

HAWAII



FILIPINO CHRONICLE

HAWAII'S #1 FILIPINO NEWSPAPER

◆ APRIL 7, 2018 ◆

TODD NACAPUY: FIRST FILIPINO STATE CIO

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EDITORIALS

Success Also Means Helping Others to Succeed

There are many roads that lead to success. Children born into wealth have an edge to succeed. People born from humble origins achieve upward mobility. Some say talent, luck, and being at the right place at the right time, all of these go a long way toward reaching career goals. Cultural upbringing might play a part -- Asians, Indians, Jews, Middle-Eastern Americans -- have all shown remarkable abilities to succeed. Education and skill are the tools to get ahead; but perhaps the main driver of success is hard work.

What is success, anyway? It could be based on a dollar figure or material accumulation. It could be creative achievement as when a lyricist or composer creates a masterpiece or a scientist makes a discovery. It could be living a balanced life, making enough to pay the bills and making time for a healthy lifestyle with family. It could be something more philosophical: that success is being able to go to sleep every night in peace, as the author Paulo Coelho once said. It could also be something less about the self and more about helping people closest to us fulfill their personal or career goals.

Todd Nacapuy, at just 41-years-old, have already lived a lifetime of success. He is the nation's first Filipino to become Chief Information Officer (CIO) of a state, leading Hawaii's Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS). He is an entrepreneur in the restaurant and cookie-making industries. Formerly, he was a major part of building an internet start-up called Cobweb, one of the first e-commerce businesses. He spent 11 years with Microsoft. Success has followed Nacapuy every step of his life.

But what's impressive about this man of many talents is his work ethic. In his youth, he's worked on the sugar plantation and as a stock boy at a grocery store. Today, he arduously heads a division with more than 182 employees that report directly to him and oversees an additional 800 employees.

"It's gratifying for me to help my employees grow professionally. I'm in a position where I can help people move up the career ladder... In the end, I believe the whole community benefits because I am helping to keep local talent here in Hawaii while trying to grow a local IT workforce ecosystem," said Nacapuy. He also mentioned, "I saw one of our entry-level employees grow professionally under our team's guidance and earn a promotion, which trust him two steps up the career path," a kind of career growth Nacapuy encourages among his workers.

One of his IT employees said of Nacapuy: "Todd really cares about making a difference, both in the tech space as well as in his employees' careers. He encourages me to step outside of my comfort zone and take on projects and responsibilities that are geared toward bettering my career."

In other words, success is very much a part of helping others to be successful, too. The idea of paying it forward: helping others along the way, who can return the favor to help yet someone else, is one of the most respectable definitions of success.

Born and raised in the small plantation town Waialua, Nacapuy has come a long way.

The Filipino community already has many role models in medicine, business, education, law and government that successful Filipinos in these fields can no longer be considered pioneers. Nacapuy, as one of only a few Filipinos at the highest level of the technology industry locally, is a true pioneer in our community. Our community, our state, needs more leaders like Nacapuy -- hard-working, innovative, and nurturing. We wish him continued success at the ETS; and look forward to watching his long career. We hope our youth find inspiration in someone like Nacapuy who has accomplished so much by 40; and at the same time, is someone also very mindful of helping others reach their full potential.

Spread the wealth of success. CEO and Founder of Hobby Lobby David Green said it best, "You need an attitude of service.

FROM THE PUBLISHER

Since our inception, one of our missions at the Hawaii Filipino Chronicle has been to bring attention to leaders in our community of Filipino ancestry. We've featured many outstanding individuals in various fields: medicine, government, community service. Of lately, we've also brought attention to the increasing role Filipino Americans have been making in the legal profession.

For our cover story this issue, we are pleased to feature Todd Nacapuy, Chief Information Officer (CIO) of the State of Hawaii's Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS). His story is of particular interest to our community because there hasn't been much reported on high-level leaders of Filipino ancestry in high-technology. Appointed by Gov. David Ige in 2015, Nacapuy is in charge of modernizing Hawaii's aging IT infrastructure. Some of his responsibilities include: IT workforce development, IT governance, enterprise shared services, cybersecurity, IT strategy and systems planning. As the state's top IT employee, he works to ensure from a technological end that government is transparent and efficient. Prior to joining the state, Nacapuy was the senior technical account manager for Microsoft in Hawaii. Nacapuy was born and raised in Waialua, Oahu. We hope his story will inspire youths in our community to chase after their dreams and possibly pursue successful careers in high-technology.

Also, in this issue, HFC columnist Emil Guillermo writes about the historic March for Our Lives that brought nearly a million people to Washington, DC to protest gun violence. The event was massive and included 800 satellite marches around the world. Following the massacre at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High that resulted in 17 deaths, survivors at the high school ignited a movement calling for sane gun restrictions. Emil writes that the movement should also include other gun violence in the country. The totality of gun violence must be addressed as one issue. The recent protest was a powerful exercise of students demanding rights for safer schools and safer communities. NRA-backed politicians should take note that a huge generation of soon-to-be voters will not tolerate the status quo.

HFC columnist Carlota Ader submits a news feature on the new Consul General Joselito Jimeno who recently was welcomed with a reception by Hawaii's Filipino community. HFC columnist Atty. Reuben Seguritan writes an interesting article "Conditional Green Card May Be Terminated Due to Fraud."

Lastly, be sure to read our informative local, mainland and Philippine news sections, including news that Hawaii lawmakers passed a bill to legalize medically assisted death. The bill was signed into law by Gov. David Ige. In other news, get the details on this year's Malunggay Festival and Parade to take place on April 14, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at St Joseph Church in Waipahu.

Thank you for supporting your community newspaper. Until next time, warmest *Aloha* and *Mabuhay!*

Chona A. Montesines-Sonido

You're not just serving yourself. You help others to grow up and you grow with them." This is the kind of attitude towards building success our youth can learn from.

HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

Elections Office Opens Downtown Location

The Office of Elections will open a downtown satellite office on April 3. Candidates seeking elected Federal and State offices may obtain and file a nomination paper at the Leiopapa A Kamehameha Building, Room 203, 235 South Beretania Street.



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EDITORIALS

Kudos to Djou for His Rebuke of Trump

Hawaii's Republican party took a big hit to the gut by the announcement that its most prominent leader, former U.S. Rep. Charles Djou, is leaving the GOP.

While some hardcore Republicans might see Djou's departure as betrayal to the party; it's conceivable that some conservatives see his decision completely understandable given the reason he cites.

Djou wrote in the Civil Beat, "Today after much consideration, I abandon my party because I am unwilling to abandon my principles. I can no longer stand with a Republican Party that is led by a man (President Donald Trump) I firmly believe is taking the party of Lincoln in a direction I fundamentally disagree with, and a party that is unwilling to stand up to him.

"Sadly today, too many Republicans either applaud Trump's tirades or greet them with silent acceptance. This leads to an implicit ratification by the GOP of Trump's undisciplined, uninformed, and unfocused leadership as a core part of the Republican Party. This is something I cannot accept and will not be a part of."

All across the nation, Republicans have been criticized for not objecting to the President's repeated flawed leadership and character. Off the record, some

have expressed dismay; but for the most part, GOP party members have stayed silent often out of self-interest and self-preservation, especially in districts where Trump's agenda is political gospel.

Djou's decision to leave was considerably safer to do in a political climate like Hawaii. But it was a principled move well deserving of respect; nonetheless, and still should be commended. Some might say given Hawaii's multiculturalism and diversity, it's actually a greater burden to remain a Republican in this state under Trump than to abandon the party, as Djou had.

To some Republicans, Djou's action could be looked upon as counterproductive. To them, there is a place for dissent within the GOP; and there ought to be more Republicans like Jeff Flake, John McCain and Bob Corker (Republican Trump critics) fighting within the party and fighting for the party's soul and direction. If it weren't for a few stalwart Republicans offering some resistance, the country could be at greater risk. In the case of the Mueller investigation, as an example, if it weren't for Sen. Lindsay Graham (R) and others waving the threat of impeachment should the President fire Mueller, Trump perhaps would have already done so. If it weren't for a few Republicans advising President Trump to remain in NAFTA for obvious trade benefits, he perhaps would have kept

his campaign promise to leave it by now. Sometimes there is wisdom in advocating for change within any establishment than to simply leave it, which is perhaps why the U.S. remains largely a two-party political system.

At the very least, Djou's bold exit should send a message to Hawaii's GOP leadership that Trump's brand of Republicanism is certainly not the path to go down if it has any chances of turning the state into a legitimate two-party system. A right-wing, racist, anti-immigrant agenda could work in other parts of the country, but it doesn't resound in Hawaii where openness and respect for immigrant culture are valued. The best success Hawaii's GOP has had was with moderate Republicans in the mold of former Governor Linda Lingle. Fielding that kind of candidate while distancing themselves from Trump Republicanism is the obvious optimal direction for Hawaii's GOP.

In the next few years, Americans will continue to witness the civil war within the GOP between Trumpers and traditional conservatives. Recently, Trump has blunted that war slightly and had won favor with traditional conservatives by getting Tax reform passed and firing the poster boy for right-wing radicalism, Steve Bannon. Trump has

accomplished to win the graces of the GOP elite; all the while keeping his base solidly in line. In almost every aspect, Trump appears to be winning the internal GOP battle where the oddly mixed Wall Street financiers, Evangelicals, and White working-class jab and elbow each other under the Republican tent. The freakish power of Trump is not completely spellbinding. Recent special elections show his flawed leadership has moved Independents and some conservatives to vote with the political left in turning traditionally Republican districts into Democrat. While the sampling is too small to be a steady predictor at this point, the likely scenario going forward could be that Trump's right-wing factions could be enough to win primaries over traditional GOP candidates; but fail to garner a majority in general elections. The full impact of the Trump phenomenon will be clearer after this year's mid-term elections.

