

HAWAII FILIPINO CHRONICLE

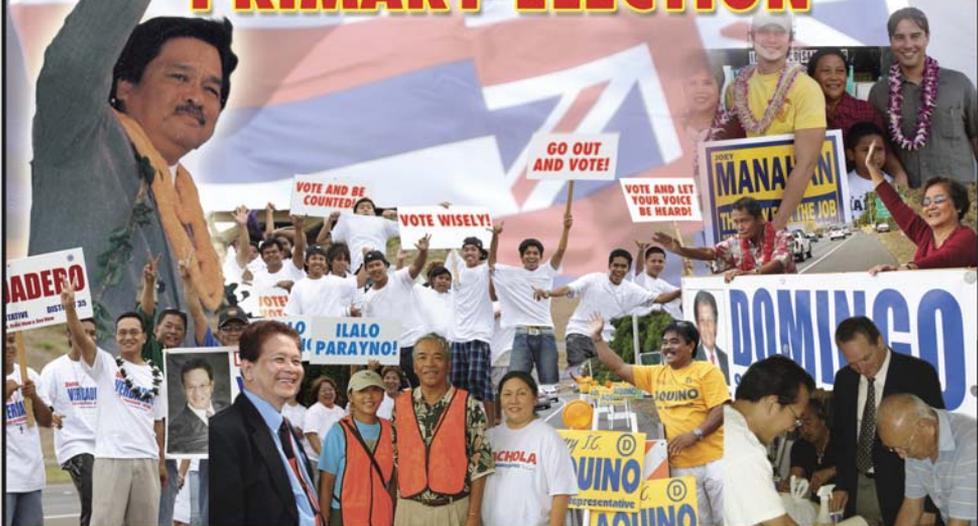
HAWAII'S #1 FILIPINO NEWSPAPER

WEEKLY ♦ SEPTEMBER 13, 2008 ♦

FILIPINO INCUMBENTS, NEWCOMERS IN THE 2008 PRIMARY ELECTION

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EDITORIAL

Good Luck to Candidates

As Primary Election Day nears, a quick glance at a list of political races statewide shows a good number of Filipino American candidates. This bodes well for the Filipino community, which not too long ago had lacked sufficient political representation.

The community is forever indebted to pioneers like Benjamin Menor, Peter Aduja and others who paved the way for future generations of Filipinos to serve in public office. In time, a young Fil-Am by the name of Benjamin Cayetano would enter the political scene, win representation in his home district of Pearl City—a predominantly Japanese district—and later become the first governor of Filipino ancestry in Hawaii and the nation.

The next challenge and only seat left to conquer for the Filipino community is that of Congress. Who knows—maybe a viable candidate will emerge from among the 5 Filipino State Senators, 9 Filipino State Representatives, 3 City Councilmembers...or even among the several Fil-Am newcomers who are now running for office? Whoever it will be and whenever that occurs, the community will just have to watch how this will play itself out in the coming years. But rest assured, that will certainly come in due time.

Speaking of time, the clock will strike midnight on September 20, 2008 for a number of candidates with political aspirations. A lucky few will win outright, while most will continue the fight into November.

Good luck to all the candidates and may the best men and women win.

A Good Reason to Vote

Many local non-profit groups and social service agencies are bracing for the worst as Hawaii's economy continues to slow down. They are anticipating a much smaller piece of the pie when the Legislature convenes in January 2009. With fewer State dollars to go around, they face the very real possibility of deep cuts to their programs and personnel.

Just last month, the Council on Revenues predicted that the State would take in about \$50 million less in tax revenues than anticipated. Several reasons for the adjusted forecast are fewer numbers of visitors to Hawaii, reduced consumer spending by locals and the continuing impact of high gas prices.

What does this have to do with voting? In communities like Kalihi-Palama where voter turn-out has been abysmally low and among the worst statewide, there has been a noticeable decrease in the amount of state funding for social service programs that look after immigrants, the poor and the elderly. Many non-profits in Kalihi have seen funding levels drop while funds allocated to non-profits based elsewhere have increased.

Coincidence? We think not. In fact, it makes sense for the powers that be who hold the purse strings to allocate more resources to communities with large numbers of voters who hold greater political clout.

That's precisely why more Hawaii residents, particularly those living in disadvantaged areas, need to use the political process as a way of leveling inequalities. Studies have shown that when more people vote, the benefits of jobs, State funding and public policy get spread out more evenly. That said, we encourage our readers to get out and vote. By doing so, they are investing time and energy for a "first class" future, rather than settling to live as "second class" citizens.

FROM THE PUBLISHER



loha and welcome to another edition of the Hawaii Filipino Chronicle! Thank you for taking time to read our special Primary Election issue. Since a last minute flurry by candidates to file their nomination papers in late July, the 2008 Election Season had been rather quiet, up until the first televised mayoral debate was held last week at the Hawaii Theatre. As expected, Mufi Hannemann, Ann Kobayashi and Panos Prevedourous traded barbs on such pressing city issues as mass transit and the economy.



In the spirit of the Primary Election, our cover story chronicles the important role that the Filipino community has played in Hawaii's political history. Expertly written by Dr. Belinda Aquino, the article takes us from the early plantation era all the way to the present, where a number of excellent Filipino candidates on Oahu—both incumbents and fresh new faces—are running for seats in the State House, Senate and City Council. To learn more about these candidates, please read beginning on page 4 and elsewhere throughout this issue.

In non-political news, we have a brief article on several Filipino housekeepers who have been recognized by the International Executive Housekeepers Association and the Hawaii Hotel Association for excellence in housekeeping. These dedicated housekeepers exemplify all that is good about the Filipino work ethic. Their story can be found on page 12.

I'm also pleased to announce the addition of two new writers to the Chronicle staff—attorney Michelle Alarcon and Dr. Carlo Cadiz who is from Florida. A member of the Hawaii State Bar and American Bar Association, Ms. Alarcon works on a variety of immigration matters, including family and employer petitions, visas, residency and naturalization petitions. She will be writing articles every other issue. Dr. Cadiz's will have a monthly column entitled "View From the Edge," the very first of which is on page 7. Welcome aboard Ms. Alarcon and Dr. Cadiz!

In closing, we hope that you will enjoy reading the many other articles in this jam-packed issue. Please don't forget to vote in the Primary Election on Saturday, September 20, and as always, thank you and mahuhay for your support!

Aloha and Mahuhay!

Chona A. Montesines-Sonido

LETTERS

Cartoon in Sept. 6, 2008 Issue Represents Dark Period in U.S.-Philippine History

An 1899 "Harvest in the Philippines" cartoon was reproduced by the Hawaii-Filipino Chronicle on September 6, 2008. This well-chosen political cartoon was one of a front-page montage of images. An accompanying article announced Filipino-American History Month in October.

In the foreground of the image, Uncle Sam stands cockily in front of an artillery piece. In the rear, bodies of Filipinos who died defending their country against the U.S. are lined up neatly in rows upon rows as far as the eye can see. Their bodies are the deadly "harvest" referred to in the cartoon's title.

Some younger readers may not have learned the history in high school. It may be useful to point out that the Philippine Revolution (1896) was overtaken by the Asian phase of the Spanish-American War (1898) and drowned in the blood of the Philippine-American War.

Interested readers may also wish to consult "The Forbidden Book: The Philippine-American War in Political Cartoons" compiled and edited by Abe Ignacio, Enrique de la Cruz, Jorge Emmanuel and Helen Toribio (San Francisco: T'hoii Publishing and Distribution, 2004).

Vincent K. Pollard
Honolulu

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Publisher & Managing Editor
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Creative Designer
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Design Consultant
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Photographer
Tim Liena

Administrative Assistant
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Sen. Will Espero
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Rowena Ballesteros
Clement Bautista
Linda Dela Cruz
Constante A. Domingo
Dennis Galolo
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Carolanne Julian
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Advertising/Marketing Director
Chona A. Montesines-Sonido

Account Executives
Carlota Ader
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LEGISLATIVE CONNECTION



By Senator Will Espero

Crisis Leads To Ingenuity (Part 1)

to surpass labor as the highest operating cost for airlines. This year, for example, saw Aloha Airlines and ATA go out of business, citing high fuel costs as one reason. The Legislature responded by considering a bill to exempt interisland airlines from general excise and use taxes for fuel, to no avail. Many of us by now have been hit by higher airline prices and extra charges for local and out-of-state flights.

Former presidential candidate Michael Dukakis has thrown out the idea that it is time for the government to invest in our train system as an alternative to air travel because trains generally use less fuel for the same distance. Whenever he goes, even Kansas, the idea has been ecstatically embraced. You all know by now that I'm a rail transit advocate, and while Amtrak won't directly help Hawaii, it's a very good idea. For decades our national train system has been relatively neglected while the federal government invested heavily in building up air travel.

Those of you who have ridden the Shinkansen in Japan or any of the trains throughout Europe, Australia, China, or other parts of the world understand this. Other countries have invested heavily in

their railways systems and their citizens enjoy the convenience of high-speed transport between other cities and other countries. Consider the difference government investment makes. In Europe, high speed trains travel over 200 miles an hour. In the U.S., as Gov. Dukakis pointed out, we'd be lucky to break a 100 mph, with as little investment as we've made.

Why is train travel advantageous? Have you had trouble booking a flight because you couldn't get a seat on an airplane?

With a train, you simply buy a ticket and get on board. There is far more flexibility and availability of a seat on the date you want to travel than there is for airplanes. The next time you're on the mainland, you might want to consider a train.

Add to the ease and flexibility of scheduling the fact that traveling by train can be more enjoyable than flying. You'll be enjoying the scenery as the train goes past, rather than blank air. The restrooms tend to be a little larger than the ones on airplanes. Of course, you won't have a movie or airline music, but you can bring your own entertainment. Generally, a train ticket also allows you to get off and get back on in case there's a city you'd like to walk

around and see en route to your final destination.

So that's something to think about it as we come up with alternatives to the rising cost of air travel. The law of supply and demand means that as more options become available to the consumer and demand for airline travel drops, airlines will have to bring their prices down to compete with trains for passengers. What difference will it make to Hawaii people? There might be a fair amount of Hawaii residents willing to fly just to the cheaper west coast then get to their destination by train, at hopefully a lower cost.

Another transportation-related issue is right size packaging. That one's a little less obvious, but here's the point. The bigger the packaging, the fewer products can be placed on a shipment. Take your average cereal box. Open the big box up and half of it is empty space. If you eliminate that empty space, having the box just the right size for the amount of food actually in it, you can pack more cereal boxes in the crate in which it was delivered. More cereal boxes per crate means you can deliver the same number of boxes in less trips. Less trips means less transportation charges and less gas used.

That saves businesses money, and that saves consumers' money.

California once again is the pioneer, as it has been in so many other environmental and energy issues. Its Waste Management Board is developing a strategy to reduce discards that go into landfills by placing shared responsibility on manufacturers and others in the product distribution chain. Encouraging packaging design to minimize waste can result in fewer trees being needed to produce packaging and less waste being sent to landfills, as well as cutting transportation costs associated with distributing those products. Reining in these costs helps companies better control their bottom line.

Hewlett-Packard's Pavilion dv6929 will be packaged in a recycled bag rather than a box. The design reduces packaging by 97% and requires a quarter fewer trucks to deliver the laptops to stores because of their smaller size when packaged. The product recently won Wal-Mart's Home Entertainment Design Challenge for less wasteful packaging. Wal-Mart has set a long-term goal of using only renewable energy and creating zero waste, and has challenged its suppliers to reduce packaging and increase energy efficiency in their products.

(Next part: automobiles and alternate energy.)

If you watched the Democratic National Convention recently, and I hope you did, you heard many invigorating and inspiring speeches about turning the country around, back to what many of us know as "The American Dream." You also heard a generous sprinkling of calls for protecting our national security and strengthening our country by reducing our over-dependence on imported oil.

Dependence on foreign oil is thought by many in this country to be the reason we send our troops abroad to protect our oil interests.

