

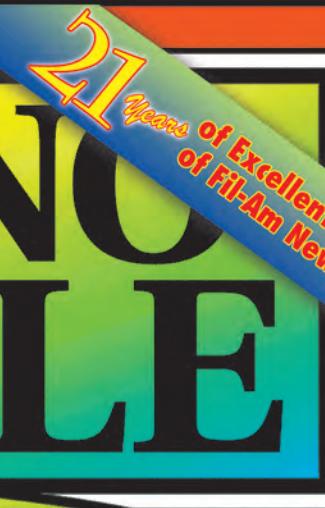
HAWAII



# FILIPINO CHRONICLE

HAWAII'S #1 FILIPINO NEWSPAPER

◆ SEPTEMBER 27, 2014 ◆



## HELP WANTED: RECRUITING MORE FILIPINO DOCTORS TO MEET PHYSICIAN DEMAND

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Photo courtesy of UH JABSOM



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## EDITORIALS

## Primary Care Doctors in High Demand

**H**awaii is about 300 doctors short in the area of primary care—family practitioners, internists and pediatricians. These are the doctors who offer treatment and screenings that save lives and prevent hospitalization and expensive trips to the ER. The situation is expected to only worsen as fewer medical school students who find themselves burdened by heavy educational debt are continuing to choose more lucrative specialties and existing primary care doctors are finding themselves underpaid and overworked.

A new tactic that could make primary care more attractive is switching from a doctor-sees-all-patients practice to a more efficient “medical team approach” that could lighten the workload and still provide excellent care. Under this approach, patients with routine ailments are treated by trained specialists such as nurse practitioners and physician assistants, which frees up doctors to spend more time with patients who have more serious conditions.

UH’s medical school recently launched the innovative Education Loan Repayment Program which can help level the playing field. The program helps doctors to repay their educational loans if they commit to serve at least two years on Lanai, Molokai, Kalihi, Waimanalo, Waianae and other rural settings where shortages in primary care and other medical services are especially acute. Funding for the program comes from the Affordable Care Act, HMSA, The Queen’s Medical Center and Aloha Care. Although attempts to secure state funds for the program were rejected by the State Legislature, school officials will try again next year.

Another approach is to recruit more foreign-trained doctors to practice here as primary care providers. This would be especially helpful for the Filipino community, which is facing its own shortage in the number of Filipino doctors. Presently, there are few successors to the current crop of Filipino physicians who average 65 years of age and are considering retirement within three to five years. The anticipated shortage would affect mainly older immigrant Filipino patients who overwhelmingly prefer a Filipino doctor simply because there are no language or cultural barriers to overcome.

Loan repayments, supporting the UH medical school and making the state a more attractive place to practice medicine will not only help to recruit primary care doctors to Hawaii but get them to stay. Since it will take several years to catch up with the shortage of doctors, immediate action is needed to address the problem.

## Stopping the ISIS Threat

**I**n recent months, Americans have heard about ISIS (Islamic State of Iraq and Syria) and its ultra violent brand of terrorism. ISIS’ brutal tactics—beheadings, mass killings, torture and even crucifixions—have turned off even the most radical terrorist groups. The group, which broke away from al-Qaeda in 2013 after a leadership struggle, has imposed its totalitarian Islamic theology on fellow Muslims, Christians and minority groups in the Middle East. ISIS intends to subjugate all non-Muslims and ultimately build a global Islamic empire.

The task of stopping perhaps the most potent terrorist threat the world has seen to date has fallen on the shoulders

## FROM THE PUBLISHER



loha and welcome to another issue of the Hawaii Filipino Chronicle! Metro-Manila and neighboring provinces were recently flooded by heavy rains. Rising water levels forced tens of thousands of people in low-lying areas to flee their homes and brought the nation’s capital to a grinding halt. Thankfully, loss of life was minimal. Our thoughts and prayers go out to those affected.



Our cover story for this issue delves into the acute shortage of doctors in Hawaii and across the nation. This shortage is also affecting the Filipino community, which currently does not have a Filipino ophthalmologist or urologist. Kudos to the Philippine Medical Association (PMAH) for taking proactive steps to meet the demand by recruiting associates who have been trained in the Philippines. The fact that doctors from the Philippines are not only well-trained but have a good command of English make them attractive candidates to help fill the ranks of local physicians. Please turn to page 4 to read more about what the University of Hawaii’s medical school is doing to recruit physicians and to attract more students to study medicine.

In keeping with the theme of our cover story, this issue also contains our special Women’s Health Supplement which contains many useful articles on a wide range of topics. Several doctors who are specialists in their fields have written articles on getting a good night’s rest to proper eye care for diabetics to dealing with the effects of depression. There are also articles on exercise, planning the care of your elderly parents, the benefits and risks of aspirin, and getting rid of belly fat. An article by contributing writer Glenn Wakai also highlights the problem of kidney disease within the Filipino community. Glenn also tells the story of kidney transplant recipient Efren Bacani who is extremely grateful for his new kidney and hopes to one day meet his donor family. I encourage you to read our Health Supplement and take the advice given to heart. You’ll be glad you did!

That’s all for now. Once again, we’d like to thank our readers and advertisers for their faithful support of the Chronicle. It’s truly a blessing to partner with them in our mission to serve Hawaii’s vibrant and dynamic Filipino community. Please feel free to share with us any story ideas, suggestions or concerns you may have. Send your email to: filipinochronicle@gmail.com.

Until next time...aloha and mabuhay!

*Chona A. Montesines-Sonido*

of a coalition comprised of several dozen nations, including the U.S., U.K., Germany, France and Italy. President Obama has already bombed ISIS targets and offered further military support in the form of arms, equipment and training to Kurdish fighters and various factions that have risen to oppose ISIS. Obama, however, has stopped short of direct military involvement in the region, where U.S. soldiers were pulled out only three years ago.

Those who oppose U.S. involvement say the matter should be left to European and Middle Eastern nations in the immediate area that are most directly affected by ISIS. To do nothing is unacceptable since ISIS, if left unchecked, will threaten America. However, the U.S. should help to play a constructive and stabilizing force in the region but if more direct involvement is needed to neutralize ISIS, we should not have to lead the efforts nor shoulder the heaviest

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## CANDID PERSPECTIVES



By Emil Guillermo

I found this t-shirt in my hamper today. It was a reminder of an event I covered on one of the coldest days I've ever experienced—January 20, 2009.

That's when "Hope and Change" supposedly had come to Washington.

Five years later and we're still out in the cold—especially after President Obama announced his immigration delay.

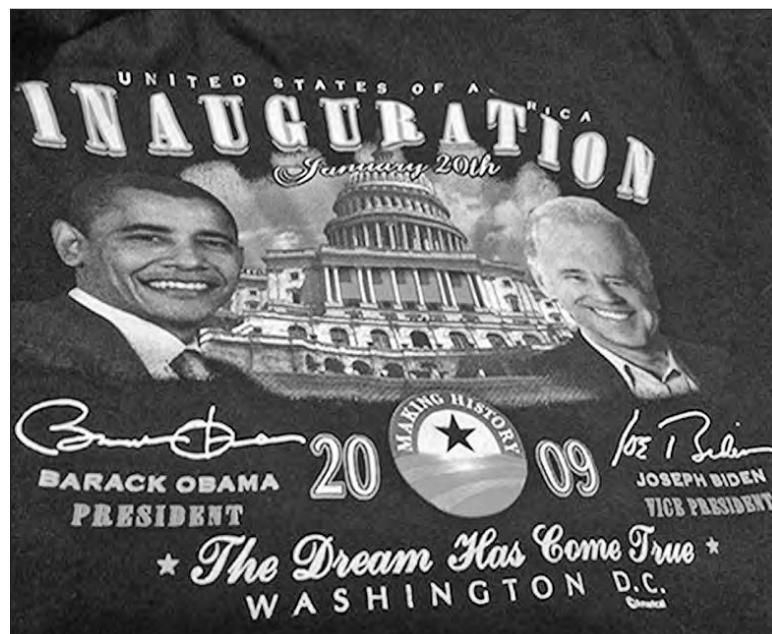
In my mind, there are only three types of delay: Good, bad and Tom—as in Tom DeLay.

The former indicted GOP congressman and Dancing with the Stars contestant aside, it's hard to imagine too much good from a delay of something positive.

For lawyers and those who fight for justice, a good delay may be one that wards off an eviction, wrongful execution or other inevitable loss. Drag on! But when it comes to changes in immigration policy, delay can only be a bad thing.

Every day the president mulls over the proposals that have long been before him, the anxiety and misery increases for thousands of families who could benefit now—if only the president took action. The president told NBC's Chuck Todd that he wanted to make sure all the "T's were crossed and

## For Obama, It's Bombs Away But 'No' to Immigrants



the I's were dotted."

Mr. President, there are three I's in immigration and just one T. Now what?

Politics.

Oh, yeah that. We all should have known better.