In local political weather, Djou's exit has created a leadership void from which fringe factions have a chance to fill. We hope the Hawaii-GOP will not

crowd it with former Tea party types-turned Trumpers. But instead, the party ought to move closer to center and split with national Trumpers.

As for Djou's political career, it's plausible that he could have improved his political standing. But his potential for success is greater if he remains an Independent and not join the Democrat party as other Republicans have done. The "opportunist turncoat" label would be too big a stain to wash off in that scenario. Other Republicans lesser in prominence could flip-flop, but as one of the most recognizable leaders in the local GOP for as long as Djou had been, Djou shedding that "R" for "D" would be too disingenuous. It's plausible that many conservative Republicans would still entertain the idea of supporting Djou as an Independent even after his departure from the party given his reason for doing so.

Whatever transpires, Djou has already shown he is a man of character and principle by standing up against Trump's leadership. It's unfortunate that more Republicans aren't doing the same nationally.

HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

Medically Assisted Death Becomes Law

After years of failing to pass Hawaii's State Legislature, lawmakers agreed to pass a bill to legalize medically assisted death for terminally ill patients. Gov. David Ige held a bill signing ceremony on April 5 at the State Capitol, making into law House Bill 2739, the "Our Care, Our Choice Act." The Senate voted 23-2 in favor of the bill.

Legalized assisted death takes effect on January 1, 2019.

Under the bill, a terminally ill adult patient who is mentally competent and has been given six months or less to live can request life-ending medical prescription to be self-administered.

Hawaii became the sixth state to

pass legislation allowing physician-assisted death, joining California, Colorado, Oregon, Vermont and Washington state, along with the District of Columbia.

Critics against medically assisted death have long argued that this basically is suicide and they worry that more people would be prematurely opting for it. They've also argued that hospice and palliative care are already available to terminally ill patients under severe pain.

Medical aid in dying has been a controversial issue for years. About 70 percent of Hawaii residents are in favor of it, believing that with proper safeguards, terminally ill patients should have that option.



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COVER STORY

Sparking Change: Nation's First Filipino State CIO Implements Innovation and Modernization

By Edwin Quinabo



Todd Nacapuy marks three years as the State of Hawaii's Chief Information Officer (CIO) for the Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS) this month. Without a doubt, under his leadership, ETS has moved the needle in modernizing the State using innovative and enterprising tools. However, he said his proudest achievement so far is not one of a technical factor, rather it is of a human factor.

"I saw one of our entry-level employees grow professionally under our team's guidance and earn a promotion, which thrust him two steps up the career path," said Nacapuy, the nation's first state CIO of Filipino ancestry (he's also half Japanese).

"Governor Ige inspired me to manage the careers of my employees," added Nacapuy. "He told me, 'If you give an employee a job, it only gives that employee the ability to work here in Hawaii. If you give an employee a career, it gives them the ability to live here.'"

"With that in mind, I feel that my primary job is to be a people manager and to manage the careers of the individuals who come to work for me."

He said, "It's gratifying for me to help my employees grow professionally. I'm in a position where I can help people move up the career ladder, whether it's within state agencies or the private sector. In the end, I believe the whole community benefits because I am helping to keep local talent here in Hawaii while trying to grow a local IT workforce ecosystem."

"One of the biggest things I like to focus on is creating an environment where it's okay for individuals to fail. I want to create an environment where it's okay for our technical team to try out different technologies, to think outside the box. And the way you're going to get individuals to do that is

making sure they understand that it's okay to fail. If an employee feels that it is not okay to fail, that their career or job may be on the line, then it hinders him/her from being innovative," he explained.

Nacapuy also seeks to inspire employees to become enterprise leaders.

"Todd really cares about making a difference, both in the tech space as well as in his employees' careers. He encourages me to step outside of my comfort zone and take on projects and responsibilities that are geared toward bettering my career. He also instills a combination of confidence and drive that makes you want to make a difference as well," said Darryl Lajola, an IT service delivery specialist with ETS.

"I believe our employees are our greatest asset," said Nacapuy, whose roots hail from Waialua on Oahu's North Shore.

Small Town Kid to E-Commerce

The North Shore was his playground and a place of "business" for the budding entrepreneur. "My friends and I gathered peacock feathers and sold them to businesses at the small strip mall along Kamehameha Highway.

"During the summer, we didn't have lunch money. And I somehow figured out that all I needed to sell was five feathers for a dollar each, which would be enough to buy a plate lunch," he recalls,

nostalgically.

"They didn't grow up rich, money was very tight," said Sharon Nacapuy, Todd's mother, a retired federal government employee.

Todd spent a summer during high school working on the sugar plantation. "That was hard work, under the hot blazing sun. My father thought that was a good way to learn about hard work and manual labor," said Nacapuy, whose father Tony is a retired sugar plantation worker with roots from Bacarra, Ilocos Norte. And, like most Filipinos in Hawaii, Todd's paternal grandfather was a Sakada.

He also gained other work experience before graduation working at the neighborhood store.

"He and his brother (Todd has an identical twin, named Chad) worked as stock boys at the Fujioka store," said Sharon.

So, how does a finance major from Seattle University end up in IT?

He believes the path his career has taken is by a stroke of luck and being at the right place at the right time.

However, his mother believes it was more than luck. "Todd is self-motivated, and driven. He accomplishes what he sets out to do," she said.

Nacapuy's path from finance to IT took a turn with a simple phone call. While participating in a management program at the Boeing company in Washington, a friend called him with a bizarre



Hawaii's Chief Information Officer Todd Nacapuy

proposition.

"He said, 'Hey, I got \$20 million in seed money. Want to come work with me?'"

And so that's how his journey began into the IT world. He joined an internet startup called Cobweb, one of the first e-commerce businesses.

From a small operation, the company grew to a powerful company with a few hundred employees. The company was sold after riding the dot-com wave for six years.

With his successes, he packed his bags, and returned to Hawaii. He spent his time volunteering and mentoring students in the world-renowned robotics program at his alma mater, Waialua High.

"Not only did I feel it was a way for me to give back to my school, but I felt that it was important for me to show students that even a kid from the North Shore can find success," said Nacapuy, who continues to support the program.

He also dabbled a bit in the restaurant and cookie industries, working with restaurateur Hiroshi Kimura to launch Royal Hawaiian Cookies, a gourmet shortbread cookie

line, and help Kimura's Yakiniku Hiroshi restaurant expand.

One day, Microsoft called Nacapuy to become the senior technical account manager responsible for all Premier Commercial services for Microsoft in Hawaii. He spent 11 years in that position before becoming the State's CIO.

Nacapuy has also worked as a senior infrastructure specialist for EDS, an IT systems and technology company that Hewlett-Packard Co. acquired in 2008. At EDS, Nacapuy monitored and optimized the Web services within the Navy and Marine Corps network in the Pacific Ocean. He also led architecture and establishment of a Navy and Marine Corps network with 65,000 users.

"They (Todd and Chad) are polar-opposites and whatever career path they have taken, we are proud of them both," said Sharon.

"Both boys are very smart. That, I could see at an early age. We put them in private school while they were in elementary because we believed that in that environment, they

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COVER STORY

(from page 4, SPARKING...)

would learn good study habits," she explained.

"We always told them that education starts with you," added Sharon.

The strong educational foundation has certainly paid off. At just 41-years-old, he is the head of a division with more than 182 employees that report directly to him and oversees an additional 800 employees.

The CIO for the State of Hawaii and ETS is responsible for, in simple terms, modernizing the State's IT system. According to the ETS website, the office "provides governance for executive branch IT projects and seeks to identify, prioritize and advance innovative initiatives with the greatest potential to increase efficiency, reduce waste, and improve transparency and accountability in state government. ETS also supports the management and operation of all state agencies by providing effective, efficient, coordinated and cost-beneficial computer and telecommunication services such that state program objectives may be achieved."

Initiatives

Appointed by Governor David Ige in 2015, Nacapuy set out his first initiative to consolidate the State's two IT departments, Office of Information Management Technology and the Information and Communication Services Division, and merge them under one umbrella called the Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

"After studying and analyzing the IT resources the State already had, I thought this was a great opportunity to leverage resources to improve and enhance business operations. This reorganization centralized and better synchronized our modernization and workforce development efforts while ensuring continuity of service and security," he explained.

Nacapuy had no prior relationship with Governor Ige and becoming a political appointee is Nacapuy's first experience working in state government. "I wasn't interested in politics; I was more interested and fo-

cused in doing a good job in what I was tasked to undertake, which was to modernize the State's IT infrastructure. However, I've learned that politics is just part of the job," he said.

"Clearly, we had a big agenda, transforming a very antiquated, obsolete core IT infrastructure in state government. I was looking for someone with private sector expertise who could really take the lead in helping us to transform and upgrade our State's IT system. Todd was clearly able to capitalize on the benefits of technology and apply it to our IT infrastructure to ensure that our public servants have the best tools to deliver more with less. He's been very innovative and proactive in moving the State forward," said Gov. David Ige.

One of the biggest reasons he left the private sector was to help transform government.

"Becoming a CIO was never a goal, but the Governor told me the State needed help and I thought this was a great opportunity to change the State of Hawaii," Nacapuy said.

"Taking the job gave me the ability to shape the future of Hawaii and make it better for my son who was yet to be born after a few months I accepted the job. But, it also meant having the ability to create workforce development for people in the tech industry who are living in the mainland and want to come home," said Nacapuy who describes himself as a technical leader and not a managing CIO.

