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NEWS EDITION

HAWAII'S ONLY WEEKLY FILIPINO-AMERICAN NEWSPAPER

HAWAII EXTENDS ALOHA TO VISITING PHILIPPINE PRESIDENT NOYNOY AQUINO



By Maita Millalos | Photo by Tim LLENA

Awelcome dinner reception for Philippine President Benigno “Noynoy” S. Aquino III was held last November 13, 2011 at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Hotel in Waikiki. Dubbed as “Alay sa Pangulo”, the event was tendered in his honor by the Filipino community on his last official day in Hawaii. Aquino was in Honolulu to attend the 19th Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Leaders’ Meeting hosted by the U.S.

Nearly 1,000 local Filipinos braved the heavy traffic in Waikiki to give the Philippine President an enthusiastic welcome at the community dinner organized by the Philippine Consulate General and the Philippine Celebrations Coordinating Committee (PCCC). Among the dignitaries in atten-

dance were U.S. Representatives Colleen Hanabusa and Mazie Hirono, Governor Neil Abercrombie, Honolulu Mayor Peter Carlisle, former U.S. Congressman Ed Case, former Honolulu Mayor Mufi Hanemann, Hawaii County Mayor Billy Kenoi, Maui Mayor Alan Arakawa, and Kauai Mayor Bernard Carvalho.

From the Philippine delegation, there were Foreign Affairs Secretary Albert del Rosario, Trade and Industry Secretary Gregory Domingo, Energy Secretary Rene Almendras, Finance Secretary Cesar Purisima, Philippine Ambassador to the U.S. Jose Cuisia, Jr., Consul General Leoncio Cardenas,

(continued on page 4)

PHILIPPINES, U.S. SIGN PARTNERSHIP FOR GROWTH AGREEMENT



U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and Philippine Foreign Affairs Secretary Albert F. del Rosario hold documents signed during the Partnership for Growth ceremony on November 16, 2011 at Malacanang Palace in Manila | Photo courtesy: U.S. State Department

Officials from the Philippine and U.S. governments signed a Joint Statement of Principals on the Partnership for Growth (PFG) which aligns

both countries’ strategic efforts towards inclusive economic growth for the Philippines.

(continued on page 4)

Have A Happy & Safe Thanksgiving Day!



HAWAII FILIPINO CHRONICLE
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EDITORIAL

Medical Tourism



Years before former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo decided that she needed medical attention overseas, the government started promoting the Philippines as a destination for medical tourism. As in several other aspects, the promotion was either belated or lacked the steam manifested in other Asian countries, which also saw the huge revenue potential from medical travel. Amid the financial crisis in 1997, these countries started re-tooling their health sectors for medical tourism.

Today the Philippines is lagging behind Thailand, India and Singapore in medical tourism. As of 2008, the three countries had cornered 90 percent of medical tourism in Asia, according to the Department of Health. The Philippine Medical Tourism Program was launched only in 2004. Between 2006 and 2010, the country earned about \$350 million from medical travel. In contrast, Thailand, which has become a center for affordable plastic surgery, has earned billions of dollars from medical travel.

India and Singapore have positioned themselves as centers for advanced medical and pharmaceutical research. Many stories have been told of the efficiency and affordability of medical treatment in India, including complex surgical procedures. China is also racing to promote its medical services.

The Philippine Medical Association has emphasized that the country has enough competent specialists and other health professionals to deal with various ailments. Entertainment celebrities openly attest to the expertise of local plastic surgeons. In addition, the wellness industry is flourishing. All that is lacking is more aggressive marketing of the expert and affordable medical services available in the Philippines.

A similar problem afflicts the tourism industry in general. Even with the

FROM THE PUBLISHER

That sigh of relief you just heard was from those who are glad that APEC is finally over. Critics say APEC was much ado for nothing and that hosting the event was not worth the inconveniences and money spent. Such thinking is foolhardy and short-sighted. At times, you simply have to spend money to make money. In APEC's case, Oahu successfully demonstrated to the world that it is an ideal location for large-scale conventions and, given its isolation, a haven from potentially-explosive protests that have marred other high-profile business and political events. Kudos to the Honolulu Police Department, event planners and the many thousands of volunteers who worked many, many hours to ensure a smooth and orderly conference.

Speaking of kudos, this issue marks the Chronicle's 19th Anniversary! Yes, 19 years ago, our editorial board began meeting at our original offices at 1449 North King Street to lay the foundations for a newspaper that would serve as the voice for Hawaii's growing Filipino community. And we are still going strong 19 years later, thanks to the Good Lord and the support of our faithful readers and advertisers. We hope that the Chronicle, with its ability to tap into all corners of Hawaii's Filipino community, will continue to offer unique context, history and perspectives found nowhere else—for the next 19 years and beyond.

Our cover story for this issue was written by Maita Millalos, who reports on the recent visit to Hawaii for APEC by none other than Philippine President Benigno "Noy" S. Aquino III. It was certainly a treat for Hawaii's Filipinos to meet him at a special welcoming dinner in his honor. I'm sure he was overwhelmed with the outpouring of support and aloha from the nearly 1,000 guests and dignitaries in attendance at the Alay sa Pangulo at the Hilton Hawaiian Village.

That's it for now. As always, we encourage our readers to provide feedback, story ideas, tips or concerns regarding Hawaii's dynamic and vibrant Filipino community. Please drop us an email at: filipinochronicle@gmail.com. We'd love to hear from you!

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

Chona A. Montesines-Sonido

deficient tourism infrastructure and other woes plaguing the industry, the country has enough natural attractions that can compete with the best in the world as travel destinations.

A major edge over several other countries is the typical Filipino's friendly, compassionate nature – something that has made nurses and other health professionals from the Philippines favored for employment overseas. The room for growth in medical tourism is vast. A boom in medical travel can also stop the country's health professionals from leaving for better paying jobs abroad. (www.philstar.com) ■



NEWS EDITION

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The 21st Century: America's Pacific Century

by U.S. Secretary of State Hillary CLINTON

From the beginning, the Obama administration embraced the importance of the Asia Pacific region. It's home to nearly half the world's population, boasts several of the largest and fastest-growing economies and some of the world's busiest ports and shipping lanes and presents consequential challenges such as military buildups, concerns about the proliferation of nuclear weapons, natural disasters, and the world's worst levels of greenhouse gas emissions.

It is becoming increasingly clear that in the 21st century, the world's strategic and economic center will be in Asia-Pacific. Our diplomats, military leaders, and trade and development experts are reinforcing our relationships in the region to set us on a course for broad and lasting progress. Events elsewhere have made this possible. The war in Iraq is winding down. We have begun a transition in Afghanistan. We now can redirect some of those investments. Asia stands out as a region where opportunities abound.

The 20th century saw the creation of a comprehensive transatlantic network of institutions and relationships. Its goals were to strengthen democracy, increase prosperity, and defend our collective security. And it has paid remarkable dividends, in Europe itself, in our thriving two-way trade and our investment. It has also proven to be absolutely critical in dealing with countries like Iran. The transatlantic system is and always will be a central pillar of America's engagement with the world.

Today, there is a need for a more dynamic and durable transpacific system, a more mature security and economic architecture that will promote security, prosperity, and universal values, resolve differences among nations, foster trust and accountability, and encourage effective cooperation on the scale that today's challenges demand.

And just as the U.S. played a central role in shaping that architecture across the Atlantic—we are now doing the same across the Pacific. The 21st century will be America's Pacific century, a period of unprecedented outreach and partnership in this dynamic, complex, and consequential region.

I have heard from many different counterparts across Asia-Pacific an urgent desire for American leadership. The U.S. is proud of our long history as a Pacific nation and a resident diplomatic, military, and economic power. The alliances we've built help provide the security that's

made it possible for countries throughout Asia to prosper. We've been a major trade and investment partner, a source of innovation, a host to generations of students, and a committed development partner, helping to expand opportunity and bring economic and social progress to millions of people. And as a staunch advocate for democracy and human rights, we have urged countries to strengthen their own societies and allow their own citizens to live free and dignified lives.