In 2008, when then-candidate Obama was looking for votes, he dangled immigration reform out there to coalesce Latino and Asian support.

But then came 2009. Obama was inaugurated and almost immediately there was a shift. Health care had eclipsed immigration and took up the bulk of Obama's political capital.

In the last two years, the issue has come back more prominently. Following Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) for undocumented youth, this was to be the year of real immigration reform. It might have been enough to make us forget his militarization of the border and the record deportations taking place under his watch.

The iterations of the immigration bill haven't been perfect either. Asian-Ameri-

cans wanted to retain family categories and a provision to clear the backlog for legal immigration, which have resulted in over 10-year waiting periods for some family members in Asia.

But when immigration legislation seemed doomed by politics, the focus turned to what the president could do on his own. And even the president suggested that by the end of summer there would be reason to cheer.

Then came the administration's announcement that it would wait until after the November midterm elections. The cheers turned to groans and wails.

Last weekend, I was in Nashville, Tennessee, which borders on such electoral hotspots as Arkansas and North Carolina, where immigration could be turned into a wedge issue to alienate voters. I was attending a convention of the Society for Professional Journalists, and if they'd heard news of the delay, there was just passing concern. To them, it must have been all just part of the process.

*(from page 2, STOPPING ...)*

burden in terms of committing troops and military aid. The U.S. has already spilled too much of its soldiers' blood in the region and very little to show for it.

While the U.S. should be wary of leading a multi-national effort to directly wipe out ISIS, it would also be best to develop a long-term political strategy to deal with the

aftermath if and when ISIS is eliminated. If not, the resulting power vacuum when the dust settles could give rise to another militant group and further violence in the region for years to come, which is precisely the conditions that allowed ISIS to form in the first place. Let's not repeat that same mistake.

Disappointment? They didn't have to rely on green cards or work permits.

One of the journalists I sat next to was Kathryn Foxhall of Virginia, the winner of an SPJ Sunshine Award for her fight to let public employees speak with reporters.

A white journalist who grew up in segregated Selma, Foxhall told me that growing up in the 1960s in Alabama and knowing what was overcome continues to inspire her reporting and advocating for free speech and press issues.

"I know that millions of people can be wrong," Foxhall said.

It's the same uphill optimism that immigration advocates should muster as they keep fighting despite feeling burned by the president.

Just remember that the president's promise of something after the elections is as meaningful as all of his promises to date.

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Don't trust it. If his calculations are wrong, the climate for executive action will be no better in the future than it is now.

And if the Democrats win, who knows what new thing will come on the scene to distract attention from the immigration issue?

ISIS/ISIL? Indeed, that the President would rather bomb ISIS than fix immigration now without Congress is in my mind far riskier.

In the meantime, there are families out there who will be hurt every day of this immigration delay. Many of them heard the promise of hope and change in 2008. Six years later, some of them don't even have a lousy t-shirt.

**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.

## COVER STORY

# HELP WANTED: HAWAII RECRUITING MORE FILIPINO DOCTORS TO MEET PHYSICIAN DEMAND

By HFC Staff

**T**he U.S. is facing a chronic shortage in the number of available physicians which experts say will have a severe impact on the nation's healthcare system.

A shortage of doctors not only affects patients' access to healthcare but means longer waits for appointments and having to travel further to see a doctor. Affected the most are at-risk groups, including the elderly, poor, rural residents and the roughly 20 percent of Americans who are already medically-underserved.

Compounding the problem is the nation's rapidly growing population, increasing numbers of elderly Americans, an aging physician workforce and a rising demand for health care services.

According to the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC), there are currently about 816,433 doctors practicing medicine in the U.S. One in three of these doctors—about 270,000—are over age 55 and likely to retire within the next 20 years.

The U.S. Census Bureau also estimates that the nation's population of people age 62 and older will increase from about 46 million now to 83 million by the year 2030. Recent medical advances are allowing people to live longer, including those with chronic conditions—which means that the demand for on-going health care services will only continue to increase.

## A Numbers Game

With an aging population comes a greater need for primary care physicians, particularly general internists, family doctors and pediatricians—the “gatekeepers” who diagnose and coordinate care. They are the doctors whom people go to

first for non-emergency needs before seeing a specialist.

A study by researchers from the University of California-San Francisco estimates that by the Year 2025, the nation will face a shortage of approximately 52,000 primary care physicians. To meet this shortage, why not simply encourage more medical students to enter primary care?

The problem is that many medical schools in the U.S. are encountering difficulty when it comes to luring young, promising doctors into primary care. More of these medical students are picking radiology, anesthesiology and other higher-paying technical specialties.

On average, primary care physicians are among the lowest paid with median annual salaries ranging from \$146,000 to \$171,000. Among much higher paid physicians are subspecialists who earn twice as much, including invasive cardiologists (\$440,000), radiologists (\$392,000), orthopedic surgeons (\$383,000) and urologists (\$325,000).

The choice is not difficult for medical students who typically graduate with loans averaging well over \$125,000. They know that primary care physicians earn less, work longer hours and face higher malpractice risks.

## Hawaii's Shortage

The shortage of doctors in Hawaii mirrors that of states on the mainland. Statistics from the University of Hawaii-Manoa's John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM) show that the state is about 750

physicians short of the number that should be treating patients, based on Hawaii's overall population. The shortage in physicians is expected to nearly double to 1,448 by the year 2020.

There are approximately 2,795 documented full-time physicians in Hawaii, according to Dr. Kelley Withy, director of the Hawaii/Pacific Basin Area Health Education Center (AHEC) and professor with JABSOM's Department of Complementary and Alternative Medicine.

Every year, over 100 physicians in Hawaii either retire or leave for the mainland. Most blame Hawaii's high cost of liability insurance and low reimbursement from health insurance companies.

Dr. Withy says that the number of primary care physicians in Hawaii is short by 300. Other specialties with the greatest percentage of shortage statewide include neurology, general surgery, infectious diseases, neurological surgery, thoracic surgery, radiation oncology, pulmonary, cardiology and gastroenterology.

It is not uncommon to hear of local medical practices operating at full capacity that are no longer accepting new patients. Others have the luxury of “cherry picking” patients based on the type of insurance and their ability to pay.

“It boils down to the law of supply and demand and at this point in time, the demand for medical care outweighs the supply of physicians supplying this type of care,” says local physician Dr. Garcia.



Other physicians are frustrated with the requirements needed to run a private practice. The high cost of doing business—rent, medical equipment and supplies, salaries and malpractice insurance premiums—is increasing, while reimbursements, for the most part, have not kept pace. Add to that Hawaii's general excise tax and it's no wonder that starting a medical practice in Hawaii has become a losing proposition for young doctors fresh out of medical school.

“It's no surprise that most physicians who come here thinking that Hawaii would be a great place to live end up leaving for the mainland where you are paid more and get more ‘bang for your buck,’” says Dr. Garcia.

Endless red tape in the form of approvals, regulations or documentation has also made it difficult for doctors to simply practice medicine the old-fashioned way.

“Almost everything a doctor would like to do or prescribe for a patient requires some sort of authorization from the insurance company or government,” says Dr. Garcia. “Doctors are forced to document unnecessary information into a patient's medical health

record in order to be paid for seeing and treating the patient. All these challenges plus increasing government regulation are encouraging many older doctors to retire earlier than originally planned. I hear many of them say, ‘medicine is not as fun as it used to be.’”

Waipahu-based physician Dr. Charlie Sonido agrees that more physicians are opting for early retirement due to the difficulties with the business side of medicine. He also cited mandates like electronic medical records, patient centered medical homes and onerous reporting which is very expensive to implement.

“Private practitioners can no longer practice in the same way as they did before. They have to adjust or they will be forced to close shop. In Hawaii, as with the rest of the nation, there will less and less private practitioners. Most new medical school graduates will join bigger group practices because solo practice will no longer be sustainable.”

## Attracting New Doctors

As the overwhelmingly major source of physicians for the state, UH's medical school has taken a number of steps to

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## COVER STORY

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address the local shortage. Currently, faculty members are training more than 240 medical students who are working to obtain licensure or board certification. About 90 percent of the students are Hawaii residents.

"Meeting the crisis in the Hawaii health care workforce is going to have to be a local solution," says Dr. Jerris Hedges, JABSOM Dean.

JABSOM sponsors the annual Hawaii Healthcare Summit which addresses key issues facing the medical community. The summit also reaches out to potential students in hopes of attracting qualified individuals into Hawaii's healthcare industry.

AHEC also launched the State's first-ever Education Loan Repayment Program last year. The program helps doctors, nurse practitioners and other health care providers to repay their educational loans if they commit to serve at least two years to treating patients in a rural settings where health care workforce shortages are especially acute.

The program is funded by the U.S. Affordable Care Act and with donations from The Queen's Medical Center, HMSA and Aloha Care. State lawmakers rejected a request for state funds for the program which would have helped to at-



New MDs from the Class of 2014 during their last week of training at JABSOM (a few days before graduation)

tract and retain more healthcare workers. JABSOM officials hope the Legislature will revisit the issue next year.