State Senator Glenn Wakai, Chair of the Committee on Economic Development, Tourism and Technology, first met Nacapuy when he was first nominated to be CIO, three years ago. "If we are going to reinvent government, we are going to do so with technology and Todd's leadership. He is the most unconventional bureaucrat in Hawaii," says Wakai, "Todd brings private sector ideas and expectations into government. I call him 'Mr. Excitement' because he offers a dynamic plan for change and delivers on his promises."

"There are CIO's that are technical and there are CIO's

"It's gratifying for me to help my employees grow professionally. I'm in a position where I can help people move up the career ladder, whether it's within state agencies or the private sector. In the end, I believe the whole community benefits because I am helping to keep local talent here in Hawaii while trying to grow a local IT workforce ecosystem." – TODD NACAPUY, STATE OF HAWAII'S CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER (CIO)

who only manage. In my personal opinion, the technical CIO's are the ones that are more successful and are able to accomplish more. In the end, they are the ones who are able to deliver on projects that are on time and on budget," he explains.

One of Nacapuy's other goals was to change the culture of IT workers in Hawaii by ramping up workforce development in IT and creating career pathways for state employees.

Filling IT positions in Hawaii, however, has been challenging. When Nacapuy took the job, there were 37 job openings and filling those positions was no easy task. The pool of candidates was small because of the technical qualifications needed for the job.

Because of the challenges, Nacapuy turned to a modern and progressive platform to recruit employees.

"We found that a lot of folks in IT were not looking to work in state government. So, we chose to use LinkedIn as a marketing tool. Today, we receive 60 plus resumes for every job post that we post on LinkedIn," he explains.

Working with LinkedIn gave ETS the opportunity to re-brand and re-position itself as the premier place to work in IT.

Along with modernizing the State and using modern platforms, a major must-do item was putting all 18 departments on one email system. "Before I arrived, email users were on nine different systems. In six months, we migrated 12-thousand people to Microsoft Office 365, a modern platform which includes tools that allow employees to work more efficiently."

Uncharted Territory

For the first time in the State, a digital signature service was launched across departments statewide within the executive branch. ESign Service allows employees to sign documents electronically, giving users the ability to sign documents remotely and on the road. Since eSign was launched, there has been more than 344,000 transactions.

"The return on investment using eSign is significant. Not only do we save time in manual processes with this digital tool, we save money through associated savings in the use of paper and ink.

"Documents are tracked and secured while in transit. Someone can find out where his or her document is and call where it's held up," he explained.

It's also great for the envi-

ronment – more than 107,000 pounds of water, 9,000 pounds of waste, and 35,000 pounds of wood are saved.

Earlier this year, ETS launched its IT roadmap -- the first of its kind in the nation. It tracks more than 400 IT projects, accounting for nearly half a billion dollars in IT spent yearly. The roadmap visually shows and tracks where each IT project is, whether it hasn't started yet, whether it's behind, on track or ahead of schedule and completed. The roadmap is accessible to the public and can be found on the ETS website.

"When I first looked at this project, it was viewed as an impossible task. It would take a lot of time to develop and understand the details and intricacies of each state department's information. But with coordination and cooperation with the executive branch departments and agencies, we began building the statewide IT Strategic Roadmap and completed it in a year.

"I am most proud of the IT roadmap project because it represents many values.

We know who's accountable for it, the timeline for these projects, which are on time and on budget. It creates a level of transparency that has never been seen within our

(continued on page 6)

A POPULAR RESTAURANT IS FOR SALE

An authentic Filipino restaurant near the Kahului airport is for sale.

A popular spot for tourists as well as local people.

Owners want to retire.



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HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

HIFF To Feature Filipino Food Documentary

ULAM: MAIN DISH, a documentary film directed by Alexandra Cuerdo, will be showing on April 10, 6 p.m. at Dole Cannery C and April 11, 4 p.m. at Dole Cannery A, as part of the Honolulu International Film Festival (HIFF) Spring Showcase.

ULAM: MAIN DISH

stages this new culinary movement as not only a remarkable achievement for American restaurateurs, but also as a validation of Filipino culture. The film confronts issues inherent in representing both Filipino and American identity, and challenges from both the Filipino community and the world at large. Ultimately, ULAM is a

celebration — and confirmation — that Filipino food, and Filipinos, are here to stay.

“Could it be that Filipino food, the underdog of Asian cuisines, is having its moment at last?” says the New York Times.

The chefs featured in ULAM: MAIN DISH come from all walks of life — from Michelin-starred line cooks to

high school dropouts, successful restaurateurs to first time shop owners. All are highly acclaimed by critics and customers alike, all trailblazers in the Filipino food movement. Through a series of one-on-one interviews, the film delves into their histories, asking about their families, where they’re from, who they are,

what made them. We look at their stories, their sacrifices and what it takes to run a successful restaurant in two of the most competitive markets in the world: New York and Los Angeles.

Tickets can be purchased at the HIFF Box Office or online at HIFF.org. HIFF Box Office: April 6th - 15th Regal Dole Cannery Stadium 18 & IMAX Foyer 735 Iwilei Road.

Nominations Sought for 2018 Gintong Pamana Leadership Award

KAHULUI-- The Maui Filipino Chamber of Commerce is accepting nominations for the 2018 Gintong Pamana Leadership Awards to recognize members of the Maui Filipino community with outstanding achievements, demonstrations of leadership, professional excellence, or serv-

ice to the community.

Awardees will be honored at the Gintong Pamana Leadership & Scholarship Awards banquet on Wednesday, June 13th, 5:30 p.m. at the Maui Beach Hotel. The nomination form is available online at www.maui-filipino-chamber.com/gintongpamana or by calling Jeana Gamboa at (808) 419-4090. Deadline for sub-

mission is April 10, 2018. Admission and dinner costs \$65 per person. For inquiries, contact Elsa Segal at (808) 276-6946 or Jeanice Paa at (808) 357-2303. Nominations must be postmarked by April 10th, mailed to Maui Filipino Chamber of Commerce at P.O. Box 331033, Kahului, HI 96733 or emailed to mauifilipinocc@gmail.com.

COVER STORY (from page 5, SPARKING....)

state government,” explains Nacapuy.

“We needed a visual tool that allows employees see where we’re going and what their overall goals are.

“It provides a strategic, structured manner of governing changes. It changes the way the State does business, making it the most efficient and transparent in the country. The roadmap allows all businesses to see what kind of projects are on the horizon and see if they are interested in doing business with the state.”

Hawaii’s IT Future

“My hope is that Hawaii’s

IT workers will be paid the same as their mainland counterparts. There’s such a huge disparity in salary,” he said.

He believes that the goal to pay State IT workers more is attainable by investing more in employees.

“When I first started in the State, \$2 million were spent each month on consultants; and sometimes consultants were hired to manage other consultants. If the right talent is recruited to do the work and they are paid a higher salary, the return on investment will justify the salaries,” he explained.

According to the National Association of State Chief In-

formation Officers (NASCIO), the average tenure of a public sector CIO is 20 months. “This is partially because, in most states, the CIO is an appointed position, meaning state CIOs typically lose their job when there’s a change in power,” NASCIO explained.

At three years as the State of Hawaii’s CIO, Nacapuy has already exceeded the average tenure of state CIOs.

“There’s still a tremendous task ahead to modernize Hawaii’s aging IT infrastructure,” he said. “My focus is doing the work, continue to be innovative and bring the State into the 21st century.”

New Appointment System for Consular Outreach Missions

Beginning May 2018, all passport applications for consular outreach missions will be on a per-appointment basis, announced the Philippine Consulate General. The appointment system is free of charge for applicants. Applicants can register online for select passport services.

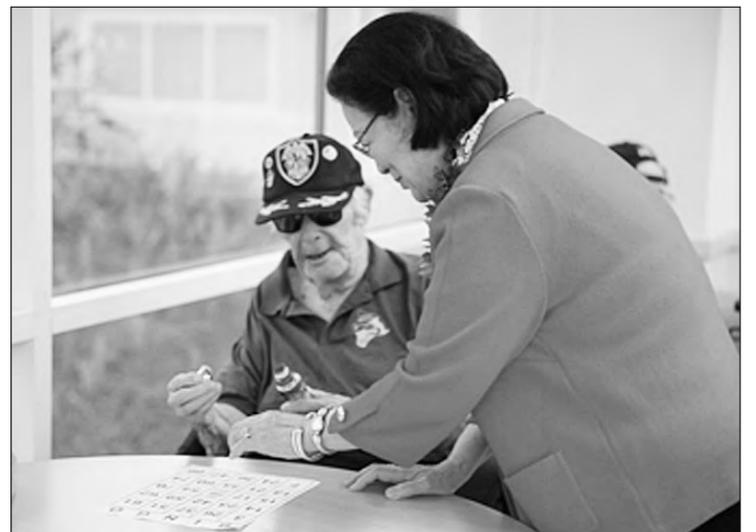
Once applicants register their appointment online, they will receive an automatically generated confirmation email which would include the date and time of their requested appointment, general guidelines, passport requirements and information where to download the applications forms.

For passport applications in Honolulu, the Philippine Consulate will continue to serve the public on a first-come-first-serve basis.



PICTORIAL NEWS

Bill to Continue Adult Day Health Care Services



HILO—Senator Mazie K. Hirono met with staff and residents at the Yukio Okutsu State Veterans Home to discuss her recently passed legislation, the State Veterans Home Adult Day Health Care Improvement Act, and how it will affect the facility’s ability to continue adult day health care services for service-connected severely disabled veterans. “The Yukio Okutsu State Veterans Home adult day health care program provides comprehensive services from medical care to recreational activities for veterans,” Senator Hirono said. “The passage of the State Veterans Home Adult Day Health Care Improvement Act will provide for greater reimbursement through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs so this program can continue as part of a range of health care options for Hawaii veterans and their families.” In the photo: Senator Hirono and Eugene Penrose participate in a bingo game at the Yukio Okutsu State Veterans Home.

