

www.thefilipinochronicle.com

HAWAII

FILIPINO CHRONICLE

HAWAII'S #1 FILIPINO NEWSPAPER

◆ MAY 16, 2015 ◆

SUMMER TRAVEL

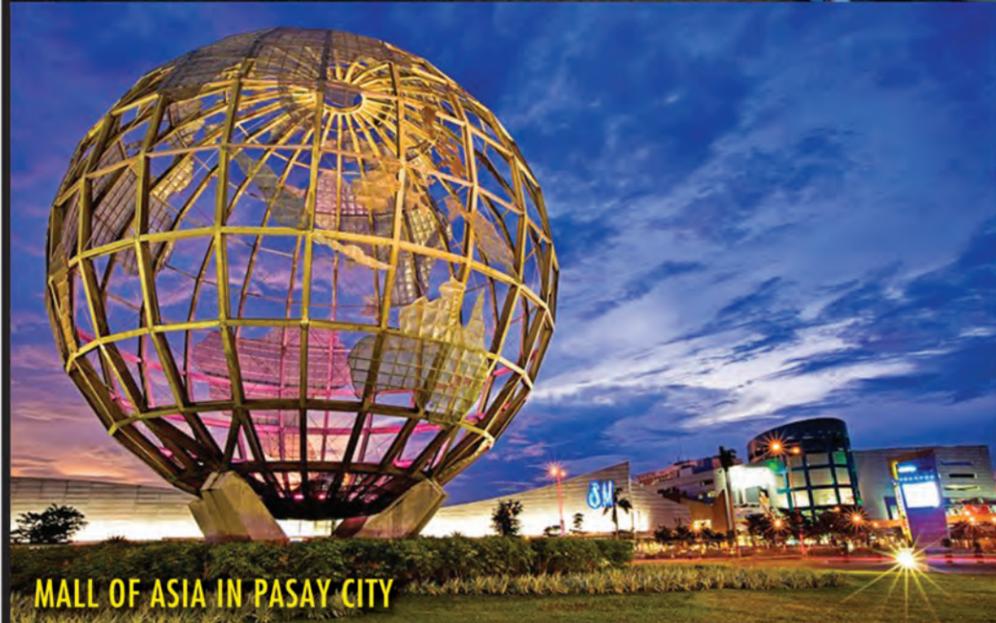
WHY IT'S MORE FUN TO VISIT THE PHILIPPINES

COVER STORY
PAGE

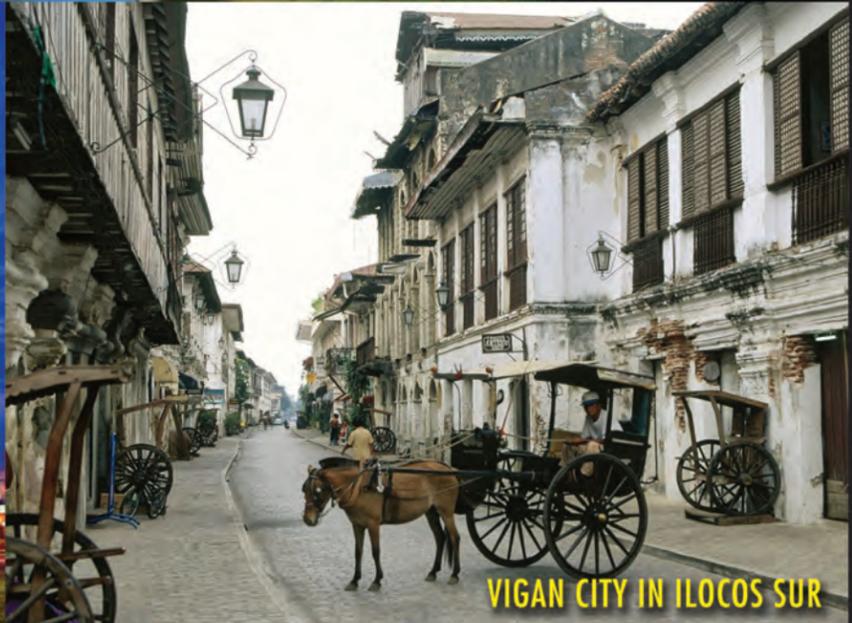
4



UNDERGROUND RIVER IN PUERTO PRINCESA



MALL OF ASIA IN PASAY CITY



VIGAN CITY IN ILOCOS SUR



CANDID PERSPECTIVES

3 PACQUIAO/
MAYWEATHER: THE
FIGHT AND THE SLUR



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

11 NEW STATE LAWS
ENHANCE LIVES AND
ACKNOWLEDGE FILIPINOS



LEGAL NOTES

13

DELAYS IN
IMMIGRANT VISA
PROCESSING



CELEBRATING **22 YEARS**
OF EXCELLENT CHRONICLING
OF FILIPINO NEWS AND EVENTS!

HAWAII FILIPINO CHRONICLE
94-356 WAIPAHU DEPOT RD., 2ND FLR.
WAIPAHU, HI 96797

PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
HONOLULU, HI
PERMIT NO. 9661

EDITORIALS

Boosting Medical Tourism in the Philippines

Despite a comparative advantage in natural resources and an English-speaking population, the Philippines continues to underperform in various niche tourism markets, namely medical tourism which is the process of traveling outside of one's country of residence for the purpose of receiving medical care.

For years, the Philippine government has touted the country as a viable health and wellness destination. And for good reason—the quality of care at hospitals and medical facilities across the Philippines has managed to hold steady, even with the nation's top doctors leaving for better paying jobs overseas. Many hospitals are also outfitted with the latest state-of-the-art medical equipment and have been accredited by the Joint Commission International, the most prestigious health-care accrediting body in the U.S. Perhaps most important is the fact that Filipino doctors, nurses and medical professionals are fluent in English, naturally warm, friendly and caring. The result for visitors is a high standard of medical treatment at very reasonable prices. For example, a full set of dental implants can cost as little as US\$500 dollars in the Philippines.

However, a 2014 study by the Asian Institute of Management (AIM) concluded that for the Philippines to expand its growing medical tourism industry, the government must take steps to address concerns in several key areas, namely the high cost of travel to the Philippines caused by a lack of direct flights to and from markets in the North America, Europe and other markets; a poor public infrastructure system; and concerns over security and safety. Such concerns are most unfortunate, especially when considering that the Philippines has so much to offer visitors seeking quality and affordable cosmetic and dental surgery, alternative medicine and health spas—all at a fraction of the price compared to developed countries.

With a growing global demand for medical tourism and revenues reaching \$55 billion in 2014, it would certainly be in the Philippines government's best interest to improve areas of concern highlighted in AIM's report. The Philippines certainly deserves a bigger piece of the pie—if only government would lead the way.

Many Boxing Fans Believe Pacquiao Did Win The Fight

Putting aside Manny Pacquiao's pre-fight shoulder injury and the entire "what-if's" and "could-have-been" scenarios; or even putting aside the controversy surrounding the Nevada Boxing Commission's suspect decision to not allow Pacquiao to take a perfectly legal drug that would have helped him better cope with the pain from his pre-fight injury – what was most disappointing?

The major disappointment is that boxing as a sport was the big loser in failing to see the obvious: one man came into the ring to fight (Pacquiao); while the other was simply intent on scoring points through jabs and running (Floyd Mayweather).

The problem with boxing today is that it has become too heavily reliant on Compubox, the system that counts how many times a fighter connects to his opponent's body. Judges' criteria also overly emphasize this. What is lost in return is general ringmanship, and rewarding a fighter's aggression in forcing action – both of which Pacquiao did the entire fight.

What also did not get factored in this equation of Compubox tallying is the number of times Mayweather clinched/hugged Pac-

FROM THE PUBLISHER

Bicyclists rejoice! Honolulu Mayor Kirk Caldwell recently opened the King Street Protected Bike Lane to Ewa-bound cyclists. The new lane signifies a giant step forward in making Honolulu a more bicycle-friendly community. Kudos to City officials for providing an affordable and physically-beneficial transportation option for commuters.



Speaking of affordable, our cover story for this issue is about summer travel to the Philippines. There are many reasons to visit this country comprised of 7,107 islands—picture perfect beaches, friendly people, pristine environment...not to mention you'll get more bang for your buck! We interviewed several people who recently visited the Philippines as well as travel agents for their thoughts and advice on traveling to the Philippines. For more on experiencing an epic vacation to the Philippines, turn to page 4 for our cover story "Summer Travel to the Philippines."

In conjunction with the cover story, contributing writer Seneca Moraleda-Puguan, who is currently living and working overseas, shares her thoughts on the Philippines and how, despite its imperfections, it is still a place that she longs to return home and visit. We hope you will enjoy reading her thought-provoking article on page 6 entitled "There's No Place Like Home."

In other news, the Filipino community recently celebrated a signing ceremony between Honolulu and Candon City officials that established a Sister City relationship between the two municipalities. Located in Ilocos Sur, Candon City is the hometown of the first 15 *sakadas* who came to Hawaii in 1906 to work on the sugar plantations. If you're interested in finding out more, see on "Honolulu, Candon Officials Ink Sister City Agreement" on page 10.

Lastly, the Hawaii State Legislature adjourned earlier this month, but not before approving several key pieces of legislation. State Sen. Glenn Wakai provides us with a summary of the 2015 Legislature's accomplishments in his Legislative Update column. To find out what measures passed and what didn't, turn to page 11.

In closing, the Chronicle extends its warmest congratulations to the handful of high school seniors who will be receiving scholarships from the Maui Chamber of Commerce Foundation. With the cost of higher education rising every year, every bit helps. See page 13 for a list of the scholarship recipients.

That's all for now. 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

quiao to avoid combinations and ran throughout the entire fight, which should have resulted in subtracting points.

When casual boxing fans see the statistical count that Mayweather connected more times and had a greater percentage of hits than Pacquiao, it seemed justified that Mayweather should be given the overwhelming nod of approval. But really, what Mayweather did is connected more jabs, not exactly the kind of punches that does much damage in a fight. If boxing was all about efficiency in raw numbers according to Compubox, yes, Mayweather was the victor. But boxing should be a lot more, assessing other aspects, particularly offensive showmanship and dominance.

It's Reasonable To Say Pacquiao Actually Did Win The Fight

Many boxing fans claim on social media and in articles comments' sections that Pacquiao did beat Mayweather.

Punch count aside in which Mayweather excelled (remember, *continued on page 3*)

Publisher & Executive Editor
Charlie Y. Sonido, M.D.

Publisher & Managing Editor
Chona A. Montesines-Sonido

Associate Editors
Dennis Galolo
Edwin Quinabo

Contributing Editor
Belinda Aquino, Ph.D.

