



# honolulu park place

NEWSLETTER • NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2017

## Aloha to Garry Belen



Our General Manager, **Garry Belen**, will be retiring from his position on December 31, 2017. He has the distinction of having the longest term of employment than any other staff member at Honolulu Park Place. Beginning with his employment as a maintenance technician in 1995, he moved up quickly through the ranks till his appointment in 2005 as Operations Manager and then in 2013 as General Manager.

“Solving problems, making residents and staff happy, and giving them more than what they expect from me” is what gives him satisfaction at the end of the day. Garry strives to be better each day than he was the day before.

Under his management, the execution of major projects includes installation of new carpeting throughout the condo; overhauling of cooling towers; replacement of the chiller; and painting of the building. Another significant contribution is the use of HPP staff to perform some maintenance and repair work, thus minimizing costs by the elimination of contractors.

Garry served in the National Guard for twelve years beginning in 1977. In 2001, he rejoined the National Guard, and in 2007, he was sent to Iraq for one and a half years as a UH-60 Black Hawk Helicopter mechanic. In 2011, he served in Kuwait and Saudi Arabia for one year as a quality control technician inspector. After his return from Kuwait, he received training as an army instructor. He taught Warrior Leadership

Courses (WLC) to young soldiers.

Garry has five of his six daughters and seven of his eight grandchildren in North Carolina. The others reside in Florida. After retirement, he plans to move to North Carolina, buy a large acreage of land, build a home, and devote the rest of his life to his family.

Aloha and mahalo to Garry as he begins his post-retirement years in North Carolina.

*-Interview by Mimi Yoshikawa (Photo: Gary Everest)*

*Thank you Garry, for your many years of service and dedication to Honolulu Park Place!*

## In this season of giving

please consider showing your appreciation for the great staff we have at Honolulu Park Place by a gift to the HPP Employee Christmas Fund. Among many benefits of living in this building are having a professional security staff which greets you by name, watching out for your safety as well as that of your belongings, having clean common areas, and taking care of maintenance issues.

Bring monetary gifts to the office where they will be distributed among the staff. It's easiest to have checks made out to “Cash.”

Thank you in advance for your generosity!



**“I’ve crunched the numbers in your retirement account. It’s time to figure out who will be wearing the mask and who will be driving the getaway car.”**

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Garry Belen

#### OFFICE STAFF

Brandi Nagamine-Rodillas

Sandy Pope

808.546.1212

#### SECURITY

808.546.1213

#### WEBSITE

[www.hpponline.org](http://www.hpponline.org)

#### EMAIL

[hppaoao@honolulupark](mailto:hppaoao@honolulupark)

[place.org](mailto:place.org)

A PARTY ON 12/12 FOR RESIDENTS OF 1212 NUUANU

# The Twelve Days of Christmas HOLIDAY PARTY

Free for

**Honolulu Park Place Residents**

Guests are \$15/person—adults

\$5/person—children under 10

**Tuesday, Dec. 12, 2017**

**6:00 – 8:00 pm** Food Service

9:00 pm Party Wrap-Up

**Lobby/Club Area**

Sorry, no take outs.

Food will be delivered to shut-ins, whose names have been provided to the office by December 9. Food will be delivered between 5:30-6:00 pm



**Menu: Lemon Roast Chicken** with a white wine citrus sauce and fresh rosemary

(\*Vegetarian Option—Portobello Mushroom) • **Penne Pasta** with a pesto cream sauce

**Mixed green salad**, organic greens, cherry tomatoes, carrots, sliced onion

**Roasted Garlic String beans** • **French Bread** • **Pies & Cakes**

Visit from **Santa Claus** • Gifts for kiddies

Music from **Hoku Award-Winning Na Hoku Pa** • **Emcee Paco Loco**

**Raffle to Win a Large Flat Screen TV\* and other great prizes\***

**Fun and food for all!**

No computer?  
Sign up in the office

**Reserve Online Now!**

Volunteers Needed!  
Sign up online

**All residents, please RSVP by December 9 at [hponline.org](http://hponline.org)**

\*must be present in order to win

We're trying something new this year—to have all residents RSVP online to the annual HPP Holiday Party. What does this mean? It means that hopefully we will eliminate a bottleneck in the lobby because your **name tags** will be pre-printed and your raffle tickets attached. Don't worry: we don't ask for your email address or personal information—all we need to know is how many and whether you want the chicken or portobello mushroom entrée. We'll also have a better count of how many residents to expect and won't run out of food, plates or presents for the kids.

Thanks to **Nathan Dudoit**, we have a Hoku Award-winning band for entertainment! Hey, we even have great **raffle prizes** this year: A Samsung Ultra HD TV and gift certificates to Little Village, JJ Dolan's and Longs Drugs (\*must be present in order to win.)

We are in urgent need of **VOLUNTEERS** to help make this a grand party. Please sign up and RSVP at **[hponline.org](http://hponline.org)** TODAY!

## Massage at HPP

**Stan Sugai**, 10 am to 5 pm, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Friday. Phone 808-536-6979. **Susan Lovinger**, phone 808-342-6402. Mondays and Wednesdays, 4 pm-9 pm; Saturdays, Noon to 6 pm. By appointment only. \$50/hour massage; \$80/hour & half. Gift certificates are available.

## Real Food Cafe

Our cafe's **Chef Heidi** offers catered meals for special occasions, personal chef services, cooking classes, wine pairing dinners, plus regular menu items such as salads, pizzas, and sandwiches, **phone 271-7052**.

## Meet Your Neighbors

### A veteran among us

**Ty Kimura** had a distinguished military career. Upon graduation from the University of Hawaii in 1967 as a distinguished military graduate, he was commissioned as a second lieutenant and began his six-year military career.

His military training included Air Defense Artillery Officers Course, Area Intelligence Course at the Military Intelligence School, training at the Ranger School, Special Forces School, and Jungle Operations School.



Ty was assigned as Advisor and Special Weapons Custodian to a Belgian Missile Unit in Northern Germany. In Vietnam, he served as Province Senior Intelligence Advisor for Vinh Long Province in the the IV Corps Tactical Zone. His second assignment in Vietnam was with the Military Assistance Command Studies and Observations Group (MAC SOG) in a Special Forces (Green Beret) capacity. In Japan, Ty was assigned to the 500th Military Intelligence as an Operations Officer and subsequently as Interim Detachment Commander. He retired from military service in

1973, but was recalled to active duty service from 1983 to 1984 at the Special Operations Command Pacific (SOC PAC).

In federal government civil service from 1984 to 2002, Ty served in the antiterrorism/counterterrorism and intelligence fields for



the Department of Defense (U.S. Pacific Command), U.S. Army (USARPAC), U.S. Air Force (5th AF/USFJ), and U.S. Navy (IPAC).

These days, Ty enjoys a low-profile lifestyle. He tries to maintain a regimen of swimming and working out at the gym at Honolulu Park Place.

A highlight of his life is visiting his granddaughters on the Mainland. "They are as dear to me as my three children, Troy, Kris, and Nagisa."

We salute Ty Kimura and all HPP veterans including **Charles Arthur, Garry Belen, Yan Pui Chan, Gary Everest, Michael Fua, Eric Hill, Lance Hood, Kenneth Jackson, Walters Miranda, Sherri Monclair, Dennis Padlock and Michele Vagnerini**.

*-Interview by Mimi Yoshikawa (Photo: Gary Everest)*