

ARAW NG KAGITINGAN

REMEMBERING OUR GALLANT HEROES

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TO THE ANGELS

US ARMY NURSE CORPS US NAVY NURSE CORPS
IN HONOR OF THE VALIANT AMERICAN MILITARY WOMEN WHO GAVE SO MUCH OF THEMSELVES IN THE EARLY DAYS OF WORLD WAR II. THEY PROVIDED CARE AND COMFORT TO THE GALLANT DEFENDERS OF BATAAN AND CORREGIDOR. THEY LIVED ON A STARVATION DIET, SHARED THE BOMBING, STRAFING, SNIPING, SICKNESS AND DISEASE WHILE WORKING ENDLESS HOURS OF HEARTBREAKING DUTY. THESE NURSES ALWAYS HAD A SMILE, A TENDER TOUCH AND A KIND WORD FOR THEIR PATIENTS THEY TRULY EARNED THE NAME

THE ANGELS OF BATAAN AND CORREGIDOR
DEDICATED ON THIS 6TH DAY OF MAY 2000

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EDITORIALS

Honoring Veterans on *Araw ng Kagitingan*

During the course of our busy lives, we all too often forget to thank others for the difference they have made in our lives—especially our veterans who have fought to defend our freedom. We must never forget the lives that were given, hearts that were broken and families that were split apart by the horrors of war—all in the name of independence.

Several events are held throughout the year like *Araw ng Kagitingan* that honor the courage and sacrifices of Filipino and American veterans of World War II. Among them is *Araw ng Kagitingan* held on April 9th—the anniversary of the Fall of Bataan—which culminated in the surrender of more than 75,000 Filipino and American troops, and the subsequent Bataan Death March, which later claimed nearly 10,000 Filipino and American lives. Their sacrifices were pivotal, considering that out of all the wars in recent memory, it was World War II that threatened the Philippines' very existence as a nation and as a free society. *Kudos* to those veterans groups and other organizations in the Philippines that have taken time to document the stories of these war heroes. Their stories need to be told and memorialized, especially to the younger generation as a reminder of the debt owed to these gallant men.

In the U.S., an interesting program called the Stars and Stripes Honor Flight transports veterans to Washington, D.C. to visit and reflect at various war memorials at no charge to veterans. A similar public-private partnership should be established in the Philippines for its own senior veterans, many of whom are terminally-ill and unable to move about freely, much less able to afford the cost of transportation. For many of them, such a tour would be their "last hurrah" and perhaps the final time they would be publicly recognized for what they have done.

An Honor Flight program in the Philippines is the very least that a grateful nation should undertake in appreciation for those who have given so much. In another 5-7 years, nearly all these Filipino World War II veterans will be gone. With more veterans passing away each day, our time to express our thanks to these brave men is running out. Let's do so while we still can.

The Significance of Easter Sunday

Chocolate bunnies, egg hunts and pretty Sunday dresses may come to mind when thinking of Easter. Not that there is anything wrong with these images and traditions. It's just that Easter Sunday holds much more significance than enjoying a delicious brunch or wearing a bonnet to church.

For Christians, Easter is a time to celebrate Christ's resurrection from the dead. Easter is perhaps the most significant event in human history. Three days prior, Jesus suffered a horrible death by crucifixion and was buried. Sometimes Filipinos place a little too much emphasis on the suffering and the death of Jesus, leaving His resurrection as a footnote. Even in the film, "The Passion of the Christ" the resurrection came and went in just a matter of moments.

Thankfully, His resurrection is more than a footnote—it is in fact the high point and main issue of the Christian faith and of God's crazy love for humanity. We would be in serious

FROM THE PUBLISHER

W

elcome to another issue of the Hawaii Filipino Chronicle! We hope that you will enjoy a Happy Easter with your family and friends.

April is a busy time of the month for most of us—Good Friday, Easter, Spring Break and the April 15th tax deadline, to name just a few. For you film enthusiasts, one event that you should mark your calendars for this month is the upcoming 7th Annual Filipino Film Festival, scheduled for April 18-28, 2015 at the Honolulu Museum of Art's Doris Duke Theatre. We will have more information on the line-up of films and other important details in an upcoming issue, so stay tuned.

Speaking of important, the hype continues to build in anticipation of the upcoming Manny Pacquiao-Floyd Mayweather mega fight scheduled for May 2nd in Las Vegas (see page 10). For Filipino boxing fans everywhere, the fight can't come soon enough. Oddsmakers have Mayweather as the early favorite. Win, lose or draw, Pacquiao will remain the beloved hero of Filipinos the world over—and not just for his boxing prowess but also for his inspirational life story and public service.

Our cover story for this issue, written by Dennis Galolo, is about an annual ceremony held at Punchbowl Cemetery called *Araw ng Kagitingan* or "Day of Valor" in honor of our World War II Filipino-American Veterans to whom the Philippines owes a deep debt of gratitude to for their sacrifices. Interestingly enough, not many people know that the state of New Mexico hosts an annual Bataan Memorial Death March commemorating the heroism of U.S. and Filipino service members who defended the Philippines during World War II. We hope that you will enjoy reading "*Araw ng Kagitingan: Remembering Our Gallant Veterans*" which begins on page 4. To our Filipino and Filipino-American veterans, thank you for your service.

In closing, we hope that you will take time to read the other stories and columns that are included in this issue. We encourage our readers to provide feedback, story ideas, tips or concerns regarding Hawaii's dynamic and vibrant Filipino community. If so, please drop us an email at: filipinochronicle@gmail.com. We'd love to hear from you! Our sincerest thanks to all of you for reading and faithfully supporting the Hawaii Filipino Chronicle—the state's leading Filipino newspaper!

Until next time...*aloha* and *mabuhay!*

Chona A. Montesines-Sonido

trouble had Jesus remained in the tomb. Our faith would be in vain, there would be no hope of ever again seeing loved ones who have passed on and worse yet, we would face a bleak eternity of dying in our sins. But because Jesus rose from the dead, we know that everything He said is true. We no longer need to fear death or what lies beyond the grave. Nor do we need to fear what the future holds.

You see, while the cross stands as a symbol of defeat, an empty tomb signifies complete and total victory—over sin and death. It's easy for Christians to become numb to this realization because we hear it so often. But if you really let it sink in, the true meaning of Easter can radically change your entire outlook on life. May the Blessed Hope of Easter fill our hearts and minds and sustain us throughout the year. Easter blessings to all!



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CANDID PERSPECTIVES

Did Filipina Elite Abuse 'Wealthy Investor' Visa Privilege in U.S.?



By Emil Guillermo

It's Holy Week, so maybe there are extra prayers being said for St. Scholastica alumna Analiza Moitinho de Almeida. And maybe a few for those who say they were victimized by her.

Analiza Moitinho de Almeida and her husband Goncalo are being sued by 11 of their current or former Filipino workers in Beverly Hills for human trafficking, racketeering, discrimination and California Labor code violations. It's a 27-count civil suit seeking more than \$1 million in damages and penalties.

If you haven't heard about Ana, you may have heard of her father, Philippine official Juan B. Santos, the former Nestle-Philippines chair, now ensconced comfortably as the head of the Social Security Department.

Ana went from her elite Philippine upbringing to boarding school in Europe, where she studied in Switzerland with the nuns of Mt. Olivet, then found her calling as a pastry student at one of the top hotel schools in Lake Geneva. There she met her husband, Goncalo, who is from Portugal.

Europe was where they spawned their big idea: Why not bring French pastry to the Philippines? Let the poor eat balut. For the elite, they would make gourmet wheat pandesal with imported whole wheat germ from Germany. Besides, Daddy Juan had the pull to finance the chi-chi bakeries, not just in Manila but in Australia

and Singapore.

Le Coeur de France bakeries seemed to work well until the Almeidas decided to sell when the profits were right. Once they sold, they set their sights on the U.S.—specifically, Southern California, Beverley Hills and Torrance.

Why make pesos when you can bake dollars?

There was only one thing they needed—their former employees, who were making under \$400 a month in Manila.

One of them is a woman, whom I talked with on the phone. She told me she was so scared for herself and her family in the Philippines and would only go by the name "Nora." In 2011, Nora was working at the Le Coeur de France bakery in Manila when she was approached by Ana who had already moved to the U.S. to start her new venture, L'Amande French Bakery.

Nora said Ana offered \$2,000 and an E-2 visa. It's a temporary visa, good for five years for skilled workers to come to America. Ana took care of everything for Nora and 10 others. The suit alleges Ana also made up some things in the paperwork to get the visas. Once again, an E-2 visa is for skilled workers.

But when Nora and the others arrived, they were put to work as household domestics, doing dishes, cleaning, cooking and yard work. On top of that, she said they did other manual labor like cleaning of Almeida's rental properties.

Oh, and the pay? Not \$2,000 a month. Try \$360 a month, according to Nora and the other workers. It was about the same pay that the workers got if they stayed put in their old jobs in Manila. But this



Analiza Moitinho de Almeida

was Los Angeles, not Metro Manila.

