

it happen' attitude, and for the past 11 years has upheld our core values with her leadership and experience."

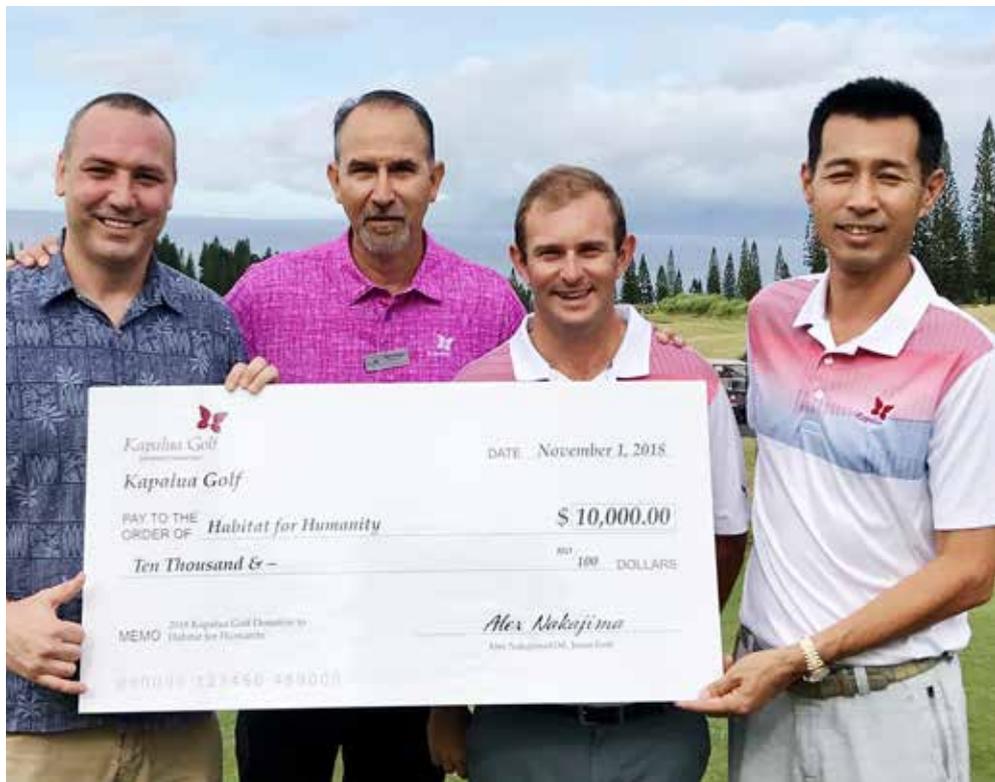
In her new role, Feagaimaalii oversees event menu development, food and beverage sales and collaborates in the planning and execution of successful functions with chefs, service managers and convention leaders.

## Kapalua Golf Gives \$10,000 to Aid West Maui

Kapalua Golf, a Troon company managing Kapalua Resort's golf and tennis complex, is donating \$10,000 to Habitat for Humanity in the wake of August's Lahaina Fire.

Habitat for Humanity will use the donation for its West Maui relief efforts. These include construction of 10 single-family affordable homes in Lahaina to replace dwellings lost in the fire. The donation was raised through September green fees at the resort's two golf courses.

Construction of the new homes is underway and is expected to be complete in mid-2019.



Max Tornai (left), the development director with Habitat for Humanity, accepts the donation with Kapalua Golf's Steve Sanchez, Zachary Peck and Alex Nakajima.

## Marriott's Tatum to Head HTA

Chris Tatum, formerly area general manager of Marriott Resorts Hawaii, says serving as president and CEO of the



Chris Tatum

Hawaii Tourism Authority is "a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity."

Tatum, whose career with Marriott spans 37 years, was chosen to head the state tourism agency by HTA's board of directors on Nov.

27. Tatum, who replaces **George Szigeti**, was scheduled to lead his first HTA meeting in his new official capacity on Dec. 27.

"This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to make a difference in my home by developing a sustainable brand strategy that enhances the visitor's experience, while preserving our way of life," Tatum says.

The board selected Tatum from more than 100 candidates who applied for the position during a four-month search. Previously, Tatum served as chairman of

the Hawaii Lodging & Tourism Association and the Oahu Visitors Bureau.

Tatum, who moved to Hawaii while young, graduated from Radford High School and Michigan State University.

## Palafox Named Operations Director for HLTA

The Hawaii Lodging & Tourism Association has hired **Edgar Palafox** as new senior director of operations, replacing **Dean Nakasone**, who left the association



Edgar Palafox

to pursue other career opportunities.

Palafox worked in human resources for the Sheraton Waikiki and Hertz Corp. before joining Goodwill Hawaii as HR manager.

"With his

experience in business and the nonprofit sector, as well as management and labor, I feel that Edgar will be a great asset to

our organization and members," says **Mufi Hannemann**, HLTA president and CEO.

Prior to Goodwill, Palafox was an instructor at Hawaii Pacific University, HR manager at the Hawaii Community Foundation and Cheap Tickets, and a representative for the Hotel Employees & Restaurant Employees Union, Local 5. He earned his undergraduate degree at Linfield College and the University of Hawaii at Manoa and his master's at Hawaii Pacific University.

"I am excited to reintroduce myself to the visitor industry," says Palafox. "I know how much HLTA contributes to our community, from philanthropic efforts like the Charity Walk, to advocacy at the state and county levels. I am honored to join an organization that is so committed to creating positive change."

Hannemann says that "Dean's departure is a great loss for our organization. He's brought his tourism experience and insight and strong leadership to our membership, and we look forward to working with him again in his new endeavors."

The HLTA also promoted **Jared Higashi** to senior director of government and community affairs, and **Melina Hicks** became administrative director while **Ashley Yonamine** was named director of membership and communications.