

"Zoom" used to mean a car's sound. Now it means on-line meeting access. And while faces in squares can't match sitting together on Tuesdays...our Zoom experience is much appreciated. 54 Rotarians logged on May 19th for another excellent speaker and long distance fellowship. Mahalo to all involved in the effort.

President Paul Saito called our meeting to order at noon, and invited new member, **Laren Eustace**, to share his inspirational thoughts. Laren noted that people in quarantine are in search of a silver lining. Some are taking time to make life-altering decisions. Seek the positive in these unfamiliar times. **Sally Mist** led us in the Pledge of Allegiance, and **Lyla Berg** sang our National Anthem and an emotional rendition of Hawaii Pono I. **Past District Governor Del Green** was among the guests joining us online. Del encouraged us to look into Rotary International's plans for a virtual International Convention, June 20-26, 2020. **Rick Tabor** said the first set in our Gift of Sound Program has been distributed. Hana Hou! **Rick Towill** shared the latest photo of our Centennial Park building. All of the coconut trees are in place, and the hula mound is taking shape. More plantings ahead, and soon we will be able to help beautify the Park on site.

President Paul introduced our speaker, Nanci Kreidman, the Chief Executive Officer and Co-Founder of the Domestic Violence Action Center. For more than 35 years, Nanci has been at the forefront of keeping domestic violence against women and their families a priority issue. And she shared how her staff of 15...including attorneys, advocates, support groups, youth services, school campus advocates and phone and text resources...have put a high premium on educating the public regarding those in need. And in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic, they are anticipating a landslide of domestic violence.

Since April, the number of DVAC clients has steadily increased...up 62% so far. Children carry the scars of domestic violence...trauma depression, home schooling challenges, etc. Proposed releases of inmates are concerning, as are proposed budget cuts. DVAC's housing facility for those escaping from abusers, Hale Malu Hia, could be a great future playground project for our Honolulu Rotary Club. Nanci was a member of our club for years since 1995, but her workload made her step out. And she continues to step up on behalf of domestic violence victims. One size doesn't fit all, and her dedication is remarkable. Aloha, Linda Coble, Scribe.