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HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

Celebrate Filipino Culture at the Malunggay Festival and Parade

The public is welcomed to join a festive day of Filipino culture, food, and entertainment at the Malunggay Festival and Parade on April 14, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at St. Joseph Church in Waipahu. Admission and parking are free. Organizers say it is a great family event.

Attendees will also have a chance to win a round-trip ticket to either Las Vegas or the Philippines, depending

on what the winner chooses.

This year the committee has chosen an Honorary Miss Malunggay 2018, Noelani Pagaduan Dela Cruz, daughter of Noelito and Jinky Dela Cruz. She hails from Waipahu High School's class of 2017, graduated Cum Laude with STEM Honors. Noelani is currently attending Chaminda University, majoring in Biology. She hopes of becoming a pediatrician. She loves to play the piano and



sing, especially for St. Joseph's AGAPE Ministry's Disciples of Christ Choir.

Some of the entertainers slated to perform are

AGAPE Hip Hop Dance Crew, Jan Luna's Voice and Musical Academy, Maria Aquino Alexander Vocal Students, Malunggay Sere-

naders, Noelani Dela Cruz, Miss Malunggay 2018, Lantayao Filipino School of Martial Arts, The Fil-Am Star Band (featuring Stacie Kuulei, Maria Aquino Alexander, Heather Kawainui, former members of Society of Seven and Honolulu the Band), and Little Miss Malunggay Pageant Contestants.

To keep updated on the event, visit Facebook page @malunggayfesthi and on Instagram @malunggayfesthi.

HS Girls Invited to Apply for the 2018 Women's STARS Program

Hilo-Hawaii high school girls are welcomed to apply to the Pacific International Space Center for Exploration Systems (PISCES) 2018 Women's STARS (Stem Aerospace Research Scholars) Program. Held every summer, this week-long summer intensive aims to encourage more young women to pursue careers and studies in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) by exposing them to the lives and work of successful female scientists, engineers and educators.

Sponsored by the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation (HTDC), the

2018 STARS Program will feature a variety of guest speakers spanning the fields of Polynesian navigation, astronomy, geology, engineering, marine science and planetary science. Students will be engaged with hands-on workshops in robotics and conduct a mock-Mars mission with the PISCES planetary rover, "Helelani." Participants will also be led on a series of behind-the-scenes tours exploring some of Hawaii Island's world-class scientific research facilities, including the USGS Hawaiian Volcanoes Observatory, PISCES planetary analog sites, and several Maunakea observatories.

Twelve students will be selected to participate in the program, which will be held from July 9 to 13, 2018. There is no fee to attend STARS and all meals, transportation and overnight accommodations will be provided. Students must meet the following requirements to apply: Female, 16 years or older; Attend a Hawaii high school or be home-schooled in the state; Maintain a GPA of 3.0 or higher; Be in good physical health.

Interested students may download an application and related forms for submission at: www.pacificspacecenter.com/2018-stars-program. The deadline to apply is June 15, 2018.

Philippine Consulate Warns of Fraudulent Export Company

The Consulate General of the Philippines in Honolulu issued an advisory against fraudulent export companies. The Consulate says the Philippine Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) has traced Shin Premier International Merchant/Shin Group of Companies to be engaged in advanced payment scams. Operated by Yeng Rachel Shin and John Chow Shin, the said company has been offering several products for exportation in its website. The company also goes by Shin International Export Company, Shin Pulp Papers Supply, Fushin International Enterprise, Sheen Papel and Shin Grupo de Empresa.

For verification of Philippine companies, foreign buyers are encouraged to contact the DTI's Export Marketing Bureau at exponet@dti.gov.ph or call (+632) 465 3300 local 110 or 106.

PICTORIAL NEWS

Honolulu Honors Iglesia Ni Cristo for Public Service



The Council of the City and County of Honolulu presented a certificate of recognition to Iglesia Ni Cristo (INC or Church of Christ) on March 28 for the international religious organization's humanitarian work and public service in the State of Hawaii and throughout the world. Members of the INC in Hawaii recently held a Beach Clean Up on Mar. 18 at Maili Beach, and in February held an INC Giving Project and Evangelical Mission at Kapolei Regional Park. Congregations have partnered with local organizations for large-scale food and blood donations. Events such as these have spanned the last 50 years of the Church's history on the islands. Brother Rey M. de Mesa, District Minister of the 19 Hawaii-Pacific INC congregations, accepted the certificate. On May 6, INC will participate in the Worldwide Walk to Fight Poverty at Ala Moana Beach Park.

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Bonding with Balikbayans

HEART & MIND by Paulynn Sicam

Of my high school graduating class of 59 students, over half left for parts abroad after college. They left the country to pursue graduate studies, join their immigrant families who had gone ahead, or follow their boyfriends to get married abroad. Some fled after the break-up of a bad marriage. For whatever reason, they flourished in their new environments. Many became professionals, some remained single, and most raised their families either alone or in a marriage.

I was tasked to edit my class yearbook when we observed the golden jubilee of our high school graduation six years ago. Each of us was required to write about herself and what has happened in her life since high school. Most of my classmates obliged so there

was a write-up on every one. If the person was dead or could not be found, we researched her life and came up with something.

The stories of people I've known for over half a century were impressive, some of which have remained with me. I learned that my shy seatmate in first year high school who hardly spoke, is a specialist in neonatology in the United States. One was a psychiatrist who worked with the Navajo Indians in Arizona. The craziest girl in class became the no-nonsense finance manager of a missile systems company who helped integrate the financial systems, budgeting, forecasting and financial planning when it entered into multibillion dollar mergers. Someone who took up secretarial in college became a software engineer in Silicon Valley. A classmate's handiwork as a tile maker – the



Magnificat in Tagalog -- is enshrined in the Church of the Visitation in Ein Karem near Jerusalem.

And so on.

Many classmates have come home for special events — the passing of their parents and other relatives, a family reunion, a class homecoming, or simply as tourists getting re-acquainted with the motherland. Invariably, the classmates get together for a meal or two, a road trip, or line dancing. Invariably, the gatherings are filled with laughter and memories of times past.

They have come home for our silver jubilee in 1992, our coral anniversary in 2007, our golden in 2017 and various other milestones in between that the class likes to celebrate. Each time, they have added to the excitement of class reunions, and enriched our memory banks.

But each time, there are less of us, which makes more urgent the need to bond and hold each other close.

I have always looked forward to seeing my small group of intimates among my classmates and I considered the

presence of others a welcome bonus. While I knew their stories, having edited them for the yearbook, my interest in them was, shall we say, journalistic. Until I attended a lunch in honor of a visiting classmate who I had not seen since high school graduation. She was home for a family emergency. Amid the noise of women getting together, she gently reached across the table and said that I was sad. I had had a hard week and she saw right through me. She was not in my close circle in school, but here she was, someone I hadn't seen in decades, reading me so accurately and sensitively. We have become close confidantes since.

I am sure there are other gems to discover among my classmates, if given the opportunity to reach out and touch.

Many balikbayan classmates come during the first quarter of the year as "snow birds" escaping from the bitter cold in the West for the balmy winds of the Philippines' tropical "winter." It is also the time

(continued on page 12)

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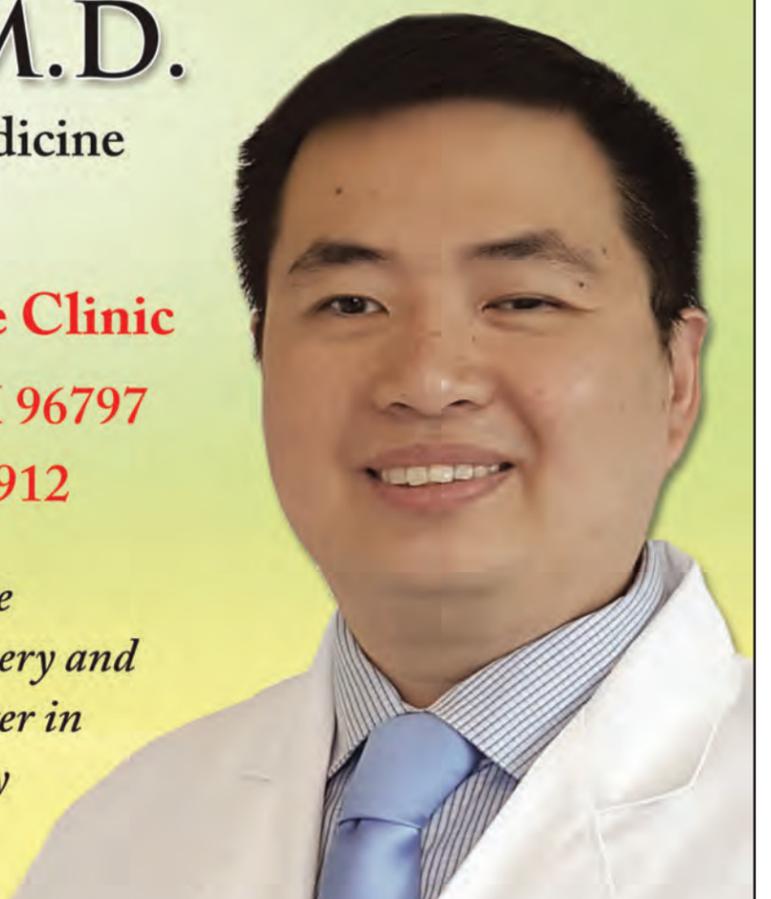
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Dr. Jon Avery Go is a Magna Cum Laude graduate of the University of Santo Tomas Faculty of Medicine and Surgery and underwent training at the Roger Williams Medical Center in Providence, RI which is affiliated with Boston University School of Medicine.



