

## Waialua Heritage Center Now Open

The Historical Society's dedication and opening of its new Heritage Exhibit, Saturday, April, 26th drew a crowd of 150, including special guest City Managing Director, Mike Formby. City Councilman Matt Weyer, Dole Hawai'i Manager Dan Nellis, and 95-year-old Dot Ochiai Hazama addressed the attendees. The Waialua Sugar office building now has a small but magnificent exhibit, full of photos, artifacts, and a 72-item, illustrated timeline.

Kumu Keith Awai did the welcoming oli, and Rev. Preston Lentz gave the blessing, saying that the dedication was a celebration and resurrection of the offices of the Waialua Sugar Co.; that the effort will remake the building while maintaining the best parts of it. He used the word "resurrection" intentionally because "understanding how our past shapes us and sustains us in our present, lets us build our dreams for the future. The resurrection of these offices and the creation of the museum will accomplish this."



*Willa Tanabe introducing Dr. Ochiai Hazama (sitting) Photo Mike Fritz* 

Of special interest was Dr. Ochiai Hazama, retired UH Professor, who grew up in the Surf & Sea building in the 1930s, and told her story of the building and how the scale model was conceived from her memory for a special Bishop Museum exhibit. It depicts her mother the shopkeeper, the family-run grocery, fully furnished with period appliances, the store's goods, bedrooms upstairs, and a furo in the back. Donated to the Historical Society by the Bishop Museum, come see it now at home in the Society's exhibit. We're open Monday through Friday 1 to 4pm or by appointment.

For more information about the Society go to www. WaialuaHistoricalSociety.org or call 808-342- 8557.

## Kahuku Medical Center Receives a \$70K Donation

Areté Collective is contributing \$70,000 to support renovations at the Kahuku Medical Center Emergency Room, reinforcing its commitment to strengthening local healthcare services for O'ahu's North Shore. The donation was presented at a reception at the hospital on May 16, 2025.

"As the only hospital serving more than 30 miles in either direction, Kahuku Medical Center is a lifeline for our North Shore and Ko'olauloa communities," said Steve Nawahine, Kahuku Medical Center Chief Executive Officer. "These life-saving services provide essential care to the North Shore community, and we are grateful to Areté Collective for this show of generosity."

This contribution will directly support the enhancement of critical emergency care infrastructure, ensuring that patients from the North Shore and Ko'olauloa regions continue to receive timely, high-quality medical attention during urgent health crises.

"Investing in local healthcare strengthens the fabric of our community—a priority at the core of who we are," said Joey Buchan, Co-Founder of Areté Collective. "We are honored to support Kahuku Medical Center's mission to provide top-quality care for the North Shore and Ko'olauloa regions."

The donation was made through Areté Collective's Collective Good Foundation, which fosters active partnerships with organizations that align with Areté's mission of supporting communities. Current and previous partnerships include sponsoring a \$10,000 'Ilima scholarship for Turtle Bay Foundation, contributing to Sunset Beach Elementary School through the Friends of Sunset Beach annual art auction and supporting the outstanding athletes at Kahuku High School by donating new uniforms for the girls' volleyball team and smart helmets for the football team.

KMC's emergency department serves approximately 6,500 patients annually and is a critical safety net for the local residents on the Windward side and North Shore of O'ahu. Visit <u>https://www.kmc-hi.org/</u> to learn more and support KMC's vital mission.