At this time of serious economic challenges, I am well aware of the concerns of those in our own country that the U.S. downsize our work around the world. When they hear about a new era of engagement in Asia, I know they think to themselves, "Why would we increase our outreach anywhere? Now's the time to scale back." This thinking is understandable, but mistaken. What will happen in Asia in the years ahead will have an enormous impact on our nation and we cannot afford to sit on the sidelines and leave it to others to determine our future for us. Instead, we need to seize new opportunities for trade and investment that will create jobs at home and fuel our economic recovery.

And there are challenges facing Asia-Pacific right now that demand America's leadership, from ensuring freedom of navigation in the South China Sea to countering North Korea's provocations and proliferation activities to promoting balanced and inclusive economic growth. The U.S. has unique capacities to bring to bear in these efforts and a strong national interest at stake.

Now that's the why of America's pivot toward the Asia Pacific. Now, what about the how? What will this next chapter in our engagement with Asia look like? It starts with a sustained commitment to the strategy of this administration, what I have called forward-deployed diplomacy. That means dispatching the full range of our diplomatic resources, including our highest-ranking officials, our diplomats and development experts, and our permanent assets, to every country and corner of the region.

Specifically, we are moving ahead on six key lines of action, which I have previously discussed in depth. They are: strengthening our bilateral security alliances; deepening our working relationships with emerging powers; engaging with regional multilateral institutions; expanding trade and investment; forging a broad-based military pres-



U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton
Photo by Tim LLENA

ence; and advancing democracy and human rights.

But to accomplish these goals, we have to create a rules-based order, one that is open, free, transparent, and fair. As a member of APEC, the U.S. will drive an agenda focused on strengthening regional economic integration, promoting green growth, and advancing regulatory cooperation and convergence. And we will continue to work through APEC to invest in the economic potential of women, whose talents and contribution still often go untapped. This agenda will create jobs and generate growth for all of us. We have to remove barriers like corruption, the theft of intellectual property, government practices that distort fair competition. Economic integration must be a two-way street.

There is new momentum in our trade agenda with the recent passage of the U.S.-Korea Free Trade

Agreement and our ongoing work on a binding, high-quality Trans-Pacific Partnership, the so-called TPP which will bring together economies from across the Pacific, developed and developing alike, into a single 21st century trading community. A rules-based order will also be critical to meeting APEC's goal of eventually creating a free trade area of Asia-Pacific.

The U.S. will continue to make the case that, as a region, we must pursue not just more growth but better growth. This is not merely a matter of economics. It goes to the central question of which values we will embrace and defend. Openness, freedom, transparency, and fairness have meaning far beyond the business realm. Just as the U.S. advocates for them in an economic context, we also advocate for them in political and social contexts.

As for North Korea, it shows a persistent disregard for the rights of its citizens and presents a major security challenge to its neighbors. We will continue to speak out forcefully against the threat that it poses to its own people and beyond. Our commitment to democracy and human rights is shared by many nations in the region, in particular our treaty allies—Japan, South Korea, Australia, the Philippines, and Thailand. These five alliances are the fulcrum for our efforts in the Asia Pacific. They have underwritten regional peace and security for more than half a century.

They leverage our regional presence and enhance our regional leadership at a time of evolving security challenges.

The U.S. takes very seriously the role that our military plays in protecting the region, including more than 50,000 U.S. servicemen and women stationed in Japan and South Korea. As this region changes, we must change our force posture to ensure that it is geographically distributed, operationally resilient, and politically sustainable. A more broadly distributed military presence provides vital advantages, both in deterring and responding to threats, and in providing support for humanitarian missions.

Our ability to build a successful regional architecture will turn on our ability to work effectively with the emerging powers, countries like Indonesia, or India, Singapore, New Zealand, Malaysia, Mongolia, Vietnam, Brunei and the Pacific Island countries. We're making a concerted effort to build closer and more extensive partnerships with all these nations.

Our most complex and consequential relationships with an emerging power is, of course, with China. Some in our country see China's progress as a threat to the U.S., while some in China worry that America seeks to constrain China. In fact, we believe a thriving China is good for China and a thriving

(continued on page 6)

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(cont. from page 1; HAWAII...)

and Presidential spokesman Edwin Lacierda.

In his welcoming remarks, outgoing Consul General Cardenas reflected on the rich history of the Filipinos in Hawaii that began with the first "Sakadas" or plantation workers. "Tonight is one more occasion to reminisce and to share the cherished and heart-warming stories of Filipino migrants who came to Hawaii more than 100 years ago in search of the proverbial greener pastures. Theirs were stories of hardships and unimaginable difficulties," he noted.

Cardenas further remarked, "From among the generations that succeeded the Sakadas, the Filipinos have emerged in distinguished pillars of leadership and valued contributors to the general well-being of the Hawaiian society."

On the significance of the night's event, the Consul General observed, "It is a golden opportunity for the President and the community to know more of each other." He said that the Filipino community's ties to the motherland remains strong and it is this reason that they are "eager to listen to and learn from him for they care about the peace and prosperity of their brothers and sisters back home."

Heartened by the warm reception, Aquino expressed his pleasure in seeing a united Filipino community.

"Seeing you all together here united, it shows me that there is nothing that is impossible, every obstacle we will overcome because we are united."

THE STRAIGHT AND NARROW PATH

The President took the opportunity to report on the achievements of his administration since he was

elected in 2010.

"The situation we have in the Philippines has indeed changed so much: we are finally shedding the stigma of a directionless country; and we are finally reclaiming our national dignity. Through these developments, the world can clearly see the positive results of treading the straight and narrow path."

This "straight and narrow path", according to the President enabled his administration to achieve positive results.

"To those who haven't gone on vacation in a while, you might remember the days when our government was reeling from piles and piles of debt. Now, the situation has been reversed: our Budget Secretary is actually scratching his head, wondering how we can spend the extra money we have," he announced, eliciting laughter and cheers from the audience.

While Aquino acknowledged that the government has to spend the extra money in a responsible and transparent manner so as not to stunt the country's economic growth, he claimed that "perhaps this is a better problem than having our people's money lost in the deep pockets of corrupt government officials."

BUILDING CLASSROOMS, ACHIEVING RICE SELF-SUFFICIENCY AND PROVIDING HEALTHCARE

After assuming the presidency, Aquino claimed that his administration "quickly focused" in addressing the problem of classroom shortage, due in part to "ghost schools employing ghost teachers." The country is currently short 66,000 classrooms and the President hopes that by the end of this year, 11,000 classrooms will be built. He is also hopeful that through the Public-Private Partner-

ship Program, the Department of Education may be able to build additional 45,000 classrooms before the end of 2012.

"Within a span of two years, we may be able to build the 66,000 classrooms our students and teachers need, and ensure that they receive quality education in quality schools," the President remarked.

Rice self-sufficiency is another objective of the Aquino administration. Taking a swipe at the previous administration, the President observed, "The country imported 2.3 million metric tons of rice. The true amount that the country needed? 1.3 million metric tons."

This figure, according to Aquino, went down to 660,000 metric tons when he became president. Buoyed by the positive development in rice production, he noted, "We may achieve self-sufficiency by 2013. We will no longer need to import rice; and if we're lucky, we may even find ourselves exporting rice to other countries," he claimed, drawing applause from the audience.

The government's Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program, also known as a conditional cash transfer program, is doing remarkably well.

"When we were put into office, the program had less than 800,000 beneficiaries. But this September, we've registered 2.23 million beneficiaries, and we are positive that we will reach our target of 2.3 million beneficiaries before the year ends," the President disclosed.

"The conditions for this program is simple: keep your kids in school, get your children vaccinated, have the pregnant go to regular check-ups, and in exchange, the government will give you a cash grant every month," Aquino added.

In keeping the populace healthy, Aquino noted, "Our subsidized health insurance has also been improving because of our PhilHealth program." He further commented, "5.2 million families are now enrolled in PhilHealth's sponsored programs."

President Aquino concluded his remarks with a message to the local Filipino community.

"More than the remittances you send home to the ones you love, and more than the positive effect you have on the economy, time and again, you show the world the capacity of Filipinos to hold strong in times of difficulty and calamity. And for this, you have my gratitude," he declared.

