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SWEET AND SALTY

While New Jersey has its saltwater taffy and the folks in France prefer their macaroons, people from Hawaii have enjoyed the mouthwatering aroma and flavor of the distinctive local snack known as crack seed. "As a kid I would suck on the seed until there was no flavor," laughs Kon Ping Young, the owner of the historic Crack Seed Store on the side street of Waialae Avenue in Kaimuki. "I have many customers who come in looking to satisfy their childhood memories." Brought to the Islands in the 19th century by Chinese immigrants, crack seed can be found in the candy section of any grocery store in Hawaii. Flavors range from the popular sweet li hing mui (preserved plum) to the bold flavors of lemon peel and kakimochi (Japanese rice cracker). They can even be added to the traditional slurpee for a distinct island treat. "Thirty years ago, a kid requested for me to put the juice from the wet li hing mui in his slurpee," squints Young. "It became a hit and it's now our most popular seller at the Crack Seed Store." Crack Seed Store, 1156 Koko Head Ave., Mon-Sat., 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Sun. noon to 4:30 p.m. Closed every last Sunday of the month.

Made In Hawaii

More than just SPAM musubis and rubbah slippahs, products made in Hawaii showcase the Islands' ever-evolving mix of history and culture.

- From its humble beginnings of "just a bowl and a spoon," **For J's Hawaii** can be found at 15 statewide locations, including Whole Foods and the Trump Hotel Waikiki. Flavored salts, sugars, marinades and spreads are made of fresh, local ingredients and are constants in well-stocked kama'aina (local) kitchens. For more information, visit forjshawaii.com.

ferent products." Meaning "brave, bold, and fearless," koa was the name used for ancient Hawaiian warriors who carved their combat weapons, canoes, paddles and even surfboards out of this strong, beautiful wood that's endemic to Hawaii. For store locations, visit hawaiianaccessories.com.

- Once a full-time lifeguard at Hanauma Bay and a labor relations representative with the State of Hawaii Police Officers Union (SHOPO), Curtis Wilmington, the co-founder of **Hawaiian Accessories**, has scripted his own success story since opening a tiny kiosk at Windward Mall in 1989. "I love woodworking and all the jewelry pieces are my designs," says Wilmington. "When I first started, we only sold small paddle pendants but now we have more than 200 dif-



- Along the racks of **Aloha Aina Boutique**, there are rows of sherbert tie-dye maxi dresses, delicate sea-shell jewelry and patterned canvas clutches. Every visitor can't help but fall in love with the array of local designer wear and hidden gems that replicate Hawaii's laid-back yet luxurious lifestyle. Royal Hawaiian Center, Suite 214C, 808.924.4333.



- Feel the rush and remember fond memories of Hawaii with a piece of poetic photography from artist **Clark Little**. Haleiwa Town Center, 808.626.5319.

(CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT) ©HTA/TOR JOHNSON; ©DANA EDMUNDS; ©SIMPICIO PARAGAS

IN4MATION—Hawaii’s premiere retailer of skate and street wear features the ever evolving design ideas of local boys Ryan Arakaki, Todd Shimabuku, Jun Jo and Keith Kanagusuku. in4mants.com. Pearlridge, 98-1005 Moanalua Rd., 808.488.0411; Chinatown, 1154 Nuuanu St., 808.538.8898.

KOI BOUTIQUE—This pint-sized boutique helps shoppers make a big statement with dazzling celebrity favorites including jewelry and apparel by Chan Luu, Tylie Malibu, Lauren Moshi, Siwy, Faith Connexion and Kippy. Find your next edgy outfit among their tasteful displays and be sure to keep an eye out for the paparazzi. Royal Hawaiian Center, 2201 Kalakaua Ave., 808.923.6888.

LESPOrtsAC—Offers a variety of bags such as mini bags, handbags, totes, backpacks and travel bags. The retailer here offers Hawaii exclusive designs. lesportsac.com. Ala Moana Center, 1450 Ala Moana Blvd., 808.973.6306; Hilton Hawaiian Village, 2005 Kalia Rd., 808.973.6300; Royal Hawaiian Center, 2301 Kalakaua Ave., 808.971.2920; Waialeke Premium Outlets, 94-790 Lumiaina St., 808.686.9788.

MANUHEALII—In business since 1985, this family owned and locally operated company offers contemporary

Hawaiian apparel, with vibrant designs inspired by Hawaii’s natural setting. manuhealii.com. Kailua, 5 Hoolai St., 808.261.9865; Honolulu, 930 Punahou St., 808.942.9868.

MUUMUU HEAVEN—Muumuu Heaven believes in reincarnation when it comes to the oversized aloha designs of the muumuu. They have taken vintage Hawaiian wear and turned it into stylish tops, dresses, skirts and handbags. Their line of home decor includes pillows and notebooks. muumuuhaven.com. 767 Kailua Rd., 808.263.3366.