In April of this year, JABSOM's Physician Workforce Assessment team sponsored the Third Annual Physician Shortage Conference, which discussed ways of maximizing the benefits of changes created by the Affordable Care Act and how to make Hawaii an ideal place to practice medicine. Other topics included the Patient Centered Medical Home, care coordination, telemedicine and working as part of an interprofessional medical care team. In addition, the team provided education on local payment reforms and the new Medical Inquiry and Conciliation Panel.

Other AHEC activities that attract students to the medical field include a

Speaker's Bureau where public and private schools can call and request health career speakers, a Health Career Highway book, the Medical Student Mentorship Program, local summer health career programs in Lihue, Kauai, Waimanalo, and Teen Health Camps across the state.

#### Wanted: More Filipino Doctors

Leaders in Hawaii's Filipino community are also bracing for the anticipated shortage in the number of Filipino physicians. The average Filipino physician's age is over 65 and most ready to retire in 3-5 years with no successors in sight. For exam-

ple, there is no longer a Filipino ophthalmologist or urologist. This does not bode well particularly for older immigrant Filipinos who often feel more at ease with having a Filipino doctor.

Several Filipino-run private medical practices have unsuccessfully tried to recruit associates in the past few years. The Philippine Medical Association (PMAH) has also tried to address the shortage by recruiting physicians from the Philippines or Filipino Americans who have graduated from medical schools in the Philippines. PMAH provided assistance to these physician "recruits" on preparing for their exams and in securing residency slots which are very limited. Most, however, do not find Hawaii to their liking.

"Filipino physicians from the mainland often find Hawaii too expensive and difficult to start and sustain to practice," says Dr. Sonido. "Not only is the cost of living here more expensive but the starting salary of physicians is

much less. For those who may want to start a private practice, the cost of doing business in Hawaii is also much more prohibitive."

PMAH has also worked with the University of Hawaii's Office of Student Equity, Excellence and Diversity (SEED) on a mentorship program for students, many of whom come from disadvantaged backgrounds and are of Filipino descent. The students are provided with the opportunity to shadow physicians and other medical providers of varying backgrounds and specialties.

"By providing these students access to our world in health care, we hope to inspire them to strive for higher education, optimize their potential and even pursue a career in medicine," says PMAH President Jerry Garcia.

"If we tap local students and encourage them to go into medicine, the higher our chances are of retaining these future physicians to our state them and not losing them to better opportunities in the mainland."

## HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

### Consul General to Lecture at UH



Philippine Consul General Gina A. Jamoralin is scheduled to speak on the topic "Philippines-US Relations: Reflections and Perspectives on an Enduring Alliance" during a lecture sponsored by the Center for Philippine Studies, School of Pacific and Asian Studies at the University of Hawaii-Manoa.

The lecture will be held on October 15, 2014 from 3:30 pm to 6 pm in Moore Hall, Room 319 on the UH campus and is part of activities commemorating Filipino-American History Month.

A career diplomat with over 20

years of experience in the Philippine Foreign Service, Consul General Jamoralin will discuss the challenges and opportunities of, as well as her visions for, stronger and enduring Philippines-U.S. relations. She will also discuss recent milestones in the alliance, including a series of diverse engagements and activities in the last three years and the recent signing of the Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement.

Light refreshments will be provided following the lecture, which is free and open to the public. For more information regarding the Center for Philippine Studies or the lecture, contact Clem Montero at 956-6086 or via email at: cps@hawaii.edu.

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## OPINION

# The Americans Are Now in A Bind

**INTROSPECTIVE** by Tony Katigbak

**D**o you recall the saying that the enemy of my enemy is my friend? That seems to be what is happening to the United States and the Middle East these days. Relations have gotten so convoluted that we don't even know which side everyone is truly on and that only makes relations that much more tense and unstable.

Just recently Iran's foreign minister ruled out cooperating with the United States in helping Iraq fight Islamic State militants, and said that the terrorist group poses a much bigger global threat than we might all understand, and it requires new thinking to eradicate it.

Mohammed Javad Zarif said last week that they had serious doubts about what the US is willing to do when it comes to the menace from the IS

group as a whole and not just picking and choosing when it comes to confrontation like they do in Iraq. Furthermore, Zarif said that the US also couldn't fight both the ISIS and the Syrian government in Damascus together, which leads to even more doubts about how they truly plan to make a difference. Plus, currently the US is carrying out air strikes and Zarif said that ISIS would not be eradicated through aerial bombardment alone.

Overall, everyone is pretty much stuck in an unknown limbo wondering what real steps can be made against this growing threat. Zarif has been very vocal about his stand on the situation. He made it a point to remind the world that ISIS is a very mobile organization and the threat is not only against a single community nor against a single religion. It is a



threat against the entire world. It will not be confined to Syria or Iraq but it will affect the globe, and this will happen sooner rather than later.

In that aspect I truly believe he is right. While the threat may currently be in Iraq and Syria, the message of ISIS is already crossing borders faster than the world can deal with it. Stories have even gone viral about varying recruitment tactics as well as people (including young men and women) making their way across borders to join the ISIS ranks. There is even news and rumors here about recruiting among Muslims in the Philippines. It may only be a matter of time before the threat is truly all over the world.

I guess only time will tell what the global community may eventually have to do to truly deal with the threat. President Barack Obama has reiterated his stand of no ground troops in Iraq and that US support will be limited to aerial strikes only. His former defense secretary, however, voiced his skepticism about this policy achieving their intended goal. Robert Gates, along with other world leaders, believes that the US can't be successful against the ISIS strictly from the air. Much of that depends on the Iraqi forces or the Peshmerga. The only conclusion is that for any real success to be achieved boots need to be on the ground.

Again, we'll have to wait and see what happens. World politics and global relations enter a gray zone in this aspect because foreign countries still want to respect Iraq's right to decide for themselves while still regulating what could very

well be a growing serious global threat.

Understandably though, America also needs to be very careful. They are answering the call for help as they always do, but they've already learned through past experience that sometimes they can't win these fights on foreign soil so far away from home. I'm sure they still very vividly remember what happened in Vietnam when they went home with their tails between their legs with thousands injured and losing 53,000 lives whose names are enshrined in the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, D.C.

I can't predict or call what the absolute right course of action would be in this instance. The only thing I know for sure is that something has to be done and be done soon.

\* \* \*

I have to admit, it is refreshing to hear ideas like that of Senator Juan Edgardo "Sonny" Angara calling on the BIR to simplify the current tax system to encourage Filipinos – most especially self-employed individuals to pay their taxes correctly and on time. He claimed that the current tax system is much too complicated for the average Filipino entrepreneur who is constantly playing catch-up with the bigger corporations.

I can completely get behind this proposal just like I fully support his call for tax reform. Like many other things in the Philippines we don't try to find a solution for a problem at its root but instead look for easy – usually far more painful – solutions for the meantime. While these solutions may work for now, they don't solve the actual problem. Like the

BIR crackdown employed because the BIR claims that they are not collecting their tax targets. Hence they are coming down hard on what they feel are tax evading professions.

Again, while this may work initially, it still does not solve the problem. At the end of the day the problem is still the current tax system in its entirety. It's very possible that some entrepreneurs are not paying their proper taxes simply because they don't know how to navigate the complicated tax system. The nationwide BIR public information campaign on the basic steps is not even near enough. "Register, File, and Pay" may sound simple enough, but in reality the process is far more complicated with a lot more red tape.

According to Sen. Angara, what we need to do is "incentivize" taxpayers and make it easy for them to pay their taxes. This will widen the tax base. He further reiterated that a "one tax system fits all" is just not working and will not work for the country. I completely agree with this line of thought. After all, I can't see how a single tax system for multinational multi-billion companies and smaller businesses and entrepreneurs would work.

It hardly seems fair to require the same things from millionaire CEOs that you will require from sari-sari store owners and cigarette vendors. Even the very small minuscule slice that is the middle class may not even be able to afford an accountant or lawyer to do their financial statements and are left completely unaware of how to navigate the process. This confusion is actually the opening where corruption can come in with unscrupulous individuals offering to help expedite the process for a "fee."

At the end of the day, I think citizens understand the concept of why they need to pay their taxes. However, if it were to become possible to collect a truly fair amount from each, based on their job and income bracket, and make it easier to comply and pay, I think BIR would see a really positive change in how people pay their taxes. ([www.philstar.com](http://www.philstar.com))

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## CITY HIGHLIGHTS

**By Councilmember Ron Menor**

**H**eroes come in all shapes and sizes. One such hero is Chelsey Anne Dungca, a sixth grader from Honowai Elementary.

I presented Chelsey Anne with an honorary certificate during the City Council's September 10th meeting for saving a 5-year-old boy from drowning at the Coronado Swimming Pool in Ewa By Gentry. Joining her for the presentation were her mom Angelica Austria, grandmom Elizabeth Austria, cousin John Vincent Purganan, school principal Kent Matsumura and homeroom teacher Roslyn Kanae.

