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• CENTRAL O'AHU •

# VOICE

COMMUNITY NEWS

FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 19, 2018

**Life As A Rainbow Wahine**  
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Ricky Baker and daughter Brandy, co-owners of The Pet Hale in Milliani Shopping Center, hold a pit bull puppy and Tibetan spaniel/Shih Tzu pup.  
ANTHONY CONSILIO PHOTO

## Library Launches Book Club Hub For Parents And Teens

BY JAIMIE KIM FARINAS

Pearl City Public Library hopes to make reading a family affair with the Book Club Hub, a new group for teens age 12 and older and their parents. Its first session will take place from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 24, and will cover *Stargirl* by Jerry Spinelli.

The idea for this latest library program stemmed from a book club for adults it already happens to have called Pearl City Reads.

"I volunteered to try this new configuration out," says Alayna Davies-Smith, Pearl City Public Library teen librarian. "We wanted to have programs that increased literacy opportunities and gathered families together."

to discuss, she adds, came pretty naturally.

"*Stargirl* by award-winning author Jerry Spinelli was chosen as the first title because, one, it is an easy read (not too lengthy of a tome), and two, the topics covered in the book — first love, conformity and acceptance — are universal themes understood by both teens and their parents."

The Book Club Hub will meet on the last Monday of each month. Upcoming reads include *Seedfolks* by Paul Fleischman in October, and *The Future of Us* by Jay Asher in November.

"Parents tend to stop reading aloud to their children once they start reading on their own," says Davies-Smith.

Landing on its first book

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## SCENE IN CENTRAL O'AHU

**C**ongratulations to **Jason Kayatani**. The 'Aiea resident now is general manager of The Reef Bar & Market Grill at Outrigger Reef Waikiki Beach Resort. His responsibilities now include all areas of operations that affect each guest's experience, such as team performance, sales and profitability, and more. Kayatani has a bachelor's in travel industry management from University of Hawai'i at Mānoa ... September may be coming to a close soon, but there's still time to Give Aloha with Foodland. Its annual community matching gifts program runs through the end of the month. The way it works is simple: At checkout, all Maika'i members have to do is make a donation to any participating nonprofit organization (up to \$249). Organizations receive customer donations, as well as Foodland's matching gift. For more information and a list of participating nonprofits, visit [foodland.com/our-community/give-aloha](http://foodland.com/our-community/give-aloha) ... Back in April, *MidWeek's Central O'ahu Voice* reported on American Red Cross of Hawai'i's Sound the Alarm program, which helps resi-



Jason Kayatani

dents — particularly those at-risk (elderly, disabled and needy) — install smoke alarms and come up with an escape plan. "Nobody is immune from fire, and smoke alarms cut the rate of death in half," American Red Cross of Hawai'i CEO **Coralie Chun Matayoshi** shared at the time. Well, the organization reports that it still is accepting requests for help. Call 739-8111 and leave a name, phone number and address. Visit [redcross.org/local/hawaii](http://redcross.org/local/hawaii) for more info ... Pacific Historic Parks and National Park Service have teamed up to come out with two Pearl Harbor apps. The first, a free Pearl Harbor-USS Arizona app, serves as a visitor's guide, and includes park and

tour information, access to tickets and historical content. The other, called Pearl Harbor VR Tour, provides three different virtual reality tours — the deck of the USS Arizona before it sunk; key stages of the attack on Battleship Row; and the USS Arizona Memorial with areas not on view to the public. "Our two new Pearl Harbor apps add a whole new dimension in learning about the events of Dec. 7, 1941," states **Aileen Utterdyke**, president and CEO of Pacific Historic Parks. "The stories of the USS Arizona Memorial and Pearl Harbor are more accessible than ever, providing everyone the opportunity to honor the past and to inspire a better future." The VR app costs \$2.99, and both are available on iTunes and Google Play [jkim@midweek.com](mailto:jkim@midweek.com)

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