on tour across the United States beginning on Sept. 27th of last year. The tour is expected to continue into 2011. When the tour is finally complete, the artist hopes to put the quilt up for auction and donate the proceeds to charities for military families. If you want to know more about the project, you can visit the website at <http://www.hand2heart4art.com/lostheroesartquilt.com>

As a trustee of the Hawaii Veterans Memorial Fund, I am happy to report several scholarships were recently awarded to students attending Hawaii's universities. Special congratulations to Sarah Miles from the Big Island, an up-and-coming medical student who is focusing on Rural Medicine, was named the prestigious Murakami Scholar.

We are also pleased to announce that this year's Memorial Day ceremony at Hawaii State Veteran's Cemetery was a resounding success. Over 600 government officials, veterans, and visiting dignitaries attended this year. It was an honor to preside over the gathering as this year's Master of Ceremonies, while Maj. Gen. Robert Lee gave the welcome remarks and Gov. Linda Lingle gave the Memorial Day Address.

I would also like to extend a special thanks to several individuals and organizations for assisting in the Memorial Day celebration. First, I would like to thank Kumu Leimomi Kiyono and Halau Ho'oulu I Ke Kapa for the moving Oli they performed. John Condello, volunteer chaplain from OVS, led us in the moving Invocation and Benediction. Na Leo Lani Choir led us in the National and State Anthems. The 111th Army Band entertained us with their musical performance. The Hawaii Civil Air Patrol demonstrated a flyover formation. And finally, to the Fleet Reserve Association for once again providing refreshments after the ceremony.

Despite the hard economic times, OVS does its very best to not only provide services for our veterans, but also strives to elevate and maintain our cemeteries across

the state to National Shrine standards. Remember, OVS continues to provide free burial vaults with all interments for all veterans and authorized family members.

Here is an update on our current cemetery Capital Improvement Projects (CIP):

Previously I spoke about the ongoing columbaria projects for the neighbor islands. I am happy to report that VA has accepted the grant requests and we are currently gathering county and veteran input on proposed designs. This multi-phase project will add 14 new 64-nich columbaria statewide, 9 to East Hawaii II, 3 to Kauai, and one each to Maui (Makawao), Lanai, and Molokai (Ho'olehua).

Several projects are continuing at Hawaii State Veteran Cemetery (HSVC). The \$1.9 million 3-phase improvement project for HSVC is proceeding as planned. Phase I has already been completed, and all 2,036 niches of Phase II have been successfully installed. Phase III is currently underway and I have met with the contractors in late Aug. to create a timeline outlining the installation of the Spoils shed.

Also in Aug., I met with the bid-winning contractor for the project to create a family briefing room at the Admin. Building. This project will also include the construction of a restroom facility in the vicinity of the Committal Shelter.

For Kauai Veterans Cemetery, in addition to the Columbaria Project, we recently met with county officials and veterans concerning several gate and signage improvements to the cemetery,

On a third Kauai project, OVS and DOD are actively working with county and Department of Land and Resource officials on a cemetery expansion to add 6 acres of state land to the cemetery to accommodate a new maintenance facility and other enhancements.

Additionally, we are working with the VA State Cemetery Grants Program (SCGP) on several grants under a new type of program that recently became available to us. This new O&M (Operations and Maintenance) program allows us to request aid in addressing alignment, leveling, and cleaning of headstones as well as improving turf conditions. We have already submitted requests for grants to address the needs of our State Veterans Cemeteries on six islands. Although all the states and territories in the US are competing for these grants, all Hawaii projects submitted under this program by OVS has made the VA priority list.

In fact, not only have all of our O&M projects been approved, but also all of our CIP projects.

Of the 101 projects that are on the current nationwide list, 15 are Hawaii projects.

Finally, another project we are considering is the building of a second State Veterans Home. The VA Pacific Island Health Care System, Rural Health director is very interested in helping us in facilitating the construction of this State Home. While we are still in the concept development phase, the location could be on State land in Kapolei near the projected new veteran's clinic. The thought is to build a 200-bed facility near the VA medical clinic that could serve the full range of veteran clients. Presently the State would have to fund 33% of the construction cost or about \$35 million dollars. This project is within our long-range goal of providing needed services to veterans and their eligible family members.

I wish you and your loved ones the best always and now as we enter the traditional holiday season. Please remember that the Office of Veterans Services will always be here if you need a helping hand.



