

EAST ALL-STARS

Graduation season is almost here! The following are graduation days and times for East O'ahu schools: Kaiser High School (6:30 p.m. on May 22 at KHS Cougar Stadium); Kaimukī High School (6 p.m. on May 23 at Tom Moffatt Waikīkī Shell); Kalani High School (6:30 p.m. on May 20 at University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Bankoh Arena at Stan Sheriff Center); and Ke Kula Kaiapuni 'o Ānuenue (10 a.m. on May 23 at its campus). For a full list of schools, visit hawaii-public-schools.org/2026-graduations ... Kaimukī resident **Jeff Aki** joined nonprofit Hawaiian Community Assets as its director of housing and community investment. Aki will help lead Ua Hale A'ela, a rent-with-option-to-purchase project, and work to expand affordable housing pathways throughout the islands ... Congrats to Kaimukī Middle School vice principal **Jenna Valbuena** who was named Hawai'i's 2026 National Outstanding Assistant Principal. One of Valbuena's contributions was designing and refining how the school manages student behavior. "(Valbuena) helps keep Kaimukī Middle School a place with heart, and (she) represents the very best of school leadership in the Hawai'i Department of Education," states Kaimukī Middle principal **Kevin Dias** ... Kapi'olani Community College chancellor **Misaki**



Jeff Aki

Takabayashi was selected as one of 23 community college presidents to participate in the third cohort of Aspen Presidents Fellowship. Through this year-long professional development experience, fellows will develop a reform strategy to help more students graduate into jobs after community college or following a transfer and receiving their bachelor's degree ... The City & County of Honolulu's Department of Environmental Services' pilot program, G.R.O.W. (Green Recycling Organic Waste), has officially begun. Those in Hawai'i Kai can now place food scraps (fruits, vegetables, meat, fish, bones, bread, rice, pasta, coffee grounds and filters, and eggs and eggshells) into their green waste carts. Do not include any plastics, packaging, wrappers, glass, metal, liquids, oils, household trash or hazardous waste, as this will contaminate the composting process. Collection schedules remain unchanged. Learn more at honolulu.gov/env/grow ... For the rest of



Misaki Takabayashi

April, Jamba Hawai'i invites the community, including those in East O'ahu, to participate in its Blend It Forward, which supports Make-A-Wish Hawai'i. Guests can donate at checkout at an Jamba Hawai'i location. Donations between \$1 and \$249 per transaction go directly toward granting wishes for keiki across the islands. Jamba Hawai'i will match up to \$5,000 in donations. Visit jambahawaii.com/blend-it-forward ... East O'ahu residents are encouraged to nominate local writers for Elliot Cades Awards for Literature's Emerging Writer and Established Writer awards. Nominations must include a letter of nomination and support materials, including published work to be used during the judging process. Eligible nominees are poets, playwrights, novelists, essayists or others associated with the literary arts in Hawai'i who are current or former residents of Hawai'i. The deadline is July 1. Visit friendsofthelibrary-of-hawaii.org/cadesaward ... apang@midweek.com



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Pet of the Week
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HAWAII PET EXPO 2026

May 2, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. | May 3, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

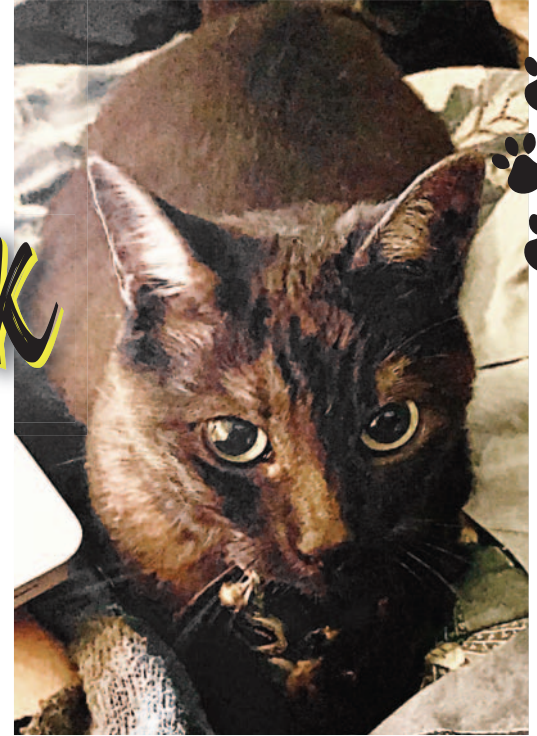
Neal S. Blaisdell Center • Exhibition Hall

EAST O'AHU

Pet of the Week

CASSIDY MISTYFOOT

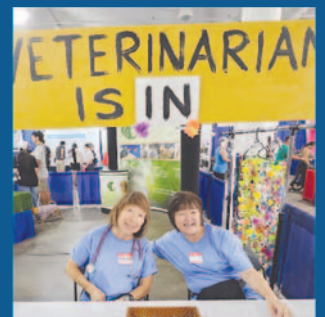
Cassidy Mistyfoot is a 12 year old smoky tabby from East O'ahu. She is super snuggly and will come when you call her. She also loves to play outside.



'East O'ahu Voice' is accepting photos of your furry (or scaly or feathered) friend for its Pet of the Week feature. Send your photo to apang@midweek.com and be sure to include your pet's name, age, the area of East O'ahu you live in and any fun fact you'd like to share with readers.

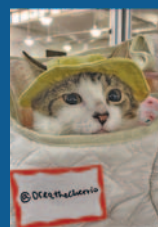
Join us at the
Hawaii Pet Expo

Free Admission (humans and pets)
• Pets are welcome, dogs must be leashed •



Hawaii Pet Expo Presented by
Hawaii Veterinary Medical Association

FOR SALE!
Limited Edition:
Hawaii Pet Expo Tote Bag



Live Animal Demonstrations; Pet Product Displays; Parade of Dog Show (Saturday); Parade of Cat Breeds (Sunday); Annual Hawaiian Kennel Club Puppy Match (Sunday); Cat, Bird, & Fish Clubs; Educational Displays; Crafters; and Lots of Free Information & Products for You & Your Pets.

We'll be accepting donations of nonperishable food items for the Hawaii Foodbank.