This dependence also leaves us economically vulnerable to the spikes in oil prices, with consequent rising prices for many things that have Hawaii and our nation in dire financial straits. On Opening Day of this year's Legislature, gas sold at \$100 a barrel, and by summer was hitting upwards of \$150.

These increases caused fuel

An Ann Kobayashi supporter speaks out on why she should be our next mayor.



I've served you for over 25 years. These are challenging times . . . For many, it's getting harder to make ends meet.

We are running to give you a choice and to give power back to the people.

It will be an honor to serve as your mayor. I respectfully ask for your vote.

Mahalo,

Ann
KOBAYASHI
MAYOR



Donovan M. Dela Cruz
CENTRAL OAHU

Donovan Dela Cruz talks about leadership and Ann Kobayashi.

Whenever there is a quiet moment I think of my grandparents. They taught me that those who have a greater cause have the ability to endure. Their values must be preserved.

One of those values is *pahikisama* - sense of togetherness. We must always look out for the whole of the group, not just our individual desires. When times are tough, we must stand together, and we must help one another. We must be able to bring people together and put the interest of the group before ours - true traits of a leader.

Utang na loob is another value - debt of gratitude. We must always acknowledge the help we receive from others. We must repay our ancestors by contributing to the future.

Kahihayan is another value - sense of respect of self and others. My grandparents always took pride in doing a good job. We must always make sure that whatever we pursue, we do things right, we do them well. The work we produce is a reflection upon ourselves and our family.

Values of the past transcend time. We must always remember our history and culture, embrace it, and perpetuate it.

Ann Kobayashi has these values that we need in our public servants. This is why I support Ann to be our next Mayor. I ask you to join me, in voting for Ann Kobayashi on Saturday, September 20th.

Maraming Salamat Po,

Donovan

Support Ann. Call 944-1110, or on-line: KobayashiForMayor.com

COVER STORY

Filipino Americans in Hawaii Politics



Agor



Aquino



Belatti



Bimbo



Bunda



Cabanilla



Cachola



Vasquez-Dela Cerna

By Belinda A. Aquino

Once again the electoral season is upon us and it is the most exciting of times as far as politics goes. For the first time in 232 years, an African-American with a compelling life history, Barack Obama, has been nominated standard-bearer of a major political party for the presidency of the United States. This is not just another "first" in the nation's history that will soon be forgotten—it is a cataclysmic "sea-change" that will have profound implications for the nation's future.

It must also be recalled that the 2008 political season in the pre-convention primary and caucus campaigns also witnessed

another earthshaking "first" in the annals of political history. A talented woman, Hillary Rodham Clinton, was the strong runner-up in the race for the presidential nomination, the first from her gender to become a viable candidate for the highest post and almost making it.

So, an African-American and a woman have revolutionized the traditional landscape of American politics, which has been the domain of white male Americans in previous eras. Race, ethnicity and gender have played out as major dimensions of U.S. politics. This development is only one indication of a rapidly-changing America, which can no longer expect "politics as usual" to be the standard measure of future events.

Local Politics

The history-making developments on the national scene have had their impact on local politics in the country during the current season. The local political process has been energized by the enthusiastic participation of new forces that had not been noted for political activism previously.

The first and most prominent of these emerging forces consists of young, first-time voters who were not known to turn out in appreciable numbers in past political contests. The 18-29 age group has historically turned out the lowest in elections, at times going as low as 15-20 percent, compared to their older cohorts.

This seeming apathy of young voters has been explained mainly as a function of a political system that they could not relate to, due in part to their sentiment that "politics as usual" did not really offer viable alternatives relative to their needs.

The meteoric emergence of Barack Obama was startling at first and probably not taken seriously by some quarters. But as soon as he manifested what he could do with his message of change and hope, he turned the tide. He understood the young, spoke their language and responded to their idealism.

At the same time, he knew how to reach them and used the Internet not only to engage them in dialogues, but also to convince them to contribute in their own little way to his campaign. He raised millions and millions just by reaching and inspiring the young to contribute whatever they could. In the end, he beat all his competitors who were raising campaign funds from the conventional sources, e.g. corporate contributions.

Not to be outdone, Hillary Clinton jump-started another sector with her vigorous campaign: women. Her message for

equal rights and health care, among others, resonated among working, elderly and low-income women. Even working class men were excited by her candidacy. Nearly 18 million Americans voted for her in the primaries in about 23 states in which she won.

Hawaii alone registered a quantum leap of nearly 30,000 more registered voters for the Democratic Party. Many of these new voters are Filipino-Americans. This is not surprising considering the fact that Fil-Ams have become an established group in the Hawaii political arena and are bound to be even more active in this year's primary and general elections.

Filipinos in Hawaii Politics

Political activism among Filipino-Americans in Hawaii politics has long roots, which is worth reviewing for the benefit of the younger generations of voters. It's always helpful to refer to institutional memory as a guide to present and future decisions.

Historically, three factors may be considered salient in accelerating the pace and scope of Filipino participation in Hawaii over the years: international migration, labor activism and democratization.

The continued recruitment of Filipinos to work in the sugar and pineapple plantations, which started with the arrival of 15 sakadas in 1906, created a steady pool of migrant labor in Hawaii, which peaked in the 1920s and 1930s. Eventually, Filipinos became the majority among the plantation workforce, replacing the Japanese.

In time, they would join with their Japanese counterparts in various labor activities including strikes and work slowdowns to dramatize their demands for higher wages and better working conditions. A young, firebrand Filipino labor recruit, Pablo Manlapit, sowed the seeds of ac-

tivism among his countrymen by leading various militant organizations that confronted the plantation management authorities regarding their demands.

Several strikes on Oahu, Big Island, Kauai, Maui, Molokai and Lanai did not always succeed, but the Filipino workers had made their mark in Hawaii labor history. One particular strike on Kauai resulted in the infamous Hanapepe Massacre in 1924 in which 16 Filipinos and four policemen were killed.

The International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, or ILWU for short, further encouraged and enhanced Filipino labor militancy in the islands, especially during the post-World War II period. Many of the Filipino labor leaders became officials of the ILWU who continued the struggle for social justice and better working conditions. By the time the last batch of sakadas came in 1946, the ILWU had politicized the Filipino labor ranks and most of the actions launched by the union against management in the postwar years were vigorously supported by union leaders and Filipino workers.

Turning Point: Democratization

The year 1954 was a turning point in Hawaii history, which further accelerated Filipinos' role in island politics. A progressive politician by the name of John Burns challenged the power of the Big Five, a conglomerate of big corporations that had dominated the state's economy and political scene for well over 50 years. Burns opened up the system to the major ethnic groups that were becoming more visible in island politics, notably, Japanese-Americans, and to a certain extent, the first generation of professional and middle-class Filipino-Americans.

Among the latter who were included in Burns' democratization initiative were Alfredo Lau-

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reta, Benjamin Menor, Peter Aduja, Bernaldo Bicoy and Pedro de la Cruz and other Filipino community leaders. Burns so inspired them that in time, several of them ran for public office or were appointed to responsible state positions when Burns was elected governor of Hawaii, effectively ending Republican rule.

Peter Aduja, a lawyer who came to Hawaii as a young child with his parents from the Ilocos region, was the first Filipino-American to be elected to the Hawaii Territorial Legislature.

In time, a second-generation Filipino-American by the name of Benjamin J. Cayetano, the son of an immigrant worker from Pangasinan in the Philippines, would become governor of Hawaii, the first of his ethnic group to be elected to this position in the U.S.

Further democratization also resulted in other "Filipino Firsts" in state and local public positions. Thus, the current activism that is now playing out in the Filipino community in island politics grew slowly from the convergence and continuity of the three basic elements previously outlined.

Today, it is quite common to find several candidates of full or part-Filipino ancestry running for public office on the national, state and local levels.

The Cayetano Years

The high point in Filipino-American political participation in Hawaii was the election of Cayetano in 1994 as governor of Hawaii, which put his ethnic group on the national map of American politics.

The son of a struggling Filipino immigrant from the town of Urdaneta in Pangasinan, the Philippines, Cayetano often referred to himself as the "first latchkey kid" because his parents got divorced when he was only six and he had to take care of his little brother Kenneth. His was a rough childhood. At this time of compelling life histories being played out on the national scene,

like Barack

Obama's, Cayetano's story has its own resonance on a micro level. Despite this story of adversity, or probably because of it, he rose above it to become the first Filipino-American governor in America.

But it would be erroneous to credit Cayetano's Filipino ancestry entirely for his political victories over 28 years of uninterrupted public service. His first foray into politics in the '70s was as a candidate representing Pearl City, which had a relatively insignificant Filipino population at the time. The district was and still is predominantly Japanese-American. He could not have made it solely on the Filipino vote in his subsequent candidacies.

His example underscores the need for any candidate of any ethnicity in this multicultural state to forge effective coalitions and networks across ethnic, class and gender lines in the state. Ethnic politics, as many pundits have observed, is a basic reality in this state, but coalition politics brings it home. A candidate's appeal has to reach beyond his or her perceived political base, associated mainly with their ethnic origins or identifications.

Cayetano decided to call it quits after his nearly 30 years as a public official, the last eight as governor. He could have continued on to become a candidate for Congress, again to be the first, if he won, of his ethnicity to become a member of that higher body. But he always appeared as though he was a reluctant politician, and he might have been despite his string of political successes.

At this point, the Filipino-American community has yet to see a successor to Cayetano. Some observers thought there might have been a viable successor in the wings but an unfortunate

miscalculation and error in judgment may have dashed that possibility. The community will just have to watch how this will play out in the coming years.

The 2008 Elections

Currently, the Filipino-American community is amply represented at the State legislature and county offices. The community though has yet to elect one of its own to one of the U.S. congressional offices. That is the next challenge after having produced the first Filipino-American governor in the nation. That certainly will come in due time.

In the State Senate, 5 of the 25 members, all Democrats, are of Filipino ancestry. They include: Robert Bunda, Dist. 22; Donna Mercado Kim, Dist. 14; Lorraine Inouye, Dist 1; Ron Menor, Dist. 17; and Will Espero, Dist. 20.

Bunda was previously president of the Senate. It was reported that Inouye is running for Mayor of Hawaii County in the upcoming elections. Bunda and Menor are running for re-election.

Among the 51 members of the State House of Representatives, 9 are of Filipino or part-Filipino ancestry: Della Au Bellati (D), Dr. Lyla Berg (D), Rida Cabanilla Arakawa (D), Lynn Finnegan (D), Michael Magoay (D), Joey Manahan (D), Kymberly Pine (R), Roland Sagum III (D); and Alex Sonson (D).

All are running for re-election in their districts except Sonson, who is challenging incumbent Clarence Nishihara in Senate District 18, which covers Waipahu, Pearl City and Crestview.

At the City and County of Honolulu, three of the nine current councilmembers are of Filipino or part Filipino ancestry: Romy Cachola, Donovan de la Cruz and Nestor Garcia. Elections for City Council seats are non-partisan.

New Faces on the Scene

Part of the vitality of Filipino political participation in Hawaii is the appearance of new faces running for public office. In this regard, some districts are more interesting than others, if only be-

cause of the large Filipino constituencies in these districts, with Filipinos are running against each other.

Take the case of House District No. 35 covering Waipahu, a very densely Filipino populated area, and Pearl City. The seat vacated by Sonson is up for grabs and the contestants are: Steven Antonio (R), Henry James Aquino (D), Constanse Domingo (D), Ilalo Parayno (D), Dr. Inam

Perreira Rahman (D) and Dante Verdadero (D). There are a total of six Filipinos contesting the seat.

Jack Legal, former president of the Filipino Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii, is running for the House in District 40 as a Republican. Rito Sanitiano, also Republican, is running in House District 41.

In House District 42, incumbent Rida Cabanilla Arakawa is being challenged by Genaro

(continued on page 6)

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Libre Magaoy Menor Nolasco Parayno Pilago Pine Rahman Rito

(from page 5)

Bimbo and Rey Rodriguez. Incumbent Kymberly Pine is running for District 43 and Derek Gapol is contesting the seat for District 45 in the Republican primary.