Last July 10th, Chelsey Anne joined several friends for

## Council Honors Young Heroine From Waipahu

a day of swimming. With her were four other children, the youngest who was 5-years-old, and three adults. The four older children were enjoying themselves and did not notice the 5-year-old boy make his way to the far end of the pool. The boy, who was wearing blue-colored swim trunks, held onto the railing and then let go, not realizing that he was in the deep end of the pool.

A friend named Johnelle had borrowed Chelsey Anne's goggles and mentioned that she saw a blue-colored object on the bottom of the swimming pool. Chelsey Anne urged her to double check, so Johnelle dove down and confirmed that the motionless object was their 5-year old friend. Johnelle began crying.

Chelsey Anne immediately sprang into action, grabbed the goggles from Johnelle and dove to where the boy lay at the

**Councilmember Ron Menor with Chelsey Anne Dungca**

bottom. She managed to half-carry and half drag the boy to the surface and up out of the pool, where the panic-stricken adults began administering CPR.

The adults were so shaken up that they were unable to call 9-1-1, but Chelsey Anne composed herself and dialed for help. The boy coughed up water and in a few minutes regained consciousness. By then,

the paramedics, firefighters and police had arrived. Emergency responders credited Chelsey Anne's ability to remain calm and her quick decision-making that meant the difference between life and death for the 5-year-old boy, who has since made a full recovery. Chelsey's strong swimming ability was also a crucial factor. She took swimming lessons at the YMCA in Waipahu and was

able to put her skills to good use on that fateful day.

Her teachers at Honowai Elementary describe Chelsey Anne as a conscientious student who keeps a level head in stressful situations. She is the type who willingly assists others whenever possible and is also a capable leader. As a Student Council Class Representative and a Gifted and Talented (GT) student, Chelsey Anne leads by her actions and sets an example for other students by her concern for others.

Chelsey Anne is proof that you don't need super powers to be a hero. A hero is anyone who responds quickly and selflessly when seeing others in need.

Congratulations to Chelsey Anne for her heroism and ability to remain calm, cool and collected in the face of impending tragedy. I wish her continued success at Honowai Elementary and in all of her personal endeavors.

## HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

## Family Caregiver Conference Set for Oct. 4

**W**ilson Care Group and AARP Hawaii will host the Family Caregiver Conference on Saturday, October 4, 2014 at the Japanese Cultural Center from 8 am to 12:30 pm.

The free conference will offer help on assisting your loved ones with living at home, planning for their aging needs and how to take care of yourself while providing care.

Keynote speakers are Russell Nanod, Eugene Kaneshiro and Tracey Wiltgen from

Caregivers R Us. The speakers are family caregivers who took care of their aging parents while working full time. These caregivers juggled work, family and caring for themselves.

Topics include:

- Medicaid Long-term Care
- Legal Issues—Wills, Trusts, Estates
- Long-term Care Insurance – How to Choose a Plan
- Family Dynamics and Communication
- Tips for Hiring and Work-
- ing with Professionals
- Services and Transportation to Help People Live at Home
- Myth Busters—Diet and Nutrition
- Activities to Help Speech and Movement
- Getting Your Documents in Order
- Improving the Quality of Life at Home
- Coping with Challenging Behaviors in Dementia
- Caregiver to Caregiver Rap Session

Attendees will learn about the unique care challenges facing Hawaii's families in the face of growing needs and shrinking resources and some of the proposed policy solutions.

To register online or to see the agenda, go to: <http://aarp.cvent.com/oahu-care>.

Light refreshments will be provided and parking is \$5. Overflow parking will be available at Varsity Theater.

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## Lava Flow's Slow Progress Continues



**B**ig Island County Councilmember Gregg Ilagan has informed the Philippine Consulate General of Honolulu that the Kilauea lava flow remains unchanged and continues to threaten the town of Pahoa.

Civil defense authorities are continuing to monitor the flow and government agencies

are doing all they can to prepare for the effects.

"I would like to thank the entire County administration for putting in long hours to deal with this emergency and for their help in getting information out to the public," says Councilmember Ilagan. "Without them, these updates would not be possible."

## OPEN FORUM

# Beware Corporate 'Right to Farm'

by John Crabtree

**O**n August 5, 2014, Missourians voted on an ill-conceived "Right to Farm" constitutional amendment supported by a coalition of major corporate farming interests, which spent over \$1 million to secure its passage. The coalition that opposed Amendment 1 was outspent but not outfought. In the end, the amendment passed by a razor thin margin—approxi-

mately 2,500 votes out of nearly 1 million cast.

Why should farmers outside of Missouri care? The passage of Amendment 1 is a cautionary tale from Maine to Hawaii and everywhere in between. Past attacks on state anti-corporate farming laws eventually claimed the nation's strongest family farm and ranch protections—Nebraska's Initiative 300 and South Dakota's Amendment E. And the passage of Amendment 1 will likely lead to corporate farming assaults on the laws

and constitutions of other states.

The Missouri amendment was couched in farmer-friendly phrasing and legal language with unclear ramifications: ... *the right of farmers and ranchers to engage in farming and ranching practices shall be forever guaranteed in this state, subject to duly authorized powers, if any, conferred by Article VI of the Constitution of Missouri.*

However, one intended consequence is clear. It will protect their preferred brand of

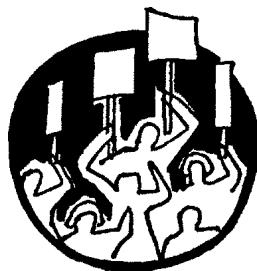
corporate, industrial agriculture. This is a real threat to Hawaii's family farmers and ranchers and the markets they have built for their products, such as the small, family owned Kona coffee farms, who have worked alongside larger coffee plantations to preserve and protect the high-value market they helped establish for their world-renowned coffee. We should never allow the greed of massive food corporations to jeopardize these or any of Hawaii's family farmers and ranchers.

Those who stood in the breech defending Missouri's family farms, ranches and small towns will face stern challenges in their future efforts. We should honor them and help them when we can. And we must learn from their example, in preparation for the day when the "rights of corporations to farm" crowd come to our states.

**JOHN CRABTREE** is with the Center for Rural Affairs, a private, non-profit organization working to strengthen small businesses, family farms and ranches, and rural communities through action oriented programs addressing social, economic and environmental issues.

## HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

## State Revises Rules for Demonstrations at State Capitol



Free speech advocates are hailing the promise of new rules for free speech activities on state property, including the State Capitol, in the wake of a recently-settled lawsuit.

As part of the settlement agreement, the State has agreed to implement wholesale revisions to rules regarding demonstrations on State property. Effective immediately, individuals or groups of any size wishing to demonstrate at the State Capitol no longer need a permit. Demonstrators will be allowed a small table to distribute liter-

ature with no permit needed. Demonstrators will also no longer have to indemnify the state for any injuries arising from their protest and will not have to obtain insurance if they cannot afford it.

The lawsuit was filed by the ACLU on behalf of Pamela Lichy, president of the Drug Policy Action Group, whose organization

ran up against these regulations while planning a rally at the Capitol.

"This settlement is a win for freedom of speech and for grassroots organizations like ours that need to respond to current events quickly and without layers of government bureaucracy getting in the way of our message," Lichy says.

The ACLU tried unsuccessfully to resolve these issues with the State informally since 2010, but the State did not agree to change these permitting requirements until after the lawsuit was filed.



## \$2.1 Million for Ag Business Accelerator for Kamuela

The U.S. Economic Development Administration will invest \$2.1 million to support the design and construction of an agricultural business accelerator for small farmers and agricultural markets in Kamuela on the Big Island. The project is expected to save 39 current jobs, create 28 new jobs and generate greater food self-reliance and sustainability.

"This important investment will boost the efforts of local farmers and businesses by providing assistance with self-sustaining value-added food and fiber production," says U.S. Rep. Tulsi Gabbard. "Supporting the agricultural business accelerator is a smart move and a 'win-win' across the board for our local economy, the jobs market, farmers, consumers and sustainability efforts across the state."

Gabbard visited Kamuela earlier this month and met with farmers who were passionate about increasing local food production, reducing dependence on imports and strengthening the overall sustainability of the Big Island.

The investment funding will be managed through The Kohala Center, an independent, community-based center for research, conservation and education that turns research and traditional knowledge into action that allows communities to thrive ecologically, economically, culturally and socially. The organization's main areas of interest are energy self-reliance, food self-reliance and ecosystem health.

## City, BIA Offer Permit and Building Code Classes



The City's Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) and the Building Industry Association (BIA) will hold a series of seminars to improve the quality of permit applications. The goal of this program is to reduce the delays in reviewing and approving permits for construction and development projects.