"Walk alongside me, and let us clear whatever obstacles they may be. Let us show the world the true force behind "bayanihan" – one country treading the path. As one country, let us work toward the fulfillment of our shared hopes," the President concluded.

After his 15-minute speech, the

President left for Hickam Air Force Base to leave immediately for Manila, where he is scheduled to meet with U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton.

AN EVENING OF SONGS AND DANCES

Sunday night's event was filled with songs and dances to welcome the President and his delegation. The Philippine Chorale sang the Philippine National Anthem while the Honolulu Boy Choir performed the Star-Spangled Banner.

A rendition of Amado del Paraguay's and George Canseco's "Pilipinas" was carried out by the Philippine Chorale. The song is a declaration of love for the Philippines.

The Dance Fusion Lumad performed a number entitled, "Call of

the Mountain, Song of the Sea," a fusion of the Hawaiian "Oli" and the Kalinga tribe's "Salip". The music and dance depict Filipinos' and Hawaiians' common zest for life.

Deputy Consul Paul Cortes, Amado Cacho of "Miss Saigon", and Reginald Padilla (on saxophone and a member of the internationally acclaimed quintet Bob Tribal) entertained the audience with their song "These Islands." Their song number was accompanied by reigning Filipino Hawaiian beauty queens dancing the hula while dressed in their finest Filipino attire.

A powerful rendition of the the song "Impossible Dream" was sang by Kristian Lei of the Germany production of "Miss Saigon" accompanied by Reginald Padilla's saxophone while the Company rendered the song "One Voice." ■

(cont. from page 1; PHILIPPINES...)

The agreement enhances the Philippine government's capability to foster a more competitive business environment, strengthen the rule of law, increase efficiency in courts and support fiscal stability.

"The U.S. supports these pro-growth reforms to help unlock the Philippines' vast economic potential," says U.S. Secretary of State Hillary R. Clinton. "This agreement is a rigorous, results-oriented collaboration to help the Philippines break into the ranks of the world's high-performing emerging economies and achieve sustainable, broad-based growth that will benefit all of the people of this country."

Clinton commended Philippine officials for laying the foundation for much-needed reforms. Through the Partnership for Growth, a team from the U.S. government will work closely with counterparts from the Philippine government to create a more transparent and predictable business environment, lower barriers to trade and strengthen the rule of law, as well as fight corruption.

"Together, we hope to deliver an array of benefits to the people, including more foreign investment to create new jobs, a more streamlined court system that can deliver justice and protect local businesses, better services, and more resources to fight poverty. Over time, these steps will better position the Philippines to join the Trans-Pacific Partnership, which we hope will dramatically increase trade and investment among the peoples of the Pacific," Clinton says.

Prior to the PFG signing ceremony at Malacañang Palace, Philippine Foreign Affairs Secretary Albert del Rosario and Clinton signed the Manila Declaration aboard the USS Fitzgerald in Manila Bay. Del Rosario says the Declaration affirms the vigor of the U.S.-Philippine alliance at a time when the Philippines is facing challenges to its territorial integrity in the West Philippine Sea.

"A stronger, reliable Philippine defense in the West Philippine Sea upholds our common and shared interests to freedom of navigation, unimpeded commerce, and respect for international law," del Rosario says.

The U.S., says Clinton, is committed to the Asia-Pacific region and its many issues. U.S. officials will participate for the first time at the East Asia Summit from November 17-19, 2011. Clinton expects open, frank discussion of maritime security challenges in the region and how to address them cooperatively.

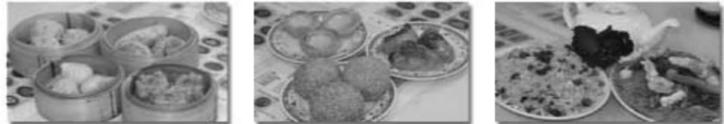
"President Obama will reaffirm our national interest in the maintenance of peace and security in the region and internationally, and that includes freedom of navigation, overflight, respect for international law, the rule of law, unimpeded lawful commerce across the region's maritime domain," Clinton says. "We further seek to see the Law of the Sea used as the overriding framework for handling territorial disputes." ■



President Aquino and U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton en route to the "Partnership for Growth" signing ceremony at Malacañang Palace in Manila. | Photo courtesy: U.S. State Department

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by Atty. Emmanuel Samonte TIPON

Miranda Warning for Immigration Law Violators

Everyone should read this. Many people have not heard about their right to a "Miranda warning" when arrested. If they have they do not know how to invoke it or are too terrified to invoke it. Instead, they try to talk their way out and often make incriminating statements.

Citizens or aliens arrested for criminal law violations are entitled to a "Miranda warning." The U.S. Supreme Court held in *Miranda v. Arizona*, 384 U.S. 436, 86 S.Ct. 1602 (1966), that the prosecution may not use statements from custodial interrogation of the defendant unless it demonstrates the use of procedural safeguards to secure the privilege against self-incrimination. Prior to any questioning, the person must be warned that he has a right to remain silent, that any statement he does make may be used as evidence against him, and

that he has a right to the presence of an attorney. The defendant may waive these rights, provided the waiver is made voluntarily, knowingly and intelligently. Defendant's constitutional rights have been violated if his conviction is based, in whole or in part, on involuntary confession, regardless of its truth or falsity, even if there is ample evidence aside from the confession to support conviction. Warnings are prerequisites to admissibility of any statement made by a defendant.

How about aliens who are arrested for immigration law violations? Are they entitled to a Miranda-type warning? If so when?

The Code of Federal Regulations at 8 CFR 287.3(c) provides: "Except in the case of an alien subject to the expedited removal provisions of section 235(b)(1)(A) of the Act, an alien arrested without warrant and placed in formal proceedings under section 238 or 240 of the Act will be advised of the reasons for his or her arrest and the right to be represented at no expense to the Government. . . . The officer will also advise the alien that any statement made may be used against him or her in a subsequent proceeding."

A husband and wife, both aliens, were arrested at the border. Form I-213 (Record of Deportable/Inadmissible Alien) indicated that the husband admitted during interrogation that he knowingly used his son's U.S. birth certificate to try to smuggle his nephew into the country. The alien was arrested approximately 8 1/2 hours after applying for admission. The record did not indicate that the officers informed the alien that he had the right to have an attorney or that his statements could be used against him. The aliens were placed in removal proceedings for knowingly assisting an alien to enter the United States in violation of law.

WARNING TO BE GIVEN AFTER NOTICE TO APPEAR FILED

The IJ terminated the proceedings without prejudice. The Board of Immigration Appeals reversed, holding that the regulation only requires immigration officers to advise the alien of his or her rights after the alien is placed in formal proceedings by the filing of a Notice to Appear.

In this case the husband gave his statements to immigration officers on December 5, 2004. The

Notice to Appear was issued on December 5, 2004 but was not filed until January 13, 2005. Thus, the alien's statements were made before the initiation of formal removal proceedings. Therefore, the alien's statements were not obtained in violation of the regulations and the documents containing his statements were admissible in removal proceedings. Matter of E-R-M-F, 25 I&N Dec. 580 (BIA 2011).

OBSERVATION: The Board noted that the alien did not object to the admission of Form I-213 during removal proceedings. Why didn't his counsel object?

RECOMMENDATION: The regulations should be amended to require the giving of the warning when the alien is arrested rather than after the NTA is filed. By that time, the alien has already given

statements which might be incriminating as in the case discussed. In *Miranda v. Arizona*, supra, the Supreme Court said that the Fifth Amendment privilege is available outside of criminal court proceedings and serves to protect persons in all settings in which their freedom of action is curtailed from being compelled to incriminate themselves. ■

(ATTY. TIPON has a Master of Laws degree from Yale Law School and a Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of the Philippines. Office: 800 Bethel St., Suite 402, Honolulu, HI 96813. Tel. (808) 225-2645. E-Mail: filamlaw@yahoo.com. Websites: www.MilitaryandCriminalLaw.com, and www.ImmigrationServicesUSA.com. Listen to the most witty, interesting, and informative radio program in Hawaii on KNDI at 1270, AM dial every Thursday at 7:30 a.m., rebroadcast at www.iluko.com.)