NEWS FEATURE

HAWAII WELCOMES NEW CONSUL GENERAL JOSELITO JIMENO

by Carlota Ader

Hawaii's Filipino community held a warm welcoming reception for the new consul General Joselito A. Jimeno and his wife at the Philippine Consulate General Honolulu on March 23, 2018.

Jimeno said an assignment in Hawaii is highly coveted by many Philippine diplomats.

"Hawaii is a wonderful state. The picturesque topography, weather and friendly attitude of the people are the envy of my colleagues," he said. "Together with my staff, I look forward to meeting and working with all of you during my stint here in Honolulu."

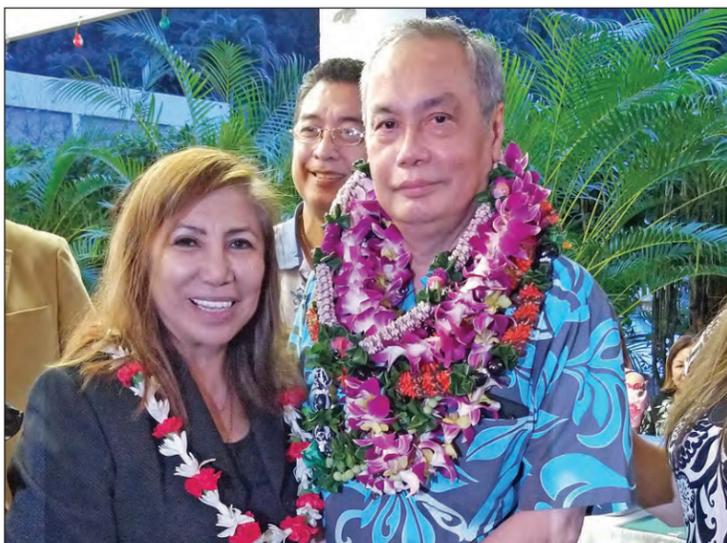
Over 300 guests greeted the new consul general, including state senators, State Rep. Ty Cullen, Honolulu City Council Chair Ernie Martin, and Councilmember Kymberly Marcos Pine. Leaders

from 25 Filipino civic groups also welcomed Jimeno.

As the Philippine government's chief executive in Hawaii, Jimeno's mission is to lead the Consulate staff in advancing the interests of the Philippines and protecting the welfare of Filipinos residing in Hawaii and American Samoa. He also will focus on strengthening cooperation in the areas of national and political security, culture, and education.

"We need to harness the energy and resources of the Filipino community for the greater good and to make Filipinos politically unified, and to be a positive economic force in Hawaii."

Jimeno's priorities as consul general include promoting foreign investment to the Philippines and helping to facilitate trade and commerce between the Philippines and Hawaii. He also is spearhead-



Writer Carlota Ader with Consul General Joselito A. Jimeno

ing efforts to renovate the Consulate and building a chancery to better serve the needs of the Filipino Community.

"This building symbolizes the sweat, blood, and tears of the first Filipino immigrants to Hawaii. We will be making major improvements to this property to invoke a sense of pride for all Filipinos in Hawaii," said Jimeno.

Froebel Garcia, newly installed president of Gumil Hawaii supports the planned expansion of the Consulate.

"The consul general wants more participation from the over 200 Filipino organizations in Hawaii whenever there are community events held at the Consulate," said Garcia. "I admire him for his great vision."

Another in the audience

impressed with Jimeno, includes Al Gapuz, newly-elected president of Pillars of Bangui.

"We felt an immediate connection and camaraderie with him because of his pleasant and ambitious initiatives," said Gapuz. "He came across as someone who is warm, friendly, and approachable."

Jimeno talked about his roots in Manila.

"There are a lot of Filipinos in Hawaii who are originally from Manila so it's good to have that connection," said Maggie Domingo, president emeritus of the Philippine Cultural Foundation. "He really connected with us and we accept him as one of our own."

Jimeno officially assumed his duties on February 1st, but has since hit the ground running. He has already met with visiting Philippine military officers, the Philippine media and local Filipino students, along with Gov. David Ige and Hawaii military officials.

The Philippine Consulate has already sponsored two

(continued on page 10)

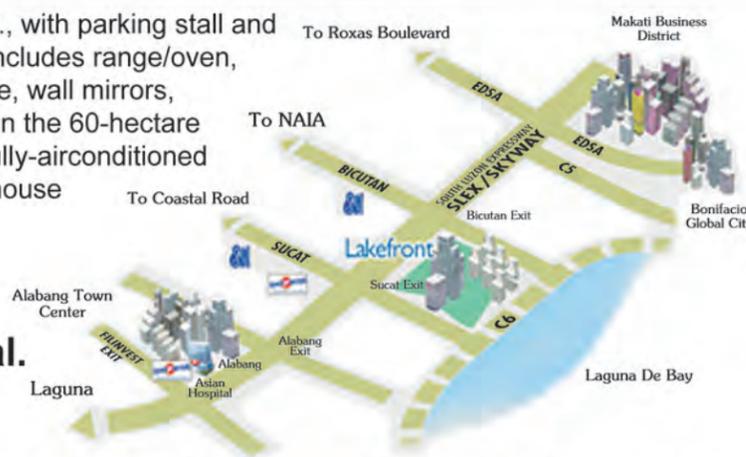
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PHILIPPINE NEWS

Magazine Names De Lima among Southeast Asia's Women to Watch

by Audrey Morallo
Thursday, March 29, 2018

MANILA, Philippines — Detained Sen. Leila De Lima is among Southeast Asia's women to watch, an Asia-Pacific magazine says.

According to The Diplomat magazine, De Lima's refusal to stay quiet despite being incarcerated is an important message that there was a "robust resistance" determined to make the Philippines safe despite the massive popularity of President Rodrigo Duterte.

"She has continued her fight against the Duterte administration from behind bars and inspired progressive Filipinos and international human rights activists alike, including Pope Francis," Erin Cook of the Tokyo-based The Diplomat wrote.

The Palace has been quick to counter criticism of De Lima's detention, stressing she is in detention on drug charges and not her principles.

"Her refusal to stay quiet is an important message often obscured that while Duterte continues to enjoy high polling and support in the country, there is a

robust resistance determined to make the Philippines safe," Cook said.

De Lima is currently detained in Camp Crame, the headquarters of the Philippine National Police on drug-related charges.

She is accused of abetting the trade of illegal drugs in the National Bilibid Prison during her time as Justice secretary in the previous Aquino administration and using narcotics money to fund her successful senatorial candidacy.

The senator and her supporters claim that the cases filed against her are trumped up and

are meant to intimidate and silence her as she has been a thorn in the side of Duterte and his illegal drugs crackdown.

De Lima has led probes into alleged extrajudicial killings under Duterte during his time as Davao City mayor and now that he is the Philippine leader. Prior to her arrest, she was ousted as chair of a Senate panel holding hearings on the killings.

"In a particularly vicious and misogynistic series of attacks, de Lima was accused by Duterte and his sup-

porters of being engaged in sexual affairs and importing drugs and arms into the country," Cook said in her article.

Phelime Kine, deputy director of the Asian Division of Human Rights Watch, described the recognition as well deserved.

(www.philstar.com)

6,400 Displaced Residents to Go Home as Mayon Activity Declines

by Kristine Joy Patag
Thursday, March 29, 2018

MANILA, Philippines — Around 6,400 evacuees are expected to return to their homes after the alert level for Mayon Volcano was lowered to Level 2, the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council said on Thursday.

Mina Marasigan, NDRMMC spokesperson, said in a message to reporters that the council is expecting "a good majority (of evacuees) to decamp today."

She said that according to NDRMMC protocol, Alert Level 2 means those who had to evacuate their

homes can go back.

"We are expecting more than 6,400 individuals to go back to their homes now," Marasigan added.

This comes following the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology report lowering the alert level and signifying the cessation of eruptive activity and a decline of unrest to moderate level.

The country's volcanology agency said that after monitoring regular episodes of volcanic activities, Mayon has calmed down for the past two weeks. No new lava has been detected on Mayon's summit center.

The Phivolcs, however, stressed that while the alert level was down-

graded from Level 3 to 2, this does not mean that Mayon's unrest has ceased.

"The public is still reminded to avoid entry into the 6-km Permanent Danger Zone due to perennial hazards of rockfalls, avalanche, ash puffs and sudden steam-driven or phreatic eruptions at the summit area," volcanologists said.

According to the data of the NDRMMC, there are around 1,630 families currently seeking shelter in evacuation centers.

Mayon's 52nd eruption in about 400 years displaced thousands of people after it started spewing lava, ash and pyroclastic material last January.

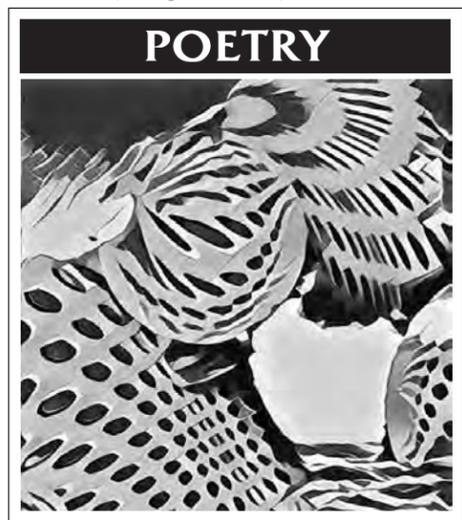
(www.philstar.com)

NEWS FEATURE (from page 9, HAWAII....)

outreach missions to Kauai in February and American Samoa earlier this month. Staff provided assistance with passport renewal, birth, marriage, notarial and dual citizenship services, and overseas absentee voter registration.