Mike Magaoy is being challenged by Ollie Lunasco, another Democrat. And Maria Pacheco is running in House District 47.

Also, incumbent Rep. Roland Sagum III is running unopposed. He represents House District 16, which includes Ni-hau, Lehua, Koloa and Waimea.

Lastly, newcomer Ronald Dela Cruz is running against a fel-

low Republican in the Primary for House District 7, which covers North Kona and South Kohala.

Neighbor Island Races

There are many more candidates of Filipino or part Filipino ancestry who are running for seats in the various Cities and Counties on the neighbor islands.

The list includes Lorraine Rodera Inouye and K. Angel Pilago for Big Island mayor; Dominic Yagong for Hawaii County Council District 1; Anders "Andy" Baclig for Hawaii County Council District 4 and Kale Gumapac for Hawaii

County Council District 5.

Filipino candidates for Maui County Council include: Michael Victorino for Wailuku-Waihee-Waikapu; Joe Pontanilla for Kahului; Norman Vares for South Maui; and Mike Molina for Makawao-Haiku-Paia.

Danny A. Mateo is running unopposed for the seat for Molokai councilmember. On Kauai, two Filipinos—Ron Agar and Rhoda L. Libre—are running as county councilmembers.

Voter Turn-Out

As always, one of the real tests of a democratic election is

the extent to which voters actually turn out to cast their votes come Election Day. The Filipino community is not

known to turn out in large numbers, which is an area that can be im-

proved in the political participation of this fastest growing minority in the state.

Of course, before this can be upgraded, more eligible voters in the Filipino community have to be duly registered to vote. And before they can register, they must become U.S. citizens as soon as they are eligible.

Since 9/11, more and more Filipino immigrants have been applying for American citizenship. This should augur well for their political participation in the future. One of the projects that should be pursued with vigor and continuity is voter registration, which will educate potential voters about their rights and responsibilities as citizens.

There used to be a lot more going on in this regard in the Filipino community. It's time for the larger Filipino organizations to renew their efforts in register-

ing Filipinos to vote, which will only add vitality to Hawaii's political process as a whole.

Important Reminder

It's only a month more before the primary elections. There will be some new things for voters in the coming elections. There will be new voting machines for the primary. There will also be new ballots, and voters are required to pick a political party before they can cast their ballot.

If you have any questions, call the State Office of Elections at 453- 8683.

(Dr. Aquino is Professor and Director of the Center for Philippine Studies at the University of Hawaii-Manoa. She is also the 2008 University of the Philippines Alumni Association for Distinguished Lifetime Achievement Awardee and this year's Hung Wo and Elizabeth Lau Ching Outstanding Faculty Service to the Community Awardee at the UH-Manoa).



Rodriguez Verdadero Sonson Yagong

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PRIMARY ELECTION COVERAGE

Meet the Candidates at Honolulu Community College

Mayor candidate forum organized and hosted by HCC students comes just 3 days before important primary election

Honolulu Community College's (HCC) student government, the Associated Students of the University of Hawai'i (ASUH), will hold a Honolulu Mayoral Candidate Forum on September 17, 2008 at 2:00 PM in the Norman Loui Conference Center located on the HCC campus. The Forum, which will be held just 3 days prior to the critical primary election, is expected to draw a large campus crowd as well as residents and businesses in the surrounding Kalihi area. The top three Honolulu mayoral candidates - incumbent Mayor Mufi Hannemann, Councilwoman Ann Kobayashi and University of Hawai'i Professor Panos Prevedourous - have tentatively agreed to appear at the student-driven event.

The goal of the forum is to give students and the community a better understanding of each candidate's position on the issues that will impact Honolulu in the future. According to Joseph

Lewis, HCC's ASUH President, "Many students are interested in the mass transit issue, but our concerns and questions run much deeper—housing costs, roads, taxes, education, and the future of Hawai'i are important to us and our families."

In addition, as part of its 2008 "Go Vote" campaign, HCC's Student Life and Development Office, Native Hawaiian Center, and ASUH Chapter will present two other "Meet the Candidates" forums featuring candidates running in the Honolulu City Council and State Board of Education (BOE) races.

The "Go Vote" campaign seeks to educate students and the community on the elections process and the importance of exercising their Constitutional right to vote, as well as to provide opportunities for students to learn about relevant issues of importance for the 2008 election year along with candidate and issue forums.

An additional "Meet the

"MEET THE CANDIDATES" FORUM SCHEDULE

BOE "Meet the Candidates" Forum
Monday, Sept 15
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., HCC Cafeteria
The forum will feature candidates running in both the Honolulu District and the At-Large races. Candidates confirmed to appear at the forum to date include Janis Akana, Paulina Manno, Robert Peters, Malcolm Kirkpatrick, Carol Man Lee and Denise Matsumoto.

City Council District 7 "Meet the Candidates" Forum
Tuesday, Sept 16
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., HCC Cafeteria
To date, Lillian Hong and Lynn Vazquez-Dela Cerna have confirmed their appearance.

Honolulu Mayor "Meet the Candidates" Forum
Wednesday, Sept 17
2:00 to 3:00 p.m., HCC Loui Conference Center
The top three candidates - incumbent Mayor Mufi Hannemann, Councilwoman Ann Kobayashi and University of Hawai'i Professor Panos Prevedourous - have tentatively confirmed their appearance.

Candidates' Forum will be held on Thursday, Sept. 18, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the HCC cafeteria to accommodate candidates who were unable to attend their respective forum. Other "Meet the Candidates" sessions may be offered throughout the duration of the "Go Vote" campaign, which runs until the November 4, 2008 General Election.

The forums are open to the public. Parking is limited.

VIEW FROM THE EDGE

Population and Politics – Philippine Style

By Carlos Cadiz, M.D.

There we go again. After a relatively long lull in the public debate on population and reproductive rights, two issues that are inevitably intertwined in the Third World, the Philippines is again in the thick of a bitter and important discussion. In a country that in 2007 still grew at 2.04 %, incredibly high by any standards, setting this issue aside for political convenience might be good for short term survival for the government but is potentially catastrophic for the country's long term prospects.

At 90 million, the Philippines has the world 12th biggest population and 45th in terms of density. This is startling considering the country's land area, the proportion of its lands that are habitable and the scarcity of its material resources. While the last issue can be debated as the country boasts of vast natural re-



sources, the gross mismanagement of the country's economy has made the trickling down of those resources to the population hardly felt especially by those at the bottom of the food chain. Just driving through the streets and highways of the Philippines particularly in Manila would give you a palpable sense of how overpopulated the country is. And the problems that emanate from overpopulation of course follows. The ballooning of those living in poverty, the increasing inadequacy of government services especially those that are directed towards the poor like health care, grassroots education and

social alleviation are just some of the most serious consequences of unbridled population growth. For those who have lived in America for a long time, it is perhaps easier to appreciate the sensory experience of too much people in any given space.

Given the country's undisputedly high population growth rate, one would expect the Arroyo government to move heaven and earth to correct this long-standing problem. With its much touted emphasis on poverty alleviation, it has miserably failed to reconcile the population factor in its long-term strategy. That is how despite the high economic growth that the

country has posted in the past several years, the number of poor people still rise every year. In both SWS and Pulse Asia surveys, the percentage of people who describe themselves as poor or very poor is reaching alarming proportions. To date, the government through its Department of Health would still have nothing to do with artificial means of contraception. Almost on cue from the Catholic Church, the Arroyo government refuses to promote the more scientifically proven and reliable means of contraception especially among the poor. State funding for such methods are almost negligible relative to the DOH's overall budget. Not only are these methods rendered inaccessible to the poor, it is likewise helping in perpetuating the myth that natural birth control alone can do the job.

And it all boils down to politics. The Catholic Church's fingerprints on the government's population policy are all over the place. The degree in the Church's influence is such that the statements of its bishops are hardly distinguishable from those of the government. This has been especially cemented in the aftermath of the ZTE corruption expose which

made the Arroyo government's vulnerability all the more apparent. It can be recalled that at the height of the scandal when the government's very survival was on the line, the Church leadership's position tipped the balance of power towards the beleaguered Arroyo. Needless to say, had the bishops called for a People Power in those critical times, things would have been very different today.

But the Catholic Church's lobby on the population issue is not happening just now. Ramos, the country's first and only Protestant president, pursued a population program completely independent of the Church. It was nevertheless an uneasy 6 years with the Church for Ramos and his Protestant DOH secretary Juan Flavio. Whether Ramos' stellar economic record was a result of good population programs, the jury is not out yet.

Whether Arroyo's economic sense will finally reconcile the population component of the country's long term economic and social strategy, it is clear that its final couple of years promise no change in policy.

Meanwhile, we can help ease the overcrowding by staying exactly where we are.

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GOVERNOR'S COLUMN

Economic Initiatives Paying Off For State



By Governor Linda Lingle

Hawaii's businesses and residents are feeling the pinch of the economic slowdown that is affecting the entire country. The economy is on everyone's mind — and justifiably so. Given this context, I am very pleased that two objective and well-respected national rankings show that the foundation of Hawaii's economy is strong and that we are headed in the right direction with our long-term innovation and energy initiatives.

In Forbes magazine's annual list of best states in which to do business, released July 31, Hawaii jumped 10 spots to

27th place, compared to 37th in 2007 and 42nd in 2006. Of the six criteria taken into account, Hawaii ranked fourth in the nation for economic climate and 10th for labor. This is a vast improvement from March 2002, when Forbes' infamous article said doing business in Honolulu had "become nearly equivalent to suicide."

Hawaii also posted remarkable improvement in the State Technology and Science Index published by the Milken Institute, climbing 11 spots to rank 28th overall in the nation. In addition to the strides we've made as part of the Hawaii's Clean Energy Initiative, this year's report praised our Administration's efforts to improve science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education in our schools, which is one of several critical components of our Hawaii's Innovation Initiative.

My Administration has

worked hard to build up our business reputation and to advance meaningful change that will help Hawaii's businesses and families. We have made state government more transparent, saved businesses more than \$6.1 million by filing annual reports and registering new businesses online, and convinced the Legislature to lower the unemployment insurance tax in order to save businesses an estimated \$151 million over three years.

Our Hawaii's Innovation Initiative is also helping to move our state in the direction it needs to go to succeed over the long-term, by focusing on developing the intellectual capacity of our work force so that Hawaii is a place for innovative activity to thrive and grow. Our goal is to reduce our economic dependence on land development and to build on Hawaii's principle strength, its people, thereby preserving the

natural resources that make Hawaii a desirable place to live.

In addition to focusing on the long-term, we must also have short-term strategies in place to provide immediate relief. Toward that end, my Administration continues to invest in our state's infrastructure to improve residents' quality of life. In recent months, I have released close to \$60 million for public schools and \$58 million to address the repair and maintenance backlog at University of Hawaii's campuses statewide.

I have continued to urge members of my Cabinet to seize opportunities to maximize federal dollars and partnerships. One striking example of this has been provided by the Department of Human Services, which has secured about \$175 million in federal support to assist Hawaii's hospitals over the past five years. The Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

has received about \$5.6 million in federal grants this year to assist Hawaii workers affected by recent layoffs, while also activating the multi-agency Rapid Response Team to help nearly 3,500 former employees.

Though Hawaii's climb in national rankings offer a validation of our efforts to date, they also provide a clear reminder of why we must remain proactive. The status quo will not suffice in a world that is becoming more competitive, interconnected and technologically advanced by the day. With the support of the Legislature, businesses and the community at large, we can ensure that Hawaii is where it needs to be for our future generations to succeed.

For more information on my Administration's economic strategies and to sign up for my weekly e-newsletter, please visit my website at www.hawaii.gov/gov.

