



## **Participating Chefs and Schedule of Events Announced for 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Maui Onion Festival**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 8, 2008**

**Kā'anapali, Maui – Whalers Village Fine Shops & Restaurants announced the schedule of events and celebrity chef participants for its signature event, the annual Maui Onion Festival, taking place on Saturday, August 23, from 9 am – 9 pm. Special promotions and pre-event festivities begin Friday, August 15.**

**“We have a great group of Hale Aina award-winning chefs from Maui and O‘ahu participating in the cooking demonstrations and recipe contest this year,” said Lisa Donlon, Marketing Director for Whalers Village Fine Shops & Restaurants. “Chef entries in the Maui Onion recipe contest will be judged by Regina Ragone - FAMILY CIRCLE magazine Food Director, Wanda Adams – HONOLULU ADVERTISER Assistant Features Editor and chefs Chris Speere and Dean Louie from Maui Culinary Academy. It should be quite a contest.”**

**Center Stage schedule of activities start at 9:30 am with emcee Manolo Morales of KHON2. Activities include chef demonstrations with samples for the audience by D. K. Kodama of Sansei Restaurants – Cane and Taro, James McDonald of Pacific `O and I`O, Russell Siu of 3660 on the Rise, Fred DeAngelo of Ola’s at Turtle Bay Resort and David Paul; popular keiki and adult ‘raw’ Maui Onion eating contests and Hula and Tahitian dance performances.**

**- more -**

**Participating Chefs and Schedule of Events Announced for  
19<sup>th</sup> Annual Maui Onion Festival  
Page 2**

**Beach Lawn Stage schedule of activities start at 10 am with a Magic Show by Kenn Serrano, followed by a ‘talk story’ session with Maui Onion Growers about the history and cultivation of the famous Maui onion and the secret behind the Maui onion’s sweetness, fresh Hawaiian smoothie demonstration for keiki with TV celebrity Chef Cutty Cutler, Taiko Drum performance, Air Force Band of the Pacific performance and sunset jazz session.**

**Other activities taking place throughout the event include:**

- **Food booths by the celebrity chefs and local restaurants offering great food and snacks**
- **Grown on Maui Farmers’ Market and Maui Onion Growers Association booth selling the ever-popular crisp fried Maui Kula Onion rings**
- **Beer garden at Leilani’s Kapalua Room, overlooking the Beach Lawn Stage, open from 11 am – 6 pm, sponsored by Kona Brewing Company**

**According to Donlon, “Special promotions and events celebrating the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Maui Onion Festival start on Friday, August 15 when shoppers spending \$150 or more at Whalers Village are eligible to receive a complimentary earth-friendly shopping tote when presenting their receipts to the Whalers Village Customer Service Center at The Marriott Maui Ocean Club kiosk near the ABC Store.”**

**“On Friday, August 22, Hula Grill is sponsoring a Maui Onion pairing dinner and anyone purchasing tickets for the event receives free valet parking, compliments of Whalers Village,” added Donlon. For information on tickets to the Hula Grill function contact Hula Grill directly at 808-667-6636.**

## Participating Chefs and Schedule of Events Announced for 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Maui Onion Festival

Page 3

First celebrated in 1990, Maui's famed crop remains at the center of this FREE, one-day extravaganza that draws thousands of kama'aina and visitors together around the cross-cultural themes of agriculture, joy and good food.

All proceeds from Maui Onion Festival activities benefit Habitat for Humanity.



Boxed Maui Kula Onions for sale



'Raw' Maui Onion eating contest



Maui Onion recipe contest entry

### About Whalers Village Fine Shops & Restaurants

Recognized as Maui's premier oceanfront shopping destination, Whalers Village Fine Shops & Restaurants is part of the master-planned, award-winning Kā'anapali Beach Resort and hugs the famed three-mile long strip of Kā'anapali Beach. Set on 8.5 tropical acres, diverse, carefree, and sophisticated at once, the three-level open-air village comprises 111,857 square feet of retail space with a vibrant variety of shops and restaurants and offers a world- renowned whaling museum, cultural crafts and entertainment, and dynamic annual celebrations. Open daily from 9:30 a.m. until 10 p.m., it's the place to shop, dine, and play. Visit [www.whalersvillage.com](http://www.whalersvillage.com) for more information.

# # #

### MEDIA CONTACTS

Charlene Ka'uhane  
Ka'uhane Communications, Inc.  
55 North Church Street, Unit 4  
Wailuku, HI 96793  
808-243-2290  
[Charlene@KauhaneCommunications.com](mailto:Charlene@KauhaneCommunications.com)

Sandi Yara  
Ka'uhane Communications, Inc.  
55 North Church Street, Unit 4  
Wailuku, HI 96793  
808-221-2759  
[SANDI@KauhaneCommunications.com](mailto:SANDI@KauhaneCommunications.com)