The classes—which are scheduled for September 29, 30 and October 1—are being offered to planning and design professionals, as well as the public, to learn more about the

- Course topics include:
- Introduction to the building permit process and back permitting
- Residential and commercial building plans
- Introduction to building inspections and the role of the building inspector

For more information and a list of classes, go online to: [www.biahawaii.org](http://www.biahawaii.org), or call 629-7505.

The classes will be led by DPP staff and will be held at the Building Industry Association-Hawaii Construction Training Center located at 94-487 Akoki Street in Waipahu. The cost per class is \$25 for BIA members and \$35 for non-members.

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## NEWS FEATURE

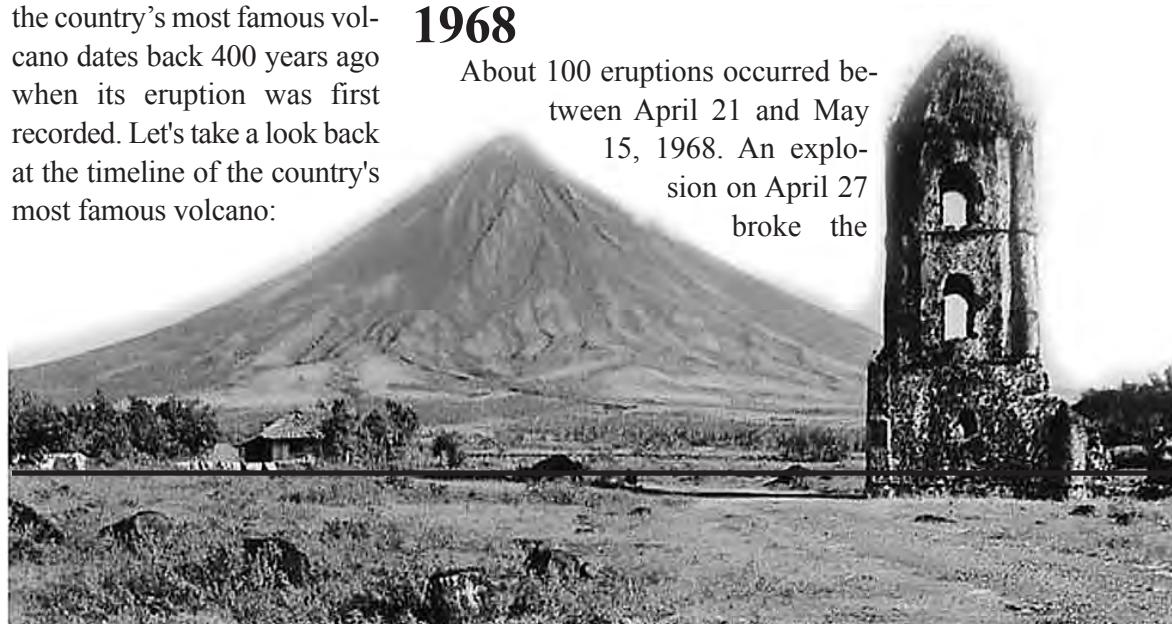
# THROUGH THE RING OF FIRE: MAYON'S THREAT BEHIND BEAUTY



**M**ayon is the Philippines' most active volcano. Known as the "perfect cone," it is the

main landmark of Albay and attracts a significant number of visitors every year. It is the picturesque tourist destination when not showing signs of danger. Being a part of the Pacific Ring of Fire, Mayon Volcano recorded almost 50 eruptions for the past 400 years.

Legend says that Mayon is named after Daragang Magayon (Beautiful Lady), an ancient princess. The history of the country's most famous volcano dates back 400 years ago when its eruption was first recorded. Let's take a look back at the timeline of the country's most famous volcano:



## PHILIPPINE NEWS

### DOTC Chief Ready to Face Ombudsman's MRT 3 Probe

by Dennis Carcamo  
Thursday, Sept. 25, 2013

**M**ANILA, Philippines - Transportation and Communications Secretary Jun Abaya on Thursday said he will face any probe regarding alleged anomalous transactions committed by his department.

"If you have nothing to hide, there is no reason to fear any investigation," Abaya said in a statement.

Abaya issued the statement after the Office of the



Ombudsman summoned him and several officials of the transportation department in line with the preliminary investigation on the graft charges in connection with the Metro Transit Rail Line 3 maintenance contract.

"As always, we will cooperate fully with the investigation of the Office of the Ombudsman, just as we have with investigations undertaken by different branches and agencies of government, such as the Senate, the House of Representatives, and the National Bureau of Investigation," Abaya said.

"We remain committed to transparency and the eradication of corruption in government. Ultimately, it is the public that will benefit from the search for truth," he added. ([www.philstar.com](http://www.philstar.com))

### 1616

Dutch explorer Joris van Spilbergen was circumnavigating when he witnessed Mayon's eruption and wrote it on his log. This was the first-ever recorded eruption of the volcano.

### 1814

More than 1,200 were killed during Mayon's most lethal eruption in February 1, 1814. Camalig, Cagsawa, Budiao and Guinobatan were affected following the eruption. Only the church tower remained standing when the whole town of Cagsawa was buried in 30 feet of ash. The Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology, or Phivolcs, and the Province of Albay recently commemorated the 200th anniversary of the 1814 Mayon volcano eruption.

### 1897

The longest uninterrupted eruption of Mayon volcano lasted for seven days starting on June 23, 1897. The week-long rain of fire killed more than 400 people.

### 1968

About 100 eruptions occurred between April 21 and May 15, 1968. An explosion on April 27 broke the



southwest crater rim allowing lava to flow down slowly. Six people were killed.

### 1978

Eruptions lasted from May 7 to May 22, 1978. More than 8,000 people were evacuated as lava flowed down through the 1968 summit crater breach.

### 1984

State volcanologists recommended the evacuation of 73,000 people in the danger zone during the September 1984 eruptions.

### 1993

The 1993 eruption was unexpected. The initial eruption lasted for 30 minutes, killing 68 people, mainly farmers. About 68,000 people were evacuated.

### 2006

More 48,000 people were evacuated during Mayon's eruption in August 2006, while 1,266 people were killed in December 2006 in the lahar and landslides caused by typhoon "Durian."

### 2009

Phivolcs maintained alert level 1 in July 2009 as it observed inflation in the volcano. Alert was raised to level 4 in December 20 as 222 volcanic earthquakes were recorded the past 24 hours. Residents within the 7-kilometer Extended Danger Zone were evacuated.

### 2014

Alert was raised to level 3 due to "noticeable escalation of unrest" on September 15. A total of 32 volcanic earthquakes were recorded in the past 24 hours. Phivolcs said that eruption is possible within weeks.

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Tel: 538-1414 (office) • 255-4085 (cell)  
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by Kathleen A. Martin

Tuesday, Sept. 23, 2013

MANILA, Philippines — The country enjoyed a BOP surplus of \$114 million in August, lower than the \$501 million in July but a reversal of the \$318-million deficit in the same period last year, the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) reported yesterday.

"This is due to payments (made) by the National Government for maturing debt obligations... (and) the other reason is the continuing deficit in the foreign portfolio investments," BSP Deputy Governor Diwa C. Guinigundo said.

The BOP is a summary of a country's economic transactions with the rest of the world.

In the first eight months of the year, the BOP incurred a deficit of \$3.53 billion, a reversal of the \$3.359-billion surplus in the same period last year.

Guinigundo attributed the deficit during the eight-month period to market volatility following the US Federal Reserve's cut in its massive monthly asset purchases which was announced in December last year.

"We suffered significant outflows of capital in the last quarter of the year moving on to the first quarter of the year," Guinigundo said. In January alone, the country saw a \$4.48-billion deficit due to the US Fed's decision to cut its purchases.

"But we do expect that by the end of

the year, we should be able to recover fully from the initial reaction of the market from the possible normalization of the US policy," Guinigundo said.

The central bank expects a surplus of \$1.1 billion for the entire 2014.

Guinigundo said this goal will be reviewed next month as part of the BSP's biannual reassessment of BOP assumptions.

He said the country's external payments position is not seen taking a hit following the central bank's recent monetary policy actions, including raising the key policy rates by 50 basis points.

"We do not see any significant or immediate impact of those policy actions on the external payments position... it's not so much that we wanted to protect the external payments position by those policy actions, they continue to improve and recover from the difficult situation that we sustained in 2014," Guinigundo said.

Aside from increasing policy rates to keep inflation expectations anchored, the BSP has also hiked the reserve requirement ratio and the Special Deposit Account rate to pull down the high liquidity growth.

"Those actions by the Monetary Board were also driven by its very careful consideration on its possible impact on growth... The board though the economy is strong enough to override this tightening so the overall concern is that for prices to remain stable," Guinigundo said. ([www.philstar.com](http://www.philstar.com))

**Among Asians, Filipinos Trust US the Most - Survey**

by Camille Diola

Tuesday, Sept. 23, 2013

MANILA, Philippines — The United States has an ally in the Philippines, where an overwhelming majority sees it favorably at 92 percent—the highest among surveyed Asian countries.