Creative Designer
Junggoi Peralta

Photography
Tim Llana

Administrative Assistant
Shalimar Pagulayan

Columnists
Carlota Hufana Ader
Emil Guillermo
Ruth Elynia Mabanglo, Ph.D.
Ron Menor
J.P. Orias
Pacita Saludes
Reuben S. Seguritan, Esq.
Charlie Sonido, M.D.
Emmanuel S. Tapon, Esq.
Felino S. Tubera
Sylvia Yuen, Ph.D.

Contributing Writers
Clement Bautista
Teresita Bernales, Ed.D
Serafin Colmenares, Jr., Ph.D.
Julia Crowley
Linda Dela Cruz
Fiedes Doctor
Danny De Gracia, II, MA
Carolyn Weygan-Hildebrand
Amelia Jacang, M.D.
Caroline Julian
Dr. Raymund Liongson
Federico Magdalena, Ph.D.
Deborah T. Manog
Maita Milallos
Paul Melvin Palalay, M.D.
Seneca Moraleda-Puguan
Lilia Q. Santiago, Ph.D.
Jay Valdez, Psy.D.
Glenn Wakai
Amado Yoro
Philippine Correspondent
Greg Garcia

Big Island Distributor
Grace Larson
Ditas Udani

Maui Distributor
Cecile Piro

Molokai Distributor
Maria Watanabe

Advertising/Marketing Director
Chona A. Montesines-Sonido

Account Executives
Carlota Hufana Ader
J.P. Orias

The Hawaii Filipino Chronicle is published weekly by The Hawaii Filipino Chronicle Inc. It is mailed directly to subscribers and distributed at various outlets around Oahu and the neighbor islands. Editorial and advertising deadlines are three weeks prior to publication date. Subscriptions are available at \$75 per year for Oahu and the neighbor islands, continental U.S. \$80, foreign country \$90. Copyright 2006-2014. The Hawaii Filipino Chronicle Inc. is located at 94-356 Waipahu Depot, Waipahu, HI 96797. Telephone (808) 678-8930 Facsimile (808) 678-1829. E-mail filiplinchronicle@gmail.com. Website: www.thefilipinochronicle.com. Opinions expressed by the columnists and contributors do not necessarily reflect those of the Hawaii Filipino Chronicle management. Reproduction of the contents in whole or in part is prohibited without written permission from the management. All rights reserved. Printed in the U.S.A.

www.thefilipinochronicle.com
www.efilipinochronicle.com

MEMBER, SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISTS

CANDID PERSPECTIVES



By Emil Guillermo

Pacquiao/Mayweather: The Fight and the Slur

round always goes to the aggressor, and usually ends up 10-9.

I had Manny winning rounds 2, 3, 4, 6 (especially 4 and 6). And I gave him rounds 7, 9, 10.

Seven rounds total for Pacquiao.

I gave Mayweather five rounds when he didn't run or do his self-rope-a-dope.

"Self-rope-a-dope," of course, refers to a boxer, who simply puts up his guard and invites his opponent to box himself out. It's anti-boxing.

I took rounds away from Mayweather for doing that.

Add it all up and the score is 115-113, Pacquiao.

The three American judges scored it differently: 118-110, 116-112, and 116-112. Unanimous for Mayweather.

Clearly, they defined "fight" differently.

Naturally, when Pacquiao was interviewed later he thought he won the fight too. Said Paquiao on Mayweather: "He didn't do nothing."

Mayweather didn't. He simply retreated.

That doesn't win a war. It shouldn't win a boxing match either.

Now we know that Pacquiao hurt his shoulder before the fight. But that only adds to the rematch idea, which May-

weather says he is willing to do when Pacquiao recovers—likely in a year.

Scenario: Mayweather fights and wins in September to tie Rocky Marciano's 49-0 record, then waits for Pacquiao and breaks the record in a rematch.

Unless Manny knocks him out then.

Did you hear about the slur

I was watching the fight with my cousins because we were looking for something to cheer about. It was the eve of the one year anniversary of the shooting death of my cousin Stephen. I've written about it here before.

We thought we'd see Pacquiao's fighting spirit lift up ours after a year waiting for something resembling justice on my cousin's case.

We're still waiting for the DA to complete its investigation.

I love my cousins because they represent the new generation of Guillermo s w h o survived the decades long immigration wait and came to America in the '90s.

They still have their accents.

And that's why of all the

items to come out of the fight hype, the one that bothers me still is Jamie Foxx mocking Pacquiao on ESPN's "First Take."

ICYMI, Foxx, who did an unremarkable rendition on fight night of the "Star Spangled Banner," had the nerve to make fun of Pacquiao's singing.

OK, great. Even I do that.

But Foxx went one racist step further.

He mocked the accent. The Filipino sound that is ours alone.

But there was Foxx in full accented drag on TV, mocking Pacquiao and the Filipino people.

Oh, he's a comic. So make a joke about Pacman's singing, but don't go racist.

It's OK to mock Mayweather's Ebonics if you're black. And Foxx did that.

But Foxx isn't Filipino. The accent joke is a slur.

Didn't stop him. And of course, the live audience

laughed, and host Stephen A. Smith laughed extra hard.

If you missed it, you'll find the clip on my website at www.amok.com.

And if you're offended, I suggest you contact ESPN and let them know:

ESPN Plaza
Bristol, CT 06010
e-mail:
ESPN Television

That whole accent thing was just ugly to me.

Especially when you hear the accent every day. That's us. That's no joke.

Maybe Foxx thinks it's a joke, and a joke is a joke.

But he's also a Mayweather fan. And his joke was an outright slur.

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.

While I watched the Pacquiao fight, and since it was all about money, I kept thinking about a tax analogy.

Your CPA will tell you tax avoidance is fair.

Tax evasion is not. The difference is slight, but there is a difference.

Back to boxing. Mayweather slipping away is fine to avoid punishment. But going totally on defense is evasion of the matter at hand.

The event is called a fight for a reason. You clash. Cross swords.

Even in a debate, you declare the winner based on how both sides went head to head on the issues. You don't give the victory to the B.S. artist.

When there was a fight that night, it was when Pacquiao aggressively took it to Mayweather.

I had Pacman winning 7 rounds (see my live blog of the fight at www.amok.com).

In the ten point must system of scoring, you give 10 points to the winner, 9 to the loser of the round. You deduct points for low-blows, fouls, knockdowns, etc. But the

EDITORIALS (from page 2. MANY BOXING...)

jabs, shouldn't count as much as it does), Pacquiao managed to land the most combinations. Pacquiao's combinations kept Mayweather on the ropes or running. On two occasions, Pacquiao put Mayweather in dangerous peril with combinations. Pacquiao also had the cleaner, more solid shots.

Many boxing fans who watched the fight a second or third time in mute, without the bias pro-Mayweather live commentating, they have found the fight actually was a lot closer than what the judges had called the fight to be.

Even boxing legends Shane Mosley and Evander Holyfield, both Americans, believed Pacquiao had won the fight. Boxing legend Mike Tyson saw the fight very close, as well as many other sports writers.

Holyfield and Mosley believed Pacquiao was putting together more combinations and being more aggressive, which by the way, happen to count less in boxing than soft jabs, apparently.

The discrepancy in perceptions from the viewpoint of judges and biased commentators that night with those expressed by fight fans and former boxing champions is a classic example of the schism between an institution and its followers.

The institution of boxing as a sport favors statistical outcomes. Many boxing fans, on the other hand, favor style, aggression, and offensive presence – all of which Pacquiao had that night, and is why he should have been declared the winner on May 2, or at the very least, awarded a draw.

(continued on page 7)

Be a part of Oahu's **HAWAII'S BEST 2014** family.

Powered by the Star Advertiser



The Arcadia Family of Companies is the "BEST" place to work. We offer outstanding benefits that include: medical, drug, vision, dental insurance and a 403(b) plan. We care about our residents, members, clients, participants, and our EMPLOYEES. Join our growing family!

NOW HIRING

• RN Clinic Manager	• Sales Representative
• Registered Nurse	• Housekeeper
• Licensed Practical Nurse	• Receptionists
• Certified Nurse Aides	• Security Officer
• Nurse Aides	• Parking Valet
• Accounting Clerk	• Waitstaff Shift Leader
• Activities Aide	• Waitstaff

For a complete listing of all available jobs or for more information visit:

arcadia.org



ARCADIA
FAMILY OF COMPANIES



15 CRAIGSIDE
AN ARCADIA COMMUNITY



ARCADIA
RETIREMENT RESIDENCE



ARCADIA
AT HOME



ARCADIA
HOME HEALTH



CENTRAL UNION CHURCH
ADULT DAY CARE & DAY HEALTH



KILOHANA
SENIOR ENRICHMENT CENTER

COVER STORY

Summer Travel to the Philippines

By Chona Montesines-Sonido

Many Filipinos and Americans, for that matter, don't take enough days off. For workaholics and others planning a relaxing summer getaway, an epic trip to the Philippines may be the best place to spend their hard-earned vacation hours.

Earlier this year, the Philippine government's Department of Tourism rolled out its on-going tourism slogan "It's More Fun in the Philippines." The campaign included various advertisements highlighting the Philippines' business climate, sports adventure and eco-tourism industries, history, culture, lifestyle, entertainment, music and the arts.

In line with the government's tourism promotional efforts is the annual Ambassadors, Consuls General and Tourism Directors Tour—a joint project of all Philippine foreign posts in the U.S. (Agana, Chicago, Honolulu, Los Angeles, New York, Saipan, San Francisco and Washington, DC) and Canada, in cooperation with the Philippine Department of Tourism

and Department of Trade & Industry. The Philippine Consulate General in Honolulu was designated as the coordinator of the 2013 tour.

The one-of-a-kind tour provides an exceptional and unique experience for tour participants which typically number between 400 to 500 people. Participants are mostly first-time visitors to the Philippines where they tour the country's top destinations and attractions.

Tour organizers hope the tour instills a stronger sense of nationalism and love of country among participants and motivates *balikbayans* to become champions for Philippine initiatives in the areas of tourism, trade, investments and cultural development.

"We want to encourage more people, both Filipino-



Americans and non-Filipinos to see the beauty of the Philippines and the different tourist destinations that our country has to offer," says Annie Cuevas-Lim, regional director of Philippine Department of Tourism-Los Angeles office.

This year's tour is scheduled for July 4-10, 2015 and includes cultural shows, special entertainment, immersion programs and many more fun activities and events. Post-tours to Boracay, Dumagete, Siquijor, Bohol, Davao City and Puerto Princesa City are also available with additional charges.

Cost for the six day, five night tour is \$2,295. Those who are interested in the tour should contact the Philippine Consulate General of Honolulu at 595-6316 for further details.

First Timer

Traveling back home is always an appealing option, particularly for those Filipinos who were born and raised in the U.S. and would like to discover their roots. One such visitor is New Jersey resident Jennifer Madla Studnicky, who traveled to the Philippines in December 2008. It was her second trip back home, the first being at the age of 6.