They took it and stayed together in the Almeida's laundry room, sleeping on the floor. Did they even have a banig?

Nora began crying when I talked to her. I asked her if she felt like a slave.

"Opo," she said. She wasn't allowed to leave and when she finally brought up the pay discrepancy she was threatened by Almeida. She said she and the others were told they would have to repay an

\$11,000 debt for being brought to America. A debt of \$11,000? That's not slavery. That sounds more like indentured servitude.

Nora, 47, said she felt trapped. Like the others, she had a working relationship with Ana and had known her for over 12 years. They trusted her on the offer to come to America. They didn't think it was a scheme for cheap labor.

For Nora, it was a dream opportunity—a way

to send dollars back to the peso world, to help her family mired in poverty. But she didn't know anything about the paperwork or the visa. Ana had taken care of all that, she said. And when the suggestion came up to leave, Nora said Ana threatened them.

"I'm very afraid for my family," Nora said. She feared Ana wouldn't hesitate to use any connections back home. Already there have been knocks on some doors of family members, she said.

"I regret that I joined Ana here," Nora said tearfully. "If I stayed (in the Philippines), I would not have endangered my family."

Hard to imagine it happening. But 11 Filipinos say it did.

I called Analiza Moitinho De Almeida and she denied it. But officially, she said she could not say more than the following statement: "French Concepts, Inc. dba L'Amande

French Bakery, believes that like anyone accused in our judicial system will have a turn to present our story and supporting evidence. At that time we will allow due process to take its course."

The workers—7 men and 4 women—aren't hiding behind statements. They still live in Los Angeles and still fear for their families' safety in the Philippines and even for their own safety in the U.S.

One of them told me they feel the only protection they have is for a light to shine brightly on their case. After what they experienced, they are finally speaking out and standing up for their rights.

EMIL GUILLERMO served on the editorial board of the Honolulu Advertiser. An award winning journalist, he was the first Filipino to host a national news program when he hosted NPR's "All Things Considered." He lives in Northern California.

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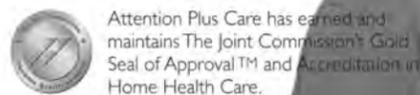
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COVER STORY

Araw ng Kagitingan: Remembering Our Gallant Veterans

By Dennis Galolo



Old soldiers never die; they just fade away.—U.S. Gen. Douglas MacArthur's address to Congress on April 19, 1951

The above words were uttered in a farewell speech before a joint session of Congress by the famous American general Douglas MacArthur. The words originate from a song popularized by British soldiers during World War I, called “Old Soldiers Never Die.”

Soldiers who fought in and survived World War II are now elderly men who are slowly fading away into the pages of history. Among them is Art Caleda, 91, who was drafted into the U.S. Army as a guerilla intelligence officer at the age of 21. Caleda and others in his age group were forced by circumstance to

come of age and carry the brunt of a nation under attack.

Caleda says that old age and illnesses have reduced the ranks of his fellow veterans. In fact, only a handful of them attend monthly meetings of the World War II Filipino Veterans organization, of which Caleda serves president.

“Many have returned home to the Philippines as they preferred to die and interred with their family members,” Caleda says.

Day of Valor

In Hawaii, the Filipino community honors the sacrifices of its gallant war veterans during an annual

ceremony called *Araw ng Kagitingan* or “Day of Valor” which is typically held at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific on the slopes of Punchbowl. This year marks the 73rd anniversary of the event, which is scheduled for April 9 at 3 pm.

Araw ng Kagitingan includes speeches, the laying of memorial wreaths in honor of fallen soldiers, the playing of taps and a memorial gun salute. The solemn ceremony is typically attended by visiting dignitaries, elected officials and other VIPs. But the real guests of honor are surviving veterans, such as those from the World War II Filipino-American Veterans and Ladies Auxiliary Hawaii Chapter, the Philippine Scout Veterans Organization of Hawaii, the First Filipino Infantry, U.S. Army and the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

The event is organized by the Philippine Consulate General in Honolulu and the Philippine Celebrations Coordinating Committee of Hawaii, with military components of the event provided by the U.S. Pacific Command.

April 9 is significant because it marks the Fall of Bataan and surrender of American and Filipino troops to Japanese forces after a fierce and bitter four-month long battle. Corregidor, a small, rocky island strategically located at the entrance to Manila Bay, fell a month later on May 6.

In the aftermath of Bataan's surrender, 78,000 Filipino and American prisoners of war were forced to march to a POW camp in San Fernando some 65 miles away. The or-



The statue of American and Filipino soldiers in Corregidor

deal came to be known as the Bataan Death March. Thousands died along the way. Those who could not make the arduous walk were rounded up like cattle, beheaded or used as bayonet practice by Japanese soldiers. Others were barricaded into bunkers and burned alive.

New Mexico Remembers Bataan

For most of the past 25 years, the state of New Mexico has held an annual Bataan Memorial Death March in honor of the heroic U.S. and Filipino service members who defended the Philippines during World War II.

The event is a challenging march through the high desert terrain of the White Sands Missile Range. Two routes are offered to participants—a full 26.2 mile route and a shorter 14.2 mile trek.

Over 6,000 people participated in this year's event which was held March 22, 2015. Among the visiting dignitaries was Jose Cuisia Jr., Philippine Ambassador to the U.S. who paid special tribute to surviving veterans of the New Mexico National Guard who were deployed to the

Philippines as part of the 200th and 515th Coast Artillery Regiments before the outbreak of the war.

“Many, especially in the Philippines, are not aware that New Mexico played a crucial role in the defense of my country during the last war,” Ambassador Cuisia told the participants. “Not many are aware that when Japanese bombers made their first attack in Luzon on December 8, 1941, it was the 200th Coast Artillery Regiment from New Mexico that fired the first shot in defense of the Philippines.”

The event is widely considered as the largest commemoration of the Bataan Death March outside the Philippines. It was first organized in 1989 by members of New Mexico State University's Army ROTC Department. It has grown from about 100 to some 6,500 marchers from across the U.S. and several foreign countries.

Veterans Week in the Philippines

The Philippine government also holds annual *Araw ng Kagitingan* ceremonies on April 9 each year that com-

(continued on page 5)

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(from page 4, ARAW....)

memorate the heroism of not only the Bataan defenders, but of all Filipino and American soldiers who fought against Japanese occupation of the Philippines during World War II. Parades are held in cities across the Philippines, flags are flown at half-mast and government offices and schools are closed.

In 1961, the Philippine Congress passed Republic Act 3022 which made April 9 a national holiday for the observance of what was then called Bataan Day. The event was renamed *Araw ng Kagitingan* or “Day of Valor” in 1987 under Executive Order No. 203 by then-President Corazon C. Aquino to commemorate the fall of Bataan and Corregidor.

Then in 1989, Proclamation 466 declared April 5-11 as Veterans Week in honor of all veterans of the Philippine military—not just World War II veterans. A series of events are held during the week to immortalize the valor of Filipino veterans, instill a sense of national pride and love for country, and prepare the youth to be the nation’s future leaders and defenders.

The week begins with a sunrise ceremony on April 5 at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Fort Andres Bonifacio, Taguig City and culminates on April 11 with a Sunset ceremony again at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier where veterans, widows, children and great-grand children of veterans gather for a Eucharistic Mass and a solemn program where attendees reflect on how their lives were touched by the veteran in their respective families. Attendees then recite the “Pledge of Patriotism” and hold a candle-lighting vigil honoring the veterans.

The highlight, of course, is the April 9 *Araw ng Kagitingan* ceremony which is held at the Mount Samat National Shrine in Bataan and traditionally led by no less than the president of the Philippines who exhorts attendees to offer acts of selfless sacrifices on behalf of the nation for the sake of meaningful change.



Sergeant First Class Arvin Layugan in Corregidor

Attendees include representatives of three nations—the Philippines, U.S. and Japan—were once in conflict but are now allies who support peace, stability and progress. Their participation is a poignant reminder that the best defense against conflict is close cooperation and adherence to and upholding of international law.

Fil-Am Soldier Visits Corregidor

On March 2, 2015, a ceremony was held in the Philippines to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the Retaking of Corregidor. The event was organized by The Corregidor Foundation Inc, Philippine Department of Tourism and the American Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines.

Sergeant First Class Arvin Layugan, a Filipino-American Soldier working for U.S. Army Pacific, was recently in the Philippines for the 70th Commemoration of the retaking of Corregidor by Allied forces. It was an eye-opening experience for Layugan, 36, who grew up in Ilocos Norte and immigrated with his family to Hawaii in 1986 at the age of 8.

“I was overwhelmed with knowledge and the feeling of honor for those that went before me,” says Layugan. “It felt great to be back in the Philippines and being part of the 70th anniversary of the liberation of the Philippines. Listening to all the great deeds accomplished to conquer the Japanese invaders was an emotional and intellectual experience.”