PRIMARY ELECTION CANDIDATES LIST

Federal, State, County Candidates For Hawaii 2008

Primary Election

U.S. HOUSE

DISTRICT 1

(D) ABERCROMBIE, Neil
(L) AMSTERDAM, C. Kaiti
Jochanan
(R) BRACKINS, Daniel A.
(R) TATAII, Steve
(L) ZHAO, Li

(L) MALLAN, Lloyd J. (Jeff).
(I) STENSJON, Shaun

U.S. SENATE

DISTRICT 1

(R) HONG, Ted H.S.
(D) TAKAMINE, Dwight Y.

DISTRICT 3

(D) GREEN, Josh
(D) ISBELL, Virginia

DISTRICT 2

(R) EVANS, Roger B.
(D) HIRONO, Mazie

DISTRICT 17

(D) KIDANI, Michelle
(D) MENOR, Ron
(D) TSUNEYOSHI, Resa R.K.

DISTRICT 18

(D) NISHIHARA, Clarence
(D) SONSON, Alex M.

DISTRICT 21

(D) HANABUSA, Colleen
(R) JOHNSON, Dickyj

DISTRICT 22

(D) BUNDA, Robert (Bobby)

DISTRICT 23

(R) FALE, Richard
(D) HEE, Clayton
(D) MURAKI, Noel S.

HONOLULU MAYOR

City & County of Honolulu elections are non-partisan. If no candidate gets a majority of the vote, the top two will advance to the general election.

(NS) BREWER, Jim
(NS) CUNNINGHAM, Daniel H.
(NS) DATANAGAN, Cameron
(NS) HANNEMANN, Mufi
(NS) KAMBEL, Donovan D. Jr.
(NS) KOBAYASHI, Ann H.
(NS) MALY, J Stop-Rail-Transit
(NS) MANNER, Paul
(NS) NITTA, George Jr.
(NS) PREVEDOUROS, Panos

HONOLULU PROSECUTOR

(NS) CARLISLE, Peter B.

HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL

DISTRICT 1

(NS) APO, Todd Kala
(NS) SMITH, Garry P.

DISTRICT 3

(NS) HO, Wilson Kekoa
(NS) MARSHALL, Barbara
(NS) PRENTISS, Leigh

DISTRICT 5

(NS) BAINUM, Duke
(NS) CALDWELL, Kirk
(NS) WAIALEALE, George M.

DISTRICT 7

(NS) CACHOLA, Romy M.
(NS) HONG, Lillian Lai-Lam Wang
(NS) VASQUEZ-DELA CERNA, Lynn

DISTRICT 9

(NS) GARCIA, Nestor R.
(NS) SVRCINA, Emil
(NS) WIDNER, Lance

STATE HOUSE

DISTRICT 6

(D) COFFMAN, Denny
(D) LESLIE, Gene (Bucky)
(D) MACGREGOR, Maegon
(R) SMITH, Andy

DISTRICT 7

(R) DELA CRUZ, Ronald (Makaula)
(D) EVANS, Cindy
(R) KAILIMAI, B.J.

DISTRICT 8

(D) KAMA, Tasha
(D) SOUKI, Joe

DISTRICT 9

(D) APANA, James (Kimo)
(R) KAHULA, Henry P., Jr.
(D) NAKASONE, Bob

DISTRICT 10

(R) MADDEN, Ramon K.
(D) MCKELVEY, Angus

DISTRICT 11

(D) BERTRAM, Joe, III
(R) FONTAINE, Michael R.
(D) GINGERICH, George H.

DISTRICT 12

(D) STARR, Summer
(R) VIERRA, Mickey
(D) YAMASHITA, Kyle

DISTRICT 13

(D) CARROLL, Mela

DISTRICT 14

(D) MORITA, Hermina (Mina)

DISTRICT 15

(D) TOKIOKA, James Kunate

DISTRICT 16

(D) SAGUM, Roland D., III

DISTRICT 17

MONK, Amy Yukiko (D)
WARD, Gene (R)

DISTRICT 18

BERG, Lyla B. (D)

DISTRICT 19

ABE, Michael (Mike) (D)
MARUMOTO, Barbara C. (R)

(continued on page 15)

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IMMIGRATION GUIDE



By Atty. Emmanuel
Samonte Tipon



he wicked flecth like a chicken, the righteous fight like a lion." - Bible, Emmanuel Version

Filipinos have a penchant for amusingly repetitious nicknames like "Bong Bong" and "Noy Noy". But who is Joc Joe? His real name is Jocelyn Bolante.

Fertilizer Scam Architect

The U.S. Court of Appeals which rejected his appeal from the denial of an asylum claim on August 27, 2008, said that he was the "architect" of the "Fertilizer Scam". While Undersecretary of the Department of Agriculture, he allegedly diverted government money for the purchase of fertilizer and had it transferred to the reelection committee of Arroyo.

He later resigned. The Senate investigated charges of corruption within the Department. It issued a report that Joc Joe was the "architect" of the diversion of funds and recommended that he face criminal charges, together with Felix Montes, the Assistant Secretary of Agriculture.

During the investigation, Joc Joe was subpoenaed to testify. He refused. The Senate issued a warrant for his arrest. He left the Philippines.

He arrived in the United States on July 7, 2006. Unbeknownst to him, the U.S. Embassy in Manila had revoked his visa. He was denied entry into the U.S. and detained by the authorities for non-possession of a valid visa. He has remained in custody ever since.

He sought asylum and withholding of removal. The Immigration Judge (IJ) denied him relief, holding that the "vague threats and opaque predictions of harm were insufficient to establish" Joc Joe's claim. The IJ also noted that the Senate's issuance of a subpoena was to investigate and eventually prosecute him for violation of Philippine laws, not persecute, him on account of political opinion or membership in a

particular social group. The Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) affirmed.

Fear of Prosecution, Not Persecution

The Court of Appeals pooohooed Joc Joe's claim that he feared persecution upon returning to the Philippines, saying that he did not demonstrate a well-founded fear of such persecution.

Rather, noted the court wryly, Joc Joe's fear was "fear of prosecution for his alleged role in a corruption scandal."

The court indicated that "though prosecution can become persecution, courts uniformly recognize that a foreign state's prosecution of its citizens for violating its own laws does not automatically equate with persecution."

"Prosecution for activities that would be illegal under our own laws is not grounds for asylum... Similarly, being suspected of a crime does not necessarily render an asylum applicant eligible for asylum."

The court observed that Joc Joe "does not presently face prosecution. No charges have been filed against him, and although the Senate Committee has recommended charges against Bolante, they have also recommended charges against Montes, who has yet to face prosecution. Other members of President Arroyo's government, including Montes, have testified before the Senate Committee on the Fertilizer Scam and have not yet been physically harmed or unjustly prosecuted." Montes even testified before the IJ.

(Bolante v Mukasey, No. 07-2550, 08/27/2008, CA7)

PRACTICE TIP. Almost all deportation cases are lost due to the ineffectiveness of counsel. An excellent strategy when an alien loses a deportation case is to change lawyers, claim ineffective assistance of his first lawyer by showing that the result would have been different but for the lawyer's errors, and ask the court to reopen the case. "Change" has become a buzzword these days that Obama and McCain are clamoring for change. Unfortunately most aliens don't change their losing lawyer. It is like the man whose doctor mistakenly ampu-



Joc Bolante

tated his good right leg when his bad left leg should have been amputated. He went back to the same doctor to have his left leg amputated. What if the doctor had made a mistake again and amputated his third leg?

If Joc Joe had changed lawyers immediately after losing before the IJ, could he have won? You bet, if he had hired an excellent attorney with a thorough knowledge of immigration law and a winning streak, selected the best witnesses and prepared them for trial, and knew the situation in the Philippines.

In the latest case involving ineffective assistance of counsel, the alien obtained relief be-

cause his new counsel showed that the alien's original counsel failed to invoke an available relief. One relief is given by the Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime. New counsel claimed that the alien would be killed by criminals if he were deported. Did Joc Joe's counsel claim that he needs protection from organized criminals—like you know who?

Another relief is provided by the Convention Against Torture. Did Joc Joe's counsel show that he would be tortured and even killed if he returned? About 3 million militant farmers who failed to get fertilizer had organized a manhunt to get him, there were hired assassins out to silence him, and scores of bounty hunters vying for the P200,000 reward for his capture would kill him.

Why did not Joc Joe's counsel present specifics or details, instead of "vague threats and opaque predictions," of harm?

Why did Joc Joe's counsel present Montes as a witness when, like Joc Joe, he was recommended for prosecution but nothing happened to him, thus

convincing the court that nothing will happen to Joc Joe?

COMMENT: The tragedy for Joc Joe is that he has been in jail for more than two years. If he had remained in the Philippines like Montes, he would never have experienced life in jail. Do you know any bata of the Arroyos who has been jailed for corruption? He might even have been made a cabinet member or elected to congress.

(ATTY. TIPON has won all deportation cases he handled and obtained approval of all visa petitions he filed. He is from Laeog City. He has a Master of Laws degree from Yale Law School and a Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of the Philippines. He served as an Immigration Officer. He is co-author of "Immigration Law Service," an 8-volume practice and procedure guide for immigration officers and lawyers. He specializes in immigration and criminal defense. Office at 905 Uni St. corner N. King, Suite 201, Honolulu, HI 96819. Tel. (808) 847 1601. Fax (808) 847 1624. E-Mail: filamlaw@yahoo.com. Website: www.ImmigrationServicesUSA.com. Listen to the most interesting and humorous radio program on Hawaii radio KNDI 1270 every Friday 7:30-8:00 AM. This article is a general overview of the subject matter discussed and is not intended as legal advice for any specific person or situation. Neither the writer nor publisher warrant the completeness or accuracy of the information provided herein at the time of publication.)



On September 2, 2008 I was notified that a letter was sent to all registered voters in District 42 concerning my wife, Rida Cabanilla-Arakawa using my name.

That same evening I did an interview with Paula Akana, which aired on KITV, Channel 4, and again on the morning news on September 3rd about this vicious attack on my wife.

While it is true we are going through rough times right now I would never be involved in a smear campaign against her.

I found the letter to be very offensive and slanderous. I hope the residents of this district will make their decisions based on the issues that affect our daily lives and not on a negative campaign.

Mahalo,

Lance Arakawa

SAY NO TO SMEAR CAMPAIGN
VOTE YES FOR
RIDA CABANILLA-ARAKAWA

FEATURE

Drinking on the Job: The Life of Master Sommelier Roberto Viernes

by Glenn Wakai

It's early afternoon at a Kailua wine bar. Near the window is Roberto Viernes, sipping a glass of Inzolia. Wine has been good to him. The 35 year old barely looks old enough to drink, but his youthful appearance hides a seasoned palate.

Viernes is one of only 96 Master Sommeliers in the United States. There are only two in Hawaii – Viernes and Chuck Furuya of DK Sansel Restaurant.

Viernes is the Director of Southern Wine & Spirits, Hawaii's largest wine and spirits distributor. His role is to assist with the company's import portfolio and also to share his knowledge of wines through education. He assists various high end establishments such as the Four Seasons, Roy's Restaurants, or is hired to hold seminars and wine dinners.

Viernes thoroughly enjoys his job, "I love being able to drink the great wines of the world. Seeing the soul of the wine and the people who make them. I love the fact that sharing wine with people is one of the great ways that society can come together. When you share a bottle of wine, it gets you talking."

Our interview flows smoothly into the next topic.

Born in Ilocos

Viernes was born in La Union, Philippines. His parents are from Claveria. The family moved to Hawaii in 1974, when he was only 15 months old. When they first arrived, they lived in Nanakuli with relatives. The environment didn't suit them, so they moved to Kuliouou, near Hawaii Kai.

His father, Bob, came here in search of the American

Dream. With no job, he enrolled at Honolulu Community College and got his engineering degree. Bob would eventually spend 20 years with Hawaiian Cement.

Viernes' mom, Luz, became a nurse's aide and worked at Kuakini Hospital. Today she runs a care home in Kuliouou.