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Guests at the "Alay sa Pangulo" welcome reception dinner were asked the following: **What should be the priority of President Noynoy Aquino to achieve economic growth and prosperity in the Philippines?**

MARGARITA PARK,
COVO KAHIRUP ILONGGO



I hope the President can cut red tape and corruption in doing business in the country. If he can do that, I'm sure there will be plenty of businesses opening up with many Filipinos employed.



ELIZABETH AYSON, PhD, FILIPINOS INC.

There is no reason not to address the problem of poverty because the Philippines is rich in natural resources. What would make me happy is to see people coming together and bridging the gap between those "who have" and those who cannot take care of themselves.

REYNALDO GONZALES,
UNITED LAOAGUENOS OF HAWAII



The country used to be the exporter of rice but now the situation is reversed with the Philippines im-

porting rice from Vietnam. I think that's a shame. The government should correct that by strengthening our rice production if we are to achieve rice self-sufficiency in the future.



NANCY WALCH, AIM HEALTH-CARE INSTITUTE

I would like to tell the President to connect with the Filipinos in the U.S., and especially in Hawaii because a lot of local Filipinos are helping the motherland by sending money home.

The President should also stimulate export-import business and make it easier for people to open and conduct business in the Philippines. Potential investors are currently dissuaded from doing business in the country because they have to spend so much money under the table before they can operate.

ROGELIO TANICALA,

RETIRED EMPLOYEE OF
PEARL HARBOR NAVAL SHIPYARD



The President should get rid of corruption because the country cannot go anywhere with this problem.



EDGAR TALAVERA, CITY AND COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER OFFICE

The U.S. and the Philippine governments should make it easier for Filipinos to come to the U.S. to work. That would be a great help for a lot of Filipinos who are currently unemployed.

MELODY CALISAY, UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII



Population control should be the President's number one concern. The Reproductive Health bill should be passed.



CONCHITA TABARA,
UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII

I know that President Aquino has a good heart but he has to correct the people involved in government corruption.

ALMA PHOCAS, UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII



The President has to strengthen the foundation of the country's economy and society to better able to withstand global political and economic turmoil.



EDITH REGINA, FILIPINO COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

The government should fix the problem of traffic in Metro Manila. If we can't solve a problem as simple as this, how can we expect to have order in government?

ANGEL DYTIOCO, BULACAN CIRCLE ASSOCIATE



President Aquino should promote investments between Hawaii and the Philippines to improve the living conditions of the Filipinos here and at home.



TOY ARRE, FILIPINO COMMUNITY CENTER

It is difficult for foreign investors to conduct business in the Philippines because of the perception that the government does not honor the commitments of previous administrations. Investors do not care who is in power. What they care about is whether they can conduct business in accordance to what has been agreed upon with the government. So unless the problem of corruption is addressed properly, it is difficult to do anything else. ■

OP-ED (CONT.)

(cont. from page 3...)

China is good for America. President Obama and I have made very clear that the U.S. is fundamentally committed to developing a positive and cooperative relationship with China.

On the economic front, the U.S. and China have to work together to ensure strong, sustained, balanced future global growth. In particular, we are working with China to end unfair discrimination against U.S. and other foreign companies, and we are working to protect innovative technologies, remove competition-distorting preferences. China must allow its currency to appreciate more rapidly and end the measures that disadvantage or pirate foreign intellectual property.

We believe making these changes would provide a stronger foundation for stability and growth, both for China and for everyone else. And we make a similar case when it comes to political reform. Respect for international law and a more open political system would also strengthen China's foundation, while at the same time increasing

the confidence of China's partners. We have made very clear our serious concerns about China's record on human rights. When we see reports of lawyers, artists and others who are detained or disappeared, the U.S. speaks up both publicly and privately. We are alarmed by recent incidents in Tibet of young people lighting themselves on fire in desperate acts of protest, as well as the continued house arrest of the Chinese lawyer Chen Guangcheng. We continue to call on China to embrace a different path.

We remain committed to the One-China policy and the preservation of peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait. We have a strong relationship with Taiwan, an important security and economic partner, and we applaud the progress that we have seen in cross-Strait relations between China and Taiwan during the past three years. We look forward to continued improvement so there can be peaceful resolution of differences.

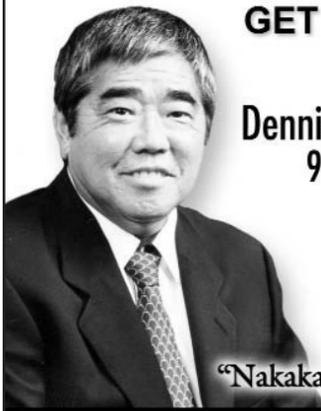
To those in Asia who wonder whether the U.S. is here to stay, if we can make and keep credible strategic and economic commitments and

back them up with action, the answer is yes, we can, and yes, we will. First, because we must. Our own long-term security and prosperity depend on it. Second, because making significant investments in strengthening partnerships and institutions help us establish a system and habits of cooperation that, over time, will require less effort to sustain.

That's what we learned from our transatlantic experiment. It took years to build an effective regional architecture across the Atlantic. But there is no question it was worth every political dialogue, economic summit and joint military exercise. For hundreds of millions of people in Europe, the U.S. and the transatlantic community has meant more secure and prosperous lives. If we follow that path in Asia, building on all that we have already done together, we can lift lives in even greater numbers. And this region can become an even stronger force for global progress. (U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton delivered these remarks during APEC Summit week on November 10, 2011 at the East-West Center). ■

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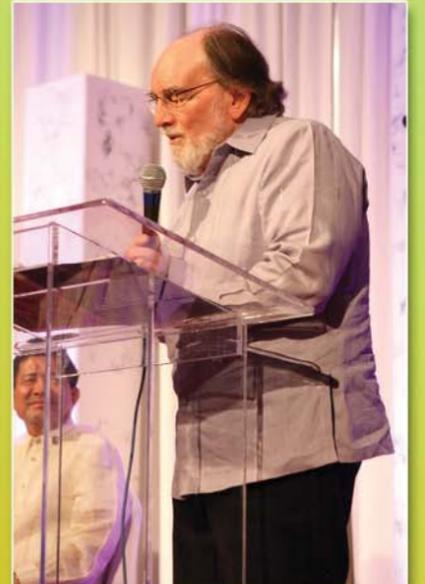


PRESIDENT AQUINO'S WELCOME RECEPTION IN HAWAII

Hail to the Chief!

Photography by TIM LLENA

Hawaii's top elected officials, business leaders and leaders from Hawaii's Filipino community warmly-welcomed Philippine President Benigno "Noy" S. Aquino III to Oahu's shores for the APEC conference with a dinner reception called "Alay sa Pangulo." The gala evening included a number of patriotic songs, ethnic dance performances and rousing speeches, including an address by President Aquino. As these photos show, many of those in attendance beamed with pride with the arrival of the Philippines chief executive and his entourage. The elegant affair was one that will certainly be remembered for quite some time! ■



PRESIDENT AQUINO'S WELCOME RECEPTION IN HAWAII

Photography by TIM LLENA



PRESIDENT AQUINO'S WELCOME RECEPTION IN HAWAII

Photography by TIM LENA



PRESIDENT AQUINO'S WELCOME RECEPTION IN HAWAII

Photography by TIM LLENA





by Felino TUBERA

19th Anniversary -- Of A Kama'aina An Event No One Can Undo

NEWS-BREAK.

The event was coming and it's here. The Hawaii Filipino Chronicle is marking its last year as a teen. On solid footing, it has its left foot on the finish line of its teenish life, while its other foot, the right one, is already one step up the wrung-ladder of the oncoming 2-wentys. Not by any stretch should this event be written off as common day happenstance. It is an ordinary coming-to with an extra ordinariness. Age-wise.

BREAKTHROUGH.

Hey, man, some 18 years ago, what were you: an infant. Now you're nineteen going on twenty, what is unusually usual and new about that? What issues and values are we talking about? How well were you growing up all these years? Tell us. Sensible, curiously honest people want and need to know. Which way were you .. with the changing times. Getting lost south, or finding your way north.