"I hardly recall my last visit to the Philippines, so it was like I was going there for the first time," she says. "My parents, sister, brother and I had always discussed visiting the Philippines together during the Christmas season, and the opportunity had finally arisen to allow us to do so."

Studnicky, who married an Irish-American, recalls the growing excitement of preparing to reunite with relatives and friends. For *pasalubong* (gifts), Studnicky's family packed gently-used clothes, purses, shoes, toys for the kids and candy—to name a few. Much of the items were shipped two months prior to their departure.

"I only felt excitement during the days leading up to my vacation," she recalls. "Finally meeting my relatives in person was a surreal experience."

Her itinerary included visiting her father's and mother's hometowns on Oriental Mindoro and Luzon, sightseeing, and finding bargains galore while shopping in Manila and Makati. The exchange rate at the time—55 pesos to the dollar—meant more purchasing power. She recalls paying \$25 for a pair of designer jeans that would have cost \$75 in the U.S.

"There were deals and steals to be found at every corner," Studnicky says. "One night, I went to a very nice dinner with my family. There were about 8 of us at a restaurant in Greenbelt, and the bill, including liquor, came out to about \$100."

For Studnicky, her 2008 vacation was one she will always cherish.

"The amount of activities and sights is endless," she says. "I never realized how vivid and deep the culture runs. The Philippines is not as depicted—a struggling 3rd world country hanging on the tails of a westernized culture because they cannot seek an identity of their own. I saw a country proud of their heritage and traditions, one that emphasizes the value of family and togetherness."

Frequent Visitor

Unlike Studnicky, Honolulu resident Kathy Adaoag has been to the Philippines on numerous occasions. Despite going back every year for the past eight years on various medical missions, Adaoag still feels a sense of excitement when traveling back to the land of her birth.

"I'm happy that I am able to still see my family, especially those who need help,"

(continued on page 5)



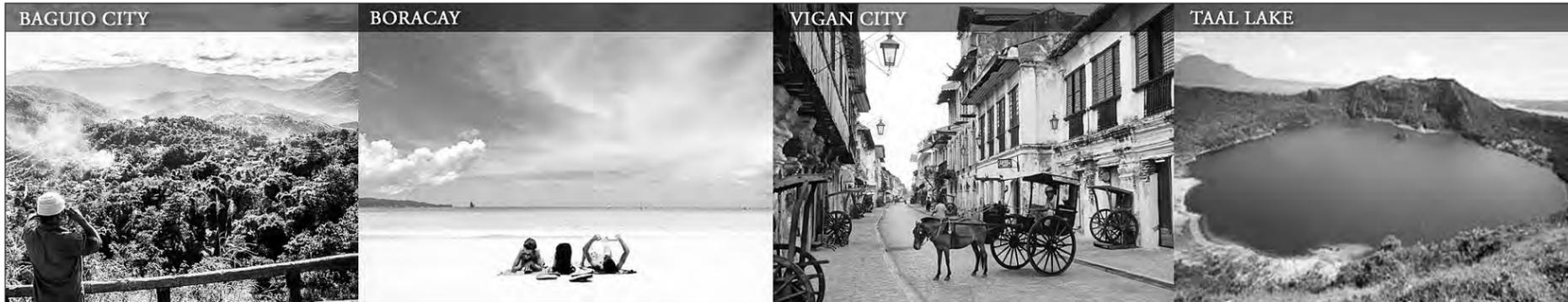
Dr. David Mai MD | Dr. Sharon Takayasu OD | Dr. Michael Bennett MD
& Camara Eye Clinic Staff

We are humbled and honored to carry on the tradition of the CAMARA EYE CLINIC

Camara
EYE
Clinic

Restaurant Row
500 Ala Moana Blvd Tower 5 Suite #300
Honolulu HI 96813
Phone: (808) 533-0177

COVER STORY



(from page 4, SUMMER)

she says. “It’s really touching to see how you’ve made people happy and how much they appreciate you going all the way there to do what you can to help them.”

One of Adaoag’s most memorable trips in the Philippines was participating in a medical mission to Tacloban, Leyte to help victims of Typhoon Haiyan. She got an up close and personal look at the devastation and how desperate the people were for help. She and other volunteers distributed goods and basic needs such as clothing, blankets, canned food and cash for the children.

“This trip was unforgettable,” she says. “We were prepared to sleep in tents but thank goodness there was a house that wasn’t hit by the typhoon that most of us slept in.”

For Adaoag, preparing a *balikbayan* box is part of her ritual when going back to the Philippines. It’s not easy packing the items and making sure it makes the weight limit.

“It takes many nights to prepare but I’m always able to get it done with hard work and dedication,” she says. “I bring back lots of items to share with whoever comes to visit and see us. They always ask me for *pasalubong*.”

Good Advice

Seasoned vacationers and travel agents like Myra Roces-Lazaro of Aloha Tours & Travel recommend booking your flight to the Philippines at least six to eight months in advance. Those who do so are usually able to score a good deal for a round trip ticket in coach (economy)—this summer for as low as \$800, depending on the airline.

“It’s a lot cheaper to buy tickets early rather than wait until the last minute,” Roces-Lazaro says. “For those who

buy now, the same ticket would cost about \$1,400.”

A business class ticket aboard Philippine Airlines will set you back \$3,200 per ticket.

Travel agent Janalyn Peralta-Pidong of Everlasting Services, Inc., says the lowest price for an economy ticket ranges between \$975 - \$1,150 aboard Japan or China airlines—but there is a stopover involved.

Peralta-Pidong says the best time of the year to travel to the Philippines is January through March. Thereafter, the weather can turn unbearably hot.

“For the months of April and May, it can be really hot—up to 106 degrees,” she says. “Some of my clients have experienced heatstroke, which can be dangerous.”

Roces-Lazaro, who has 33 years of experience as a travel agent, says summer in Hawaii means the start of the rainy season in the Philippines. She recommends traveling to the Philippines during the months of December and January due to the cooler weather.

“Some people find that traveling to the Philippines during the summer season is too hot,” she says. “Passengers have complained of the very humid weather, which is not good especially for elderly passengers who are at greater risk for heat stroke.”

Nevertheless, summer travel remains a popular time for Hawaii travelers, particularly those with children who are conveniently on vacation from school.

And with the current foreign exchange rate roughly at 44 pesos to the dollar, a Philippine vacation is very affordable. If you decide to bring your dollars, don’t carry too much at once with you, advises Peralta-Pidong.

“If you carry cash, the limit for one family is \$10,000

she says. “If you bring more, you have to declare it, or else the customs officers will question you.”

Ten thousand dollars in cash may not sound much in Hawaii where the cost of living is so high but when converted to Philippine pesos, the amount is far more than what the vast majority of people in the Philippines earn in a year, Peralta-Pidong says.

What to See

Some travelers to the Philippines prefer to stay indoors for the most part and reconnect with family and long-lost friends. For others who don’t mind venturing farther from home or want to catch the sights and sounds of the Philippines, there are many beautiful places to visit.

Roces-Lazaro says there is no shortage of places in the Philippines to go sight-seeing.



“Palawan is a must see because of the Underground River,” she says. “Then there is Vigan City in the north, Banaue rice terraces, Tagaytay and so many beautiful resorts all over the Philippines.”

In no particular order are just a few of the more popular summer destinations for visitors:

- **Palawan:** Located on the western side of the Philippines, Palawan boasts several including must-see natural wonders, including the Underground River in Puerto Princesa, the magnificent Tubbataha Reef in

Cagayancillo, the Tabon Cave Complex, picturesque Kayangan Lake, the El Nido Marine Preserve, the Calauit Wildlife Sanctuary and Long Beach—the longest white sand beach in the Philippines at 14 kilometers long.

• **Baguio City:** One of the Philippines’ most famous cities and its unofficial Summer Capital. With an average elevation of 5,000 feet above sea level, Baguio’s cool climate offers a welcome respite from the summer heat and humidity. (continued on page 6)

GARFIELD LAW GROUP
FULL SERVICE IMMIGRATION LAW FIRM

Free Immigration Consultations Offered Now!
Libre Nga Konsultasyon Maipanggep Ti Imigrasion!
Libreng Konsultasyon Tungkol Sa Imigrasyon!



ONLY IMMIGRATION SERVICES

- **Removal and Deportation Defense**
- **Family-based Immigration/Waivers**
- **Citizenship and Naturalization**
- **Business/Employment Visas**
- **Investor Visas**
- **Political Asylum**
- **Obama Executive Action Advice**



Top Washington DC immigration law firm has opened an office in Honolulu and is offering **FREE immigration consultations** with founding partner, David Garfield. Please call or email for an appointment.



HONOLULU OFFICE
Topa Financial Center
Bishop Street Tower
700 Bishop Street, Suite 2100
Honolulu, HI 96813

WASHINGTON DC OFFICE
1634 I Street, NW, Suite 400
Washington DC 20006

CALL: 808-439-8555

EMAIL: davidg@garfieldlaw.com VISIT: http://garfieldlaw.com/

VIEWPOINT

THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME

By Seneca Moraleda-Puguan

Ogrew up in a small house in a small city called Baguio. Our family led a simple life. Our house was not spacious but it had all the things we need to live comfortably—three rooms to accommodate a family of six, a cozy sofa where we watched television together, an open kitchen where me and my siblings would argue whose turn it was to wash the dishes; and a long dining table where tasty food was served and stories shared over meals.

Our house was not spick-and-span and our things were disorganized most of the time but our house was a place of refuge and rest for all of us. Since we lived in the mountains, the view of the sunset was spectacular. Our neighbors and friends were very much welcome to hang out at our house and spend time with us. It was not always comfortable, especially during rainy days, because water would drip inside the house, but we learned to adapt and protect ourselves from becoming wet.

The Philippines, where I grew and spent half my life, is like my house. Life is simple and slow. It's not that big and rich of a country but it's a place

that millions of people call home. It still has a lot to improve on but it also has so much to offer locals and foreigners. It has big malls where people can go shopping and cool themselves from the hot weather.

Being a nation of more than seven thousand islands, the Philippines has majestic mountains where people can climb and enjoy breathtaking views once you reach the top. It has vast oceans where one can swim, dive, snorkel or just bask under the sun on white sandy shores. The waters are extraordinarily pristine, rich in aquatic resources and simply beautiful. It has volcanoes, waterfalls, beautiful lakes, vast fields of crops and so much more.

Everyone is very much welcome to visit, explore, rest and enjoy. But as beautiful as the Philippines is, as with most homes, it has its imperfections. Traffic in the cities can be a headache. The lack of discipline among motorists makes travel difficult. And poverty causes crimes, especially pick pocketing and theft. It is also prone to natural disasters and calamities. Every year, the Philippines experiences typhoons. Some volcanoes are active and earthquakes can strike anytime because some parts of the country are along



the fault line. But the people have become resilient and persistent. They rise back up every time they fall and they become stronger each time.

