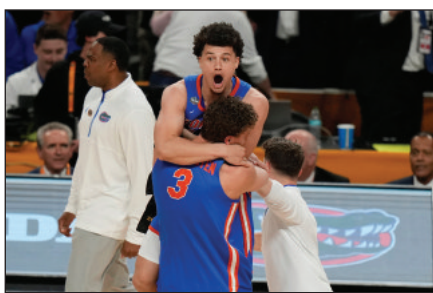




MEMA will save lives

County to launch new evacuation notification

See page A3



Great Gators win v. Houston

Florida final four turns Gators champs vs Cougars

See page A8

The Maui News

Maui's Newspaper Since 1900

TUESDAY, April 8, 2025

BEAUTIFUL KĀ'ANAPALI SUNSET



Today's photo of the day, "Beautiful Kā'anapali Sunset," comes to us from Sandy Hew. Send your best photos from Maui County to mauiphotos@maui-news.com for a chance to see them featured on our website and in our weekly print edition.



AP Photo / Marco Garcia

Doctor Gerhardt Konig appears before a judge via video during an arraignment hearing after being indicted on allegation of attempting to kill his wife on Monday in Honolulu.

Doctor accused of trying to kill his wife on hiking trail pleads not guilty

EDITOR'S NOTE: This story includes discussion of domestic violence. If you or someone you know needs help, please call the national domestic violence hotline: 1-800-799-7233 in the U.S.

By JENNIFER SINCO KELLEHER The Associated Press

HONOLULU — A doctor accused of trying to kill his wife on a Hawaii hiking trail pleaded not guilty in court Monday on an attempted murder charge.

Gerhardt Konig's wife says they were hiking in Honolulu last month when he grabbed her, pushed her toward the edge of a cliff, attempted to inject her with a syringe and then bashed her head with a rock, the woman wrote in a petition for a temporary restraining order against him.

The Associated Press does not name people who are victims of domestic violence unless they consent to be identified or decide to tell their stories publicly.

Since his indictment March 28, Konig has been held without bail.

Defense attorney Thomas Otake told the judge he plans

to file a motion requesting bail. There should be some bail because Konig has no prior criminal record, Otake said.

Konig appeared for the brief hearing via video from the Oahu Community Correctional Center.

"Dr. Konig's not guilty plea this morning was not just a formality, but a substantive response to the allegation that he tried to kill his wife," Otake said in a prepared statement he distributed to reporters before the hearing.

"There are two sides to every story, and thus far only one side has been shared," Otake said. "The other side to this story will be shared within the court process at the appropriate time."

If convicted, Konig could face life in prison.

The couple were visiting Oahu to celebrate her birthday while their two young sons stayed home on Maui with a nanny and family, according to the wife's petition filed in family court. A judge signed an order saying Konig

See DOCTOR PLEA on Page A4

Maui residents join nationwide protests against Trump's policies



Courtesy photo

Protestors hold signs during a rally Saturday outside the Whole Foods location in Kahului. A number of people on Maui joined the protest that coincided with similar protests across the nation.

The Maui News

Protestors in Maui joined crowds across the U.S. on Saturday as people angry about the way President Donald Trump is running the country marched in scores of American cities.

According to the Associated Press, the Hands Off! demonstrations were organized for more than 1,200 locations in all 50 states by more than 150 groups, including civil rights organizations, labor unions, LGBTQ+ advocates, veterans and elections activists.

The group Maui Indivisible organized the local protest outside Whole Foods in Kahului, and Justin Hughey, who helped organize the rally, reported that he counted more than 2,000 people there at one point.

"Historically oligarchy leads to tyranny," Hughey said via email.

See RESISTANCE on Page A4

Housing wait over for some Hawaiians

By GARY KUBOTA gkubota@maui-news.com

On Saturday, Mark Dean Kalalau and his wife, Lisa, were grateful to be among the 91 people to select a Hawaiian homestead house on Maui.

"I didn't think this was going to happen in our lifetime," said Kalalau, who was on the waiting list for 38 years.

Close to 400 people attended a Saturday event at the University of Hawai'i Maui College for phase II of the Pu'u'hona Homestead project in Waikapū, the first Hawaiian Homes turnkey residential development on Maui in the last 17 years.