Layugan is a Hawaii Army National Guard soldier who has been deployed to Iraq

twice with the 1st Battalion, 487th Field Artillery Regiment based in Wahiawa.

“I’m proud of my service in Iraq but my service was nothing compared to what the American-Filipino allies experienced here in 1945,” Layugan told a Philippine radio station after the Corregidor ceremony. “I honor their sacrifice and am honored to have that Filipino military heritage as part of who I am and carry that every day now as an American soldier as well.”

There were no living survivors of Corregidor in attendance at the ceremony but Layugan says their sons and daughters were there to represent the defenders.

“It was reassuring to me that their memories and legacies are being kept by the people closest to them,” Layugan says. “If there is a lesson from the past, perhaps it is this—that we are better together, than apart. When we are together, no nation can stand against us.”

A second soldier from Hawaii was in attendance at the 70th anniversary of Corregidor—Maj. Gen. James Pasquarrette, Deputy Commanding General, U.S. Army Pacific, Fort Shafter, who briefly addressed the audience.

“We are committed to forever remember those who served and sacrificed at Corregidor,” he says. “We will never forget what happened here and will never forget those who in the words of Abraham Lincoln “gave the last full measure of devotion.””

Honoring Their Sacrifice

Now in the twilight years of his life, Caleda says he will carry to his grave the “prestige, honor and dignity of being a surviving war hero who fought in defense of free-

dom and democracy.”

Caleda’s last wish is for the world to never experience another large scale global conflict.

“I challenge the present generation to be prepared to prevent another world war,” he says. “War is too expensive and costly in terms of loss of human life, infrastructure, economic growth and progress of humankind.”

After reading many books about World War II and the roles that Filipinos played during that era, Laguyan says he has taken even greater pride in being a Filipino-American soldier and remembering the sacrifices of those who came before him.

“I commend and honor both the men and women who fought valiantly during those times and a heartfelt salute to those who gave the ultimate sacrifice. We will never forget them,” he says.

“We cannot forget the past and if we want to honor those from the past, we have a moral responsibility to inform the generations to come, so that this historic context can guide them when they become our nation’s decision makers.”

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COMMENTARY

Governing By Crisis Isn't Governing At All

By Lee H. Hamilton

After Congress came a hair's breadth from shutting down the Department of Homeland Security a few weeks ago, members of the leadership tried to reassure the American people. "We're certainly not going to shut down the government or default on the national debt," Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell declared on CBS's "Face the Nation." Congress, he said, would not lurch from crisis to crisis.

I wish I could be so confident. Because if you look at the year ahead, the congressional calendar is littered with opportunities to do just that.

Next month, unless Congress acts, doctors will see a steep cut in Medicare reim-

bursements. In May, the Highway Trust Fund runs out of money, meaning that infrastructure projects all across the country could grind to a halt. The following month, the federal Export-Import Bank's charter runs out. By the end of summer, Congress will need to raise the debt ceiling. Then it will have to find a way of funding the government for next year, deal with across-the-board spending cuts that are scheduled to take hold, and make it possible for the Treasury to continue to borrow money.

I don't know about you, but my bet is not on smooth sailing.

This is a huge problem. Great democracies do not veer from one doomsday moment to the next, nor do they fund government on a week-to-week basis. World superpow-



ers do not risk their creditworthiness or threaten to strangle their own agencies or force them to plan repeatedly for shutdowns. Yet that is precisely the habit Congress has developed. It's embarrassing.

Why? Look at what happened with Homeland Security. The issue, essentially, was that members, unhappy with President Obama's plan to shield undocumented immigrants from deportation, tried to use the DHS funding measure to force him to back down. In other words, they tied two unrelated issues together. The solution ultimately lay in separating them, allowing a vote on each.

But during the weeks Congress spent arriving at this commonsense approach, DHS had to get ready for roughly 30,000 employees to be furloughed, arrange to wind down administrative support functions, prepare law enforcement across the country for the loss of training funds, and ask crucial employees to be willing to work without pay

— we're talking the border patrol, Coast Guard, screeners at airports, cargo inspectors...the people on the front lines.

The impasse threatened ongoing research and planning on making the country safer and grants to local communities to pay salaries for emergency personnel. At the very point when terrorism overseas was consuming the attention of our national security agencies, the department charged with protecting the nation at home had to be consumed with shuttering its operations.

Small wonder that much of the world thinks the United States is incapable of governing itself.

I know that the politics of Capitol Hill are difficult right now. But they've been troublesome for years, and legislating is about getting things done in a difficult environment. Congress is designed to be an institution where the dilemmas of the moment can be overcome by skillful legislators. We need a Congress that can address its problems

before a crisis comes up.

What will it take to do so? Part of the answer lies in dedication to Congress's job. Its members need to work at legislating every day — not just the three days in the middle of the week. Its leaders need to make clear their determination to move legislation through in an orderly fashion. The so-called "Hastert Rule" — that the Speaker of the House will not allow a vote on a bill unless he has a majority of his own party behind it — needs to be jettisoned for good, not just in extreme circumstances. Allowing a majority of the House and the Senate to work its will, whatever the partisan alignment, would do wonders.

And perhaps most important, the tactic of tying two unrelated issues together in order to force an opponent's hand needs to be rejected. The parade of make-or-break issues that Congress faces this year presents myriad opportunities for legislative mischief. If all we see before us is one government-shutdown threat after another, the remaining faith Americans hold in our chief lawmaking body could disappear altogether. And deservedly so.

LEE HAMILTON is Director of the Center on Congress at Indiana University. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.

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HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

Honolulu Tops Nation in Per Capita Solar

Honolulu has more solar energy per capita than any other major American city, according to a new study by the Environment America Research & Policy Center.

Solar power has become a "go to" energy option for many cities. In Hawaii, the abundance of sunshine and high costs for imported energy makes solar particularly appealing for residents.

"Honolulu is honored to once again earn the top spot in

Environment America's nationwide study on photovoltaic (PV) capacity per capita," says Honolulu Mayor Kirk Caldwell. "In our proposed budget, my administration calls for spending \$4 million annually over the next four years to install PV systems at city facilities to continue pushing the needle when it comes to clean, sustainable energy."

Researchers who examined solar power installations in 65 cities nationwide found that Honolulu had enough solar energy at the end of last

year to power over 18,000 homes.

"Solar is abundant and pollution-free. Plus, it has no fuel costs," says Rob Sargent, energy program director with Environment America and co-author of the report. "Thoughtful local leaders are making the smart choice by going big on solar by supporting programs that allow solar to shine."

Environment America Research & Policy Center is a federation of state-based, citizen-funded environmental advocacy organizations.

IMMIGRATION GUIDE



By Atty. Emmanuel Samonte Tipon

Filipino Immigration Amnesty Applicant Wins Stay of Removal

and *In re Hashmi*, 24 I. & N. Dec. 785, 790 (B.I.A. 2009).

This case tests the sincerity of the Obama administration in granting amnesty. The only way the Attorney General's attorneys can beat us is if they admit that Obama's amnesty is illegal or that it does not apply to the Filipino applicant. But if they do that, many people will conclude that the amnesty is a mere "palabas" to gain Hispanic votes for the Democratic Party. After the Filipino applied for DAPA, a federal judge stopped its implementation because it was not issued in accordance with law. The Obama administration is fighting that case. Case No. B-14-254, U.S. District Court, S.D. Texas, Brownsville Div. See our article "Obama's immigration amnesty program blocked by judge".

The Caucasian counsel who represented the Filipino in the Immigration Court and the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) and lost told the mother of the amnesty applicant not to pursue an appeal (petition for review) because he believed the Court of Appeals had no jurisdiction and would not stay his removal.

The mother contacted me. I drafted a petition for review, told her and her family to read it, and to call me if she believed

that the court would stop the removal of her son. It was shown to the Caucasian lawyer. He joined me in filing the petition. His name even appears first. I did not object since alphabetically his name precedes mine. (An acquaintance once said that if I were white and my name started with "A" like "Abracadabra" I could be making thousands from Filipinos with colonial mentality. I promoted him from an "acquaintance" to a "friend").

The Filipino had been placed in removal (deportation) proceedings for conviction of promoting a dangerous drug and possession of drug paraphernalia. (I told him that with a better strategy in the criminal court he might have gotten off with a lesser offense and a better chance in the immigration court. But that is another story). He asked the Immigration Judge to continue the hearing for two months to await the President's executive action after the election. This was only the second request. (In another deportation case, a different IJ continued the case 12 times).

The IJ in this case refused, saying that it was "speculative at best" and ordered the Filipino removed. A modicum of respect for the President would have prompted any other IJ to continue the case until after the election. The BIA affirmed. What did you expect?

The Court of Appeals has jurisdiction over an appeal from a final decision and order of the Board which seeks a review of constitutional claims, questions of law, and abuse of discretion. INA § 242(a)(2)(D) [8 U.S.C. § 1252(a)(2)(D)]. The issue here is whether the IJ and the BIA abused their discretion and did not follow the regulations in denying continuance.