# Medical Foster Home-A Community Based Alternative to Nursing Home Placement

## Brief History

- Program began in Little Rock, AR in 1999
- Program expanded to Tampa, FL and San Juan, PR
- In 2008, Congress granted expansion initiative funds to 39 additional sites, Honolulu being one of them
- In 2009, funding was provided to 28 more sites for a total of 67 sites across the nation
- Program is presently being developed on Oahu with the intent to expand to the neighbor islands as well as Guam and American Samoa

## Definition of Medical Foster Home

MFH is a partnership between adult foster homes and a VA interdisciplinary home care team, such as the Home Based Primary Care (HBPC) or SCI Home Care (SCI-HC) programs, to provide an alternative to nursing home care for veterans who are unable to live independently and prefer a family setting for their long-term care. Defining characteristics of MFH include:

- 1) the home is owned or rented by the MFH caregiver;
- 2) the MFH caregiver lives in the MFH and provides personal care and supervision;
- 3) there are no more than 3 residents receiving care in the MFH, including both veterans and non-veterans; and
- 4) veteran MFH residents are enrolled in VA HBPC or SCI-HC program. MFH is intended to serve veterans who are unable to safely

live independently due to functional, cognitive, or psychosocial impairment resulting from conditions such as complex chronic disease, psychological disorder, spinal cord injury or polytrauma.

## Target Population

Eligible veterans who meet the following criteria:

- Meet nursing home level of care\* and prefer a non-institutional setting for their long term care
- Are unable to safely live independently due to functional, cognitive and/or psychological impairment
- Have no suitable significant others able to provide needed monitoring, supervision and personal assistance
- Have complex medical conditions requiring care from a VA interdisciplinary home care team and accept this home care team provider
- Have care needs that can be met by the MFH and the VA interdisciplinary home care team
- Are not effectively managed solely by routine clinic-based care as evidenced by one or more factors:
  - Impaired mobility due to disability or functional limitations
  - Inability to cope with clinic environment due to cognitive, physical or psychosocial impairment
  - Need for frequent coordinated interventions from multiple disciplines
  - Recurrent hospitalizations or urgent care

episodes

\*VHA uses the array of home and community based care services as an "alternative" to nursing home care, in accordance with the authorizing statute (38 USC 1720C). The phrase "in need of nursing home care" means the interdisciplinary team has made a clinical judgment that the veteran would, in the absence of home and community based care services, need nursing home care.

## Who pays?

- The veteran pays for placement with own funds, i.e. pension and Social Security
- VBA Assistance is maximized
- VHA pays for medical care
- Cost for MFH is significantly less than nursing home placement
- Some veterans who are SC 70% or greater opted to go to a Medical Foster Home even if eligible for VA paid nursing home placement

## Which homes to use?

- We will be using State licensed or certified homes as Medical Foster Homes
- Homes must pass initial & annual inspection processes by the VA inspection team

## Program Contact

Rosemary Na'a, LCSW, Medical Foster Home Coordinator  
Office: (808) 433-0148  
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Email: Rosemary.Naa@va.gov

## A Glimpse at the State Veteran Cemeteries



Molokai Veterans Cemetery



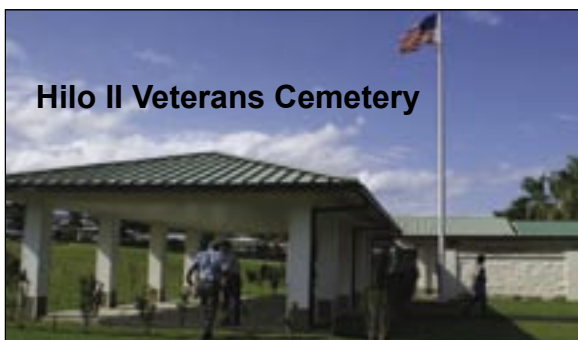
Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery



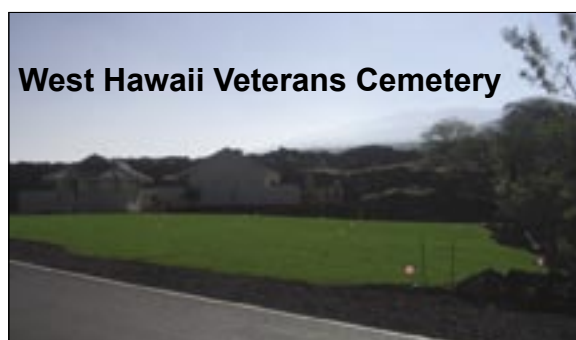
Maui Veterans Cemetery



Lanai Veterans Cemetery



Hilo II Veterans Cemetery



West Hawaii Veterans Cemetery



Kauai Veterans Cemetery



Hilo I Veterans Cemetery

Photos by Jayme Sato

## Center for Veterans Enterprise

The Dept. of Veterans Affairs has created the Center for Veterans Enterprise (CVE), which is solely dedicated to assisting veterans in starting & building businesses. They maintain a web site that serves as the federal government portal for veteran-owned businesses known as WWW.VETBIZ.GOV



## Hawaii Veteran

State of Hawaii Department of Defense

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## National Veterans Golden Age Games

Life begins at 55, at least it does for more than 600 Veterans competing in this national event, the premier senior adaptive rehabilitation program in the U.S. It is the only national multi-event sports and recreational seniors' competition program designed to improve the quality of life for all older Veterans, including those with a wide range of abilities and disabilities. It is one of the most progressive and adaptive rehabilitative senior sports programs in the world, offering 14 different sports



Photo by [www.veteransgoldenagegames.va.gov](http://www.veteransgoldenagegames.va.gov)

and recreational activities. Presented by VA, Help Hospitalized Veterans and Veterans Canteen Service (VCS) with financial assistance from corporate sponsors and individual donors.