As I grew up, I had to leave home to study. I moved to a bigger city where there were more opportunities and where life was faster-paced and more progressive. I enjoyed my life in the bigger city but I missed home. I missed the warmth of my bed, even if it was small. Eating in cafeterias and fast food chains in the big city made me miss eating home-cooked food prepared by my parents. I missed waking up to the sound of roosters crowing very early in the morning. I missed the beauty of the setting sun as seen from our house. I missed the laughter, the stories, even quarrels among family members.

At the age of 23, I left the Philippines and went abroad

for a better life. I went to England and stayed there for two years. I moved to Singapore and lived there for a year. I have been in South Korea for a year now, with my husband who is taking post-graduate studies. I had the chance to visit many countries in Asia, too. These countries are beautiful. England has captivating castles and beautiful gardens. Singapore has excellent infrastructure and a really clean environment. South Korea has palaces and well-maintained cultural heritage sites.

Life in these countries is easier and more comfortable because of the efficient transportation system, fast internet connection and excellent services, and no typhoons to worry about. However, life is more complicated, faster-paced and more expensive. Having lived abroad for several years now, I miss the delicious *sisig*, *kare-*

kare, even *isaw* and *balut*. I miss the fruits that I can easily and cheaply buy from markets like *santol* and *singkamas*, mangoes too, which cost a fortune here. *Kimchi* and *samgyeopsal* of Korea taste good but with my Filipino taste buds, I crave my country's culinary delicacies which are not as spicy. I miss the beautiful beaches that only the Philippines can boast of. There are beaches here too, but they do not compare to the waters of Palawan and Boracay. And most of all, I miss being surrounded by people whom I share the same culture, sense of humor and language.

Despite our humble abode being small, messy and dripping wet when it rains, it was always worth going back home to. The Philippines, in spite of its imperfections, is a place to keep going back to. The beauty of its natural resources and its people's warm hospitality are worth boasting about.

I am living comfortably in a bigger home now but I always look forward to returning home to our small house in the small city where I had my first steps. I may be staying for a long time in a foreign land, but I will make sure that my children and their children will know of their beautiful country. Because you see, there's no place like home.

COVER STORY (from page 5. SUMMER...)

- **Boracay:** About an hour's flight away from Cebu and Manila, Boracay is a tropical island surrounded by stunning beaches with pristinely white sand and ocean waters that offer an amazing gradient of blues. Snorkeling, cliff diving and island hopping are just some of the many ocean-related activities. While there are many beautiful beaches in the Philippines, Boracay just might be in a class all of its own.
- **Vigan:** Located in Ilocos Sur, Vigan is a showcase for the Philippines' Spanish colonial heritage. Vigan was established in the 16th

Century and is such a well-preserved planned Spanish colonial town that it was deemed by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site.

- **Tagaytay:** Located about 34 miles away from Manila, Tagaytay is a popular tourist destination. Tagaytay overlooks Taal Lake in Batangas and provides one of the iconic views of the Philippines—Taal Volcano Island in the middle of the lake.

Return Trip?

Adaoag advises first time visitors to the Philippines to set aside some time for charity work and sharing with the less fortunate.

“You’ll find blessings by sharing what you have to offer. When you see the smiles on their faces, it gives you a warm feeling inside knowing that you’ve made them happy. The more you help, the more blessed you find that you are.”

For Studnick, a return trip can't come soon enough. If she were to do anything different, it would be to stay as long as possible.

“Three weeks is simply not enough to experience the country,” she says. “I would love to go back to the Philippines. The opportunity to travel there and immerse yourself in such a different, yet interesting culture is worth the time.”

IMPORTS GIFT SHOP & MINI-MART

82 Ala Malama Street
Kaunakakai Hawaii 96748
PHONE NO: 553-5734

- | | |
|----------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Baskets, Lauhala Mats | • Quilts & Notions |
| • Books, Notecards | • Refreshments |
| • Fine & Fashion Jewelry | • Seashells |
| • Groceries | • Shoes & Accessories |
| • Handbags, Hats | • Sport & Dress Clothing |
| • Hawaiiana | • Surfing Line |
| • Jewelry Repair, Resetting & Resizing | • Surfwear & Surfboards |
| • Molokai Arts, Crafts, Supplies | • Sundries |
| • Philippine Products Dried & Frozen | • T-shirts, Sweatshirts |



ONE STOP
SHOPPING!

OPEN 7 DAYS
8:30 AM - 6:00 PM

LEGAL NEWS

Pacquiao Sued for Fraud; Could Also Face Perjury Rap



By Atty. Emmanuel Samonte Tipon

Yes, Manny Pacquiao will definitely fight again – not in the ring but in court. At least four lawsuits have been filed against Pacquiao in Nevada, Florida, California, and Illinois, alleging that he committed fraud in not disclosing that he had suffered a right shoulder injury and therefore was not healthy when he entered the ring in the “Fight of the Century” against Floyd Mayweather, Jr. on May 2, 2015 in Las Vegas.

An attorney for Pacquiao reportedly expressed confidence that the case in Nevada would be dismissed.

There will be more lawsuits and if Pacquiao does not vigorously defend them with excellent lawyers, he will lose the lawsuits, his opponents will place a lien on his earnings, and his luster will be tarnished.

(When President Marcos was sued by alleged victims of human rights abuses in a class action, I visited him in Honolulu. I asked him if he knew these people personally. He exclaimed “No.” “Then how could you have abused their human rights if you don’t know them?” I asked. I told him that I had written an article on “class actions” and pointed out

that class action was not proper because there was no “commonality” and “typicality” in the claims since some “victims” claimed they were beaten, others claimed they were raped, still others claimed they were buried in sand up to their neck. I suggested that he fight the case vigorously and offered to help him. Speaking softly, he said: “baybayamon” (leave it be). The result – the alleged victims won, they placed a lien on his money and tarnished his reputation.)

On May 5, two Nevada residents seeking to represent all persons who purchased tickets, purchased the pay per view event, or wagered money on the “Fight of the Century” between Manny Pacquiao and Floyd Mayweather, Jr., filed a class action suit against Emmanuel Pacquiao, Top Rank Inc., Michael Koncz, Robert Arum, Todd Duboef, Does 1-10, and ABC Corps 1-10.

The complaint, filed in the U.S. District Court in Nevada, Case 2:15-cv-00842-MMD-CWH, seeks damages of more than \$5 million, exclusive of costs and interest, relating to the defendants’ failure to disclose the injuries suffered by Pacquiao before the fight. The complaint alleged that defendants, prior to and at the time the plaintiffs and the class purchased tickets, purchased pay per view event, or wagered on the event, had full knowledge and information that Pacquiao had been

seriously injured and was suffering from a torn rotator cuff, and that defendants knew that such injury would severely affect his performance in the event. The complaint further alleged that the plaintiffs relied on the defendants to disclose this information, and that as a direct and proximate cause of the defendants’ material omission plaintiffs and the class members suffered ascertainable losses consisting of the purchase price of the tickets, purchase price of pay per view showings, and wagers that were placed.

In the class action case filed in the Northern District of Florida, No. 1:15-cv-00089-RS-GRJ, against Pacquiao and Top Rank, the complaint alleged that the defendants failed to disclose Pacquiao’s shoulder injury before the fight and that the injury significantly affected the quality of the product.

In the class action case filed in U.S. District Court in Illinois, the suit alleges that the defendants fraudulently promoted, produced and sold the fight as one between two healthy fighters. The defendants are reportedly Pacquiao, Top Rank, HBO, Showtime, Mayweather, Mayweather Promotions, AT&T, Comcast and Direct TV.

In the California law suit, the plaintiff reportedly said that the fight was not the “Fight of the Century” but the “Dud of the Century”.

Meanwhile, according to



an NBC news report, Pacquiao could face disciplinary action, including fines from the Nevada State Athletic Commission for failing to disclose a shoulder injury before the fight. Pacquiao checked “No” on a “Pre-Fight Medical Questionnaire” asking: “Have you had any injury to your shoulders, elbows or hands that needed evaluation or examination?” The form stated: “I hereby swear, under penalty of perjury, that the above information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. The signature above the line “Contestant’s Signature” is not legible but is believed to be Pacquiao’s. The signature above the line “Second’s signature and name” appears to read Mike Koncz.

According to Tom Harvey of the New York Daily News, Nevada law provides that it is a class D felony for a licensee to lie to the Nevada State Athletic Commission, and that both Pacquiao and Koncz were “licensees”. Koncz reportedly claimed that he made a mistake or that it was inadvertent.

As for the possibility of a rematch, Stephen A. Smith, a Mayweather confidant, said on ESPN that the fighter had texted him that he would consider fighting Pacquiao again in a year or whenever his shoulder gets better. Bob Arum, Pacquiao’s promoter, also told ESPN that if Pacquiao’s rotator cuff heals well, they might en-

tertain a rematch. However, Mayweather reportedly retracted a possible rematch, calling Pacquiao names. This writer foresees a possible rematch since Pacquiao is still the strongest contender, it will still make a lot of money, there is a growing clamor for it, and Mayweather cannot resist the temptation of having a 50-0 record.

If there is a rematch, there should be a rule that hugging or clinching should not be allowed, and the fighter who initiates a hug or clinch should be punished with a one point deduction for every hug or clinch. Mayweather hugged Pacquiao at least 20 times during their fight, thus preventing Pacquiao from punching him.

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.

EDITORIALS (from page 3. MANY BOXING...)

A jab, followed by a hug to stop an onslaught, or a jab, to end a flurry of punches, or a jab followed by evasion and running – collectively this is what Mayweather did, and ultimately the reason why he was given a unanimous decision. Boring!

If this is what modern boxing has become, a more statistical science, versus the art and mastery of fighting, then the sport’s popularity will once again fade away into irrelevancy. The fans who favor style, flair, excitement and efficiency, will jump ship and seek entertainment in Mixed Martial Arts (MMA).

Pacquiao has done wonders in resurrecting the sport of boxing and made millions for many of this sport’s insiders. It’s absolutely shameful how the top insiders in return betrayed Pacquiao by denying him of his medication in the pre-fight over some lame technicality of not checking a box. It’s also shameful how many of these sports writers failed to even mention in their write-ups the huge dissent of boxing fans who saw Pacquiao as the victor.

These sports writers have also been negligent in even asking valid questions: “Was the way in which Mayweather

won – via evasion and jabs – completely legitimate or does the criteria for judging boxing needs to be changed?” “How is it possible that there was such an overwhelming consensus among commentators and judges that night who saw the fight completely differently from hundreds of thousands of fans who saw Pacquiao as the winner?” It is as if they were watching a different fight and that Pacquiao was being beaten to a pulp. That night, boxing did nothing to improve its ugly reputation as a sport wrought with corruption and inside fixing.