The Supreme Court has specified the conditions for a stay of removal in *Nken v. Holder*, 556 U.S. 418, 434 (2009), namely: (1) whether the stay applicant has made a strong showing that he is likely to succeed on the merits; (2) whether the applicant will be

irreparably injured absent a stay; (3) whether issuance of the stay will substantially injure the other parties interested in the proceeding; and (4) where the public interest lies.

We established that the Filipino satisfied the conditions for a stay of removal.

ATTY. TIPON has a Master of Laws degree from Yale Law School and a Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of the Philippines. He is originally from Laoag City and Magsingal, Ilocos Sur. Atty. Tipon specializes in immigration law and criminal defense. He served as an immigration officer and co-authored "Immigration Law Service, 1st ed.," an 8-volume practice guide for immigration officers and lawyers. His radio program airs Thursdays at 7:30 am on KNDI 1270 AM. He can be reached via mail at: 800 Bethel St., Suite 402, Honolulu, HI 96813, by telephone at (808) 225-2645 or by e-mail: filamlaw@yahoo.com. For more on Atty. Tipon, go online to: www.MilitaryandCriminalLaw.com. This article is a general overview of the subject matter discussed and is not intended as legal advice.

A Filipino we represented in applying for amnesty under President Obama's executive action called Deferred Action for Parental Responsibility (DAPA) won a temporary stay of his removal from the U.S. Court of Appeals in San Francisco six days before the BIA order for his removal became final.

This is the first case granting a stay of removal of an alien seeking amnesty. We told the court that this case involves a novel question of nationwide significance that potentially affects scores of aliens similarly situated as petitioner – whether an alien's motion for continuance in a removal proceeding on the ground that the alien seeks to avail of President Obama's deferred action for parents of United States citizen children and who have lived in the United States for more than five years constitutes a "good cause" for continuance under 8 C.F.R. § 1003.29 and precedent decisions like *Ahmed v. Holder*, 569 F.3d 1009 (9th Cir. 2009), *Flores v. Holder*, No. 12-2406 (02/26/2015 CA2)

HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

City to Hold Important Agricultural Lands Meetings

The City's Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) will hold a series of meetings in April to seek public input in identifying and mapping Oahu's Important Agricultural Lands (IALs).

The first meeting was held April 1 at Kapolei Hale. Two future meetings are scheduled for April 8 at Mililani Middle School's cafeteria and April 15 at Windward Community College's Hale Akoakoa Room 105. Both meetings will be held from 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm.

The public is encouraged to attend and offer comments and recommendations. The meetings will bring together stakeholders and the public to identify

what should be on Oahu's IAL map. IALs are defined as lands that:

- Are capable of producing sustained high agricultural yields when treated and managed according to accepted farming methods and technology.
- Contribute to the state's economic base, and produce agricultural commodities for export or local consumption.
- Are needed to promote the expansion of agricultural activities and income for the future, even if currently not in production.

For more information on the meetings, visit <http://www.honolulu-dpp.org/Planning/IAL.aspx>.

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FOOD & LEISURE

Chef Nobu on Pinoy Hospitality, Meeting Ferran Adria & De Niro's Fave Dish

CULTURE VULTURE By Therese Jamora-Garceau

As the song goes, Robert De Niro was waiting ... for Nobu. He had to wait four years before the chef would partner with him in the venture that would spawn 36 restaurants in 31 cities.

Chef Nobu Matsuhisa jokes that he did a better job of acting than Robert De Niro in *Casino*, where he had a cameo as a wealthy high roller.

The Japanese chef, who enjoys the one-name status usually reserved for rock stars and supermodels, was in Manila for a day last week (March 18) to preside over a lavish dinner in the hotel and restaurant that bear his name in the City of Dreams.

Prior to that, however, he served a lunch consisting of Nobu signature dishes to an assembled press eager to pick his brains.

"Bob De Niro's productions gave me an opportunity to play in his movie," Nobu says about *Casino*. "First I say 'I'm busy, busy, busy' ... finally I did it."

So, as the song goes, Robert De Niro was waiting ... for Nobu.

In the beginning he waited quite a long time before the chef would even agree to partner with him in the venture that would eventually spawn 36 restaurants in 31 cities on five continents.

"The first time he asked me to open a restaurant in New York, I said no because I felt the time wasn't right," Nobu recalls. "Four years later he asked again, 'Come to New York.' I was surprised because after the first offer I said no, but after waiting four years, what can I do, what can I say? Now I can trust him."

Joking aside about *Casino*, chef Nobu knows that acting is De Niro's domain, and the kitchen is his. "He respects us. He likes food but he never asks,

'Nobu, can you make this?' especially when it comes to the menu."

Though the legendary actor likes to eat, especially when he's tired, Nobu discloses that De Niro's not too fond of shellfish, particularly oysters. What he does love is our main dish for lunch, black cod with miso, which also happens to be Nobu's top seller all over the world. A thick cut of Alaskan black cod marinated in sweetened miso, it's so fresh and tender it surrenders immediately to my chopsticks. The flesh is juicy and flavorful — rich in umami, which is probably Nobu's main culinary secret.

"Umami is very important for food," he insists, citing his use of Parmesan on the baby spinach-dry miso salad that preceded the cod. "I never use Parmesan because cheese is not Japanese food. But I use a little sprinkled with the dressing because of umami."

He's also experimenting with freeze-dried miso because "miso and cheese both have umami," he notes, and drying the miso just intensifies its flavor.

Though the chef's acting career may be on hold, he hasn't given up showbiz entirely. Next month he will shoot the last episode of *Nobu's Japan*, a five-episode Discovery Channel series where he and a guest chef travel through Japan discovering local ingredients. His guest list reads like a who's who of celebrity chefs: Jose Andrés, Eric Ripert, Jean-Georges Vongerichten, Daniel Boulud and Thomas Keller, whom Nobu says are the best chefs working today. Their restaurants are his favorites.

'It's Not Creation, It's A Happening'

Nobuyuki Matsuhisa was an 18-year-old sushi chef when he moved to Peru to open a sushi bar there. The first time he ate local specialty ceviche,



Chef Nobu Matsuhisa

he thought, "Wow." Inspired, he started merging Peruvian ingredients like cilantro, jalapeño, and chili paste with sashimi and classical Japanese techniques.

"Lots of my signature dishes come from customer ideas," he admits. "I start to create this way; my yellowtail jalapeño was like a happening."

The happening went like this: Nobu was in Hawaii, cooking a number of charity dinners using yellowtail. At the end of each dinner, a chef had to make the staff meal with the leftover fish, so one night Nobu was looking through the fridge and found jalapeño and cilantro. Tired of using the usual soy sauce and wasabi, Nobu added the ingredients he'd found to the fish. The daring combination got the staff talking: "Nobu, what is this?"

"It's not creation, it's a happening," he says. "Now these dishes are spread all over the world. Any Japanese restaurant has yellowtail jalapeños. New-style sashimi, soft-shell crab rolls, and lots of Nobu signature dishes come from happening."

After three years in Peru, the adventurous chef moved to Argentina, back to Japan and then Alaska before settling in Los Angeles and opening his first Stateside restaurant, Matsuhisa in 1987. His novel fusion of Japanese and Peruvian flavors (he prefers to call it "Nobu style") attracted both foodies and Hollywood

celebrities, and it was there he met De Niro. "He understands my philosophy, he supports what I want, so we're good partners and good friends," Nobu says.

When Chef Nobu Met Chef Ferran

As pioneering a chef as Nobu was in the '90s, a lot has changed the culinary landscape since then: Ferran Adria and modern gastronomy, for one. Since Nobu himself is fond of saying, "Food is like fashion," I ask if he ever feels the need to keep up with the latest trends.

"I know Ferran very well, I was in Madrid Fusion several times," he replies. "Ferran changed the world, because he doesn't use much knife. He uses more machines, like a doctor's office. But people are very much interested in his cooking style. Ferran and I are very good friends. I speak Spanish, too, so very easy to communicate, but it's a different style of cooking, me and him. But his restaurant's closed already! I've been doing it more than 28 years," he laughs.

"He loves Nobu," adds the chef. "He said to me, 'Nobu, you are the genius because you created new-style sashimi.'"

Winning Formula

Our new-style sashimi today is cut from local *lapu-lapu*, glistening underneath a yuzu-soy sauce and combination of hot sesame and olive oils. Nobu Manila uses a significant number of local ingredients like shrimp, squid, octopus, and yellowfin tuna, according to executive sushi chef Akihisa Kawai. They only fly in what can't be found here, like Bluefin tuna and yellowtail.

The freshness of the *lapu-lapu* sashimi is impeccable, enhanced by some julienned ginger, chives, and sesame seeds, and I realize that Nobu doesn't need to rely on the latest food trends, fireworks or fancy techniques because you don't mess with a winning formula. In the chef's own words,

"Nobu's concept is very simple: best product, visually looks beautiful and tastes clean."