Early Struggles

During his childhood, Viernes toiled along side his parents every weekend at the Swap Meet. While his friends were playing soccer or going to the beach, Viernes was selling car audio equipment and ladies shoes to shoppers at Aloha Stadium. Proceeds from the Viernes' weekend activities went to pay for Roberto's private school tuition.

Viernes' parents were believers in education. They scraped together enough money to send him to Holy Trinity School and eventually Iolani High School. All four Viernes children (two boys and two girls) attended private schools – one to Punahou, one to Iolani, and two to the UH Lab School. He says, "My childhood was not a walk in the park. We struggled financially. It wasn't an easy road."

Despite the winding path, he feels blessed. "A solid work ethic was instilled in us at a very early age. I learned to be business savvy through basic lessons. I learned how to market, how to run a business, profit and loss, building networking systems. Just real world business skills. I also learned how hard it is to succeed. You don't just open your doors and have customers come in."

Although it was a valuable learning experience, Viernes says he won't put his son through the same thing. He has a 4-year

old named Michael.

During his career at Iolani, Viernes says, "I didn't do well in high school. I got a B- or C+ average. But for some reason, when I got into college things changed."

Days at UH

Viernes initially studied courses designed to get him into optometry school after the University of Hawaii at Manoa. During college he worked for Dr. Gerald Faulkner. Eventually he gave into people's eyes and set his sights elsewhere by switching majors to French. Viernes laughs when saying, "I took French because I thought I could score chicks – and I did." He met his wife, Christine in a French class. They were married in 1998.

After his college days learning the French language he apprenticed for a French chef. Then by chance he came across an ad in the newspaper for an introductory course for the Master Sommelier program. He signed up and took a liking to the class. Viernes says, "Up until then, my only exposure to wine was in Communion. This was unbelievable."

Dream Job

His job has him traveling at least once a year to France to taste various wines. On a weekly basis, he samples about 120 wines. Tasting involves sipping a wine, swishing it around in one's mouth, then spitting it out. Viernes says he consumes about 3 bottles each week. He doesn't drink much at home because, ironically, his wife doesn't drink much.

Becoming a Master Sommelier has its perks, but it is no easy task to be at the pinnacle of your field. It took Viernes 8 years to attain the highly sought after title.

There are four stages to the program. Step one involves a 2-day introductory course. After that, budding Sommeliers need to be certified. Applicants must take a written exam, blind taste test, and learn how to serve wine. Through one's pallet, one must be able to decipher the vintage, quality, variety, and origin of a wine.



Stage 3 is an advanced course involving five days of observation, similar to the certification level, but far more intense. The few who make it to level 4 take the Master's test. It involves oral exams and heavy wine service.

A Master Sommeliers must also know about beers and hard liquors. These who garner this prestigious title, should be able to run a beverage program anywhere in the world.

Talent at the Tip of His Tongue

Viernes doesn't feel he is predisposed to discerning various wines. "Anyone can practice to be a proficient. Most people have a better palate than they think they do."

Still, Viernes' extraordinary ability to distinguish wines may have been aided by his childhood. "My mom is a great cook. She had a knack of making things taste good. Since we grew up humbly, we ate everything on our plate. I wasn't picky, so I was exposed to things I probably wouldn't try."

Today, Viernes boasts a wine collection of 180 bottles. His favorite type of wine is burgundy. "I love aged burgundy, red or white. It tells me about a place. I call it a message in a bottle." His second favorite wine is champagne.

Viernes says "Wine drinkers in Hawaii have a tremendously sophisticated palate. I get to drink the great wines of the world here. New York and San Francisco may have a larger portion of the top tier wines, but those wines can also be found here. Through the internet, people are getting what they want."

Something for Everyone

"A fellow Master Sommelier likes to say that wine is a grocery, not a luxury," says Viernes. "At one point in our past, more people drank wine instead of water."

The resurgence of wine is hitting Biblical proportions. It is becoming a commodity and

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bottles can cost thousands of dollars. Viernes says this is not just a rich man's indulgence. "Drinking wine can be intimidating but it's not something to be scared about. You are going to find something you like and don't like. Anyone can find any drinkable wine at any price. You can get a drinkable wine at the grocery store for four dollars."

Viernes says not all popular wines are tasty. Much of their popularity has to do with marketing. He encourages drinkers to find what they like. "Wine has intellectual value, and hedonistic value, and social value. No other beverage offers all these values. Having a beer with the boys is fun, but different."

Getting Better with Age

As Viernes takes another sip of his wine, you get the sense that he is one of those lucky people who finds their job to be intoxicating. At a ripe young age, he has become the toast of Hawaii's wine consuming community.

Viernes' palate is like fine red wine – getting better with time. He says there is always something new to try and he plans to drink for the rest of his career. "I will be enjoying wine for the rest of my life."

Glenn Wakai is the State Representative (Moanalua-Salt Lake) and is former television reporter.


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HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

Top Hotel Housekeepers to be Honored For Excellence

Several of Hawaii's top hotel housekeepers will be honored by the International Executive Housekeepers Association, which is celebrating Housekeepers Week from September 14-20, 2008. The IEHA will also be holding a general membership meeting and awards luncheon on September 17 at the Pacific Beach Hotel's grand ballroom.

Filipino recipients who will be awarded for excellence include the following:

- **Doyle Domingo** (Mauna Lani Bay Hotel and Bungalows). Domingo has worked in the hotel's housekeeping depart-

ment as a general cleaner since 1982. His areas of responsibility include the hotel's lower lobby, beach and pool. Domingo was also nominated for the Hawaii Hotel Association's 2008 Na Po'e Pa'ahana

Award (or "the hard-working people") as the Housekeeper of the Year.

- **Elvira Calderon** (ResortQuest Waikiki Sunset): Despite being on the job for only three years, Calderon's dedication to excellence quickly caught the eye of her supervisors. As a room attendant, Calderon assists with requests for supplies. She has also been trained as a utility person and working supervisor. Calderon was also nominated for the 2008 Na Po'e Pa'ahana Award as the Housekeeper of the Year.



Elvira Calderon

- **Gloria Estabaya** (Outrigger Waikiki): Estabaya has been an integral part of the hotel's housekeeping department since 1989. She is a true ambassador of aloha and believes there are no boundaries or limits in providing guest satis-

faction.

- **Lucena Madrid** (Hawaii Prince Hotel Waikiki): Madrid holds a key position



Gloria Estabaya



Lucena Madrid

in the hotel's housekeeping department as a seamstress. She has literally and figuratively "kept the department together" during her years at the hotel, through pinning, taking seams in, letting them out, creating maternity styles and recycling.



Rose Galera

William Joyner Achievement Award

Local cleaning expert Rosita "Rose" A. Galera was presented with IEHA's William Joyner Achievement Award for her life's work and commitment excellence in the field of professional housekeeping. She re-

ceived the award September 10, 2008 at the IEHA's annual convention in Las Vegas.

At age 72, Galera has over 50 years of cleaning experi-
(continued on page 13)



Domingo Doyle

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PHILIPPINE NEWS

Even Church Leaders Oppose Chavit Singson's Appointment

by Helen Flores

Even bishops are opposed to the appointment of former Ilocos Sur governor Luis "Chavit" Singson as deputy National Security Adviser (NSA).

Cotabato auxiliary Bishop Jose Colin Bagaforo said Sunday he preferred somebody who has background in military affairs to be the next deputy NSA.

Lingayen-Dagupan Archbishop Oscar Cruz, a staunch critic of the Arroyo administration, yesterday said he understands why Singson was given such position by Malacañang.

Bagaforo, in an interview over Church-run Radio Veritas, said, "Seemingly, with Chavit and NSA Norberto Gonzales there, officials holding NSA positions are not military men. The national security advisers have no background in military affairs or matters."

Bagaforo stressed that having national security officials with background in military matters would help in resolving conflict in war-stricken regions.



Chavit Singson

Cruz said it was obvious that giving a government position to the former governor was a form of payback for being part of the administration Team Unity ticket in the 2007 senatorial elections.

"I believe that it was not the one who was appointed, but the one with the appointing power who should be looked at. The appointment says much about Malacañang," said Cruz, who heads the Krusadang Bayan Laban sa Jueteng, an anti-gambling group.

Singson, an estranged friend of former President Joseph Estrada, was said to have had jueteng connections.

Sentiments respected

Malacañang lashed back at critics of the President's appointment of Singson, particularly at former President Estrada who earlier described the move as mere political payback.

Deputy presidential spokesman Anthony Golez emphasized that Singson is qualified for his new post and that the sentiments of the former president were expected, considering that the appointment involved his long time nemesis.

"That is expected from President Erap. With due respect to him, everybody knows that his downfall was brought about by the allegations and the presentation of evidence by Mr. Chavit Singson and we respect him for his sentiments about him," Golez said.

Singson's appointment came after fellow losing Team Unity candidates Vicente "Tito" Sotto III, Ralph Recto, Prospero Pichay and Mike Defensor were given other top government posts. (www.philstar.com)

Teen Breaks RP Basketball Scoring Record



A high school basketball player from the Jose Rizal University established a new scoring mark in Philippine collegiate basketball history when he lit up the opposing team with a stunning 82-point explosion.

Keith Agovida, an 18-year-old, 6-foot-1 scoring dynamo, made 36 of the 50 shots for a whopping 62.5 percent performance, shattering the previous high of 71 points by Letran's Erwin Bolabola in the 1970s. Agovida's team—the Light Bombers—ripped the Mapua Red Robins, 127-49.

Agovida's feat also eclipsed a 79-point effort by Allan Caidic in the PBA in 1987. It even bet-

tered the Los Angeles Lakers' Kobe Bryant's 81 points in the NBA.

Agovida entered the game averaging 30.9 points, turned in quarter scores of 23, 13, 20 and 26. He also added 15 rebounds, five steals and two shot blocks.

"The school and the league are proud of him," said Jose Rizal board representative Paul Supan.

The Light Bombers' win was its seventh in 11 games, while Mapua suffered its 12th straight defeat. (Good News Philippines)

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HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

(from page 12)

ence, having started out as a live-in housekeeper during her teen years. She joined IEHA 33 years ago and has not missed a single general membership meeting. She also served two terms as president of IEHA's Hawaii chapter from 1991-1993 and 1999-2001 and was director of IEHA's Pacific Southwest district from 2003-2007.

Well-known in the local cleaning industry, Galera owns her own business, Clean Plus Systems II. She trains high school students in housekeeping and food sanitation career development, thanks to assistance from the State Department of Education. She also serves as a consultant to Hawaii's hotel industry.

The award was established in 1998 to honor IEHA member Dr. William Joyner, who played an integral role in the creation of IEHA's Certified Executive Housekeeper training program. During the mid-1980s, Joyner launched a housekeeping training program that graduated

more than 6,000 people from Chicago's Housing Authority.

Among Galera's accomplishments is the opening of more than 30 properties in Hawaii, the Mainland and Mexico. She was also the first executive housekeeper for the Hale Koa Hotel in 1975 and served as the corporate executive housekeeper for Aston Hotels & Resorts from 1979 to 1992.

She is always passing on her knowledge of cleaning to others, whether it's high school students or professional cleaners, and is a regularly published writer, most recently dabbling in poetry. She also has hosted her own radio talk show on KUMU 1500-AM, aptly named "Clean Talk."

She is still very active with the IEHA's Hawaii chapter and attends all general membership meetings and serves as an advisor to the board of directors. The Hawaii chapter—IEHA's largest with 140 members—is celebrating its 40th Anniversary this year. IEHA has 3,500 members worldwide.

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PHILIPPINE NEWS

Money Remittance Company Partners with Gawad Kalinga

Western Union signed an agreement with Gawad Kalinga to build 30 houses for residents of Barangay Bucana in Naic, Cavite, a small fishing community in the southern part of

Luzon in the Philippines.. Gawad Kalinga is an organization that works to reduce poverty in the Philippines by providing land, homes and food to Filipinos living below the poverty line

to effect positive social transformation in the country. Its projects are supported by over 100,000 volunteers ranging from private individuals to corporations. Beneficiaries also help with construction.

