

COUNTY / IN BRIEF

Temporary pool closures in Wailuku, Kihei

County of Maui swimming pools in Wailuku and Kihei will be closed temporarily for the installation of new chlorination systems, the County Department of Parks and Recreation announced.

The closures will occur from:

- Monday, July 22, to Friday, July 26, at Coach Soichi Sakamoto Pool in Wailuku.
Aug. 1 to 16 at Kihei Aquatic Center in Kihei.

For updates on pool hours of operation, call the County of Maui pool hotline at (808) 270-8208.

Council closed for election season

Maui County Council Chair Alice L. Lee announced on July 22 that committee meetings will be held in alternate locations - including the Kalana Paku'i Conference Room - over the next several weeks to accommodate the 2024 election schedule.

Lee said the Council Chamber is closed to the public, with access limited to Office of the County Clerk staff charged with securing primary-election ballots. For more information on the Aug. 10 primary, visit maui-countyvotes.com.

"My colleagues and I are committed to doing our part to protect the security and integrity of the voting process and will continue our legislative work with sensitivity to the election season," said Lee, who holds the seat for the Wailuku-Waihe'e-Waikapu residency area. "The public will be updated on any further changes moving forward."

Committee meetings will be held Wednesday-Friday in Kalana Paku'i at 250 S. High St., Lee said. The next round of committee meetings is planned for the week of Aug. 5, and the next council meetings will be held on Aug. 13 and 23.

To view meeting schedules, locations and agendas, visit maui-county.us/agendas. For more information, visit maui-county.us or call the Office of Council Services at (808) 270-7664.

Sewer user fee increase in effect at fiscal year

The County of Maui Department of Environmental

Management Wastewater Reclamation Division is reminding customers that sewer user fees have increased by an average of 2 percent for Fiscal Year 2025, which started on July 1. The rate increase was approved by the County Council to ensure that the County of Maui's wastewater system is financially self-supporting.

In accordance with the Maui County Code, sewer user fees are structured so that each customer class pays its equitable share of operations, maintenance and repair of the wastewater infrastructure.

More information on the increase of sewer user rates and copies of budget documents and ordinances are available at: https://www.mauicounty.gov/139/Budget-Office.

Remembrance ride for Lahaina residents

Lahaina residents impacted by the Aug. 8 Lahaina wildfire will be able to participate in a specially arranged Remembrance Ride to view the ongoing recovery efforts for Lahaina Town. Three days of chartered buses organized by the County and coordinated through Kuhinia Maui will provide Lahaina residents an opportunity to see the current state and recovery progress that has taken place in Lahaina town.

Online reservations intended for Lahaina resident are required, as seats are limited. Remembrance Ride dates are scheduled for July 26-28 with five chartered motor coaches for each day. To register or for more information, go to www.KuhiniaMaui.org. Resident information will be required. In respect for the community's request for sensitivity and dignity, this event closed to the media.

"We want to provide residents the opportunity to see first-hand the progress that has been made to prepare their hometown for the next steps of rebuilding," said Mayor Bissen. "There will be a long road ahead, but it's important that residents have the opportunity to witness the progress taking place to restore and rebuild their home. I want to thank Lahaina resident Laurie Lei DeGama and Nestor Ugale, both generational residents of Lahaina, for championing this effort."

Crater Road reopens amid active 574-acre fire nearby; officials urge motorist caution

The Maui News

KAHULUI - County of Maui officials announced today, July 24, 2024, that Crater Road is scheduled to reopen at noon; however, if conditions become unsafe, the road will again be closed.

Portions of Crater Road have been closed since July 10 due to the ongoing Crater Road fire in Upper Kula, which remains at 80% containment and 574 acres.

Because the fire is not yet fully contained or extinguished, County of Maui Department of Fire and Public Safety (MFD) officials are urging residents and visitors to use caution

when driving Crater Road as fire apparatus, water tankers and personnel may be in close proximity and/or utilizing the road. Access to the burned area is restricted because it is private property and many fire hazards exist.