PATTY’S CLOSET—This fashion boutique based in Las Vegas encourages women to live their wildest fashion dreams. With spunky colors, one-of-a-kind pieces and reasonable prices, your style will know no boundaries. ilovepattyscloset.com. Windward Mall, 46-056 Kamehameha Hwy., 808.235.2924.

QUIKSILVER—The popular surf brand represents a casual, healthy lifestyle deriving from its board-riding origin. The shops feature Quiksilver and Roxy clothing, accessories and related products for active, young-minded people. quiksilver.com. International Marketplace, 2330 Kalakaua Ave., 808.926.5800; Waikiki Beach Walk, 2181 Kalakaua Ave., 808.921.2793.

REYN’S—Home of the world-famous Reyn Spooner aloha shirts, Reyn’s has been the local place to shop for the best quality aloha wear since 1959. reyns.com. Ala Moana Center, 1450 Ala Moana Blvd., 808.949.5929; Kahala Mall, 4211 Waialae Ave., 808.737.8313.

SGH SUNGLASS HUT—This Miami-based sunglass brand was one of the first sunglass boutiques to come to Hawaii and can now be found globally with over 2,000 stores. They offer the latest high fashion, classic and sport sunglasses to fit every face shape and personal style. sunglasshut.com. 2113 Kalakaua Ave., 808.926.0630; Hyatt Regency Waikiki Resort & Spa, 2424 Kalakaua Ave., #126, 808.923.9520; Royal Hawaiian Center, 2233 Kalakaua Ave. Building A & B, Level 1, 808.926.7767.

TOMMY BAHAMA—Tommy Bahama is a man who embodies the island life. Take cues from his store and shop island-inspired clothing, accessories, and home furnishings. tommybahama.com. Ala Moana Center, 1450 Ala Moana Blvd., 808.955.8869; Waialeke Premium Outlets, 94-790 Lumiaina St.

Hawaiiana

BOB’S UKULELE—Kamaka, KoAloha and other popular labels are offered in what is one of the largest selections of private label ukulele on the island. bobsukulele.com. Marriott Hotel, 2552 Kalakaua Ave., 808.372.9623; Royal Hawaiian Center, 2201 Kalakaua Ave., 808.922.4292.

HILO HATTIE—You’ll find the largest selection of made-in-Hawaii fashions and gifts, with free trolley service from Waikiki hotels to the flagship store on Nimitz Hwy. The trolley departs daily every 30 minutes from 8:30 a.m.-5:10 p.m. hilohattie.com. 700 N. Nimitz Hwy., 808.535.6500; Ala Moana Center, 1450 Ala Moana Blvd., 808.973.3266.

NATIVE BOOKS NA MEA HAWAII—Boasts an extensive selection of books and educational resources relating to the Hawaiian culture, including gifts and crafts made by local artists. Maui lavender products, jams and food items, jewelry, and a commitment to Native Hawaiian culture give this shop its folksy personality. nativebookshawaii.com. Ward Center, 1050 Ala Moana Blvd., 808.597.8967. Main Line: 808.596.8885; Hilton Hawaiian Village, 2005 Kalia Rd., 808.949.3989.

SPOTLIGHT



Gratefully Yours

For over 20 years, **Kobe Jewelry** has shown its appreciation for its customers. “Ever since I was a little boy, I’ve learned the art of writing a thank you card,” says owner Joe Jeong. “To this day I still write them.” From custom-made Hawaiian jewelry to precious gems and red-carpet ready diamonds, Kobe Jewelry has a selection for everyone no matter what their budget or preference.

Royal Hawaiian Center, Level 1, Building B, 808.923.2282.

KELLEY O'NEIL'S—A popular Irish pub right in the heart of Waikiki that features live Irish music Sunday afternoons and rock and roll nightly. Hearty sandwiches and Guinness meat pies accompany the pints of brew. irishpubhawaii.com. 311 Lewers St., 808.926.1777.

LEWERS LOUNGE—EAn elegant venue for live jazz music, this Halekulani classic keeps abreast with the latest in cocktails and mixology. Cocktails created by master mixologist Dale DeGross, the "King of Cocktails," and a state-of-the-art ice machine are among the many special touches complementing the riffs of Hawaii's finest jazz artists. Dress code: collared shirts and slacks for men and evening attire for women. halekulani.com/dining/lewers_lounge/. Halekulani Hotel, 2199 Kalia Rd. 808.923.2311.

MAI TAI BAR—Ala Moana Center's laid-back, open-air bar is a gathering place for locals and visitors long after the shops have closed. A very happy hour, live music nightly, and people jockeying for the limited number of

tables add to the social whirl. maitaibar.com. Ala Moana Center's Hookipa Terrace, 1450 Ala Moana Blvd., 808.947.2900.