Jimeno has nearly three decades of foreign diplomatic experience, having served as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary for Philippine Embassies in Berne, Switzerland (2015-2018) and Muscat, Oman (2011-2013); Consulate General in Guangzhou, China (2009-2011) and Consul General in Moscow, Russia (2007-2009). He has also held various posts at Philippine Embassies in Washington, DC, New York, and Berlin, and at the Department of Foreign Affairs in Manila.

The reception was organized by the Philippine Celebration Coordinating Committee of Hawaii (PCCCH), assisted by Rev. Joe Lazo and Tina Lazo and various community leaders. Food was in abundance and included four lechon and various delicacies donated by Flora Pasion, Henry and Lina Calderon, Manny Puga, Marina Pacobas, Cecilia Villafuerte, Mylene Reyes, Rose Galanto and PCCCH.



POETRY

"Regrets"

Art & Poetry by Matthew Mettias

My dear,
Regrets.
I have a couple of those.

They grow on me
And rip the petals
From my ill-designed
Wilted rose

My dear,
Regrets.
The Almighty of mankind
Has refused to claim
Me to his Divine,
To Him, I am but a hopeless child
Forever lost.
Forever blind.

My dear,
Regrets.
And time
He
And She
Respectively
Are my nemeses
That slowly
Pluck the
Rotten fruit
From my
Dying tree.

My dear,
Regrets.
I have a couple of those.
Now double that
And double it again.
And again.
And again.
And again...



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CANDID PERSPECTIVES

Thinking About Guns, the March, and Stormy Daniels



By Emil Guillermo

Hawaii knows the shape of water. It's all around you.

But if you don't know the movie yet go see it. It may not be in as many screens as "Black Panther."

Happy Easter to everyone. Isn't it odd, that in one of the most religious times of the year, we have one of the most sordid stories in the news: the realization that democracy has elected a scoundrel to lead our country.

Donald Trump has met his Waterloo of sorts. As David Dennison, the double DD alias of the president, Trump was behind a \$130,000 payment made to a 36DD, Stormy Daniels.

Can Trump resurrect his presidency? As moral leader of the free world? He'll be lucky if his marriage survives.

But while the news is stormy, let's note another awakening---that of student protest.

If you were in Washington, DC, or stayed in Hawaii to watch it on TV, then you know, the youth march was an historic landmark.

If you thought your voice doesn't count, use the youth as your inspiration. Under age, dismissed as kids, they turned heads on march day. Nearly a million in DC with 800 satellite marches around the world? This is not just a moment. This is a movement.

And that's where the real hope lies. This isn't about Trump wanting to arm teachers. Nor can the stone-cold NRA hope everyone forgets Parkland.

No one is going to forget. But if the marchers want to see real change, they must realize this isn't just about fighting school shootings in

Florida.

This is about leveraging that tragedy in order to give real hope to everyone who aches for a solution to senseless gun violence in America.

That means connecting the dots, the bullet holes through America that come out of the insanity of gun proliferation in this country.

It means connecting the Parkland victims to Stephon Clark, 22, an African American father of two, gunned down last week in Sacramento. It's seeing how both are connected to Stephen Guillermo, 26, my cousin, a Filipino immigrant gunned down four years ago in San Francisco when he entered the wrong apartment by mistake.

Both Stephen and Stephon were unarmed.

They didn't have to die. They shouldn't see justice die with them.

But in a gun-oriented, "shoot first, ask questions later" culture, too often the brutal logic of self-defense wins out.

Gun violence is tolerated. Innocents are killed.

In the case of Clark, the investigation continues with the police officers involved on leave with pay.

A week ago Sunday, Sacramento police thought they had cornered a vandalism suspect.

Perhaps by now, you've seen the night-scoped helicopter aerial shots of the South Sacramento incident on television news. On the ground, body cam footage caught the police closing in on Clark, believed to be the suspect, in his grandmother's back yard.

Police yell, "Hey, show me your hands. Stop. Stop."

Another officer yells, "Gun, gun, gun."

Within seconds, two officers opened fire in the dark with 20 rounds of bullets that hit Clark immediately.

Overkill?

"The officers believed the suspect was pointing a firearm at them," according to a police news release. "Fearing for their safety, the officers fired their duty weapons, striking the suspect multiple times."

Enough truth for the lawyers.

But as I mentioned, Clark was unarmed and held only his iPhone.

What really happened we may never know, especially since the police muted their body cams at one point during the aftermath. And now the best witness is dead.

But consider this: If guns were not readily available, the police would have no reason to assume that any suspect would be armed. Even before they cornered Clark, all they knew is a suspect possibly had some kind of crowbar to smash windows. Not a gun.

Did I mention, Clark had just an iPhone?

I used to question whether my iPhone 6-Plus, made to look even larger with its oversized black case, appeared to be gunlike. Now I know a person of color with an oversized iPhone needs to be wary.

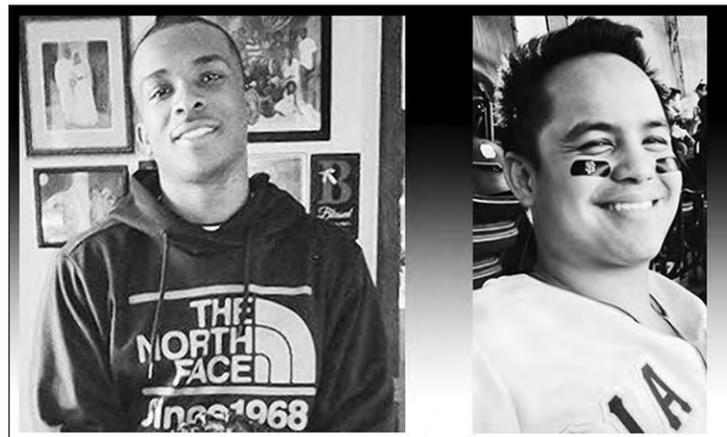
S T E P H E N GUILLERMO'S DEATH

I feel for the family of Clark because I know how the self-defense laws can work against an innocent person.

I saw it in my cousin's case. He too was unarmed. But his incident didn't involve police.

Stephen entered his five-story apartment building on Mission Street in San Francisco after a night of drinking. But instead of getting off the elevator on the 5th floor, he got off on the third.

All the floors and doors look alike when you're inebriated. But when Stephen, all 5 feet-4 inches of him, entered the wrong apartment, he didn't deserve a bullet to the



Stephon Clark

Stephen Guillermo

chest.

Stephen didn't break in. If anything, he was let in. The 68-year-old resident, a retired security guard, knew the laws. But instead of saying, "Wrong apartment, get out of here," or something more civil, the man shot to kill.

Unfortunately for my cousin, the law allows it if an "intruder" is in your home. It's called the "Castle Doctrine," and it's pretty much a free shot.

The suspect was held for three days, but then the SF District Attorney refused to press charges. No manslaughter. Not even a misdemeanor. For taking a life with a gun, the killer is free.

There is no recourse against a gunman who shoots to kill by mistake. An innocent man dies? Tough luck. Besides, it's two poor people

in a San Francisco tenement.

Who cares about them, right?

What gives the Clark family some hope is that their case involves the police who are supposed to be accountable to the public for their actions. Twenty bullets pumped into an unarmed man?

I don't know if authorities will prosecute in Sacramento County, but these are the kind of gun cases that fall through the cracks.

If you march for Parkland and the 17 at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High, make sure you don't forget the other innocents who die from senseless gun deaths all the time.

Time to connect the dots of our bullet ridden country.

This weekend, we recall an Asian American, Peter

(continued on page 14)



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PHILIPPINE NEWS

Lorenzana: Leader's Surrender Could Lead to Abu Sayyaf Collapse

by Audrey Morallo
Thursday, March 29, 2018

MANILA, Philippines — The surrender of an Abu Sayyaf subleader and his followers notorious for bombings and other atrocities could lead to the eventual collapses of the bandit group, Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana said on Thursday.

Lorenzana said that the surrender of Abu Sayyaf subleader Nhurhassan Jamiri, who was the overall commander of the group operating in Tuburan, Albarka, Tipo-Tipo, Akbar, Mohamad Adjul and Lamitan

City, could hopefully lead to the restoration of peace and order in Basilan and bring justice to their victims.

"The surrender of notorious Abu Sayyaf leader Nhurhassan Jamiri and his entire group after successful negotiations and military operations, will hopefully bring the eventual collapse of the ASG in Basilan," the Defense chief said.

The news of Jamiri and his group's surrender was relayed to Lorenzana by Lt. Gen. Carlito Galvez, the commander of the military's Western Mindanao Command, on Wednesday.

Jamiri and 13 of his followers surrendered to the sol-

diers of Joint Task Force Basilan composed of the 3rd Scout Ranger Battalion, 8th and 9th Scout Ranger Companies, 104th Infantry Brigade, 74th Infantry Battalion and 14th LAC.

Jamiri's group also yielded seven M16 rifles, an M4 carbine, an M653 rifle, an M14 rifle, 40 assorted ammunition magazines, 651 pieces of live ammunition, an MK52 fragmentation grenade and eight bandoliers.