Another secret to success is teamwork, and for Manila Nobu has assembled a crack team of chefs who aren't afraid to innovate, led by executive chef Zack Hillberry, who has introduced creative elements in the room-service dining like the artisanal Takumi burger (with a tofu-infused bun, crispy shiitakes, foie gras, house-made ketchup and truffle-honey aioli) and, most deliciously, Filipino flavors like *tapsilog* to the breakfast buffet, as well as stellar a-la-minute items like eggs benedict, green-tea waffles, pain perdu, and bagels and lox — all given a Nobu twist, of course.

Though chef Nobu has a sushi bar at home that he describes as his "playroom," his tastes remain uncomplicated. He's not a fan of strange foods like snake soup, and his ultimate comfort food is anything his wife cooks, whether it's a basic Japanese meal of miso soup, rice and grilled fish, or something more western like pasta.

He didn't have enough time to check out our local eats, but raved about the Filipinos he'd met. "In Manila the people are so nice and smiling," he said. "We need hospitality like this."

He says he has a lot of Filipino chefs at Nobu in New York City, where his head chef is Filipino. "My Filipino chefs cook the staff meal, with a lot of pork."

Like many visiting foreign chefs before him, he has a hard time wrapping his head around Pinoy flavor combinations like *chamorado* and *tuyo*. "I never say, 'No, don't do this,' but we have to keep Nobu style." Meaning, don't expect any *chamorado*-and-*tuyo*-inspired chocolate-and-sushi on the menu anytime soon.

"Filipino culture is very interesting, and now I want to learn from it. I'm still learning!" (www.philstar.com)

NEWS FEATURE

WILL THESE 10 TRADITIONAL HOLY WEEK PRACTICES SURVIVE?

By Alixandra Caole Vila

MANILA, Philippines - During Holy Week, many Catholic households follow several traditions to honor Jesus Christ's sacrifice.

It has become a tradition that during these times, Filipino Catholics should remember Christ's passion, suffering and death by staying at home to pray and reflect on Christ's death. At present, however, some people opt to use the Holy Week to go to the beaches rather than sticking with the traditions.

Catholics have their own ways of observing the Holy Week. With a growing number of people choosing relaxation over reflection, will these Filipino traditions survive?

1. Fasting

Fasting is a simple reminder of what it means to suffer and to understand the sacrifice Jesus did for humanity. As a form of penitence, many people fast or voluntarily give up certain types of luxuries during the Lent season. The most common form of fasting during Lent is fasting from food.

2. Participating in Pabasa

For those who grew up in



provinces, Pabasamight be familiar. This is a ritual where your lolos and lolas chant the texts in the book of the passion of Christ in many different ways. For the young ones who have participated in the pabasa this year, and have endured the whole session, you should give credit to yourself.

3. Visita Iglesia

One of the most important traditions during Holy Week is the Visita Iglesia, a practice in which the faithful visit seven churches on Maundy Thursday leading to the Good Friday to commemorate Christ's passion and to pray in front of the Blessed Sacrament.

4. Procession

Processions are usually held on Good Friday, including The Way of the Cross. People led by the priest walk from station to station contemplating the Passion of

Christ. There are a total of 14 stations.

5. Senakulo

"Senakulo" is some sort of a play about the last days of Christ. They are often organized by and participated in by locals.

6. Moriones Festival

Moriones refers to the masked and costumed penitents who march around the towns in Marinduque for seven days searching for Longinus. They roam around the streets from Holy Monday to Easter Sunday as a tradition.

7. Cutud Crucifixions

Yearly activities in San Pedro, Pampanga during Holy Week include crucifixions. Participants in the local crucifixions usually play Biblical characters in full costume. They would reenact events during the Siete Palabras. This is done during Good Friday.



8. Flagellants

Flagellants in Pampanga during Holy Week are called "Magdarames." These practitioners do an extreme form of mortification of their own flesh by whipping it with various instruments. Flagellants roam the streets on Good Friday while either carrying wooden crosses or whipping their backs with bamboo lashes called "burilyos."

9. Night Vigil

Black Saturday is when Christ is entombed. Filipinos spend the day preparing for the night vigil leading up to Easter Sunday.

10. Salubong

Easter Sunday is the celebration of the resurrection of Christ. At four o'clock in the morning, Filipinos do asalubong ceremony commemorating how the Virgin Mary met her risen son Jesus. (www.philstar.com)

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HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

Consul General Jamoralin Visits Maui Businesses

Philippine Consul General of Honolulu Gina A. Jamoralin recently met with Maui businesses to discuss business ventures in the Philippines.

Jamoralin was invited by Maui Chamber of Commerce President Melen Agcolicol to the March 25th business briefing, which was held at Tante's Island Cuisine restaurant at the Maui Seaside Hotel. Entitled

"Doing Business in the Philippines" the economic briefing is believed to be the first ever on Maui conducted by a Philippine consul general.

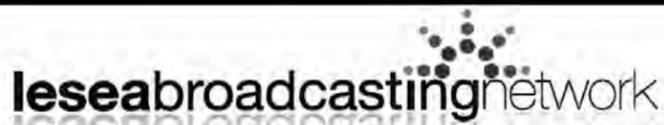
Jamoralin briefed the audience on foreign investment opportunities in the Philippines, including the Foreign Investment Negative List, preferred areas of foreign investments, government incentives to investors,

protection to foreign investors, business registration procedures, investors and retirees visas, and investment opportunities for former Filipino nationals. Many former Filipino nationals and foreigners married to Filipina spouses who attended the briefing expressed interest in the Philippine Dual Citizenship Law and visas. Others wanted to learn more about retiring in the Philippines.

Information brochures

provided by the Americas Division, International Investments Promotion Service, Board of Investments (BOI) of the Department of Trade and Industry were distributed to the audience.

Jamoralin also took the opportunity to promote the 10th Ambassadors, Consul General, Tourism Directors Tour (ACGTDT) in July 2015 and invited members of the Maui Chamber of Commerce to visit the Philippines.



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PHILIPPINE NEWS

Homeland to Secure Pacman Megafight

by Abac Cordero
Sunday, April 5, 2015



MANILA, Philippines - They're throwing a heavy security blanket on this super fight.

The FBI and the Department of Homeland Security will be on top of the situation when boxing superstars Floyd Mayweather Jr. and Manny Pacquiao collide at the MGM Grand on May 2.

They will make sure nothing untoward happens. No stone will be left unturned. No bag, no package will be left unchecked, unattended.

Security will be extra tight in and around the MGM before, during and after the fight. Bomb-sniffing dogs will be moving around.

"What I learned the other day is that the Homeland Security and the FBI will be in charge of security while we're in Vegas," Pacquiao's chief adviser, Mike Koncz, told The STAR yesterday.

"It's not only for the fighters but for the event itself. They're treating this as THE event and not just a regular boxing match," he said.

Koncz explained that in any big event in the United States, whether it's in politics, sports or entertainment, the FBI and the Homeland Security steps into the picture.

"Anytime you have a huge event like that there are potential problems that's why they get involved," said Koncz on the phone.

"It's like the Super Bowl which is regulated security wise by the FBI and Homeland Security," he said.

The FBI has been around for a century to serve the dual function of an intelligence agency and a federal law enforcement organization, men and women in dark suits and nylon jackets bearing the FBI colors.

The Homeland Security was created after the September 11 attacks "to ensure a homeland that is safe, secure and re-

silient against terrorism and other hazards."

On fight night, the MGM Grand will be the hottest place on earth.

It's the place to be seen.

"You will see hard-core boxing fans but you're gonna have people there that are socialites, rich that don't really follow boxing but who will be there for the event," said Koncz.

But not every Tom, Dick and Harry will be there because they can't afford to be there. Tickets to the fight, the biggest in boxing history, are more expensive than gold.

The cheapest tickets have a face value of \$1,500 (roughly P66,000) while the most expensive ones are at \$7,500 (roughly P330,000).

In previous Pacquiao fights, the best tickets sold for \$1,500.

But on the Internet, ringside seats for May 2 are now being sold for \$87,000 each (roughly P3.5 million), which is bigger than the lifetime savings of an ordinary Filipino.

Pacquiao's American promoter, Bob Arum, was astounded by the ticket prices on the Internet. He said he'd received offers of around \$80,000 for his seat to the fight.

"Anybody who's willing to pay \$200,000 can have my seat," he told The STAR in jest during a recent chat.

Mayweather has majority control over the tickets. And this time, Pacquiao will have in his hands just enough tickets for his family and closest friends.

"Pasensiya na muna (I beg for your understanding)," Pacquiao told his friends who won't get any tickets for the fight. (www.philstar.com)

Ayala Eyes P15-B NAIA Development Project

by Lawrence Agcaoili
Monday, April 6, 2015



MANILA, Philippines - Conglomerate Ayala Corp. has expressed interest in the proposed P15-billion development of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA). However, the group will not join the ongoing bidding for five regional airports worth P108.2 billion.