Golden Age Games to be held in Honolulu Hawaii, May 26th - 31st, 2011. Come and represent Hawaii's veterans. Please contact (808) 433-0442 or (808) 433-0445 for more information.

## Veterans Day cont.

Gov. Linda Lingle, Maj. Gen. Robert Lee and A1C Rosario Soto placed a wreath at HSVC's Memorial Plaza. This will be Gov. Lingle's last Veterans Day ceremony.



Photo by Jayme Sato



Maui's Korean War veterans erect a memorial for the soldiers of World War I.

Photo by Warren Nishida



On Molokai, veterans place a flag at each gravesite.

Photo by Manny Garcia

## 2010 Summer Youth Employment Program (TANF)

The State Dept. of Labor and Industrial Relations, in partnership with the State Dept. of Human Services, has received federal stimulus funds to provide eligible youth, ages, 14-23 years, with subsidized summer jobs. The purpose of the program is to provide the youth with the opportunity to acquire work experience in a safe environment and to help them develop good work habits. The HSVC youth were in high school and worked for about a month.

### Work Tasks and Accomplishments:

Youth assisted HSVC staff in various work related tasks throughout the cemetery.

- Raising of settled markers (headstones)
- Cleaning of Maintenance Yard and Workshop

- Daily pick-up of trash cans in cemetery

- Weekly wilted flower sweeps of vases throughout the cemetery

- Weeding of planter boxes at Columbarium

- Clean-up of Columbarium storage and restroom screens and windows

- Installation of new markers and vases that were received

- Minor repair of settled graves
- Digging and preparation of 3 new water stations in the 120-140 sections in the cemetery

- Labor tasks related to irrigation repair
- Other tasks as directed by HSVC staff

### Highlights of Program Accomplishments at HSVC:

- Number of settled markers that were raised during program: 1484

- Number of new markers installed during program: 55

- Number of minor settled graves

repaired: 11

- New water stations built: 3
- Developed strong work relationship and camaraderie with HSVC staff

All young men were well behaved and followed the rules. Young men grew as they learned about hard work, working as a team, and getting along and most of all, doing their part in a work environment.

HSVC staff grew from mentoring these

young men and working side by side with them during the program and getting to know these young men who were, as a matter of fact, very entertaining and enjoyable to be around.

The youth at the OVS office were high school graduates and Michael was a 3rd year university student. They all worked for about two months.

### Work Tasks and Accomplishments:

Youth assisted OVS



Michael Moses, Matthew Moses, Randy "Anu" Sapla, Cody Kamei, Christian Estabillo and Michael Filio

Photo by Jayme Sato

staff in various work related tasks throughout the cemetery and Tripler office.

- Front desk reception
- Gave aide to OVS clients
- Answering and taking phone messages
- Network, PC, and copier/printer/scanner device troubleshooting
- Administrative duties
- Filing and shredding
- Reorganizing the discharge papers
- Creating programs & notes
- Drafting letters and proof reading documents
- Manpower for events
- Other tasks as directed by OVS staff

We would like to thank all of the boys for a job well done! Your help was greatly needed and appreciated.



Front: Jeffrey Marzo Jr. Back: Shea Yamamoto, Glenn Barayuga, Greg Barayuga, Kekoa Bennet-Pitman and Chrisjomer "C.J." Agustin. Missing is Kalai Eleban

Photo by Herring Kalua

## The rising costs to produce the Hawaii Veteran Newsletter

Mailing expenses constitute approximately half of the cost of producing the Hawaii Veteran Newsletter. In an effort to continue providing you with the newsletter, we are asking your cooperation in accepting the newsletters electronically (by email) if at all possible. We understand some of you don't have direct access to computers or email. You can pick up a hard copy at all the branch offices of OVS. Your assistance will be greatly appreciated. If you wish to participate in this manner, please provide us with your email address. Contact OVS by email [ovs@ovs.hawaii.gov](mailto:ovs@ovs.hawaii.gov) or call us at 433-0420. A copy of the newsletter will be available on the OVS website at [www.hawaii.gov/dod/ovs](http://www.hawaii.gov/dod/ovs)