# Santa Clarita Valley Pacific Islander Festival

*by Friends of Hart Park director, Gladys Farrell*

This past May at William S. Hart Park, the Pacific Islands came to Santa Clarita at the Santa Clarita Valley Pacific Islander Festival. Thousands of people from the community and all over Southern California came to enjoy and share the culture of the Pacific Islands for the fourth year at this event. Many came to enjoy the performances of the many Pacific Islander groups and bands, from ukulele clubs to dancers who perform dances from the many Pacific Islanders. Along with the entertainment, there were a large variety of craft and food vendors for people to look through. The festival and the group that hosted the event, Kalakeke Pacific Island Dance Company, had the goal of sharing and spreading the culture of the islands with the community, with a focus on family and the values of the Pacific Islands. Also at the event, one of the members of the Kalakeke haumana, Kristin Tayo, was proposed to after her performance. Congratulations to them! We are looking forward to the next year of the festival!