

# Drag racers support Kaua'i women with donation

**Dennis Fujimoto**  
THE GARDEN ISLAND

LIHU'E — The Garden Isle Racing Association grabbed some attention on Wednesday when a pair of race-ready cars — the No. 1 and No. 2 cars of the Super Pro class from the Ladies Night races on Aug. 12 — rumbled into the Wilcox Medical Center parking lot and came to a stop outside the south entrance to the medical center.

“Did you hear us?” said Rob Nelson, a GIRA board member, wanting to know as he greeted Wilcox Medical dignitaries emerging from the south entry.

The GIRA team included Todd Burns of Pacific Service & Development NAPA Auto Parts, and Taylor Montemayor, the third generation of Montemayor racing, and the winner of the NAPA Ladies Night racing. The team made a pit stop at Wilcox Medical Center to present a check for \$6,000 for its Women’s Center operations.

The Women’s Center at Wilcox is a vital resource for women across the island, states a Hawai’i Pacific Health release. During



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**The Nos. 1 and 2 cars of the GIRA Super Pro class flank the group of presenters of \$6,000 to Wilcox Medical Center on Wednesday, Aug. 23, 2023. The presenters included Rob Nelson of the GIRA board, Todd Burns of Pacific Service & Development NAPA Auto Parts, Donna McCall of the Wilcox Medical Center Imaging Department, Taylor Montemayor, the Ladies Night drag race winner and driver of the S10 pickup, Jen Chahanovich, president and CEO of Wilcox Medical Center and CEO of Kaua’i Medical Clinic, and Noelle Lau, the Wilcox Health development officer.**

last year, Wilcox teams completed more than 9,000 mammograms. In addition to mammography and other screenings, the Women’s Center offers compre-

hensive services for diagnostics and imaging. “Wilcox Medical Center appreciates this generous donation from the Garden Isle Racing Association,”

said Jen Chahanovich, the president and CEO of Wilcox Medical Center and CEO of Kaua’i Medical Clinic. “The GIRA fundraiser demonstrates how

our community comes together to support each other.”

The donation total was raised through proceeds from gate entries, and

prize drawings held throughout the Aug. 12 drag racing event at Mana Raceway Park.

Burns, representing the title sponsor NAPA Auto Parts for the annual NAPA Ladies Night event, said it was an honor to host an event that helps the women of Kaua’i.

“It was a thrill to partner with Wilcox Medical Center for this great event,” said Nelson, who happened to be the driver of the No. 1 Super Pro Firebird. “Mahalo to all the businesses that donated, as well as all the drag racers and fans for their support.”

To learn more about the Women’s Center at Wilcox Medical Center, visit [WilcoxHealth.org](http://WilcoxHealth.org), or call 808-245-1030.

The next race on the GIRA drag racing calendar will be night races — Southern Turf Super Pro Shootout — on Sept. 2 and 3, the Labor Day weekend at the Kaua’i Raceway Park in Mana. Tickets are available online at [TheFOATicketing.com/GardenIsle](http://TheFOATicketing.com/GardenIsle).

For more information, visit [dragracekauai.com](http://dragracekauai.com).