Did you open new doors? Put up sky windows? Did floor makeovers? Hang wind chimes

and blew whistles? You did some facelifting changes, you say? Oh, yes! Some healthy ones. Good. But that was some long time ago. No? You made it a point to come out to the open as frequently and as freely as nobody like you would ever have done. We noticed you were careful in dotting your *i*'s delivering all the *information* we needed to know. You were diligent and very consistent in crossing your *t*'s publishing the *truth*. Your impeccable taste in displaying and sharing *techno-art* and *techno-savvy* is beyond reproach. You stylishly avoided splitting infinitives to prevent and avoid divisive or unnecessary rifts of any kind. You were wise not to use dangling modifiers, presenting news accounts the simple, straightforward way. You used the appropriate punctuation marks in the right places for brevity and clarity. You took a stand and stood your ground. Editorial integrity, your mantra shines on every page. And when and where necessary, you made discreet use of italics or boldface for emphasis. A work-ethic standard. Bless you. Wel-

come: You have enough elbow and leg-room for growth even in this environment of overcrowding and information overload.

You're flying safely high in cyberspace. You're Online-accessible with paperless hospitality. Yet you're bone-and muscles down-to-earth, reaching deep into inkwells of cursive and uppercase nuances and appearances: interesting elemental vignettes of human behavior and consciousness. Headlines that provoke deep thought. Features that leave lasting impressions. Travelogues to exotic places. Cuisine from out- of- the-way food venues. Immigration. Deportation. The Spratley Islands. OFWs.

outstanding and standout Filipino personalities...these and more and them some. You dig in and bring out the information, the news realities that we're interested in. Things some people ignore or take for granted. You deliver. It's good to know. Thank you.

Need we ask: what more and what else can you do? How more and how else can you be? Besides behaving and acting your age, perhaps, you can spread your wings

[(kama'aina, nvi, Native-born, one born in a place, host; native plant; acquainted, familiar. Lit., land child.) This word entry, its meaning and definition is lifted from the revised and enlarged edition of "Hawaiian Dictionary: Hawaiian-English, English Hawaiian" by Mary Kawena Pukui and Samuel H. Elbert. University of Hawaii Press, 1986.]

like an eagle, with keen and watchful eyes over panoramic views and hidden nooks where interesting things can and may happen far-deep-and wide -- the range of possibilities.. if not the field of opportunities. Enough? Think again. How do we measure growth. Age alone is not a reliable yardstick. Numbers tell how deep you can dive, how high you can fly, how far you can reach. But numbers mean nothing if they have leave a footnote of relevance to life. IMPACT. It's how you share your knowledge and experience that gives significance to your mission, your enterprise. It's how you bridge the years of your past-present-future work-span. Your purpose and direction to validate the impact of your existence. To relationships that matter.

(continued on page 12)

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Transit Panel Approves Budget

THE HONOLULU AUTHORITY FOR RAPID TRANSPORTATION'S (HART) Finance Committee Thursday approved the agency's proposed operating and capital budgets for Fiscal Year 2013. The respective budgets have been transmitted to the mayor and

City Council for review. The full HART board will conduct another public hearing before adopting the proposed \$22.8 million operating budget and \$491.5 million capital budget. No general fund monies have been requested. HART also received an update

on the \$574 million core systems contract, including a third-party review of Ansaldo Honolulu's bond documents. That review determined the company is in compliance with the payment and performance bonds required to execute the contract. The review was conducted by

Kobayashi Sugita & Goda LLP, following two months of due diligence and analysis performed by HART and City procurement staff.

"As a result of that diligence, Foinmeccanica, parent company of one of the two Ansaldo Honolulu JV partners and part-owner of the other, assured HART of its intention to ensure contractual perform-

ance," says HART Board Chairwoman Carrie Okinaga.

A joint HART Finance and Project Oversight committee meeting has been scheduled for November 25 to provide updated information on the procurement process to ensure the bidder has the financial capacity to meet all of its obligations under the contract. ■

Community Christmas Events for Makiki, Liliha

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO "MAKIKI MELE KALIKI-MAKA," a community celebration for keiki, scheduled for Saturday, December 3, 2011 at Makiki District Park from 10 am to 11:30 am.

The free event is open to the public and includes children's games, crafts, entertainment, refreshments and a visit by Santa. Sponsors include the City's Department of Parks & Recreation, Friends of Makiki and various community organizations. Call 522-7084 for more details.

The following Saturday, State Rep. Corinne Ching will be hosting the 5th Annual Liliha Gingerbread Festival on December 10, 2011 at

Lanakila Elementary from 9 am to 11 am.

Friends and families are invited to purchase a gingerbread kit and join the gingerbread house building competition. Children can also play in snow, visit with Santa Claus, listen to Christmas music and enjoy a cocoa bar. Rep. Ching will also read Christmas stories to the children.

"We host this event to celebrate the holidays and to foster children's love of the community," she says.

The event is free and open to the public. There may be a minimal fee for gingerbread kits. For more information, please call Rep. Ching at 586-9415. ■

Royal Hawaiian Band Marks 175th Anniversary

THE ROYAL HAWAIIAN BAND WILL OBSERVE its 175th birthday with a celebration and musical concert at the Farrington High School's auditorium on November 22, 2011 at 7 pm. The special performance, entitled "E mau aku ana kō kākou ho'oilina," (Our Legacy Lives On) showcases the vital role the band has played in Hawaii's history as it looks toward the future.

The concert will feature award-winning artists Raiatea Helm, Nina Keali'iwahamana, Karen Keawe-hawai'i and Misty Kela'i. The Kamehameha Schools Children's Chorus,



Royal Hawaiian Band

and former bandmasters Aaron Mahi and Michael Nakasone will join bandmaster Clarke Bright in this historical tribute to the "King's Band."

The Royal Hawaiian Band,

Hawaii's unique and cherished island treasure and the only full-time band in the U.S. with a royal legacy dating back to 1836, was founded by King Kamehameha III. It performs more than 300 concerts and parades each year and has traveled to Japan, Canada, Europe and various parts of the continental U.S., making a historic stop at Carnegie Hall in the summer of 1988.

The concert is presented by the Royal Hawaiian Band Music Society and the Friends of the Royal Hawaiian Band. For ticket information, call 1-800-838-3006 or log onto www.brownpapertickets.com. ■

City Accepting Applications for 84th Annual Lei Queen

THE CITY'S DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION (DPR) is seeking applicants for the 84th Annual Lei Queen selection.

The theme for the 2012 Lei Day Celebration is Lei U'i Onaona (Sweet Lei of Youth). To qualify, applicants must be between the ages of 18-30 by March 3, 2012 to qual-

ify. The lei queen selection is scheduled for March 3, 2012 at McCoy Pavilion from from 9 am to 3 pm. The event is free and open to the public.

The deadline to apply is Friday, January 13, 2012. Applications are available at www.honolulu-parks.com or by contacting DPR at 768-3041.

ALL IDEAS CONSIDERED (CONT.)

(cont. from page 11...)

SELLOUT. OUTSELL.

Last question: Have you the will and the energy to sustain your enterprise? Yes, with your high points of fervor and integrity, we can exclaim: "Of, course, of course." Of course, what? Of course, it feels good being energized and growing well, despite limited resources. The inclination, the desire, the drive to succeed: these, you have a lot full. Insight and vision gave you the courage to start. Now you are a tangible presence. A forceful voice. Power, you say? Wait a minute. What's this? Knowledge is power. We know that. But the power we have in mind is something else.

Word power? Mind power? Some of that. But then...

Power is what we, the readers, the supporters, the advertisers, the critics--us, the community, who generate the power that gives you the raw element of sustenance. It comes in variant forms of different colors, shapes and sizes. Sometimes it appears in catch phrases like "Happy Anniversary! Congratulations and best wishes! Good job. Well done! More power to you!" Sometimes power is the dough rolling in without a sound-- the mulah that makes one forget the hardships and the pain. The long hours you push yourself for gain. Where

do you get the power to do that? The community, the people you serve. Under the lights and behind the scenes, it's this kind of power that nurtures and strengthens your sense of pride, responsibility and commitment to the task at hand. Your enterprise: our enterprise.