Bruce Stokes, stated in a presentation delivered last weekend and posted online, cited a survey by US-based think tank Pew Research Center and noted that only 6 percent of Filipinos were found to have an "unfavorable" view of the US within the survey period.

The survey was conducted from March 17 to June 5 across 44 countries totaling 48,643 respondents through "nationally represented" telephone and face-to-face interviews with adults of 18 years and older.

Across age groups, the Philippines also leads as 94 percent of ages 18 to 29, 91 percent of ages 30 to 49 and 90 percent

of ages 50 and above positively see the US.

The survey came amid the Philippines' long-standing territorial dispute with regional power, China. The Philippines and the US, moreover, are defense treaty allies with a long history of bilateral relations.

South Korea follows the rank with 82 percent of its citizens with "favorable" perceptions of the Western power, followed by Vietnam and Bangladesh with 76 percent each, Thailand with 73 percent and Japan with 66 percent. Also a majority of Indonesians (59 percent), Indians (55 percent) and Malaysians (51 percent) look at the US positively.

Only half of the Chinese—that is at 50 percent—have a favorable view of the US, while 43 percent saying they see it unfavorably.

Pakistan leads in unfavorable opinions of the US, with 59 percent, while only 14 percent say America is favorable. ([www.philstar.com](http://www.philstar.com))

## PHILIPPINE NEWS

# Lucio Tan Group Retakes PAL's Helm

by Doris Dumiao  
Tuesday, Sept. 16, 2014

**T**ycoon Lucio Tan on Monday officially reclaimed management control of flag carrier Philippine Airlines after executing the buyout of the 49-percent stake held by conglomerate San Miguel Corp.

Banking sources said the Tan group's creditors had already disbursed last Friday the funds borrowed by the group to buy back SMC's interest and regain control of the now profitable airline.

On Monday, PAL's new general manager Jaime Bautista (the former president before SMC's entry) said they were optimistic for the airline's future but reminded

workers that issues plaguing the airline industry—tense competition and volatile fuel prices—remained key challenges.

"The first step is to go back and review where we stand and plot a new direction," Bautista said in his speech. "We will also re-evaluate existing programs without reinventing the wheel."

Bautista said part of the plan involved determining the best use of PAL's existing fleet. He said they were also looking at the "most prudent" choices in terms of mapping out new routes.

Tan, in his message to workers, continuously highlighted how the airline was "special" to him.

"PAL is more than an air-



PAL owner Lucio Tan

line company for me. It goes beyond investing—it is like family," Tan said.

"Whatever life's problems, this is a place I can always return to and feel safe, secured and loved. Indeed, this is the reason why I decided to regain full ownership of PAL, because I love PAL."

A memorandum was re-

leased by each department in PAL to announce Monday's "meet and greet" with Tan—who had remained PAL chair throughout SMC's stint at the helm—at the Philippine National Bank complex in Pasay City.

Employees were requested to wear red, suggesting a festive mood to mark the consolidation of control over PAL under the Tan group after sealing a \$1-billion buyout deal.

The Tan group raised around \$780 million from a bridge financing from four big local banks, \$460 million of which will come from banks led by the family of fellow tycoon Henry Sy, Banco de Oro Unibank and China Banking Corp. while the remainder was funded by PNB and Asia

United Bank.

It was earlier reported that BDO accepted shares in PNB and holding firm LT Group Inc. as underlying collateral for its lending to the Tan group, while China Bank and AUB got LTG shares.

The Tan group is widely expected to bring in a new strategic partner in PAL.

For its part, SMC is bowing out of PAL on the heels of the flag carrier's return to profitability amid a difficult business climate that has forced the airline into the red for many years.

During its two-year stewardship, SMC implemented a three-pronged strategy of fleet modernization, network expansion and service innovation to bring Asia's first carrier back to profitability. ([www.inquirer.net](http://www.inquirer.net))

# New Witness: All Makati Biddings Under Binays Rigged

by Maila Ager  
Thursday, Sept. 25, 2014

**M**ANILA, Philippines—A new witness who claimed to have received a monthly "allowance" of up to P500,000 from Vice President Jejomar Binay told a Senate investigation Thursday that biddings in Makati City under the Binays were all rigged.

Ernesto Aspilla, a former councilor and member of the city's bidding awards committee, said public biddings in the city ruled by the Binay family since 1986 were just a "moro-moro" (for show).



"Aaminin ko po iyon ay isang bidding-bidding lang o moro-moro... (I have to admit they were just a mock bidding)," Aspilla said, responding to queries of Senator Antonio "Sonny" Trillanes IV.

The Senate blue ribbon committee is investigating the alleged overpriced construction

in 2007 of the Makati City car park. The building was worth P2.3 billion but complainants said the cost should have only been P245.6 million, citing data from the National Statistics Office.

Aspilla said that whenever he would receive a purchase request, there would be a note attached containing the name of the bidder who should "win."



VP Jojo Binay

The note, he said, was written by Jejomar Binay, who at that time was the mayor of Makati. He was the city's chief executive from 1986 to 1998 and from 2011 to 2010.

Asked by Trillanes why he was certain the note was written by Binay, Aspilla said he was familiar with the Vice President's handwriting.

The alleged anomaly continued even during the term of

Binay's wife Elenita (1998-2001), and their son, incumbent Mayor Jejomar Erwin "Jun-Jun" Binay, who assumed the mayoral post in 2010 as his father won the vice presidential race.

Aspilla, who also served as head of General Services Department Head of the Makati city government, said that as member of the city council, he was receiving a monthly allowance of P70,000 up to P90,000 during the mayoral term of Jejomar Binay.

But the amount, placed in a brown envelope, could even go as high as P300,000 to P500,000, Aspilla said.

Aspilla said he believed the money came from the Binay patriarch. ([www.inquirer.net](http://www.inquirer.net))

# 5 Filipino Films in Hawaii

by Maila Ager  
Monday, Sept. 22, 2014

**F**ive Filipino films will be screened at the Hawaii International Film Festival, set from Oct. 30 to Nov. 9 on the island of Oahu. Four full-length feature films (Carlos Siguion-Reyna's "Hari ng Tondo," Eduardo Roy Jr.'s "Quick Change," Zig Dulay's "M (Mother's Maiden Name)," and Real Florido's "First Ko si Third") and a documentary (Janice Villarosa's "Shunned") are in the lineup. ([www.inquirer.net](http://www.inquirer.net))



A scene from 'Hari ng Tondo'

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# Some More Samar

by Lester Gopela Hallig

**M**ANILA, Philippines - Samar may not be the first place that comes to mind when one thinks of going on a holiday. After all, this Eastern Visayas province has been associated with typhoons, foremost of which was Super Typhoon Yolanda.

Samar Governor Sharee Ann Tan remarked, "I know not much is known about Samar, except perhaps as one of the provinces badly hit by Typhoon Yolanda."

She continued: "People are not aware that there are actually three Samar provinces: Eastern Samar, Northern Samar and the mother province, Samar, which is also known as Western Samar. Our province, Samar, needs to be

recognized as a tourist destination. We have a lot of natural resources that are waiting to be discovered more."

She then promptly gave us the opportunity to discover these still largely unheard of destinations. The first stop was the Sohoton Cave in Basey, Samar. The road trip to this site may be a bit daunting for newbies, with rough roads that seem to go on for miles. However, with a little patience and goodwill, one reaches the cave after a 20-minute boatride. It is a curious sight, with an entrance about 50 meters high and a gallery of stalactites and stalagmites forming even more curious shapes.

Visitors to Sohoton Cave are advised to wear light and comfortable clothing, as touring the cave would involve a



Kaluwayan Rock formations, in Marabut.

lot of walking and dodging rocks.

As soon as we stepped out of the cave, our guides pointed to us the nearby Panhulugan Cliff, a steep rock formation that owes its name to the Waray-waray term hulug which means drop. And indeed, we were told that during the Filipino-American war, local rebels would wait atop the cliff and launch attacks at the enemies passing down below.

We were also able to visit the women banig-weavers of Saub Cave in Basey. These women come to the cave to weave sleeping mats made of reed grass. As to why they choose to work here, they chorused that the cool temperature of the cave gives their raw materials better flexibility.

"We cannot weave anywhere else because the hot temperature outside tends to make our materials brittle and

difficult to work on," they said. The women have been at it since childhood, explaining that they inherited the art of weaving from their ancestors. They sell these mats here, although visitors would be very lucky if there are any on hand. The banigs, with their colorful designs and sturdy workmanship, are fast-sellers and easily snapped up by entrepreneurs from nearby provinces. ([www.philstar.com](http://www.philstar.com))

## FOOD & LEISURE

### KITCHEN STORIES: MANGO BRUSCHETTA

by Cynthia Flores-Henares and Bianca Henares

**B**ruschetta is an Italian antipasto consisting of grilled bread topped with tomatoes, olive oil, salt and pepper. Traditionally served as an appetizer or a light snack, other variations may include toppings such as cured meats, cheese, fresh fruits and even beans.

