## Teddy's Bigger Burgers opening soon in Kapolei

eddy's Bigger Burgers fans have been waiting since 1998 for this popular Hawai'i-based burger joint to come to Kapolei. At last, Co-CEO Ted Tsakiris has found the ideal location in Kapolei Village Center at the corner of Kapolei Parkway and Wakea Street, with plans to open this month.

"Customers would drive all the way from Kapolei to our Monsarrat Avenue restaurant just to get a Teddy's Bigger Burgers, and kept asking us to bring Teddy's to Kapolei," said Tsakiris. "We're so excited to finally open and our staff is amped up and ready to serve the Kapolei community."

Tsakiris said that the Kapolei Teddy's is the newest store prototype, boasting LED menus, TVs, and USB charging stations at every table. This new Teddy's also has a private outside lanai that can accommodate private parties like keiki birthdays and high school sports burger bashes.

If you don't guess from the décor, Tsakiris is a hot rod enthusiast — you can't miss the bright yellow and white 1955 Belair on the wall in the Kapolei Teddy's — and he is thinking about inviting car clubs to come in to show off their wheels and share stories over a burger. "They'll feel right at home when they roll up to a real hot rod enthusiast restaurant," he said.

However, to Tsakiris, coming to Kapolei is much bigger than just opening his 11th Hawai'i Teddy's Bigger Burgers. (He also has stores open and/or planned on the mainland in California, Texas,



Iowa and Washington, and in Tokyo and Manila.)

"I never thought I would have an opportunity to be on the ground floor of anything bigger than a new restaurant vanilla shell. This is way more than that," he said. "It transcends the experience of opening up a new restaurant like we have in so many other

"In Kapolei, we are part of something way bigger and of more importance that simply serving up a good burger," he explained. "We are part of the DNA of this new beautiful city and we want to play our part in supporting its efforts to be the best city on O'ahu."

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## Rail Transit train replica on display at Kapolei Hale



s Kapolei is the first community along the 20-mile Honolulu rail transit system, the Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation (HART) wanted residents here to be the first to see and experience the train model. The replica is on display at Kapolei Hale through the end of April. HART invites community and school groups to arrange a tour by emailing HART at info@HonoluluTransit.org or by calling the project hotline at 566-2299.

The current rail route has 21 stations including UH-West O'ahu, Leeward and Honolulu community colleges, Honolulu International Airport, Downtown Honolulu, Pearl Harbor, and Ala Moana and Pearlridge shopping centers. Planned extensions to the initial 20-mile route would go to West Kapolei and UH-Manoa, pending approval by the City Council. The first half of the current rail alignment is scheduled to open for service in 2017, with the entire 20-mile route scheduled to open in 2019.



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