NASHVILLE WAIKIKI—Play blackjack from 10 pm - 4 am nightly. Pool tournaments happen S-Th, 10 pm - 4 am. This wild saloon also regularly offers country music and line dancing. nashvillewaikiki.com. OHANA Waikiki West, 2330 Kuhio Ave., 808.926.7911.

O'TOOLE'S IRISH PUB—There's no cover charge at this Irish pub featuring live music every night, a downtown magnet for locals, sports lovers, and year-round St. Patrick's day celebrants. otoolesirishpub.com. 902 Nuuanu Ave., 808.536.4138.

RIVALDS—Prepare to be wowed by this Vegas-style sports bar with flat screen TVs on every wall, their famous 19" pizzas, a full-service bar and of course, sports memorabilia galore! Enjoy live entertainment and party events weekly. rivalslounge.com. OHANA Waikiki Malia, 2211 Kuhio Ave., 808.923.0600.

SALT KITCHEN & TASTING BAR—This metro bar/eatery has limited seating and gets packed on weekend nights. Try the local charcuterie plate, a perfect pairing for any of Salt's superb cocktails or Belgian beers. Open daily 5 p.m. to 2 a.m. (food until midnight), no reservations. salthonolulu.com. 3605 Waialae Ave., 808.744.7567.

Hawaiian Music/Hula

CHART HOUSE RESTAURANT—Offers seafoods, steaks and prime rib with a view of Ala Wai Yacht Harbor. Live local entertainment nightly. charthouse-honolulu.com. 1765 Ala Moana Blvd., 808.941.6669.

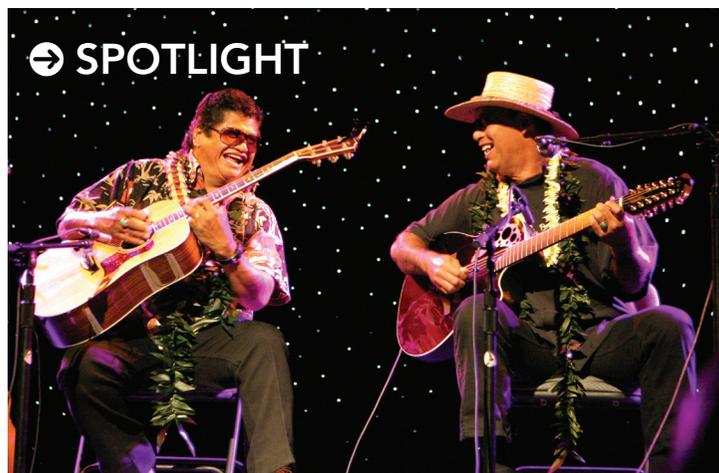
DUKE'S WAIKIKI—Named after the legendary Hawaiian surfer Duke Kahanamoku, Duke's Waikiki has two sections: the dining room and the Barefoot Bar and offers menus for breakfast, lunch, dinner, children and drinks. Validated parking available. dukeswaikiki.com. 2335 Kalakaua Ave., 808.922.2268.

KANI KA PILA GRILLE—True to the meaning of its name (kani ka pila means "to make music" in Hawaiian), this poolside restaurant offers breakfast, lunch and dinner plus an impressive nightly lineup of local musicians. outriggerreef-onthebeach.com. Outrigger Reef on the Beach, 2169 Kalia Rd., 808.924.4990.

KUHIO BEACH HULA SHOW—A free sunset hula show at Waikiki Beach near the Duke Kahanamoku statue. Every Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday, the show runs from 6:30-7:30 p.m. During November to January, the show runs from 6-7 p.m. Kuhio Beach Hula Mound, beachside at Uluniu Ave. & Kalakaua Ave., Times and schedule are subject to change, call for more information. 808.843.8002.

PAKELE LOUNGE—Relax with a cocktail in the indoor/outdoor lounge within the popular Willows Restaurant to hear live Hawaiian music, 6-8 p.m. Check out their website for schedule and artist lineup. pakelelive.com. The Willows Restaurant, 901 Hausten St., 808.952.9200.

ROYAL GROVE—Enjoy free Hawaiian music performances at the Royal Grove at Royal Hawaiian Center on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evenings. On the ground level, facing Kalakaua Avenue and Seaside. royalhawaiiancenter.com. 2201 Kalakaua Ave., 808.922.0588.



SPOTLIGHT

High-Pitched Fever

With a buttery-smooth falsetto voice that'll make you do a double take, musician Ledward Ka'apana has entertained visitors and locals alike for over four decades. You can catch the slack key guitar and ukulele master this summer at Koko Marina Shopping Center's Kona Brewing Company in East Oahu (select Sundays from 6 to 8 p.m.) and Honey's at Ko'olau Golf Club in Kaneohe (select Saturdays). Ledkaapana.com