And again, of course, you are on course. With the potential and the leverage for sustained growth. Reason enough to celebrate.

Kama'aina:Native-born--The Hawaii Filipino Chronicle. *Happy Nineteenth Anniversary! Mabuhay! Mahalo!*

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by Reuben S. SEGURITAN

With Deportations on the Rise, Here are Some Pointers

percentage in a decade.

This record is the latest of three years of increased immigration enforcement under President Obama. It reflects the government's "focus on sensible immigration" by prioritizing the removal of criminal aliens, repeat immigration law violators and recent border crossers.

In June of this year, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Director John Morton issued guidelines on the use of prosecutorial discretion by ICE employees and attorneys and called on them to use the agency's limited resources on aliens who pose a threat to public safety or national security.

While these latest numbers affirm the government's policy of prioritizing criminal aliens, it must be remembered that anyone who is without lawful immigration status

can still be placed under removal proceedings.

Contrary to popular belief, unless subject to expedited removal an alien is generally entitled to court proceedings before being removed. Removal proceedings typically start with the service of a notice to appear (NTA) upon the alien.

The NTA specifies, among other things, the alleged immigration violation, the charge against the alien and the specific provision/s of the law alleged to have been violated, and the time and place of the hearing. An NTA may be served in person or by mail. As non-citizens are required to notify the USCIS of any change of address within 10 days of the change, in many cases the ICE may simply mail the NTA to the alien's last addresses and it would be considered

valid service.

If served with an NTA, the alien is strongly advised to consult an immigration lawyer because being placed under removal proceedings is a serious matter. An immigration lawyer can tell him whether proceedings can be terminated because of a problem with the NTA on its face or in the way that it was served. The lawyer can analyze the facts of the case, explain what options may be available, and if the alien would be eligible for a relief from removal. Reliefs include voluntary departure, asylum, adjustment of status and cancellation of removal.

The alien must attend the scheduled master hearing, which is a preliminary hearing where the charges are read and the alien is asked to admit or contest the allegations and whether he intends to seek relief from removal. An individual hearing is scheduled if the

case will be heard on the merits.

The alien may be represented by an attorney at the master and individual hearings. However, unless provided pro bono or by a non-profit organization, any legal representation will be at the alien's own cost because there is no right to government-appointed counsel in immigration cases.

The alien must keep the immigration court updated of any change of address and must attend his hearings. If he fails to notify the court of an address change, and because he did not receive correspondence he fails to attend a hearing, the proceedings may continue and may result in the alien being ordered removed in absentia. ■

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 government deported a record-high 396,906 individuals in the last fiscal year which ended in September 2011. Ninety-percent of the removed aliens fall under a priority category such as criminal offenders and repeat immigration violators.

More than half (55%) of the removals involved aliens convicted of felonies or misdemeanors, which is almost 90% more than the number of criminals removed since fiscal year 2008 and is the so far highest

PHILIPPINE NEWS

GMA Arrested in Hospital Room

from www.philstar.com
Saturday, November 19, 2011

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — **FORMER PRESIDENT GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO WAS ARRESTED** in her hospital room on electoral fraud charges today in a high-profile tug of war set off by her attempts to leave the country ostensibly for medical treatment.

Arroyo became the second ex-Philippine president to face trial, after her ousted predecessor Joseph Estrada was sentenced to life in prison for corruption and later pardoned by her.

Arroyo denies any wrongdoing and accuses the government of political persecution when it stopped her from leaving the Philippines for overseas medical treatment for a bone ailment. Her lawyer, Ferdinand Topacio, said the government had filed fabricated charges with "indecisive haste."

The Supreme Court earlier Fri-

day upheld her right to travel, but a lower court where the formal charges were filed later issued an arrest warrant that effectively bars her from leaving.

Arroyo, 64, has been recovering in a hospital since her failed attempt to leave the country Tuesday, and Justice Secretary Leila de Lima said she will remain confined to her hospital room.

"They are not going to, let's say, handcuff her and take her out of the room," de Lima said. "We will not object to hospital arrest."

In a drama that has galvanized the Philippines, Arroyo, sitting in a wheelchair and wearing a head and neck brace, was turned back Tuesday night from boarding a flight out of Manila. Authorities said she was still under investigation and might become a fugitive.

Her successor and staunch critic, President Benigno Aquino III, was overwhelmingly elected on



Cong. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo

promises to rid the Philippines of corruption and has said he wants to start with Arroyo.

The former president sought help from the Supreme Court, which issued a temporary clearance for her to travel and reaffirmed it Friday. But the government ignored the order, saying national interest and uncovering the truth were more important than an individual's right to travel.

"It is our desire that truth and

accountability prevail and that the Filipino people be given the justice they truly deserve," de Lima told reporters.

"Justice has been served. It's very relieving," she said.

The election fraud charges filed Friday by the Commission on Election carry a maximum penalty of 40 years in prison. Arroyo legal spokesman Raul Lambino said the case against her "is a high form of injustice."

The charges stem from allegations that Arroyo conspired with officials to tamper with results of 2007 congressional polls to favor her candidates.

She was accused of having di-

rect knowledge of massive cheating in an autonomous Muslim region in the southern Philippines, the country's poorest and notoriously corrupt region, where ballot boxes are switched en masse and voters paid or threatened to abstain.

A probe this year by the Senate Electoral Tribunal found that an Arroyo ally, Miguel Zubiri, benefited from fake ballots. He resigned his Senate seat in favor of an opposition candidate.

Two witnesses — an election supervisor and a former governor of the Muslim region — have alleged that Arroyo and her husband ordered election rigging to favor ad-

(continued on page 14)



Michael A. McMann, M.D.

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ILOKO

by Amado I. YORO

Maikapat A Homecoming Ken Medical Mission Ti Ilocos Surian Nakasagana Manen Kas Iti Silulukat A Takiag

Ilopulo dagiti dodoktor ken volunteers nga idauluan da Danny Villaruz, presidente ti ISAH, ken Dr. Charlie Sonido, pangulo ti mission iti agdadanggay a mangipaay ti libre a serbisioda para kadagiti natudingan nga ili iti Ilocos Sur pakairamanan ti Sinit, Cabugao, Santiago ken Santa.

Iti Sabado, Disiembre 17, agtipon amin a partisipante ken volunteers iti Makati tapno annongenda ti Payatas Medical Mission. Kalpasanna, ikkan ida ni Consul General Leoncio Cardenas ti pannakasangaili ken pangrabii sakbay nga agpa-Ilocos ti grupo babaen iti BUS

Manamnama a sumangpet ti grupo iti Candon City, Ilocos Sur, iti agsapa ti Domingo, Disiembre 18 ket agtarusda iti Eric Singson's Hotel dita a ciudad.

Kabigatanna, Lunes iti Disiembre 19, angayenda ti Medical Mission iti Santiago, Ilocos Sur nga ili ni Mrs. Emi Etrata a presidente ti Santiaguinians of Hawaii.

Martes, Disiembre 20 ti naisangrat nga aldaw iti ili a Sinit. Ni Antonio Ipalari ti presidente ti Annak Ti Sinit iti Hawaii ti maysanto kadagiti partisipante itoy a mission.

Iti Vigan Hotel ti naisangrat a pagyanan dagiti kameng ti mission. Ket iti Disiembre 21, Miercoles a maangay ti mission iti Cabugao nga ili dagiti Sonido, Sabangan.

Maangay ditoy nga ili ti aglatlatak nga Ilocos Sur Idol a pakipartisi-paran dagiti kumakanta iti probinsia a naglasat iti screening.

Kabigatanna iti Huebes, Disiembre 22, maangay ti mission iti Santa, Ilocos Sur nga ili da Villaruz, Roger Ojerio a presidente ti Santanians of Hawaii.



Maangay ti Taste of Kalihi intono Nobiembre 19 iti Honolulu, Hawaii, kas naammuan ken ni Eddie Agas, Sr., pangulo ti ATOK.

Daytoy ti maikalima a tawen a maangay kas proyekto ti Filipino Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii Foundation a pakidanggayan ti siudad.