Ayala managing director John Eric

Francia said the listed conglomerate is joining the bidding for the NAIA devel-

(continued on page 11)

FEATURE

Education Issues Among Filipinos

By Lilia Quindoza-Santiago, Ph.D.

The context and the history of education of and for Filipinos in Hawaii differs from that in the Philippine homeland. Here, the element of race and racial discrimination is a central issue and concern.

The 2010 US census shows that the Filipino-American community is now the fastest growing Asian population group in Hawaii. Of the 1.4+million people in Hawaii, the Filipinos number around 392,095 and have grown 24.9% from 2000 overtaking the Japanese as the next largest group to the white population in the islands.

This only means that there is a steady stream of Filipinos immigrating to the islands from the Philippines and that Filipino communities in all the islands of the state continue to grow in number as well.

So what affects or afflicts the education of Filipinos in Hawaii?

Hawaii is a state annexed to the U.S in 1949. And whether or not that is a good or historically bad context depends on which side of the Hawaiian sovereignty issue one leans towards. Filipinos in Hawaii still need to understand this issue in all its complexities and intricacies in order to efficiently relate and understand the meaning and value of education in the state.

In spite of, or maybe because of this issue, Filipinos

in Hawaii have over the years been more self-reflexive in their understanding of their place in the Aloha State. But whether they are Filipinos of and in Hawaii or consider themselves Filipino-Americans or Americans, and along with the Hawaiians, and other marginalized minorities, Filipinos have zeroed in on the issue of race and racial discrimination. There are numerous studies of how Filipinos have been and are still discriminated against especially in the field of education in Hawaii. Despite their increasing numbers, despite a good presence in civil and political positions, Filipinos in the educational sector seem to be outranked, outnumbered, outflanked by their Asian counterparts.

This has been pointed in the study of Jeff Chang in 1990. Despite their growing numbers in the population, majority of Filipinos do not go on to college to earn degrees. Very rarely are there graduate students pursuing MAs and Ph.Ds. Many Filipino workers became prominent in the labor movement and labor unions that struggle for better working conditions in the islands. But they do not have an impact on education and higher education. Teachers and principals who migrate from the Philippines to Hawaii end up working in hotels, and other commercial establishments. Chang notes how Filipinos used the affirmative action movement to lessen racial tensions among



different groups in the islands. These groups consisted of whites versus non-white minorities as well as local born Filipinos and Filipino-Americans versus new immigrants from the Philippines. Chang asserts how Americanism has taken hold of earlier Filipino communities, and of how these communities struggled to earn better social status by being "Americanized" Language and language accent is a feature of Americanization and in most cases, Filipinos are not accepted into schools especially in tenure track teaching positions because of their accent. Language is therefore a key issue insofar as the Filipinos' presence in higher education is concerned.

The Filipino communities' struggles to dignify Filipino ethnicity in the state and prove that it has a lot to contribute to cultural diversity has had some positive results. A Center for Philippine Studies (CPS) was established in 1975. Filipino (Tagalog based) as well as Ilokano are taught as languages at UH

Manoa, UH Maui and UH Hilo. A degree program in B.A. Philippine Languages and Literatures has been instituted as a permanent degree program at UH Manoa.

But it seems that struggle has to continue with more rigor. Recently, Representative Isaac Choy filed House Bill 155, calling for the abolition of all degree programs at UH Manoa that graduate less than 10 students per year. Unfortunately, the B.A. Philippine Language and Literature program or the BA PLL is one of these programs that graduate less than 10 students per year. The house bill has been deferred after the Filipino community, along with other groups which were equally targeted by the bill, like French, German, Russian, and loads of secondary education majors courses,

protested at the hearing. Luckily, no one in the legislature supported the bill and hopefully this issue will not be brought up again.

But the numbers remain disturbing. Why have Filipinos shunned higher education through the years? Why has there been a disproportionate number of Filipinos in higher education considering their numbers and presence in the state of Hawaii? More significantly, why are there a minimal number of students that go into Philippine/Filipino studies? Is Philippine studies seen as a less prestigious field? As an area studies, is it not as interesting as the rest of area studies? There has to be more vigilance, reflection and introspection. An invigorating campaign with support from the community as well as higher education officials and politicians from the state is necessary and this campaign will have to draw out the best from the Filipino, Philippine-American Hawaiian community as a whole.

This is the last of a three-part series written by DR. LILIA Q. SANTIAGO on the value of a college degree or higher education to Filipinos. She is an assistant professor at the University of Hawaii-Manoa Ilokano Language & Literature Program.

PHILIPPINE NEWS (from page 10, AYALA....)

opment project that is now being finalized by the Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC).

"We are interested... if that happens. But for now it is still up in the air," Francia said.

The DOTC has included NAIA development in the list of projects to be undertaken under the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) program.

The PPP Center said in its website that the project aims to improve, upgrade and enhance the operational efficiencies of all existing NAIA terminals covering both land-side and airside except air traffic services.

The project would help the country's main gateway meet the standards set by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

The DOTC and the Manila International Airport Authority (MIAA) would undertake the NAIA development project. The feasibility study for the project is currently ongoing to determine its scope and viability.

The project would be submitted to the Cabinet-level National Economic and Development Authority – Investment Coordinating Com-

(continued on page 12)



Michael A. McMann, M.D.

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ESTATE PLANNING

PLANNING FOR YOUR CHILDREN

by Atty. Sheryll Bonilla

We all want to make sure our children are taken care of and try to give them the best we have. We set up college savings funds, take them to extracurricular activities, send them to private schools if we can, and buy life insurance to make sure they have an income in case we aren't there for them. There's one important task that is often overlooked, though, and that is making a will.

We have a good idea of who we think will best raise our children if we pass away

before they are fully grown. That's where a will comes in, because it is the legal document that allows us to name the ones we choose to take care of our kids in that unfortunate situation. Of the relatives and friends who we love and are dear to us, we know who has the best temperament, is the most responsible and the most loving, who would discipline the way we would and make choices similar to what we would make, who shares our values, and who has the time and energy to take our children into their homes for us.

Those caretakers we choose are called "guardians of the person". A will usually contains a provision for nomi-

ination of a guardian, which tells the court who you believe is best qualified to raise your children. Without a will, the court decides based on the testimony of the relatives who are available to become your children's guardians. Without a will, the court may decide to give the care of your children to family members who are not your first choice. With a will, you get to name your children's caretakers. You can also name a "guardian of the property" or "conservator" who will manage the money you leave behind for the upbringing of your children. This person is someone who is financially responsible and can get along well with your children's caretaker.

The guardian of the property and guardian of the person can be the same, but don't have to be.

A living trust takes these decisions a few steps further. A trust sets out your directions for how your money is to be managed after you are gone. You can direct how your money is to be used while your children are growing up, and how they will receive their inheritance after graduating from high school. Do you want your money to be used to pay for college? For a down a payment on a house after they earn their college degree? To support them if they serve as missionaries overseas? A trust gives you control over your fi-

nances after you have passed away. Without a trust, money will be spent as the money manager sees fit, and it may not be according to what you would have done.

Planning for our children goes beyond getting them into good school and activities, saving in educational accounts, and even buying life insurance. Setting up a will and even better, a living trust, sets out your choices for critical decisions such as who will raise your children for you and how your money will be managed after you are gone. Taking the time and effort to create these legal documents is as sound and wise an investment as any other you make for your children's sake.

PHILIPPINE NEWS

SWS: Satisfaction with PNoy Falls to Lowest Level

by Louis Bacani
Monday, April 6, 2015

MANILA, Philippines - President Benigno Aquino III's net satisfaction rating plummeted to its lowest level of his term, according to the latest survey conducted by the Social Weather Stations (SWS).

Results of the March 2015 poll showed on Monday that satisfaction with Aquino declined to 47 percent from 63 percent in December 2014

while dissatisfaction with him rose from 24 percent to 36 percent.

This gives Aquino a "moderate" net satisfaction rating of +11, down 28 points from his "good" +39 in December.

Aquino's satisfaction rating sank across all geographic areas and socioeconomic classes.

The biggest decline in his net score was recorded in Balance Luzon (areas in Luzon outside Mega Manila), which



President B.S. Aquino III

was from +39 to -3.

His rating fell by more than 10 points in Metro Manila (from +23 to +7), Visayas (from +42 to +30) and Mindanao (from +46 to +25).

Among Class ABC, Aquino's net satisfaction rating

plunged by 43 points from +49 to +6.

His score declined from +37 to +10 in Class D and from +45 to +18 in Class E.

Despite his new record-low rating, half of Filipinos still believe that Aquino should continue his term.

According to the same SWS poll, 50 percent of Filipinos disagree with calls for Aquino's resignation while 32 percent agree and 18 percent are undecided.

