

**KAIKINI BIKINIS** owner Taryn Rodighiero lives on Kauai. She met her husband while paddling on the Waialua River, wearing a bikini she didn't like.

"I was frustrated. I never could find one that fit and lasted," she said, and told her husband she was going to start a bikini company. He said, "Do it!"

The only problem was she didn't know how to sew. "I spent my life savings on in-

dustrial sewing machines and fabric. When the shipment arrived, I put it all in the spare bedroom, locked myself in and searched YouTube for tutorials," she related. "I never thought, 'What if I hate sewing?' I was all in."

After eight months, one bikini worked. Using quality materials, a warehouse and six employees, her sales are now up to 800 a month, from size 0 to 10.

**CHERIE CHUNG** is known as the Coconut Lady. She says one day her brother showed up with a coconut, reminding her that she painted when she was a youth. The coconut looked



COURTESY CHERIE CHUNG

like a lion, so she painted it that way. Library research led to painted fish with spots and stripes.

One day she went for a swim and thought she saw

turtle heads in the waves. "They turned out to be floating coconuts," Chung said. "So I painted hundreds of dry coconuts to look like turtles."

Each nut comes with a tripod-style stand. Coated with marine varnish; they are waterproof. Chung suggests with a giggle, "When you give one as a gift, toss it in the ocean and let them swim for it."