The event comes at a time when many native Hawaiians and other Maui residents face record high rents, presenting them with a challenge to live here.

Population trends have been shifting with the U.S. Census Bureau reporting there are more native Hawaiians living on the U.S. continent than in Hawai'i.

The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands has issued 10,000 leases since the Hawaiian Homestead Act was created with more than 29,000 people on the waiting list.

Along with state legislators and



The Maui News / Gary Kubota

Mark and Lisa Kalalau were selected to receive a lot at the Pu'u'hona Project Phase II in Waikapū as part of a stepped-up effort to develop more housing for Hawaiian Homestead recipients. The couple had been on the waiting list for 38 years.

county officials, Gov. Josh Green has supported moves to develop more Hawaiian Homesteads statewide.

"I'm going to say this from the heart. I am so sorry that for some reason for decades things didn't get done the way they deserved to have been done," Green told

the audience. "It is time to move forward. There can be no excuses. That's why I'm here today, to live up to this commitment."

Several different projects in Maui County have been designated

See HOMES on Page A4

INSIDE

Classifieds.....A9	Opinion.....A7
Comics.....A5	Sports.....A8
Crossword Puzzle.....A5	Today's People.....A2
Datebook.....A6	TV Grid.....A3
Obituary.....A4	Weather.....A2

The Maui News can be found online at maui-news.com



MEMA
Continued from Page A3

According to MEMA, the system is intended to support coordination among first responders and deliver targeted public alerts during emergencies.

“New Genasys Protect evacuation alerts — when combined with MEMA alerts, WEA, EAS and sirens — create a powerful, multi-layered system that ensures timely, reliable communication,” Lonokailua-Hewett said in a news release. “This will help save lives and enhance public safety during emergencies.”

The app, available for Apple and Android devices, enables users to follow specific zones and receive notifications through their mobile phones or web browsers. Users are encouraged to look up their evacuation zones, follow them in the app and post the zone ID in a visible place at home.

Genasys Protect will be

used alongside other emergency communication tools, including the Emergency Alert System, Wireless Emergency Alerts, Hawai‘i’s All-Hazard Siren System and door-to-door notifications conducted by Maui police and fire officials.

MEMA is encouraging all residents and visitors to download the Genasys Protect app and sign up for MEMA Alerts at MauiCounty.gov/MEMA. Subscribers can choose how they receive messages, including landline calls, texts, emails and cell phone notifications.

MEMA will host several outreach events where the public can learn about the platform and register for alerts:

- April 12: Emergency Preparedness Expo, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Queen Ka‘ahumanu Center
- April 26: Taro Fest, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Hāna Ballpark
- May 10: Moloka‘i Resource Fair, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- July 5: Lāna‘i Pineapple

Festival, 1 to 9 p.m., Dole Park

The Genasys platform is used in more than 100 countries and sectors including public safety, defense and emergency management. To view zone maps or download the app, go to protect.genasys.com.

China will ‘fight to the end’ after tariffs

BEIJING (AP) — China says it will “fight to the end” and take countermeasures against the United States to safeguard its own interests after President Donald Trump threatened an additional 50% tariff on Chinese imports.

The Commerce Ministry

said the the U.S. tariffs were groundless and bullying. China has taken retaliatory tariffs and the ministry hinted in its statement Tuesday that more may be coming.

The ministry said its own countermeasures were aimed at maintaining the normal

trade order and were legitimate, while the U.S. actions were blackmail in nature. “If the US insists on its own way, China will fight to the end.”

Trump’s threat came after China said it would retaliate against U.S. tariffs he announced last week.

RESISTANCE
Continued from Page A1

“We chose to protest in front of Whole Foods. If Jeff Bezos is going to support the Republican takedown of the New Deal, the Great Society and the middle class by eliminating all Democratic policies from 1930-1960s, then we won’t fund our own demise. We can’t control the Republicans eliminating Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid, but we can choose not to buy groceries at Whole Foods, rent videos on Prime and shop on Amazon.”

According to Hughey,



Courtesy photo

People line the street outside Whole Foods in Kahului as they protest recent policy decisions from President Donald Trump’s administration.

Maui Indivisible is pushing Gov. Josh Green to come out with a plan “to fill our budget crisis created by the Republican federal funding cuts.” He added that Maui Indivisible also wants to

know how state legislators will address raising revenue.