Danggayan ti sibubukel a komunidad ti Kalihi ken kaparangetna kadagiti nadumaduma a makamakan, Entertainment, Exhibitions, Games, Rides, Kalihi Business and Vendor Booths, Social Services, ken dadduma.

Ti "A Taste of Kalihi Festival" ket isu ti selebrasion a mangitampok ti nabaknang nga estoria ken kinabaknang a pakasaritaan ti distrito. Ti Kalihi ti maawagan iti "Filipino town" gapu a ditoy met ti taeng iti kaaduan a pamilia Filipino.

Ni Eddie Agas ti chairman daytoy a pasken ket maawagan iti 783-3327 idinto a da Allan Alvarez at (808) 392-8230 or Brandon Dela Cruz at (808) 389-0517 ti media contact. ■

MAINLAND NEWS

U.S. Department of State to Expedite Student Visa Processing

IN RECOGNITION OF THE MANY IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTIONS INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION MAKES to the nation's peace and prosperity, the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Consular Affairs will give

student visa appointments special priority.

As part of International Education Week, November 12-16, 2011, the Department has highlighted its efforts to attract future leaders from abroad to take advantage of exceptional educational opportunities in the U.S. Foreign students bring

with them tremendous intellectual, social and economic benefits.

As part of these efforts, the Department's Bureau of Consular Affairs gives student visa appointments special priority. According to Janice Jacobs from the Bureau of Consular Affairs, over 450,000 student visas were issued last fiscal

year.

"Consular officers around the world reach out to local schools and universities to share the benefits of studying in the U.S., while at the same time demystifying the visa process," Jacobs says. "Student visa applications are given priority so students arrive on time for the opening of classes."

Worldwide, the maximum wait for a student visa appointment is fewer than 15 days. Foreign students can apply for their visas up to 120 days before their academic

programs begin. All visa applicants are encouraged to apply early.

Statistics from the U.S. Department of State show that international education grew by nearly 9 percent during the 2010-2011 academic year and that foreign students studying in the U.S. brought \$21.3 billion into the domestic economy. Most importantly, observers say that educational exchanges foster mutual understanding, respect and goodwill between Americans and people from around the world. ■

PHILIPPINE NEWS

(cont. from page 13; GMA ...)

ministration candidates like Zubiri.

Also charged Friday were election supervisor Lintang Bedol, who is in government custody and wants to turn state witness, and Andal Ampatuan Sr., the former Muslim regional governor and patriarch of a powerful clan. Ampatuan, a former Arroyo ally, is on trial for allegedly ordering the 2009 massacre of 57 people, including 32 journalists and political opponents in the country's worst political bloodbath.

During her tumultuous nine-year presidency from 2001 to 2010, Arroyo ranked as the country's least popular leader and faced down several coup and impeachment at-

tempts over corruption allegations.

Her most serious crisis came a year after she was elected in 2004, when a wiretapped recording surfaced of her talking to an election official allegedly about securing a vote margin for herself. She later apologized but said she did nothing wrong.

After stepping down last year, Arroyo, 64, was elected to the House of Representatives and immediately faced at least half a dozen legal complaints, including allegations that she diverted state funds for her campaign effort and benefited from foreign contracts.

The Justice Department is still investigating the other complaints.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

DIOCESAN CONGRESS OF FILIPINO CATHOLIC CLUB KAILUA-KONA

November 18-20, 2011, 7pm • Kamehameha Kona Beach Hotel • Contact Ruth @ (808) 333-1196

NURSING ADVOCATES & MENTORS, INC. (NAMI) 10TH ANNIVERSARY AND FUNDRAISING GALA / SATURDAY

November 26, 2011, 6pm • FilCom Center Ballrooms • Bea Ramos Razon (808) 778-6291 for more info

FILCOM BAYANIHAN GALA / THURSDAY

December 1, 2011, 6pm • Sheraton

Waikiki • For more info, contact FilCom Center @ 680-0451

PASKO SA FILCOM / SUNDAY

December 11, 2011, 10:30am -6pm • FilCom Center in Mokuola Street • Contact FilCom Center @ 680-0451

PMAH OHANA MEDICAL MISSION TO DAVAO, PHILIPPINES

December 12-16, 2011 • For more info, contact Arnold Villafuerte @ 220-2988

ALCALA ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII ANNUAL BIENNIAL CEREMONY AND ANNUAL

CHRISTMAS BALL / SATURDAY

December 17, 2011, 5:30pm • FilCom Center • Contact: Marcos Magno @ 228-4487

HONOLULU FIL-JUNIOR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 2ND ANNUAL NIGHT OF HONOR / SUNDAY

December 18, 2011, 6pm • HaleKoa Hotel • Contact: Galileo Tan @ 205-6063

ILOCOS SURIAN HOMECOMING MISSION

December 18-22, 2011 • For details, contact Danny Villaruz @ 778-0233

APEC NEWS CORNER

Obama Signs Legislation to Facilitate APEC Travel

THE 21 LEADERS OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC ECONOMIC COOPERATION (APEC) forum launched a new APEC Travel Facilitation Initiative to make travel across the Asia-Pacific region easier, faster and more secure.

U.S. President Barack Obama signed legislation to allow issuance of the APEC Business Travel Card (ABTC) to eligible U.S. travelers. The bill was signed during the APEC CEO Summit in Honolulu last week. Under the bill, U.S. Customs and Border Protection is authorized to issue the ABTC to U.S. citizens as part of its Global Entry program.

Cardholders will receive expedited scheduling of visa interviews and access to fast-track immigration lanes at airports in APEC's 21 economies.

"The APEC Business Travel Card will let cardholders access the fastest growing economies of the world more quickly

and easily," says Monica Whaley, President of the National Center for APEC. "APEC is about facilitating international business in the Asia-Pacific region. The APEC Business Travel Card will help American business travelers spend less time waiting in lines at the airport and more time closing deals in the APEC region."

Obama also announced that the U.S. is making important progress on bilateral Trusted Traveler cooperation arrangements with the Republic of Korea and Singapore. These arrangements will allow eligible, pre-screened citizens to clear immigration and customs expeditiously using automated kiosks when traveling between the U.S. and these countries. One of the long-term goals of the APEC Travel Facilitation Initiative is to create a regional network of trusted traveler programs.

The APEC Travel Facilitation Initiative is a multi-year action plan for expe-

ditating the flow of increasing numbers of passengers in the APEC region. The Initiative focuses on promoting improvements in passenger security screening on departure, as well as immigration and customs processing on arrival; fostering regional adoption of best practices; and pursuing "next generation" approaches to make the travel process faster, easier and more secure for travelers.

With traveler volume numbers expected to increase in the coming decades, efforts by APEC and the U.S. reflect the economic importance of travel to and within the Asia-Pacific region, the world's biggest air passenger market. According to the International Air Transport Association, airlines carried 647 million travelers across the region in 2009, with this number expected to increase to 1 billion by 2014. The number of air travelers globally is also projected to grow to 16 billion by 2050, with much of this growth expected to occur in the Asia-Pacific region.

Michelle Obama Attends Job Fair for Veterans, Military Spouses

THE U.S. AND HAWAII CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE co-hosted "Hiring Our Heroes Hawaii"—a one-of-a-kind, free hiring fair for the state's veterans and military spouses on November 14, 2011 at the Hickam Officer's Club.

The event is part of the Chamber's 100-city "Hiring Our Heroes" initiative, which so far has connected more than

55,000 veterans with more than 2,500 employers and helped over 3,000 veterans and military spouses land jobs.

During her recent three-day visit to Hawaii, First Lady Michelle Obama attended the hiring fair, which brought local employers together with hundreds of veterans and military spouses. Employers ranging from America's biggest compa-

nies, such as CVS, PepsiCo, Prudential and Verizon, to dozens of smaller companies from across the state, were on hand to hire veterans of all ranks and levels of experience.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce is the world's largest business federation representing the interests of more than 3 million businesses of all sizes, sectors and regions, as well as state and local chambers and industry associations.