Hawaii Filipino Chronicle
Your Connection to Hawaii's
Filipino Community!

**“We Are Now Read
by Millions of Filipinos
Around the Globe”**

Call us now at **678-8930**
or e-mail us at
filipinochronicle@gmail.com
and let us help you spread
the word about your business

Visit us on our websites now at
www.efilipinochronicle.com or www.thefilipinochronicle.com

We are also on KWHE-TV 14

MAY SAVINGS EVENT

ENTER TO **WIN** a trip for two to Las Vegas!



Visit Valley of the Temples Memorial Park and ask for a ballot for a chance to win a trip for two to Las Vegas!*

PLUS SAVE UP TO 20%** during the month of May
when you pre-arrange at Valley of the Temples Memorial Park



New development features lush gardens and spectacular views.



Traditional lawn spaces alongside a peaceful stream.



VALLEY OF THE TEMPLES
MEMORIAL PARK

47-200 Kahekili Highway,
Kaneohe, HI 96744

808.236.4078

OceanViewNow.com

*Available during May 2015 only. No purchase necessary. Ask for full contest details. **Some restrictions apply. Ask for details.

Ask for a free guided tour of our new development

And your new password is: Your fingertip!



Introducing the new
Xoom App with Touch ID.

Ngayon, pwede ka nang mag-log in to your account with your fingerprint to send money to the Philippines, from anywhere in Hawaii, in less than five seconds!

Download it today and see why Xoom is the easiest way to send money.



Apple and the Apple logo are registered brands of Apple Inc., registered in the United States and other countries. App Store is a service brand of Apple Inc.

xoom

Stop waiting in line.
Xoom it online.

Our Numbers Do Not Lie.

11 + 145 =

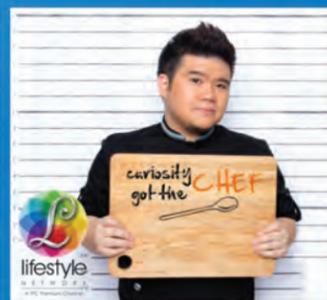


DIRECTV lamang ang mayroong **11** Pinoy channels at higit pa sa **145** English channels at this fantastic value. Tawag na!

FilipinoDirect™ package + PREFERRED CHOICE™ package.

\$45.98* /mo.

FOR 12 MONTHS PLUS ADD'L FEES WITH 24-MONTH AGREEMENT.** ENROLLMENT IN AUTO BILL PAY REQUIRED.*



EXCLUSIVE*



*Among satellite and cable providers

ALL DIRECTV OFFERS REQUIRE 24-MONTH AGREEMENT.**

Offers extended through 7/22/15. Credit card required (except in MA & PA). New approved customers only (lease required). \$19.95 handling & delivery fee may apply. Applicable use tax adjustment may apply on the retail value of the installation. Programming, pricing, and offers are subject to change and may vary in certain markets. Some offers may not be available through all channels and in select areas.

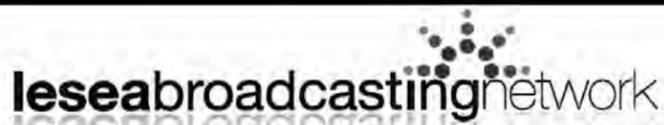
Limited time offer. Call today. **1.877.330.4388**



*BILL CREDIT/PROGRAMMING OFFER: IF BY THE END OF PROMOTIONAL PRICE PERIOD(S) CUSTOMER DOES NOT CONTACT DIRECTV TO CHANGE SERVICE THEN ALL SERVICES WILL AUTOMATICALLY CONTINUE AT THE THEN-PREVAILING RATES. LIMIT ONE PROGRAMMING OFFER PER ACCOUNT. Featured package/service names and current prices: PREFERRED CHOICE \$48.99/mo.; FilipinoDirect Package \$35.99/mo.; Advanced Receiver fee \$15/mo. PREFERRED CHOICE package requires a qualifying WorldDirect international a la carte service. Price includes the following instant bill credits for first 12 months: \$39 for PREFERRED CHOICE Package. Customer must, at point of sale, activate and maintain any qualifying international service bundle, which shall include the PREFERRED CHOICE programming package and Auto Bill Pay. Account must be in "good standing" as determined by DIRECTV in its sole discretion to remain eligible for all offers.

**24-MONTH AGREEMENT: EARLY CANCELLATION WILL RESULT IN A FEE OF \$20/MONTH FOR EACH REMAINING MONTH. Must maintain 24 consecutive months of any DIRECTV base programming package (\$29.99/mo. or above) or any qualifying international service bundle. Advanced Receiver fee (\$15/mo.) required for all HD DVRs. TiVo service fee (\$5/mo.) required for TiVo HD DVR from DIRECTV lease. There is a fee of \$6.50/mo. for each receiver and/or Genie Mini/DIRECTV Ready TV/Device on your account. NON-ACTIVATION CHARGE OF \$150 PER RECEIVER MAY APPLY. ALL EQUIPMENT (EXCLUDING GENIEGO DEVICE) IS LEASED AND MUST BE RETURNED TO DIRECTV UPON CANCELLATION, OR UNRETURNED EQUIPMENT FEES APPLY. VISIT directv.com/legal OR CALL 1-800-DIRECTV FOR DETAILS. INSTALLATION: Standard professional installation in up to four rooms only. Custom installation extra.

Programming, pricing, terms and conditions subject to change at any time. Pricing residential. Taxes not included. Receipt of DIRECTV programming subject to DIRECTV Customer Agreement; copy provided at directv.com/legal and in order confirmation. ©2015 DIRECTV. DIRECTV and the Cyclone Design logo, PREFERRED CHOICE, and all WorldDirect service marks are trademarks of DIRECTV, LLC. All other trademarks and service marks are the property of their respective owners.



KWHE TV 14

Oceanic Cable
Channel 11

KWHE TV 14 NOW HIRING

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES

KWHE TV-14 a Faith & Family TV Station is seeking Outside Sales & Marketing Professionals, Broadcasting experience preferred but not required.

EEO Employer

Send resume to: ejackson@lesea.com

Front Desk Administrative Assistant Full or P/T

Primary responsibilities include but not limited to:

Answering, transferring and fielding incoming calls. welcome visitors, proficient in Microsoft Word, Excel Xerox 7800 Work Professional, Telephone Skills, Verbal Communication, Microsoft Office Skills, Professionalism, Quick Learner, create and revise television programming schedules, assistant to General & Office Managers, receives, sort and disperses mail, creates and maintains FCC records.

EEO Employer

Send resume to: ejackson@lesea.com

TUNE IN AND WATCH THE STELLAR AWARDS SPECIAL!



KWHE TV-14

Presents

The 30th Annual Stellar Gospel Music Awards

Saturday April 11th from 8-10 pm

&

Sunday April 26th from 1-3 pm



Host for the 30th Annual Stella Awards: Rickey Smiley, David & Tamela Mann, featuring special guest artist Kirk Franklin, Michelle Williams, Deitrick Haddons LXW and more!



Thomas A. Dorsey Most Notable Achievement Award

**2015 Recipient
Andréa Crouch**

For Advertising or Video Production, contact Dave Kanyuck
Tel: 538.1414 255-4085 cell or email: dkanyuck@lesea.com

HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

Honolulu, Candon Officials Ink Sister City Agreement



(From right): City Council Chair Ernie Martin, Mayor Kirk Caldwell, Candon City Mayor Ericson Singson and Candon City Council Chair Rhodana Abrero display documents establishing the Honolulu-Candon City Sister City relationship

In a historic signing ceremony on May 7, 2015, government officials from Honolulu and Candon City signed documents establishing a Sister City relationship between the two municipalities.

Heading the respective delegations were Honolulu Mayor Kirk Caldwell and Candon City Mayor Ericson Singson. Both were flanked by councilmembers from Honolulu and Candon.

Candon City is located in Ilocos Sur, a region in the Philippines where many local Ilocanos trace their roots. Caldwell pointed out that the first Filipinos to Hawaii in 1906 were 15 *sakada* laborers from Candon who worked on the sugar plantations.

“Out of nearly 1,500 municipalities in the Philippines, these men came from Candon City, which makes this sister-city relationship so significant,” says Mayor Caldwell. “Those 15 *sakadas* from Candon paved the way for future

generations of Filipinos to come to Hawaii. If they were alive today, they would be so proud of the accomplishments that Filipinos have made through the years.”

In his remarks, Singson called the new sister city relationship “an answer to prayer and a hope that is kindled.”

“We hope to learn from Honolulu and at the same time offer our resources to forge a union that will benefit future generations,” he says.

The Honolulu-Candon signing marks Honolulu’s 37th sister city relationship and 7th overall with the Philippines. Honolulu has similar sister city relationships with Baguio, Cebu City, Laoag City, Mandaluyong, Manila and Vigan.

The relationship was made possible via Resolution 15-42, which was introduced by Councilmember Brandon Elefante and adopted by the City Council at its March 11, 2015 meeting.

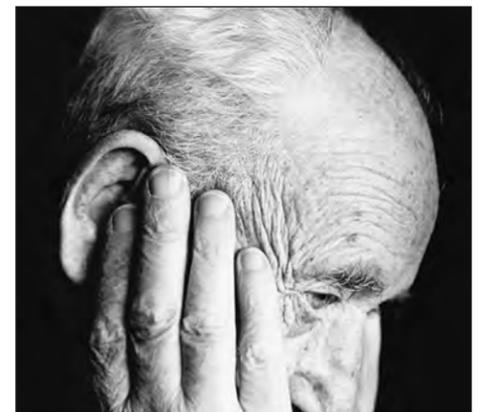
Forum to Address Alzheimer’s and Dementia

The State Department of Health’s Developmental Disabilities Division will host a forum to discuss the latest strategies in the treatment of Alzheimer’s Disease and related dementias on May 18, 2015 at the Shriner’s Hospital for Children Auditorium from 5 pm to 7 pm.

The forum will explore what can be done to support individuals with intellectual disabilities who are at-risk or are affected by dementia—the progressive loss of brain function that occurs with certain neuropathological diseases or trauma and is often associated with aging.

Treatment options to be discussed include the use of screening instruments, training for families and professionals, and home and community based services.

The event is sponsored in collabora-



tion with Dr. Seth Keller and Dr. Matthew Janicki, co-chairs of the National Task Group on Intellectual Disabilities and Dementia Practices, and Dr. Laurel Coleman from the Federal Advisory Council on Alzheimer’s Research, Care and Services

To RSVP for the forum, which is free and open to the public, please call 733-9197 by May 15.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

A Summary of the 2015 Legislative Session

New State Laws Enhance Lives and Acknowledge Filipinos

By Glenn Wakai

Hundreds of proposals to support Hawaii's homeless, seniors, preschoolers, and sick were mixed in with efforts to safeguard our natural resources, promote economic development, and make government more efficient. During the past five months lawmakers contemplated thousands of bills and sent 254 of them to the Governor's office for his signature.