“Where is the courageous leadership in our dystopian times?” Hughey asked.

The rallies across the U.S. appeared peaceful, with no

reports of arrests as protestors assailed Trump on everything from billionaire Elon Musk’s actions on government downsizing to the economy, immigration and human rights.

HOMES
Continued from Page A1

for the development of Hawaiian homes.

Facing a dwindling population of native Hawaiians, congressional delegate Prince Jonah Kūhīō in 1921 successfully pushed to have federal lawmakers set aside some 200,000 acres for Hawaiians to build homes and cultivate farms on former Hawaiian crown and government lands.

The act provided 99-year leases at \$1 a year. Recipients need to be at least 50% native Hawaiian in blood quantum.

Critics note much of the land back then was located in areas far from water lines and electricity, making the development of native Ha-

waiian settlements difficult.

A \$600 million appropriation was passed in 2022 by the state legislature in an effort to reduce the number on the waiting list. According to the Department of Hawaiian Homes Lands, the agency plans to issue 7,500 leases statewide in the next several years.

On Maui, the 161-unit Pu‘uhona includes 24 vacant improved single-family lots and 137 turnkey single-family residences. In phase I, homes with three to five bedrooms were made available in the price range of \$509,000 to \$699,000.

Other planned Hawaiian Homestead projects include 50 units at; 181 units at Leiali‘i; 207 units in Wailuku; 311 units at Waiehu Mauka; and 400 at Kamal-



The Maui News photos / Gary Kubota

Close to 400 people attend a ceremony celebrating the selection of Hawaiian Homestead housing lots in Waikapū on Saturday at University of Hawai‘i Maui College.



Announced as one of the recipients in the Pu‘uhona Homestead project in Waikapū on Saturday, Wilhelm and Margaret Bailey said they’ve waited 61 years to receive a Hawaiian Homestead home.

MEDICAID
Continued from Page A2

If the state is allowed to cut off Planned Parenthood, Medicaid patients could go

to one of 200 other publicly funded health care clinics in the state, he said.

In South Carolina, \$90,000 in Medicaid funding goes to Planned Parenthood every year — a tiny fraction of a percentage point of the state’s total Medicaid spending.

Most counties in the state have already been federally designated as having too few primary care providers, said Amalia Luxardo, CEO of the South Carolina-based Women’s Rights and Empowerment Network. Fourteen of the state’s counties have no practicing OB-GYN physicians and five other counties have just one, she said, meaning many women already have to travel longer distances to find the right provider.

Planned Parenthood has flexible hours and can get appointments scheduled quickly, factors that bring in patients from around the state, she said.

“We are already in a health care crisis,” said Luxardo, whose group has filed court briefs supporting Planned Parenthood. “And when decisions like these negatively impact our constituents, the crisis is going to only increase.”

ani.

On Molokai, the projects include 20 Ho‘olehua agricultural lots; and 16 Na‘iwa agricultural lots. On Lāna‘i, plans call for 75 residential lots.

Those selecting lots Saturday said they were happy with the direction Hawaiian Homestead officials are going.

Several state legislators from Maui introduced the act in 2022, including state Reps. Kyle Yamashita, Troy Hashimoto, Tina Wildberger and Justin Woodson, and state Sens. Roz Baker, Lynn Decoite and Gil Keith Agaran.

“We don’t want people leaving Hawai‘i because



Gov. Josh Green pledges to move forward with more Hawaiian Homestead projects Saturday at The University of Hawai‘i Maui College.

they can’t afford to live here,” said Troy Hashimoto, now a state senator. “It’s the

first of many projects.” Wilhelm Bailey said he and his wife Margaret have

been waiting for 61 years and are happy to be finally receiving a lot.

“This is really great,” Wilhelm said. “We’ve been on the list a long time. It’s really a blessing.”

Homestead recipient Lisa Kalalau said she knows a Hawaiian woman who was thinking of moving to Las Vegas because of the high rents on Maui until the woman received a lot at Pu‘uhona.

John Kaupu and his wife, Sheena, said they feel like they are witnessing the re-establishment of Hawaiian homes as a legacy.

“It certainly does restore our hope,” Sheena Kaupu said.