Tomatoes and mangoes go perfectly well together. Sweet, sour and a hint of savory, this easy bruschetta recipe is one of our favorites. We've also



What you'll need to make Mango Bruschetta

added some creamy kesong puti to add a salty bite, too.

It's simple to make, no cooking involved and once

you've put it together, it looks seriously impressive just like the ones served in fancy restaurants. Best eaten with



your fingers, no fork and knife necessary!

- Ashitaba leaves for garnish

Slice baguette and toast with olive oil or butter. Arrange on a serving platter. Top each toasted bread with sliced kesong puti, tomatoes, cubed mangoes. Drizzle with balsamic vinegar and sprinkle generously with salt and pepper. Garnish with Ashitaba leaves. Serve immediately. ([www.philstar.com](http://www.philstar.com))

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## LEGAL NOTES



By Reuben S. Seguritan

**N**on-citizens must not make any false U.S. citizenship claims for any purpose or benefit, whether to obtain a visa, enter the United States, find employment, apply for public benefits, or to register for or vote in an election. A false U.S. citizenship claim carries with it serious consequences which include deportation and a lifetime bar to permanent residency in the U.S.

Before the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act (IIRAIRA) was enacted in September 30, 1996, a false claim to citizen-

## When False Citizenship Claim May Be Excused

ship was a ground for inadmissibility if it was willful and material.

The false claim must have been made to a U.S. consular officer or immigration officer and for the purpose of obtaining an immigration benefit. Misrepresentations made to a private individual, such as an employer, were not covered. A discretionary waiver was available to the foreign national who was found to have misrepresented himself as a U.S. citizen.

Since September 30, 1996, however, a waiver is no longer available to foreign nationals who are found inadmissible for making false U.S. citizenship claims. Once a non-citizen found inadmissible on this ground, he is forever barred from applying for permanent residence.

Also, the false claim is no longer limited to obtaining immigration benefits. An individual found to be misrepresenting himself to be a U.S. citizen "for any purpose or benefit" triggers the permanent bar.

Until recently, there were only two exceptions to the permanent bar. First is when the false citizenship claim was made before September 30, 1996. Under this exception, an undocumented immigrant who upon application for adjustment of status is found to have represented to his employer that he is a U.S. citizen in 1988, for example, may still apply for a discretionary waiver.

The second exception applied to those who made a false claim under a "reasonable belief" that they were in fact U.S. citizens. However, this exception is limited to individuals who became lawful

permanent residents before age 16 and whose parents were both U.S. citizens. This exception is also available in cases of illegal voting, which can be considered another mode of falsely claiming to be a U.S. citizen.

The Department of State (DOS) and Department of Homeland Security (DHS) clarified as to when an adjudicating officer should find a foreign national inadmissible for making false U.S. citizenship claims. They explained that a foreign national may be found inadmissible on this ground only if the false claim was made "knowingly."

Furthermore, the agencies stated that the foreign national may put up an affirmative defense that: one, he was under the age of 18 when he made the false claim and, two, at that time he lacked the capac-

ity to understand the nature and consequences of the false claim. A foreign national who made the false claim may avoid the permanent bar if he can establish these elements clearly and beyond doubt.

The new guidance is directed primarily to individuals under 18 who may have made false claim to U.S. citizenship before they were old enough to discern the consequences of their actions. However, the new policy does not specifically limit its applicability to minors and could even include adult non-citizens who can prove that the false claim to U.S. citizenship was not made "knowingly."

**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](http://www.seguritan.com)

## MAINLAND NEWS

## Filipino Teacher in California in Trouble for Using 'N' Word in Class

**M**ANILA, Philippines—A Filipino teacher in San Bernardino, California was put on administrative leave after a male student accused her of racism.

Speaking to CBS News in a report aired Wednesday, the

unidentified 17-year-old student of Cajon High School claimed his math teacher, Bernadette Yuson, was shifting black students' seating assignments.

District officials confirmed that when the student asked why she was arranging

seats of the African American students, Yuson said the "N" word in front of her class. The "N word" refers to "nigger," a highly offensive term for black people.

"She moved all the black people around," the student said in the report.

San Bernardino District spokesperson Linda Bardere said that the student's complaint was immediately addressed amid reports that he was at first ignored by school officials.

"We can assure the public that the District took the student's complaint seriously and at no time did any District

employee minimize the gravity of the teacher's words," Bardere said in a statement.

The student's mother, however, was not satisfied with the administrative measures taken against Yuson.

"I want her to be fired because she's like getting away from it. I want something done because I don't feel this is right," the parent said. ([www.philstar.com](http://www.philstar.com))

## Noy Bashes GMA Anew at Harvard

**B**OSTON — President Aquino believes his predecessor, former President and now Pampanga Rep. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, is no different from the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos, particularly in "bastardizing" the way government is run.

"Starting in 2001, however, my predecessor, instead of learning the lessons of martial law, seemingly adopted Mr. Marcos' handbook of how to abuse the democratic process," he told students and faculty of Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Govern-

ment here.

Arroyo served as Philippine chief executive for nine years until 2010, the second president to have served an extended term, next only to former president Marcos who was first elected in 1965 until he was ousted by a people power revolt in February 1986.

"At the end of her regime, our people were so apathetic to all the scandals and issues affecting her, and government's inability to effect change, that the overwhelming ambition of so many was to leave the country," Aquino said in a speech at the Insti-

tute of Politics.

This is why, according to him, "an estimated 10 million of our countrymen reside abroad" to work so that they

could send their children to school and build their own house, or simply to improve their lives.

"In 2010, our aspirations were summed up in a campaign slogan: Eliminating

corruption would eliminate poverty. To do so would make right all our systems and institutions that were so wrongly tarnished and abused," said. ([www.philstar.com](http://www.philstar.com))

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## PHILIPPINE LANGUAGE



**DAYASADAS**  
By Pacita Saludes

# Kaaduan Kadagiti Filipino Organisasion Ti Mangitalimodok Ti Gandatna Iti Tradision, Abilidad Ken Kabaelan Ti Puli Tapno Mataginayonda

**K**as iti kalleppas a Maria Clara Ball a rusat ti Filipino Women's Club (FWCC) a tinawen a mangramrabbak ti Maria Clara Ball 43 a tawen itan. Mausar ti arwat daydi Maria Clara a tagtaginayonen, kasta met ti FILIPINO BARONG a kaidasigan ni FILIPINO iti tallaong. Pinadayawan pay daytoy nga organisasion ti WOMAN ICON INSPIRATION - ni Maggie Domingo ti babai a kabayagan pay laeng iti media (radio) ken ti grupo a Philippine Cultural Foundation of Hawaii a nabayagen a mangiwanwanwan ken mangtagtaginayon ti kultura ken tradision.

Daytoy a grupo ti PCFH ti mangsipsiput kadagiti pamilya ken mangpatpatalged ti kinapinet dagiti nagannak nga gpatanor kadagiti annakda babaen ti pannakapili ti

tinawen a PARENTS OF THE YEAR. Mapadayawan dagiti nagannak a makapatan-ay kadagiti patanorda a makaitan-ok iti komonidad ken ditoy America a nakailaokantayo. Dandani amin nga organisasion adda latta gandatna a mangitantan-ok kadagiti Filipino tapno saan a mabibi kadagiti pakailaokanna nga puli.

Maysa pay ti ANNAK TI KAILOKUAN ITI AMERICA (AKA) a nabukel a mangitan-ok kadagiti ILOKANO. Saan laeng a ti pannakapadayaw ngem taginayonenna pay dagiti natan ok, nasirib ken mangitandodo iti nagtaudanda nga puli. Maurnong dagiti nagaupananda, dagiti naserbi nga naa -aramanda babaen ti pannakailibro dagiti gapuananda agraman dagiti natan-ok nga inar-aramidda tapno saan a malipatan ti kaanuman. Maurnongda kadagiti libro a naglaon kadagiti pakasaritaan ti

pamilia ken tattao iti America. Maaramid dagiti libro idiyay Ilokos ket maiwaras kadagiti librarias tapno mainayonda kadagiti mataginayon a pakasaritaan dagiti Ilokano a naglayas iti America.

Dagiti libro a naummon-

gen ti AKA -GUYOD DAGITI RAMUT; TUGOT I ken Tugot II; BALLAIGI TI PULI ken BALLAIGI DAGITI TUGOT. Manarimaan ita a maur-urnos dagiti natatan-ok nga annabo ni Ilokano sa maipenpen iti Keepsake Con-

tainer called "BAUL" in the olden days in Ilokos.

Tulongan dakami a mangurnos kadagiti maiBAUL iti 2015. Awagan ti 808-839-8016. Dios ti Agngina manipud ti DAYASADAS.