To date, Gawad Kalinga has built more than 1,700 villages and aims to complete another 300 more by end of this year.

"Owning a home is one of the best rewards that many of our fellow Filipinos look forward to," says Patricia Riingen, Western Union regional vice president for the Philippines and Indochina. "Partnering with Gawad Kalinga is one way to give back to our community."

During the construction, residents of Barangay Bucana, students from nearby schools and members of the Christian renewal community Couples for Christ took time out from their daily lives to pitch in.

Eldifonso Arsenia, a 68-year-old resident volunteer, said that his advanced age was no deterrent from helping out as he shared in the less strenuous tasks of passing on con-



struction tools or helping other volunteers carry lighter construction materials. Arsenia is only one of the almost 100 beneficiaries who look forward to having a new home for his family.

"I am happy to see that these houses are being built for us especially for my blind wife and for my son who serves as our breadwinner.

This is really a big help especially since we are currently living in a small shack that can barely fit the three of us. We were very pleased when we learned that Western Union and Gawad Kalinga have this kind of project for our community and we were very thankful when we were chosen as one of the beneficiaries," he said.

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(from page 8)

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ALLEN, Julia E. (R)
SAY, Calvin K. Y. (D)

DISTRICT 21
(D) NISHIMOTO, Scott Y.

DISTRICT 22
(D) SAIKI, Scott K.

DISTRICT 23
(D) BROWER, Tom
R) STEVENS, Anne V.

DISTRICT 24
(D) CALDWELL, Kirk
(D) CHOY, Isaac W.
(D) EADS, Chrystin
(R) JEFFRYES, Jerilyn (Jer)

DISTRICT 25
(D) BELATTI, Della

DISTRICT 26
(D) LUKE, Sylvia

DISTRICT 27
(R) CHING, Corinne Wei Lan
(D) MOEPONO, Sesnita Der-Ling

DISTRICT 28
(D) RHOADS, Karl P.O

DISTRICT 29
MANAHAN, Joey 1250 (D)
(R) YAW, Shane D.K. 755

DISTRICT 30
(D) MIZUNO, John

DISTRICT 31
(D) WAKAI, Glenn 3054

DISTRICT 32
(R) FINNEGAN, Lynn

DISTRICT 33
(D) OSHIRO, Blake K.

DISTRICT 34
(D) TAKAI, K. Mark

DISTRICT 35
ANTONIO, Steven Bolosan (R)
(D) AQUINO, Henry James C.
(D) DOMINGO, Constanse A.
(D) PARAYNO, Iloilo
(D) RAHMAN, I. Perreira Padilla
(D) VERDADERO, Dante M.

DISTRICT 36
(N) LUM LEE, Christopher-Travis
(D) TAKUMI, Roy M.

DISTRICT 37
(D) YAMANE, Ryan

DISTRICT 38
(R) APANA, Melvin K.
(D) LEE, Marilyn B.

DISTRICT 39
(D) OSHIRO, Marcus R.

DISTRICT 40
(D) HAR, Sharon E.
(R) LEGAL, Jack M.

DISTRICT 41
(D) CULLEN, Ty Diaz

(D) KARAMATSU, Jon Riki
(R) SANIATAN, Rito

DISTRICT 42
(R) BERG, Tom
(N) BIMBO, Genaro Q.
(D) CABANILLA ARAKAWA,
Rida
(D) RODRIGUEZ, Rey R.
(D) SCHULTZ, Mike P

DISTRICT 43
(D) FEVELLA, Kurt
(R) PINE, Kymberly (Marcos)

DISTRICT 44
AIPOALANI, Hanalei Y
(D) AWANA, Karen Leinani
(R) KU, Tercia L.

DISTRICT 45
(R) GAPOL, Derek A.
(D) SAYLORS, Denise
(D) SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.

DISTRICT 46
(D) LUNASCO, Ollie
(D) MAGAOAY, Michael Y.
(R) PHILLIPS, Carol
(R) RIVIERE, Gil
(D) WASSON, Dawn K.

DISTRICT 47
(R) MEYER, Colleen
(D) PACHICO, Maria
(D) WOOLEY, Jessica

DISTRICT 48
(D) ITO, Ken

DISTRICT 49
(D) CHONG, Pono

DISTRICT 50
(R) THIELEN, Cynthia

DISTRICT 51
(NS) BARROZO, Joseph Jr
(NS) HIGA, Stacy K.
(NS) INOUE, Lorraine Rodero
Aukai
(R) KAWANANAKOA, Quentin
Kuhio
(D) LEE, Chris Kalani

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(NS) BARROZO, Joseph Jr
(NS) HIGA, Stacy K.
(NS) INOUE, Lorraine Rodero
(NS) KENOI, Billy
(NS) MASILAMONEY, Sam
(NS) MOORE, M. Jasper
(NS) PILAGO, K. Angel
(NS) RILEY, Randy 282

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(NS) KIMURA, Jay T.

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(NS) BROOKMAN, Thomas
(Tom)
(NS) YAGONG, Dominic

DISTRICT 2
(NS) FERREIRA, Albert (Boyd)
(NS) IKEDA, Donald A.

DISTRICT 3
REED, (NS) Robert
(NS) YOSHIMOTO, J

DISTRICT 4
(NS) BAELIG, Andres (Andy)
(NS) HENG, Jet
(NS) KA'EHU'AEA, Wendell J.
(NS) OKUTSU, Marie E.
(NS) ONISHI, Dennis (Fresh)

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(NS) JOSEPH, Wayne (Big Dog)
(NS) NAEOLE, Emily I.
(NS) SAFARIK, Gary S.
(NS) STOCKSDALE, Kanui K.

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(NS) ENRIQUES, Guy (Keoloha)
(NS) FOGEL, Fred
(NS) JACOBSON, Bob

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(NS) FORD, Brenda
(NS) TEXEIRA, Steven

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(NS) HECHT, Debbie
(NS) REYNOLDS, Joe
(NS) YOUNG, Tsing F.

DISTRICT 9
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(NS) TORRES, Raynard T.

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(NS) MEDEIROS, Bill (Kauakea)

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(NS) DUBOIS, Jared
(NS) FUKUYAMA, Alan (Al)
(NS) JOHNSON, Jo Anne

(NS) MARTEN, Chayne M.
WAILUKU-WAIHEE-WAIKAPU
(NS) VICTORINO, Michael
(Mike)

HAWAII
(NS) HALPERIN, Neira
(NS) PONTANILLA, Joe

SOUTH MAUI
(NS) COUCH, Don
(NS) GANNON, Joe
(NS) NISHIKI, Wayne K.
(NS) VARES, Norman

MAKAWAO-HAIKU-PAIA

(NS) MOLINA, Mike
(NS) NISHIKI, Kai

UPCOUNTRY
(NS) BAISA, Gladys Coelho
(NS) HOWDEN, Michael S.

LANAI
(NS) BASQUES, Winifred I.K.
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(NS) KAHO'OHALAHLA, Sol
P.
(NS) MANO, Matthew J.K.
(Matt)
(NS) ORNELLAS, John W.
(continued on page 17)



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- Most state agencies
- Office of Elections Website: www.hawaii.gov/elections
- State of Hawaii Tax Booklet

For more information, please contact the Election Officer at 453-8683 or the County Clerk at 768-3800. For neigh-

boring islands, please contact your respective County Clerk: Hawaii (808) 961-8673; Kauai (808) 241-6350; and Maui (808) 270-7749.

Absentee Voting

To vote absentee, you must be registered to vote.

Absentee Voting By Mail

You must write a letter or submit an absentee application to the City/County Clerk where you are registered to vote. You will need to specify the address you want your ballots mailed to. Absentee applications accepted for Primary from July 22, 2008 to September 13, 2008 and General from July 22 to October 28, 2008.

Absentee Voting in Person

You must vote at an absentee polling place established by the City/County Clerk where you are registered to vote. Absentee Voting in person dates are: Primary-September 8 - 18, 2008 and General - October 21 - November 1, 2008.

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PRIMARY ELECTION
September 20, 2008

The Primary Election is a nomination process to choose candidates who will represent the political parties at the General Election. You, the voter, select the candidates of the political party of your choice. Your choice of party and candidates remains secret.

In the Primary Election, you must select only one party in the Select a Party section of the ballot card, then vote for the party that you selected. If you do not select a party and you vote in more than one party ballot in this section, your vote will not be counted. Vote only for the candidates of the party you selected. Votes for another party's candidates will not be counted.

Special Nonpartisan Offices

On the Primary Ballot Card, the Board of Education and county election contests are listed separately on the white "Special Nonpartisan Offices Ballot." On the Special Nonpartisan Offices Ballot, you may select the candidates of your



choice for the Board of Education and County contests in addition to the candidates you may have selected on the party or nonpartisan ballot.

Each contest specifies the number of seats open for election in that contest. For some contests, there may be multiple seats. You may vote for no more than the number of candidates specified for that contest.

In the General Election, you may choose from among the candidates nominated in the Primary Election. You may vote for party or nonpartisan candidates, and your choice of candidates will remain secret.

GENERAL ELECTION
November 4, 2008

Federal, State and County offices are listed on the General Ballot Card by contest. Candidates for each office are listed alphabetically and their partisan/nonpartisan affiliation is noted. You may select the can-

didate of your choice for each contest. You may also vote for the candidates of their choice for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA).

For some contests (OHA and Board of Education), there may be multiple seats. You may vote for no more than the number of candidates specified for each contest.

Election Day Information

Polling Places and Hours

Polling places are open from 7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

To avoid long lines at the polls, vote during non-peak hours:

- In the morning between 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
- In the afternoon between 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Time Off For Voting

You may be allowed two hours of time away from work to vote.

Coordinate your time off with your employer by voting before or after work if possible.

Questions?

Call 211. Hours are from Monday to Friday, 6:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. Closed on weekends and holidays.

Source: www.hawaii.gov/elections

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Asbestos Mesothelioma

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Loreto M. Viloria
Paralegal

If you've been seriously injured in an auto or industrial accident, please call Loreto M. Viloria at our Waipahu office. He has over 17 years experience working with attorneys to help injury victims understand their rights and insurance procedures. We speak fluent Tagalog and Ilocano at our Waipahu office and treat every client like family. There is no charge for an initial consultation and no fee if there's no recovery.

GARY GALIHER
GALIER DE ROBERTIS ONO
ATTORNEYS AT LAW / LAW CORPORATIONS

Call 24 hours Office: 676-5665 Cell: 227-2333

VOTER RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Voter Rights:

1. Your right to vote - anyone who is properly registered may vote in any election [HRS 11-11].
2. Your right to secrecy of voting - A voter may keep his or her vote and political party preference secret. No one may look at or ask to see a voter's ballot [HRS 11-137].
3. Your right to special assistance - A voter who is disabled or unable to read and/or write, may receive special assistance [HRS 11-139].
4. Your right to time off for voting - A voter may take off from work in order to vote [HRS 11-95].
5. Your right to spoil the ballot - Any voter may spoil a ballot and obtain another upon returning the spoiled one. Before returning the spoiled ballot, the voter shall conform to the procedures in order to retain secrecy of the vote [HRS 11-140].
6. Your right to vote by absentee ballot - Any person registered to vote may cast an absentee ballot [HRS 15-2].
7. Your right to challenge - On election day, any registered voter who is at the rightful polling place may challenge another voter's right to vote [HRS 11-25(b)]. Grounds for challenge are the

person's identity and residency.

8. Your right to appeal challenge decisions - Any challenged voter may appeal the decision of the city/county clerk or precinct official to the appropriate county Board of Registration (BOR) [HRS 11-26]. A person affected by the BOR's decision may appeal the decision to the Hawaii State Supreme Court [HRS 11-51].

Voter Responsibilities:

- Be a RESPONSIBLE Voter:
- Report problems or violations of election laws.
 - Ensure your address is current on the voter registration list.
 - Smile! Treat precinct workers with courtesy.
 - Protect the privacy of others.
 - Obtain proper ID to verify your identity.
 - Not sure? Ask!
 - Study and know candidates and issues.
 - Inspect your ballot for accuracy.
 - Be on time, know your precinct's hours of operation.
 - Learn how to use the voting equipment properly.
 - Enjoy your voting experience!