Some of the bigger issues involved extending the general excise tax surcharge, privatizing the State's hospitals, establishing the framework for medical marijuana dispensaries, protect undeveloped land on Oahu's North Shore, and increase the food/excise tax credit.

"This year's budget is fiscally prudent, yet addresses many of the priorities of the Senate and the House. Although we were working with a lean budget, we were able to position the State to be in a better position for years to come," said Jill Tokuda, Chair of the Senate Ways and Means committee. The State's budget grew to nearly \$6.6 billion this year, and \$6.862 billion in general funds next year.

Some of the highlights include:

- Rail Tax HB 134 allows the City to extend the half percent excise tax surcharge for an additional five years (until 2027), to cover cost overruns for the \$6 billion project.

- Privatization of Maui hospitals HB 1075 authorizes the state to turn three hospitals in Maui county into private non-profit corporations. Hawaii Pacific Health and Kaiser Permanente have expressed interest to take over the facilities.

- Marijuana dispensaries HB 321 those with a permit will be allowed to pick up their marijuana at 16 state licensed sites in July 2016.

- Autism Coverage: SB791 mandates insurance companies cover up to \$25,000 a year in treatment until a child turns 14.

- Turtle Bay: SB284 allows the state to enter into an agreement with the owners of Turtle Bay that would protect 665 acres of undeveloped land on the North Shore of Oahu.

- Free Dual Credit Programs for High-Schoolers: SB374 waives college tuition for high school students in dual credit programs, such as Running Start and Jump Start, at the University of Hawai'i's community colleges.

- Health Connector Assistance: SB1028 provides \$2 million next year for the health insurance marketplace.

- Food/Excise Tax Credit: SB555 increases the food/excise tax credit, which hasn't been changed since it was established in 2007.

- Preschool Open Doors: SB64 restores \$6 million necessary to run the Preschool Open Doors Program, the statewide school readiness program, next year.

- Community-Based Renewable Energy Projects: SB1050 establishes a community-based renewable energy program, which allows electric utility customers to participate in renewable energy projects that produce electricity, which they can sell back to electric utility companies.

- Barrel Tax: SB359 funds the Environmental Response Revolving Fund with the general fund instead of the barrel tax to ensure there is a consistent stream of funding that supplies investments in clean energy, local agricultural production and environmental emergency responses.

- Kupuna Care: SB964 provides an additional \$3 million to fund the Kupuna Care program in fiscal year 2016, which is in addition to the base budget of \$4.8 million.

- Sex Trafficking: SB265 bans sex trafficking and raises the penalties to a class A felony and promote the concept of treating prostitutes as vic-

tims rather than criminals.

- Homeless ID cards: SB273 allows the homeless to apply for state identification cards even without the required state and federal documents if a social service organization, attorney, member of the clergy, correctional institution staff or health professional presents a signed statement certifying their personal information. It waives fees for homeless individuals.

- Ethanol Repeal: SB717 repeals the existing requirement that gas be composed of 10 percent ethanol.

- Hawai'i Resiliency and Sustainability: SB892 appropriates funding for Hawai'i resiliency and sustainability strategy in the areas of broadband, energy efficiency and smart grid, and water and sewer infrastructure.

- Affirmative Consent: SB387 establishes an affirmative consent task force to review and make recommendations on the University of Hawai'i's executive policy on sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.

- Multi-Track: SB1345 requires the Department of Education to develop a transition plan to end multi-track schedules in public schools.

Two pieces of legislation passed this year are of particular interest to Hawaii's Filipino Community:

House Bill 604 designates December 20 of each year as Sakada Day. The purpose of this measure is to recognize, acknowledge, and understand the historical significance of the arrival of the first sakadas, or Filipino plantation workers, in Hawaii.

The measure was supported by the Consulate General of the Republic of the Philippines in Hawaii, unions, human rights groups, National Federation of Filipino American Associations, the Filipino American Citizens League; Filipino Coalition for Solidarity; Nursing Advocates & Mentors, Inc.; Congress of Visayan Organizations.

Senate Resolution 44 urges the federal government to support passage of legislation to expedite family reunification for certain Filipino Veterans of World War II.

On December 8, 1941, thousands of Filipino men and women responded to President Roosevelt's call for help to preserve peace, democracy, and freedom for America. At that time, the Philippines was a commonwealth associated with the United States and its citizens were nationals of the United States, similar to the status of Hawaii's residents prior to statehood.

Nearly one hundred thousand soldiers of the Philippine Commonwealth Army provided a ray of hope in the Pacific as they fought alongside United States and Allied forces for four long years to defend and reclaim the Philippine Islands from Japanese aggression. Thousands of Filipinos joined the United States Armed Forces immediately after the war and served in occupational duty throughout the Pacific theater.

In February of 1946, the United States Congress enacted the 1946 Rescission Act, which denied World War II Filipino veterans rights to veterans benefits equal to those enjoyed by other veterans and soldiers of

more than sixty-six other countries who were similarly inducted into the United States military. This Act discriminated against Filipinos, making them the only national group singled out for denial of full United States veterans' status and benefits, including immigration and naturalization rights.

The United States Congress enacted legislation in 1990 that provided a waiver from certain immigration and naturalization requirements for these Filipino veterans and allowed many Filipino veterans to finally become citizens and residents of this country.

However, the 1990 legislation did not go far enough in extending immigration and naturalization benefits to the children of Filipino veterans, resulting in years of long separation between the veterans and their children remaining in the Philippines awaiting the issuance of immigrant visas.

World War II Filipino veterans are now in their seventies and eighties. Many are permanently disabled and are in need of veterans benefits and services.

.....
GLENN WAKAI is a State Senator (Kalih-Salt Lake-Foster Village) and a former television news reporter.



Michael A. McMann, M.D.

**BOARD CERTIFIED
FELLOWSHIP-
TRAINED
EYE SURGEON**

**Same Day
Appointments
Available**

Hawaii Medical Center West • St. Francis Med. Plaza West
91-2139 Ft. Weaver Rd. # 202 • Ewa Beach

677-2733

**FREE Parking / Next to The Bus Stop
Staff speaks TAGALOG & ILOCANO**



McMANN EYE

I N S T I T U T E

- COMPREHENSIVE EYE CARE
- CATARACT SURGERY
- GLAUCOMA
- DIABETIC EYE CARE
- PTERYGIUM
- MACULAR DEGENERATION
- LASIK VISION CORRECTION
- ADVANCED CORNEAL TRANSPLANTATION
- SUNGLASSES, EYEGASSES & CONTACT LENSES

TRAVEL & TOURISM

The 'Farmalengke'

By Eva Visperas

MA N I L A , Philippines - "Life is a garden, dig it!"

That is one of the signs that encourages visitors to get into the life on the farm, but it's not just any farm. Our Farm Republic in Barangay Torre in Mangatarem, Pangasinan is a certified organic farm, and owner Lea Santiago welcomes visitors to share in the bounty of the land.

Our Farm Republic has been drawing crowds looking for organic produce, as well as those who are thinking of venturing into organic farming. Her Farmalengke - a play on the words farm and palengke, meaning market - scheme al-

lows visitors to actually go out to the farm and pick the produce, so they are assured of freshness. Her farm grows rice, vegetables and fruits, raises chickens and pigs, among others. "The idea here is you have to be self-sufficient," Lea explains.

She started her pick-and-pay system to attract people to the farm and get them into the habit of eating healthy. "You are relaxed, not stressed with your marketing chores inside a public market, and you enjoy picking our fresh garden produce," she says. The idea is catching on, as people start coming to the farm to do their marketing as early as 6 a.m. practically every day.

"At first, people thought we were krung-krung (crazy) because they didn't know the



crops we were planting then, like the dragon fruit," says this former Marikina City councilor. She gave up politics in 2010 and returned to her maternal hometown to start the farm, which has since become a techno-demo farm. Hundreds of housewives have undergone the four-month training. "Some of them surprisingly didn't even know how to plant!" she laughs.

Lea feels proud and fulfilled when these women tell her they are now earning extra from their organic farming to help meet their families' needs. With Lea's technique of using sacks to plant some of her produce, space is not an issue.

Her farm is also visited by groups of young students who are exposed to the sources of the foods they eat, and the crops or fruits found in the Philippines.

On our recent visit, we were introduced to Vickee Padilla, president of the Association of Advocates and Practitioners in Pangasinan on

Organic Agriculture (AsAPP-OA).

Vickee's love affair with organic farming started in 1987 with the launching of AGTALON, a non-government organization whose acronym stands for Agro-Technical Assistance and Livelihood Opportunities in the North based in Barangay Nalsian, Manaoag town. Agtalon is an Ilocano word that means "to farm." Vickee serves as its managing director.

"We were then like the voice in the wilderness," Vickee, an Agriculture graduate from the University of the Philippines Los Baños, says, recalling her struggle to introduce organic farming to Pangasinan farmers.

Together with her husband, they do advocacy, trainings, projects on sustainable agriculture and started LEISA rice, for Low External Input and Sustainable Agriculture.

"Before, it was all conventional using chemicals, but we introduced the use of organic and we did it slowly because some would object to it. So we said the base would be organic and the top dressing

could use chemicals, and it was okay," she says.

While AsAPP-OA was established just last August, it already has 50 dedicated members and the number is growing. "Many really wanted to go organic," Vickee says.

Vickee is optimistic Republic Act 1000068, An Act Providing for the Development and Promotion of Organic Agriculture in the Philippines of 2010, will boost their advocacy, especially with the coming out of Philippine National Standards for Organic Agriculture, which the practitioners must comply with to rightfully claim their produce is really organic.

"Even if you use natural methods but when there is contamination from neighboring areas, your product cannot be certified as organic," she explains. "You have to know your source. You have to know your farmer."

The group has existing trading posts like the one located at the CSI The City Mall in Dagupan City which is supported by Department of Agriculture (DA).

Lea says their group agreed that they would plant different crops, and not at the same time, so they would have continuous supply for their patrons. Coming up with protocol and product labeling is their next target.

So next time you find yourself up north, get to know where your food comes from. Drop by Our Farm Republic and discover the delicious wonders of organic farming.