APEC Ministers Approve Enhanced Trade, Green Growth, Regulatory Reform

APEC MINISTERS COMMITTED THEMSELVES TO ACTIONS that strengthen trade, promote green growth and advance regulatory reform to achieve economic growth in the region.

In a joint statement, foreign and trade ministers agreed to address next-generation trade and investment issues that a future Free Trade Area of the Asia-Pacific should contain.

"APEC has traditionally been a laboratory for some of the best and newest ideas in global commerce," says U.S. Trade Representative Ron Kirk. "We want



to ensure that new regional agreements anticipate and address 21st century issues relevant to business in the region."

Ministers also extended their commitment through 2015 to refrain from raising new barriers to investment or to trade in goods and services, imposing new ex-

port restrictions, or implementing inconsistent World Trade Organization measures in all areas. They acknowledged the uncertain global trading environment, including signs of increased protectionist measures, which continue to be a matter of serious concern.

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WED, SAT 8:00 A.M. TO 12 NOON MILTON CHANG--Pharmacist

Other areas targeted for action include: improving supply chain performance by establishing de minimus values that exempt shipments from customs duties; promoting trade and investment in environmental goods and services; and strengthening good regulatory practices by ensuring internal coordination of rule-making, assessing the impact of regulations, and conducting public consultations in APEC economies.

U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton hosted a High-Level Policy Dialogue on open governance, which, along with transparency, is critical to economic competitiveness, leading to sustainable economic growth.

Ministers said good governance should continue to be an APEC priority, along with encouraging ethical business practices and fighting corruption. ■

Secretary Clinton Discusses Role of Social Media

During her recent trip to the Philippines, U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton participated in a townhall interview hosted by GMA Networks and PLDT at the National Museum of the Philippines in Manila on November 16, 2011. The following are excerpts from her interview on the importance of social media like Google, Facebook, Twitter and My Space.

Q: You have championed the internet and social media as tools for democratization, especially in oppressed nations. Yet, the U.S. government, has not been very happy with organizations like WikiLeaks that profess that it promotes transparency and accountability. Where would you suggest drawing the line using the internet in challenging governments, including your own?

SEC. CLINTON: We've had over 235 years in our democracy of struggling with issues of free expression, freedom of speech and freedom of assembly. The internet is a vehicle. Two hundred years ago, you would go to the town

square or you would work on a newspaper. The rules are not so different. It's just that the mechanism of communication on the internet is so revolutionary. In the past, you could say something to two people and then those two people might spread it around. But here, you press a button and billions of people can see something.

You have to be protective of the openness of the internet but also recognize that there has to be a certain set of expectations. We do champion freedom of speech. We champion tools that can help people living in oppressive regimes to communicate and get around all of the obstacles that governments put up.

When an organization like WikiLeaks steals information—just because they put it on the internet doesn't make it any more right than if they had passed it out on a street corner. So there still has to be a fundamental respect for and a real benefit of the doubt given to freedom, but there also has to be certain standards, expectations,

rules that have to continue to be recognized.

Q: I'm 24 years old and would like to know what advice you have for people my age on how to achieve dreams and also make a difference in this day and age of high technology? Because I'm very, very active in social networking, Twitter.

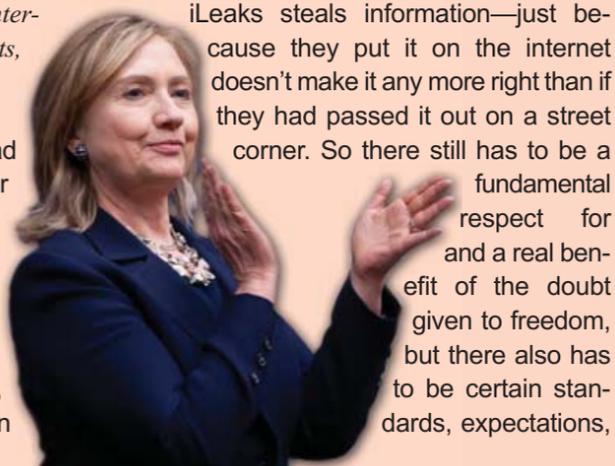
SEC. CLINTON: I think that the Philippines has one of the highest Facebook usage rates of any country in the world and I think that's pretty exciting. It gives you access to the entire world, from right here, wherever you live in the country. And I think that what we're seeing with Facebook, Twitter, and other forms of social networks is the power of an individual.

There was recently in our country a situation where one of our big banks was going to start charging, I think five dollars, for every time you used a debit card. A young woman about your age got on Facebook and Twitter and created this movement against the bank, and the bank decided they wouldn't do it. It started from one young woman sitting in her apartment, banging away on her computer and reaching millions of people.

Because of social networking, you can take what you're interested in and really build your own outreach system. I've seen fabulous things around the world—young people in a country like Colombia coming together to demonstrate against the drug traffickers; young students in other countries who are demanding better education. This gives you the power of not just communicating your own ideas but finding others to be in solidarity with you to try to bring about social change, to expose corruption, to demand transparency, to create accountability, to use the internet to break down barriers so businesses could be more easily started. There's lot of things that come from that. I wish you well.

Q: What do you use? Are you a BlackBerry...

SEC. CLINTON: Yes. I'm a BlackBerry person. Because of the constant need to get information out of something as large as the State Department, we do Twitter in many different languages. We have sites and are on Facebook for many of our different projects. One of my goals when I became Secretary was to expand the definition of diplomacy, so it's not just what I did today meeting with the foreign secretary and defense secretary and the President and members of his cabinet. It's a much broader outreach, like what we're doing here today. ■



NEWS FEATURE

Hawaii's Filipinos Bid Adieu to Consul General Cardenas

By Dennis Galolo

All good things, they say, must come for an end. The same holds true for Consul General Leoncio R. Cardenas who will retire after an illustrious 33 years of service with the Philippine government.

Cardenas assumed his post as Consul General of the Philippines to Hawaii in July 2009.

A native of Badoc, Ilocos Norte, Cardenas is a self-described "balik-bayan," who was assigned to Hawaii in 1985 as a young Foreign Service Officer from the Philippine Embassy in Washington, DC. It was during his first stint in Hawaii that his youngest daughter Lani was born at Kapiolani Women's & Children's Hospital.

Cardenas developed a reputation as a well-respected and experienced senior diplomat of the Philippine Foreign Service. He oversaw efforts by the Consulate staff to renew and issue passports, absentee ballots for domes-

tic elections, visas and other necessary documents related to work, study or travel in the Philippines.

Under his watch, the Consulate has been more involved in social and civic events involving the Filipino community. To help bridge the gap between local and immigrant Filipinos, he has worked hard to encourage both sides to join more community-related activities.

One of Cardenas' last crowning achievements was the Alay sa Pangulo, a welcome dinner reception for Philippine President Benigno "Noynoy" S. Aquino III on November 13, 2011

at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Hotel in Waikiki. The event was held in Aquino's honor on his last official day in Hawaii. The Philippine president was in Honolulu for the 19th Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit.

The Philippine Celebrations Coordinating Committee of Hawaii (PCCCH) in partnership with the Philippine Consulate General planned and worked on this project as early as April.

"Everybody was inspired to work for a common goal and the grand affair that was witnessed by more than a thousand people including the highest officials of Hawaii," he says. "It's a testament to what Filipino leaders and the community could do if they put their hearts into any project."

During his retirement, Cardenas

plans to remain active with several projects, including ministry work for the elderly in his hometown of Badoc in Ilocos Norte, establishing a non-profit group to assist the poor, organizing a youth choir to serve the needs of the church and community and brushing up on his piano skills.

Members of Hawaii's Filipino community held a final farewell party for Cardenas at Empress Restaurant on November 15, 2011. Before riding off into the sunset, Cardenas offered one final bit of advice for Hawaii's Filipinos—maintain ethnic pride and unity.

"We all need to remind ourselves of the enormous potential for empowerment and the fact that the Filipinos in Hawaii have become the second largest ethnic group," he says. "The Filipino identity with its wealth of culture and heritage is an enormous source of strength that could be harnessed for the common good. We need to get out and be involved in many activities and projects designed to foster the common good not only of the Filipino Community but of the larger Hawaiian society as well." ■