MFD urges motorists to use caution on Crater Road. If stopping alongside Crater Road or exiting the vehicle near the fire scene, risks to health and safety include the following:

- Stopping your vehicle along the road to sightsee leaves it vulnerable to being hit from behind. Please watch speed and be alert for other stopped vehicles.

• Ash pits, or underground hot spots, are hard to visually detect but can cause serious burns to the feet, legs and even torso. With the large number of hot spots on this fire scene, not all may have been extinguished.

• Fire-weakened trees can fall without warning. A tree may look normal from the outside, but fire may have entered through a small hole or knot and burned the inside, leaving it hollow and susceptible to falling unexpectedly. Any tree inside of or adjacent to the fire perimeter should be treated as a hazard.

When a fire is 100% contained, it does not mean

it has been extinguished. It means that firefighters have the blaze fully surrounded. A fire is declared "extinguished" when fire personnel believe there is nothing left burning.

Haleakala National Park is under federal jurisdiction. For information on park access and hours, visit https://www.nps.gov/haleakala.

For more information on the Crater Road fire, sign up for Maui Emergency Management Agency alerts at www.mauicounty.gov/ MEMA and follow County of Maui and Maui Fire Department on Facebook and Instagram.

Rotary D5000 Foundation Maui Fires Relief Funds for Piha

Wellness and Healing Mental Health Services for Maui fire survivors

The Maui News

KAHULUI - The Rotary Club of Wailuku has announced the successful acquisition of a \$50,000 grant from the Rotary D5000 Foundation Maui Fires Relief Fund. This grant will be used to support Piha Wellness and Healing over the upcoming fiscal year.

Piha Wellness and Healing is a 501c3 nonprofit program based on Maui, boasting licensed, experienced, and culturally sensitive mental health providers. These professionals will be offering their services to individuals and families who have been impacted by the wildfires on Maui. The program will be overseen by Founder and Clinical Director Michele Navaro Ishiki, in collaboration with CEO Richard Carr.

This funding will also enable the expedited delivery of therapeutic care, bridging the gap that often exists when individuals must wait 4-6 months for mental health services.

By focusing on culturally sensitive approaches to mental health in the aftermath of Maui's wildfires, this initiative aims to provide individuals and families struggling with depression,



Courtesy photo

Hugh Chare, Rotary Club of Wailuku President (from left); Sadie Green, Rotary Club of Kathmandu; Terri Brown, Rotary Club of Wailuku; Wendy Hornack, Rotary Assistant Governor; Michele Navaro Ishiki, Founder and Clinical Director of Piha Health and Wellness; Richard Carr, Piha CEO; Paul Tonnessen Piha VP and member of Rotary Club of Wailuku.

anxiety, suicidal thoughts, and other harmful behaviors with healthier coping mechanisms. Ultimately, the goal is to help reduce trauma symptoms stemming from the devastating wild-

fires. This initiative reflects the collaborative efforts of Rotarians to support the recovery of the Lahaina community, showcasing their unity and dedication to assisting those in need.

Judge temporarily allows unlicensed Native Hawaiian midwifery

The Associated Press



AP file photo

Supporters of a lawsuit challenging a Hawaii midwife licensure law gather outside a courthouse in Honolulu, June 10, 2024.

HONOLULU - A Hawaii judge is temporarily blocking the state from enforcing a law requiring the licensing of practitioners and teachers of traditional Native Hawaiian midwifery.

The temporary stay is for while a lawsuit challenging the statute wends its way through the courts. A group of women who are

plaintiffs in the suit say the law threatens their ability to serve women who seek customary Native Hawaiian births.

Judge Shirley Kawamura's ruling this week bars the state from "enforcing, threatening to enforce or applying any penalties to those who practice, teach, and learn traditional Native Hawaiian healing practices of prenatal, maternal and child care."

ON TELEVISION TONIGHT:

Table with columns for channel, time, and program name. Includes sections for FRIDAY, CABLE STATIONS, and PREMIUM STATIONS.