The Abu Sayyaf militants were then escorted by soldiers to the headquarters of the 9th Scout Ranger Company and the 104th Brigade in Tabiawan, Isabela City, according to Brig. Gen. Juvymax Uy, the commander of Joint Task Force Basilan.

Uy said that the bandits were already undergoing custodial debriefing and that the military was already coordinating with police for the necessary

legal procedure.

"This surrender only proves that with the president's strategic guidance, our relentless offensives on the ground and our diplomatic approach are effective in defeating the Abu Sayyaf bandits and in addressing the internal aggression in ZamBaSuLTa area," Galvez said, adding that this surrender would lead other commanders of the group to also yield in the coming days.

Jamiri gained notoriety for carrying out the 2002 bombing of Fort Pilar in Zamboanga City, the 2007 ambush of the personnel of the Marines in Albarka and the 2001 Lamitan siege.

They also launched IED attacks in Isabela, Lamitan and Zamboanga as well as kidnapping and extortion activities in Basilan.

His group also hosted Abu Sayyaf members from Sulu who conducted seajacking and

kidnapping of Vietnamese vessels and sailors.

The surrender of Jamiri and his followers brought to 216 the total number of bandits who had surrendered since the start of this year.

President Rodrigo Duterte visited Sulu on Monday and stressed that militants who would surrender would be given another chance.

"All those who want to surrender are welcome but those who want to fight, know that the government is ready," said Duterte, who previously said that he could eat the organs of Abu Sayyaf members raw.

After Duterte's visit, several Abu Sayyaf bandits surrendered and yielded several firearms.

"We hope this will continue to gain momentum in order to achieve peace without any bloodshed," Lorenzana said. (www.philstar.com)

HEALTH & FAMILY (from page 8, BONDING....)

when our school observes its annual alumnae homecoming and their presence makes such reunions more fun and meaningful.

Retired and living on pensions and savings, they are out for pleasure and adventure. A few have bought condos in Manila where they live part of the year. Line dancing at retro clubs is a favorite activity. There are those who chase golf balls in country clubs, while some come as medical tourists availing of cheaper dental, dermatological and other services. Others make Manila the take-off point for discovering the rest of the country and the Asian region. There is also the element of volunteerism in medical missions that brings them home.

Thanks to a class that insists on getting together as often as possible, and the balikbayans' willingness to travel, I have gotten to know more of my classmates better over the years. I treasure the time we have left as septuagenarians. Some classmates are already talking about the grandest reunion ever when we observe 60 years out of high school in 2022.

Hopefully, the balikbayans can still fly. As for me, I will be there, either in person or in spirit. (www.philstar.com)

CROSSWORD by Carlito Lalicon

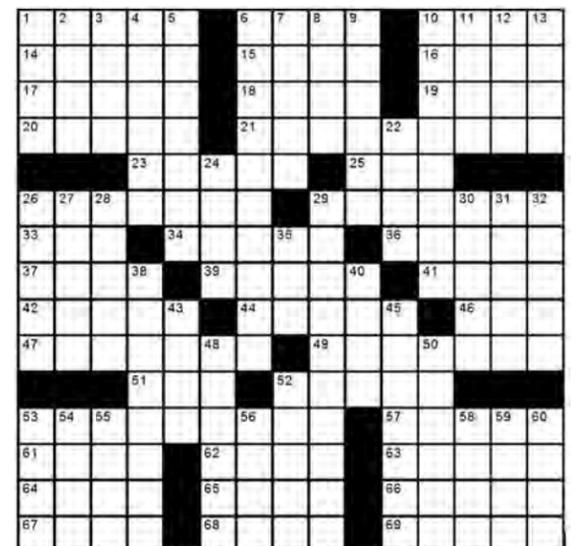
No. 9

ACROSS

1. Forbidden or unlawful according to Islam
6. Kind of lettuce
10. Isang lungsod sa Cebu
14. Savory taste sensation
15. Small buffalo
16. Banned apple spray
17. Dug up
18. Boris Godunov, for one
19. Diminutive suffix
20. Letters
21. Series of four related plays
23. Gave out
25. .0000001 joule
26. President Rodrigo Roa _____
29. Flexible
33. _____ Wednesday
34. Relating to form
36. At full speed
37. Drops from the sky
39. Former President, Manuel A. _____
41. Brink
42. Encouraged, with "on"
44. Kidney-related
46. Beauty
47. Put up in a different housing
49. Dishonesty
51. Knave (jack) of clubs
52. Court figure
53. So that
57. Backs

DOWN

1. Camel has it!
2. Independent Arabian ruler
3. Eastern royal
4. Pecuniary punishment or fine
5. Student's worry
6. Ancient racket game
7. Atlas enlargement
8. Dugout, for one
9. Drum
10. Basketball, e.g.
11. Assortment
12. Sputnik, e.g.
13. Bacchanal
22. "Mi chiamano Mimi," e.g.
24. Suffix with fabric
26. Risk taker
27. Grammar topic
28. Leg part
29. Relating to plankton



61. Bat's home
62. Mazzard cherry
63. Dialect
64. 20-20, e.g.
65. Wise men
66. Choker
67. Fraction of a newton
68. Stupid person
69. Aged
30. Symbol of authority
31. Offspring of a male lion and a female tiger
32. Foe
35. Cut
38. Synthetic rubber
40. All there
43. Couple
45. Bringing down
48. White secretion of the sebaceous glands
50. Kind of doll
52. Oater transport
53. Decorated, as a cake
54. Blue shade
55. Hot chamber
56. Authentic
58. Brawl
59. Average
60. "Absolutely!"

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(Solution will be on Chronicle's next issue)

LEGAL NOTES



By Atty. Reuben S. Seguritan

“Honesty is the best policy” should be the life motto of someone who wants to live and work in the United States legally. Intentionally concealing the truth or knowingly lying to an immigration officer or to any official in the US embassy or on any document submitted could lead the US officials to conclude that there was misrepresentation.

If the US official or consulate officer finds that the applicant has committed misrepresentation, this could lead to the termination of any

Conditional Green Card May Be Terminated Due to Fraud

immigration benefit given or denial of any immigration benefit and a lifetime bar to receiving any visa or immigration benefit. Examples of misrepresentation are using a fake passport, using someone else’s name on the passport, lying on forms and entering into a sham marriage with a US citizen to get a green card.

If the immigrant has a green card that was obtained through misrepresentation then the green card will be revoked. If the immigrant has already become a US citizen, and the misrepresentation is discovered, the naturalization shall be revoked because the immigrant was not entitled to the naturalization in the first place. In both scenarios, the immigrant

could be deported or allowed a voluntary departure because his status is no longer valid in the United States.

In one case, the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) denied an immigrant’s application for a good-faith marriage waiver of the joint-filing requirement for a Petition to Remove Conditions on Residence because of her misrepresentation.

Her marriage to a US citizen was less than two years old when she obtained her lawful permanent residence status so she was issued a conditional green card. She filed Form I-751 before the two year- anniversary of her green card in order to remove the conditions.

She submitted documents, affidavits and bills to establish her relationship with her husband.

During her interviews with the USCIS, it was discovered that she and her husband had separated even before she arrived in the United States and they did not live together in Rhode Island, as she claimed. She herself also admitted to submitting fabricated documents, including an affidavit purportedly from her husband, telephone bills and other mails in their names addressed to the home in Rhode Island to make it appear that they lived together. The Immigration Judge found in favor of the USCIS and granted her voluntary departure to return to her country.

On appeal, the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) affirmed the decision. On appeal to the New York Court of Appeals, the Court upheld the ruling of the BIA that her marriage was not a good-faith marriage and they did not cohabit. The Court also concluded that she was not able to meet her burden by a preponderance of the evidence that she entered into a good-faith marriage with her husband.

There can be catastrophic consequences if misrepresentation is committed. Hence, applicants and immigrants should always be truthful when filling-out forms, submitting documents and answering questions during interviews with the US consulate and USCIS.

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

MAINLAND NEWS

Sen Schatz Introduces Legislation to Protect Census Accuracy

WASHINGTON, DC--U.S. Senator Brian Schatz joined a group of senators in introducing the 2020 Census Improving Data and Enhanced Accuracy (IDEA) Act, legislation that would protect the accuracy of the 2020 census and ensure any proposed changes to the count are properly studied, researched, and tested.

“We need to make sure the 2020 census is on the level,” said Senator Schatz. “There is too much at stake for Congress to avoid its oversight responsibilities. With this bill, we can protect the 2020 census, and in doing so protect our Constitution.”

Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross proposed a new addition to the census that may impact the accuracy of the survey. One of the changes would be to count only U.S. citizens in the next census. Without proper studies and testing, last-minute changes or additions, such as the one currently being proposed, may discourage people from being counted and may not result in an accurate pop-

ulation count as mandated by the Constitution.

“The census is critical to ensuring everyone is counted accurately and represented fairly in Oregon and nationwide,” said Senator Wyden. “This legislation will help to achieve that vital task by ensuring political whims do not interfere with this constitutionally required counting of the American people.”

“The Constitution requires the census to count every single person living in each state, not just citizens. The Trump Administration seems to think they are above the Constitution and are now trying to use the 2020 census to advance their extreme, anti-immigrant agenda,” said Senator Duckworth. “I’m proud to join Senator Schatz and my Senate colleagues in introducing this important legislation to protect the accuracy of the census and prevent it from being politicized in such a transparently discriminatory fashion.”