(www.philstar.com)

BALIKBAYAN BOXES
LBC HARI NG PADALA

GRACE LARSON
BIG ISLAND AGENT of LBC

211 MAKANI CIRCLE
HILO, HI 96720
808- 640-1540
808-960-6006
Fax: 1-866-663-1453
raven_reuboni@yahoo.com

www.lbcexpress.com

PARALEGAL SERVICES
IMMIGRATION SERVICES
INTERPRETING SERVICES
(Tagalog, Visayan & Ilonggo)

GRACE MANIPOL-LARSON
Paralegal / Interpreter

www.allparalegalservices.com

Call Rey-Cel Travel
For The Lowest Fare
To Manila. (808) 871-6251



Listen To KPMW
The WILD 105.5 FM
(808) 871-6251

Request call (808) 871-6933

Energetic young individual who can speak Ilocano and Tagalog (bilingual) to be a disk jockey of a radio station. Computer literate, radio experience, or will train. Fax resume to 808-871-5670.

Leeward Oahu
Rehab Services

is looking for a **PART TIME Licensed Physical Therapy Assistant**

Schedule: Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday
1am to 5pm.

Please email resume to
Nelson_Sonido@yahoo.com or call **(808) 671-3911**

LEGAL NOTES



By Reuben S. Seguritan

Delays in Immigrant Visa Processing

by the NVC, it has been experiencing delays in the processing of immigrant visa applications.

The NVC receives and handles the processing of approved immigrant visa petitions from the USCIS. If a visa number is available, the agency notifies the applicant and collects relevant fees as well as financial and civil documents. It also reviews DS-260 immigrant visa applications which are completed and submitted online.

When documents are deemed complete, the agency coordinates with U.S. embassies abroad to set up interview schedule and forwards the cases to them. Meantime, visa petitions which are not current are filed and stored until they become current.

The number of cases received by the NVC in the past

year increased from about 8,000 cases per week to around 25,000 cases per week. Case creation alone took 45 days last summer. At present, processing delays of at least 60 days is expected at the document review stage. Responding to email inquiries takes about 25 days.

For fiscal year 2014, the NVC had a total of 2.6 million cases. It received from the USCIS 709,000 cases. 99,000 cases were current family-based petitions. It forwarded a total of 349,000 cases to U.S. consular offices abroad.

Previously, the NVC required original civil documents such as birth certificates, marriage certificates, and police certificates, among others. In order to reduce processing wait times, the NVC has adopted a new policy requiring visa applicants to submit only photo-

copies of civil documents. Applicants who are required to submit Affidavits of Support, however, are still required to submit the forms in the original. Also, original supporting documents are required at the time of interview.

The processing delays at the NVC has caused frustration to many visa applicants. Affidavit of support issues, for instance, have resulted in the “back and forth” between the applicant and the NVC which resulted in longer wait times.

In a meeting between the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) and the NVC, the NVC addressed the issue and confirmed that if the information submitted is “objectively complete and if taken as true would satisfy the affidavit of support requirements”, the application should

be allowed to move forward.

The NVC also confirmed that where the discrepancy as indicated on the Affidavit of Support and in the supporting evidence is minimal, the examiners are encouraged to exercise reasonable judgment and permit the case to move forward as long as evidence submitted satisfies the legal requirement. The NVC is currently addressing the issue by training its examiners.

These are only some of the many issues addressed by the NVC. The agency reports that it is working diligently in its effort to reduce processing delays.

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

The rapid movement of EB-3 priority dates particularly the Philippine EB-3 which advanced by 6 years and 3 ½ months last year was great news to Filipino nurses who had been waiting for many years for their visa numbers. However, this, along with the large increase of approved cases from the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) have created a significant backlog at the National Visa Center (NVC).

As a result of the increased number of cases being handled

HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

Maui Filipino Chamber of Commerce Announces 2015 Scholarship Recipients

The Maui Filipino Chamber Foundation will award scholarships to 12 graduating high school seniors and one Maui Culinary Academy student.

Melen Agcolicol, president of the Maui Filipino Chamber Foundation, says the recipients are shining examples of Maui's future.

“Each of the scholars excelled academically, received numerous awards and are very active in the community,” Agcolicol says. “We congratulate them and look forward to their continued success.”

The Foundation was able to increase the amount awarded from last year, due largely in part to the success of its annual Scholarship Golf Tournament under the direction of chairman Bill Ruidas and numerous community partners.

Receiving a \$2,000 scholarship from the Foundation and the Renato & Maria A.F. Etrata Foundation was top scholar Joanne Patricia Valvarez Engracio of Maui High School,

the daughter of Nicanor and Lourdes Engracio. She will attend the University of San Francisco and major in international business.

Maui Culinary Academy student Mary Ann Ubaldo, a 2013 graduate of Maui High School, received a \$1,000 scholarship from the Foundation. Ubaldo has attended the Academy since the Fall 2013 semester.

The other \$1,000 scholarship recipients are:

- Chantelle Baclay, Lahainaluna High School. College/major: Pacific University—biology
- Joy Dionicia Balinbin, Seabury Hall. College/major: St. Mary's College (California)—sociology
- Princess Jhoy Bonilla, Baldwin High School. College/major: Chaminade University—nursing.
- Joyce Cebricos, Maui HS. College/major: Ohio State University—finance and criminology
- Sophia Fredy, La-

hainaluna HS. College/major: Arizona State University—communications

- Jaclyn Gorman, Kamehameha Schools-Maui. College/major: Chapman University—animation
- Marella Idica, Baldwin HS. College/major: University of Hawaii-Manoa—graphic design
- Jaclyn May Quedding, Maui HS. College/major: UH-Maui—nursing
- Paris Nicole Sensano, Maui HS. College/major:

St. John's University—biology

- Liana Kahealani Phillips Tanaka, Maui HS. College/major: Pacific University—biology and chemistry or optometry
- Dayna Mieko Yamasaki, Baldwin HS. College/major: University

of San Francisco—business administration

The scholarship recipients will be officially announced at the Gintong Pamana Leadership & Scholarship Awards Banquet scheduled for June 17, 2015 at Café O Lei at The Dunes Maui Lani.

visit our websites @

www.thefilipinochronicle.com

and

www.efilipinochronicle.com

and enjoy the e-copy of the hawaii-filipino chronicle!

Build A Rock® Solid Future

LIFE • AUTO • ANNUITIES

Tel. 808-935-1948
Ditas Guillermo Udani
Premier Agent
The Prudential Insurance Company
of America
CA State Lic#OD90884
www.freditas.udani@prudential.com



“I'll help you build your financial future on a strong foundation.”

**Prudential
Financial**

Growing and Protecting Your Wealth

Insurance and annuities issued by The Prudential Insurance Company of America, Newark NJ and its affiliates.
“Availability varies by carrier by carrier and state.”

0153198-00002-00 Exp. 12/2/10

PHILIPPINE LANGUAGE



DAYASADAS
By Pacita Saludes

Punganay Ti Ilokos Surian Iti Hawaii

ADDANG TI PANAWEN

Maysa kadagiti kalatakan a grupo ti Ilokano iti agdama ti Ilocos Surian. Adun dagiti naaramidanna ken naipakitana a pagsayaatan dagiti Ilokano. Adun dagiti naitulongna saan laeng nga iti Hawaii no di pay ket diay Pilipinas. Gapuanan dagiti mangiwanwanwan ti organisasion ti ballaigi dagiti amin a rusat ta agbatay ti kinasaldet ken kinasirib dagiti napili a mangituray. Ikablaawtayo dayta iti nabayagen a presidente ti grupo a ni Danny Villaruz.

No taliawen ti napalabas, naorganisar ti grupo iti Febrero idiy 1358 Wanaka Street ti Honolulu. Naimaldit dayta ti sinurat dagiti nangaramid ti pakasaritaan ti asosasion.

Adu a tawtawen idi maiwarwaragawag kadagiti radio a maorganisar koma ti Ilocos Surian. Timek ti lalaki ken anunsador a babai ti inaldaw a

m a n g m a n g n e g a mangipukpukaw ngem awan met ti nabukel. Iti panaglabas dagiti bulan, awan met ti nauray.

Pagsarsaritaan dagiti agdengdeng ti radio ta awan met ti mangngesda a panakaitungpalna. Natinongmi kas maysa met a naikamang ti Ilocos Sur a masapul a makasarita dagiti rumbeng a makaaramid kadagiti maipukpukaw. Isu a kadagiti naladaw nga oras nga isasangpetmi manipud iti trabaho, inawagan toy numo ti biang dagiti rumbeng nga awagan dagiti makatulong ken rumbeng a maibaga kadakuada iti plano, gandat ken pagsayaatan ti panangbukel ti gunglo. Saan nga ipukpukaw latta, nga urayen no asino ti agdisnudo.

Sinaggayasak nga inawagan dagiti presidente ti gunglo ti kada ili ti Ilocos Sur tapno isarita ti pagsayaatan ti panakaorganisar ti gunglo ken mapagsarsaritaan ti napintas a panagkakuada no buklen ti grupo. Maragsakan dagiti amin a presidente ket inyawisko ti panagtitiyon iti dayta a Febrero iti bukodko a pagtaengan 1358 Wanaka Street a nakaorganisaranna.

Tapno mapunas ti maipapatayab nga atap dagiti daduma a no buklen, datayo manen ti agpresidente. Naraggas dayta nga atap isut gapuna a napanko inayaban daydi abogado Peter Aduja a taga-Vigan tapno isu ti rumbeng nga agpresidente. Isu ngarud ti immuna a presidente ti Ilocos Surian ken dagiti napilina a kakaduana ket siak ti napili a bise presidente. Kas ugali ni pinoy, no adda maapas adda latta met pagkurangan ti urnos. Nupay no kasta nagsayaatanna a nairugi ta ti itatapog dagiti nasasaldet nga Ilocos Surian, rimmangpaya ti grupo agingga ita. Nagbalinen nga agdindinamag iti Hawaii ken iti Pilipinas kadagiti ayat ken tulong ti Ilocos Surian.

Adu pay ti rusat dagiti taga-Hawaii a panglagip kadagiti nalatak a tattao iti Elpidio Quirino Award a maipaay kadagiti mapadayawan a kamkameng iti tinawen a rungo ti Ilocos Surian. Saanen a mabilang dagiti pagsayaatan a rusat daytoy a grupo babaen ti panangidaulo ni Presidente Danny Villaruz. Agbiag ti Ilocos Surian of Hawaii!!!

Alisto ti panagbas dagiti aldaw
Di mapupuotan dagiti oras
Parbangon pagammuanen rabii
Adda met la napateg a naaramiden?

Awan annayas dagiti dana a lasatem
Gapu ti kaawan napalanas a desdes
Liklikan ti di maigaggagara a pannakaitibkol
A gubuay ti di masarkedan a kinalupoy.

Sarangten ti nadawis a karit ti panawen
A manglapped nasalibukag a tarigagay
Uksoben ti natiri a panagduadua
A kabulon ti di umisu a panagtalek

Rinaay man dagiti nabursi nga in-inep
No sabuagan ti mapakpakadaan a dalluyon ti biag
Ira remnaka ti dandanika di makalung-aw
Nailangitan a batak laeng kenka ti makaalaw.