The newest survey polled 1,200 respondents from March 20 to 23 or nearly two months after the January 25 Mamasapano operation that left more than 60 people dead, including

44 Special Action Force (SAF) commandos.

Aquino has been under heavy fire for his perceived ineptitude in handling the Mamasapano debacle.

He has been criticized for not admitting his possible mistakes in the bungled operation and for allowing his longtime friend, then suspended Philippine National Police chief Alan Purisima, to participate in the mission.

The president has not apologized over the Mamasapano incident and has insisted that he was fed wrong information about the operation by Purisima and relieved SAF chief Getulio Napeñas. (www.philstar.com)

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PHILIPPINE NEWS (from page 11, AYALA....)

mittee (NEDA-ICC) in the second quarter of the year for approval.

The DOTC has awarded the P17.5 billion Mactan - Cebu International Airport passenger terminal building project to the Megawide - GMR Consortium and is also set to start the P7.2-billion passenger terminal building project at the Clark International Airport in Pampanga.

However, Francia said Ayala is not keen on joining the bidding for five regional

airport projects.

"The way we view the regional airports, it is at this point not a priority for us. That is why we haven't bought documents and we are not likely going to participate," he said.

According to Francia, Ayala through AC Infrastructure Holdings Inc. would like to focus on existing infrastructure projects being undertaken by the conglomerate.

"We wish to focus on other opportunities including

our existing projects and others in the pipeline," he added.

The Ayala Group has interest in three of the nine PPP projects worth P135.5 billion awarded by the Aquino administration. Its partnership with infrastructure giant Metro Pacific Investments Corp. (MPIC) and Macquarie Infrastructure Holdings Philippines through Light Rail Manila Consortium bagged the P65 billion Light Rail Transit line 1 (LRT-1) Cavite expansion project. (www.philstar.com)

LEGAL NOTES

April 1st is Start of H-1B Filing Period



By Reuben S. Seguritan

April 1st marks the start of the H-1B filing season for employers looking to sponsor foreign workers in specialty occupations.

Every year, the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) allocates a maximum of 65,000 new H-1B visas with an additional 20,000 visas available to graduates with advanced degrees from U.S. universities.

For the past two years, the number of H-1B petitions filed during the first week of filing exceeded the annual H-1B visa quota. In 2013, approximately 124,000 petitions were filed during the five-day filing window. In 2014, around 172,500

petitions were filed within the same number of days.

This year, it is expected that H-1B filings will again exceed the annual cap during the first five days of the filing season. The demand for cap-subject H-1B numbers for fiscal year 2016 which begins on October 1, 2015 is predicted to be even higher than last year. To increase the chances of getting an H-1B visa number, employers should prepare in advance to ensure that the petitions are received by the USCIS between April 1 and April 7.

Before the actual filing with the USCIS, the H-1B employer must obtain a certified labor condition application (LCA) from the Department of Labor.

The employer makes several attestations in the LCA including a promise to pay the required wage to the worker for the entire period of the authorized employment.

The employers also attest in the LCA that the current employees and the union, if any, are given notice of the petition and that there are no strike or lockout in the occupational classification at the place of employment.

The H-1B employer must also have documentary evidence of the beneficiary's educational background and work experience to make him/her eligible for H-1B classification. Documentary evidence includes diploma, transcript of records, credentials evaluations and license to practice the profession, if required, among others.

A U.S. employer cannot file multiple H-1B petitions for the same beneficiary. Multiple H-1B petitions by a single employer for the same beneficiary will be rejected. However, related employers such as a principal and subsidiary may file for the same

worker for different positions subject to other requirements. The H-1B beneficiary may work for more than one employer provided that each employer files a separate petition with the required labor condition application.

Employers must make sure that the petition made on Form I-129 is properly completed. There is a base fee of \$325 for an H-1B petition, an ACWIA fee of \$750 or \$1,500 depending on the number of employees of the employer and an anti-fraud fee of \$500.

Processing of H-1B petitions may be expedited through premium processing request on Form I-907. This may be filed concurrently with the H-1B petition. For a fee of \$1,225, premium processing guarantees a fifteen calendar day processing of filed petitions from receipt of the request.

For two consecutive years now, the USCIS has conducted

an H-1B lottery to select at random the petitions required to reach the cap from the pool of petitions received on the final receipt date. The petitions not selected in the lottery process as well as those filed after the final receipt date were rejected and returned with the filing fees.

There is no doubt that the annual limit on H-1B visa number can no longer keep up with the demand of U.S. companies. Many are hopeful that Congress will finally address this problem. In the meantime, if the H-1B quota is reached this year as predicted, U.S. employers will have to rely on luck whether they can hire much-needed high-skilled workers for fiscal year 2016.

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

HEALTHLINE

Study Finds 1 in 3 Teen Sex Assault Victims Attempt Suicide

A psychologist studying the symbiotic role that sexual assault and obesity play in attempted suicide among teens has found that one out of three male teen sex assault victims attempted suicide within the past year.

Laura Anderson, PhD, a licensed psychologist and assistant professor in the University at Buffalo School of Nursing, also found that a history of sexual assault and unhealthy weight placed girls at higher risk of attempted suicide.

"The stigma is often not addressed; it's a silent issue in society," says Anderson. "Very rarely does programming address boys. It's often presumed to be an issue for girls. The results highlight the need to educate the public and develop preventive programming and support for male and female sexual assault sur-

vivors." Suicide is the third leading cause of death among adolescents and the greatest indicator of whether an attempt will be successful is the number of times someone tries to take his or her life, says Anderson.

Anderson's study "Sexual Assault, Overweight, and Suicide Attempts in U.S. Adolescents," was published in *Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior*, a journal of the American Association of Suicidology.

The study resulted from an observation in her clinical practice over the years with children and teens. She noticed that those who attempted suicide tended to share the same histories of sexual assault and struggles with weight.

The results coincide with Sexual Assault Awareness Month and increasing efforts among national organizations and the University of Buffalo



to increase educational and training initiatives.

The study analyzed data from a Youth and Risk Behav-

ior Survey that sampled more than 31,000 teenagers in 2009 and 2011. The research continued a preliminary study from

2011 that found similar results using a smaller sample of teens.

The poll surveyed students ages 14 to 18 and examined whether the two variables influenced suicide attempts within a year of the survey.

- For boys, the study found:
- 3.5 percent of healthy-weight males with no sexual assault history attempted suicide.
- The percentage climbed to

(continued on page 15)

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DAYASADAS
By Pacita Saludes

Naselebraran Ti Mikatallopulo A Tawen Ti Badoc Pinili Women Association of America

Naragsak no agtitipon dagiti babbai. Al-isto nga agkakainawatanda, awan ti sumungani ti pagduyosanda, gpa-pada dagiti pagayatanda ken kaay-ayoda nga aramiden. Kasta ti punganay ti naorganism-irmi a babbai ti Badoc-Pinili Women's (BPWA) nupay sangsangapulo ket lima, adu met dagiti nakikadua kadakami iti agdama.

Ti BPWA sinelebranna ti maikatallopulo nga anibersariona idi Marso 21 idiy Mihilani Banquet Conference Hall. Nasuronk a sangagasut a sangaili ti timmalantan. Ti immona a

presidente isu daydi Mrs. Virginia Mahimer Burchet (pimusayen). Ti Bise Presidente ni Mrs. Honesta Duco Perez Rohr ti summublat a presidente agingga ita.

Adu dagiti babbai ti nakipagkameng ket naitungpal dagiti rusat babaen ti panangiwawanwan ti presidente. Nagpaut ti programa agingga iti ala dies iti rabii.

Adu dagiti sagana a panglagip ti kultura kas kadagiti salsala ken kankanta. Pina-dayawan ti presidente dagiti sumagmamano nangirusat babaen ti pangitedna kadagiti sertipiko a pammadayaw kadagiti managtulong nga opisyalesna. Ti Bise Presidente ni Caridad Raneses Bautista, ti Sekretary-Treasurer, ni

Trinidad Ramos Baliling Agama, ti Auditor ni Albina Bautista Gamponia, ti Public Relation Officer, ni Pacita Cabulera Saludes, dagiti Board of Direktors, da Benita Tacderan Calad Nieveras ken Linda Redondo Chan Gamulo.

Ni Father Ramon Danilo R. Laed ti nangidaulo ti kararag, da Marilyn Villar ken Mar Lopez ti nangidasar kadagiti Star Line Dancers, nagkanta ni Jana Perez Coloma ket ni Marilyn Villar ti nangiyam-ammo ti Guest of Honor ti maday-dayaw a Ret. General Samson MAHIMER ti Philippine Air Force.

Kas nayon ti rageagsak adda Toast dagiti Kamkameng ket naselebraran metten ti kasangay dagiti nayanak iti bulan ti Marso a kanayon nga idadulo ni Presidenta Honesta kadagiti adun a tawtawen.