OBITUARIES

Stephanie Eugenio, 75



Stephanie “Nani” Eugenio, 75, of Mililani, passed away peacefully on February 4, 2025. She is survived by her children, Glenn Eugenio Jr. and Nanette Delos Santos. A memorial service will be held at Mililani Memorial Park & Mortuary, Mauka Chapel, on April 24, 2025 at 6:30pm (public viewing begins at 5:30pm).

Planned Parenthood has flexible hours and can get appointments scheduled quickly, factors that bring in patients from around the state, she said.

“We are already in a health care crisis,” said Luxardo, whose group has filed court briefs supporting Planned Parenthood. “And when decisions like these negatively impact our constituents, the crisis is going to only increase.”

DOCTOR PLEA
Continued from Page A1

must stay away from his wife and their children.

The petition for a restraining order said that in December, Konig accused his wife of having an affair. They have since been in therapy and counseling, she said.

In the petition, she also said her husband has sexually abused and assaulted her.

On March 24 during their recent trip, Konig suggested they go on a hike in Honolulu that she described in the petition as having “narrow ridge sections with steep drop-offs on both sides.”

What is known as “Pali Puka” trail is closed because the route is unsafe, the state Department of Land and Natural Resources said. Hikers often enter through a small clearing near a popular lookout point that offers

stunning views despite a warning: “Area Closed! Do not go beyond this sign.”

“During the hike, I became uneasy and informed Gerhardt that I did not want to continue,” the woman said in her petition. “Gerhardt hiked a little further and then came back to get me.”

At one point, he grabbed the woman by her upper arms and started pushing her toward the cliff’s edge while yelling that he was sick of her, she said.

They began wrestling and she screamed and pleaded for him to stop, fearing for her life, the petition says.

During the struggle, she said he took a syringe from his bag and tried to inject her.

“I do not know what was in the syringe, but Gerhardt is an anesthesiologist and has access to several potentially lethal medications as part of his employment,”

she said, adding that she bit his arm in an attempt to defend herself.

He appeared to calm down, but then grabbed a nearby rock and “began bashing me repeatedly on the head with it,” she said.

Two women on the trail saw what was happening and said they were calling 911.

The women helped her down the trail while Konig went in another direction.

Gary Soares, a parking lot attendant at the state park that includes the Pali Lookout, recalled Monday seeing a bloodied woman come down from the trail.

“She was bleeding from her head, so you know we just had to wrap her head, stop the bleeding,” he said.

Konig fled the scene, prompting an hourslong search and the closure of the park, police said.

“They locked down

the whole Pali Lookout,” Soares said. “Everybody had to leave.”

An ambulance took the woman to a hospital and her husband was arrested that evening.

“It’s sad because he’s a doctor from Maui,” Soares said. “Doctors we should trust to care of us.”

Konig is an anesthesiologist at Maui Health, which operates hospitals and clinics in Maui County and is an affiliate of Kaiser Permanente. Maui Health said in a statement to media organizations that he was suspended pending investigation.

Kaiser Permanente said in a statement that Konig is not an employee, but is employed by an independent entity contracted to provide medical services. Kaiser said it has suspended his credentials and ability to treat patients pending investigation.

Senior Housing centrally located in Kahului close to groceries, shopping, transportation and health care

HALE MAHAOLU WHERE ALOHA LIVES

AKAHI - Kahului, HI
Ph: 877-0544 | TDD: (800) 545-1833 Ext. 432
www.HaleMahaolu.org

Helping you find your real estate match

1877 Wili Pa Loop #2, Wailuku (808) 242-1467 office

Kimberly Delmore, Realtor PB (808) 298-6655 Cell www.delmore.net

Delmore Realty

Come enjoy a worry free lifestyle

Roselani Place MAUI'S ASSISTED LIVING COMMUNITY

Licensed Independent & Assisted Senior Living Residential Memory Care Program Respite Short Term Care Available

88 South Papa Avenue, Kahului, HI 96732
Call 871-7720 www.roselaniplace.com

Kahului Hongwanji Mission Spring Bazaar Saturday, April 19th 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

- Food Truck • Chow Fun
- Baked Goods
- Plenty Onolicious Snacks
- Country Store
- Rummage • Plants