PRIMARY ELECTION CANDIDATES LIST

(from page 15)

MOLOKAI
(NS) MATEO, Danny A.

KAUAI MAYOR
(NS) BIEBER, Rolf H. 5015
(NS) CARVALHO, Bernard P.
(NS) RAPOZO, Mel
(NS) YUKIMURA, JoAnn A.

KAUAI PROSECUTOR
(NS) ISERI-CARVALHO, Shaylene C.

KAUAI COUNCIL
(NS) AGOR, Ron
(NS) ASING, Bill (Kaipo)

(NS) BARTOLO, Bob
(NS) BYNUM, Tim
(NS) CARIFFE, Bob
(NS) CHANG, Dickie
(NS) FURFARO, Jay
(NS) HOFF, John R.
(NS) KANEAKUA, Harry K. Jr.
(NS) KANESHIRO, Daryl W.
(NS) KAWAHARA, Lani T.
(NS) KAWAKAMI, Derek S.K.
(NS) KEALOHA, Christobel K.
(NS) KOU'UHI, Ronald
(NS) KUALII, Kipuka Kai Les P.
(NS) LIBRE, Rhoda L.
(NS) McMAHON, Nancy A.
(NS) MIJARES, Scott F.

(NS) PASADAVA, Linda
(NS) PLEAS, Bruce J.
(NS) RAPOZO, Mel
(NS) TAYLOR, Kenneth R.
(NS) THRONAS, George S., Jr.

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Elections for the Board of Education are nonpartisan. The top two primary election winners for each seat will advance to the general election.

II SCHOOL BOARD 1ST DEPT/ HAWAII (I)
(NS) BRYANT, Paul

(NS) SANBORN, J William (Bill)
(NS) WALSH, Patrick M.
(NS) WATANABE, Herbert S.

II SCHOOL BOARD 7TH DEPT/ KAUAI (I)
(NS) COX, Maggie
(NS) FILLHART, Larry

I SCHOOL BOARD 1 SCHOOL BOARD 3RD DEPT/ HONOLULU (I)
(NS) KIRKPATRICK, Malcolm
(NS) LEE, Carol Mon
(NS) MATSUMOTO, Denise

I SCHOOL BOARD 5TH DEPT/ LEIWAARD (I)
(NS) HARIMOTO, Breene Y.

I SCHOOL BOARD NO DEPT SCH DIST RES (I)
(NS) AHU ISA, Lei (NS)
(NS) AIONA, Kanakanu Darrow L.
(NS) AKUNA, Janis
(NS) LINVILLE, Marcia L.
(NS) NAMUO, Pauline N.
(NS) PETERS, Robert E.
(NS) TOGUCHI, Garrett M.
(NS) TOM, Terrance W.H.
(NS) YEE, Randall M. L.



PAKAAMMO MAIPANGGEP KADAGITI SINGASING NGA ENMIENDA TI KONSTITUSION TI ESTADO TI HAWAII

Bayat ti Regular a Sesion iti 2007 and 2008, Maika-duapulo ket uppat a Lehislatura, maysa (I) a gakat a nakalaonan ti singasing nga enmienda ti Konstitusion ti naanamongan kas mayayon kadagiti kasapulan ti Artikulo XVII, Seksion 3 ti Konstitusion ti Estado ti Hawaii.

S.B. No. 966

GAKAT A MAIPAULOG A LINTEG SINGASING NGA ENMIENDA WENNO PANAGBALBALIW TI ARTIKULO V, SEKSION 1, TI KONSTITUSION TI HAWAII, A MANGSUKAT ITI KUALIFIKASION A MAINAIG ITI EDAD DAGITI OFISINA TI GOVERNADOR KEN TENIENTE GOVERNADOR NGA IMBES NGA EDAD A TALLOPULO A TAWEN KET MASANDIAN ITI BIENESINGKO WENNO DUAPULO KET LIMA A TAWEN

MADAWAT TI PANANGIPROMULGAR TI LEHISLATURA TI ESTADO TI HAWAII:

Seksion 1. Masinunuo ti lehislatura a no maenmiendaran wenno mabalbaliwan ti Konstitusion ti Estado ti Hawaii i tapno iti kasta ket dagiti residente ti Hawaii i nga edadad iti bienesingko wenno duapulo ket lima ken nasursurok, ket mapalubosan nga agpailayan a kas kandidato ken agtugaw iti ofisina ti gobernador wenno teniente gobernador ket mangpareget kadagiti agkabannuag nga umili tapno makipagpartisiparda iti proseso ti kinaliderato. Adu dagiti nalalain, kualifikado, ken experiensada a kandidato nga awanan pay iti edad a tallopuLO a ti makapagpailayan para iti ofisina ti gobernador wenno teniente gobernador gapu iti agdama nga arbitrario a restriksion iti edad a tallopuLO.

Idinto ta adu dagiti naimballigian nga empresario ken empresaria, lider militar, ken nabutosan nga ofisial nga addaan ti agurang nga edad a tallopuLO, dagiti agkabannuag nga umili ket kaudianna ket dislusionado iti gobierno, ket mariknada a dida maairaman ken saanda a parte ti proseso. Baoben ti panangibaba iti edad kadagiti kangatuan a mabutosan nga ofisial ti Hawaii i iti bienesingko wenno duapulo ket lima, magutigog dagiti agkabannuag nga umili a mangpanunot a silulakat ti ridaw ken adda oportunidad para kadakuada a mangrepresentar iti estadotayo kas gobernador ken teniente gobernador.

Kasta met a siaamno ti lehislatura a ti edadad iti bienesingko wenno duapulo ket lima, segun iti Konstitusion ti Estados Unidos, ket kualifikado nga agpailayan ken mabutosan iti Konggreso, ket ngarud, addaan isuna iti turay a mangdeklara iti gubat wenno gera, ken mangibaon kadagiti rinibu nga Amerikan nga annak a lallaki ken babai iti paggugubatan wenno pagdadangandangan, ken mangirigso kadagiti biag dagitoy nga annak ti pagilian. Rinibu dagiti soldado ti Hawaii i iti isu amin nga edad ti nagsubli iti nabii, ket adu kadagitoy agsububli a beterano ket agkabannuag nga umili a, gapu iti pannakainpirarda iti padasda, ket agreggetda nga agserbi iti Hawaii i iti position ti kinaliderato.

The panggep daytoy nga Akta ket ti mangisingasing iti enmienda ti artikulo V, seksion 1, iti Konstitusion ti Estado ti Hawaii i tapno maibaba ti kualifikasion iti edad para iti ofisina ti gobernador manipud iti trenta wenno tallopuLO a tawen ket

masukatan iti bienesingko wenno duapulo ket lima a tawen. Daytoy met laeng nga enmienda ket ibabana met ti edad para iti teniente gobernador, gapu ta dagiti kualifikasion ket agpada para kadagitoy dua nga ofisina, kas sagudayen ti artikulo V, seksion 2.

Seksion 2. Artikulo V, seksion 1, maenmiendaran ti Konstitusion ti Estado ti Hawaii i ket mabasa a kas iti sumaganad:

"TI EHEKUTIVO A PANANGPUNDAR TI EHEKUTIVO

Seksion 1. Ti turay ehekutivo ti Estado ket adda iti gobernador. Butosan dagiti kualifikado a botante iti Estado ti gobernador iti maysa a sapsap nga eleksion. Ti pabutosan a tao a makaala iti kangatuan a botos ti agbalin a gobernador. Iti kaso ti agpada a botos, madermina ti pannakapili ti gobernador segun iti probision ti paglintegan.

Mangrugi ti termino wenno takem ti ofisina ti gobernador iti agmatun ti umuna a Lunes ti Disiembre sumaruno kalpasan ti eleksion ti gobernador ket agpatingga iti agmatun ti umuna a Lunes ti Disiembre, uppat a tawen kalpasanna.

Awan ti asinno man a mabalina a mabutosan a gobernador iti unos ti agsaruno a sibubukel a dua a termino wenno takem.

Awan ti asinno man a mabalina nga agpailayan para iti ofisina ti gobernador no saan a kualifikado a botante, nangnganan ti edad a [hallopuLO] bienesingko wenno duapulo ket lima a tawen ken residente iti daytoy nga Estado iti las-ud ti lima a tawen kasakbayan ti pannakailayonna.

Saan a mabalina a ti gobernador ket mangtingngel iti ania man nga ofisina wenno pagtrabahuan nga addaan panaganansia iti baaben ti Estado wenno ti Estados Unidos iti las-ud ti panangtakenna a kas gobernador.

Seksion 3. Ti saludsod a maimalditi iti balota ket kas iti sumaganad:

"Maibaba kadi ti kualifikasion ti edad ti ofisina ti gobernador ken ti ofisina ti teniente gobernador nga imbes a trenta wenno tallopuLO a tawen ket maibaba daytoy iti bienesingko wenno duapulo ken lima a tawen?"

Seksion 4. Ti konstitusional a probision a masukatan ket nakabraket ken maikkat. Ti baro a konstitusional a probision ket maikkan iti enfasis wenno mapabuddak.

Seksion 5. Daytoy nga enmienda ket agepektok apaman a maipatungpal ti artikulo XVII, seksion 3, iti Konstitusion ti Estado ti Hawaii i.

PATRICIA MAU-SHIMIZU
Klerk ti Kamara de Representantes

CAROL TANIGUCHI
Klerk ti Senado

LEGAL NOTES

Requirements for Affidavit of Support



By Reuben S. Seguritan

An Affidavit of Support is required in all family-based immigrant visa and adjustment of status applications.

The purpose of this form is to establish that the sponsored immigrant will not be a public charge in the U.S. Being a public charge is a ground of inadmissibility as a lawful permanent resident.

The sponsor executing the affidavit must be a U.S. citizen, national or lawful permanent resident; at least 18 years of age; and has principal residence in the U.S. or its territories.

The sponsor must provide proof that he or she has an annual income of at least 125 per-

cent of the Federal poverty income level. In satisfying the 125% rule, the size of the sponsor's family must be taken into consideration.

The federal poverty line is based on the guidelines issued by the Office of Management and Budget, which is published annually by the Department of Health and Human Services. The 2008 Poverty Guidelines set forth the 125% of poverty income level for the 48 contiguous states of the U.S. at \$17,500 per year for a family of two and graduated up to \$44,500.00 per year for a family of eight. \$4,500 must be added for each additional household member beyond eight to meet the threshold. For Alaska and Hawaii, the 125% threshold is higher at \$21,875 and \$20,125, respectively, for a family of two with graduated increases per additional household member.

The household members that must be counted in deter-

mining the family unit size and household income include the sponsor, his/her spouse, his/her unmarried and unemancipated children under 21, the persons that the sponsor claimed as dependents on his/her most recent federal income tax return, the intending immigrant and his/her accompanying derivative family members, if any, and all other aliens for whom the sponsor issued an affidavit of support which has not yet terminated.

While more household members require that a higher income must be shown, the sponsor can also include the incomes of the household members in satisfying the 125% poverty threshold and not just his/her own income and assets. For this purpose, an I-864A Contract Between Sponsor and Household Member has to be executed by the household member.

Unlike the main sponsor, the household members need not be U.S. citizens, nationals, or green

card holders. They just have to be at least 18 years old and residing at the address of the sponsor.

Even the intending immigrant can add his/her income to satisfy the 125 percent requirement. In this case, there is no need to execute the I-864A form unless the intending immigrant has a derivative spouse or child who will be immigrating with him/her. Proof of residence with the sponsor must be provided except when the intending immigrant is the spouse of the sponsor.

The proof of income must be from a lawful employment in the U.S. or a lawful source that will "continue to be available to the intending immigrant after he/she acquires permanent resident status." Moreover, the immigration regulation now stresses current income or "reasonably expected income" over prior reported income in the tax returns.