AGYAMAN TI BADO PINILI WOMEN'S OF AMERICA TI ITATALANTANYO! AGBIAG TI NASALDET A PANGULO – ni HONESTA DUCO PEREZ ROHR!!!

DIAK TO MALAPATAN

Maalingagko dagiti rinibu nga arasaas Manipud bibig naruay a mangsipsiput magapuanak Adda nabatad, adda aweng laeng gapu ta agamak A ti padtona mabalin a pudno, mabalin a paspasarak.

Dayta ti lubong, napno't upay ken panagduadua Pannakagugor, pannakalais gapu't numo a makita Umisemak nupay kaunggan rikna em-emanna't sainnek Gabuay kinatarabit dila a manangimameg.

Diak agsanud iti uray ania a pannubok Ta isudat' karit a mangiduron kaniak a situtulok Itakderko dagiti panggep a sipipinget, diak agdukot Ammok a ti Dios itedna kaniak a pangsuo.

No dupirennak ublag ken nakana pannakapaay Ad-adda dagiti dapanko tumibtibker nga umaddang Babaen bileg pakinakem, ikararagko nadalus a tarigagay Diak sumkad, agbuteng uray biag ken patay.

Adu dagiti lapped tapno silawko aglumen Ngem kinada, ti Dios tarabayenna ti mairurumen Naikkan ti sarikedked a mangsuba ti après ti panawen Ta di nadalus a gagem isu't taklin dagiti managparbeng.

KADAGITI AGDAMA MASIRARATAKON TI PATLI ISANDI TI Langit itedna ti Ballaigi managduadua ken baelna ti mangpuri makaamiris koma ti kaibatgan ti umsi ta abilidad kada maysa agsusupadi.

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MAINLAND NEWS

Hirono Blasts GOP Senate's Proposed Budget

U.S. Sen. Mazie Hirono sharply criticized the GOP-controlled Senate's proposed budget which she says favors special interest groups and the wealthy and would hurt the middle class and economy.

Hirono characterized the GOP's budget proposal as a "disaster" that would also "undermine the gains that millions have made in getting affordable health insurance."

"This budget favors the wealthy and special interests on the backs of middle class families, seniors and students in Hawaii and across the country," Hirono says.

She filed two budget amendments that she says

would improve the budget—restoring year-round Pell Grants for college students, and investing in clean energy and preserving the environment.

On March 27, 2015 the Senate voted 52-46 to pass the Republican budget resolution, which calls for cutting \$5.1 trillion in federal spending over the next 10 years. Senators Hirono and Brian Schatz joined fellow Democrats and two Independents in voting against the GOP budget.

The Senate will need to solve its budget differences with the U.S. House of Representatives, which passed its own budget resolution, in conference committee after the Easter recess.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

BICOL CLUB EASTER SUNDAY POTLUCK | April 5, 2015 | Kapolei Regional Park | 10:00 AM | Please contact President Abe Lagrimas, Sr. (677-2976) (781-5303) and Vice Pres. Joem Malazarte (590-0055) for any fun accountabilities

FLORENCE LIU MACAULAY DISTINGUISHED LECTURE, CO-SPONSORED BY CPS AND THE SCHOOL OF ASIA AND PACIFIC STUDIES | April 8, 2015 | Architecture Auditorium, UHM | 3:30-5:00 PM | Contact Vina Lanzona (cpsdirector@hawaii.edu) or Clem Montero (cps@hawaii.edu1)

COVERT NETHERWORLD: AN INVISIBLE ARENA FOR CONTESTING GLOBAL POWER IN THE 21ST CENTURY | April 8, 2015 | COLLEGE HILL, MANOA | 5:30 - 7:30 PM | Contact Vina Lanzona (cpsdirector@hawaii.edu) or Clem Montero (cps@hawaii.edu1)

PHILIPPINE AND FILIPINO STUDIES: 40 YEARS HENCE: AN INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM | April 9, 2015 | IMIN CENTER, EAST-WEST CENTER, UHM | 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM | Contact Vina Lanzona (cpsdirector@hawaii.edu) or Clem Montero (cps@hawaii.edu1)

PHILIPPINE AND FILIPINO STUDIES: 40 YEARS HENCE: AN INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM DAY ONE, April 9, 2015 | IMIN CENTER, EAST-WEST CENTER, UHM | 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM | KEYNOTE ADDRESS: PROFESSOR ALFRED MCCOY, J. R. W. SMAIL PROFESSOR OF HISTORY UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN, MADISON

DAY TWO, April 9, 2015 | IMIN CENTER, EAST-WEST

CENTER, UHM | 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM | KEYNOTE ADDRESS: PROFESSOR MARTIN F. MANALANSAN IV, UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS, URBANA-CHAMPAIGN | Contact Vina Lanzona (cpsdirector@hawaii.edu) or Clem Montero (cps@hawaii.edu1)

FIESTA CELEBRATION OF 40TH ANNIVERSARY WITH FILIPINO COMMUNITY | April 11, 2015 | FILIPINO COMMUNITY CENTER, WAIPAHU, HAWAII | 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM | SPECIAL GUESTS: TONY MELOTO, FOUNDER OF GAWAD KALINGA, PHILIPPINES AND TONY OPOSA, 2015 DAN & MAGGIE INOUYE DISTINGUISHED CHAIR OF DEMOCRATIC IDEALS, UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MANOA | Contact Vina Lanzona (cpsdirector@hawaii.edu) or Clem Montero (cps@hawaii.edu1)

ISAH 2ND PRESIDENT ELPIDIO QUIRINO LEADERSHIP AND HUMANITARIAN AWARD AND GALA NIGHT | May 2, 2015 | HAWAII PRINCE HOTEL | Contact Danny Villaruz 778-0233 or Jun Abinsay 469-7351

PULSO (PULSE, RHYTHM OF THE HEART): A CELEBRATION OF PHILIPPINE DANCE AND CULTURE | May 21 & 22, 2015 | KENNEDY THEATER, UHM | 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM | DANCE PERFORMANCES FEATURING THE HOUSE OF DANCE, PHILIPPINES | Contact Vina Lanzona (cpsdirector@hawaii.edu) or Clem Montero (cps@hawaii.edu1)

MRS. ISAH 2015 CORONATION AND GALA NIGHT | October 24, 2015 | ALA MOANA HOTEL | 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM | Contact Danny Villaruz 778-0233

GLOBAL NEWS

USP4GG Announces Essay Contest Winners

Winners of the essay contest on Overseas Filipinos were announced at an awards ceremony held February 26, 2015 at the Manila Hotel in the Philippines.

Sponsored by the US Pinoys for Good Governance (USP4GG)-Marianas chapter, the contest—themed “Overseas Filipinos and Their Impact

on the Philippines”—drew a total of 257 entries from college and high school students in nine countries.

The winners and their respective schools are as follows:

College

- **Justin Keith Baquisal:** First, University of the Philippines, Diliman
- **Dia Marmi Bazar:** Second, Misamis University

- **Hazel Ivy Jeremias:** Second, Lewis College at Sorso-gon city
- **Yvonne Dayne Luis:** Third, Durat Al Sharq International School at Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

High School

- **Patrick Duane Noche:** First, Calayan Educational Foundation, Inc at Lucena city
- **Eugenie Marie Pranada:** First, Philippine School of Bahrain

- **Hazel Ivy Jeremias:** Second, Lewis College at Sorso-gon city
- **Yvonne Dayne Luis:** Third, Durat Al Sharq International School at Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Philippine President Benigno S. Aquino III congratulated the winners as well as

officials from USP4GG and the Commission on Overseas Filipinos for organizing the contest.

“May this event galvanize us to initiate programs to protect the interests of Filipinos worldwide and allow us to thrive as a widespread but tightly-knit community,” he says.

HEALTHLINE (from page 13, STUDY)

- 33.2 percent for healthy-weight males with sexual assault history, which Anderson attributes to stigma, shame, possible gender role conflict if the attacker was male and the lack of an open support system.
- Weight alone was not a significant factor in suicide attempts for males. Only 3.9 percent of overweight males with no sexual assault history attempted suicide.
- For males who were both overweight and had a history of sexual assault, the percentage who attempted suicide was 33 percent.

- 5.8 percent of healthy-weight females with no sexual assault history attempted suicide.
- The percentage rose to 27.1 percent for healthy-weight girls with a history of sexual assault.
- Weight influenced the suicide rate among women: 8.2 percent of overweight girls with no sexual assault history attempt suicide.
- However, both factors did not increase suicide rate: 26.6 percent of overweight girls with sexual assault histories attempted suicide.

Despite the large sample, the results are culturally-

loaded, as nearly 20 percent of students of color left questions surrounding suicide unanswered. Underreporting is common, especially among males and African American students, says Anderson.

Future studies will gather more detailed responses on sexual assault and suicide attempts, and examine additional variables, such as body mass index and perceived self-image.

Anderson also notes the relationship between weight, sexual assault and suicide—especially in girls—is complicated and needs additional study. (buffalo.edu/news)

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