## PALAGIP

Keddeng ti Apo ti kaadda tay ditoy  
Akmen a situtulok ti naipakumit  
Amin a nabiag pinarsua ti nailangitan  
Itungpal barsak naikudi nga iringpas

Awan makasanud no isut naipalad  
Inkeddeng ti Dios nga isut barsak  
Anusan akuen itungpal a sikakanatad  
Kasta ti nasingpet natalugod nga inanak

Kinasukir, kinaparammag di umno nga  
ipakat  
Ik-ikutan a salun-at ken sirib inted ti Apo  
Pangsubok kenka ti naikeddeng a gasatmo  
Nga aramatem laeng a sidadalus ken  
sipupudno

Pagsanikuuan ken kinasaririt di pagkarit  
Naipagasat kenka, ikutam a sililinteg  
Aramaten ida a naserbi ken sililinis  
Pakairanudan, kapadpadam kasinsinninged

No ti KRUSMO nalaglag-an ngem dagiti  
dadduma  
Inted ti Apo a pangsuotna kadagiti parsua  
Nawaywayaka a mangsaranay nababantot  
krusna  
No naimpusuan nga isingaymo maysaka a  
SANTA!

## GLOBAL NEWS

### Malaysia BPO Firm Apologizes for Anti-Philippines Ad

**M**ANILA, Philippines — Global business process outsourcing company Aegis Malaysia apologized on Monday night for a viral video advertisement criticizing the Philippines.

The company said it did not approve the contents of the video, which was developed and "uploaded in error" by a Malaysian agency.

"Since acquisition of People Support in 2008, (the) Philippines has been a catalyst for Aegis' growth. We would like to articulate that Aegis has had a wonderful experience in the Philippines -- great clients, great leadership team and above all great employees," the company said in a statement posted on its social media ac-

counts.

"We apologize and regret any communication that may have inadvertently hurt any sentiments," it added.

The Philippine embassy in Kuala Lumpur earlier asked Aegis Malaysia for an explanation about the video, saying it has placed the Philippines in an "unfavorable light."

The video cited the country's poor infrastructure and security issues, among other concerns, to point out that Malaysia is a better investment destination than the Philippines.

The nearly three-minute video, which also presented the Philippines as a disaster-prone country, has gone viral and earned criticisms from netizens. ([www.philstar.com](http://www.philstar.com))

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## COMMUNITY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**CANDONIANS OF HI INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS .**  
**SATURDAY** • September 27, 2014 | Cannery Ballroom | 6:00 PM  
 PM • Contact Bernadette Fajardo at 342-8090

**BIG ISLAND COMMUNITY CELEBRATES FILIPINO AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH WITH A BARRIO FIESTA • SATURDAY** • October 2, 2014 | U.H. Hilo Campus | 10:00 AM-2:00 PM.

**THE KNIGHTS OF RIZAL-HAWAII CHAPTER 4TH DR. JOSE P. RIZAL AWARD FOR PEACE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE GALA • SATURDAY** • October 11, 2014 | Pacific Club | 6:00 PM | Attire is formal or Filipiniana | For reservations and information, contact Sir Arnold Villafuerte at (808) 220-2988 or email at docvillafuerte@yahoo.com, or Sir Jun Colmenares at (808) 838-9775 or email at juncolme@yahoo.com.

**FILIPINO AMERICAN LEAGUE OF ENGINEERS AND ARCHITECTS (FALEA) 21ST ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET & INDUCTION OF OFFICERS & DIRECTORS • SATURDAY** • October 11, 2014 | Pacific Beach Hotel | 6:00 PM | Contact Frank Cruzata @ 228-2394.

**21ST ANNUAL CORONATION BALL, CRUSADER'S OF THE DIVINE CHURCH OF CHRIST PHILIPPINES INC. • SATURDAY** • October 11, 2014 | Hokulei Ballroom @ Dole Cannery-Iwilei | 6:00 PM | Contact: Fely Ishii @ 342-6259.

**OAHU FILIPINO COMMUNITY COUNCIL'S ANNUAL INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS, BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND UNIT MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS PRESIDENT • SUNDAY** • October 12, 2014 | Ala Moana Hotel, Hibiscus Ballroom | 6:00 PM | For details, contact Loida Yamamoto @ 679-9540.

**CONSUL GENERAL GINA JAMORALIN TO SPEAK @ THE U.H. CENTER FOR PHILIPPINE STUDIES ON PHL-U.S. RELATIONS: REFLECTIONS & PERSPECTIVES ON AN ENDURING ALLIANCE • WEDNESDAY** • October 15, 2014 | Tokioka Rm. (Moore Hall 319) | 3:30-6:00 PM | For reservations, please call Clem Montero, 956-6086.

**BULACAN CIRCLE & ASSOCIATES OF HI, REAFFIRMATION OF OFFICERS & DIRECTORS BANQUET & BABY BOOMER'S SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER • SATURDAY** • October 18, 2014 | Pagoda Hotel | 6:00 PM | Contact Angie Santiago @angie6696789@yahoo.com.

**MAUI FIL-AM HERITAGE FESTIVAL® BY MAUI FILIPINO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOUNDATION • SATURDAY** • October 18, 2014 | Maui Mall | 10:00 AM-3:00 PM

**FILIPINO COMMUNITY CENTER'S 12TH ANNUAL BAYANIHAN GALA DINNER • SUNDAY** • October 25, 2014 | Sheraton Waikiki Hotel | 6:00 PM | For details, call FilCom Center at 808-680-0451.

**PASUQUINIO ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII'S INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS & DIRECTORS • SUNDAY** • November 1, 2014 | Pomaikai Ballroom, Dole Cannery | 5:30-10:30 PM | Contact Froebel Garcia at 386-6559 or Dory Villafuerte @ 397-9718 for details.

**MISS PHILIPPINES HAWAII USA PRESENTATION • SATURDAY** • November 22, 2014 | Kalayaan Philippines International, Pacific Beach Hotel | 6:00 PM | For more info, contact Ben Pulido @ 421-9747.

**PASKUHAN SA CONSULADO, A COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION • TUESDAY** • December 16, 2014 | Philippine Consulate Grounds | 5:30-10:30 PM | For more info, call Jeff de Mesa @ 595-6316 to 19 ext. 105.

**FILIPINO ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN (FAUW), PASKO! • SUNDAY** • December 21, 2014 | Honolulu Museum of Arts | 11:00 AM-3:00 PM | FREE Admission courtesy of Bank of Hawaii's monthly family Sunday | For more information, please contact Pepi Nieva at pepinieva@hotmail.com.

**TARLAC MUTUAL CLUB, ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY & CORONATION OF MOTHER OF THE YEAR • SATURDAY** • December 27, 2014 | FilCom Center | 5:00-11:00 PM | Contact Armando Celestino @ 779-2166 for more info.

## GLOBAL NEWS

# Beaten But Unbowed: Lehnert Wows Asiad Crowd



**M**ANILA, Philippines — "Kailangan sakripisyo, yung pakibagay mo rin sa mga tao," says Joy de Asis, when asked about her secret to surviving Madrid.

INCHEON, South Korea — Katharina Melissa Lehnert may have lost her Asian Games debut, but won the admiration of the crowd.

The pretty Fil-German, whose mother Imelda Lung-sod hails from Rosario, La Union, drew loud cheers not only for her pretty looks but also for her gutsy stand against Korea's top player Jang Sujeong before yielding a heartbreaking straight sets loss, 6-3, 7-5, on Sunday at the Yeorumul Tennis Court here.

The 20-year-old Lehnert pushed Jang to the limit in the second set but missed on the

chance to force a deciding third set when she committed a double fault, squandering her advantage with the score tied at 5-all.

"I tried my best here. Sometimes you have to take risks especially she was playing good. Maybe I risked too much," Lehnert said. "But I will learn from this."

The big crowd in the show court really got into the game especially during long rallies which Lehnert won where she flashed her signa-

ture shriek at her opponent.

"I developed that when I turned pro trying to scare my opponent," Lehnert said.

There were high hopes for Lehnert after she won bronze in the singles play and silver in the team event in the last Southeast Asian Games.

Despite losing her Asiad debut, a crowd followed her wherever she went asking for photo-ops and her autograph.

"It's good. I enjoy and I like it here," said Lehnert, not minding the extra attention

she's getting in the tournament.

But Lehnert, who is fast gaining a reputation to be the Philippines' tennis sweetheart for her looks and promising talents, would like to focus on tennis.

"I'm concentrating on tennis. I play professionally in Germany. But I'm open to do modeling (gigs) if a good offer comes along," Lehnert said.

She still has a chance to bring home medal when she competes in the individual event on Wednesday.

After the Asian Games, Lehnert will fly back to Philippines for two days before going back to Germany. ([www.philstar.com](http://www.philstar.com))

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"I will practice [for the 2015 tournaments] and get more muscle," Lehnert said.

She might return to the Philippines later this year if she gets invited to the International Tennis Premier League (ITPL) Manila leg at the end of November where Maria Sharapova, Andy Murray and her Phil national teammate Treat Huey banner the Manila Mavericks team. ([www.philstar.com](http://www.philstar.com))

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