The sponsor cannot rely on Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Medicaid, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), food stamps and state child health insurance program as sources of income but may include retirement benefits, unemployment compensation, workers' compensation or other similar benefits. In fact, reliance on social security welfare benefits will trigger the public charge ground for disqualification of the intending immigrant as lawful permanent resident.

Lastly, if the cumulative household income is still not enough to meet the 125% poverty threshold, then a joint sponsor can execute an additional I-864 Affidavit of Support to meet the financial requirements.

REUBEN S. SEGURITAN has been practicing law for over 30 years. For further information, you may call him at (212) 695-5281 or log on to his website at www.seguritan.com

EMPLOYMENT

Workplace Discrimination Part 1



By Michelle Alarcon, Esq

Hawaii's unemployment rate increased dramatically from below 3% to 5% this year. Jobs are harder to find and workers are hanging on to jobs as long as they can. If the real estate is buyers' market, the workplace is an

employer's market. Real estate sellers are experiencing some predatory offers for their houses, however, in the workplace, employees do not have to accept abuse to keep their jobs. Workers rights are deeply rooted in history. Employers must uphold and respect these rights regardless of the economic cycle.

What are your employee rights and responsibilities? Paramount of these is the right to be free from discrimination and harassment. In Hawaii, employers cannot fire you, treat you differently in compensation mat-

ters, deny your promotion, or make other employment related decisions if their motivation is based partly or in whole on your race, sex, sexual orientation, age, religion, color, ancestry, disability, marital status, or arrest and court record. This sounds like an easy policy but too often misunderstood by both sides.

Employees come to me feeling unfairly treated and singled out by their managers. Some of them leave disappointed to hear that the law is not the answer to their dilemma because the unfair treatment was not illegal. Why? Because not all unfair and discriminatory practices are protected by law. To be illegal, the action must be directed against your race or sex, or any of the protected classes. Communication, not the law, is the best solution in these situations.

On the other hand, some managers truly misconstrue or

blatantly disregard the law and make decisions based on these protected classes. I used to work for a Hollywood executive who told me not to hire people with visible tattoos, and "no more Asians." I replied that this is not good business practice but he may be able to get away with the "tattoo" part, not the "Asian" part. "Tattooed" is not a protected class, but "Asian" is. This same manager pays male employees more than the females in similar jobs, and this is illegal. Pay disparity in similar jobs is allowed only if it is based on job-related factors such as seniority or shift differentials.

Employers beware and be mindful of these types of managers who are still out there, ignoring the law and risking the company's reputation by making discriminatory decisions based on protected categories out of spite, ignorance, or ill-will. Be wary too, of managers who make decisions that are

seemingly neutral and pretend to abide by company policy but manipulate results in order to single out a protected group, such as the older people, those with disability or minority race. Examples of these could be manipulating interviews or test results. If the result maliciously excludes a protected class, this may be an illegal pretext to discrimination.

Discrimination lawsuits can cost your organization millions in both ill repute and legal fees and awards. Employees who believe that their legal rights may have been violated may seek external help from agencies such as the Hawaii Civil Rights Commission.

This article is for informational purposes only, is not intended as legal advice and reflects only the opinions of the author on general employment issues. Michelle Alarcon is a graduate of Loyola Law School in Los Angeles and her firm, the Law Office of Michelle Alarcon, L.L.C., focuses on immigration law and employment law. She is also a professor at Hawaii Pacific University teaching employment and business law. Visit her website at www.alarconlawoffice.com.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 19, FRIDAY

Peñafrancia Fiesta • Vigil Procession at St. Philomena Parish Courtyard • 8:00 pm.

SEPTEMBER 21, SUNDAY

Peñafrancia Fiesta • (Fluvial Procession, Mass, Taste of Bicol) Rainbow Marina, Right of Arizona Memorial Park • 9:30 am.

SEPTEMBER 27, SATURDAY

Maria Clara Ball at Hibiscus Ballroom of Ala Moana Hotel • 6:00 pm. • Contact Edna Alikapala at 282-3669 or Jo Farina at 282-3847

OCTOBER 4, SATURDAY

Taste of Kapolei • Ulua, fourth lagoon of the Ko Olina Resort & Marina • 5:30-9:00 pm. • For more info. contact (808) 674-2500

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On September 20, 2008, Please Re-elect Mufi Hannemann Our Mayor. Making Our Home A Better Place

Our Mayor believes in and lives the same values all Filipinos hold so dear: faith, family, hard work, education, public service, and community.



Our Mayor is one of us. Born and raised in Kalihi amongst many Filipino neighbors, our Mayor is no stranger to our community. We see him at many of our events, supporting the causes important to us. From the very beginning, he was a strong advocate of the Filipino Community Center. In 1994, he was the councilman for Waipahu who led the planning process that enabled Amfac to donate the land for the Center and supply financing for it. And he was very supportive of our recent 100th anniversary celebration. Our Mayor has traveled to the Philippines many times and visited Laoag, Vigan, Cebu, and Manila and other cities as well. He developed close relationships with many Philippine government officials and has

endeared himself such that he was proclaimed an "adopted son" by several Philippine municipalities. He understands our issues.

Our Mayor's story is our story. Born to poor first generation immigrants, our Mayor was the sixth of seven children. His father worked at Foremost Dairies but had two to three other jobs to meet the family's needs while his mother stayed home to take care of the children and extended family. Both parents valued education so after going to public schools, our Mayor received a scholarship from Iolani School where he served as student council president. He fulfilled his mother's dreams when he was accepted at one of America's top schools, Harvard University. As part of his work-study program, he accepted the job that paid the most but was most humbling: cleaning toi-

lets. Despite the many hardships, our Mayor sacrificed and persevered and graduated with honors. Only in America.

Our Mayor has the experience. Before being elected to public office, our Mayor worked in the administrations of four U.S. Presidents and two Hawaii governors, and also worked in the private sector and the non-profit world. These experiences gave him an understanding that we need both the private and public sectors and labor and management to work together to make our city a better place.

Our Mayor cares. Our Mayor believes in our future and our quality of life. He has worked hard to fix our roads and sewers. And as a strong, visionary leader, he has started to tackle our traffic and waste problems. He has a track record we can trust.



Our Mayor deserves to be re-elected. Mufi Hannemann has been endorsed by:

• Honolulu Advertiser • Honolulu Star-Bulletin • SHOPO (Honolulu Police Officers) • Hawaii Firefighters • HGEA • UPW • ILWU • Oahu Farm Bureau • Teamsters • Laborers Union Local 368 • BuildPac Hawaii • Hawaii Hotel and Lodging Assn • Hawaii Carpenters • Building Trades Council • and more!

Felipe Abinsay, Jr. • Mito Ablan • Edmund Aczon • Michelle Aczon • Vergel Adonis • Eddie Agas, Sr. • Anita Agcaoili • Christina Aglibot • Evamarie Aguilera • Rostita Agulba • Bobby Agpaao • Elisa Agpaao • Zenia Agpaao • Renie Agsaldin • Prospero Aguado • Eddie Aguineldo • Gene Albano • Wilma Albano • Natty Alcisto • Amy Alejo • Earl Alferez • Porfiria Alferez • Edna Alilipala • Don Alvarez • Valerie Ancog • Ernesto Andrade • Maureen Andrade • Hector Ansayag • Esmeralda Apostol • Benjamin Arcamo • Dolores Babaan • Corazon Bacilo-Credo • Edlo Badua • Jane Badua • Melanie Badua • Luz Bagaosan • Roslyn Balaisico • Edna Ballesteros • Maria Ballioli • Richard Balmaceda • Teresa Balmaceda • Beatriz Balmonte • Jose Baltazar • Nahma Bapista • Tessie Barnes • Julie Batara • Edith Batanga • Estrella Bautista • Rod Baybayan • Rose Baybayan • Claire Bello • Luzviminda Birks • Elisa Bollob • Della C. Bolosan • Romeo Bolosan • Marilyn Bonilla-Luna • Mayrose Borromeo • Wilma Bumanglag • Nancy Bunda • Feliza Burigay • Amelia Casuzmina Cabatu • Alma Caberto • Sam Cabigon • Benjamin Caberos • Erlita Cabuena • Romana Rose Cabus • Conchita Cachero • Consolacion Cadiente • Josefina Caddall • Severo Caddall • Lina Calderon • Robert Calizo • George Carpenter • Paz Celebrado • Renee Collado • Andy Corpus • Annie Corpus • Paicia Corpus • Faye Cudal • William Cudal • Jeffrey Cudiamat • Maria Dalan • Norma Daligon • Consuelo Damo • Ferdinand Daorang • Jasmin Dar • Marivic Dar • Leonila Degala • Chantelle DeJesus • Tess DeJesus • Joy Dela Cruz • Luisito Dela Cuesta • Femme Domingo • Maggie Domingo • Agustina Dumanjag • Angel Dytoc • Veronica Esteban • Maria Etrata • Mel Europa • Alfredo Evangelista • Bennette Evangelista • Bernadette Fajardo • Jo Farina • Anabel Febreo • Wilna Fernandez • Fara Jane Flor-Damo • Eddie Flores • Erwin Gabrilillo • Nestor Gagarin • Ednia Gamata • Josephine Ganancial • Nestor Garcia • Romeo Garcia • Aurea Garcia-Agas • Suzette Gaviola • Melga Gendrano • Genesis Gonzales • Benjamin Gudoy • Edith Gudoy • Judy Guerrero • Loretta Gusman • Lynne Gutierrez • A. J. Halagao • Lani Hiatt • O Baybee Hufana-Ablan • Lilibeth Hufana • Rowena Ibay-Juruj • Rudy Ibay • Aurelia Jacob • Olivia Jepas • Franz Don Juan • Noemi Juan • Germans Julian • Raquel Julian • Thomas Juruj • Evelyn Kaai • Janet Kaai • Stephanie Kaai • Alfred Landrizaral • Faustina Lazo • Jose Lazo • Ruth Pasion Liacans • Ciryan Loquino • Cirvalina Longboy • Gus Longboy • Lynda Longboy • Cora Lucas • Leonia Macadangdang • Josephine Macaraeg • Priscilla Macaraeg • Steve Macaraeg • Jasmin Maebe • Julius Maebe • Yonie Malig-on • Maan Manahan • Fu Maneva • Maria Mangallan • Clifford Manning • Luzviminda Marcos • Imelda Mariano • Ted Mina • Natyia Miyat • Evangelina Munoz • Ester Pascual • Raymond Obra • Nancy Olinarez • Joyce Mina Oliveira • Grace Ordonia • Dolly Ortal • Jojie Panganiban • Mario Palma • Leticia Pascua • Dino Pascual • Nestor Pasual • Maria Lucia Pascual • Shirley Pasion • Lisa Paulino • Jovelyn-Marie Pedro • Anna Pidong • Natividad Prescott • William Prescott • Josephine Quiambao • Pablo Quiban • Arcell Quibar • Nilda Quindara • Rufina Parras • Peneline Rabanal • Francis Ramento • Melanie Ramiscal • Alma Joy Ramones • Gerardo Ramos • John Ramos • Marilyn Ramos • Teresta Ramos • Virgie Ramos • Merilinda Rheume • Zenaida Rivera • Jesse Rosales • Lynette Ross • Letty Tesoro Saban • Sylvia Sadaba • Aurelio Sagayaga • Magdalena Sagayaga • Arcelle Sanchez • Abundo Saramosing • Ruby Sarmiento • Florante Sebastian • Veronica Sedeno • Abelina Madala Sep • Edith Sipe • Zenaida Tabladillo • Patricia Tanaid • Paulino Tanon • Editha Tapat • Cassie Tolentino • Jane Tolentino • Sonny Tolentino • Wilson Tolentino • Jocelyn Toribio • Rebecca Tumamao • Wilfredo Tungol • Cecilia Villafuerte • Felix Yaranon, Jr. • Lilia Zarcosso

Re-elect Mayor



Making Our Home
A Better Place.