Awan man nalimbong a dana ditoy lubong
Uray naipatatap iti tao ti umno nga aramid
Malaktaw dagiti gerger pamulinawen a buko
No nadalus ti konsensia kadagiti pada a tao.

Ti kinadalus ti rikna a makilangen
Tarigagay a di pulos maibael
Makaparegsak pada a tao iti badding
Naikudi a taeng ti aglawlawmo

Bilangen dagiti aldaw ti tawen
No nakapagserbisio a sitatalingengen
Amangan no kawaw a naglabas laeng
Awan natda nga inka lagipen

PHILIPPINE NEWS

Yolanda Victims to DSWD: Junk Memo on Housing Assistance

by Dennis Carcamo
Wednesday, May 13, 2015

MANILA, Philippines - Several peasant groups are now up in arms over the memorandum circular issued by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), which sets conditions that virtually disqualify poor and vulnerable sectors affected by super typhoon Yolanda.

The groups, mostly based in Eastern Samar and Panay, have been asking the DSWD to scrap the memorandum circular and unconditionally release the Emergency Shelter Assistance (ESA) to Yolanda victims.

"We urge DSWD to scrap the Memo Circular No. 24 that set the conditions or served as an impediment for the ESA to benefit the victims," Anakpawis Rep. Fernando Hicap during the protest on Tuesday in front of the DSWD national office in Quezon

In the memo's eligibility clause, DSWD sets certain conditions for the supposed beneficiary of ESA, or the P30,000 financial assistance for those houses totally destroyed by typhoon Yolanda, while P10,000 for houses partially damaged.

The memo also cites those families living along shore-

(continued on page 15)

philstar.com
The Filipino Global Community

shines even brighter for the Filipino Global Community

Join us as we journey into a new home!

Log on to www.philstar.com

COMMUNITY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

UNITED PANGASINAN OF HAWAII 47TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER & DANCE | May 16, 2015 | Pacific Beach Hotel Grand Ballroom | Tickets & Information: Cely Villareal - (808) 778-2481 or (808) 689-4911

(cpsdirector@hawaii.edu) or Clem Montero (cps@hawaii.edu1)

ISAH 2ND PRESIDENT ELPIDIO QUIRINO LEADERSHIP AND HUMANITARIAN AWARD AND GALA NIGHT | June 5, 2015 | HAWAII PRINCE HOTEL | Contact Danny Villaruz 778-0233 or Jun Abinsay 469-7351

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

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

PHILIPPINE NURSES ASSOCIATION OF HI, 36TH PNA GALA NIGHT | July 25, 2015 | HILTON HAWAIIAN VILLAGE | 5:00 PM | Contact: Marise Aczon Armstrong, 542-5133 or Tina Salvador, 426-6183

CLASSIFIED ADS

CASHIER, PREP./COOK 8.50 TRAINING /9.00 STARTING
Kaneohe area/ Town area
Call 2351311/9471311

PHILIPPINE NEWS

INFOGRAPHIC: Experience of Hunger in Households

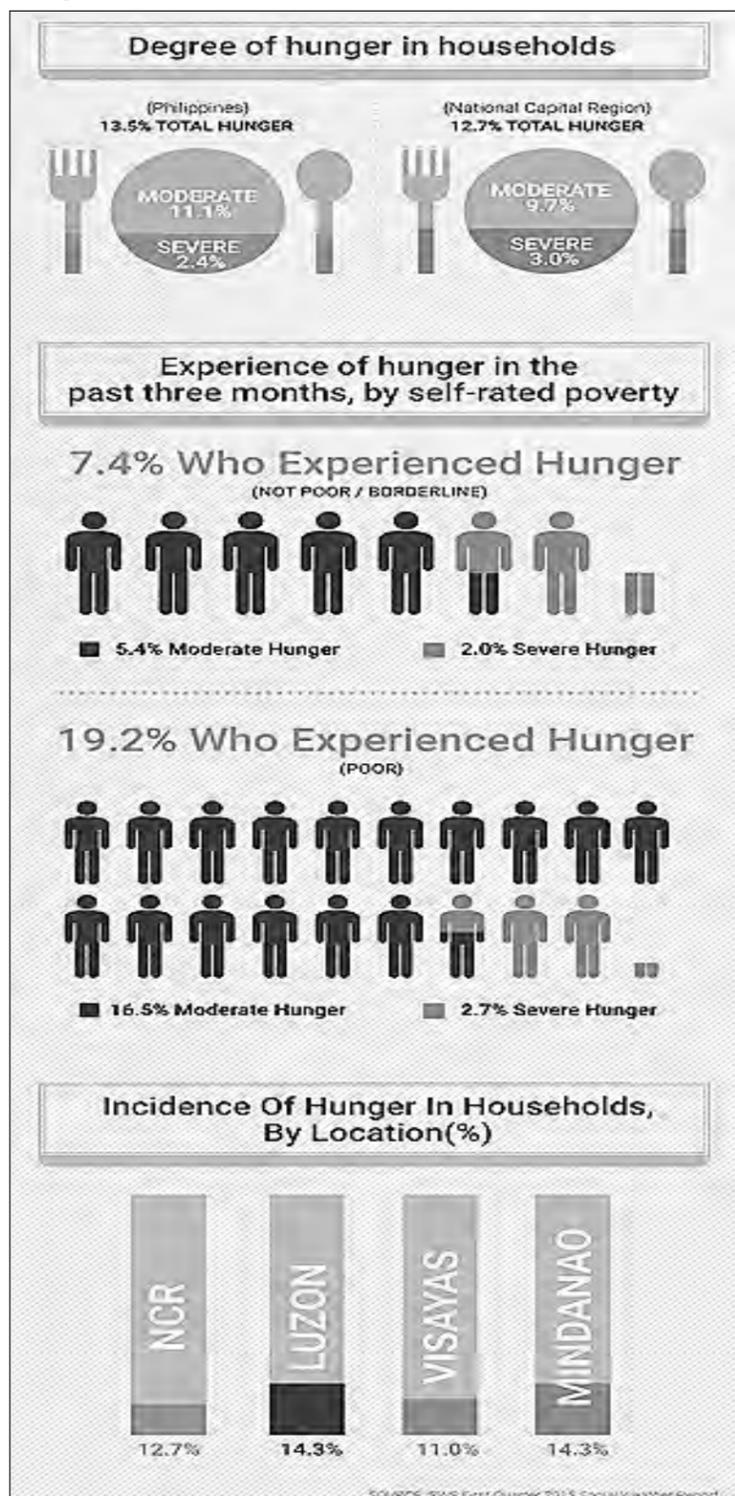
by Patricia Lourdes Viray
Wednesday, May 13, 2015

MANILA, Philippines - The recent Social Weather Stations survey revealed that about three million families experienced involuntary hunger during the first quarter of 2015.

The last three months' 13.5 percent hunger is the lowest recorded in 10 years since May 2005 when the hunger rate was 12 percent.

The recent survey showed that hunger incidence declined across all areas, which the Palace claimed as a result of President Benigno Aquino III's "Tuwid na Daan" principle.

(www.philstar.com)



(from page 12, YOLANDA....)

lines, farmlands and hillsides which are declared as hazard zone or no build, no dwell zones, would be automatically disqualified.

Eligible to get the ESA are families renting with the agency's Disaster Family Access Card (DAFAC) and contractual workers with no housing loans from government and private entities, regular workers from the public and private sector earning lower than P15,000 a month, provided they have not received same assistance from other agencies; lone survivors

who are issued with DAFAC; and families with DAFAC who did self-repair.

"DSWD is making it hard for the victims to receive assistance. This is double distress for the victims) Hicap said.

Chris Chavez, spokesperson of PAMANGGAS-Panay said that many victims, majorly from fisherfolk, farmer, urban poor and marginalized sectors in Iloilo have been protesting since the issuance of the DSWD Memo.

"Many victims were disqualified simply because of their residence location and

receipt of little aid from local officials. The provisioned about the salary level is also discriminatory as if those earning P16,000 do not need assistance," Chavez said.

According to Anakpawis, foreign donations reached to P73.3 billion while the National Disaster and Risk Reduction and Management Council valued the damage cost at near P40 billion.

Yolanda victims from the Panay and Eastern Visayan region will continue protesting until May 14 at Mendiola bridge, Manila. (www.philstar.com)

GLOBAL NEWS

Pope: God Will Judge You on Whether You Cared for Earth

VATICAN CITY - Pope Francis warned the rich and powerful on yesterday that God will judge them on whether they fed the poor and cared for the Earth, his latest exhortation on the environment ahead of his eagerly-awaited encyclical on climate change and its effects on the world's most vulnerable.

Francis delivered the warning during a Mass for the Vatican's Caritas Internationalis charity.

In his homily, Francis said the planet has enough food to feed the world but "it seems that there is a lack of willingness to share it with everyone."

"We must do what we can so that everyone has something to eat. But we must also remind the powerful of the Earth that God will call them to judgment one day," he said. "And there it will be revealed if they really

tried to provide for him in every person, and if they did what they could to preserve the environment so that it could produce this food."

No papal document in recent times has produced as much anticipation or anxiety as Francis' encyclical, which is expected next month. Environmentalists are thrilled that Francis is lending his moral authority to provide an ethical foundation for action to stem climate change. Conservatives, including many Christians, have criticized Francis for wading into the politically charged climate debate.

On yesterday, one of Francis' key advisers, Cardinal Oscar Rodriguez Maradiaga, said he was stunned by the complaints he had heard during a trip to the United States over a papal document that hasn't even been published yet. He accused those fueling it of an ideology "that is very strongly linked to a vision of capitalism that doesn't want to renounce damaging the environment for the sake of profits."

Francis has said global warming is "mostly" man-made and that humanity has a moral duty to stop it. (www.philstar.com)

OFFICE SPACES FOR LEASE

To view the unit, please call **Rental Masters, LLC @ 808-678-8930, 808-330-8981 (mobile)**

110 sq. ft for \$650.00 per month. Includes CAM and electricity. Move-in ready.

135 sq. ft for \$850.00 per month. Includes CAM and electricity. Furnished with high-end pieces of furniture.

LIVE BIG
KAHIT SANDALI LANG.



THE LIMITED EDITION

**Sirloin Third
Pound* Burgers**



Ito na yata ang pinaka-premium na burger namin. Thick, juicy 100% North American sirloin na puwedeng ma-enjoy nang three ways: The Steakhouse, na may mushrooms. Lettuce & Tomato. O Bacon & Cheese. Paano mo man gustong mag-indulge, ang payo namin ay gawin mo na ngayon. Dahil gaya ng maraming bagay na masarap, sandali lang 'to narito.



i'm lovin' it®