The 2020 Census IDEA Act would:

- Prohibit last-minute changes or additions to

the census without proper research, studying, and testing;

- Ensure that subjects, types of information, and questions that have not been submitted to Congress according to existing law are not included;
- Require biannual reports on the U.S. Census Bureau’s operation plan, including the status of its research and testing, and require that this report be publicly available on the Bureau’s website;
- Direct the U.S. Government Accountability Office to determine and report to Congress that the subjects, types of information, and questions on the decennial census have been researched, studied, and tested to the same degree as previous decennial census; and
- Apply the provisions of this bill only to the decennial census, and not the mid-decade census or the American Community Survey.

Joining Sen. Schatz in the

introduction of the bill were Ron Wyden (D-Ore.), Tammy Duckworth (D-Ill.), Gary Peters (D-Mich.), Kirsten Gilli-

brand (D-N.Y.), Tom Udall (D-N.M.), Richard Blumenthal (D-Conn.), and Amy Klobuchar (D-Minn.).

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HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

Hawaii Selected to Participate in Public Health Preparedness and Response Workshop

Hawaii is one of just six states selected to participate in the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices' (NGA Center) Public Health

Preparedness and Response Workshop for State and Territorial Gubernatorial and Legislative Leadership scheduled to take place in early May. The national workshop

will focus on developing strategic action plans for states to implement during public health emergencies. Other states selected to participate include Arizona, Illinois, New

Jersey, Oregon and West Virginia.

"This is an outstanding opportunity for Hawaii to receive NGA's technical expertise to help address existing challenges for complex and critical issues around public health emergency response," said Gov. David Ige.

In recent years, Hawaii has experienced a number of serious public health incidents involving multiple county, state, federal and private sector agencies. Besides preparing for the global threats of Ebola and

Zika, Hawaii has experienced local outbreaks of dengue fever and hepatitis A, and its most recent ongoing mumps outbreak. These examples highlight the importance and timeliness of strategic planning for public health emergency response operations, policies and procedures.

Led by Health Director Dr. Virginia Pressler, the core team from Hawaii will consist of key leaders across public health, security and emergency management sectors, along with legislative leadership.

Sustainable Scholarship Available

If you are a student interested in international relations, the Consulate General of the Philippines in Honolulu is informing the public of available scholarships. Seton Hall University's School of Diplomacy and International Relations is offering tuition scholarships and cash prizes to applicants to students in support of the 2030 Agenda and

its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The scholarship is open to current college seniors, recent college graduates, and professionals who are interested in graduate school. For more information, visit: <http://www.shuedu/diplomacy/news/un-sustainable-development-challenge-2018.cfm> or visit <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/>.

CANDID PERSPECTIVES (from page 11, THINKING....)

Wang, 15, one of the Parkland

massacre.

But let's include Stephen Clark, 22, and Stephen Guillermo, 26--both gunned down and unarmed.

They were the catalysts to the awakening.

Privileged enough to be coddled, they were smart enough to know they aren't immune from the real world. After being shot up, they knew to exercise their voices.

Too young. Too innocent. Too soon.

March for Our Lives should be for their lives too.

And now their activism

has ignited a long dormant spark in American society.

So let's cheer the Parkland survivors of the Stoneman Douglas high school

The youth. Spoiled? Self-cen-

tered? Apolitical? Not after target practice.

The same thing that sparked the civil rights demonstrations and the war protests of the '60s is now fueling a movement that doesn't look like a passing fad.

This is usually how it works everywhere. Europe. Asia. Even the Philippines.

Student protest is nothing new. It's just been dormant in the U.S.

But now the model is emerging for all to see. Especially if you're a do-nothing politician beholden to the gun lobby. Notice them. Fear them. They are a diverse, articulate, and savvy group. Filled with promise and potential, they can be anything.

But most of all, they want justice now.

And if you have relatives in the Philippines, or where there during EDSA, then you

know what students meant to People Power.

Here's the truth: Your voice is more powerful and counts more than ever, right now. The Parkland students are leading the way.

EMIL GUILLERMO is a journalist and commentator. He was the first Filipino to host a national news show when at NPR's "All Things Considered." He formerly was on the editorial board of the Honolulu Advertiser.

(Sagot sa Krosword Blg.7 | March 17, 2018)

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FILIPINO ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR AND FILIPINO EXECUTIVE OF THE YEAR, SCHOLARSHIP AWARD GALA NIGHT | April 27, 2018 | 6:00 pm | Ala Moana Hotel | RSVP Deadline April 20, 2018 | Contact Nancy Atmospera-Walch at 778-3832 for details

26TH ANNUAL FILIPINO FIESTA & PARADE | May 5, 2018 | 9 am - 5 pm | Kaka'ako Gateway Park | Contact FilCom Center @ (808) 680-0451 or visit www.filcom.org for details

FILIPINO JAYCEES 45TH REUNION | May 5, 2018 | 6:00 pm | Alohilani Resort Waikiki Beach (formerly known as Pacific Beach Hotel) | Contact Larry Ordonez at (808) 392.4890 or

Email: filipinojaycees45threunion@gmail.com for more info

FILIPINO WOMEN'S CLUB OF HAWAII FOUNDATION ANNUAL TERNO BALL | May 19, 2018 | 6:00 pm | Ala Moana Hotel Hibiscus Ballroom | For more info contact: Adela Salacup 723-4639, Carlota Ader 797-4381, Cora Baclig-Credo 927-4081, Carmen Cabrereros 358-3845, Cherry Reganit 358-3598

PHILIPPINE NURSES ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII (PNAH) INDUCTION GALA | May 29, 2018 | 6:00 pm | Ala Moana Hotel Hibiscus Ballroom | For more info contact Ramon Sumibcay 489-7148

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MAINLAND NEWS

Filipina Nanny Wins \$827,506 in Wage Trial

The Trump administration has just been hit with yet another immigration policy-related lawsuit.

A live-in Filipina domestic employee has won a wage claim of \$827,506 against her former employers who had her care for two of their disabled children in addition to doing housework, errands, and cooking, for what amounted to way less than minimum wage.

The judgment announced last February appears to be among the highest verdicts to a domestic worker on a pure wage claim.

“The court’s judgment is a victory for Ms. Alzate, especially in the face of a vigorous opposition that did not concede any dime of wages that was owed to her,” said a release from the law firm that represented the Filipina. “It was a testament to the courage of this Filipina to have pursued her claims all the way up to trial.”

Fil-Am employment lawyer Attorney Joe Sayas represented Linda Alzate (not her real name) and argued that she should be paid for the entire time she was on-call to care for the disabled children at which the court agreed.

Just as in previous cases he’s handled for employees in similar situations, Alzate was paid a flat monthly rate regardless of how long she was made available to work which went from 18 to 24 hours per day.

Under the Domestic Workers Bill of Rights made effective in 2014, domestic workers with hours similar to Alzate who are caring for children or seniors are entitled to overtime pay being their regular hourly rate multiplied by one and a half, or “time and a half.”

24/7 care, two children with disabilities

Alzate began working in the home of Drs. Peter Sim and Lorraine Diego — located in the Hancock Park neighborhood of Los Angeles — in 2002 where she initially received a flat monthly salary of only \$1,000 to care for the couple’s three to four-

month child despite being on call for 24 hours, seven days a week. That computes to less than approximately \$2.00 an hour.

At 18 months, the child was diagnosed with severe autism, adding to the workload and responsibilities. In 2005, another child was born with autism yet the couple still failed to give Alzate her proper wages.

In addition to caring for the children, Alzate was made responsible for other tasks including laundry, running errands, house cleaning, and cooking for the family.

Alzate’s last salary in 2014 was \$3,000 per month, despite a correctly calculated salary for her 24/7 live-in wage computing upwards of \$6,000. Her claims cover the period worked from April 2011 to April 2014 with a significant part of the wage based on regular hourly rates.

Alzate said her daily schedule would consist of waking up at 6 a.m. at the latest to cook for the family and prepare the kids for school. The rest of the day, she would spend cleaning the house, running errands, and cooking for the whole family. Evenings consisted of assisting the children’s much-needed therapy sessions, cooking dinner, and preparing the children for sleep during which she would continue to be on-call.

The older child with severe autism often would wake up every two or three hours, said Alzate. The children’s parents offered no help.

U.S. law defines a night’s rest as a minimum of five hours for employees on duty for 24 hours or more which Alzate rarely got.

“Live-in employees should still be paid for each and every hour worked,” said Sayas in an email to the Asian Journal. “This means that even if the employee is not engaged in productive work, but is required by the employer to stay

in the workplace (due perhaps to an all-day or all night 24/7 supervision of an elderly or child they are taking care of), they should still be paid as the law sees that as work performed.”

Alzate was also discouraged from taking days off. She said that getting even just one day off required her to get permission three to four months in advance.

In one instance she did manage to get four days off for her birthday which falls on Thanksgiving, Alzate said Sim got angry.

After having some suspicions of her salary, Alzate’s aunt advised her to contact Sayas’ firm to inquire if she was entitled to back wages after noticing her payments and hours were not what they should be.

“Going through this process is not easy, but if you know that if you have someone behind you, you will go for it,” said Alzate. (www.asianjournal.com)

PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN
(Never Known to Fail)

*O most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel,
fruitful vine, Splendor of Heaven,
Blessed Mother of the Son of God,
Immaculate Virgin,
assist me in my necessity,
O, Star of the Sea, help me now and
show me here you are my mother,
O, Holy Mary Mother of God.
Queen of Heaven and Earth,
I humbly beseech you from the bottom
of my heart to succor me into
my necessity (make request).
There are none that can withstand
your power.
O, Mary conceived without sin,
Pray for us who have recourse to thee
(3 times).
Holy Mother, I place this cause to your
hands (3 times).*

Say this prayer for 3 consecutive days, and you must publish it. Then your prayer will be granted to you.

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